



THE MESSENGER

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Annual Reports Edition | February 2023



THE MESSENGER ANNUAL REPORTS EDITION

Personnel Committee 2022 Annual Report

Moderator: Emily Killham

Members: Gary Moulton, Ernie Hines, Sarah Baltensperger

Your personnel committee had a very busy 2022 supporting the Westminster staff through hellos, goodbyes, and a welcome-to-the-world. Our staff was able to gather in person for team building and individually for development. Job descriptions were clarified and the office structure organized as we had our first full calendar year of programming since the pandemic began.

We sent our best wishes with Laura Ross and Rachel Hinze as they moved on to new adventures.

We celebrated Joanne Gabriel's promotion.

We joyfully welcomed Sarah Dankenbring as our new preschool director and Ronnie Zanella, first as interim and then as full-time director of music.

With the help of the staff and a host of volunteers, we held down the fort as Pastor Chris spent time settling into his very important new role as a father.

We close out 2022 with the deepest appreciation for the gift of the Westminster staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Killham



Sarah Dankenbring, Director of Preschool



Ronnie Zanella, Director of Music

Mission & Outreach Annual Report 2022

A heartfelt thank you to the members of the Mission and Outreach committee: Sebit Deng, Gary Haller, Steve Hughes, Carolyn Harp, Marilyn Smith and staff liaison - Rev. Jimmy Shelborn.

We promoted four special offerings: Pentecost, One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace & Global Witness, and the Christmas Joy Offering. Other offerings were sent to People's City Mission and to WaSH (Water and sanitation for Africa). Westminster continued to support the Food Pantry. Marilyn Smith and Nora Hinrichs worked diligently to keep the shelves filled and organized, as well as taking charge of the many volunteers.

The Gathering Place was still under COVID restrictions for much of 2022, however, Westminster (under the guidance of Carolyn Harp) continued to fill food containers for the many guests who benefit from this service. Steve and Susie Hughes took the lead on Habitat For Humanity by keeping in contact and feeding the volunteer builders on a regular basis. A group from Westminster gathered at the new Restore to help paint. Volunteer teams under the leadership of Gary Haller and Susie Hughes cooked and served for Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach. On even months adults served on the first Friday; odd months families served on the first Sunday.

Glenna Haller and Sebit Deng represented Westminster at the Sudan/South Sudan Mission Conference in May. As a result of this Conference, Homestead Presbytery pledged its support for this mission group. Green@Heart continued their efforts within our congregation to educate and act on climate issues. This group sponsored the Faith to Forest event. Tom Pappas, Laurel Van Ham, Dale Mentor, and Glenna Haller represented Westminster at the Cool Coalition in September. Gary and Glenna Haller headed the Angel Tree Project with 125 tags being filled for Salvation Army.

Other Outreach Projects This Year:

Supported Prescott School by providing money to purchase grief bags for the children who had experienced loss. Collected clothing for LPS through Willie's Underwear Project. Collected supplies for the PDA school bag kits. Loaned travel money to Moses Bilew to fly to Africa in support of his Mission. Mission and Outreach participated in the Wednesday Night Link by hosting hands on programs for PDA, People City Mission and Salvation Army. Each month we highlight one of our many Mission co-workers around the world and commit to pray for them. The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to thank the members of Westminster Presbyterian Church for their generosity and support. Together we make difference.

Respectfully,
Glenna Haller

Moderator Mission & Outreach

Presbyterian Women at Westminster 2022 Annual Report

Presbyterian Women (PW) strives to welcome all women of the PC(USA) into a variety of activities and events. Three Circles meet monthly to study the Bible using the Horizons Bible Study. In May, Circles completed the study of the genealogy of Jesus in the book of Matthew and in September they began a study of Sabbath. Circles provide a place to nurture fellowship, engage in mission, and connect deeply with Bible study.

For the last few years, PW has planned and participated in the Gifts of Women Sunday. Our own Rev. Ellen Davis preached for this special service in May.

PW generously gives funds to the yearly mission pledge and supports two special offerings - the Birthday Offering in the spring and the Thank Offering in the fall. The special offerings fund projects from local to global that meet the needs of many. In recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the Birthday Offering, PW served cupcakes following a May worship service.

Mission is at the heart of PW. Supplies were purchased and 50 cleaning buckets were filled for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Items were collected for Voices of Hope to serve Lincoln area women experiencing domestic abuse and violence. In September PW served the coffee hour and lunch for the Homestead Presbytery meeting held at Westminster.

PW extends beyond Westminster. Glenna Haller serves on the Homestead Presbytery PW Coordinating Team. Four Westminster women attended the PW Synod Gathering held in Sioux City, Iowa in July.

The PW Fall Kick-off in August brought women together for fellowship and an overview of the 2022-2023 Bible study. The Rev. Ellen Davis and Martha Kingsbury were awarded Honorariums for their faithful service to Presbyterian Women and the church.

Presbyterian Women are important to the life of Westminster. They are faithful in worship attendance, supportive of mission, and give their time, talents, and money. PW believes that women in the church are better together.

Submitted by the PW Coordinating Team: Linda Burchard, Rev. Ellen Davis, Susie Hughes, Glenna Haller, Pat Hackley, Linda Miller, Jane Hines, and Becky Bockrath.



BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE 2022 Annual Report

The committee was busy this past year with maintenance and operation of the building and grounds that includes ongoing projects, new improvements and several unexpected critical repairs. The failure of the sanctuary elevator became one of the most relevant and necessary repair items. The list of significant accomplishments below would not be possible without the continued financial support of the congregation and the uncounted hours by volunteers outside of the committee who responded to requests for help. Special recognition of gratitude go out to Jim White for diligent coordination of stained glass window repair, Sandy and Steve Larson for the renovation of the Quiet Room, and Joan and Bill Roberts for their unwavering dedication to lawn care. Committee members include: Rob Baltensperger, Gary Haller, Steve Hughes, Steve Larson, Tom Pappas, Ron Souliere and moderator Tom Welstead.

Projects from 2022:

- Switch phones and internet to Allo
- Acquire Lawn Care contractor
- Assist with Emerald Ash Borer “Adopt a Tree” program
- Landscape trimming, planting, clean-up
- Live streaming and new sound board installation
- Continued repair of stained glass windows
(coordinated by Jim White)
- Plaster repair and painting in Narthex
- Floor tile installation at west and north entrances
- Light bulb replacement in chapel and sanctuary
- Lawn sprinkler repair
- Quiet Room renovation (Sandy and Steve Larson)
- Window replacement in Preschool
- Install LED lights and motion switches in restrooms
across from the parlor
- Repair of security cameras
- Installation of temporary handicap ramp
- Repair roof leaks
- Acquiring snow removal contractor
- Installation of hand rails to choir loft
- Working with other committees to improve church
security and safety
- Acquire and oversee contractors for elevator repair





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, February 7 | 11:30 a.m.

Lunch Bunch will meet at The Mettle Grill, 5500 S 56th Street. Please RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com.

Faith and Cancer Support Group | Library | Tuesday, February 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.

Ladies' Night Out - Monday, February 27 | 5-7 PM

The January Ladies' Night Out will be held at Billy's, 1301 H Street. Family style appetizers, \$15. Plus the cost of drink, tax and tip. <https://www.billysrestaurant.com/> for menu. Please send your RSVP to robynu2@hotmail.com by Sunday, February 26th. 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.

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

Book: *"Lessons in Chemistry"*, by Bonnie Garmus.

Facilitator: Susie Hughes.

LiNK* Nights

Wednesday Night opportunities to connect – "link" – together as a congregation! 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! We'll mix nights of age-focused and intergenerational activities.

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.

Elders4theEarth Zoom Book Study

Elders4theEarth ZOOM book study in cooperation with Nebraska Statewide Arboretum. Nature Fix by Florence Williams Wednesday's 10am - 11:30am CST.

Dates: February 1, 8, 15, & 22. With a follow-up Nature Walk on 3/1 or 8 with Bob Henrickson at Platte River State Park. Contact Tom Pappas to register.



Styrofoam and Christmas Lights Recycling

The collection will continue through February 5. A hearty thank you to those who kept a mountain of styrofoam, and a molehill of Christmas lights out of the land fill. The materials in both these products will be deconstructed and used again. Mother Earth smiles.

Souper Bowl of Caring

On the weekend of February 12th, 150 million Americans will watch the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with food, friendship, and fellowship, but at the same time, there will be other people worried about staying warm and finding their next meal. The Westminster Lincoln Youth Group invites you to join with others around the country in demonstrating God's love by loving our neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. In 2022, 4,355 organizations participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Together, these organizations collected \$3,550,540 and distributed 100% of the money collected to 2,655 charities.

Our youth will join the drive again this year, collecting money on the 12th for Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach in Lincoln. Matt Talbot has served the homeless and near homeless for nearly 28 years, with feeding the hungry as the core of their mission.

We ask you to join this important movement, sharing God's love with those in need. Please give generously on Super Bowl Sunday -- look for youth group representatives holding soup pots by the sanctuary exits. Every dollar donated creates over \$20 for food charities, which means that a gift in any amount is greatly appreciated and truly makes a difference.

Does your team support the Souper Bowl? NFL Advocates supporting the mission of the Souper Bowl of Caring include the Cardinals, the Panthers, the Jaguars, the Cowboys, the Texans, the Colts, the Chiefs, the Rams, the Titans, and the Giants. Join us as we help #TackleHunger through @souperbowl. 100% of all donations benefit Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach.

THANKS WESTMINSTER STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Members: Gwen Thorpe, Moderator; Ray Stevens, Co-Moderator; Walker Zulkoski; Allen Wachter; Rev. Chris Peters, Staff Representative

Overview:

2022 brought us back into normalcy, for which we are grateful! Programs were well attended, and we were glad to be back.

Our committee is charged with presenting a balanced budget to Session, which we were able to do, and Session approved the budget in January, 2022. Congregational giving allowed us to present a budget of \$855,155, an increase from 2021's budget. The larger amount helped with hiring staff to provide programming and keep everything running.

An interesting fact: based on the approved 2022 budget we figure it costs about \$2,343 each day to keep this building open and staffed.

Another fact which just needs to be restated is that we have a beautiful, but aging, building.

It goes without saying that no one can predict what might happen next! We point to the elevator!

This Committee wants to personally thank the Foundation for their work over the last year to identify and list WPC Foundation Designated Funds our Session Committees can access for their work.

Thanks especially to Joyce Douglas, Ron Wachter, and Greg Hershberger! These funds help us with a balanced budget, and it is gratifying to use funds given for specific purposes by many of Westminster's members.

The Stewardship Campaign this year was designed by an ad hoc committee, consisting of Bob Michaud, Shalla Young, Jim Hlava, Allen Wachter and Pastor Peters. Ray Stevens spearheaded the campaign.

A huge thank you to the committee members. Their innovative ideas help make the 2023 Stewardship Campaign a success. To date (Jan. 2023) pledges have surpassed the amount of the 2022 campaign.

Key Initiatives & Achievements:

- We will recommend and seek Session approval for a 2023 church budget of approximately \$746,000. At the time this report is due the budget is not finalized.
- We will continue using the accounting management model combining the skills of Dennis Rohren, our Bookkeeper, and the professional accounting firm, HBE.
- Conducted the 2023 Stewardship Campaign
- Will present the Session approved 2023 budget to the Congregation in February.

Respectfully submitted by the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Administration and Planning Committee 2022 Annual Report

Committee members: Moderator Tim Gergen, Marybell Avery, Joyce Douglas, Margaret Sprude, Allen Wachter, Katie Zulkoski, Staff representative Pastor Chris Peters.

This year the Administration and Planning Committee decided to continue to meet virtually to be flexible in our scheduling and help accommodate members' schedules. We welcomed a new member, Katie Zulkoski, to the committee while Emily Killham transitioned to the Personnel committee.

In 2022 we were able to conduct business and plan and/or implement the following initiatives:

Discussed Session Training retreat. Discussed and implemented 2022 Goals. Provide support to each committee's goals and engage with committees for action on the goals. Confirmation Class review. Child Protection Policy updated. Nominations procedure revised. Westminster Vision Kick-off. Wednesday Programming. Special Event Scheduling. Installation Celebration for Pastor Chris. Presbyterians in the Park. Communications Task Force. Worship time review. Coordination with Church Life. Church safety Task Force. Discussed Westminster Library. Coordination of Mission and Outreach. Coordination of Grant requests from committees to the Grant Task Force.

Worship and Music Committee Annual Report 2022

Committee members: Diana Wild, moderator, David Anderson, April Douglas, Michael and Freda Gregg, Jim and Rita Kinkennon, Kim Kubick, Mike and Mary Tomlinson, Robyn Uebele

Staff: Pastor Chris Peters, Ronnie Zanella, John Ross

This year we welcomed Ronnie Zanella as our Music director. He has brought a sense of excitement to the program as he has arranged a variety of music programs for the enhancement of the worship experience. The choir is growing. The W and M committee has many ongoing responsibilities.

These include: Monthly communion set-up and support to servers. We will continue to offer single serve cups for those who prefer its use. Managing a schedule of ushers and sending reminders to those who serve. Our Altar Guild continues to keep our pews tidy and restock pew supplies as needed. Worship and Music manages requests for outside groups to use the sanctuary for performances. These must be approved by the session.

Worship and Music has been working with Buildings and Grounds to address many issues of church safety. A priority has been to secure all doors, add windows to doors where needed. A ramp has been installed outside the West doors to allow access until our elevator is repaired. Policy regarding church safety has been referred to Administration and Planning committee.

Progress had been made to ensure that those with blue-tooth enabled hearing aids have better access to sound in the sanctuary. The committee continues an inter-generational program to invite youth to participate in Hanging of the Greens and in decorating the cross with Easter Lilies. W and M provides decorations to celebrate World Communion.

This report is a snap-shot of the variety of programming responsibilities that the Worship and Music committee joyfully participates in throughout the year.

Westminster Preschool 2022 Annual Report

2022 was a year of change. Our Director, Ms. Rachel Hinze, vacated her position in May of 2022 to help grow a children's ministry and child care program at her home church. She left a lasting impact on Westminster Preschool and we are forever grateful. Our current Director, Ms. Sarah Dankenbring, stepped into the role at the end of May 2022. With that came the addition of 2 new staff members, Kelly Augustine and Rachel Hoiem.

We are excited to report that we served over 100 families this past year. Our main avenue of advertisement is word of mouth and we are elated that Westminster continues to be a place that families choose to send their children. The teachers work hard at providing high quality education for children while building strong foundational relationships.

The child care you choose for your child can have a big impact on their future. Children who receive quality early care are more likely to show improved reading and math skills, attend college and earn higher wages. Quality child care is important to us, which is why we're a part of Step Up to Quality. Learn more about Step Up to Quality at <http://stepuptoquality.ne.gov/>. This year Westminster Preschool was awarded a Step 5 rating, the highest possible in Step Up to Quality. We are proud of our commitment to high quality early childhood!

We continue to hold family events in our program that have been a favorite for many years. This year we have been able to invite our families back into our program as Covid has slowed down. In May our children participated in a "Marathon" around the church grounds, followed by a family picnic. In September we hosted "Priceless Parents Day" and invited families in to see what their children do on a daily basis. This included activities in classrooms, art room, and outside. December included our "Gingerbread House Workshop" where each family got to decorate a gingerbread house to take home. The mess and slippery frosting were well worth the smiles on the children's faces. Our Christmas program rounded out the year and included a service project for Bickford Assisted Living and Memory Care. We were able to deliver 45 gift bags for residents that Westminster Preschool families assembled.

This Fall, a large building improvement project was completed: the windows in both Preschool classrooms were replaced! The difference in the windows is huge! The classrooms have stayed warmer and the traffic noise from outside has been drastically reduced. A huge thank you to Steve Larson for overseeing this project!

Lastly, I want to thank all of the preschool teachers for their dedication to our program. They show true dedication and love to each and every child that comes through our doors.



Westminster Preschool Teachers

From left to right...Mary Richardson,

Allie Heins, Heather Buggeln,

Christy Altman, Sarah Dankenbring,

Lindsay Reger, Kelly Augustine,

Samantha Daharsh Not pictured:

Rachel Hoiem, Judy Nyhof,

and Angie Smith.

Green@Heart 2022 Annual Report

Green@Heart is a sub-committee of Mission and Outreach. We meet on the third Monday of each month, and new members are always welcome.

In 2022 Westminster was certified by PCUSA as an Earth Care Congregation for our eighth consecutive year. Part of the Green@Heart mission is to ensure that Westminster is truly an Earth Care Congregation, not simply an Earth Care Committee. In that spirit, 2022 found us partnering with many committees and members of the Westminster family, friends, staff and community organizations.

These are some of the folks we enjoyed collaborating with:

- 28 other Lincoln churches in Faith to Forest, a city-wide initiative to celebrate the role of trees in creation and to act on our responsibility to care for them.
- Worship and Music to plan and participate in a Tree Sabbath worship service in January and an Earth Day worship service in April.
- Church Life and many Westminster bakers in hosting a delightful “Tree-serts” buffet featuring tree-sourced ingredients.
- The Davis Family in creating a beautiful nature-based art piece.
- Stewardship in consenting to a reverse auction (What would you pledge NOT to hear Jimmy’s bagpipes in your front yard?) that raised \$2375 for planting trees in Lincoln’s parks and the Amazon Rainforest.
- Adult Education to offer a series of compelling presentations about trees.
- Martha Kingsbury to add creation-focused books to our library and display books about trees in the Garden Room.
- Mission and Outreach and Building and Grounds to recruit donors and arrange for treatment to save our beautiful Purple Mountain Ash trees from the emerald ash borer.
- Children and Youth in hosting a family fun Lorax Party complete with food, the Lorax movie, nature activities, and tree planting. (“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”)
- Prairie Readers who discussed Barbara Kingsolver’s *Flight Behavior*, a relevant book about butterflies.
- Westminster members and friends who wrote letters and made phone calls advocating for clean energy.
- Presbyterian Women, Tom Pappas and all those who recycled their pill bottles, Styrofoam and string lights.
- Kathy Rohwedder and First-Plymouth Church to recycle Westminster’s outdated electronic equipment.
- Nebraska Interfaith Power and Light and Westminster members in learning about the creation care practices of other congregations.
- Tracy Murray and various travelers for “Earthcare Elsewhere,” a new Messenger series on environmental practices encountered in other places.
- The Lincoln Camera Club for a lovely nature photo exhibit.
- Lancaster County Extension for a hands-on presentation on efficient use of home irrigation systems.

We are grateful to work with such an engaged congregation! Our earthly home remains in serious need of care, and there will be even more ways for you to participate in 2023. Because of YOU, Westminster is Green@Heart.



Turning all into "ALL"

...ALL genders

...ALL Sexualities

...ALL Families

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Welcoming Task Force Westminster Presbyterian Church Annual Report 2022

Members of the Task Force: Kathy Rohwedder, Janice Rohwedder,
Emily Killham, Sarah Gergen, and Margaret Sprude.

Staff Member: Rev. Chris Peters.

The Welcoming Task Force started up in August 2022, when we determined that training was appropriate for all of us. We attended "Building an Inclusive Church" by Reconciling Works, put on by Lutherans for full participation. This was an all day training held in September.

In October, the team reviewed the "Building an Inclusive Church" training, outlined our next steps of engagement, completed the church assessment tool, identified members of the congregation to have one on one conversations with, and mapped out our journey.

In November, we had conversations with Brian Ellison from Covenant Network. The task force discussed with him where we were, where we thought the congregation was and future plans for covenant conversations in 2023. The Welcoming Task Force has set a goal to have covenant conversation program in April 2023, including inviting three area Presbyteries.

In December, the task force received a \$1000 grant from PYT "When did we see you" that will be used for the Covenant Conversations, including the youth.

Making the word WELCOME more than a word on a mat. We need to be AUTHENTIC, to be FELT and SHOWN, not just said. Westminster IS an inclusive church.

**The Welcoming Task Force is: Turning all into ALL,
... ALL genders, ... ALL sexualities,
...ALL families. ALL GOD'S CHILDREN.**

Church Life Committee Ministry Annual Report 2022

Moderator: Kathy Rohwedder.

Members of Church Life: Janice Rohwedder, Linda Burchard, Cathy Hershberger, Donna Wyatt (until June 2022), Glenna Haller, Dorrie Gage, Marilyn Hood & Stanley Rediger (started April 2022).

Staff Member: Pastor Jimmy Shelbourn. **A & P Liaison:** Joyce Douglas (started in August 2022).

Church Life is in charge of: Cook-N-Carry, Life Groups, Visitors, New Members (until November 2022), Bereavement, Greeters, Prayer Chain Ministry.

Each of our members have been busy throughout the year 2022.

Kathy Rohwedder and her team had a total of 3 bereavements in 2022. Valentinos, cookies, coffee, tea, water was served between the bereavements. There was a total of 8 volunteers who helped serve at the bereavements.

Dorrie and the Cook-N-Carry team had a total of 14 meals delivered.

Linda Burchard was in contact with new visitors by email, phone or a personal letter. Church Life is in charge of putting together the visitor bags for our 1st time visitors.

Janice Rohwedder received 484 prayer requests and praises in the prayer chain. Westminster has 111 prayer warriors. This includes our Deacons, our Elders as well as the congregation.

Donna Wyatt recorded 7 new members for 2022. Starting November of 2022, Allen Wachter is taking care of new memberships.

Janice Rohwedder worked with 14 different greeters for Sunday mornings and Christmas Eve in 2022.

The Church Life Committee also oversaw the Life Groups in 2022. Due to the Covid Pandemic, many of the Life Groups started back up later in the year. History Buffs, Ladies Night Out, Lunch Bunch, and Hearts and Hands, are the Life Groups going on at this time. World on a Plate was able to get together in April 2022. There were 24 in attendance, and WOAP raised \$3,000 for the Ukrainian Disaster. WOAP had to be put on hold for July, due to the up tic of numbers with Covid. WOAP has not been able to resume for the rest of 2022.

On the 4th Wednesday of every month during the school year, the Church Life Committee provided intergenerational activities for LiNK. The Nook and Crannies tour, Cornhole Tournament, Scott Nelson on Gratitude, and neighborhood caroling were some of the many activities participated in by the congregation. Church Life and Children and Youth co-sponsored the Sunday Sundae Bar and the Caramel Apple bowls, both held after the Sunday church service.

Presbyterians in the Park lunch was catered by the Church Life Committee. There was fried chicken from Hy-Vee, salads and desserts provided by our congregation. Church Life also organized the setting up and taking down of tables and chairs for the lunch.

Church Life had a baby shower in Cole Hall for Rev. Chris & Lauren Peters.

Glenna Haller organized the Christmas cards that were sent to members who are 80 or older, as well as those who are shut in. Jim Kinkennon provided the photograph that was used.

Children and Youth Activities for the Month of February

Youth Group Super Bowl Watch Party, February 12, The Party Starts at 5:00 PM

Whether you tune in for the game, the snacks, the halftime show, the commercials, or the Puppy Bowl, Youth Group members are invited to bring and share their favorite tailgating snack to Westminster where we will watch the big event together.

Youth Group: Urban Air, February 26, 2023

Join us at Urban Air from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM on Sunday, February 26. Please bring \$10 per person for admission, maximum of \$30 per family. Assistance is available. If you plan to join us, be sure to complete a waiver in advance.

Sunday LiNK: After the service on Sunday, February 26, the Children and Youth and Church Life Committees invite you to make your own, personal fruit pizza to enjoy with your after service coffee. We start with a sugar cookie "crust," add cream cheese frosting for the sauce, and finish that special creation with a choice of fresh fruit toppings.

Wednesday LiNK Faith Village:

This month we will be exploring the parables of Jesus and spiritual habits. During the first week, we will investigate how to spend time with God through the parable of the sower. In the second week, we will explore how using our gifts is how we serve through the parable of the workers entrusted with bags of gold. For the third week, we will talk about how spending time with others is how we care through the parable of the good Samaritan. Finally, we will find out how sharing our story is how we love through the story of the lost sheep.

Wednesday Youth Group: will learn about the stories of Joseph and Moses.

Sunday Youth Group: On Sundays, the Youth group will focus primarily on friendship. Join your church friends to talk, play games, do homework together, or just hang out.

Sermon Set-up

Youth are invited to take part in a sermon set-up discussion on Sunday mornings at 9:15, a session designed to deepen the worship experience. We enjoy donuts and juice while discussing the theme of the upcoming sermon and identifying how it applies to our lives today. Youth are invited to attend service with their families or together in the balcony.

Westminster Presbyterian Church Foundation 2022 Annual Report

The Westminster Presbyterian Church Foundation in Lincoln was founded in 1955. Its work is an integral part of the life of the Church and is managed by a Board of Trustees of individuals who previously served as Elders. This provides for continuity of knowing Church needs with the responsibility of following the requirements of the Foundation funds.

The Foundation is the union of many gifts—small and large—held in trust and managed by the Board of Trustees to benefit programs and the property. During 2022, the Foundation supported Church activities with payments for special musicians for Advent, Christmas and Easter. We also funded special education events and celebrations. We pledged to fund the rehab of two stained glass windows and provided funds for the equipment to bring the elevator system up-to-code.

The Total Assets of the Foundation reached a high of \$4,106,481 at the end of December of 2021. This was an increase of over \$524,324 over 2020. The Stock Market had highs and lows during 2022 which resulted in an end of year total of \$3,620,640. Almost all our gains in 2021 were lost in 2022 but we were \$36,288 ahead! We invest in conservative investments for the long term so the future of the Foundation continues to be extremely strong. The Total Assets are divided between the General Fund and the Endowment Fund:

- The General Fund contains assets without Donor restrictions.
- The Endowment Fund contains assets with detailed Donor restrictions. Disbursements from these funds can only be used for that exact purpose.
- Only 5% of the Funds are available each year to be disbursed and used according to the exact purpose.

Our Board of Trustees regrettably acknowledges the passing of our President, Ron Wachter, during 2022. He was a strong leader and his presence is missed. Foundation Trustees in 2022 were Joyce Douglas, Greg Hershberger, Mark Whitehead, Mark Schorr, David Anderson, Erika Schafer and Pat Leach. Allen Wachter joined the Board mid-year to serve Ron's remaining term.

Discussions on how to contribute to the Foundation or establish an endowed Fund are always welcome. Please contact Joanne at Westminster who will connect you with a Trustee.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
 2110 Sheridan Blvd
 Lincoln, NE 68502



We are Hosting a Diaper Drive! February 1st-15th

According to the National Diaper Bank Network, 1 in 3 American families report experiencing diaper needs. Despite this strong need, there are no federal or state programs which provide funding specifically for diapers. In 2020, the Junior League of Lincoln started The Diaper Bank to provide diapers to the 6,000+ children in our area. Through fundraising and the support of the community, we are able to collect unopened packs of diapers to distribute to those in need. The project is currently thriving and growing. In 2021 alone, we received over

53,000 diapers of various sizes and nearly 14,000 wipes. These supplies mean parents can take their kids to daycare with disposable diapers while they go to work and earn a living. The need is still there and we are excited to continue serving it. There will be a tote in the entryway for members of the congregation to drop off packages of diapers. We also have an Amazon shopping list where you can purchase diapers to be sent to the link.

You can access this by scanning the QR code below. To learn more about the Junior League of Lincoln and the Diaper Drive, visit jll.org.

