



# THE MESSENGER

*November 2024*



## SUNDAY SERVICE

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 logo features the word "Practice" in a blue, cursive script font, positioned above the word "GRATITUDE" which is written in a bold, yellow, blocky font with a blue outline.

Westminster Friends,

As the leaves have turned and we move toward a cherished time in the year – a season of gratitude with Thanksgiving and a season of hope, peace, joy, and love with Advent and Christmas – I want to invite us to take stock of the good of our church community. Quite tangibly, I hope you will take 10 minutes to reflect on different areas of your life and how they bring you gratitude or joy, and make sure your church is included in that time! With that, here are some of my personal reflections from my own “taking stock” of the good at Westminster and in our impact far beyond 2110 Sheridan...

- This year I am grateful for images such as those on the cover of this month’s messenger, depicting a community of faith that rolls up our sleeves to help neighbors in-need.
  - I am grateful for a community that worships with joy on Sundays while also providing community for children and youth on Wednesdays and through new initiatives for them such as this summer’s mission and connecting trip to Kansas City and Branson.
  - I am grateful for meals shared on Sundays and Tuesdays and with members by appointment, times to more personally reflect on our mission and service. I like getting to know you!
  - I am grateful for the good of those among us and those who have gone before who have given to the Westminster Foundation, which has allows projects such as the Service of Service II, our upcoming special speaker event with Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow and the provision of free copies of his book to our members, remodeling of our youth rooms, extensive safety and welcoming work on our parking lot and other areas, and more! Generous giving toward endowments and general funds at the Foundation helps shore up the foundation of our church for the long term.
  - I am grateful for those who show care to my family week-to-week, and I pray that all children are welcomed at Westminster with the same grace, enthusiasm, and care as my own.
  - Speaking of, I am grateful for the five(!) infant/child baptisms we will celebrate in November and early December. We are called in this moment, in these months, to better and more intentionally welcome these families in our midst - not just for milestones - but for the everyday journey of life together in faith.
  - I am grateful for our Elders, Deacons, and Foundation Board – leaders who help us to consider the future of our church. For those serving on our “Financial Futures” small groups – focusing on both financial sustainability and missional direction – thank you!
  - I am grateful for our church staff, and the staff we pray God will guide our way in the future. I am often humbled by the generosity, creativity, and enjoyable personalities of our staff. I am grateful to work alongside them, and for their advocacy, in my role as Head of Staff.
- After taking minute to take stock, I could go on and on – this is the tip of my own 2024 gratitude iceberg! As our 2025 Stewardship campaign launches Sunday, November 3rd and culminates with Commitment Sunday on Sunday, December 8th, I want to simply say that I am grateful - grateful for our Westminster community and for the grace of God who guides us!

With Gratitude,  
Pastor Chris

**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, 402-310-4212.

**Lunch Bunch | Greg's Drive-In | Tuesday, November 5, 11:30 AM**

Lunch Bunch will meet at Greg's Drive-In, 1202 N Cotner Blvd, on Tues., Nov. 5, at 11:30 a.m. At Greg's you order and pay at the counter and the food is brought to your table. Good food, airplane decor, nice staff. It will be fun! Please RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at 402-290-5888 or jimkinkennon@gmail.com so we have an accurate count. See you there!

**Faith and Cancer Support Group | Tuesday, November 19 | Library at 7 PM**

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, November 20 | Lounge at 1 PM**

Prairie Readers will meet November 20 at 1 PM in the Lounge. This is an important meeting! Plan to attend and be prepared to nominate a book for 2025 reading season. Even if you do not have a favorite book to suggest, we need your input as we select next year's reading list.

**Ladies' Night Out | Thursday, November 21 | 5 – 7 PM at Tico's**

You are invited to join us this month at Tico's 317 South 17th Street. Feel free to bring a friend to this iconic Lincoln hang-out! We want to have a seat at our table for you, so please RSVP by Monday, November 18th to Robyn Uebele at robynu2@hotmail.com. Or text or call Robyn at 937-935-6858.

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## Saturday, November 9

Community-Wide Event featuring Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow

9:30 AM Registration

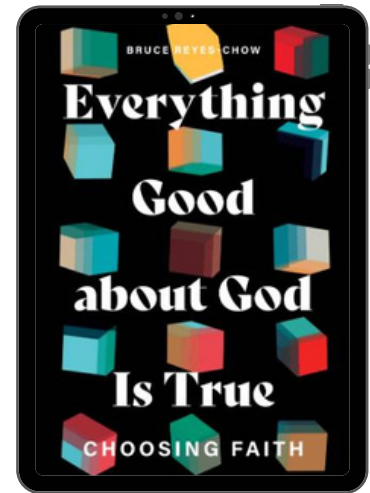
10 AM – 2 PM Keynotes, Q&A, and Lunch

## Sunday, November 10

9:30 AM Worship at Westminster, Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow Preaching

10:45 AM Education Hour: Faith Montages & Everyday Conversations

Led by Rev. Reyes-Chow



## Communion Schedule Note

Communion will be held one more time in 2024, on Sunday, November 24th, in celebration of Reign of Christ / Christ the King Sunday. This scheduling was approved by Session in accordance with Book of Order guidelines. Did you know... the PC(USA) Book of Order requires a minimum of quarterly communion celebrations for our congregations, though many are like Westminster and celebrate roughly once-a-month?

## Youth Group Mission Baked Goods Auction

**December 8 | 10:30 AM**

The season of expectation and giving is coming soon, bringing with it opportunities to spread good cheer with unexpected gifts. The Youth Group will again sponsor a baked goods auction at the Advent Workshop again this year to support various mission initiatives throughout the year, including the annual Angel Tree gifts. We are calling for our talented and creative bakers to donate something special to the cause. Cakes, pies, brownies, bars, breads, or anything you would like to make is welcome. Contact Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org) or complete this form <https://forms.gle/dB5fyxjm2Tna6fr58>. Please indicate ingredients if possible. Master creations can be delivered between 10-2 on Friday or on Sunday morning before the service.

## Pie and Fellowship

**November 20 | 6:00 PM**

Treat your taste buds and kick off the holidays with this culinary cornucopia. We will start by sharing a special meal of delectable soups before moving on to dessert. We invite you to bring your favorite pie to share and sample the wonderful desserts brought by other families! We will provide whipped topping.

If possible, please RSVP to Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org) or 402-570-0163 to give our chefs an idea of how much food to make.

## All Saints' Day | Friday Nov. 1, 2024

For all the saints, who from their labors rest . . .

We remember the following people who have died since All Saints' Day 2023:

Sushil Lacy, Carol Jean Glenn, Sandy Yates, Don Waltemath, Bill Browne, Jr., Ginger Nissen, Dal Ronnau, Allen Wachter, Wayne Beams, Bob Fredrickson, Jim Nissen, Michael Gregg, Marge Wilnes, Dixie Strauss, Barbara Dinsdale

## Announcing...Our Youth Room Renovation!

After much planning and preparation over the last few months, the Youth Room is going through a renovation! This was made possible through the Nissen Fund (Westminster Foundation). We are so grateful for this generous donation to enable us to move forward with this project.

Through the renovation, the Youth Room will have new flooring installed as well as a fresh coat of paint to brighten the space. We want to ensure that when our youth and guests gather, they experience a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

We need your help! We are looking to add new games, storage options, and other kitchen appliances/accessories to our new space. Please check out our Amazon wish list below for items that would enhance the experience for our youth.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/188AzYY?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/188AzYY?ref=wl_share)

Items can be delivered directly to the church (c/o Trish Souliere), or dropped off at the front desk.

We look forward to keeping you up to date on our progress over the next few weeks. Thank you for your support!

Also, a big thank you to Brooke and Matt Larson with Change House Renovations for their expertise and coordination on this meaningful project.

Blessings,

Children, Youth and Families Committee



Help us upgrade our youth room by checking out our amazon wishlist

# Westminster Preschool

November 2024

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

Preschool has been learning all things leaves and trees. We're starting to get ready for Halloween and Fire Safety Week. Lincoln Fire Department is even going to come and visit our preschool to help us learn what to do in a fire.





## UPCOMING DATES

**Oct. 30th and 31st**  
Costume Parade

**Oct. 30th**  
Westminster Spooktacular

**Nov. 5th**  
No School!

**Nov. 6th**  
Fire Truck Visit  
9:30-10:30

**Nov. 15th**  
End of Cookie Fundraiser

**Nov. 27th-29th**  
Closed for Thanksgiving

### Holiday of Trees

The Heritage League is holding their annual Holiday of Trees on Wed., Dec. 4 and Thurs., Dec. 5 at Westminster. The hours are 10 am to 7 pm on Wed., and 10 am to 4 pm on Thurs. The admission is a donation at the door. Proceeds will go to Cedar's Carriage House Shelter for pregnant and parenting teens facing homelessness. Come and see the beautifully decorated trees and enjoy some coffee and treats!



## GREEN @HEART

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Contact Laurel to learn how to get involved: lbvanham@gmail.com

### Green Hearts

#### Hungry?

Westminster's church-wide study of environmental justice continues with a focus on Food Justice. It has become common knowledge that the earth can produce enough food to feed the world's population. Yet one of every eleven people goes to bed hungry every day. The problem of hunger is caused by poor distribution of power and wealth. (Presbyterian Women's study "Let Justice Roll Down.")

Our action for November is to LEARN and to DO. Check out Bread for the World <https://www.bread.org/hunger-explained/>

#### **Hunger Explained | Bread for the World**

Learn some of the most common myths about hunger, why we're motivated to end it, and what it's going to take to eradicate hunger around the world.

[www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)

to LEARN a lot about world hunger—and ways to solve it. And then take advantage of many opportunities right here at Westminster to DO something—buy Fair Trade the first Sunday of each month, serve at Matt Talbot or The Gathering Place, or give to the Food Pantry which always needs canned fruit, pork and beans, tuna, and cereal.

#### **W3 Welcome to Wednesdays at WPC**

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 6:00-8:00 PM.

#### **Sunday Morning Faith Village**

Children from kindergarten to 5th grade are invited to join us in Faith Village for an in-depth look at a story from the Bible. We play games, make crafts, cook, perform science experiments and more. All children are welcome!

#### **Advent Workshop**

##### **December 8 | 10:30 AM**

Advent, the beautiful season of candlelight, reflection and expectation, is just around the corner. Advent, which means "coming" or "arrival", is a time of joyful anticipation while we wait for the birth of Jesus. We invite you to dive into the holiday season with your Westminster family at the Advent Workshop. We will gather in Fellowship Hall on the second Sunday of Advent, immediately after church for cookies, chili, crafts and more. The fierce competition for the coveted Silver Ladle continues, along with the Youth Mission Baked Goods Auction, sponsored by the Westminster Youth Group.



Westminster  
Presbyterian Church  
2110 Sheridan Blvd  
Lincoln, NE 68502

### Knitted-Crocheted-Blessed-Delivered

We are grateful for the work of Hearts and Hands this past year to knit and crochet items to be donated to People's City Mission. The yearly count taken in October: Scarves-45, Hats-57, Shawls-3, Bears-44, Children's hats-4, Children's hat/scarf sets-2, Blankets-3, Bibs-1. Items were blessed during worship on Oct. 13, and delivered to People's City Mission the next day. Those participating include: Francy Scheele, Dorrie Gage, Jeanne Atkinson, Suzy Giannoble, Cathy Hershberger, Donna Wyatt, Marilyn Maude, Dorothy Smiley and Linnea Fredrickson. They are always eager to welcome new members to their group.



### Position Open at Westminster

Westminster is looking for a part-time Communication and Administration Coordinator—22 hrs./wk. The position description is on the website—[westminsterlincoln.org](http://westminsterlincoln.org). To apply: Send cover letter and resume to [office@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:office@westminsterlincoln.org).

