

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## The Messenger

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*"Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land." Song of Songs 2:12*

### Sunday Service

We welcome you to Worship in the Sanctuary with us on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. and/or worship virtually with us on our YouTube channel at <https://westminsterlincoln.org/youtube-videos>



(402) 475-6702



2110 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68502

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JUNE 2026

VOLUME 96 ISSUE 6

## Congratulations Class of 2026!

**Aspen Hemmerling** is graduating from Lincoln North Star High School. While in high school, she was involved in National Honors Society, the Environmental Club and was President of the Lincoln North Star Theater. She earned an Academic Letter and two Academic Pins, and was recognized for Honor Roll with Highest Distinction for each semester of high school. She has been accepted into the Honors Program at the University of Nebraska where she intends to double major in Environmental Science and Physics. Aspen is the daughter of Kent and Jaime Hemmerling.



**Charlee Jeys** is graduating from Lincoln High School. Following graduation, she plans to begin her higher education at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln with a concentration in pre-medicine to build a strong scientific foundation for her future career. After completing her studies at UNL, Charlee plans to transfer to the University of Nebraska Medical Center to continue her clinical training and work toward her goal of becoming a licensed dental hygienist. She is the daughter of Leasha Owens and Mike Jeys

**Porter Woita** is graduating from Lincoln Southeast High School. During high school, he was a member of the LSE Boys Golf Team and spent several years racing go-carts at Hastings Motorsports Park before transitioning to racing a Mazda Spec Miata in the High Plains Race Circuit in eastern Colorado. Porter also works part time for the family business, Woita Homes. Following graduation, he plans to attend the University of Nebraska–Lincoln College of Business and pursue a career in the residential construction industry. He is the son of Jason and Megan Woita.



**Haidyn Case** is graduating from Lincoln High School, where she participated in volleyball during her high school years. Following graduation, she plans to attend the College of Hair Design to study cosmetology and pursue her goal of becoming a hairdresser. She is the daughter of Heidi and Chad Case.

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**Zane Rehfeldt** is graduating from Lincoln High School. Following graduation, he plans to attend Iowa Western Community College to pursue a professional certification in Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC). Through this training, Zane hopes to gain the technical knowledge and hands-on experience needed to build a successful career in the skilled trades. He is the son of Crystal Rehfeldt.

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**Brenna Stephen** is graduating from Lincoln Northeast High School. Following graduation, she plans to attend the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, where she will pursue a double major in advertising and sports media and communication. Brenna is also passionate about music and plans to audition for the Cornhusker Marching Band. She is the daughter of Erin and Brian Stephen.

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**Spencer Stephen** is graduating from Lincoln Northeast High School, where he participated in marching band and wind ensemble throughout all four years of high school. He also played football during his freshman year and was a member of the baseball team for all four years. Following graduation, Spencer plans to attend University of Nebraska–Lincoln to study construction engineering. He is the son of Erin and Brian Stephen

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*Congratulations!*

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

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## Upcoming Events and Important Dates

### Justice & Peace Calendar – June

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) Pride Month; [loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/about](http://loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/about)

**05** National Gun Violence Awareness Day; [wearorange.org](http://wearorange.org)

**07** Intercultural Church Sunday; [pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministryareas/intercultural-ministries-support](http://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministryareas/intercultural-ministries-support)

**19** Juneteenth; [pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministryareas/interculturalministries-support/african-american-intercultural-support](http://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministryareas/interculturalministries-support/african-american-intercultural-support)

**20** World Refugee Day; [pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/migration-accompaniment-ministry/world-refugee-day](http://pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/migration-accompaniment-ministry/world-refugee-day)

**21** Father's Day

### Adult Ed Series for June:

*Adult Ed meets in the Lounge at 11:15 a.m. on Sundays*

**June 7** – Dr. Jonathan Redding (UNL) will speak on the “Christian” Nationalist movement

**June 14** – Rev. Jimmy Shelbourn will present “Honest With Genesis and a critique of so called “Creationism”

**June 21** – Shane Tucker from NE Highway Paleontology will present on salvaging natural scientific history in the midst of highway construction

### Explorers Bible Study

Explorers Bible Study will take a break for the summer. We will resume the Monday after Labor Day, September 14.

### Faith & Cancer Support Group | Tuesday, June 16 | 10:00 AM | Church Library

### Hearts and Hands | Library | Wednesdays 1 – 3 PM

Hearts and 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 Dorrie Gage at 402-730-9676

### Lunch Bunch | Tuesday, June 2 | 11:30 a.m. | Toast

Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, June 2, 11:30 A.M., at Toast, 570 Fallbrook Blvd. RSVP to [jimkinkennon@gmail.com](mailto:jimkinkennon@gmail.com) or text 402-290-5888

### Arts and Crafts Show June 6–7

Come see the wide variety of talent in our church family. Put this show on your calendar as a Must See thing to do! On Saturday, June 6, hours are from 4:30pm to 7:00pm with refreshments while you browse through the Fellowship Hall in wonder. On Sunday, the doors will open about 8:30am until noon. Come early before Services or stay afterwards to view the show.

### Prairie Readers | Wednesday, June 17 | 1:00 PM

Prairie Readers will meet in the lounge at 1 PM on June 17. Martha VanSickle will lead the discussion of *Life of Pi*, a winner of the Man Booker Prize. This classic is sure to stimulate a vigorous discussion. Come and join us.

### Ladies Night Out | Tuesday, June 30 | 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. | Billy's Restaurant

We will be gathering Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM; at [Billy's Restaurant](#), 1301 H St. We have a prearranged price of \$17/person, additional cost for drink, tax, and tip. Nader prepares an assortment of dishes for our group served family style. You are welcome to order off their menu to suit your tastes and dietary needs. We hope to see you there!

### Save the Date: Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build

On Saturday, June 13, 2026, Westminster will live out its mission to expand our lives in faith, connect people deeply, and make a difference through service by hosting a community bed build in partnership with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a nonprofit driven by a simple but powerful mission: “No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town.” On this day, Westminster volunteers will work side-by-side in our church parking lot from 9:00 AM–1:00 PM to build 20 beds for children in the Lincoln community who currently do not have beds of their own. All tools, materials, and safety equipment will be provided, and a bedding drive will be held in conjunction with the build to help ensure each child receives a fully furnished bed. Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are welcome, and no prior experience is required. Volunteer registration will open in May 18, 2026. To signup: Contact: Paul Korslund ([paulkorslund@gmail.com](mailto:paulkorslund@gmail.com)) or Gary Haller ([garyhaller70@att.net](mailto:garyhaller70@att.net)) Please save the date and plan to be part of this meaningful day of service.

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## 100 Year Look Back at the Westminster Building

The Sanctuary at Sheridan and South was completed in 1926, then the installation of the beautiful stained-glass windows were completed towards the end of the 1930's and the Chapel and the Education wing were finished by 1951. Even though the building expanded, space was at a premium as the church staff were crowded behind and below the Sanctuary. The Session decided something had to be done to improve the accommodations for staff. A committee was formed to determine the needs of our church. After many various discussions with personnel and church groups, a list of needs and a wish list of wants was created.

In 1969, the Session signed a contract with Architect Hal C Whitmore and professional campaign fund firm, Kirby-Smith and Associates. The Architect submitted many different plans that also included items from the bigger Wishlist and Kirby-Smith started a fundraising campaign. Final architectural drawings were presented February 15, 1970, but in May they reduced the plans due to not reaching the campaign goal set at the beginning of the project. The plans were drawn for: A three story structure for clergy and supportive staff along with meeting rooms, library, and an activities level for youth; add a set of stairs to the south side of the choir loft; add a covered stairway north of the narthex to the east parking lot (named Memory Lane) and another set of covered stairs south of the Sanctuary to go towards the east parking lot; steps from the kitchen to the Sanctuary; remodeling the kitchen; redesign the west front steps to include a platform. The construction groundbreaking ceremony took place at the end of 1970. That winter, the weather was cold and wet delaying progress on the new building. Then the church boiler needed replaced and the whole Sanctuary and Educational wing needed a new roof. However, funding was found to take care of the issues and the new building project was not affected.

In the 1971 Annual report, it was reported the Church Cornerstone was moved when the new front steps were done. We are still looking for where the Cornerstone was relocated!

The kitchen remodel was completed March 1972 followed by the choir loft steps; completed by April 16, 1972 the covered walkways connecting space from the Sanctuary to the new administrative building named

the Garden Room. An Open House was held on June 11 and the first Session meeting was held in the conference room on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Staff moved into their new offices on June 30 and the building was dedicated during the church service on September 17, 1972.



## Church Highlights from May



Ladies Night out at L's Kitchen. Sixteen women were able to join last month!

The first Fork and Friends event- this group gathered at the Hershberger's home.



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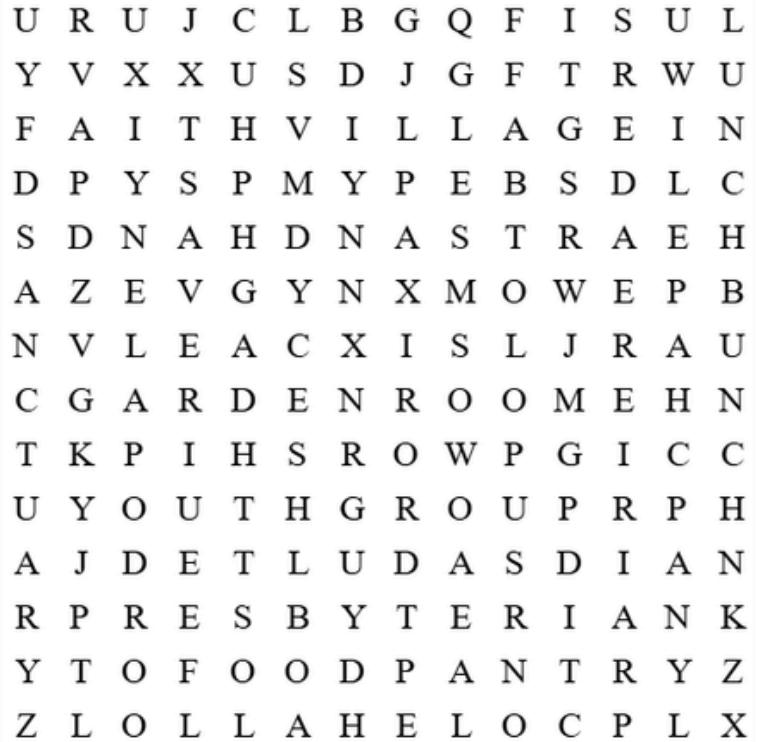
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## Kid's Corner



### Words to Find:

- sanctuary
- worship
- westminster
- lunch bunch
- hearts and hands
- prairie readers
- adult ed
- food pantry
- youth group
- faith village
- cole hall
- chapel
- garden room
- presbyterian



## SUMMER BUCKET LIST

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coloringbunny.com



# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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## Youth News

### Summer Camp

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.

**June 5-7** Explorer Camp

**June 7-12** Junior Camp 4th/6th  
Jr. Ranch Camp

**June 14-19** Junior Camp 4th/6<sup>th</sup> - RC Cars, Archery,  
Horses, Ukulele

Jr. High Camp 6th/8th Grades - Ukulele,  
Rocketry, Horses

Explorer Camp 1st/2nd with adult

**June 20-21** Family Camp

**June 21-26** Jr.High Camp 6th/8th Grades  
Jr.High Ranch Camp

**June 28-July 4** Middler Camp 4th/6th  
Sr. High Work Camp

For more information or to register for camp, check the Calvin Crest website <https://calvincrest.org>.

### Youth Group Mission Trip | June 18-21

We're excited to invite you to register for our upcoming summer trek! Join us as we travel to Kansas City to serve together, and then experience the powerful Great Passion Play in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

The anticipated cost is \$350 per person.

To secure your spot, please complete the registration form here:

<https://forms.gle/17WtrQMBmXvnMfGp7>

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org) or call 402-570-0163. We hope you'll join us for this meaningful and memorable journey.

### Summer VBS: Roadtrip! | July 13-17

VBS is back and we are hitting the road! Get ready to buckle up for an incredible journey! This summer, kids are invited to join us for Roadtrip!, our fun-filled Vacation Bible School adventure from July 14-18. We're taking off for a week packed with high-octane excitement as we explore the amazing destinations God has planned for our lives. Embark on an exciting journey with Road Trip VBS, based on Joshua 1:9 - "The LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together.

Every day will be a new stop on our journey, featuring engaging Bible stories, spirited worship music, hands-on crafts, hilarious games, and tasty treats, all designed to help children from 4 years through 5th Grade discover that following Jesus is the greatest adventure of all!

#### Event Details

- When? Monday, July 13 - Friday, July 17
- Time? 9:00 AM-12:30 PM (Daily)
- Who? Children 4 years-5th grade
- Cost? \$15 per child, maximum \$45 per family

#### What to Expect on Our Roadtrip:

- Fueling Up: Energetic opening and closing rallies complete with singing and cheers!
- Pit Stops: Small group time where kids connect with leaders and friends.
- Scenic Routes: Creative Bible lessons that teach kids about God's love.
- Roadside Attractions: Fun-filled games and crafts!

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

### Youth Group: Service at Matt Talbot | Sunday, July 19

On July 19, the WPC Youth Group and their families are invited to help serve at Matt Talbot. We need volunteers to assist with cooking, serving, and clean-up for dinner for 100-130 people. Cooks should arrive around 3:30 p.m., those who are serving arrive around 4:45 p.m. After dinner, volunteers clean the kitchen, wash dishes, and sweep the floor, usually finishing around 7 p.m. If you are willing to help with this service, please sign-up at

<https://forms.gle/DQdHRLmT3bK86x2D9>.

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Westminster  
Presbyterian Church  
2110 Sheridan Blvd  
Lincoln, NE 68502

## Youth News cntd

### VBS is coming soon and we could use your help!

If you would like to donate snacks to stock the volunteer break room, 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. As additional supply needs arise, we will be adding to this list. If you have any questions, please contact Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org) or 402-570-0163.

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 here <https://bit.ly/4v6aSOS>

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 July 13-17, 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 a child, it's even more fun as a volunteer.

Please sign up here: <https://westminster-goodshepherd.mycokesburyvbs.com/> and if you have any questions, please contact Trish at [trish@westminsterlincoln.org](mailto:trish@westminsterlincoln.org).

