



THE MESSENGER

November 2022



Once again, SPOOKTACULAR was SPECTACULAR!

It was a great night for Spooktacular, in spite of a 9% chance of rain turning into a 100% chance of sprinkles. We managed to hang on until the end, though. Big thanks to everyone who hosted a trunk, donated candy, took photos, and helped to get everything in place and back again at the end of the evening.

A LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear Westminster friends,

November brings pumpkin spice everything. I have even seen pumpkin spice dog treats! Ridiculous! Puppies know nothing about the Plymouth Bay Colony and pumpkin pie!

But this is not to disparage the purely civic holiday. Thanksgiving is not on the liturgical calendar as it is an American observance rooted in American history. Canada has a similar holiday in October, but “over the river and through the woods to Grandmother’s house we go” is a thoroughly American thing.

However, giving thanks to God is rooted in Christian tradition and liturgy. Another name for Holy Communion is “the Eucharist” – which means – from the Greek – “thanksgiving.” This is not seasonal for Christians. It does not depend on pumpkin spice in the air. We are always to give thanks to God for God’s abundant blessings.

We have opportunity, due to the scheduling of Advent worship in December, to participate in two celebrations of Eucharistic thanksgiving in November. On November 6 we will have our regular first of the month celebration of the Lord’s Supper. On November 20 – Christ the King Day – we will have another Communion service to usher in the season of Advent. I hope you can be here for these Lord’s Table celebrations.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Jimmy

Wonderful News! Wilder Bates Peters, son of Pastor Chris and Pastor Lauren Peters was born on Friday, October 21, 2022. Welcome to the world, Wilder!

We welcome you to Worship in the Sanctuary with us on Sundays at 9:30 am and/or worship virtually with us on our YouTube channel at <https://westminsterlincoln.org/youtube-videos>.

Advent Study: A Branch Shall Grow

Have you ever thought of Advent as a time of growth? Have you ever wondered if your neighbor would welcome an invitation to attend church with you? Isaiah begins chapter 11 with “A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.” What if we understood that that shoot, the Messiah, was calling us to be sharers of the Word not just hearers?

Join us Sunday, November 27, the First Sunday of Advent as we begin an exploration of the message for us this Advent 2022. We will meet in the **Parlor at 10:40 a.m.**

November 27 “The Good News for All Nations”: Isaiah 11:1-10 - Matthew 3:1-12

December 11 “The Holy Highway”: Isaiah 35:1-10 - Luke 1:46b-55

December 18 “Immanuel, God with Us”: Romans 1:1-7 - Matthew 1:18-25

Join Others in Reading the Bible in a Year

Is there a book that you’ve heard selections from but haven’t read from cover to cover? Is there a book that you read once but would like to read again for a deeper look? This is your opportunity. Join with fellow Westminster-ites in small groups to read the Bible in the year 2023.

With Pastor Chris’ guidance an NRSV Study Bible has been selected that is divided into daily readings starting with Genesis on January 1 and ending with Revelations on December 31. This is not a daily reading list. In this study Bible, there are directed readings with suggestions to help you meditate, contemplate, and pray.

From now through early December there will be sign-up sheets in the Garden Room. We are asking people to sign up and indicate if you are interested in being a group leader, a group member, or will be studying as an individual or family. When you sign up, indicate if you would like to purchase the book with a group from church or on your own. The selected Bible is available on Amazon, but the church might be able to get a lower price if enough copies are purchased.

Marijane England will be the facilitator and serve as a resource for group leaders.

Check the Garden Room on Sundays or contact Marijane England at marijane.england@gmail.com or send an email to the Church office.



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.

Hearts & Hands | Church Library

Wednesdays at 1:30 - 3:00 PM and/or 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, November 1 | 11:30 AM

Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, November 1, at 11:30 A.M. We will go to Good Evans at 70th & A Street. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888, or by email: jimkinkennon@gmail.com.

History Buffs | The Model T

Saturday, November 5 at 9 am

Steve Hughes is presenting the history of the Model T automobile. How it came into being. How it developed through the years, and some interesting and surprising facts about how the business evolved through those years as well. We will also talk about some common beliefs. For example: Were Model Ts really all black? We will meet in the Lounge and this will be the last History Buffs presentation of 2022. This will be the last History Buffs gathering of 2022. Bring a friend!



Faith and Cancer Support Group | Library | Tuesday, November 15 | 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, November 16 | 1:00 p.m. in Lounge

NO Book This Month: We will be creating our reading list for 2023.

Ladies' Night Out - Tuesday, November 29 | 5-7 PM

LNO will be gathering at Billy's; 1301 H 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.

Upcoming Events & Save the Dates



Pie Fellowship

Join us Wednesday, November 16 at 6:00 p.m., for a tasty Westminster Thanksgiving tradition. Treat your taste buds and kick off the holidays with this culinary cornucopia. We will start by sharing a special meal of delectable soups before moving on to dessert. We invite you to bring your favorite pie to share and sample the wonderful desserts brought by other families! We will provide whipped topping. If possible, please RSVP here <https://forms.gle/ia3Hd6uMyKrYTe16> to give our chefs an idea of how much to make.

Matt Talbot Kitchen Family Service Opportunity

If you are looking for an opportunity for your family to serve today, sign your family up to serve at Matt Talbot here <https://forms.gle/gqmdsmiWbdRqVJJW8>. Serving is simple – arrive at 5:00pm to learn the ropes of setting out food and serving, work as a team to serve from 5:30 until 6:30, and then help with basic clean-up before wrapping up around 6:45. This is a great opportunity for a family or two households to partner together to follow the call of Jesus to “love our neighbor.”

Please contact Susie Hughes (skh@eskays.com) with questions.

Holiday of Trees Returns

The Heritage League is holding their 50th annual Holiday of Trees on Wed., Nov. 30 and Thurs., Dec. 1. The hours on Wed. are 10am to 8 pm and on Thurs. 10 am to 7 pm.

The admission is a donation at the door. Proceeds from this year's ticket sales will go to the St. Elizabeth Hospital Burn Unit. Come and see the beautiful trees and enjoy some treats.



Upcoming Events & Save the Dates Continued...

Daylight savings time ends on Nov. 6.

Sunday Communion will be held on Nov. 6 and Nov. 20. No communion on Dec. 4.

AMERICAN SALUTE

Music of American Composers

Nebraska Brass

Please join us on Sunday, November 6 at
3:00 PM
Lincoln • Westminster Presbyterian Church

Tickets:

Adults: \$18

Seniors (65+): \$15

Students & Children: Free Admission

Tickets can be purchased at the door or call
402-477-7899 for advanced sales.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation and the Congregation will be held jointly during the worship service on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022. The purpose of the meeting will be to consider the Session's recommended changes to the by-laws, elect officers for 2023 and to hear the report of the corporation.

Lessons and Carols

All Westminster children and youth are invited to participate in the children and youth led Lessons & Carols service on Sunday, December 18 at 9:30 AM. The Lessons & Carols service tells the story of God's plan for God's people, begun so long ago. It is a beautiful story told in narration and song.

Participants will take part in two, 1-hour rehearsals after the service; the first will be Sunday, November 13 and the second will be Sunday, December 4.

If your child is interested in taking part in leading this service, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/U1dWo4xgBwFn9ytn7>. We will do our best to accommodate requests. If you have any questions, contact Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org.

Let us give thanks...

A service of gratitude for all faiths

Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 20, 2022, 3:30 pm

*Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
3000 Old Cheney Road, Lincoln, NE*



All faiths are welcome and encouraged to attend

Hosted by:

*The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,
Lincoln, NE Stake*

President Samuel Melessa



Priceless Parents' Day Event!

Parents and special guests were invited to come visit the preschool and see the day through their child's eyes. There were 4 different rotations that families completed. 1. Chalk our walk- Preschoolers and their families enjoyed bubbles and chalk outside on the circle drive. 2. Classroom time- Preschoolers were able to show their families their favorite things about the classroom. 3. STEAM room- Preschoolers and their families exploded home made volcanoes. 4. Art room- Families created a keepsake art piece to take home. It was a fun event and a great way for families to get a look inside our school!



Our Priceless Parents' Day Event was held on September 29th and 30th.

Earthcare-Elsewhere

*A sporadic series of reports as Westminster folks travel near and far.**

Gas (petrol) prices we observed in Europe in early October were about 1.9 euros per liter. That translates to about \$7.25 a gallon! Supply and demand matter, of course, but the variation in pricing from country to country depends heavily on governmental policies such as subsidies and taxes. Folks in Europe have dealt with this a long time. A typical parking lot is full of small model sedans rather than SUVs. And in some places there are more bicycles than people. Here's a parking lot outside Amsterdam's central railroad station. *Submitted by Laurel Van Ham*



**What earth care practices have you noticed in your travels? Send your observations to tracy@Westminsterlincoln.org*

Thanks, Westminster Family, for Your Enthusiastic Commitment to Recycling!

When we recycle used materials we save the energy and emissions that would be involved in harvesting and processing new resources. We also keep useable materials out of the landfill where their decomposition can add carbon and methane emissions to the atmosphere. And we limit the toxic particulate by-products (such as plastic “dust”) that leach their way into our rivers and oceans.

So we’re doing it again! Here’s your heads-up to start saving Styrofoam packaging (no packing peanuts or food items, please) and broken string lights. We’ll begin collection at the church right after Christmas.

Christmas is Coming! Advent Workshop December 4, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM

It’s a little scary to think about it being just around the corner— but it also brings wonderful events (besides the birth of Christ). We invite you to dive into the holiday season with the Advent Workshop. We will gather with the anticipation of great joy on the second Sunday of Advent, immediately after church to renew friendships, participate in the chili cook-off and compete for the coveted Silver Ladle Award, and enjoy cookies and fellowship at the children’s craft workshop.

We are still in the planning phases but will have more details in the eVine. Sign up to staff the craft tables or to help with setup or cleanup online <https://forms.gle/cVPa4psDS5xG4NQQ9> or call the church office at 402-475-6702.

WESTMINSTER FAMILY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Prayer Ministry: There is a misconception that only certain people are called or gifted to be intercessory prayer warriors. The truth is we are all called to pray for others. God is searching for those who would stand in the gap, to intercede for others. The invitation is for all Christians to serve through intercessory prayer. Praying for others is not a choice; it is our privilege. Whether we believe it or not, we are all equipped to be prayer warriors on behalf of others. How does it work? Once a prayer request is received, the prayer ministry coordinator forwards the request to all prayer ministry members for intercessory prayer. You can join the prayer ministry by contacting Janice Rohwedder at prayer@westminsterlincoln.org or 402-730-5568.

Cook & Carry: Have you ever had a major life event where you just felt you could not make a meal for yourself? Maybe you had a new baby, and just came home from the hospital, or maybe your family just experienced a loss, or you've gotten that new knee replacement, but not quite up and running yet. Making a meal doesn't have to cost much in time, money, or effort. Just prepare double the amount you're already making for your own family, or pull something out of the freezer and crop it off at the designated time and place. That little bit of kindness is a genuine gift to someone in need. If your gifts and talents lead you to this ministry, you can contact Dorrie Gage at dorriegage@hotmail.com or 402-730-9676 or Jeanne Atkinson at jeanneantha@aol.com or 402-477-7830.

Bereavement Luncheon Ministry: This is one ministry that gives to the family, and that goes full circle, back to you. Volunteers of the bereavement luncheon ministry often come to share their time, service and offer compassion to the family. Families often show firsthand how grateful they are to the volunteers who serve, and the people who attend, can feel the love and the compassion that is extended to them. This ministry is in need of volunteers who are willing to serve at these luncheons, to set tables, prepare and serve drinks, display and serve food and welcome guests as they arrive, as well as clean up after. If you are interested in helping with this very rewarding ministry, please contact Kathy Rohwedder kathrohwa@yahoo.com or 402-202-9889.

Hearts & Hands Donations to the Lincoln City Mission

We counted our Hearts & Hands knitted and crocheted items & bagged them to take to Lincoln City Mission on the afternoon of October 27th. We are grateful we can share with those many in need, in our community!

Hearts & Hand members include: Linnea Fredrickson, Dorrie Gage, Francy Scheele, Dorothy Smiley, Cathy Hershberger, Marilyn Maud, Diana Wild, Carolyn McCall, and Donna Wyatt.

The Count: 29 Bears, 81 Warm Caps, 7 Blankets, 2 Rabbits, 15 Baby Bibs, 12 Dishclothes, 5 Headbands and 43 Winter Scarves.



ANGEL TREE

Christmas and holiday gifts are provided from the Angel Tree. These gifts are given to children from low income families. Gifts, toys, clothing, and much more is provided for disadvantaged children that range in age from infant to age 12. Senior citizens who are 60 years and older can also benefit from the Angel Tree.

Starting Nov. 10, look for the Angel Tree at the top of the stairs across from the front desk. Pick a tag from the tree, shop, then return the unwrapped gifts with the tag attached to the bag and place them under the tree. **Gifts must be returned to the church by December 12.**

Most people, especially children, look forward to receiving clothing and gifts over the holidays.

Will you be someone's Angel?

Thank you, Mission & Outreach



A/V Volunteer Task Description Westminster Presbyterian, Lincoln, NE

What: At Westminster, A/V Volunteers work as a team to assure our Sunday services, and others as possible, are livestreamed to YouTube for viewing. Total monthly ask (as of 10/22) is 1.5-3hrs/mo.

Background: Since the Fall of 2021, Westminster has installed a new state-of-the-art Video Livestreaming System and a new Digital Soundboard. These upgrades allow us to continue to serve our members who watch online and on TV while improving our outreach for funerals and other services.

General Tasks

- A/V Volunteers are asked to serve hands-on in the A/V Booth (located in the balcony) approximately one Sunday a month and to be on standby to volunteer to stream other services such as Ash Wednesday, Christmas Eve, funerals, and occasional weddings.
- Upon volunteering, you will be asked to attend a training with another volunteer from the team or professional before beginning your first service. It is encouraged, though not required, that you serve alongside a more “veteran” volunteer for your first live service.
- A Google Doc is kept up by church staff for A/V Volunteer sign-ups. Please use this doc to sign up for a service.
- For certain occasions and services, we may need two volunteers in the booth to provide a smooth video production. For example, Sundays with video, sound, projector, and lights all-in-one or a special musical presentation.

Sunday Service Tasks

- Please arrive to livestream a service 20-30mins prior to the service, depending on your comfort level and experience. Sunday services are normally pre-scheduled in the computer system, however, you will need to check that the schedule is preset properly. This is done through the dedicated A/V laptop in the booth. (Don't worry, all of this – including what to do if it's not prescheduled – will be covered in your training!)
- Prior to the Prelude, you will need to play the Events Slideshow in the stream, then transition to camera presets to direct the stream angles starting with the prelude. Again: training, training, training will cover it!
- Once the service starts, you will choose the camera angles and views for our livestream and troubleshoot any minor sound or stream issues. For example, at times a preset on our new soundboard can cause the sound of the delayed livestream to play over the in-house sound system. Per your training, you will be the person to mute the in-house channel.

Occasional Tasks

- Depending on the service needs, you may be asked to show a video over the stream and in-house using the projector, play a music pre-recorded music piece, or plan for a moment where a Pastor will leave the pulpit during the sermon, etc. A pastor or staff person will let you know of such moments or changes at their earliest convenience.
- Once you are trained and feel comfortable with the system, you may be asked to attend further trainings or to help a new volunteer learn the basics. This is a helpful way for all of us to expand the group and allow for the best possible at-home worship experience for our viewers!



Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd

Lincoln, NE 68502



All Saints' Day | Tuesday, November 1, 2022

For all the saints, who from their labors rest . . .

We remember the following people who have died since All Saints' Day 2021:

Charles Hoskins, William Peters, Lyle Hamilton, Don McCall, Don Larson, Judy Buss, Leah Gaston, Dale Young, Ruth Elwell, Charlotte Longman, Charles Kingsbury, Stu Howerter, Foster Woodruff, Lesley Browne, Ron Wachter, Susan Peters, Sandy Howerter and Dan Cuda.