



THE MESSENGER

September 2023

August Event Highlights



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>.

The Sudan and South Sudan Mission Network Conference Report

08/14/2023 Introduction: The Sudan and South Sudan Mission Network Conference held in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania was a remarkable experience. As a Sudanese Presbyterian, I had the privilege of attending this conference and witnessing the tremendous impact of the Presbyterian Church in transforming lives. This report aims to provide an overview of the conference and highlight the goals that our Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lincoln should consider.

1. Presbyterian Church's Impact on People's Lives:

The conference shed light on the current and former missionaries of the Presbyterian Church who have made a significant difference in the lives of individuals. It was evident that the church remains committed to extending a helping hand to those in need, irrespective of the challenges faced. The stories shared during the conference showcased the unwavering love, compassion, support, and care that the Presbyterian Church offers to its people.

2. Support from American Brothers and Sisters:

As Sudanese Presbyterians, we were overwhelmed by the love and support we received from our American brothers and sisters in Christ during the conference. Their hospitality and willingness to assist us in any way possible demonstrated the strong bond within the Presbyterian community. This experience served as a reminder of the unity and global reach of the church, transcending geographical boundaries.

3. Goals for Westminster Presbyterian Church, Lincoln:

To begin with, during the conference, Pastor Alphonse Andrew, a guest representative from the South Sudan Presbyterian Church, introduced a new Bible School that will open in Juba, South Sudan. This initiative presents an opportunity for our Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lincoln to consider that idea or similar goal. By establishing educational institutions, we can contribute to the spiritual growth and empowerment of individuals within our Presbyterian community. Mr. Bill Anderson, who was a face of Presbyterian Church in Sudan and South Sudan for ages, built a Bible school in Gereif in Sudan. The Bible school was the foundation for many current pastors and evangelists as well as teachers of the word of God in Sudan and South Sudan. Due to the current situation in Sudan, the Bible school is no longer available. I am suggesting, if it is possible, for Westminster to support the Bible school idea that being built in Juba Theological Seminary College or to build another Bible school somewhere else in South Sudan for instance Nasir county in upper Nile State.

A Bible school that teaches the word of God is the backbone of our Presbyterian church leaders, equipping them with the Presbyterian doctrine, so that they can act as the servants of God, ready to evangelize in and out of season as in 2 Timothy 4:2.

Additionally, there is a genuine need for support for the construction of the largest Presbyterian church in South Sudan, located in Nasir County, Upper Nile State. While the foundation and part of the walls have been built, there is a need for additional funds to complete this significant project. This church will serve as a beacon of hope, faith, and community for the people of South Sudan, providing a place for worship, spiritual growth, and support. We strongly encourage individuals, organizations, and communities to come together and contribute to the completion of this vital endeavor, enabling the church to fulfill its mission and positively impact the lives of many. Together, we can make a lasting difference and help establish a vibrant center of worship and fellowship in Nasir County.

Continued from page 2:

In conclusion, the Sudan and South Sudan Mission Network Conference provided a platform for sharing stories of transformation and exemplified the Presbyterian Church's commitment to serving people in need. The support and care demonstrated by our American brothers and sisters were heartwarming. As we reflect on this experience, it is important for our Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lincoln to consider setting goals aligned with the establishment of educational institutions, such as the Bible School in Juba, South Sudan. By doing so we can actively contribute to the well-being and spiritual development of our community.

**Westminster Neighborhood Welcome
September 10, 2023 10:30 AM-12:00 PM**

Fall activities resume at Westminster on Sunday, September 10. This is your opportunity to find out what is coming up! Here is what you can expect:
Committees and Life Groups will provide a snapshot of their upcoming activities.

Porkcentric will have lunch available for purchase
We will treat you to Kona Ice! Kids can play in the bounce house Games, including ladder golf, foosball, and cornhole will be available and Fall photos by Jim Kinkennon.

Kick-Off Sunday will have something for everyone, so mark your calendar for September 10 and come to celebrate the start of the new season with your Westminster family.

**Intergenerational Sunday School
Sunday, September 17, 2023**

Everyone is invited to come to Fellowship Hall after the worship service to engage in a great discussion about what it means to be a neighbor and what God says about being a neighbor.

**WON'T YOU
BE MY
NEIGHBOR**

THE MESSENGER (USPS 680-440) PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN, NE 68502. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT LINCOLN NEBRASKA. \$2 SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, POSTMASTER SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 2110 SHERIDAN BLVD., LINCOLN, NE 68502.



Hearts & Hands | Church Library | Wednesdays at 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Hearts & Hands is a fun-loving group that meets every Wed. from 1:30 – 3 PM, in the church library. Our mission is to knit and crochet items for the People's City Mission—hats, scarves, baby items, toys, etc. We donate finished items in November before the holidays. All needle work folks are welcome to come visit and see what you're missing! Laughter is free. All yarn donations are welcome! Questions: Call Francy Scheele at (402) 310-4212.

Lunch Bunch will meet at Ollie & Hobbes Craft Kitchen, 2940 Pine Lake Rd. September 5, 11:30 A.M.

Ollie & Hobbes Craft Kitchen is located directly across from the movie theater complex at SouthPointe and requires about a one block walk from the parking lot. Hope to see you there! Please R.S.V.P. to Jim Kinkennon at jimkinkennon@gmail.com.

Faith and Cancer Support Group | Tuesday, September 19 | Library at 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. This Life Group meets every third Tuesday of the month from 7-8 PM in the church library. All are welcome. Contact Bruce Sheffield at 402-783-0394 or Janice Rohwedder at 402-730-5568.

Prairie Readers | Wednesday, September 20 | Lounge at 1 PM

Kathryn Govaerts and Diana Wild will facilitate the discussion of *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. Despite the simplicity of the title, Geraldine Brooks' latest novel is a heart-pounding American epic that gallops backward and forward in time to tell a story about race and freedom, horses and art, and the lineage of not just ancestors but actions. ~Al Woodworth. Amazon Editor

Ladies' Night Out | Tuesday, September 19th from 4:30-6:30 pm.

You are invited to join us this month in the lounge at Venue, located at 4111 Pioneer Woods Drive. Please NOTE earlier time 4:30 - 6:30 PM. ****Firm RSVP date by Saturday, September 16th, 12 PM** to Robyn (late add-ons are not guaranteed). RSVP to Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com. Text or call Robyn 937-935-6858.

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.

Westminster Welcome – A Time of Learning and Connecting!

Sunday, September 24th 10:45am in the Lounge

At Westminster, “You Belong!” Westminster has a rich history and a bright future that we hope you will be a part of! If you’re a visitor, considering joining, or have a friend who might like to learn more about Westminster, this session is for you! We’ll spend about 40 minutes learning about Westminster, our history, opportunities today, and our Vision 2026 direction. Then, we’ll take 20 minutes for questions and conversation with Pastor Chris and members. New Members from the past year are welcome to come as well to learn more about how to plug in and to be better supported in your journey at WPC. Please contact Pastor Chris to confirm attendance or with any questions at chris@westminsterlincoln.org.

It’s the Little Things That Count

Shampoo — Deodorant — Razors — Shaving Cream — Bar Soap — Lotion — Toothpaste.

As God is gracious to us, so we are called to show love to others. Won’t You Be A Neighbor?

Toothbrushes — Chapstick — Conditioner — Feminine Products — Soap — Socks — Dish Soap.

Westminster’s Presbyterian Women In partnership with the Lincoln Hygiene Network invite all of the Westminster family to collect new personal care and hygiene products. These products help restore health, dignity, and self-esteem to Lincoln’s most vulnerable children, teens, and adults. Lincoln Hygiene Network serves as a bank for products that are then distributed to more than 20 non-profits across Lincoln, including Lighthouse, Voices of Hope, Cedars, Matt Talbot, Fresh Start, Friendship Home, and LPS.

Look for the colorful barrel at the top of the stairs off of the east parking lot. Pick up the Lincoln Hygiene Network brochure and shopping list. Then help PW fill the barrel. Financial donations are also accepted at lincolnhygienenetwork.org.

Maui Fire Response

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is currently responding to the devastating fires on the islands of Maui and Hawaii through care teams, response grants, and collaboration with and support for United Church of Christ congregations there and the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster. To support these efforts, you may go to the following link for designating gifts to PDA for fire response, or you are invited to join Westminster for World on a Plate: Hawaii, a meal fundraiser for PDA efforts in Hawaii. More information on World on a Plate: Hawaii is in this email.

<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hawaii-wildfires/>





We are so excited to start a new school year here at Westminster Preschool!

We have been blessed with 55 children that will attend our program each week. We have 10 amazing teachers on staff- Lindsay Reger, Kylie Griego, Kelly Augustine, Christy Altman, Andrea Ohles, Mary Richardson, Rachel Hoein, Amy Israel, Angie Smith and Judy Nyhof. Please pray for them as we embark on this new year!

We recently were able to update the surfacing in the playground area. It looks AMAZING and more importantly, the kids LOVE it. A huge thank you to Justin Brandt at Custom Scapes Nebraska for helping this vision come to life! Stop by and check it out if you haven't already done so.



LiNK Wednesday Nights is Starting Back Up on September 6!

Wednesday activities will begin again on September 6 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Families are welcome to join us for dinner, which will be served from 5:30-6:00 p.m.. Afterwards, kids from nursery age through high school are invited for activities, discussion, and fun.

Acolytes

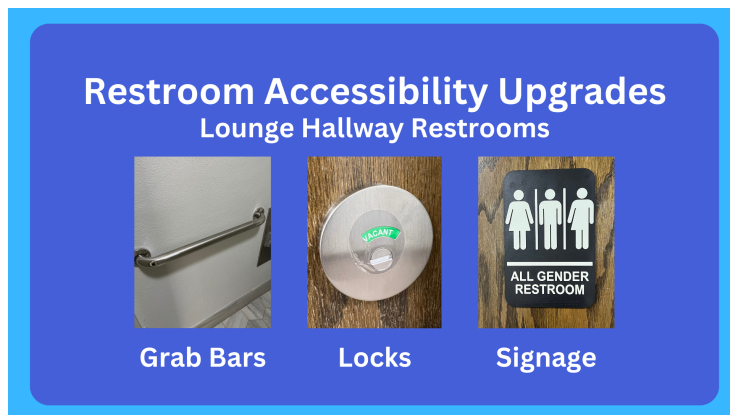
We would like to resume the acolyte program in September and would like to invite all young people in grades 3, 4, and 5 to sign up to serve.

What is an acolyte? An acolyte is the person responsible for the lighting and extinguishing of the candles on the communion table. The light, or fire, represents the light of Christ. The word acolyte is from an ancient Greek word that means attendant, or “follower.” Light and fire remind us that God is here with us, and lit candles remind us that Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Ready to sign up? Great! Please add your name to the schedule here <https://shorturl.at/jjOX7>. We will need two acolytes for each Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Trish, trish@westminsterlincoln.org or 402-475-6702 ext 107.

Lounge Hallway Restroom Access and Safety Upgrades

As announced by Buildings and Grounds in worship recently, you may notice a few accessibility changes to the restrooms on the main floor down from the Lounge this week. For ability-related concerns, we have added grab bars to the stalls for safety. This summer, Westminster’s Session also discussed and approved changing signage on those two restrooms to “All Gender” with the



addition of “vacant / in-use” locks to allow for increased accessibility and security for members, visitors, and the community as we host outside events. The restrooms upstairs on the staff hallway, by the Parlor and in other spaces such as the preschool and Youth Cafe were not modified. If you have any questions about this change, please reach out to an Elder or a member of the A&P

Committee, Welcoming Task Force, or Buildings and Grounds.

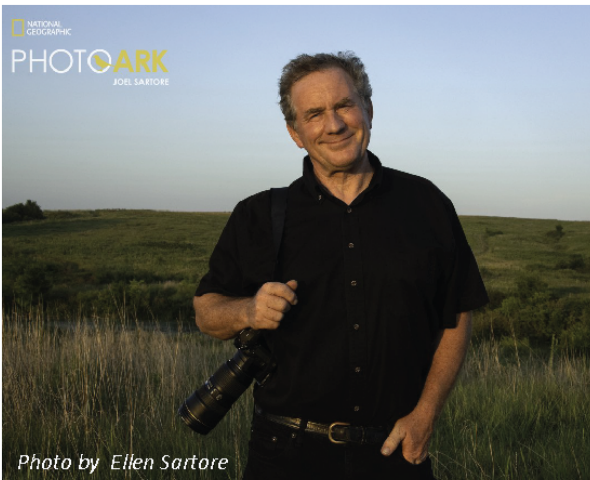
In 2018, the PC(USA) General Assembly affirmed the welcome of all people and a committee approved the recommendation that congregations work for access for all people to accommodations, including designating gender neutral restrooms.



**Music & Fine Arts at First Presbyterian Church
Presents**

Two Important & Inspiring Season Opening Events

Joel Sartore
National Geographic Explorer
Fri., Sept. 8, 7:30 p.m.



National Geographic Explorer, photographer and Lincoln native Joel Sartore will be presenting pictures and stories from his acclaimed National Geographic Photo Ark Project.

In 2006, Joel started the National Geographic Photo Ark in an effort to document every species living in human care, to inspire action through education, and help save wildlife by supporting on-the-ground conservation efforts.

**Tickets: fpclincoln.org
402-477-6037**

**A Changing Climate:
Challenges &
Opportunities**

Sun., Sept. 17, 7:00 p.m.

With special guests:
**State Climatologist
Dr. Martha Durr**

**Norfolk Mayor
Josh Moenning**

Join us for this free event as we learn about our changing climate, and explore solutions and opportunities to deal with it.

Free & open to the public

With the support of:
**Interfaith Power & Light
First Plymouth Climate Action Team
Westminster Presbyterian Green at Heart
Team**

Find us on Facebook!

**First Presbyterian Church
840 S. 17th St., Lincoln**



Heywood Wakefield Choir Chairs

Did you sing in the Westminster choir 50 or 40 years ago? Did you sing in one of the children's musicals? Then you undoubtedly sat in one of the chairs designed by Heywood Wakefield.

Westminster no longer needs these midcentury modern chairs. We've sold some already for good prices and now we want to offer them to you.

These chairs are nearly indestructible, with oak seats and backs. We're offering them to you for a suggested donation of \$25 or whatever you wish to give. There are also three children's tables available for sale. Red, yellow, and green.

Proceeds will go to support music offerings at Westminster. Contact Diana at diana.wild@hotmail.com if you are interested in acquiring any of these items.



September Adult Education at Westminster Following Worship

Sunday, September 3rd – No Class – Enjoy the holiday weekend!

Sunday, September 10th – Intergenerational “Neighborhood Bash” in the Parking Lot.

Sunday, September 17th – Intergenerational “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” Lesson for All Ages in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, September 24th – No Regular Class – “Westminster Welcome” Session focused on Visitors and Membership-curious in Lounge! All are welcome to attend and add to the discussion of “Why Westminster.”

Join Team Westminster for The CROP Hunger Walk

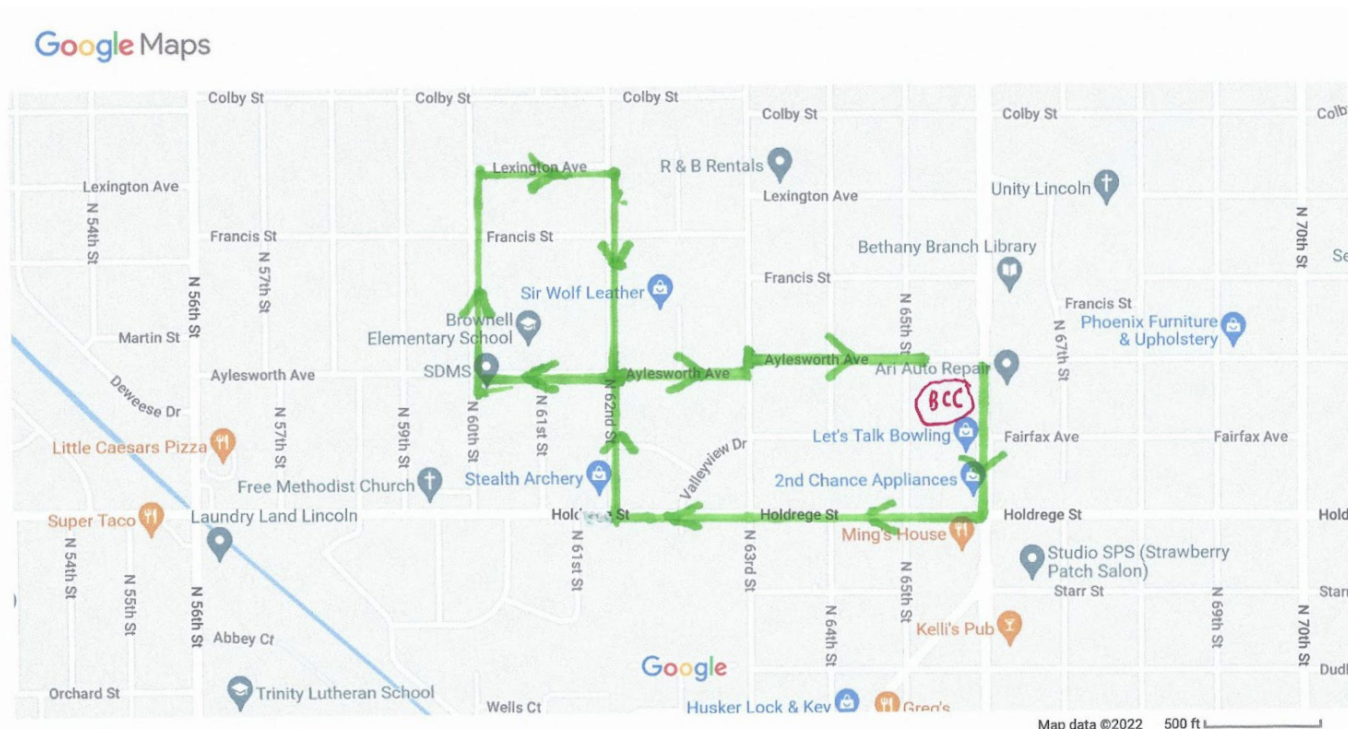
35 million people in the U.S. are hungry or don't know where their next meal is coming from, and 13 million of them are children. If another country were doing this to our children, we'd be at war. ~ Jeff Bridges

Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen. Join Team Westminster for the CROP Hunger Walk, raise funds, and take us one step closer to ending hunger once and for all! Or support someone on Team Westminster by making a donation.

To participate as a walker, you can register at: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/westminster-presbyterian-2> and click on the Join the Team button. To donate and support a walker, find a walker on the team at the same link and click on the Donate button next to the walker's name.



The Lincoln CROP Walk this year will take place on October 8. We will meet at Bethany Christian Church, 1645 North Cotner Boulevard, at 1:00 PM to begin the 1.5 mile route.



Map Source: Google Maps

Presbyterians in the Park | Save the Date! Sunday, October 1, 2023 10:30am-1:00pm @ Antelope Park (Bandstand and Auld Pavilion)

Let's worship outside in God's creation and celebrate a potluck lunch indoors! This will also start our Annual Stewardship Campaign focus!

After the service, there will be a potluck luncheon in the Auld Center. Church Life Committee will be providing fried chicken, rolls, and drinks. Congregation member with last name starting g with A-M are to bring a dessert. Last names beginning with N-Z are to bring a side dish. Join us for worship, fellowship and food!

Spooktacular is Coming Up and We Need Your Help! October 25, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

- 1) First, we need donation bags of candy, packaged snacks, pencils, and/or any small handouts for the children. Look for collection buckets at the top of the steps by the East entrance.
- 2) Then we need people to find or make a costume and decorate their car trunk with a fun theme. On October 25, they will pass out treats to the children. As a bonus, we will provide a meal for all trunk volunteers.

Please note: vehicles need to arrive by 4 pm to find a spot and put the finishing touches on their decorations. Let Trish know at trish@westminsterlincoln.org if you have any questions or are interested in sponsoring a trunk

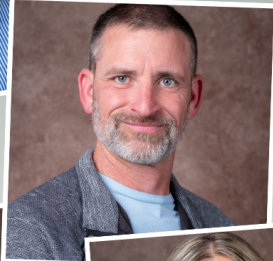




Westminster Presbyterian Church
2110 Sheridan Blvd
Lincoln, NE 68502

In House

IT'S TIME TO UPDATE OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS!



We are missing current photos of many of you, which keeps us from getting to know each other, especially putting our newer members at a disadvantage.

There will be no pressure to buy anything.
Just bring your smile!

Sign up for a time online (See eVine)
or by calling the church office.

We are planning an in-house update to the church directory photos and contact information. Jim Kinkennon will be available to take photos in Fellowship Hall from 10 AM to 5 PM Monday through Wednesday and Friday, as well as on Thursday from 10 AM to 8 PM, during the weeks of Aug. 28 through Sept. 8, except for Labor Day. We hope you will sign up for a time online <https://tinyurl.com/yv492tm6>, or call the church office.