



THE MESSENGER

August 2022

“Why Westminster?” is a question we continue to ask together, and one of our three big-picture reasons is that we are called “to connect people deeply.” August looks to be a great month for connecting, and re-connecting after Summer break, as a church!



A LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION FROM PASTOR CHRIS PETERS

Westminster Family,

Before you hit the highlights of our ways to connect this month, here are a few thoughts on the uniqueness and beauty of connecting as God's people through the church...

As Presbyterians, we believe the life of faith is done in community, not as individuals or even households "on our own." The power of connecting through the church is found when we are able to support and are supported during the most wonderful and most challenging moments of our lives. I know that for myself, church provides spaces and people with whom I can navigate the questions I have about life and faith.

Wherever we find ourselves in life, when we have the connection of the church, we can navigate questions about scripture, parenting, retirement, and issues of justice and service with others together. When we connect deeply, we come together with a sense of trust, vulnerability, and transparency that is different, deeper, and more valuable than most other spaces and communities available to us.

I look forward to connecting with you this month – whether that's in-person or online through worship, over a cup of coffee, or in a group making plans for the future of our church!

In Christ,

Pastor Chris

Connecting People Deeply: Wednesdays this Fall!

All are welcome to join us this Fall for a new and “re-newed” focus for Wednesday nights at Westminster!

What Continues?

Children and Youth activities, along with a meal option...

What’s New?

Once-A-Month Food Trucks (Dates and more info to be shared soon!)

Adult and Intergenerational Activities in a “Rotational Model”

What can I expect this Fall?

Just like our “Why Westminster” Vision, there are three key activity areas – learning, service, and connection!

- **Learning: Living The Faith (What We Believe and How We Make It Matter):** A new class led by Pastor Chris for adults of all generations. (September 14, October 5, November 2)
- **Service:** Hands-On Mission Projects and Service-Learning Opportunities, both at church and off-campus. Details to be shared monthly. (Wednesdays of September 21, October 12, November 16)
- **Connection:** Opportunities for “just fun,” such as all-church cornhole on September 28th, casual “table talk” for adults, Spooktacular community event on October 26, and one “Parents Night Out” connection dinner for parents at a local restaurant this semester (details TBD).

September Schedule Example

September 14 (Wednesday Kick-Off) – Living the Faith Class / Children and Youth activities meet separately.

September 21 – Hands-on Mission Project (options being explored for Fall include packing school supply bags at church, visiting the Habitat Re:Store, and more! Children and Youth activities may meet separately, depending on project.

September 28 – Churchwide Cornhole Tournament (all ages together for a one-hour mini-tournament!).

Look for more information and details in mid-August and in the September Messenger!

Are You Looking for a Place to Volunteer as a Family?

We are excited to announce the opportunity for families to work together serving dinner at Matt Talbot. Every other month, Westminster volunteers cook and serve dinner for 100-130 people at Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach. Cooks arrive around 3:30 p.m., those who are serving arrive around 4:45 p.m.

After dinner, volunteers clean the kitchen, wash dishes, and sweep the floor, usually finishing around 7 p.m. If you are interested, please sign-up at <https://forms.gle/gqmdsmiWbdRqVJJW8>. If you have any questions, contact Susie Hughes at skh@eskays.com.

Kick-Off Sunday

Fall activities resume at Westminster at Kick-Off Sunday on September 11! We are looking forward to an exciting line-up of activities and invite you to come celebrate the beginning of the new season.

Activities will include a sneak preview of upcoming activities by various Life Groups, Kona Ice, and a food truck, along with games, crafts, music.

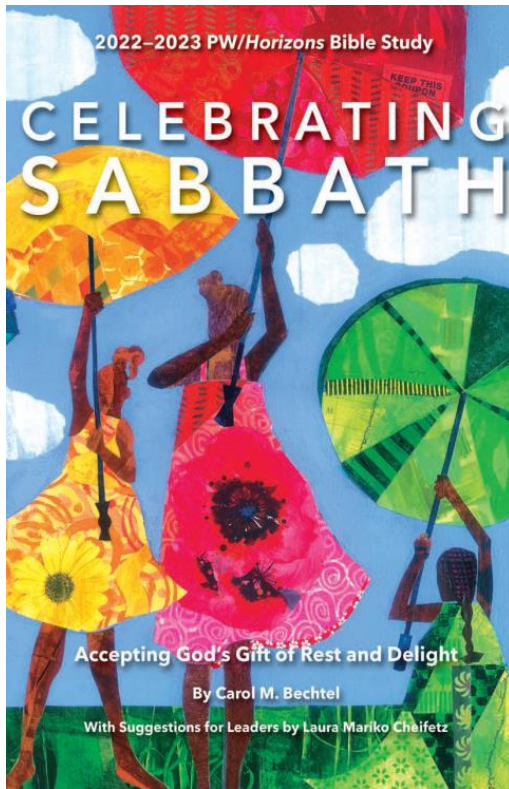
The VR Game Truck is a new activity this year, and will feature the Jesus VR experience. Designed to bring you closer to Christ than ever before, this technology will transport you back in time to witness the life of Christ first hand. With 360 videos, you will be at the center of the film and can choose which direction to look, making it a truly immersive experience. Group console games will also be available.



Kick-Off Sunday will have something for everyone, so be sure to mark your calendar for September 11 and plan on staying to celebrate the start of the new season with your Westminster family.

THE MESSENGER (USPS 680-440) PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN, NE 68502. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT LINCOLN NEBRASKA. \$2 SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, POSTMASTER SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN, NE 68502.

Westminster Presbyterian Church News



ALL
Westminster Presbyterian Women
are INVITED
to the Fall Kickoff of the
PW Bible Study
We will meet in Fellowship Hall on
Saturday August 27th
9:30am to 10:30am

Whether you are currently in a Circle
or are curious about the Study, all are
WELCOME
We will preview the Bible study
Celebrating Sabbath

Sign Up for Faith Village & Find Out More About Our Life Groups. Sunday September 11

In addition to all the fun stuff going on during Kick off Sunday, various Life Groups will be showcasing upcoming activities and families can get their kids signed up for Faith Village. Children can also be registered for Faith Village in advance by completing the online form <https://forms.gle/U4o8LURZ8BMyAtBVA>.

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests, concerns and praises are available to anyone with a prayer request. Please send your request by email to: prayer@westminsterlincoln.org.

Requests will be forwarded to the Prayer Ministry Group. If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Ministry Group, please email your name, phone number and your email address to : prayer@westminsterlincoln.org.



Hearts & Hands | Church Library

Wednesdays 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.

Lunch Bunch | Tuesday, August 2 | 11:30 AM

Lunch Bunch will meet at Art & Soul, 5740 Hidcote Drive on Tuesday, August 2, at 11:30 A.M. This is close to 56th and Pine Lake Road. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com. (The RSVP is very important.)

Faith and Cancer Support Group | Library | Tuesday, August 16 | 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, August 17 | 1:00 p.m. in Lounge

Book: The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

Discussion leader: Susie Hughes

History Buffs | The B17 Bomber | Saturday, August 20 at 9 am

Join us for a History Buffs presentation by Steve Larson. Feel welcome to bring a friend(s).

Used primarily in Europe during WWII, the b17 was known more famously as the Flying Fortress. Capable of flying long distances with a heavy payload, the b17 would forever change the face of warfare.

The “Strategic Bombing” campaigns in which it was used represented a radical departure from more the traditional methods of waging war. The presentation is based upon the experiences of Lt. Wendell Larson; a 20 year-old navigator who flew 35 mission over Europe during the War.

Ladies' Night Out - Tuesday, August 30 | 5-7 PM

We will be gathering at L's Kitchen at 2785 S 17th Street. As always, feel free to bring a friend, sister, aunt, daughter or mother to all our gatherings. RSVP to Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com. Text or call Robyn 937-935-6858.

Westminster Book Sale

The annual Westminster Book Sale will be held from Sunday, Sept. 11 to Sunday, Sept. 18.

Do you have books to donate? Please bring them to Fellowship Hall. The East door of the church is open from 10 am to 2 pm during the week, or call the church office at 402-475-6702 to arrange a time.

Questions? Call Martha Kingsbury at 402-304-7052.



A clean-up team gathered to begin the “BIG CLEAN OF WESTMINSTER.”

- Our church has collected way too many treasures which have made Westminster look cluttered and difficult to keep clean.
- The team sorted items into several categories. Broken items were taken to the trash bin. Items that had strayed from their proper places were returned to where they belong (i.e., kitchen things to the kitchen). Some items we were not sure about, were outdated, or needed to be re-homed. Please take a moment to view these items in Cole Hall.
- If you find an item that belongs to you or you have some attachment to, please take it.
- All remaining/unclaimed items will be removed by August 5.
- The clean-up team will continue sorting, so check Cole Hall often.



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.



westminster preschool

While Summer is winding down, we want to share some of the preschool fun we have had this year. We have been enjoying visits from the South Branch Library this summer! Seeing CK Dance Academy perform was one of our Summer favorites!



We have openings for Fall in our preschool program! We are currently accepting registrations for our multi-age (3-5 years old) preschool classroom.

Classes begin Monday, August 15th. We have a variety of schedules available including part-time, full-time, part day, and full day. Please email our director, Sarah Dankenbring at sarah@westminsterlincoln.org or call us at (402)475-6702 to set up a tour!



We LOVE water play! It's cool & fun to splash around in on a hot Nebraska Summer day. "Painting" the building with water has been a huge hit. We did a really nice job!

This August we are Celebrating the End of Summer and the Beginning of the New Academic Year at Westminster



All Church Pool Party | August 11 (free will offering)

Westminster has reserved Star City Shores on Thursday, August 11 from 6:30-8:00 PM to celebrate the end of the summer holiday. There are pools and play areas, interactive water features, and water slides. Bring your friends and come cool off with us!

Sunday, August 14

Faith Village

While we are not launching our fall program just yet, we will be dismissing elementary age kids to Faith Village beginning August 14. The nursery will be open as usual. Parents will pick up younger children from the nursery and elementary kids from Faith Village.

Sermon Set-up

Sermon set-up resumes on August 14. Join us at the sermon set-up discussion on Sunday mornings at 9:15, a session designed to deepen the worship experience. We discuss the theme of the upcoming sermon and identify how it applies to our lives today. Youth are invited to attend service with their families or together in the balcony.

Blessing of the Backpacks

If you are a student or educator of any kind, come join us on August 14 to receive your blessing for the coming year. Students of all ages are encouraged to bring their backpacks to receive blessings to begin the school year with the positive energy of prayers for their safety, health, happiness, and continued growth.



Sunday Sundae Bar

To celebrate the beginning of the new academic year, we will be serving ice cream in the Garden Room after the service along with a whole array of your favorite sundae toppings.

Upcoming Events & Save the Dates

Calvin Crest Fun Day | August 20

Calvin Crest is having a party and you are invited! Come join the all-day event and spend the day relaxing in the sun. Activities include sand volleyball, human foosball, music, games, food and more. Check out the details here <https://calvincrest.org/familyfunday/> and get away for the day.



Insteadium | August 20-21

Did you miss Triennium this year? Connect with other High School Students from area churches at this event created by Calvin Crest. This overnight adventure is for High Schoolers and is free. The event officially starts at 5PM on Saturday, August 20 and ends at 11AM on Sunday, August 21, but, you can spend more time at Calvin Crest if you arrive earlier in the day for the 4th Annual Family Fun Day. Contact Trish if you are interested and we will go as a group. Details are here <https://calvincrest.org/insteadium/>.

CROP Walk | Save the Date: October 9

1 in 8 people in southeast Nebraska is food insecure, which equates to an estimated 57,960 people, including 18,740 children, who live in southeast Nebraska.

What does it mean to be food insecure? When a person is food insecure, they lack consistent and reliable access to enough food to live an active and healthy lifestyle.

Westminster will be participating in the 2022 CROP Hunger Walk to support CWS and help families who are struggling with hunger. Please join us - with your steps and your donations - to provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them and create greater food security in communities around the world. Register or donate to our team here <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/event/lincolne>.



Volunteers

1 Peter 2:9 “All people that have a relationship with God are called to serve God.”

For our children and youth ministry volunteers in this season of growth:

Thank you...for loving the child who doesn't fit in.

Thank you...for serving behind the scenes.

Thank you...for every craft you prepare.

Thank you...for every goldfish cracker you serve.

Thank you...for welcoming new children with open arms.

Thank you...for speaking words of encouragement to parents.

Thank you...for showing up when you are tired.

Thank you...for planting seeds of the Gospel in the heart of our children.

Thank you...for making the Bible come alive for the kids in your class.

Thank you...for smiling for the kids even when you've had a rough week.

Thank you...for being Jesus' arms of love reaching out to the kids.

Thank you...for really caring for the kids.

Thank you...for stepping in and being a role model for kids who don't have one.

Thank you...for praying big prayers for the kids in your small group.

Thank you...for leading kids into Jesus's presence through worship.

Thank you...for making church the best hour of a child's life.

Thank you...for speaking words of life and encouragement to the child who doesn't hear it anywhere else.

Thank you...for serving instead of sitting.

Thank you...for helping kids memorize God's Word.

Thank you...for investing in the next generation.

Thank you...for giving your life to what really matters.



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Without you there would be no children and youth ministry!

If you are looking for a way to serve, the children and youth ministry is a great place to volunteer. With so many facets to the different programs, we can use just about everyone's special talent. Sign up online <https://forms.gle/HviVwFdoi3G8LUNp6>.

Author Os Guinness once said that “God did not direct His call to Isaiah — Isaiah overheard God saying, “. . . who will go for Us?” The call of God is not just for a select few but for everyone. Whether I hear God's call or not depends on the condition of my ears, and exactly what I hear depends upon my spiritual attitude.” Are you listening to how God is calling you to serve?



Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd

Lincoln, NE 68502

Presbyterians in the Park | August 28

Presbyterians in the Park – Bring blankets, lawn chairs and gather for worship in the park.

After worship you are invited to a potluck lunch at the Auld Recreation Center.

Presbyterians in the Park
SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 AT ANTELOPE PARK

10:00 am: Worship at Bandshell
(There will be no worship at church; only at Antelope Park!)

11:30 am: Potluck Lunch at Auld Pavilion

SAVE THE DATE
MORE DETAILS TO COME

The graphic features a light blue background with white clouds. At the bottom, there is a green hill. On the left, a red grill stands on a tripod. On the right, a picnic table with a red and yellow striped umbrella is set up, with a basket of food nearby. The text is centered in the upper half of the graphic.