

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



September 11, 2022

“8 Habits of Evangelism: Radical Welcome”

Prelude "Marche de Procession" by Alexandre Guilmant

Welcome Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Mission Moment: Crop Walk Deacon Gary Haller

***Call to Worship (Adaptation on Matthew 25)**
Deacon Gary Haller

One: We worship together, for God gathers us here
and online, as a community called hope:

**All: Where the hungry are served first; where the
thirsty drink life's water.**

One: We worship together, for God welcomes us into
this home called grace:

**All: Where the naked are clothed in robes of
hope; where the stranger is embraced as a long-
lost friend.**

One: We worship together, for God reunites us here,
siblings in God's family called love:

**All: Where the imprisoned model justice, where
the sick are cradled in God's peace. We worship
God with happiness, for we too have been
welcomed by God.**

***Hymn #611** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

***Call to Confession** Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Time of Silent Confession**

The Gospel of Matthew is the first book - of the New Testament. This is not because it was written first. The ordering is partly due to Matthew's emphasis on proving that Jesus was the Messiah. The Gospel of Mark is widely believed to be the first gospel written due to language, context clues in the book, and the particular stories that are shared with the other "synoptic" gospels of Matthew and Luke. (Pastor Chris)

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

God of love, you invite us to find renewal by way of the good news of Jesus Christ. We confess that we fall short of living out your hopes for our lives. We have often lived in fear and ignorance of our neighbors, rather than with a spirit of love. We have lived in disregard for the gifts of your creation, rather than examine and change our ways to show care for the Earth. We have wanted to stick with what is comfortable and familiar rather than exploring practices that are welcoming and inclusive. You are our Holy Mother and Father, O Lord. Forgive us and redirect our lives. Help us to be bold enough to extend a radical welcome to others that truly reflects Christ's love. Amen.

Response to the Confession

#288

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

...Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

Our Response of Praise quotes Lamentations 3:22-23, and the double singing of the final two phrases accentuates a sense of wonder. Finding ways to put Scripture, especially psalms, to music has long been a characteristic of the Reformed tradition. (From the Glory to God Hymnal hymn notes).

***Response of Praise**

#59

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
great is your faithfulness.*

***Passing of the Peace**

Please share a sign of welcome and inclusion that is mutually comfortable (high five, handshake, fist/elbow bump) with your neighbors.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Children's Chat

Trish Souliere

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures Deuteronomy 10:17-19 O.T. pg. 167
Gospels Matthew 25:31-46 N.T. pg. 29

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Sermon “8 Habits: Radical Welcome” Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #302**

When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace

***Affirmation of Faith** (Apostles' Creed; Modern-Language)

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the
dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

Moment of Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Special Music

“For Everyone Born”

by Brian Mann and Shirley Murray, arr. by Tom Trenney
Westminster Choir, David Pira Florez, cello

This hymn celebrates the breadth of human diversity and the variety of gifts and abilities through which God's people serve the church and world. Incorporating such diversity provides a vital witness to the hospitality of Christian community and to the inclusive nature of love. (From the *Glory to God Hymnal* hymn notes).

You're invited! Join us in the Garden Room for Life Group information and coffee, and in the parking lot for Kick-Off Sunday fun activities and food after worship today.

Ministers: The whole congregation
Pastors: Rev. Chris Peters & Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn
Music Director: Ronnie Zanella
Organist: John Ross
Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere
Ushers: Marybell Avery, Kathy Anderson, Barbara Wright-Chollet, Marilyn Hood
Greeters: Jim Bishop and Josh Whitfield

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn #317**

In Christ There Is No East or West

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

"Toccata in Seven" by John Rutter

*Please rise in body or spirit for these parts of worship.

This week's Call to Worship and Call to Confession are adapted from Rev. Thom Shuman's Lectionary Liturgies worship resource.

The **flowers** are given in memory of Chaplain Lynn Davis who would have been 91 on September 18.

Westminster welcomes and values children in worship. If a parent feels a break is needed for their child during the service, our **Infant Room** is available. This is located off the entry foyer through the Sheridan Blvd./West-end sanctuary doors. When you enter the foyer, turn to your right, where the door will be open.

Giving to Westminster's Mission and Ministry

At Church: An offering to support Westminster may be placed in our Giving Baskets following the service. These are located by the Sheridan Blvd. doors in the narthex and the sanctuary elevator exit. Look for the signs that read "Giving Basket."

Online: To give online, visit the following web address:

<https://westminsterlincoln.org/generosity-and-the-joy-of-giving/>

If you don't want to take your bulletin with you, please dispose of it in the recycling basket as you exit the sanctuary.



*"I am the vine,
you are the branches . . ."*

The week of Sept. 11, 2022

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

Fall Kick-Off Sunday is TODAY!

Look for games, a bouncy house, Kona Ice, food, and fun. Visit the photo booth to get your picture taken, make a popsicle stick picture frame, and check out the VR Game Truck Jesus Experience all in the parking lot after worship today. The Rising is back to provide entertainment, and various Life Groups will be showcasing upcoming activities in the Garden Room. Porkcentric, a food truck offering pork tacos, 3 for \$10, double layered nachos for \$14, and a limited number of vegan soba noodle bowls for \$12 will be available for you to purchase. Come one, come all!

Used Book Sale

WPC's annual *Used Book Sale* begins today and runs until next Sunday, Sept. 18. Stop by and browse. There's something for everyone! Proceeds go to the church library fund.

Westminster
LINK Nights

Wednesday night connecting activities for all ages!
5:30p - Children/Youth Drop-Off (Gym)
6:00p - Dinner for All Ages (Cole Hall)
6:30-7:30p - Weekly Rotating Activities (Fun, Learning, and Service!)

LiNK* Nights are our new Wednesday Night opportunities to connect – or “link” – together as a congregation! We'll mix nights of age-focused and intergenerational activities throughout September, October, and November 2022!

COUNTDOWN TO LiNK – ONE WEEK!

LiNK starts Wednesday, September 14th

Dinner on Wednesday will be provided for children and youth by the Rutabagas food truck. Rutabagas will also have food available for adults to purchase. Following the meal on 9/14...

For Adults: “Living the Faith (or, *What I Wish I’d Learned in Confirmation and How to Live it Out Daily*)” Class Session 1 in the Lounge. Class will be led by Pastor Chris.

For Kids (K-5th): Kick Off in Faith Village

For Youth (6th-12th): Kick-Off in Youth Cafe

Why LiNK? LiNK is a play on “Westminster Lincoln,” (LNK = Lincoln) in addition to serving as a reminder of our call to “link” or connect together as Christ's people!

Second Celebration: Celebrating two years of ministry with Rev. Chris Peters | “Our Current Moment, Worship and Christian Life Today” | Sunday, September 25

A morning of learning and connection opportunities with Dr. Martha Moore-Keish, J.B. Green Professor of Theology at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA. This event is in celebration of two years of Pastor Chris arriving at Westminster. Our speaker is a respected and relatable theologian in the PCUSA, as well as the Professor/Mentor Chris would have invited to join us for his Installation Service in 2020.

9:30 AM Worship (Dr. Moore-Keish Preaching)

10:50 AM Education Hour (Dr. Moore-Keish Teaching)

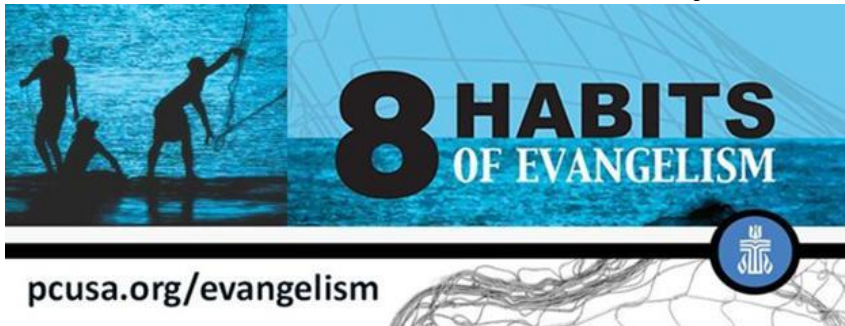
12 – 1:30 PM Lunch and Recognition of Two Years of Ministry Together with Pastor Chris

Nursery and Children’s “Faith Village” during Worship.
Children/Youth options available during the Education Hour.
All ages are welcome at lunch.

West Entrance Ramp Now Installed!

The Building and Grounds Committee has arranged for a temporary ramp to be installed at the west entrance of the church. It is now available for use to anyone needing access to the sanctuary while the elevator is being repaired. Livestream viewing at church will continue as needed. Today and next Sunday viewing will be offered in the Lounge.

New Sermon Series Starts Today!



Practical, Personal, Powerful: An 8-Week Sermon Series designed by the PCUSA's Office of Theology and Worship to explore a faithful and transformational understanding of evangelism for our world today!

Sunday, 9/11: Radical Welcome

Sunday, 9/18: Prayer

Sunday, 9/25: Worship (w/ Rev. Dr. Martha Moore-Keish of [Columbia Seminary](#))

Other topics: Sacraments, Fellowship, Teaching, Justice, Generosity

"The problem with evangelism is that we have reduced the good news of the gospel to growing our churches and going to heaven when we die. Now, do not misunderstand me; my heart's desire is for growing, healthy churches and the promise of eternal life. However, the good news of our salvation is much more expansive. Salvation is God's rescue plan for Creation. **Salvation is about the transformation of lives, relationships, communities, peoples, nations and Creation.**"

- Rev. Dr. Ray Jones (Director, Office of Theology and Worship) from "8 Habits" Intro

On-Going Library Help

We are looking for some on-going help in the library. Martha Kingsbury has been keeping watch over it for several years, and she would like to share her expertise with someone. Is the library an area where you would like to help? Talk with Martha if you have an interest or questions about what is involved, or call the church office.

Lohmen Lore

Last week's answer:

Our gifts to Lohmen's retiring pastors will be a Peggy Karr art glass plate depicting Westminster's building, a Westminster pew Bible, and a Westminster hymnal. Remember to stop in the Garden Room and add your autograph to the hymnal!

New question:

Anyone who is interested is welcome to join Westminster's Lohmen Circle to nurture the relationship between our sister churches. The corresponding group in Lohmen is called the American Circle, and members of the group:

- T F Traditionally gather for a potluck at Christmas time
- T F Love Hallowe'en
- T F Got together to watch Alexander Payne's Nebraska movie as soon as it was released
- T F Express their solidarity by celebrating our Independence Day with sparklers

We need your autograph. Please visit the Lohmen, Germany display in the Garden Room and sign or add a brief message to the hymnal we are giving to Lohmen's retiring pastors. This is for EVERYONE, not just those who have participated in visits.

Week Beginning September 11

<p><u>Sun. (11)</u> 9 AM Used Book Sale, FH 9:15 AM Youth Sermon Set-Up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:40 AM Faith Village/Nursery 10:30 AM Kick-Off Sunday Events 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (12)</u> 10 AM Used Book Sale, FH 5 PM Church Life, Parlor 5:30 PM Worship & Music, Lounge 6 PM Children & Youth—Zoom 6 PM Mission & Outreach, FH 6:30 PM Scouts, Den/Pack, Cole Hall</p> <p><u>Tues. (13)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 10 AM Used Book Sale, FH 10 AM Circle 5, Lounge 10 AM Stewardship & Finance/Stewardship Task Force, Parlor 5 PM Personnel—Zoom</p>	<p><u>Wed. (14)</u> 10 AM Used Book Sale, FH 10 AM Presbytery Admin & Finance Meeting, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands 5:30 PM Westminster LiNK 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Hearts & Hands</p> <p><u>Thurs. (15)</u> 10 AM Used Book Sale, FH 7 PM Camera Club, FH</p> <p><u>Fri. (16)</u> 10 AM Used Book Sale, FH</p> <p><u>Sun. (18)</u> 9 AM Used Book Sale, FH 9:15 AM Youth Sermon Set-Up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:40 AM Faith Village/Nursery 10:50 AM A & P Meeting, Conference Room 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 1 PM Carol Joy Holling Ropes Course</p>
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Week 36 Giving	\$16,855
YTD Giving	\$396,483
Weekly Budget	\$10,970
YTD Budget	\$394,929

Televised Worship

Thurs. at 12:30 pm/Sat. at 1 pm.

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

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