



THE MESSENGER

April 2023

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>.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday Worship, April 2 | 9:30am – A children's Palm Processional will lead us into worship, as we enter the story of Jesus's triumphal entry to Jerusalem. Pastor Chris's sermon will ask the question, "Where are you headed?"

Maundy Thursday Worship, Thursday, April 6, 2023, 7:00pm – In a season of asking questions, on this holy night we ask, "Will you wash my feet?" Rev. Chris Peters Preaching.

Good Friday, Friday, April 7, 2023, 7:00pm – Seven Last Words of Jesus service of reflective readings and hymns.

Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 9, 2023, 8:00am and 10:00am – Celebrate the hope of new life for our lives today! Rev. Chris Peters preaching. Worship will feature a brass ensemble, joyful music selections, and a reflection on "Who are we seeking?" with Pastor Chris preaching. Coffee and Conversation, Garden Room, between services.

Creation Celebration Sunday, April 16, 2023 9:30am

Westminster is a church that is “Green at heart,” as we recognize the important ties of faith and environmental stewardship. As a Presbyterian Church (USA) Earth Care Congregation, Westminster has committed to “be stewards of the earth,” in our worship, education, facilities, and outreach. Join us for our annual Creation Celebration service at 9:30am to be followed by an Environmental Education program for adults at 10:45am in the Westminster Lounge. Rev. Chris Peters preaching.

Building Closed for Holiday

The church building will be closed the Monday after Easter, April 10 for a staff holiday. No meetings will be held at the church on April 10.



Marathon Welcome Support Sunday, May 7

The Annual Lincoln Marathon course passes directly by Westminster, providing us the opportunity to be welcoming. All Westminster members are invited to extend our hospitality by staffing a welcome table to distribute donut holes, water, Gatorade, and bananas to runners and spectators.



Upcoming Westminster Events

April 2, 9:30 AM Palm Branch Processional
 April 2, 10:30 AM Cinnamon Roll Bar
 April 5, 5:30 PM Eggstravaganza
 April 16, Time TBD Youth Group: Mini Golf
 April 30, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM Youth Group: Movie Night

May 7, 8:00 AM Marathon Welcome
 May 7, 5:00 PM Family Matt Talbot Service
 May 17, 5:30 PM End of Year for Wednesday activities
 May 21, 5:00 PM Youth Group: End of Year Party
 May 28, 10:30 AM Pentecost Cookies

June 4-August 5, High School Montreat
 June 5-9, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM [Make Waves VBS](#)
 June 23, 9:00 PM Family Movie Night

July 2, 5:00 PM Family Matt Talbot Dinner Service
 July 19-23, Middle School Montreat

August 10, 6:30 PM-8:00 PM Star City Shores Pool Party

**Hearts & Hands | Church Library | Wednesdays at 1:30 - 3:00 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, April 4 | 11:30 a.m. at Villa Amore

Lunch Bunch will meet at Villa Amore, 5353 N. 27th St., Tuesday, April 4, at 11:30 A.M. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com.

Faith and Cancer Support Group | Library | Tuesday, April 18 | 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 - Wednesday, March 29 | 5-7 PM

The March Ladies' Night Out will be held at Mettle Grill, 5500 S 56th St #8. 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, April 19 | 1:00 p.m. in Lounge

The next Prairie Readers meeting will be April 19 in the Lounge at 1:00 p.m. The book is Sparks Like Stars by Nadia Hashimi and the facilitator will be Lisa DeBuse.

History Buffs | Saturday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the Lounge

John Janovy, Jr., Varner Professor Emeritus, UNL, will be presenting his story about recovering evidence for who his parents really were, given the fact that they married in the middle of the Great Depression and both died relatively young.

Bag Lunch Book Discussion

"Growing Young: 6 Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church"

Time: Every month on the Third Tuesday, 12:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Meeting ID: 834 9224 9567 | **Passcode:** 053099

Westminster Lincoln is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83492249567?pwd=Q0xhdythVXFYZEQwSXBkLzUvbG5iUT09>

April 18, 2023 12:00 AM

May 16, 2023 12:00 AM

June 20, 2023 12:00 AM

About Being an Earth Care Congregation

People of faith are inspired to act on climate issues for a multitude of reasons.

- ▮ If your religious experience is strongly connected to the sanctity of God's creation, you will likely feel compelled to defend the natural world from the destruction that results from climate damage.
- ▮ If peacemaking is a primary expression of your faith, you may be alarmed at the various ways in which climate change is sowing conflict over scarce resources.
- ▮ If the alleviation of poverty is central to your faith, you may be concerned about how the poor are being hit the hardest by pollution and severe weather, yet have the fewest resources to cope with such obstacles.
- ▮ If overcoming racism is a core aspect of your faith journey, you need not look far to witness climate injustice, such as racial disparities in childhood asthma rates or the inequitable response to disaster that often occurs when communities of color are the primary victims.
- ▮ If your faith is driven by a passion to care for the next generation, nothing threatens our children's wellbeing more than an unstable climate.

PC(USA), Let's Talk Faith and Climate

Creation Celebration '23



EARTH SUNDAY WORSHIP

Music, scripture, and a message to inspire our appreciation of creation and our response to God's call to tend and keep this precious gift. And announcing the winning name of our creation art!

LADIES NIGHT OUT

Wednesday, April 26th, 5:00-7:00, at Billy's Restaurant
Enjoy conversation with Westminster friends and a meal of locally sourced food

HOSTAMANIA

Sunday morning, May 14th
Dividing plants this spring? Bring your extras to share. Ready for a change? Take home something new.

DIGGING IN TO EARTH CARE

Later this spring
Watch the Vine for a hand-on opportunity to tend creation right here in our community. All ages, skills, and physical abilities are welcome.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM

Sundays, 10:40-11:30, in the Lounge, following worship

April 16 - Called to Care

Where does scripture call us to care for creation? It's not just in Genesis! David Lux, retired Saint Paul Senior Pastor, climate enthusiast, and Nebraska Senior pickleball champion takes us beyond an appreciation of nature to the necessity of eco-justice.

April 23 - Panel of Presbyterian Pundits

Fast moving descriptions by Steve Larson, Chris Peters, Tom Pappas, and Laurel Van Ham of what Westminster has done, is doing, and would like to do next to honor our Earth Care commitments through worship, education, building and grounds, and outreach/advocacy.

April 30 - Reduce Your Energy Bills with New Tax Credits

Lucyna de Barbaro, Conservation Consultant
"Incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about residential energy efficiency," Lucy will walk us through newly enacted rebates and tax credits that can make a difference for your pocketbook as well as the environment.

May 7 - Enough with the Crabgrass!

Justin Evertson, Assistant Director and Green Infrastructure Coordinator of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum talks about simple ways to save money and effort on your landscaping while introducing beneficial plant and wildlife diversity.

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[Earth Vectors by Vecteezy](https://www.vecteezy.com/free-vector/earth)



The Preschool Art Show

The preschool children have been hard at work all school year preparing for our Art Show. This has been a tradition at Westminster Preschool for many years. This year we celebrated the Art Show with a soft opening on Sunday, March 19th for the congregation and an Art Opening the evening of Monday, March 20th for children and families. Through art, children are taught pre-writing skills, fine motor skills, creativity, connections, and so much more. We are truly blessed by our art program and art teacher, Lindsay Reger!

YOU COULD BE THE BIG WINNER!

ANNOUNCING: A contest to name “that art piece the Davis family created.”

You may remember it hanging in the chancel for Earth Sunday last year. You may have noticed a picture of it in the March Messenger. You may even have seen it hanging in its new location. But you haven’t heard it called by name—because it doesn’t have one!

PLEASE HELP!

All are welcome to participate (enter as an individual or a group), and multiple submissions are encouraged.

Something Biblical? Or poetic?

Something about nature? Or Nebraska?

Something punny?

A twist on a familiar saying or song?

Let your imagination play!

Use the form below and drop it off at the church office by Thursday, April 6th. The winner—and the winning name—will be announced on Earth Sunday, April 16th.

You really could be the BIG WINNER!

Your name or names:

Your potentially winning name or names for the art piece:



“That Art Piece” is now hung in its new place (over the stairs that lead from Narthex to Garden Room).

Montreat Middle School Conference, July 19-23

Designed for youth who have completed fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth grade by the summer of 2023. Youth will engage in faith exploration through the conference theme, igniting a spark, with worship, study, and play. The conference is held at Maryville College, a PC(USA) affiliated private college located in Maryville, TN and will take place July 19-23. More information is available here: <https://montreat.org/events/msc-23>

Montreat High School Conference, June 4-August 5

The Montreat Youth Conference takes place across 6 week long sessions, with the first session starting June 4 and the last session ending August 5, and is intended for youth who have completed ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade by the summer of 2023. This gathering of young people from all over the country is designed to help youth come to know and believe that they are the beloved of God in a place where authenticity, community, connection, and God's truth thrive. Youth will experience a week of fellowship, worship, and recreation. Additional details are below, complete details are available here <https://montreat.org/events/myc-23>.

Please let Trish Souliere know if your child is interested in attending. If we have enough interest, we will look into taking a group.



LiNK Wednesdays

Wednesday nights are a great opportunity for kids to get together with their friends and have fun learning about God. Kids from nursery age through high school meet from 5:30-7:30 PM.

In Faith Village, we will continue our series of weird stories in the Bible. The Bible is full of the message of God's love and redemption. The Bible is also full of strange occurrences and odd events – but even these point us to the truth of a loving God.

Our verse for this series is *"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him" - 1 Corinthians 2:9 (NIV).*

Our Wednesday Youth Group will continue to explore the stories in the Bible from Passover to the resurrection, from the Parting of the Red Sea to the disciples carrying out Jesus's commands.

Wondering what to expect for dinner? The amazing Zanders have assembled a menu to help you out. Here is what will be on the table Wednesday nights in April:

April 5th, Pancakes and scrambled eggs

April 12th, Walking Tacos and bananas

April 19th, Chicken and potatoes

April 26th, Spaghetti and garlic toast

Eggstravaganza**Wed., April 5 5:30 PM–7:30 PM**

Join us Wednesday, April 5 for our annual Easter Eggstravaganza. Children from preschool to 5th grade are invited for an evening of fun. Bring your basket for the egg hunt, starting at 5:30. At 6, we will enjoy an Easter themed pancake dinner, and then finish up with a story and craft.

5:30 -- 6:00 Egg Hunt/games

6:00 -- 6:30 Dinner

6:30 -- 7:30 Story/Craft



Come just for the hunt or stay for the rest of the evening activities.

Questions? Contact Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org or (402) 570-0163.

Last Call for Eggstravaganza Donations

We are seeking donation bags of candy and/or any other small handouts for the children. Look for collection buckets at the top of the steps by the East entrance. If you have any questions, please contact Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org.



**For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.
(Matthew 25:35)**

You are invited to join the Westminster Mission team as we live the gospel of Matthew.

A team of volunteers cook, serve, and clean up for Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach the first Friday on even numbered months.

We arrive around 5:00 pm and ready to leave by 7:00pm. If you have questions or would like to be part of the team, please contact Gary Haller or the church office.

Reminder about Locking the Church

If you have a key to the east door, and used it to enter the church, please remember to lock again using the key when you leave. Staff members have found the church unlocked several times when no one is in the building. Also, to keep track of who has keys, please send Dennis an email (dennis@westminsterlincoln.org) with the key number, especially if you've had the key for a number of years.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
2110 Sheridan Blvd
Lincoln, NE 68502

We Need to Hear from You

To conserve resources, we are updating our mailing list for *The Messenger* and want to know your preferences. We are asking you to choose one of the options below and email your preference to joanne@westminsterlincoln.org by April 25.

If we don't hear back from you, we will no longer mail *The Messenger* to you. If you are unable to respond by email, call the church office at 402-475-6702.

Please know that you can always be added back to the list by contacting the church office.



1. Send *The Messenger* to my email address, which is: _____ and discontinue sending it in the mail.
2. I no longer wish to receive *The Messenger*.
3. Continue to mail a paper copy of *The Messenger*.

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/Vine are due to Tracy and Joanne Gabriel at joanne@westminsterlincoln.org by 5 pm on Monday of each week.