



THE MESSENGER

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JUNE 2018

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, NE is pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Val Putnam as our Interim Pastor, beginning July 1st

Val Putnam recently retired from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sioux Falls, SD after serving that congregation for 17 years. Val has been in active ministry for 27 years following a career in nursing. She holds a nursing degree from Augustana University in Sioux Falls and holds a Masters degree in counseling along with a Masters degree in ministry and a doctorate in ministry from Sioux Falls Seminary.

Val is married to Wesley and they have two daughters. Wesley is a retired pathologist who currently enjoys volunteering at The Banquet (local soup kitchen) and mentoring a 4th grade student at the elementary school. Daughter Tanya works for Walmart as CFO of the Walmart Foundation and her husband serves as the head of tax and treasury for Walmart and they reside in Rogers, Arkansas. Our second daughter, Tara is a kindergarten teacher in Austin, Texas. She recently married James, a counselor and they thoroughly enjoy the Austin scene of music and art.

Wes and Val have enjoyed serving with a mission group in Haiti called Helping Hands for Haiti and find the Haitian people very near and dear to their heart. This month they are taking an Alaskan cruise to celebrate their anniversary prior to moving to Lincoln. Val also enjoys swimming, biking, reading and being with people.





CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

SCREAMERS DINING

& CABARET

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Brunch & Cabaret | 803 Q Street

June 3 | 10-2 PM

Screamers is a full service, family friendly restaurant where the staff is comprised of the most talented local singers. They are serving and entertaining everyday for lunch, dinner and weekend brunches.

To participate in this fundraiser- all you have to do is enjoy a delicious brunch, either Ala carte or brunch buffet served up by the most talented staff you will ever have waiting on you. Tell them that you are participating in Westminster's Youth Fundraiser and 15% of all the lunch proceeds will go to support WPC middle school in their efforts to travel to Lohmen, Germany this summer. Bring some friends & have fun. For more information about Screamers visit their website at www.screamersdining.com.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Births: Emma Felicity, born April 4, to Amber and Cameron Scholl, great grandparents Gale and Susie Sup; Levi Wesley, born May 16, to Laura and John Ross.

Marriage: Barbara Hipple and Matt Campbell on May 18.

Bereavements: Phyllis Blumer on May 5; Jo Snook on May 7; Bob McCallister on May 11.

Creation Challenge for June

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.



Foundation Birthdays MAY 2018

Marybell Avery, Jody Batten, Linda Burchard, Michael Gregg, Sandy Howerter, Stuart Howerter, and Chan Tyrrell.



CONGREGATIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

Another Hostamania in the Books.

Something different about this year's Hostamania is that some of the youth traveling to Lohmen this summer, along with Andrew Finkner, rolled out of the sack early and were the ones arranging plants along the east walkway on Mother's Day.

Crazy spring weather kept some gardeners out of their landscapes and the volume of available plants was reduced, but there were many lovely things and shoppers helped the Lohmen cause with purchases over \$800. Funds will support youth and sponsor travel expenses and underwrite the traditional "American Meal" that our group will prepare for the German hosts.

The Lohmen connection is a long and rich experience for our congregation and there is never enough gratitude for the generosity and commitment for those who have traveled to, hosted, and otherwise supported the Lohmen activities.

Did You Know?

Westminster has 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.

The Andrew McDonald Endowment

This endowment has been set up in Westminster's Foundation in honor of Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald for Church Growth. Dr. McDonald is very passionate on enabling the church to grow - this is how he wants the endowment to be used. If you would like to contribute to this endowment - we will continue taking gifts. Just mark your check or offering envelope McDonald or Church Growth, or Text #WPCGIVING and note Church Growth or McDonald. Let us help Westminster continue to grow.

World On A Plate Life Group

Consider joining World on a Plate this Summer. WOP is a unique Life Group that meets every other month for hospitality, a meal, and fellowship, and to learn about the work of Presbyterian mission workers around the world. We also collect a small free will offering to donate to the work of the church worldwide. New participants are welcome anytime!

In April, our focus was Congo – special as we have Westminster members from the Congo, Rock and Pati Sita. Pati held a cooking Congo class prior to the meal, to prepare authentic dishes of cassava stew, and salted fish and onions! Group members valued Rock and Pati's stories of their lives in this tumultuous and rich – and divided – country.

To join the mailing list or for more information and to RSVP for the June 30 activity (see page 11 for details) by June 24, contact Kathy and Doug Karsting at 402-570-3874, or kathyk-1984@msn.com.





WESTMINSTER NEWS & EVENTS

LOUNGE DEMO CREW

Last month, in less than 2 1/2 hours, a volunteer crew removed the ceiling grid, paneling, drywall, carpet, closets on the north wall, and took the room down to the bare studs. Jason Woita estimated that they saved the church around \$2000. Those who volunteered were Dave and Kathy Anderson, Dave Atkinson, Clay Bradley, Kevin Bryson, Gary Haller, Steve Hughes, Steve and Sandi Larson, Bob Leavitt, Dale Minter, Rob Otte, Tom Pappas, Ed Plander, Bruce and Margaret Sheffield, Jim White, John Paul Wirrick, and Jason Woita.

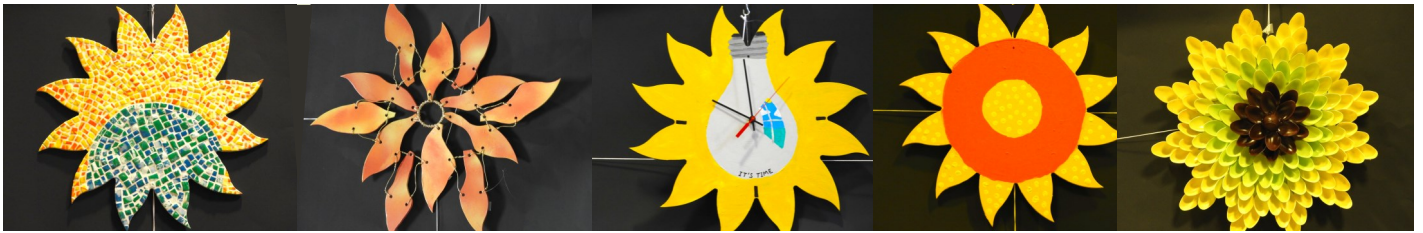




WESTMINSTER IS GREEN @ HEART

We were sure of one or two, probably three, and optimistically, maybe four—but, exceeding all expectations, Westminster is now the proud “owner” of SIX solar panels in the LES facility west of town. For the next 19 years the output of these six panels will be credited to our electric bill every month. Congratulations are due to scores of Westminster artists, curators, and patrons for their wonderful show of creativity and support for clean energy, establishing *“Our Place in the Sun.”*

The LES installation, located at Northwest 75th and West Holdrege streets, uses 15,333 solar panels to generate five megawatts of electricity, enough to power 900 typical homes in Lincoln.



For the sake of comparison, one megawatt of solar energy is the energy equivalent of 649 tons of coal. The benefit to the environment equals that of 990 acres of trees.



Because of you,
Westminster is **green** @ heart



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, or john@westminsterlincoln.org.



VBS ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE:

Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God!

June 17 noon-2pm; June 18—20, 9 am—Noon

All children ages 4 through Grade 5.

Family LAUNCH EVENT on Sunday, June 17! Join us for 10:30 worship, followed by a camp-style lunch, late registration, and the beginning of an adventure down the river! See the opening program skits, participate in a VBS activity!



Rumor has it there will be S'MORES! Meet VBS staff! BRING DAD FOR SOME QUALITY FAMILY FUN! Kids returns Mon – Wed, 9am-noon. This VBS experience includes music that will energize your ears, interactive Bible fun, super science, cool crafts, Sudanese village well mission, delicious snacks, great games, and more! Hope to see you there for some RAPID fun, Rafters! "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." —Isaiah 43:2. Register online at www.westminsterlincoln.org.

Vacation Bible School Team-Building is going on now—Adults and youth are invited to participate in this church-wide and community ministry. Childcare will be provided for volunteers. Don't be shy--contact Barbara Hipple, barbara@westminsterlincoln.org, 402-475-6702.



Creative Arts Camp July 23-27

Kindergarteners through 5th graders will explore their creativity through art, music and movement activities. All classes will be led by an expert in the area. Register online at www.westminsterlincoln.org.



CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Summer Sunday School begins June 3

Children ages 3- 5th Grade are welcome to join us for our summer video/lesson series, *Buck Denver asks... "What's in the Bible?"* featuring lessons on the New Testament. Younger children are welcome in the Nursery/Toddler areas in Rm. 210.

NEW THIS SUMMER—Library Sunday in Summer Sunday School!

Once or twice during the summer the children will visit the Westminster Library—be introduced to the library, hear a story, browse and check out books. Date to be announced.

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON JUNE 24 as the 10:30 worship service will be held in Antelope Park during Presbyterians In the Park worship & potluck picnic.

We invite adults and youth to sign up for a week or two to help show the video in Summer Sunday School and follow a brief, simple lesson plan. If you haven't volunteered in Faith Village before, this is a great low-key introduction to Faith Village--you will be paired with someone who is experienced.

Regular Kindergarten of Eden, ages 3-5, Faith Village, Grades K-5th, 6-7th Grade, Confirmation, 8-9th Grade, and Senior High Sunday School classes will resume on Genesis Sunday, August 19.

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Not too long ago we celebrated the volunteer teachers and shepherds of Faith Village and Kindergarten of Eden during the 2017-2018 school year. Recruitment for next fall is now underway. Please prayerfully consider what commitment you might make when called upon to serve God and Westminster by helping to fulfill the congregation's baptismal vows to nurture each child's Christian faith as they grow. Our structure is simple and easy—the commitment can be 1 or 2 months during the year-- and the benefits will fill your heart.

WELLS FOR AFRICA PROJECT

As of May 14, Faith Village children have provided \$80.51 for the church-wide project to provide wells for communities in Africa who do not have easy access to clean water. At \$50 a "share", they are well on the way to providing 2 shares of a well! Our children are learning to give generously as a sign of gratitude, and by joining their gifts together, they are witnessing to God's gracious and abundant work in the world. Please help by encouraging regular giving.



WESTMINSTER YOUTH

Congratulations Westminster Presbyterian 2018 Confirmands!

Ella Ford, Grey Gergen, Trevor Yorges, Ethan Schainost, Graham Peterson,
Kaylee Adamson, Gabby Hoffman, and Grace Hemmerling.



Congratulations Class of 2018

Abby Peterson, Liam Dempsey, Avery Hemmerling,
Olivia Hoffmann, Henry Zander, C.J. Jurgens,
Sebastian Baillie, Josie Ford & David Chapp!



Swanson Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to Avery Hemmerling &
Abby Peterson, the 2018 recipients of the
Swanson Scholarship.

The Swanson Scholarship Endowment Fund
was established in the Westminster Founda-
tion in 1999, by Libby and Steve Jacobs,
daughter and son-in-law of Bill and Mary
Swanson.

The scholarship provides financial support
for the undergraduate \$500 per academic
year.



MEET YOUR DEACONS

MEGAN WOITA

Where are you from? Born in Aurora, NE and moved to Wahoo when my father started his Veterinarian practice when I was 3 months old. I lived in Wahoo until I graduated from high school in 1997 and attended NE Wesleyan University. With the exception for a few years in Omaha, I have lived in Lincoln ever since!

Do you work or volunteer outside of the home? I started at State Farm when I was a freshman in college and have worked there ever since. I celebrated 20 years with State Farm last month! Most of my time has been spent in Claim Leadership.

What brought you to Westminster and how long have you been a member? We started to periodically attend Westminster as a result of our children being enrolled in the preschool. We have been members for approximately 3 years.

What is your favorite aspect of being a deacon? Getting to know our elderly parishioners and helping others. I've met some really neat members through the Over the Road Program!



What is your favorite food? Our family loves Indian food from The Oven!

What do you like to do for fun? I enjoy travel and cooking and spending time outdoors with family and friends. Indoor cycling has been a new addition to my routine and I really enjoy it!

Tell us something about yourself that most people don't know or is unique to you?

I grew up traveling the nation showing Quarter Horses and qualified for the Youth World Quarter Horse Show from the age of 12 to 18.

Anything else you would like to share?

I'm married to my best friend Jason and we have two children. Our son Porter is 10 and our daughter Kendall is 8. They both attend Rousseau Elementary.

~Megan Woita



SUNDAY ADULT ED & BIBLE CLASS

SUNDAY ADULT ED FORUM | Fellowship Hall | 9 AM

One third of our government system is the Judicial System and it has different levels and elements. Come to Fellowship Hall for the three Sundays in June to learn from sitting judges how their life on the bench affects us (and them).

Summer Judges Series

- June 3:** Federal District,
Judge John Gerrard.
- June 10:** Federal District Court,
Judge Paul Korsland.
- June 17:** Juvenile Court,
Judge Reggie Ryder.
- June 24:** Presbyterians in the Park
No Adult Education



SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us any Sunday in June | 9 AM | Parlor

Our study this summer will focus on God's justice as experience in the study of Jesus' life and teaching in Matthew and Luke and Paul's letters to the Romans, Corinthians, and Colossians.

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

- June 3:** Justice & Sabbath Laws | Matthew 12:1-14 | led by Ellen Davis
- June 10:** Parables of God's Just Kingdom | Matthew 13:24-33 | led by Ernie Hines
- June 17:** Jesus Teaches about Justice | Matthew 15:1-9 | led by Ellen
- June 24:** Presbyterians in the Park | No Bible Class



Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, June 5 | 11:30 AM

We are meeting at Mi Tierra at 5500 Old Cheney. 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.

Tour de Friends | June 24 | 7 PM

We are meeting in Westminster parking lot and we will ride to the southwest Zesto's for ice cream & conversation. Helmets are required and you'll need to carry your own water, and bring money for ice cream. Most rides are between 8– 12 miles.

Ride Leader: Dale Minter.

Contact : Tracy Murray @ 402-475-6702.

LNO—Ladies Night Out

Monday, June 18 | 5-7 PM

BILLY'S—1301 H St

This month's LNO is at Billy's - cost of appetizers \$10 + drink cost, tax and tip. 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, June 19 | 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.

The June Sausage, Egg and Scripture will resume on July 21

Prairie Readers

Wednesday, June 20 | Westminster Parlor | 1 PM

Two Book Selections: *"Love and Other Consolation Prizes"* by Jamie Ford; Facilitator Weston Crawford &

"Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate; Facilitator Susie Hughes.

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 depending on the time for the NU vs CU football game.

World on a Plate

Saturday, June 30 | 5815 Shadow Lane | 6 PM

Greetings to World on a Plate Life Group friends! We are preparing for our next event. Please join us!

The special theme for our June gathering will not be a single country, but an even more compelling topic: Border Ministries. Around the world, we know that border conflicts, disputes, and crossings are the source of much human suffering and peril – and call to Christian mission. Cathy and Greg Hershberger have offered to share some of their experiences learning about border ministry in Arizona. We will share a meal and fellowship, and reflections on the work of the church in helping those seeking refuge and rescue by crossing borders. For our meal, consider Mexican food --- or another cuisine of your choice that has meaning to you in our theme of Border Ministry.

Please RSVP to Kathy & Doug at 402-570-3874, or kathyk1984@msn.com. by June 24.



♦
SPIRITUALLY ALIVE
BROADLY INCLUSIVE
GROWING IN MISSION

2110 Sheridan Blvd.
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402.475.6702
westminsterlincoln.org

PRESBYTERIANS IN THE PARK

Band Shell – Antelope Park

Sunday, June 24 | 10:30 AM

Bring blankets, lawn chairs and gather for worship in the park. After worship you are invited to a potluck lunch at the Auld Recreation Center. Member Care Ministry will provide fried chicken and drinks. A free will offering will be taken. What should you bring? Glad you asked. Last names beginning with A-M bring a dessert; N-Z bring a side dish. Please bring a serving spoon for your dish to serve 10-12 people. Consider bringing allergen free items (no nuts, dairy, gluten, etc.) and label your dish please. There will be no Sunday School classes. 8 AM worship will be in the Chapel per usual. See you in the park!

As a part of June's Creation Challenge— Save paper, save trees, save the World— we encourage you to bring reusable dishes for Presbyterians in the Park. There will be no Sunday School during Presbyterians in the Park. All children are welcome to attend worship with their parents.

PRESBYTERIANS IN THE PARK

Sunday, June 24 | 10:30 AM
Band Shell — Antelope Park



Please bring food to share: A-M bring a dessert, N-Z bring a side dish.
Fried chicken & drinks will be provided.

