

September  
2021



**Volunteer Spotlight:**  
Jana Dyer page 10

*worship*  
**WITH US**

**WORSHIP WITH US  
IN THE SANCTUARY  
OR ONLINE  
ON SUNDAYS**



**COMMUNION  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5  
GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS  
AVAILABLE**

# THE MESSENGER



Westminster Church Family,

As we blessed backpacks in worship a few weeks ago, our whole congregation joined with our children and youth to repeat the refrain, "Jesus is with me." This refrain was a reminder that from waking up to putting on backpacks to finding a seat a lunch to riding the bus home, Jesus is with them in every moment.

We trust that by the power of the Spirit, Jesus is with us in our daily living, whether we're a 5th grader, UNL professor, construction worker, engineer, or retiree.

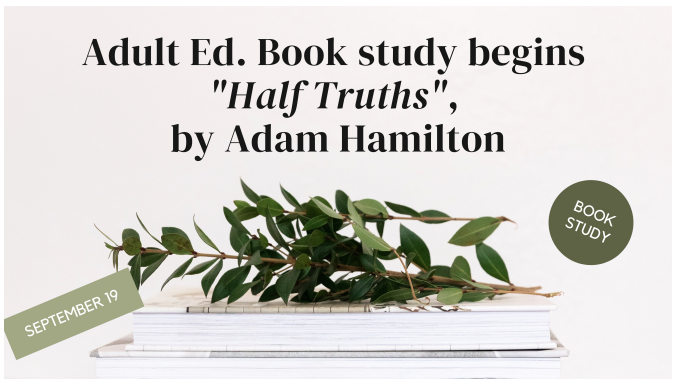
This September we will be enjoying many reminders that Jesus is with us this coming "program year" in the life of the church. Side note, when we refer to a program year, it's the Sept-May timeframe that mirrors the school calendar. One event that I'm excited for will be here very soon – Kick-Off / Genesis Sunday! We'll have a Food Truck and Kona Ice after church with a ministry fair in the Garden Room and a number of activities outside! There will even be a big surprise tied to our worship service that I can't wait to have revealed!

Looking ahead, as we re-engage a more familiar schedule in our lives and at church, I hope that you will take time as a household to consider what it can look like to stay engaged or to re-engage in the good habits of faith and church life as a part of your daily living. Remember, Jesus is with you and Westminster is here to help you see and remember that presence each week – at school, at work, at play, in our Lincoln community – wherever you go!

With Gratitude,  
Pastor Chris

## Adult Ed Book Study

"Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say" by Adam Hamilton. Sign -ups for group will be available at worship on Sept 12. Some groups will meet through Zoom. More information to come.



## Westminster Prayer Chain

There is incredible power and potential in prayer. Through prayer, we invite God into a situation and into our lives. Prayer changes things, but even more, prayer changes us. If you are in need of prayer OR if you would like to be notified when someone else needs prayer, please let us know. Contact Janice Rohwedder [prayer@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:prayer@westminsterlincoln.org). Or simply call the church office.





## Green @Heart

### Sure I care, but what can I do about it?

A lot of careful thought and discussion has gone into creating Lincoln's Climate Action Plan, and now it's just going to be implemented through the city offices, right? Wrong! If you're a retiree concerned about environmental problems, Olli has class for you. Get to know the leaders who created the plan and learn how your particular talents can help bring the plan to fruition.

Two classes, 11:00 -12:30 pm on Tuesdays in September.

Learn more and register at <https://olli.unl.edu/registration-courses>

### Stroll the Bioswale, Stay for Lunch

Into every life some rain must fall. What happens after that is up to you! Rainwater is a precious commodity. A well-designed garden can absorb excess runoff, filter pollutants and create habitat for birds and insects--as well as providing an interesting and compelling landscape. Take a 45-minute walk along the (paved) Antelope Creek trail to tour the FireWorks bioswale.

Our guide, Bob Hendrickson of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, will talk about the creation of this greenspace and how we can use rain gardens and bioswales (there's a difference!) in our own yards. After our stroll we'll gather for lunch in the FireWorks party room. Saturday, October 2, 11:00 am. Registrations required—sign up in the Garden Room.



## **Adult Education Bible Study of Acts of the Apostles**

Join us via Zoom for Bible Study on Wednesdays. Contact Tom Pappas to enroll. This group is open to all who wish to attend and learn about scripture book by book. There's an organization called Bible Project which produces clever and helpful animated discussions of the text <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/acts-1-12/>.

Here's the ZOOM Address:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76737747279?pwd=dGg3SWNCWjFrZ2RoY1ZEN21QcnY3dz09>

**Meeting ID:** 767 3774 7279 **Passcode:** yG7hp6

## **Hearts & Hands | Church Library | Wednesdays 1:30 -3:00 PM & 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

We hope our new name for the group reflects our desire to be more inclusive in terms of offering a second session (Wed. afternoon, 1:30-3 pm) to our original meeting time (Wed. evening, 6:30-8 pm). It is also our hope that the new name will encourage participation by those who do all types of handwork. Please join us! Questions? Call Francy Scheele at (402) 310-4212.

## **Lunch Bunch | Parkers Smoke House | Tuesday, September 7 | 11:30 a.m.**

Lunch Bunch will be held at Parkers Smoke House, 8341 O Street. All are invited to attend. For questions, call Larry Wieskamp at 402-802-6883.

## **Prairie Readers | Wednesday, September 15 | Fellowship Hall | 1:00 p.m.**

The program for Prairie Readers in September will be "What We're Reading," where each person has a chance to talk briefly about a book.

## **Ladies Night Out | Billy's | Monday, September 20 | 5:00 – 7:00 PM**

Ladies Night out will be at Billy's located at 1301 H St, Lincoln, NE. The price for heavy family-style appetizers is still \$12.00/person, tax, tip and drink cost are additional. Please feel free to bring a friend, sister, aunt, daughter or mother to all our gatherings.

## **Messenger Articles Reminder:**

All information for The October Messenger is due to Tracy Hoffman at [tracy@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:tracy@westminsterlincoln.org) by the 10th of September. And all announcements for The eVine are due to Tracy and Joanne Gabriel at [joanne@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:joanne@westminsterlincoln.org) by 5 pm on Monday of each week.





## Elders of the Earth Retreat

Please consider attending this remarkable and important event during October 12, 13, and 14. This will be the 6th annual retreat and will be held at Platte River State Park. This year's theme is "What's Unique About Nebraska In Light of the Climate Crisis". Have a look at the website <https://elders4theearth.com/> while you're thinking about all the ways Nebraska is unique.

## Faith and Cancer Support Group

Cancer is simply a six letter word associated with many emotions wrapped up within. In our support group at Westminster we can share those thoughts and feelings with others who are experiencing similar concerns. We will resume our support meetings in the library on September 21 at 7 PM and then monthly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month thereafter.

All are welcome. Contact Janice Rohwedder 402 730-5568.

## Westminster has Cook N Carry

Providing a meal is a tangible way to show one person's willingness to help another. The meal is a vehicle that allows the giving party the opportunity to show they care, that they hope to reduce a burden, and they will be there for the receiving party in the future. Cook N Carry can be of help for any significant life event. Births, illnesses, surgery, or loss of a loved one. If you are in need of Cook N Carry OR if you would like an opportunity to provide a meal for someone in need, please let us know. Contact Dorri Gage or Jean Atkinson.



Please call the church for their contact information. Or just let the church office know. They will be happy to pass on the information.

## Food Drive

As we work our way through the story of Joseph and discuss famines, Faith Village will be spearheading a food drive beginning September 12 to support our Food Pantry. Our Pantry can always use the following items: toilet tissue, boxes of Jell-O, pancake syrup, pancake mix, bars of hand soap, dry breakfast cereal, oatmeal, cooking oil, 1-4lb sacks of sugar, soda crackers, peanut butter, rice, SpaghettiOs, dry noodles, macaroni & cheese, tuna, cans of stew, canned fruit, canned vegetables, instant potatoes, spaghetti sauce, soup, and spaghetti.

# Worship MINISTRY

## Online Choir Rehearsals

Westminster Choir will embark on a new adventure with virtual Zoom rehearsals this fall! Due to the small time lag that exists through the internet, rehearsal format will also be different. Much of our singing will involve leader demonstration while choir members are muted. This is perfect for beginners or anyone who has been away from singing for a while. All are welcome to sing-a-long with Laura on Wednesday evenings.

Email [laura@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:laura@westminsterlincoln.org) for zoom meeting details.

## Westminster Carillon

We are excited to return to ringing this fall! We love to welcome new members, and prior music reading experience is helpful.

Contact [laura@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:laura@westminsterlincoln.org) to express interest.

## Instrumental Soloists

Do you play a non-wind instrument? We would love for you to share your gifts with the congregation for special music this fall.

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



## On-Going Library Help

We are looking for some on-going help in the library. Martha Kingsbury has been keeping watch over it for a number of years, and she would like to share her expertise with someone.

Is the library an area where you would like to help out? Talk with Martha if you have an interest or questions about what is involved, or call the church office.





## Children and Youth Committee Activities

### Kick-off Sunday | Sunday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m.

Fall activities resume at Westminster on Sunday, September 12. This is your opportunity to find out what is coming up! Our Committees and Life Groups will provide a snapshot of their upcoming activities while families can take tours of Faith Village and meet Life Group Leaders. Kids will be able to play in the bounce house and get their faces painted. People of all ages can play cornhole and ladder golf, decorate our sidewalks with chalk, make tie dye t-shirts, and create a marshmallow catapult. Live music will be provided by The Rising; Pepe's and Kona Ice will provide the food. Kick-Off Sunday promises to have something for everyone, so mark your calendar for September 12 and stay to celebrate the start of the new season with your Westminster family.

### Faith Village | September 12

The new year begins for Faith Village and Youth Group September 12. In September, we will learn about Joseph's journey.

### Wednesday Nights | September 15

Wednesday activities will begin on September 15 from 5:30-7:00 PM. Kids from nursery age through high school are invited to join us for dinner, fellowship, discussion, and fun. Coffee and fellowship opportunities for parents will be available as well.

### Sermon Set-Up | September 19

Middle school students are invited to come to the Youth Room at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays for donuts, hot chocolate, and discussion prior to the service.

### High School Youth September 19

High school students are invited to come to Youth Group on Sunday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. for fun, fellowship, and deep discussions.

### Spooktacular | Save the Date

**October 27, 5:30-7:30**

Believe it or not, Spooktacular is coming soon! Cowboys, princesses, and creatures of the night are invited to slither, shuffle, or ride on down to Westminster to play games, trick or treat, and have a frightfully fun evening.

### Star City Shores Pool Party

Thanks to everyone who came to the pool party at Star City Shores last month! The weather was perfect for both splashing and chatting and it was a great way to wind up the Summer. Look for the Westminster Star City Shores Pool Party to come back in August 2022.



As we embark on the 2021-2022 School Year at Westminster Preschool, it is important to meet the incredible humans that do so much to make our school a caring, loving, Christian community where children have an opportunity to grow socially, emotionally, spiritually, physically, cognitively, and culturally. Please keep these amazing educators in your prayers as they bless Westminster Preschool students and families this school year!

### **Meet the staff of Westminster Preschool:**



Allie Heins has been a Pre-K teacher at Westminster for 9 years! She is gentle and kind and has a passion for instilling tools for mindfulness in young and old, alike! She and her husband, Justin, have three kiddos of their own, Avery, Brekin and Harlow.

Christy Altman is beginning her 5<sup>th</sup> year in the Pre-K classroom...this time around! She also taught at Westminster over twenty years ago before her children were born! Christy is the queen of organization and loves to share the love of Jesus with all our students and families! She and her husband, Mike have three grown children, Ryan, Emily and Kate.



Heather Buggeln is brand new to the Pre-K classroom this year, but not new to Westminster! Her son is a 2020 graduate! Heather is excited to work with our students and families and build relationships through her first year here! She and her husband, Dave, have two children; Delaney and Carson.



Christy Brugh is starting her seventh year with Westminster. Christy reimaged our Pre-K extended care program last year and her incredible knowledge of child development made it an instant hit! Christy has a daughter, Manat.

Sarah Dankenbring is beginning her second year with us. Sarah's love of early childhood education has led her down so many amazing avenues, including being a coach for Pyramid and a brand new coach for Step up to Quality! Her knowledge and experience are reflected in her work in the classroom! Sarah and her husband, Corey, have two sons, Kyler and Nolan.



Lindsay Reger is also entering her second year at Westminster! Lindsay's creative, fun personality make her a perfect fit for the Preschool classroom! Her love of art and art endorsement make her the perfect fit for our new art teacher, as well! Lindsay is excited to continue to bring art class to our Pre-K friends, but also to start an art rotation for the preschool class this year! Lindsay and her husband, Jason have four kids, Jayden, Brinley, Brent and Lanae.



Sam Daharsh joins us this year in the Preschool classroom! Sam is soft spoken, kind and a wonderful learning through play facilitator. After several years at home with her and husband, Adam's, three kids, Simon, Penny and Mark, we are thrilled to have her back in the classroom at Westminster!

Mary Richardson has been at Westminster for 8 years! She brings joy and laughter to our Preschool extended care program (we also call her the nap whisperer!) Her love of all things Disney and books makes her an instant hit with our young friends!



## Volunteer Spotlight: Jana Dyer

From ushers and greeters to children, youth, and adult group leaders and everyone else in-between, Westminster volunteers use their God-given gifts to serve others on a daily basis. This committed group of individuals make everything we do here at Westminster possible, and this month we are highlighting a truly amazing and dedicated volunteer in our children and youth ministry program, Jana Dyer.

Jana and her husband, Jay, originally moved to Lincoln to be closer to their son, Stephen. They consider themselves fortunate to be able to live on the acreage next to him and their two grandsons, Wyatt and Beau. Jana is an avid gardener who enjoys mowing and making crafts of all kinds while listening to KLOVE radio and Chuck Swindoll. And while she also enjoys watching television shows about cooking, her favorite thing to do is spend time with her family.

The Dyers first came to Westminster after attending a Christmas Eve service in 2014 when their grandson, Wyatt was attending pre-school here. Shortly after that, they started attending Westminster full-time. Jana began volunteering at Faith Village in 2016, and once she started, she was hooked. Since that time, she has served as a shepherd/helper almost every Sunday, often filling in when others couldn't be present, as well as helping with special events like Spooktacular, C is for Christmas, and the annual kickoff Sunday celebration. She is also a member of the Children and Family Committee, and most recently, stepped up to help with the confirmation class during the unprecedented challenges of the past year. In spite of these challenges, however, she enjoyed working with the confirmands so much that she is volunteering to help again with the next class.

As to why she continues to volunteer to work with the children and youth, Jana says she feels called to serve in children and youth ministry and that volunteering has brought her tremendous joy. She believes that the children are our future and that we have a serious obligation to provide the foundation they need to fulfill God's purpose in their lives. Jana says, "There is nothing quite like witnessing children's faith; children are joyful and eager to learn about our Amazing God and to have the stories of the Bible brought to life for them. We need to teach them about love, hope, faith, and Grace and we need to teach them how to practice and live in a world that doesn't always make it easy,"

"For me, serving has been a blessing. I have received so much more in so many ways than I have given. It has allowed me to give back as well as continue to grow and evolve and strive to be the person that God created me to be." Thank you, Jana, for all your hard work and dedication!

Jana is a fantastic example of what it looks like to use your individual gifts to serve as the body of Christ. If you're wondering where you fit in and what it means to live on mission, consider volunteering to serve in our children or youth ministry. Whatever your interests or gifts are, we can use you. Complete the volunteer form here <https://forms.gle/ffJLjZbMzw2qjEUg6> to get started.



## Elder and Deacon Nomination Form

"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

Your Nominating Committee is in the process of seeking church members for consideration as Elders and Deacons to serve for the next three years. Your suggestions are extremely important in the candidate selection process. We encourage you to forward any recommendations that you may have.

### What do Elders and Deacons do?

#### According to the Book of Order:

Elders are persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God's Spirit and governance of God's people. They should be persons of wisdom and maturity in faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. They are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life of the congregation. Ruling Elders exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of the congregation as well as the whole church. They shall serve three years as members of the session meeting monthly. They will need to participate in and/or moderate a church committee.

The ministry of deacon is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming live of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgement should be chosen for this ministry. Deacons shall serve a term of three years, be assigned a "flock" (group of church members) they care for and communicate with. Deacons meet monthly.



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**Nominee's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ (PRINT - You may volunteer yourself as a nominee)

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: \_\_\_\_ Elder \_\_\_\_ Deacon

Have you informed the Nominee of your nomination? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ (Please PRINT your name)

Your Phone or email: \_\_\_\_\_



.....

**Nominee's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ (PRINT - You may volunteer yourself as a nominee)

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: \_\_\_\_ Elder \_\_\_\_ Deacon

Have you informed the Nominee of your nomination? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ (Please PRINT your name)

Your Phone or email: \_\_\_\_\_



Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd

Lincoln, NE 68502



## Hearts & Hands

**CHURCH LIBRARY ON WEDNESDAYS**

**1:30 - 3:00 PM & 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

We encourage the participation of those who do all types of handwork

**We extend a warm welcome to all those wanting to join us for knitting, crocheting, embroidery, coloring, handcrafts of your choice. Women & Men.**