



THE MESSENGER

June 2022

Vision Launch Event

"Why Westminster?"

- To expand our lives in faith
- To connect people deeply
- To make a difference through service



On May 5th, 100 Westminster members and friends gathered to hear the exciting news of our new Vision, which begins with the question of "Why Westminster?" and invites us to tell our stories of why we call Westminster our church family and church home.

What's your story?

A LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION FROM PASTOR CHRIS PETERS

I recently had to catch myself while typing an email to our staff... My first thought was to share that the church Summer schedule would be “less” full, but I immediately realized I should be clear that our summer at Westminster would be “differently” full in 2022!

From Vacation Bible School this month, to an exciting worship series (keep reading), to Movie Night and Star City Shores nights, to our first Staff Retreat in August – there will be a lot of exciting things happening around Westminster. That doesn’t even begin to engage the work of our Mission/ Outreach, Church Life, and Adult Educational teams!

My hope is that with all we have going on, we will stay engaged as a church family this Summer. Summer ’22 starts off with Pentecost Sunday, the “Birthday of the Church” on June 5th, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit with us... and don’t forget to wear **RED**!

In Summer worship following Pentecost, we will be “diving into the deep end” of some stories that may be familiar to you from Sunday School or Children’s bibles. “Sunday School Stories Grown Up” will engage such stories and characters broadly, with special attention to details that might be left out or forgotten, the setting or context of the story, and language points that can get muddled in translation. From there we’ll see how these stories point us toward deeper faith and acts of love and justice.

Here are just a few of the stories we’ll explore, week-by-week through Labor Day weekend: Creation, Noah, Babel, Moses, Jericho, Deborah, Esther, Ruth, Jonah, and Daniel! This summer – let’s be the church – engaged, informed, and active in God’s world!

I look forward to “diving” into these stories with you and seeing you at Westminster this Summer!

With Gratitude,
Pastor Chris

Congratulations to the 2022 Westminster High School Graduates! **We wish you the very best as you enter into the next chapter of your lives.**



Mariah Janssen, Lincoln High School

Mariah played volleyball throughout her high school years, as well as managed the team her senior year of high school. She was a big part of the Links crew, helping new incoming students: showing them around the school and getting them acquainted. During her junior and senior years she took on class at the TCA out at SCC, that helped with her specific pathway for college and excelled.

She has been accepted to the University of Lincoln-Nebraska in the Fall and will be majoring in Exercise Science.



Ansley Sothan, Lincoln Southeast High School

Ansley will graduate from Lincoln Southeast High School Summa Cum Laude, Honor Roll with Highest Distinction. Ansley was a decorated 4 year varsity golfer and captain. She received Academic All-American 4 years, All State and All City Awards. Ansley lettered 4 years as part of the Shirette dance team and served as the senior captain. Ansley was on the Varsity tennis team as a 4 year letter winner and Academic All-Conference. Ansley was also a part of Student Council (lettered 2 years), Health Occupations Students of America (lettered 4 years, senior officer), Leadership Cadre, SHIELD, Youth Leadership Lincoln, National Honor Society, AP Scholar and Capstone Program.

After studying abroad in France this summer, Ansley will attend Wake Forest University studying Neuroscience, Health and exercise science on a Pre-Med track.

Westminster Graduates not pictured:

Kate Bergmeyer, Kaiden Bradley, Justin Davis, Mia Heidtbrink, Nyayik Koang, Kawang Nyuon, Olivia Tollefson, Sierra Walker and Walker Wood.

Life Group Gatherings

Hearts & Hands | Church Library

Wednesdays from 1:30 -3:00 PM and at 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Feel free to bring anything you'd like to work on. Some creative things you can enjoy doing with your hands are coloring, rock painting, embroidery, knitting, and stitching. Men and women and ALL craft projects welcome! Questions: Call Francy Scheele at (402) 310-4212.

History Buffs | Program about Glenn Cunninham | Saturday, June 18

We will begin June 18th with a program presented by Bruce Sheffield about his Uncle, Glenn Cunningham, who broke the mile World Record in 1934. He also competed in the 1500 m. in the 1936 Berlin Olympics, all the more amazing because his legs were severely burned as a child.

Lunch Bunch | Tuesday, June 7 | 11:30 AM

Lunch Bunch will meet at Olive Garden on Tuesday, June 7, at 11:30 A.M. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon, 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon. (The RSVP is very important.)

Faith and Cancer Support Group | Library | Tuesday, June 21 | 7 p.m.

Cancer is 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. All are welcome. Contact Bruce Sheffield at 402-783-0394 or Janice Rohwedder at 402-730-5568.

Prairie Readers | Wednesday, June 15 | 1:00 p.m. in Lounge

Book: The Perfume Thief by Tim Shaffert.

Discussion leader: Martha Van Sickle.

Ladies Night Out | Wednesday, June 29th, 5-7 PM

Schilling Bridge, 575 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 109

Please RSVP no later than Monday, June 21st (we need to submit early this time). Email Robyn Uebele robynu2@hotmail.com. Text or call Robyn 937-935-6858. Feel free to invite a friend, neighbor, or relative to all our gatherings. <http://schillingbridgecorkandtap.com/>

Usher Volunteers Needed

We are looking for ushers to start in July for a once a month commitment through the end of the year? Please contact Kim Kubick if interested: kim.kubick@hotmail.com.

Messenger & eVine Reminders:

All information for The Messenger is due to Tracy Hoffman at tracy@westminsterlincoln.org by the 18th of each month.

All announcements for The eVine are due to Tracy and Joanne Gabriel at joanne@westminsterlincoln.org by 5 pm on Monday of each week.

Adopt-A-Tree Program

Mission and Outreach is working with Building and Grounds to try and save our Ash trees. The Emerald Ash Borer has destroyed many trees in Lincoln. We have had an Arborist look at our trees and he feels it is worth the effort to inoculate against this pest. This may save our trees or at the very least buy us some time as we replace with a different species. We are inviting anyone who would like to help to - ADOPT-A-TREE. Cost - \$149.00 / Number of trees - Twelve.

People who would like to donate but not adopt a whole tree are welcome to do so.

Anyone who is interested can contact Glenna Haller - glenna0952@att.net.

Lincoln City Libraries Summer Reading Challenge Events--June/July 2022

Location: Westminster Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall/East Parking Lot

Tuesday, June 7- 10:30 a.m., Visit with the Lincoln Saltdogs: Meet Homer the Haymarket Hound and players from the Lincoln Saltdogs when they visit our libraries to read books and sign autographs.

Tuesday, June 14, 10:30 a.m., CK Dance: The CK Dance company will perform a shortened version of Annie. Then it's time for the kids in the audience to learn some dance moves and jam out with the older dancers.

Tuesday, June 21, 10:30 a.m. Pollinators Plus: Find out what all of the buzz is about as we learn why butterflies, bees, and even bats, are so essential to our food supply and ecosystem.

Tuesday, June 28, 10:30 a.m., 4-H Oceans of Possibilities: Discover the wonders of the ocean as you dive down deep to explore ocean zones, marine animals and more during this fun, hands-on 4-H workshop!

Tuesday, July 5, 10:30 a.m., Edgerton Explorit Center: Experience the Wonderful World of Waves; the science of sound and the many sound waves we experience every day. See dramatic demonstrations of how you can not only hear, but actually see sound waves using various items including fire and the amazing Ruben's Tube!

Tuesday, July 12, 10:30 a.m., Nebraska Wildlife Rehab: Learn about the work of caring for injured, sick, and orphaned animals and birds, and how you can help urban wildlife to survive and thrive.

Tuesday, July 19, 10:30 a.m., Magician Jeff Quinn: There's DEFINITELY something fishy about Jeff Quinn's new magic show! The entire family will have a whale of a good time with Jeff's all-new ocean-themed show.

Tuesday, July 26, 10:30 a.m., Heavy Equipment Encounter: Parks & Rec, the Fire Department and Public Works bring their big rigs for kids to see and touch.



WESTMINSTER YOUTH

Sundays in Faith Village

We had a great year in Faith Village, both on Sundays and Wednesdays, focusing on playing games, creating art, cooking, and performing science experiments as we learned different stories from the Bible and experienced the good news. We also gathered together for Spooktacular, the Advent Workshop, Eggstravaganza, and the Lorax party.

While you are all hopefully relaxing this summer, we will be working on developing exciting new activities for our kids and families. We will keep you apprised of what develops. Look for us to meet in Faith Village again in August and for Wednesday night activities to begin again on September 14, after Kick-Off Sunday. Have a great summer!

Family Movie Night: Encanto June 26, 9:00 PM-11:00 PM

Family movie night is coming. We will be showing the movie Encanto at 9:00 PM in the Westminster parking lot. We will have popcorn, lemonade, and water available for refreshments. All we need to make the event complete is you, your family, and your favorite lawn chairs.

“Encanto tells the tale of an extraordinary family, the Madrigals, who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia, in a magical house, in a vibrant town, in a wondrous, charmed place called an Encanto. The magic of the Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift from super strength to the power to heal—every child except one, Mirabel (voice of Stephanie Beatriz). But when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is in danger, Mirabel decides that she, the only ordinary Madrigal, might just be her exceptional family’s last hope.” (<https://movies.disney.com/encanto>)

Youth Group

In spite of the challenges this winter and fall, the Youth Group made the most of our time this year. We worked and played and served together, building and strengthening friendships and creating all kinds of wonderful memories.

Just this past month we gathered early in the morning on May 1 with the Marathon Welcome, then met in the evening to try to solve the Search for the Truth mystery. After a break for Mother’s Day, we reconvened for Westminster’s version of Nailed It. The next Wednesday, several youth served at the People’s City Mission then worked on solving the Lost Mummy escape room. We rounded the year out with a party at Pioneers Park.

We really packed a lot into this year and we hope you will join us for our activities this summer. Look for Sermon Setup to begin again in August and for the Youth Group to start meeting September 14, after Kick-Off Sunday. Have a great summer!



As we transition from our school year to our summer program, we are reminded of the beauty of change as well as those important things that remain constant.

Westminster Preschool has a tradition of striving to serve our children and families with excellence. This comes from an experienced, educated and dedicated staff committed to meet and exceed quality standards. I am pleased to announce that our several month Step up to Quality review recently concluded and we once again earned a Step Five. This is the highest rating given and speaks to the amazing staff of this program! To retain that level of quality through a pandemic is no small feat!

As for change, I will take this moment to say "Thank You!" to you all. My time at Westminster Preschool has been filled with joy, blessings, growth, the formation of incredible relationships and a deepening of my faith in the Author of my story. Although He is currently writing a new chapter, I'll be re-reading the one written over the last six years with deep gratitude. This is a wonderfully special place, filled with wonderfully special people.

I am so pleased to introduce Mrs. Sarah Dankenbring as your new Preschool Director. Sarah is an incredible educator, communicator, facilitator and leader, not to mention a delightful friend. I will continue to keep Westminster Preschool, Westminster Church and the staff and families of both in my prayers. God's richest blessings to you all!

In His Love,

Rachel Hinze

VBS: To Mars and Beyond | June 6-9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Register your child or sign up to volunteer here <https://vbsmate.com/events/westminsterlincoln/21116>



Calvin Crest

There is still time to register for summer camp! Come see why a week at Calvin Crest is the best week of the year! For more information or to register for camp, check the Calvin Crest website: <https://calvincrest.org>.

Carol Joy Holling Youth Group Event | July 9, 12 PM - 7:00 PM

Youth Group will meet at the church on Saturday, July 9 at 12:00 noon to head up to Carol Joy Holling for a day of high and low ropes course fun. We will have dinner together and be back at the church by 7 pm.



Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd

Lincoln, NE 68502

Kaffee Und Apfelkuchen

That's coffee and German apple cake—to talk about our sister church in Lohmen, Germany and how you could be involved in that relationship. Lohmen is a charming village with nearby attractions such as Dresden and Prague.

Our friends there—who are amazingly hospitable—are eager to host a delegation from Westminster for a special celebration this October. Might you be interested in going? Or in helping with plans such as choosing a gift for the celebration? Or starting plans for their next visit to Lincoln? Or just learning more?

Please join the conversation over coffee and cake, Sunday afternoon, June 12, 3:00 p.m., at Haus der Familie Pappas. Questions and RSVP's to Nancy Leavitt.

