



“I am the vine,
you are the branches . . . “

The week of Dec. 15, 2019

*Westminster Presbyterian Church is an inclusive faith family, inspired
by Jesus Christ, to call, nurture, and empower disciples.*

Blue Christmas Service: Embrace God’s Hope in a Time of Loss and Sadness For those of us experiencing loneliness, sadness, or loss, the Christmas season can be difficult. You may feel outside of those who see the happiness of “the most wonderful time of the year.” You are not alone. All of us have experienced loss and sadness, and during the Christmas season these feelings can be difficult. Please join us in a worship service of song, readings, and reflection of God’s hope for us and God’s presence with us as we walk together toward Christmas. We will gather on Tues., Dec. 17 at 6 pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome.

Pastor Val Putnam

Musician Andy Pappas

Hallelujah Chorus Reunion Choir—On Sun., Dec. 22, join the choir at 8:45 am for a brief rehearsal of Handel’s *Hallelujah Chorus* to be sung later that morning for worship. This beloved tradition is open to anyone who has previously sung this piece in any choir. We hope you’ll join us!



Christmas Eve Worship Services

5 PM—Nebraska Brass, Children Sing,
Candle Lighting

8 PM—Nebraska Brass, Westminster Choir,
Westminster Carillon, Candle Lighting

Sunday School

Nursery (Newborn through Age 2), 8 am - noon

Kids of Eden (KOE) (Ages 3-5) Room 210

Faith Village (Grades K-5) Lower Level, 9:45* & 10:30 am

Middle School (Grade 6-8) Youth Area, 9 am

Confirmation Class (Grade 9) Youth Area, 10:30 am

High School (Grade 10-11) Lower Level, 9 am

*All children are invited to attend 9:30 am worship and participate in the Children's Conversation before Sunday School.

Sunday Adult Education at 10:45 am:

Bible Class: Parlor Dec. 15 – Matt. 11:2-11; Isaiah 11:1-10	Forum: Lounge Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn, Dec. 15 – Encouragement in the Desert
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'Tis the season to recycle!

We have already started collecting unwanted strings of tree lights—look for the colorful box in the reception area. Starting the Sunday after Christmas there will also be a bin for styrofoam packing materials (no peanuts or food containers, please). Both materials will be taken to special facilities in Omaha that can process them for reuse. That's good Presbyterian stewardship!

All information for **The Messenger** is due to Tracy Hoffman at tracy@westminsterlincoln.org by the 18th of the month. All announcements for **The Vine** are due to Joanne Gabriel at joanne@westminsterlincoln.org by 5 pm on Tuesday each week.

Ministers: All Members

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Val Putnam

Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Parish Associate for PW: Rev. Ellen Davis

Interim Children's Ministry Coordinator: Sandi Larson

Organist/Pianist: John Ross

Choir Director: Laura Ross

Sound: Steve Braswell and Dale Minter

Ushers: Joyce Douglas, Adam Ferguson, Annie Ferguson, Brandi Jording, Shawn Jording, Caroline Schainost, Steve Titus

Greeters: Deb Schorr, Steve Larson

Acolytes: Reese Baltensperger, Addie Baltensperger

Thank You to Our Volunteers This Week!

Sandi Larson, Joan Roberts, Barb Andersen, Bob Rediger, Josh Whitfield, Carol Bishop, Jim Bishop, Jim Kinkennon, Jim White, Dale Minter, Andrew Finkner, Wes Putnam, Steve Larson, Jane Hines, Susie Hughes, Marybell Avery, Linda Pabst, John Paul Werrick, Sydne Werrick, Tom Pappas, Gwen Thorpe, Carol Shelbourn, Nancy Dawson, Dave Atkinson, Kristi Larson and Drew, Kelly Braswell-Burbach



There is still time to order a poinsettia. The cost is \$15.

Given by: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Write poinsettia in the memo on your check. Return form to church office.

Week Beginning Dec. 15

Sun. (15) Advent 3

9 AM Fellowship Time
9 AM Middle School Class
9 AM High School Class
9:30 AM Worship
9:45 AM Faith Village, Kids of Eden (KOE)
10:40 AM Confirmation Class
10:45 AM Adult Forum
10:45 AM Bible Class
12 Noon Sudanese Worship

Mon. (16)

5:30 PM Financial Leadership Council
6:30 PM Session
7 PM Recovery Group

Tues. (17)

5 PM Ladies' Night Out—Billy's
6 PM Blue Christmas Service
7 PM Faith and Cancer

Wed. (18)

1 PM Prairie Readers
NO PARENTS' NIGHT OUT
5:30 PM Westminster Carillon
6:30 PM Westminster Choir
6:30 PM Knit and Sit
7:30 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)

Thurs. (19)

6:30 AM Koop Group
10 AM Thurs. AM Bible Study
5 PM Piano Lessons
6 PM Youth Boys' Basketball Practice—2nd grade

Fri. (20)

Sat. (21)

8 AM Sausage, Eggs and Scripture, Chapter 7 of Mark's Gospel—Scooter's

Sun. (22) Advent 4

9 AM Fellowship Time
9 AM Middle School Class
9 AM High School Class
9:30 AM Worship
9:45 AM Faith Village, Kids of Eden (KOE)
10:40 AM Confirmation Class
10:45 AM Adult Forum, A *Promise of Presence*, Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn
10:45 AM Bible Class, Matt. 1:18-25; Isaiah 7:10-16
12 Noon Sudanese Worship