



# THE MESSENGER

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2018

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**Romans 15:13** *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

Interim ministry is an intentional time in-between called pastors when the church has an opportunity to ask questions, explore ideas and recreate the church's mission going forward. During these days we seek to ask the Holy Spirit to lead the elders and deacons as they take a fresh new look at all aspects of ministry at Westminster. This is a time of questions.

**Questions such as:**

- Are we reaching the people God has called us to serve?
- Does our mission statement reflect who we are today?
- Are we neglecting something or someone whom God is beckoning us to move toward?
- What about our various worship experiences weekly?
- What about worship times and Christian Education schedules?
- Where is our mission focus?

These questions are for all of us as a community of faith. Therefore, church leaders will be hosting **FOCUS GROUPS** where every member has an opportunity to share their vision, dreams and concerns for the church.

We will be meeting at various times and places during the latter part of October and into November for an hour and a half session each. Sessions will be held at church or in private homes. You will see times and locations posted in the Vine coming up in the weeks ahead.

**FOCUS GROUP SESSIONS** will be led by leaders from the Administration and Planning Committee with Pastor Val present. They will be conducted as an open forum to discuss and share ideas as well as express concerns or challenges.

Please take the opportunity attend one of the upcoming FOCUS GROUP meetings as you listen and share your concerns as well as your hopes for the future of Westminster.

In Christ's Service,

*Interim Pastor Val Putnam*

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## CONGREGATION NEWS & EVENTS

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### **Creation lover? Ready for a Fall getaway?**

Are you 50 or older? Join like-minded friends to enjoy beautiful Mahoney State Park and explore positive approaches to climate change at Elders for the Earth, Sunday, October 7 through Tuesday, October 9. See details on the Garden Room poster. Registration is now open at [Elders4theEarth.com](http://Elders4theEarth.com).

### **Journeying Together | Library | October 28 | 9 AM**

A class for those interested in becoming a member of Westminster is scheduled. Please mark "wish to join" in the Friendship Pad or contact Marge at [marge@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:marge@westminsterlincoln.org).

### **ALL IN THE FAMILY**

**Birth:** Thomas Lynn, born September 19, to Samantha & Stephen Lowery, grandparents Vicki & Mark Davis, great grandparents Ellen & Lynn Davis.

**Baptisms:** Benjamin James, son of Beth Anne and Kevin Bryson; Gomar Wiyual, Kuothathin Wiyual, Bajen Wiyual, daughters of Nyalol Zuorjack & John Ruach; Noah Wiyual, son of Nyalol Zuorjack & John Ruach; Amber Lynn Wolff.

**Bereavements:** Glen Knosp on September 9; Dorothy Johnson on September 12; Betty Hoffman on September 18; Lowell Vestal on September 19.



### **FOUNDATION BIRTHDAYS**

**The following contributed to the Foundation in honor of their September Birthday:** Lynn Davis, Joyce Douglas, John Hopp, Jr., Alvin Landfield, Lou Roper, Sandy Sostad, Gwen Thorpe, Dan Wherry, and Jason Woita.



## CONGREGATION NEWS & EVENTS

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### Sudanese Clothing Drive Update

The clothing drive has been extended through the Spring of 2019. The final clothes donation date has yet to be determined. All types of clothing; Spring, Summer, Fall, or Winter, are welcome.



**It's Fall and you know what that means— leaves changing colors, cooler weather, and... it's Neighbor Helping Neighbor (NHN) Sign Up Time once again!**

The Westminster Mission and Outreach Committee is promoting a Neighbors Helping Neighbors Day this Fall. Your friendly Outreach Committee members will be in the Garden Room with details and sign up sheets beginning October 7.

Westminster will be serving Clinic with A Heart, Cedars, The Center for People in Need and Matt Talbott. Volunteers will meet at the church on Saturday, October 27 at 8 AM for coffee and fellowship. Each project work team will depart at 8:30 AM to their worksite and will work until noon or 1:30 PM depending on the project.

For more information on projects and to sign up, call Jennifer Smith at 402-525-6560 or email her at [jennifersmith7801@outlook.com](mailto:jennifersmith7801@outlook.com).

*"Whatever you do to the least one of these, I tell you in truth that you do unto me." —Matthew 25:31.*



NEIGHBORS  
**HELPING**  
NEIGHBORS



## MUSIC

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**WORLD  
COMMUNION  
SUNDAY**

### World Communion Sunday

Did you know the celebration of World Communion Sunday has its roots in the Presbyterian Church? It began in 1933 at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, under the ministry of Dr. Hugh Thomas Kerr, and by 1940 had begun to spread to Christian churches around the world.

Westminster will join on Sunday, October 7 with our sisters and brothers around the world in celebrating the Lord's Supper in a statement of interconnection and unity. The chapel and sanctuary will be decorated with flags from around the world. During 10:30 worship, the Westminster Choir will sing Famine Song, a stirring anthem depicting the famine that gripped Sudan during the 1980s.

### WESTMINSTER CARILLON

Called to ring? Due to graduations and moves, Westminster Carillon has several openings. We need YOU to join the bell choir! Prior music reading experience is helpful, but not required.

Contact [laura@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:laura@westminsterlincoln.org) for more information.



### LESSONS & CAROLS

Even though we're only just seeing the change from summer to fall, your musicians are already planning for Advent and Christmas!

On December 9, the Westminster Choir, Carillon and Brass will lead the congregation in a Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols during 10:30 worship. Please talk with John or Laura if you're interested in joining the choir for just this special service. We will begin rehearsing Christmas music on October 3. If you're interested in reading one of the lessons, please talk with Linda Burchard.

### WEDNESDAY EVENING MUSIC REHEARSALS

**Youth Strings** | Chapel | 5-5:30 PM

**\*Alleluia! Amen! (Grades K-5)** | 5:50 PM

**\*Cherub Choir (Pre-K )** | 5:50 PM

**Westminster Carillon** | Sanctuary | 5:30 PM

**Westminster Choir** | Sanctuary | 6:30 PM

**\*Part of Parents' Night Out**





## \*NEW\* PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

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### Parents' Night Out is NEW this Fall | Wednesdays | 5-7 PM

Ready, Set, Go... have 2 hours to take a breath, restore your soul & enjoy some free time while your newborns through 5th grade are lovingly cared for by Westminster Church Staff. Your child will enjoy: games, meal, music, Bible Study and a bed time story just before you pick them up at 7 PM. Open to ALL. Please encourage your child (children) to invite friends. Free of charge.



### YOUTH Grades 6-8 | Youth Café | 6:30 PM

Youth meet weekly during the school year for engaging activities and to grow in faith together.

### ADULT EDUCATION | Lounge | 6-7 PM

#### Crucial Conversations

**Oct. 3** Crucial Conversations - a study on effective communication

**Oct. 10** Crucial Conversations concludes

#### Academy of the Laity

**Oct. 17** The Gospel of Luke a study led by Rev. Jimmy Shelbourn

**Oct. 24** The Gospel of Luke continues

**Oct. 31** No Adult Ed Scheduled



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

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## Sunday School

**Preschool Story Time** | Rm 210 | 9 AM

**Kindergarten of Eden** | Ages 3-5 | Rm 210 | \*10:45 AM

**Faith Village** | Grades K-5 | Lower Level | 9 & \*10:45AM

**Confirmation Class** | 8th-9th Grade | Youth Area | 9 AM

**Middle School** | 6-7 Grade | Youth Area | 10 AM

**High School** | 10-11 Grade | Lower Level | 10 AM

\*following the Children's Sermon at 10:30 worship Younger children, birth-age 2, are welcome in the Nursery/Toddler areas in Room 210. All children are invited to attend 10:30 AM worship and participate in the Children's Conversation before going to Sunday School.

### Kindergarten of Eden:

Grace & Gratitude curriculum is used to teach our 3-5 year old's.

### 9 AM Sunday School | Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> Grade | ROOM 210

Any child Preschool– 5<sup>th</sup> grade, is welcome to join us! Children will explore Bible teachings & celebrate fellowship! Each Sunday we will sing songs & use our artistic gifts to create. The focus for this month is "Forgiveness". Through storytelling & role play we will learn about God's forgiveness and learn how we are all called to show forgiveness to others.

### 10:45-11:30 AM Sunday School | Faith Village K-5<sup>th</sup> grade | Lower Level

Any child in Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade is welcome to join us downstairs in Faith Village! Children will explore the Bible teachings of "Forgiveness". We will read about God's forgiveness through stories about Joseph & the Prodigal Son. Our storytelling & games rotations will demonstrate ways we can live happier through God's forgiveness. We can choose to forgive others & we can ask for forgiveness when we make mistakes.





# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

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## PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNium 2019

JULY 16-20, 2019 PURDUE UNIVERSITY

### Hello YOUTH FAMILIES!

#### Presbyterian Youth Triennium

**Location:** Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

**Ages:** Grades 8-12

**Dates:** July 16 -20, 2019 (We will likely leave the night of the 15th & return in the middle of the night on the 20th/21st.)

**Cost:** \$555, under 18 at PYT | \$575, 18+

We are calling out to any youth who would like to attend the 2019 Presbyterian Youth Triennium! Youth from all churches are invited to come together for this life changing, life giving, faith growing gathering.

**Be sure to check out the promotional video on the Triennium website!**

<https://presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/>

Homestead Presbytery will be providing all transportation/food to & from PYT. There will also be "swag" & an overnight retreat a few months before the event that will be covered. The only cost for each participant is the registration fee.

The estimated youth count has begun & we are asking anyone interested in going to sign up! The link can be found on: [homesteadpres.org](http://homesteadpres.org).

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** Our FINAL registration will take place by October 30th! We hope to help our youth fundraise for their registrations.

Whether you decide to sign up or not, we'd love to hear from you! Please email YAYA committee member, Jaime Hemmerling, with what you decide: [jhemmerling@neb.rr.com](mailto:jhemmerling@neb.rr.com).

### Zombie Hunt-Walk

Youth Paintball Outing at CJ's Paint Park

CJ's Paintball Park | 16500 Southwest 14th Street, Martell, NE 68404

Evening of October 20 | Save the Date- Time to be determined

We are going to gather in groups of 5 and hike a trail infested with zombies while armed with paintball guns! No waiver, \$17 online or \$20 on-site & \$10 per re-walk. Does this sound like fun? If interested, contact Andrew Finkner [afink.amea@gmail.com](mailto:afink.amea@gmail.com) or MaKayla Bartels [makayla@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:makayla@westminsterlincoln.org).



## Creation Challenge for October

**Challenge yourself to reduce the amount of junk mail you receive.**

Here are some steps, from Westminster's Green Team, to reduce the volume of unwanted mail:

In just 4 steps, you can help make a difference in saving paper and the planet!

Call **1-888-567-8688** or visit [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com) and choose not to get offers for new credit cards and insurance. It is reported that this venue is more effective against junk mail than the "Do Not Call Registry" which has not been very effective against spam phone calls. This also helps to prevent fraud, if a credit card offer falls into the hands of a criminal.

Visit [www.dmachoice.org](http://www.dmachoice.org) and the Data Marketing Association will allow you to opt out of Categories of mail, such as unsolicited catalogs. This has a \$2 fee, but will block most unwanted DMA mail for 10 years.

Do not enter contests, the purpose of which is to obtain your name and address for direct mailers or to sell you something.

Be aware that in most cases you do not have to fill out a warranty card to benefit from the warranty. The card is a jackpot of information that is often sold to other companies who want to market products to you. Read the card carefully to determine whether you must return it. You can, in most cases, also check a box that says "Do not send me unrelated offers or share my name with other marketers."







## MEET YOUR DEACONS

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# Jill McCarty Deacon



***Where are you from?***

O'Neil, Nebraska.

***Do you work or volunteer outside of the home?*** I WISH! :)

***What brought you to Westminster & how long have you been a member?***

My son attended Preschool here, I've been a member for 11 years.

***What is your favorite aspect of being a deacon?*** I love driving my members to church every Sunday.

***What do you like to do for fun?***

Spend quality time with my family.

***What is your favorite food?***

Pasta.

***Tell us something about yourself that most people don't know or is unique to you?*** I was Home Coming Queen of my high school class.

***Anything else you would like to share?***

I absolutely love Westminster and being able to serve as a deacon.



# ADULT EDUCATION & BIBLE CLASS

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## Sunday Adult Education Forum

Sunday Mornings | LOUNGE | 9-10 AM

### Academy of the Laity

The Apostles - the Rest of the Story". We know just snippets about these companions of Jesus from the Bible texts. Come learn what history and verbal traditions give us.

**October 7** | Ernie Hines presents on *"James, Andrew, and Matthew"*.

**October 14** | Steve Larson presents on *"Philip; Nathanael; Thomas; and James, the Less"*.

**October 21** | Rev. Jimmy Shelbourn presents on *"Peter and John"*.

**October 28** | Ernie Hines presents on *"Judas, son of James; Simon the Zealot; Judas Iscariot; & Matthias"*.



## SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us any Sunday in August | Parlor | 9 AM

Join us all month or a Sunday here and there while we explore scripture together.

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

**October 7** | "Journey through Perea and Judea" | Mark 10:1-45

**October 14** | "Jesus Confronts Jerusalem" | Mark 10:46-13:37

**October 21** | "The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus" | Mark 14:1-16:20

**October 28** | "The Story of Job Begins" | Introduction to Job, Job 1-2





## LIFE GROUPS

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Westminster is a place to worship, a place to serve, and a place to belong. One of our values at Westminster is to build healthy relationships with one another and we believe it is important for everyone to discover a place where they can connect and grow. You are invited to become involved with any of our life groups at any time. For more information call 402-475-6702.

### **Knit & Sit | Wednesdays | Church Library | 6:30 PM**

We warmly welcome you to 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. We meet year round, just come when you can.

### **Lunch Bunch | Tuesday, October 2 | 11:30 AM**

We are meeting at Asian Buffet located at 5130 N 27th Street, Suite 5-7 (next to the old Toys R Us). 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.

### **History Buffs | Saturday, October 6 | Lounge | 9 AM**

**Guest Speaker:** *Mike Dempsey*. "Lives of Isaac Newton and Alfred Einstein." All are welcome.

### **Prairie Readers | Wednesday, October 17 | Westminster Parlor | 1 PM**

**Guest Speaker:** Pat Leach speaking on the American Library Association's Notable Books. All are welcome.

### **Faith & Cancer | Tuesday, October 16 | Parlor | 7 PM**

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.

### **Sausage, Eggs & Scripture | Saturday, Oct. 20 | Scooter's 2901 S 84th St | 8 AM**

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. Pastor Shelbourn leads the study which concludes promptly at 9 AM. For more info, call Pastor Jimmy at 402-475-6702.

### **Ladies Night Out | Monday, October 22 | Billy's 1301 "H" Street | 5-7 PM**

Invite your friends for an evening of getting to know Westminster Presbyterian Church ladies over appetizers and drinks. Appetizers are \$10 + tax. All ladies are welcome to join. Send RSVP's to [robynu2@hotmail.com](mailto:robynu2@hotmail.com).

Our Life Groups committee would like to explore your ideas to develop New Life Groups. Because LIFE is better together. If you have an idea to be considered that could be a viable Life Group, please contact Rob Otte at 402-770-9379, or [robot4nu@gmail.com](mailto:robot4nu@gmail.com).



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# Spooktacular

**Sunday, October 28**

**Westminster Parking Lot | 3-5 PM**

Mark your calendar for an afternoon of Trunk-or-Treating! Children dress up in your favorite costume and have fun visiting each of the decorated trunks for goodies.

The Lincoln Libraries Book Mobile & Lincoln Fire Trucks will be here for you to check out too. Bring your friend's. Sign up for Trunk or Treat can be done at our Spooktacular Table in the garden room during the month of October or contact:

MaKayla Bartels (402) 475-6702

email: [makayla@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:makayla@westminsterlincoln.org).



