

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



May 14, 2023
Graduate Sunday
6th Sunday of Eastertide

Prelude

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

Flash Lesson on Being an Earth Care Congregation #5

Carol Shelbourn

Hostamania

Tom Pappas

***Call to Worship (Psalm 66:1-4 Common English Bible)**

Deacon Claire Titus

One: Shout joyfully to God, all the Earth!

All: Sing praises to the glory of God's name!

One: Say to God: "How awesome are your works!"

All: Sing praises to the glory of God's name!

One: All the earth worships you, sings praises to you, sings praises to your name!

All: Let us sing praises to the glory of God's name!

***Hymn #463**

How Firm a Foundation (v. 1-3, 5)

***Call to Confession**

Deacon Claire Titus

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

***Holy God, we are quick to criticize, quick to judge,
quick to blame. We fail to offer others the same grace
we receive from you. We hold ourselves up as***

superior and fail to address the patterns of dominance we perpetuate. Forgive us. Help us seek understanding and compassion. Help us accept the love you offer us and share your love with others. Amen.

***Response to the Confession** **#544 (x2)**
*Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.*

***Assurance of Forgiveness**
...Believe and share the good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise** **#581 Gloria Patri**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***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 Jaime Hemmerling
(Children in Grades 1 – 5 are invited to come to Faith Village following the Children's Chat or to find and sit with their parents. Parents can pick up their children in Faith Village following the service.)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Gospel Lesson John 14:15-21 N.T. pg. 109
New Testament Lesson Acts 17:22-31 N.T. pg. 137
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "In Whom We Live and Move and Have Our Being"
Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #686** **God of Our Life**

***Affirmation of Faith (Confirmation Study Catechism, Questions 19-20)**

Question 19. What does it mean to say that human beings are created in the image of God?

All: God created us to live together in love and freedom — with God, with one another, and with the world. We are created to be loving companions of others so that something of God's goodness may be reflected in our lives.

Question 20. What does our creation in God's image reflect about God?

All: Our being created for loving relationships is a reflection of the Holy Trinity. In the mystery of the one God, the three divine persons — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — live eternally in perfect love and freedom.

Senior Recognition

Special Music

"Always Something Sings" from "Music"
by Ralph Waldo Emerson, by Dan Forrest
Westminster Choir

Prayers of the People

Deacon Claire Titus

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 #853**

We Are Marching in the Light of God

***Charge & Benediction**

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

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

Today's liturgy (our words in worship) are adapted from Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott: Presbyterian Outlook Order of Worship for May 14, 2023.

The **flowers** are given by Martha Brown in memory of her mother, Pauline Nelson, and in honor of all mothers.

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 red Giving Baskets following the service. These are located by the Sheridan Blvd. doors in the narthex and near the top of the stairs in the sanctuary on the Garden Room / South side. Look for the red baskets and signs that read "Giving Basket." Ushers monitor the baskets and collect the offerings following the service.

For online giving, scan the QR code.



Ministers: The whole congregation

Pastors: Rev. Chris Peters & Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Liturgist: Deacon Claire Titus

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Marybell Avery, Joan Roberts, Kathy Anderson, Barbara Wright-Chollet

Greeters: Josh Whitfield & Kelly Braswell-Burbach



*“I am the vine,
you are the branches . . .”*

The week of May 14, 2023

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

C C Speaker Series

The Creation Celebration Speaker Series will press “pause” this week while everyone shops the wonders of Hostamania. But come back next week as the series wraps up with Justin Evertson, Assistant Director of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum offering more practical advice on saving money, effort, and the environment—this time in our own backyards.

Creation Celebration Hits the Books

Westminster’s Library is spilling into the Garden Room for a few weeks to make it even easier for you to pick up some good reading about the wonders of creation and our care of the earth. New releases and old classics, serious science and light reading, long stories and picture books—there’s something for everyone. Stop and take a look—or take a book!

Presbyterian Women Birthday

Offering Celebration & Dedication

The Presbyterian Women’s Birthday Offering is one of two special offerings and is received in the spring each year. This offering gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. The 2023 Birthday Offering will fund \$150,000 for the Making Miracles Group Home in Tallahassee Florida and \$99,400 for construction of a Kindergarten school in Demi Dollo, Ethiopia. All are welcome to contribute to this fund. Please note to Dennis, our church bookkeeper, it is for the PW Birthday offering.

There will be a celebration and dedication of these funds at a gathering on Saturday, May 20, at 10 AM in Fellowship Hall. RSVP to your Circle leader by May 15. If you are not a Circle member and wish to attend, RSVP to Susie at 402-440-9165.



**VBS 2023: Make Waves | June 5-9
9 AM – 12 Noon**

It's time to get your kids registered for VBS! Kids ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to register at

<https://vbsmate.com/westminsterlincoln>. Registrations will be accepted through June 3, but t-shirts will only be available for those registered by May 15. Registration is \$15/child (\$45 max/family). Adult and youth volunteers are welcome to sign up at the same link.

End of Year Worship Service/Party

Join us on Wed., May 17, 5:30 PM, at Antelope Park Shelter #2 for our LiNK Wed. end-of-year party for food, fellowship, and fun!

We begin the evening with a worship service, developed and led by the Youth Group, and then enjoy hot dogs and hamburgers prepared by the amazing Zanders. You may bring a side or dessert to share, a blanket or lawn chairs, and something to drink. At 6:30, the youth will assemble for a game of volleyball or kickball while the children check out the playground. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Trish at trish@westminsterlincoln.org so we can be sure to have enough food. This mid-week worship and picnic opportunity is open to everyone. Come celebrate God's great creation outdoors with our Westminster family.

Faith Village Summer Schedule

To allow families time to worship together, the last Sunday children will be dismissed for Faith Village this semester will be May 21. Children's worship bags are available every week that include supplies to help them engage in the weekly lectionary scripture.

Staff Schedules

- Pastor Jimmy has been asked to preach at Hickman Presbyterian Church this morning because their pastor is away.
- Pastor Chris will be out of the office for continuing education beginning May 17. He will be back on May 24.



You are invited to watch our preschool athletes run a marathon around the church grounds! Please come cheer on the children as they race into summer! Race days are Wednesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 25.

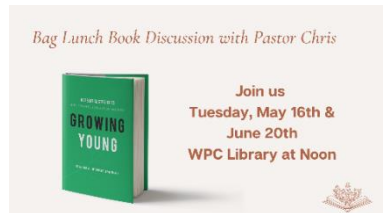
Meet in the church parking lot by 10:45 AM to claim your cheering section. The marathon is followed by a family picnic. Feel free to bring a lunch and join us!

Staying Green & Clean Up of Coffee Cups

We need several people to help wash coffee cups on Sunday mornings. Grab a friend and sign up for one Sunday a month. Sign up here: tinyurl.com/3nbvu5w5

Bag Lunch Book Discussion with Pastor Chris

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



Growing Young Bag Lunch Reading Schedule at Noon

May 16: Chapters 5-6

June 20: Chapters 7-8 + Appendix

Prairie Readers | May 17 | 1 PM in the Lounge

The book for May is “Black Cake,” by Charmaine Wilkerson.

Discussion Leader: Weston Crawford

History Buffs | May 20 | 9 AM in the Lounge

Bruce and Margaret Sheffield will be presenting on the 43rd anniversary of Mount St. Helen’s Eruption. Come and hear the story.

Week Beginning May 14

<p><u>Sun. (14)</u> Hostamania 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship/ Graduates 9:40 AM Faith Village 12 Noon Sudanese Worship 6:30 PM Youth Group</p> <p><u>Mon. (15)</u> 11 AM Explorers Bible Study, Reading the Bible in a Year, Library</p> <p><u>Tues. (16)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 12 PM <i>Growing Young</i> Bag Lunch Discussion, Library 7 PM Faith and Cancer Support Group, Library</p>	<p><u>Wed. (17)</u> 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands, Library 5:30 PM Westminster LiNK, Antelope Park 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Thurs. (18)</u> 9 AM FH All Staff Meeting, FH 7 PM Camera Club, Lounge</p> <p><u>Sat. (20)</u> 9 AM History Buffs, Lounge 9:30 AM PW Birthday Offering Event, FH</p> <p><u>Sun. (21)</u> 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:40 AM Faith Village (last Sunday this semester) 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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Televised Worship

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

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

Worship services are available on-line at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@WestminsterLincoln/streams>