



THE MESSENGER

One God, One-in-Christ, One Westminster ~ all in gratitude!

Celebrating Creation in Faith Village



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>.

Mark Your Calendars for May 12!
We'll host Hostamania, celebrate graduating Seniors,
and welcome back Pastor Val Putnam!

Westminster Friends,

I am excited for the opportunity for our church to welcome Pastor Val Putnam and her spouse Wes to Lincoln and Westminster the week of May 12th!

On Sunday, May 12th, Rev. Putnam will lead us in worship and preaching. On Monday, May 13th from 5:00-7:00pm all are welcome and invited to a come-and-go Open House reception in Fellowship Hall! Appetizers and desserts will be provided by our Administration and Planning Committee.

From July 2018 - March 2020, Rev. Putnam served as Westminster's Interim pastor, leading a season of change and transition with joy and hope. From reforming our deacon ministry to emphasize the care of "flocks" of members, to assessing changing worship needs and the size of our congregation, to overseeing the hiring of several of our current staff members, the impact of Val's leadership remains with us today. Due to the unprecedented changes in our world and in our church life at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Westminster did not have the opportunity to share gratitude in-person with Val and Wes. I am excited for our chance to welcome them in worship and in fellowship soon. I hope you will join us for worship or to say 'hi' at the Open House!

With Gratitude,
 Rev. Chris Peters

Hostamania 2024

Some things change and some things stay the same.

SAME: Hostamania will again be on Mother's Day 9am-11am.

Plants from your landscape that you wish to share are absolutely welcome. Prices are modest but it IS a fundraiser.

CHANGE: We are hoping to have a big selection of native plants. Michael and Freda will be in Ireland so marmalade won't be made in time for the event; however, they will take orders, and will make it after they return home.



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

Hearts & Hands is a fun-loving group that meets every Wednesday in the church library. 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 | Mr. Hui's 2, 4131 Pioneer Woods Drive | Tuesday, May 7, 11:30 A.M.

As always, no agenda, no program, just fun. All are welcome. Call or text Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or email jimkinkennon@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you!

History Buffs: "Prairie Pines Nature Preserve" | Saturday, May 11 from 9 - 10 am**Location: 3000-4498 N 112th St, Lincoln, NE 68527**

Sue Kohles, Coordinator of Prairie Pines Partners, will tell the remarkable story of a row crop farm that transitioned to raising Christmas trees and then became Nebraska's First conservation easement, to be "protected forever as a place that would provide a pleasant habitat for all beings-- plant and animal." Interestingly, a Westminster family was part of this history! Sue's presentation will include a brief tour of this hidden gem, and you are welcome to stay for more exploration on your own.

Prairie Readers | Wednesday, May 15 | Lounge at 1 pm

Spring has come! We will read ANY book by Louise Penny. Marijane Englad will lead the discussion of Penny's book Still Life.

Faith and Cancer Support Group | Tuesday, May 21 | Library at 7 p.m.

Finding Comfort and Peace after the diagnosis of Cancer is often very difficult to say the least. However, sharing that uneasy feeling with others who have been on that journey, can be a surprising and helpful new dimension. Here at Westminster Presbyterian Church our support group is based on three specific features: sharing laughter, sharing burdens, and sharing blessings. All are welcome. Contact Bruce Sheffield at (402) 783-0394.

Ladies' Night Out | Tuesday, May 29, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at The Tam 105 South 25th Street.

We are going old school this month, and it promises to be a fun time of catching up. Feel free to bring a friend! Please RSVP by Sunday, May 26th to Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com / (937) 935-6858.

VBS is Coming Soon and We Could Use Your Help!

If you would like to donate supplies, this is a link to our Amazon wish list <https://rb.gy/eybqil>. You are welcome to either buy something from the list or donate anything similar you might have at home. In addition to the items on the wish list, we could use snack and drink donations for our volunteers.

You can also help out by praying for our children and volunteers. We have created a 31-day calendar with daily scriptures and ideas of what to pray for. You can find that calendar at <https://shorturl.at/cmrDV>

If you are looking for a more hands-on way of helping and are able to arrange your schedule to free up your mornings for the week of June 3-7, we have all kinds of rewarding ways to be a part of this opportunity to share your faith with children. If you do not feel qualified, we promise you will not be alone in your assignment. You are welcome to invite a friend to volunteer with you or we will pair you with other volunteers. If you remember how much fun VBS was when you were child, it's even more fun as a volunteer. Please sign up here: <https://westminster-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/> If you have any questions, please contact Trish Souliere at trish@westminsterlincoln.org or Dee Hughes at gspcyouthne@gmail.com to explore the options.

VBS 2024: Hero Hotline

Called together to serve God.

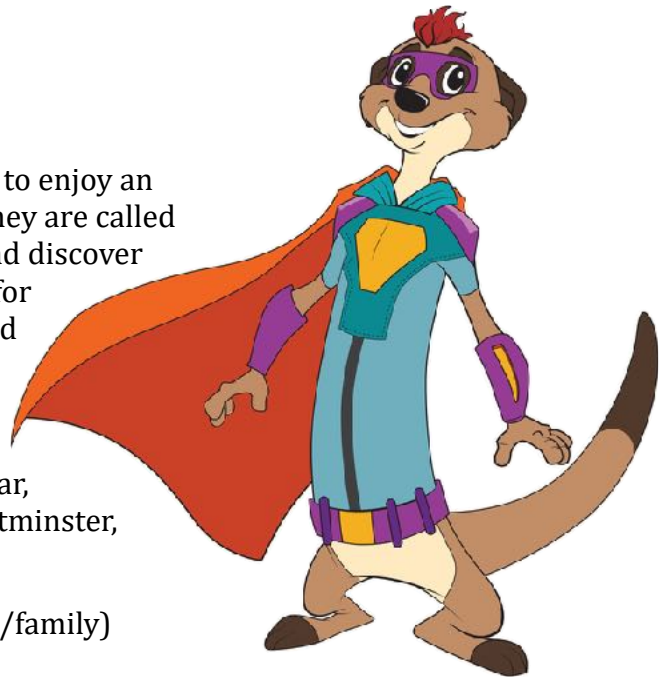
June 3-7, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

It is time to register for VBS! Sign your children up to enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they are called together to serve God. They will become Heroes and discover that answering God's call together means striving for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up!

We will be collaborating with Good Shepherd Presbyterian again this year, and all sessions will take place at Westminster, 2110 Sheridan Boulevard.

Registration is \$10/child (\$30 max/family) before May 31.

Register Now at: <https://westminster-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/>



It's Time to Register for Summer Camp!

Come see why a week at Calvin Crest is the best week of the year! Participate in awesome worship and Bible study, play lots of games, and have fun, while singing and enjoying food and friends in a beautiful natural setting. Calvin Crest will introduce you to amazing outdoor adventures, where you can build your skills and develop your faith. Imagine experiencing the thrill of building a fire with friends for the first time, and enjoying carefree afternoons spent swimming under the summer sun. Live, learn, and play with a cabin full of kids just like you. For more information or to register for camp, check the Calvin Crest website <https://calvincrest.org>.

June 2-8	Explorers 1st/2nd with an adult
June 9-14	Middlers 3rd/4th Grades Junior Camp 4th/6th Jr. Ranch Camp
June 15-16	Jr.High Camp 6th/8th Grades
June 16-21	Family Camp family units Junior Camp 4th/6th Jr.High Camp 6th/8th Grades
June 23-29	Jr.High Camp 6th/8th Grades Jr.High Ranch Camp Middler Camp
June 28-30	Family Camp family units
June 30-July 6	Sr High Work Camp 9th/12th Junior Camp 4th/6th



LiNK Wednesdays | K-5 grades & 6-12 grades | 5:30 PM-7:30 PM

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.

Marathon Welcome | May 5, 7:00 AM

Race day weekend is coming up! The course passes directly by Westminster, so we are hosting a welcome table to distribute donut holes to spectators and kool-aid and bananas to runners. The Bean Box Coffee truck will be on site with plenty of caffeine to jump start our station. Please join us in offering hospitality to our athletic friends and neighbors.

Pentecost Birthday Cookies | May 19, 10:45AM

To celebrate the birthday of the church, we will be decorating and sharing sugar cookies after the service.

Youth Group Summer Water Fun | July 14, 2024

The Youth Group get together on Sunday, July 14 for lunch and to get wet, activity tbd. All current and incoming Youth Group kids are invited to the party and encouraged to bring along a friend or two. Please let me know if your youth will be attending so that we have enough food and can plan activities accordingly either by email trish@westminsterlincoln.org or text 402-570-0163.

Synod School | July 21-26 Storm Lake, Iowa

Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages in an environment of hospitality, healing, and hope. The week is designed for laity, clergy, individuals and families with classes and activities for adults, youth, and children

“Meet the Leaders”

Jim White: I’ve been a member of Westminster since 1990. I first joined the church because our children were members. Office/roles I've played in the church are 3 terms as an active elder, 3 terms an active Deacon, nominating committee for 1 year, 1 year on the foundation board.

My favorite "Westminster moment" so far is seeing the restoration of the Stained glass windows in the sanctuary. One way I have grown in faith through Westminster is by participating adult education classes and numerous Bible study groups. I felt called to be on foundation because the Foundation is the only committee that I have not served on.

Something I'd like our church family to know about the Westminster foundation is the annual foundation's support of the annual budget. I hope you'll seek me out if you have any questions or thoughts about The Westminster Foundation.

Gwen Thorpe: We joined Westminster in 1993. We joined because we had family at Westminster and liked Rev. Dr. Yeager's sermons, the music, and the congregation, and felt at home here. Office/roles I've had in the church: Deacon, Elder, Sunday School substitute teacher, Usher, interim Church Administrator, and now Trustee.

My favorite "Westminster moment" so far: probably making cinnamon rolls as a Deacon prior to Easter Sunday. It was fun working with others to get so many dozens of rolls mixed and baked in a morning! One way I have grown in faith through Westminster: the feeling of compassion and community among the congregation along with the broadness of what Westminster does in the community and world.

I felt called to become a Foundation Trustee because I think it's important to assist Westminster in caring for the congregation and church goals as well as maintaining our beautiful building.

Something I'd like the congregation to know about the Foundation: The Foundation assists the Session as they prepare a budget by providing a list of monies available for spending from designated funds. Session committees are able to use those monies if their expenditures align with the intent of those designated funds.



I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO GET HER

Guys and Gals: Here's a great idea for a perfect gift for the special women in your life. Give a donation to the Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women. It's a gift that will always fit, is the right color, and benefits many.

The PW Birthday Offering is over 100 years old and funds grants to provide medical care, education, shelter, and support for people most in need at home and abroad. The two 2024 grants will help renovate a villa for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Marthasville, Missouri and also provide free meals at a cafe in Shawnee Presbyterian Church in an economically disadvantaged area of Louisville, Kentucky.

Please make out your check to: Westminster Presbyterian Church and fill in the memo line: PW Birthday Offering. Drop it in the slot outside of Dennis's office at church or send it to Susie Hughes, 8825 W Branched Oak, Raymond, NE, 68428.

AND... write a note to your special women about your gift.

Do Everything in Love





Westminster Presbyterian Church
2110 Sheridan Blvd
Lincoln, NE 68502

GODSPELL

Community Players, Beatrice invites you to "*Godspell: The Sources and the Scriptures*" with the Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn and musical selections by the cast of Community Players' upcoming presentation of "*Godspell*."

The entertaining and educational program will be held Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m. at the theatre at 412 Ella Street, Beatrice and is free to the public.

All are welcome! "*Godspell*" will be presented at Community Players beginning June 7 and will run for two weekends. More information is available at beatricecommunityplayers.com/godspell.

Pastor Jimmy will reprise the lecture and discussion portions of the program for Westminster Adult Ed on June 23 & 30.

