

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

June 23, 2024

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Bradley Greathouse, French Horn

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

***Call to Worship (Psalm 133: Common English Bible)**

Deacon Claire Titus

One: Look at how good and pleasing it is when siblings live together as one! It is like expensive oil poured over the head, running down onto the beard— Aaron's beard!— which extended over the collar of his robes.

All: It is like the dew on Mount Hermon, streaming down onto the mountains of Zion

One: Because it is there that the Lord has commanded the blessing:

All: The blessing of God is everlasting life!

***Hymn #268**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

Most merciful God, forgive us. We imagine that we can live without you, when you give us our very breath. We seek control over others rather than strive to live in unity. We allow fear to overtake us, even though our lives are in your hands. Draw us back into your steadfast love and shape us into the likeness of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Response to Confession #649 (verse 3)**

Amazing Grace

***Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.***

***'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.***

***Assurance of Forgiveness** Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

We pour water into the baptismal font at this time as a sign of our renewal in baptism and in confession. It is a visual reminder of the Nicene Creed's affirmation, "I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins," and Romans 5:5 that promises, "God's love is being poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit."

Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise #582 (verse 1)**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.***

***As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.***

***Passing of the Peace** Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Share a sign of welcome and inclusion (high five, handshake, fist/elbow bump) with your neighbors. We pass Christ's peace to one another and to those viewing on live stream.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures Psalm 133 O.T. pg. 575

Epistle Reading 2 Cor. 6:1-13 N.T. pg. 181

An "epistle" is a letter. In the New Testament there are 27 books total and 21 of those are letters/epistles by different authors to different communities.

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Sermon

“Grace Drives”

Rev. Chris Peters

*Hymn #701

Lord, Prepare Me (x4)

**Moment of Gratitude
Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Special Music

“The Gift of Love” arr. Lloyd Larson
(WPC Ladies Ensemble)

**Prayers of the People
The Lord’s Prayer**

Deacon Claire Titus

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

Bradley Greathouse, French Horn

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

Flowers are given in honor of the marriage of Melissa Schorr and Hayden Schuerman by Mark and Deb Schorr.

Westminster welcomes and values children in worship. All kids and their families are welcome to pick up a blue Children’s Worship Bag in the narthex (Sheridan Blvd. foyer). If a parent feels a break is needed for their child during the service, our **Infant Room** is available. This is at the north end of the Narthex.

Giving to Westminster's Mission and Ministry

At Church: An offering to support Westminster may be placed in our 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 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

Interim Music Director: Dr. Mary Young

Organist: John Ross

Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Greeters: Kathy Phillip & Stephan Biheng

Dishwashers: Megan & Jason Woita

Ushers: Suzanne Bartlett, Martha Kingsbury, April Douglas



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

The week of June 23, 2024

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

Many Sundays Pastor Chris stands before the church and says, “In the Presbyterian Church we believe our response to God’s grace is gratitude...” and we then celebrate something positive in the life of Westminster as our Moment of Gratitude. But what does the Bible have to say about God’s grace in Jesus Christ – this “thing” for which we’re supposed to be grateful? Grace is a central topic in the New Testament letter of Second Corinthians. Join us in June and early July for a series exploring The Nature of Grace and how it is given, grows, transforms, drives, inspires, and is sufficient in and for our lives!

Adult Education in June

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

July 7 – No Adult Ed

The following weeks in July, we will have an opportunity to hear from 3
members of the congregation, who will share their faith stories.

July 14 – Marijane England

July 21 – Karen Hoffman

July 28 – Claire Titus

Prairie Readers Date Change for June

Prairie Readers will meet Wed., June 26, at 1 PM in the Lounge. This is a week after our usual meeting on the third Wed. of the month, because the church will be closed that day as we celebrate Juneteenth. Dale Minter will lead the discussion of *Memphis* by Tara M. Stringfellow.

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!

Landscaping Needs at Westminster

This is a list of things that need to be done to beautify our church grounds. Could you pick an item to complete? Let Tom Pappas know.

Parking strip #1

- clip off dead peony blossom heads, go down to the shape of the plant - several inches. (Hand clippers and bucket.)
- The ash tree by the steps has suckers coming up from the base. With a hand clipper clip off suckers as low to the ground as possible.
- Shovel and sweep materials out of curb and back into planting area.

Rose beds

- All blooms are spent, even the best ones. Clip off every stem just above the first big leaf.
- Hand clippers and gloves.

Daisies

- There are spent daisies in several beds. Cut the blooms down to the crown.

Lower level by youth room

- In the lower bed there is mainly vinca and hostas - and tall prickly lettuce. Pull out the prickly lettuce and any other weeds.

Burning bush north of playground

- There's a dead spot facing north that needs to be cut out with a loopier.

Weeds in seams

- A string trimmer is a good way to take care of it without poison.

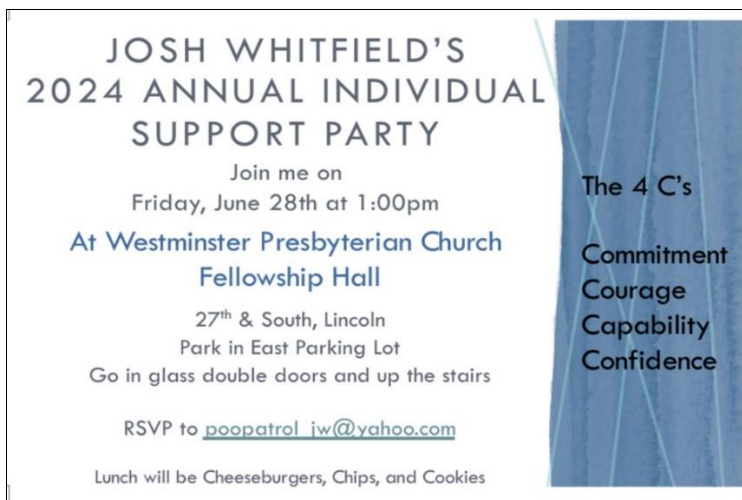
Youth Group: Kansas City/Branson Trip in July

The Youth Group will be taking a trip this summer! We will drive to Branson, Missouri to see the production of Esther at the Sight and Sound Theater, take a day to have fun at Worlds of Fun, and engage in a service project in Kansas City. The trip will run from Thursday night to Sunday night, July 11-13. Please register here

<https://forms.gle/63tH9HTG6WKGW3Vx5>.

Note: all youth must have a signed permission form to attend.

<https://shorturl.at/DPsrM>.



Individual Support Party Invite from Josh Whitfield

Belonging is a sense of fitting in or feeling like you are an important member of a group. You are important to me.

As part of the Welcoming Task Force and the upcoming conversations on Disability Awareness, I want to invite WPC members to stop by my Annual Individual Support Party and participate in my party. Lunch of Cheeseburgers, and more will be provided. **Please RSVP to poopatrol_jw@yahoo.com.**

Faith Village

To allow families to worship together over the summer, we are taking a break from Faith Village. We will continue to email weekly guides that include scriptures to read, questions to help generate discussion, and activities to help reinforce the lectionary lesson for the week. If you are interested in delving into a particular topic further, please let Trish know at trish@westminsterlincoln.org.

Lights Out! Green@Heart 2024 Campaign

Seems every family has one (usually mom or dad)—the person who reminds everyone else to “Turn out the lights!” when leaving a room. But that person doesn’t live in our church building. When lights are left burning in empty rooms at Westminster they are quite literally “burning” the fossil fuels that contribute to global warming. They are

also adding to the “Utilities” line item in our budget instead of items like “Children’s Ministry” or “Associate Pastor.”

So Westminster is starting a “Lights Out” campaign. Please—if you or your group members are finishing up in a classroom, meeting room, office—turn off the lights as you leave. Same for the lights in hallways if you’re leaving a part of the building that no one else is using. It may take a little while to learn where the light switches are, but we can do this!

Staff Schedules

Joanne, Office Manager, will be out of the office until June 24.

Week Beginning June 23

<p><u>Sun. (June 23)</u> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p> <p><u>Mon. (June 24)</u> 6 PM Session, Lounge</p> <p><u>Tues. (June 25)</u> 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Deacons, Lounge</p> <p><u>Wed. (June 26)</u> 1 PM Prairie Readers, Lounge 1:30 PM Heart & Hands, Library 5 PM Ladies’ Night Out, Billy’s</p>	<p><u>Thurs. (June 27)</u> 9 AM Friendship Home, FH 6:30 PM Summer Star City Sound Rehearsal, Sanctuary</p> <p><u>Fri. (June 28)</u> 1 PM Individual Support Planning meeting for Josh Whitfield, Fellowship Hall</p> <p><u>Sun. (June 30)</u> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Adult Ed, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>
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Worship services are available on-line at this link:

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

Televised Worship

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

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

joanne@westminsterlincoln.org

402-475-6702