

THE MESSENGER

SPIRITUALLY ALIVE BROADLY INCLUSIVE GROWING IN MISSION

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2018

Westminster Welcomes New Members



Fernando "Nando" Flores



Marilyn Calhoon



Mary Chuol



Janell & Tom Welstead



Deric Boden



Anthony & Shirley Manthey



Dixie Strauss



Amber Wolff & Craig Ediger Andrew Finkner



Sherri & Richard Brunmeier





John & Margaret Sprude

CONGREGATION NEWS & EVENTS

Annual Congregation Meeting | November 18, Following 10:30 Worship

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation to elect officers—Deacons, Elders & Foundation members to serve Westminster in 2019.

Journeying Together | Library | November 11 | 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.

Food Donations For Wednesday Night Meals are Welcome

Shredded cheese, elbow or rotini noodles, tubes of hamburger, butter, individual bags of Fritos, salsa , apples, pre-packaged cookies and gallons of milk. Your contributions are appreciated.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Baptisms: Sophia Nyuon and Chajen Tut, daughters of Nyakeni Bichoik and Wiw Tut. **Marriages:** Tara Culver and Winston Chin on October 27, 2018. **Bereavements:** Carl Glen on October 18.

FOUNDATION BIRTHDAYS

The following contributed to the Foundation in honor of their October Birthday: Mark Whitehead, William Roper, Jane Spence Peters and Ray Stevens.

WPC is looking for volunteers

Volunteering opportunities include: stuffing bulletins, mailings, preparing children's bags for Sunday worship, and outdoor seasonal tasks. If you have time weekly, or monthly and would like to serve your church family in this way, please call Tracy at 402-475-6702.

Food Pantry Gift Certificates Are Now Available

Gift certificates are available at the front desk for giving donations in honor of a great teacher, friend, or family member. Watch the vine & eVine each week to see the current needs of our Food Pantry.

Financial Donations given for the Food Pantry in honor of Marilyn Smith and Nora Hinrichs. Thanks for your dedication to serve.

Check out our website to view our up to date monthly schedule of events at:

https://westminsterlincoln.org. Just click on "Upcoming Events" to view details.

SESSION NOTES FROM OCTOBER

Westminster Presbyterian Church opened its doors at South Street and Sheridan Boulevard in 1926. That has been a long time, requiring continuous upkeep and several modifications. Buildings and Grounds Elder Jim White highlighted a few of the current maintenance challenges at this month's Session meeting.

On his list: roofing repairs scheduled in the next few days; seeking bids for patch work to the church parking lot and south side sidewalk; a new heat pump, dishwasher and double-pane windows for Preschool. Add to these items, a real surprise: the expensive need to pay for the drilling of wells to monitor the status of four, long-ago-filled, buried and forgotten fuel tanks on church property. A record of the tanks was filed in the late 1990s and now, state officials say, it is time to make sure there are no environmental hazards. These represent only a few of the unscheduled financial challenges facing us as Session committees prepare their proposed budgets for the next year.

A highlight of the Oct. 22 Session meeting was approval of Devon Nelson, our High School Youth Director, as a ministry Inquirer, and Moses Bilew, leader of our Sudanese congregation, as a candidate to be a Commissioned Ruling Elder. Both were placed under care of Session and assigned liaisons to support their efforts. Both inquirers will be under care of Homestead Presbytery Committee on preparation for ministry.

In the meantime, lively participation has been reported in the multiple Focus Groups now under way. Session will look to the groups' input for guidance in upgrading our worship, our service and our fellowship, as well as preparation for the call of a new pastor. If you haven't shared your thoughts, please do so soon. Final groups will meet at the church Saturday and Sunday, the weekend of Nov. 3-4.

WANT TO BE SOMEONE'S CHRISTMAS ANGEL?

It is time to make plans for **CHRISTMAS!** While most of us will be happily planning this wonderful time of the year, others will not. Some are less fortunate and could use our help. The first Sunday in November (4th) you will find an **ANGEL TREE** in the Garden room.

On this tree will be tags from the Salvation Army, Home Instead, and Westminster Presbyterian Church. Each tag will represent a person who needs our help.

What to do: Pick a tag (or two) from the tree. Sign out the tag on the sheet provided. Shop. Return the *unwrapped* gifts to the church before December 9th. Thank you, Mission and Outreach.



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Chamber Music In the Chapel

Westminster Presbyterian Church welcomes Omaha's Rangbrook Ensemble on Friday, November 16th at 7:30 PM in the Chapel. They will present an exploration of J.S. Bach's "Goldberg Variations", arranged for string trio by Dmitry Sitkovetsky. The program will also feature duos by Rebecca Clarke and George Frideric Hadel.

This concert is free and open to the public and the ensemble will talk through each piece with the audience before performing it. Visit <u>www.rangbrookensemble.org</u> for details about the ensemble and the rest of the season.

Rangbrook's cellist, Sophia Potter, will join us for worship services on November 4 as a preview of the concert.



Mark Your Calendars—More details to come! Upcoming Christmas Musical Events

December 2 – Christmas Point & Ring Handbells

December 9 – Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols*

December 16 – Children's Christmas Pageant

December 24 – Welcome the Christ Child with carols, choirs, bells and the Nebraska Brass

*On Sunday December 2 | Back by popular demand, we are offering another point-and-ring bell opportunity! Children ringing alongside their parents and grandparents, Westminster Carillon members ringing alongside novice bell ringers, this side-by-side ringing opportunity is a fun, easy way for anyone to experience the bells at Westminster. No music reading or bell ringing knowledge required. Come at 9:30 AM to the sanctuary to prepare a simple anthem for 10:30 worship. For more information, contact Laura Ross.

HOLIDAY OF TREES 2018

Thursday, November 29 from 10:00 AM-8:00 PM & Friday, November 30 from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM at Westminster Presbyterian Church located at 27th & South Streets

The Heritage League is holding their 56th Annual Holiday of Trees this year! Proceeds from this year's ticket sales will go to Operation Veterans Encouraging Recovery (OVER). Holiday of Trees will display 20 beautiful trees decorated by community members and organizations. Music by local musicians will be featured along with Attic Treasures, Pantry of homemade food items, Raffles (of several special items), and a Café.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BYLAWS PROPOSED REVISIONS November 2018

Here is a summary of the major changes approved by the Session:

Article IV. Section 1. A. 2. Session can range from 24-30 members.

- **Article IV. Section 1. C. 3.** When the subject to be discussed is the pastoral relationship, or difficulties between the Pastor and Session or congregation, the Session shall invite another minister of the same Presbytery to act as the designated moderator. This arrangement may be made in consultation with the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery.
- **Article IV. Section 3.** Ushers will no longer be voted upon by the Congregation. The Ushers shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Session annually.
- Article IV, Section 4. Foundation Trustees will serve three-year terms, instead of six-year terms, with the option to serve a second three-year term.
- **Article V. Section 1. A.** Nominating Committee can range from 5-11 members: at least 2 from the Session and 1 from the Deacons, with remainder chosen by the congregation.
- **Article VI. Section 2. E.** The Treasurer shall annually cause either a full financial audit or financial review of the books and records of the Church by a competent committee of Church members or a public accountant selected by the Session. At a minimum, the Treasurer shall cause a full financial audit by a public accountant selected by the Session once every five (5) years.

Other minor changes that do not change the intent of the Bylaws are proposed for clarification purposes. A complete copy of the Bylaws with these proposed revisions will be available November 1st upon request in the church office.

We have been very busy this Fall in

Preschool!

In October we had parent teacher conferences, a fieldtrip to Roca Berry farm, picture day, and a Halloween costume parade. In November will host Gingerbread Workshops with our families. If you have leftover Halloween candy we would love to use it for this project!

We have just finished running our Fall fundraiser. Our goal is to raise money to update our technology for our young children. The idea of a computer lab is becoming outdated and not the type of technology children will use in their future. Children will use technology as part of their everyday learning just as we do now, looking up information when we have a question -we don't have encyclopedias anymore. Having access to iPads or Chromebooks in the classroom to look up information to learn will be very important to children. Waiting to go to a lab to gather information isn't as affective as it once was. Of course we want to be cautious and concerned about screen time for children, as well as ensuring we use interactive versus passive media. The role of the teacher is a facilitator of learning, rather than an expert on a topic. We can ensure children know how to gather credible information and find answersproblem solve together. We are looking to grow our technology to meet the learning needs of todays children. With guidance, these various technology tools can be harnessed for learning and development; without guidance, usage can be inappropriate and/or interfere with learning and development.

Technology and interactive media are here to stay. Young children live in a world of interactive media. They are growing up at ease with digital devices that are rapidly becoming



the tools of the culture at home, at school, at work, and in the community Kerawalla & Crook 2002; Calvert et al. 2005; National Institute for Literacy 2008; Buckleitner 2009; Lisenbee 2009; Berson & Berson 2010; Chiong & Shuler 2010; Couse & Chen 2010; Rideout, Lauricella, & Wartella 2011).



Effective uses of technology and media are active, hands-on, engaging, and empowering; give the child control; provide adaptive scaffolds to ease the accomplishment of tasks; and are used as one of many options to support children's learning. To align and integrate technology and media with other core experiences & opportunities, young children need tools that help them explore, create, problem solve, consider, think, listen and view critically, make decisions, observe, document, research, investigate ideas, demonstrate learning, take turns, and learn with and from one another. Effective technology tools connect on-screen and offscreen activities with an emphasis on co-viewing and co-participation between adults and children and children and their peers (Takeuchi 2011).

Our goal is to update our technology by sometime next year, if you are interested in donating to this cause please contact Suzanne at 402-475-6702.





Parents' Night Out | Wednesdays | FREE OF CHARGE | 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. **No Parent's Night Out on Wednesday, November 21 for Thanksgiving Holiday.**

WEDNESDAY EVENING MUSIC REHEARSALS

Youth Strings | Chapel | 5-5:30 PM Alleluia! Amen! (Grades K-5) | 5:50 PM * Westminster Carillon | Sanctuary | 5:30 PM Cherub Choir (Pre-K) | 5:50 PM * Westminster Choir | Sanctuary | 6:30 PM * Part of Parents' Night Out

ACADEMY OF THE LAITY ADULT EDUCATION ON WEDNESDAYS | LOUNGE | 6-7 PM

November 7: The Gospel of Luke Study led by Rev. Jimmy Shelbourn November 14: The Gospel of Luke Study led by Rev. Jimmy Shelbourn November 21: Thanksgiving Break– No Class Wednesday, November 28: TBD

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

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

Academy of the Laity Adult Education Forum

Sunday Mornings | LOUNGE | 9-10 AM

During the month of November we will study the lives and contributions of remarkable people who share our Presbyterian faith.

- November 4 | Susan La Fleche Picotte
- November 11 | 9 Presidents
- November 18 | Fred Rogers
- November 25 | Selected Noted Celebrities

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY | Join us on any Sunday | 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.

November 4 | "Job and His Friends: Part 1" | Job 3-14

November 11 | "Job and His Friends: Part 2" | Job 15-21

November 18 | "Job and His Friends: Part 3" | Job 22-27

November 25 | "Job's Soliloquy" | Job 28-31

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Sunday School

Nursery | 9 AM-Noom

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

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 for our 3-5 year old's. In the Fall quarter, verbs, or as children would say, "action words," take center stage. In the grammar stage of our faith, God is the subject acting, and the people in the stories of the Old Testament are the recipients, or direct objects, of God's action. And so are we! God hears the prayers of Daniel, and God hears our prayers too. God continues to be the subject and never stops acting with us – the objects of God's grace and love.

Sunday School | Preschool-5th Grade | ROOM 210 | 9 AM

Any child Preschool– 5th 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.

Sunday School | Faith Village K-5th grade | Lower Level | 10:45 AM

In November, children in Faith Village will discover biblical characters who stood up for their beliefs in God. Their stories inspire us to learn more about what God calls us to do & be. Through multiple rotations, we will discuss ways God calls us to be faithful even though it may be hard to do so. The story of Daniel in the lion's den will kick off our theme of courage & faith.

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Creation Challenge for November EXPAND YOUR MIND—READ A BOOK

Burrrrr . . . it's time to come into the warm, get cozy and lose yourself in a good book. Winter offers us the perfect chance to expand our understanding of creation with a little reading, so below are a few suggestions to get you started. You'll find more information about these and other good reads in the Garden Room. Enjoy!

Classics

Silent Spring – Rachel Carson A Sand County Almanac – Aldo Leopold Arctic Dreams – Barry Lopez * Keith County Journal – John Janovy

Fiction

Flight Behavior – Barbara Kingsolver The Lamentations of Zeno – Llija Trojanow Grey Mountain – John Grisham The Carbon Diaries – Saci Lloyd (Young Adult) The Land of Curiosities – Deanna Neil (Young Adult)

Children & Youth

Grandpa's Garden – Stella Fry (young child) The Lorax – Dr. Seuss (child) * The Giving Tree – Shel Silverstein (child) Global Warming – Seymour Simon (child) Eyes Wide Open – Paul Fleischman (teen) It's Getting Hot in Here – Bridget Heos (teen)

Responding

* Drawdown – Paul Hawken, ed.
* The Case for a Carbon Tax – She-Ling Hsu
Collapse: How Societies choose to Fail or Succeed – Jared Diamond
* Awake on Earth – Carla A. Wise

Coffee Table

The Photo Ark: One Man's Quest to Document the World's Animals -Joel Satore Natural Visions: The Power of Images in American Environmental Reform -Finis Dunaway

Faith & Values

* Inhabiting Eden: Christians, the Bible, and the Ecological Crisis – Patricia Tull

 * A Climate for Change: Global Warming Facts for Faith-Based Decisions – Katharine Hayhoe and Andrew Farley

* Getting to Green – Frederick Rich

* The Climate Swerve, Reflections on Mind, Hope and Survival – Robert Jay Lifton

* Available in the WPC Library

LIFE GROUPS

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.

Theology on Tap: Where young adults gather to discuss faith!

We focus on fulfilling our day to day spiritual needs by providing a safe place to have fun & explore God's call in each of our own lives. Join us on Wednesdays @ 8pm! Contact Edison McDonald at 402-802-1109 for location information.

Lunch Bunch | Tuesday, November 6 | 11:30 AM

We are meeting at Stouffer's located at 5600 S 48 Street. Come for fellowship & good food. All are welcome. Contact: Ed Plander at 217-779-3449.

History Buffs | Saturday, November 10 | Lounge | 9 AM

We are very excited to announce that Margaret Jacobs Ph.D. at UNL Dept. of History will be joining us for History Buffs. She will be talking to us on "Genoa Indian School". All are welcome.

Prairie Readers | Wednesday, November 21 | Westminster Parlor | 1 PM

We will be creating out reading list for 2019.

Faith & Cancer | Tuesday, November 20 | 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, November 17 | Scooter's | 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 located at 2901 S 84th Street. Pastor Shelbourn leads the study which concludes promptly at 9 AM. For more info, call Pastor Jimmy at 402-475-6702.

Ladies Night Out | Mi Tierra Family Mexican | Tuesday, November 13

Invite your friends for an evening of getting to know Westminster Presbyterian Church Women over dinner and drinks. All ladies are welcome to join. Send RSVP's to robynu2@hotmail.com.

Presbyterian Women's Circles

All Westminster Presbyterian Women are invited to visit and/or join one of the following circles:

- Circle 3 | First Wednesdays | Meet at Church | 10 AM
- Circle 4 | First Mondays | Meet at Cynthia Olson's 9321 Thornwood Drive | 7 PM
- Circle 5 | Second Tuesdays | Church Lounge | 10 AM
- Circle 6 | Fourth Tuesdays | Church Library | 7 PM



SPIRITUALLY ALIVE BROADLY INCLUSIVE GROWING IN MISSION

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE 68502 402.475.6702 westminsterlincoln.org

SPOOKTACULAR WAS A BOOOOO-LAST!!

Here are some photos of the event. If you didn't make it out this year, we hope you can next year!



Photos by Hoffman Photography