



THE MESSENGER

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



Congratulations

Class of 2024 Westminster Seniors!

Pictured top left to right: Isabel, Sydney and Mallory.
Pictured bottom left to right: Barrett, William and Yorges.

Westminster Friends,

In the Presbyterian Church, we say that membership in the church is a joy, a privilege, and a commitment. Some of the verbs used to describe active membership in our denomination include, “proclaiming, taking part, lifting one another up, studying, supporting, responding, living, working, and participating.” That’s why we celebrate that we are more the church God is calling us to be with each new member who joins Westminster!

First, an invitation for visitors and those currently considering joining in membership...

On June 2 at 10:50a.m., we will host a Westminster Welcome gathering. This is a learning and Q&A time to learn more about the church with a ‘no strings attached’ discussion about membership at the end.

Second, a question and call for reflection for our current members... When you read that list of verbs or see the full description linked our website (<https://westminsterlincoln.org/membership-at-westminster/>), which actions of membership are you living out today? Which ones do you feel called to work on in the coming month? What does membership really mean to you?

In a time in our culture where institutional confidence is declining – particularly related to churches (<https://news.gallup.com/poll/508169/historically-low-faith-institutions-continues.aspx> Gallup News, 2023), let us name that Membership Makes a Difference at Westminster. Whether you’re thinking about joining or are a long-time member we haven’t seen as often in recent years, know that we are better, stronger, and more faithful with you! I’m always glad to discuss ways to get involved, just reach out to chris@westminsterlincoln.org.

With Gratitude and Joy,
Rev. Chris Peters / “Pastor Chris”



A wonderful school year at Westminster Preschool draws to a close. Thirty children were celebrated at graduation Tuesday night, and the summer schedule begins June 3! In this time of school-year transition, we are also in a Director transition as we say goodbyes and thank yous to Sarah Dankenbring, our Director since May 2022. Over the past month, an Interview Team of myself, Elder Sarah Baltensperger, Preschool parent Alex Cassidy, and Assistant Director / Teacher Lindsay Reger have been busy interviewing, contacting references, and working to find the best fit for our next Director. We hope to have good news very soon.

For this week, we express our gratitude to Sarah for her leadership, which included many behind the scenes changes to processes and systems that benefitted the children, families, and staff at WPS. Her leadership continued us on the track of being a Step Up to Quality Level 5 program and one of the best-regarded preschools in Lincoln! Please keep Sarah in your prayers during this transition in her life, while continuing to pray for Westminster Preschool and our search process. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me directly.

With Gratitude,
Pastor Chris



Congratulations Class of 2024 Westminster Seniors

Isabel Frana

Isabel is graduating from Lincoln Southwest High School. She is looking forward to graduating and taking a trip to Europe to celebrate. She will be attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the fall. Isabel is the daughter of Stephanie and Jim Laux.

Barrett Jex

Barrett Jex is graduating from Lincoln Southeast High School with a 4.35 GPA. During his high school career, Barrett has earned letters in tennis and debate and participated in numerous clubs and organizations, including Archery, Chess, Key Club, National Honor Society, and Science Olympiad. Barrett hopes to attend an east coast university and study biomedical engineering, French, and Spanish. Barrett is the son of Jenni Jex and the late Russ Jex, and he is the grandson of fellow Westminster members Diane and Rod Wagner.

Sydney Laux

Sydney is graduating from Lincoln Southwest High School. She is looking forward to graduating and taking a trip to Europe to celebrate. She will be moving to Nashville, TN to Nanny. Sydney is the daughter of Jim and Stephanie Laux.

William McConnell

William McConnell is graduating from Lincoln East High School, where he participated in cross country, track and field, varsity orchestra and National Honor Society. He will be attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the fall, and is majoring in Agricultural Engineering. William is the son of Steve and Lisa McConnell, and the grandson of fellow Westminster members, Larry and Mary Peach.

Mallory Witt

Mallory is graduating from Lincoln Southwest High School, where she was on the Unified Bowling Team. Her future plans are undecided. Mallory is the daughter of Scott and Megan Witt.

Tanner Yorges

Tanner is graduating from Norris High School, where he participates in a variety of extracurricular activities. He competes on the golf team, is a member of the National Honor Society, is on the Norris Gold Show Choir, is the FFA Treasurer, and serves as the student manager for the boys' basketball team. Looking ahead, Tanner plans to attend Morningside University this fall, where he plans to study Business. He has committed to playing on the university's golf team and looks forward to continuing his passion for music by participating in the choir. Tanner is the son of Todd and Judi Yorges.

**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 | Lila Mae's located at 2110 Winthrop Rd | Tuesday, June 4, 12:00 Noon

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!

Faith and Cancer Support Group | Tuesday, June 18 | 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.

Prairie Readers | Wednesday, June 26 | Lounge at 1 pm

This is a week after our usual meeting on the third Wednesday of the month because the church will be closed that day as we celebrate Juneteenth. We will meet at 1 PM in the lounge. Dale Minter will lead the discussion of Memphis by Tara M. Stringfellow.

Ladies' Night Out**Wednesday, June 26th, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Billy's!**

You are invited to join us this month at Billy's, located at 1301 H Street. Our prearranged price for family-style heavy appetizers will be \$17.00/per person, cost of drink and tip additional.

*Please RSVP to Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com / (937) 935-6858. We hope you can join us.

Westminster Welcome

Sunday, June 2, 2024

Have you ever wondered...

“What’s Session?”

“Where is the kitchen?”

“What is the vision of Westminster?”

“Why does membership matter?”



... Or a slew of other questions, you should join us for our next Westminster Welcome discussion in the Lounge Classroom. Westminster Welcome is a time of learning and conversation about Westminster with Pastor Chris and members. While our focus is on helping you know more and giving time for a Q&A, we will include a brief ‘no strings attached’ discussion about membership.

All are welcome to join us – those considering joining, curious visitors, and even long-time members.

Have questions or wish to let us know you’re coming, contact Pastor Chris (chris@westminsterlincoln.org). If you aren’t around that Sunday and are interested in joining with our next group of new members, please reach out to Chris! We anticipate welcoming new members on June 9th or 16th.

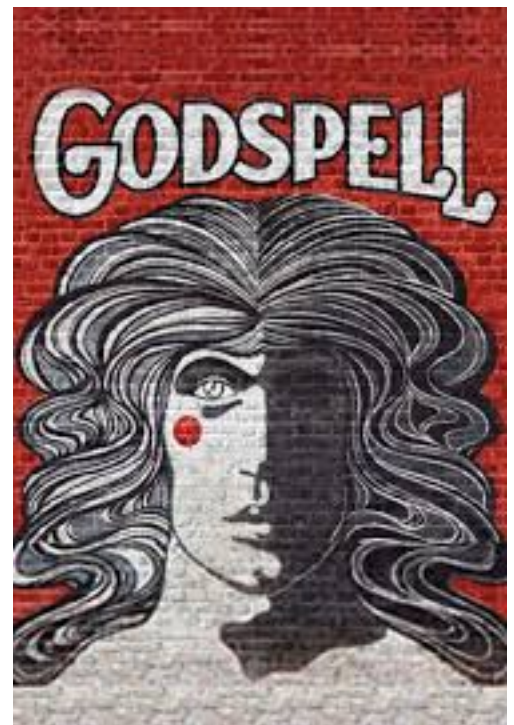
Adult Education in June

June 2 - Westminster Welcome led by Pastor Chris Peters

June 9 - Librarian Vicki Wood on censorship and intellectual freedom

June 16 - A&P will present a “town hall” regarding emerging issues with WPC security

June 23 and 30 - “Godspell: the Sources and the Scriptures” led by Pastor Jimmy Shelbourn



It's Not Too Late to Register for Summer Camp!

There is still time to register for summer camp! Come see why a week at Calvin Crest is the best week of the year! 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



General Assembly #226!

Our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (USA), gathers biennially in a General Assembly, this year online June 25-27 and in Salt Lake City June 30-July 4. 55 overtures from churches, presbyteries, and synods around the country will be considered first in committees and then by the whole assembly to guide the church in policy and practice for years to come. Two people from Homestead Presbytery will represent us as Commissioners, but many of the sessions and worship services will be accessible to the rest of us through live-streaming. Check out the schedule here: <https://ga-pcusa.org/schedule-of-events/> and access live-streaming here: <https://ga-pcusa.org/>

VBS 2024: Hero Hotline

Called together to serve God.

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

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

Youth Group Mission Trip - July 12-14

Register here to join our summer trek to see Esther, visit Worlds of Fun, and serve in Kansas City <https://forms.gle/XBSYfLAmziHpYoPn9>.

Synod School- July 22-26

Westminster Star City Shores Pool Party

August 8 (tentative) 6:30 PM-8:00 PM We will wrap up the summer with an all-church Pool Party at Star City Shores. Bring your family and friends to play in the pool.

Friends of Westminster:

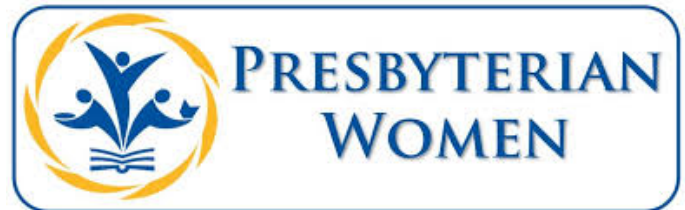
I want to express my thanks to Pastor Chris Peters for inviting me to preach for Gift of Women's Sunday and share time with each of you. It brought back so many wonderful memories of the work done, the grace bestowed, the friendships made and now to see the church doing so well warms my heart. Thanks for the reception and open house where I got to greet and hug so many dear folks. It was as though the clock turned back and we just got together again for a celebration!

Thanks to the Administrative Committee for hosting and each of you for your kind words for Wes and me. I will cherish my time with you always.

Blessings,
Val Putnam

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women work to further God's justice and God's peace in our troubled times. Being aware of significant concerns is a first step. Here are a few PW resources for building background and witness.



June 2024 Justice and Peace Calendar

- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) Pride Month; [archives.gov/news/topics/lgbt-pride-month](https://www.archives.gov/news/topics/lgbt-pride-month)

7 National Gun Violence Awareness Day; [wearorange.org](https://www.wearorange.org) or [nasponline.org/research-and-policy/policy-matters-blog/national-gun-violence-awareness-day](https://www.nasponline.org/research-and-policy/policy-matters-blog/national-gun-violence-awareness-day)

16 Father's Day; Presbyterian Men Sunday; [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/men](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/men)

19 Juneteenth; [presbyphl.org/what-is-juneteenth-resources-for-formation-education-and-gospel-witness](https://www.presbyphl.org/what-is-juneteenth-resources-for-formation-education-and-gospel-witness)

20 World Refugee Day; [un.org/en/observances/refugee-day](https://www.un.org/en/observances/refugee-day)

21 National Indigenous Peoples' Day; [presbyterianmission.org/story/celebrating-indigenous-peoples-day](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/celebrating-indigenous-peoples-day)

30 Immigration Sunday; [oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/immigration](https://www.oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/immigration)



Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd

Lincoln, NE 68502

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>.

Lincoln City Libraries Summer Reading Challenge Events

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM to 11:15 AM

Location: Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Fellowship Hall

June 4 – Edgerton Explorit Center

June 11 – Theater Arts for Kids

June 18 – Saltdogs

July 2 – Heavy Equipment Encounter

Held in the Parking Lot

July 9 – Wildlife Encounter

July 16 – Jeff Quinn, Magician



Update Regarding Our Annual Book Sale

After thoughtful consideration, we have decided that there will not be a Book Sale this year. Consequently, we will also not be accepting any book donations at this time. Our plans for the future are uncertain, so please watch for further announcements. Thank you for the unwavering support you have shown us over the years!