



THE MESSENGER

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 7

JULY 2018

Dear friends,

Our time of “interim before the interim” ends on July 1. God led our Interim Pastor Search Committee to offer a contract to Dr. Valerie Putnam and she will begin her service to Westminster Presbyterian Church on July 1. However, being on contract with the Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen, South Dakota until June 30, means that Val will serve as liturgist for our Communion services on July 1. No turn-around time for her means I will need to preach one additional Sunday before we get to hear our new Interim Pastor in the pulpit on July 8.

I will be on a previously planned vacation July 2-9, and Rev. Ellen Davis is staying on to assist with the transition until July 15. After that, I will resume the parish associate duties that Ellen has been covering so very well since March 26. Ellen also has a previously planned wedding to perform on July 7.

It has been a joy to serve in a different role at Westminster, and I look forward to continuing to serve Westminster in an altered capacity and at the direction of Val Putnam. I have no doubt that Dr. Putnam will serve us well as we begin to assess who we are and then launch a search for a new installed Pastor.

Since I began work at Westminster in mid-September 2016, I have delivered 41 sermons (July 1 will be 42!) and conducted 10 funerals. I have officiated at 6 weddings and 2 baptisms. Mostly, I did a lot of visiting retirement homes . . . at least before March 26.

Thank you for your confidence over these weeks since March.

Jimmy

Jimmy Shelbourn, Parish Associate (again)

P.S. Be sure to keep in your prayers our youth and their leaders who are travelling to Lohmen, Germany on July 25.



CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

Join us for an End of summer family pool party at Eden Pool!

Saturday, August 4th from 6:30 -8:30 PM
Eden Pool: 4400 Antelope Creek Road

Please join us for a fun, family event to celebrate the end of summer! We hope to see you there! Sponsored by CFM



Creation Challenge for July

As part of our commitment to earth care, Westminster regularly recycles scrap paper. But better than recycling is reusing! Please take your copy of the Vine home with you and “reuse” it during the week as you plan your participation in Westminster programs. Your bulletins and other extra papers will find their way to recycling if you place them in the baskets at each exit.



DID YOU KNOW? There is an Emergency Human Needs Fund?

This fund is used to help church members with rent, utilities, etc. It is at the Pastor’s discretion when and how much financial help is given. Contributions to this fund can be sent to the Business Administrator and marked “**human needs**” in the memo line.

Foundation Birthdays June 2018

Steve Carveth, Carol Jean Glenn, Pat Hackley, Jim Kinkennon, Joe Kubick, Bill Roberts, Larry Shafer, Willie Shafer, Carol Shelbourn, and Jane Voorhies.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Births: Theodore Larson born June 15 to Jennifer and Brett Sundberg, grandparents Sandi and Steve Larson.

Baptism: Cooper Donald, son of Erin and Kyle Ballew, grandmother Susan Ballew, great grandmother Eleanor Adamson.

Bereavement: Shirley Martin on June 18; Marilyn Rooney on June 23; Norma Fowler on June 25.

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MEET YOUR DEACONS

CAROLYN HARP

Where are you from? I consider myself a Plains States girl, growing up and being educated in Kansas, and then marrying and living mostly in Iowa and Nebraska. I came to Lincoln with my Whitmarsh family, in 1977, and have lived here except for the seven years when I was married to Roger Harp, who was an Executive Presbyterian in Kansas City, MO and then Synod Executive in Richmond, VA.

Do you work or volunteer outside of the home? I'm retired. I usher at the Lied Center, and volunteer at The Gathering Place. I have volunteered once a week at Prescott School for the six years that my granddaughter has attended there.

What brought you to Westminster and how long have you been a member? My family first joined Westminster in 1978, because of the youth Christian Education program here, and stayed as we found good adult education and strong leadership and spiritual direction.

What is your favorite aspect of being a deacon? I enjoy going with the pastor to serve in-home communion, and visiting homebound members. When choir isn't "in session", I enjoy driving members to church. I also like to serve on the communion team in worship.

What is your favorite food? I enjoy Mexican food, not too spicy, please.

What do you like to do for fun? I like to do "little town dinners" with friends, and especially enjoy Lunch Bunch monthly and World on a Plate periodically. I also enjoy the summer concert opportunities around town. I'm a member of Friendship Force and enjoy the people and places that are a part of that experience.

Tell us something about yourself that most people don't know or is unique to you? I have had a part in at least seven OLLI Radio Active Players productions at the Community Playhouse.

Anything else you would like to share? A sense of community is very important to me, and I find lots of opportunities to nurture that aspect of my life here at Westminster. I find people here who share a strong sense of social conscience and justice issues, as we experience our faith journeys.



~ Carolyn Harp



UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC OFFERINGS

Look forward to new special music offerings this summer!

We encourage volunteers from all generations to participate in a point-and-ring bell/chime opportunity, a women's choir, men's choir, and ukulele group in July. This is a great way for families to make music together, and each offering will also provide an opportunity to try something new without the rehearsal commitments of our regular program year. If you have other ideas for fun musical experiences that you would like to see at Westminster, or if you are interested in performing as a soloist or small group, contact John Ross at 402-475-6702 x111,



Annual Book Sale

August 19-26—Save The Date

Does the new calendar page really say "July" already? You know what's coming next, don't you? AUGUST! That means the beginning of all the fall activities, and at Westminster that includes the Annual Book Sale. Start checking your closets and shelves for books, DVDs, games, puzzles, and whatever else you'd like to donate. Donations accepted any time before August 15. The sooner, the better! Just leave items in the library (bagged or boxed, please) marked for the book sale -- we'll take it from there. Thanks for your support!



CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Sunday School Summer Continues through August 12th

Faith Village Computer Lab for K-Grade 5 | 9 AM

Kindergarten of Eden who are 2 years old or younger meet in the toddler room at 10:45 AM.



Faith Village | 3yr-5th grade | 10:45 AM

Watch for our summer video/ lesson series, Buck Denver asks... What's in the Bible? Featuring lessons on the New Testament, following the Children's Conversation at 10:30 worship. Parents may pick up their children following worship in the gym or at the Theatre. We invite adults and youth to sign up for a week or two to stay with the children and help. Two adults are needed each week.

WESTMINSTER LOVES CHILDREN! Show your love by giving a bit of yourself to nurture our children in their faith. Opportunities range widely in time commitment and type of commitment. Teaching doesn't have to be your strength to make a huge impact on our children's growing knowledge of God. Helping is simpler than ever as we try to find a good fit for you! Please consider saying "YES"! It will warm your heart! Contact Barbara at 402-475-6702.

Exciting Update

Wells for Africa

Mission and Outreach is excited to announce that the Wells project funds have reached nearly \$4,100 and money has already been sent to the PCUSA headquarters for dispersal to our missionaries. Of special note is that the children of the church have raised \$267.46 since January. \$182.19 of that amount was raised last week during the four days of Vacation Bible School! Way to go VBS Children!

Sunday School Classes

will resume on Genesis Sunday, August 19

For Kindergarten of Eden (ages 3-5), Faith Village (Grades K-5th), 6th-7th Grade, Confirmation (8th-9th Grade), and Senior High.

NEW THIS SUMMER

Library Sunday in Summer Sunday School Sunday, July 22

Children will visit the Westminster Library, hear a story, browse and check out books.



SUNDAY ADULT ED & BIBLE CLASS

SUNDAY ADULT ED FORUM | Fellowship Hall | 9 AM

Adult Ed will head three different directions in July.

July 1 & July 8 | Seminary Education Then and Now

Christy Dempsey, student at Dubuque Seminary, will give an insider's look at the current state of theological education and compare it to how it was in the past and what we might have thought it is.

July 15 | Executive Presbyter of Homestead Presbytery, Rev. Richard "Doc" Wyatt, will provide an insider's perspective for the process of PC(USA) congregations calling a pastor.

Faith and Athletics

Sports is big in Lincoln, in Nebraska, and in the United States. Adult Ed is going "all in" for a series this fall with six weeks on Faith and Athletics. The idea is to hear stories of successes and failures in sports, and how the experience interacts with a life of faith.

July 22 | The Olympics and Coaching

Carol Frost is our "celebrity" presenter. Hmm, that name is familiar.

July 29 | "Old School Football and Baseball Back in the Day"

Jim White (Chadron State), Brian Lammers (UNK), and Tom Pappas (Nebraska) will present.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us any Sunday in July | 9 AM | Parlor

Midsummer Bible class lessons focus on the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Coffee and donut holes provided while we explore scripture. Join us all month or a Sunday here and there.

Coffee and donut holes are waiting along with a friendly, spirit-filled group of friends.

July 1: Parable of the Unforgiving Servant | Matthew 18:21-35 | led by Bill North.

July 8: Jesus Criticizes Unjust Leaders | Matthew 23:1-4, 23-26 | led by Ellen Davis.

July 15: The Widow and the Unjust Judge | Luke 18:1-8 | led by Greg Hershberger.

July 22: Entering God's Kingdom | Luke 13:22-30

July 29: Parable of the Great Dinner | Luke 14:15-24



Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, July 3 | 11:30 AM

We are meeting at Buffalo Wild Wings & Rings at 6622 "O" Street. Come for fellowship & good food. Lunch Bunch meets at a different dining establishment on the first Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

Contact: Larry Wieskamp at 402-802-6883.

LNO—Ladies Night Out

Tuesday, July 10 | 5-7 PM

**Screamers Dining & Cabaret
803 "Q" Street ste 150**

This month's LNO is at Screamers Dining & Cabaret! Screamers Dining offers a dining and entertainment experience like no other in NE or the Midwest at large. Situated in the historic Haymarket district, Screamers offers classic American cuisine while providing live musical performances featuring the restaurant staff comprised of the hottest up-and-coming local talent. Join us for sing along music, fun, good food and drink at Screamers Cabaret. Feel free to drop -in at your leisure, and bring a friend. Please RSVP Robyn Uebele, so that we may have ample seating, at robynu2@hotmail.com.

Faith & Cancer

Tuesday, July 17 | 7 PM | Parlor

No matter where you are in your journey, this group is where cancer survivors can come together for fellowship, prayer and study.

This Life Group meets at the same time every third Tuesday of each month.

Contact : Bruce Sheffield.

Prairie Readers

Wednesday, July 18 | Westminster Parlor | 1 PM

"The Vanishing American Adult" by Ben Sasse.

Facilitator: Marissa Kemp.

Sausage, Egg and Scripture

Saturday, July 21 | Scooter's 2901 S 84th St

Men of Westminster are invited to a breakfast Bible study on the third Saturday of each month. We meet in the private dining room of Scooter's. Dr. Shelbourn leads the study which concludes promptly at 9 am. For more info, call Jimmy at 402-475-6702.

Tour de Friends | July 22 | 6:30 PM

We are meeting in Westminster parking lot and we will ride to the South Pointe Mall and loop back to Westminster. Helmets are required and you'll need to carry your own water. Most rides are between 8– 12 miles. Ride Leaders: Todd Hoffman & Tracy Murray. Contact : Tracy Murray @ 402-475-6702.

Knit-N-Sit

Wednesdays | LIBRARY | 6:30 PM

Come to knit or crochet for the People's City Mission, whether you are experienced, a beginner, or want to learn how. We have some supplies to share; donations are always welcome. Come to just sit and visit.

History Buffs May—August

We will not have a formal History Buffs meeting again until September 8th.



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Creative Arts Camp

Join us the Week of July 23-27

Hey, moms and dads, there's still time to register your children for Creative Arts Camp!

This year's theme is Creation Station, exploring our amazing planet Earth! Every day will feature cool sessions in art, movement and music as we learn about God's awesome creation and our responsibility to care for it.

More information and registration online:

<http://westminsterlincoln.org/creative-arts-camp/>

