

Westminster Presbyterian Church

1285 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

319-366-7185

319-366-7187 (Fax)

www.crwpc.org

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Worship Times

Sunday

8:00 a.m. traditional service in the Chapel

9:00 a.m. contemporary service in the Family Life Center

11:00 a.m. traditional service in the Sanctuary

Communion is served on the first weekend of each month.

Head of Staff, Rev. Dr. Katie Hopper: revdrkatie@crwpc.org

Associate Pastor Jim Langley: jlangley@crwpc.org

Director of Christian Education, A.J. Plummer: cedirector@crwpc.org

Director of Student Ministries, Stan Letscher: studentministries@crwpc.org

Finance Manager, Larry Bachman: lbachman@crwpc.org

Church Secretary, Christina Anderson: westmin@crwpc.org



November 2011

Issue 11



THOUGHTS FROM THE HEART OF PASTOR KATIE

Dedication Sunday is fast approaching. Stewardship is one of those potential flag words that supposedly is used only during this time of the church year. And sometimes it may not sound as friendly or accommodating as other words such as discipleship, spiritual life, thanks-living, or thanksgiving. So please find below the following memo from God. It speaks to having God's attitude and understanding God's economy and will for our lives when it comes to giving of ourselves and out of what we have:

Dear Members of Westminster: I am God. Today, I will be handling all of your problems. Please remember that I do not necessarily need your help but still expect it as a witness to my Son through you to the world. So if life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it alone. Kindly put in the SFGTD ("something for God to do") box. It will be addressed in my time, not yours, but also, once it is placed in my box, you do not have to hold on to it anymore. Think also about these things:

-- If you find yourself stuck in traffic, don't despair; there are people in this world and in your own community for whom driving is either an unheard of or a lost privilege;

-- Should you have a bad day at work, think of the man or woman who has been out of work for weeks, months, or even years;

-- Should you despair over a relationship gone bad, think of the person who has never known what it's like to love and be loved in return;

-- Should you grieve the passing of another weekend, think of the woman or man in dire straits, working over twelve hours a day, seven days a week in several jobs to feed her or his children;

-- Should you fret about your church's needs and My call for sacrificial giving, remember that I and my Son would not be asking if we had not already blessed you first in order to be a blessing of Christ for others;

-- Should your car break down, leaving you miles away from assistance, think of the paraplegic or nursing home resident who would love the opportunity to take that walk;

-- Should you notice another gray hair in the mirror, think of the cancer patient in chemo who wishes she or he had hair to examine;

-- Should you find yourself at a loss and pondering what life is all about, asking, "What is my purpose?", be thankful, for there are those who didn't live long enough to get the opportunity to ask that same question;

Should you find yourself the victim of other people's bitterness, ignorance, smallness, or insecurities, remember, things could be worse – you could be them!

So, may I count on you to help me help others in the coming year out of the blessings I have already given through my Son? Love, God – Romans 14:7-9

Lovingly,

Pastor Katie

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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1285 Third Avenue South East

Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403-4084

A MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION

THE VOICE OF WESTMINSTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Non-Profit Org.
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Iowa
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JOTTINGS FROM PASTOR JIM

I was talking recently with an old high school friend and somehow we got on the topic of moving and how hard it can be to start over in a new place. She'd been born and raised in Minnesota and, until a couple of years ago, had always lived within about 50 miles of the hospital she was born in. But then she took a new job in a different part of the country. And it was culture shock for her.

One of the hardest things was that the people weren't as friendly as she was used to. They didn't have the Midwestern values and work ethic she was used to. Plus, her speech and manner of dress were different. Her politics and beliefs were different. And because of it, it was hard for her to make friends and break in with her new colleagues. She spent a long time feeling alone and rejected.

Now, she could have reacted with anger and rejected them as well, but instead, she prayed each day that God would bless them. She modeled a faith that embraces the stranger, that welcomes the "other", that doesn't run from difference. Each day she returned every stare with a smile. She let herself be vulnerable by starting conversations with others, knowing they might not respond in kind. She was patient and made every effort to embrace people in spite of their differences. It took time, but slowly the barriers came down. Acquaintances grew into friendships. And friendships grew into loving caring relationships.

Where there is prayer, love, generosity and patience, Jesus Christ accomplishes great things...often in us and through us. God blesses us with the capacity to share ourselves – our gifts, our energy, our financial and spiritual resources – with others, as we are meant to do. And as we do, we break down barriers and build up relationships.

What would it mean for our ministry here in Wellington Heights and in the broader Cedar Rapids community if we returned every stare with a smile, if we made ourselves vulnerable by inviting people to get to know who we really are and took the time to get to know them, if we started conversations with others and allowed the love of Christ to flow through us? As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, my prayer is that we will each take time to give thanks to God for the blessings we have received and that out of this blessing we will model a faith that embraces the outsider and welcomes the stranger.

Peace!
Pastor Jim

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

We will be honoring the memory of our church's Saints on November the 6th with our annual Remembrance Sunday worship. We will light candles for each member that entered our Father's House in the past 12 months. We will also light a candle for all those that were not members, but were our precious family or friends that also entered our Father's House. Please join us for this touching celebration of Communion of the Saints and what Pastor Katie likes to call "the balcony people."

DEDICATION SUNDAY

Pastor Katie will be preaching on a theme entitled "Come Before Winter" for our Dedication Sunday, November 13th worship this year. We will each have an opportunity to come forward and place our tithe in a basket during the singing of "Bringing in the Sheaves." Pledge cards will be inserted in the bulletin in case you forget to bring yours along. But pray in advance about what God is calling you to commit to the ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR NOVEMBER 2011

8:00 a.m. Greeters/Usher

November 6 Jack & Nancy Haney
November 13 Don & Sherryl Hoepfner
November 20 Ruth Nash & Darwin Busch
November 27 Jim & Sue Patterson

9:00 a.m. Greeters/Ushers

November 6 Trent & Wendy Marnier
November 13 Kelly Cabbage & Terry Tiede
November 20 Emily Snow & Katie Carfizzi
November 27 Rich & Connie Ripley

11:00 a.m. Head Usher

Scott Olson

11:00 a.m. Greeters

November 6 Herb & Carm Hammerberg
November 13 Kent Steenblock & Debra Salz
November 20 Betty VanFossen & Luman Colton
November 27 Janet Shaff & Judith Schoff

11:00 a.m. Ushers

November 6 Dick Trotter, Betty VanFossen, Velma Kintzel, Jim & Cheryl Shanklin
November 13 Jean Kenison, Flora Kitzman, Laura Koontz, Berta Mullin, Eileen Naber
November 20 David Basler, Bruce Crawford, Dee Davis, Chuck & Mary Jo Crull
November 27 Claudia Warfel, Dale Weiske, Bill Wilding, Mike & Nancy Walker

Offering Stewards

November 6 Doug Wagner & David Basler
November 7 Ed Brunsting
November 13 David Basler & Tim Stolba
November 14 Connie Hayes
November 20 Brian Cosgrove & Laurie Mead
November 21 Pat Teig
November 27 Larry Cooper & David Jiruska
November 28 Connie Hayes

Nursery Volunteers

9:00 a.m.
November 6 Tricia Brown
November 13 Kim Langley
November 20 Katie Carfizzi
November 27 Jacqueline Fashimpaur

10:00 a.m.

November 6 Andrea Schoenbeck
November 13 TBA
November 20 Alisa Shields
November 27 Shelley Teberg

11:00 a.m.

November 6 Matt Shanklin
November 13 Jenna Teberg
November 20 Bill Wilding
November 27 Luran Zimmermann

Computer at 9:00 Service

November 6 Jacob Alff
November 13 Brad Lock
November 20 James Bruce
November 27 John Carver

Liturgist

November 6 Rich Ripley
November 13 Tony Huebsch
November 20 Lemi Tilahun
November 27 Marcia Elhart

Handicap Host / Flower Delivery

November 6 Tim Winegarden
November 13 Vicki Owens
November 20 Bryan Dowd
November 27 Emily Fisher

Coffee Hosts

November 6 Dale Weiske & Janet Shaff
November 13 Bryan & Nancy Hawkins
November 20 Tamene Gelashe & David Marnier
November 27 Dick Trotter & Fran Hanzel Johnson

9:00 a.m. Communion Servers

Doug Wagner, Kirk Lampe, Katie Carfizzi, Jenna Alff

11:00 a.m. Communion Servers

Jim Sankey, Tom Read, Pat Teig, Tim & Sue Winegarden, Butch Hataway, Marion Engel, Mike Zimmermann, Luman Colton

Communion Prep

Ruth Nash, Jerry Hewitt, Carm Hammerberg

Communion Clean Up

Sara Vancura, Cheanne Cosgrove, Gingie Hunstad

STUDENT MINISTRIES NEWS

Confirmation Class

Confirmation continues to meet in Classroom 3 downstairs on Sunday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Topics for discussion for the month of November include: Is believing in Jesus the only way to get to heaven?; If there is only one God, why are there so many different religions?; Why do Christians believe Christianity is the best religion?; and Why are there so many different Christian churches? A special mission event is planned for confirmation students on Saturday, November 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Students are asked to meet at the church as we will be walking over to His Hands Free Medical Clinic to decorate their office for the holidays. We will be done by noon and students can be picked up by their parents.

Emmaus

Senior High Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings in the Youth Room from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. We are currently looking at the top 13 questions that are asked about God. The following are questions we will be looking at during the month of November during Sunday School: What Happened when Jesus died on the cross and was resurrected?; What is salvation all about?; Why Would a loving God send people to hell? On Sunday November 6th we will continue our journey as we pursue getting to know Jesus more as we learn about drawing closer to him. We will be taking a look at Jesus and some of the parables he shared. On Sunday November 13th, we will be doing a combined event with the middle school students. Weather permitting, we will be visiting the home of Gary & Vicki Owens from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for a hayride and bonfire. If you plan to attend, please let Stan know as soon as possible. In case of bad weather, please bring \$10 as we will plan to go bowling if we don't do the hayride & bonfire. On Sunday November 20th, Jackie Alff will be leading Emmaus. On Sunday November 27th, we will be hosting our annual Turkey Bowl. We will meet at church and then head over to the Coe Football field to throw a turkey around and have some fun, so be sure to invite your friends.

EnterActive

Students in grades 6th thru 8th, please join us on Wednesday evenings in November. On November 2nd, we will finish our series on the theme of Worship as we discuss the importance of bread & wine, which Jesus gave to us, showing us how it is based around the Last Supper and is, as we celebrate it, a meal not just for us but for the whole world. We will also be doing a three week series entitled Lord of the Kings which is based off the books and movies of The Lord of the Rings. On Sunday November 13th, the middle school students will be doing a combined event with the high school students. Weather permitting, we will be visiting the home of Gary & Vicki Owens from 6-8pm for a hayride and bonfire. If you plan to attend, please let Stan know as soon as possible. In case of bad weather, please bring \$10 as we will plan to go bowling if we don't do the hayride & bonfire.

Youth Commitment Sunday

YCS is coming up on Sunday, November 20th! If you donated money for the trip this past summer, on behalf of the students, I thank you. Please be thinking about how you can support the two trips that will be taking place next summer in June & July of 2012. More information about the trips will be presented on Youth

"COLLEGE AGE" DINNER WITH PASTOR KATIE

We would like to invite any and all college aged individuals to a once a month gathering with Pastor Katie at a local eatery to fellowship and plan other fun or inspirational outings. We will meet Tuesday, November 29th at 9:00 p.m. at Ruby Tuesdays. If you need a ride, please contact Pastor Katie or the Church Office.



CHURCH CHATTER FOR CHILDREN

Mr. A.J.'s \$5 Footlong Challenge

Each Sunday, our kids will have the opportunity to show off their bible memory skills AND work towards a lunch visit with Mr. A.J. On Sundays during opening time, there will be a moment when kids can share the bible verse/passage that they have been working on memorizing. Each time they demonstrate a mastery of the verse by memory, they will earn a Subway sub marker to put next to their name on the \$5 Footlong poster. Once your child racks up 5 of the subs, they will be eligible to schedule a lunch visit with Mr. A.J. who will provide one \$5 footlong for the two to share while the child takes their normal school lunch (the date will be at each parent's discretion). A.J. will contact a parent once your child has earned their \$5 footlong to set up a time and day for the lunch.

So, get out there and help your kids memorize! Who knows, maybe you'll learn something in the process as well!

Now Introducing...

Recently, we've had the pleasure of welcoming Katie Stober as Lead Nursery Attendant to our team and family here at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Katie's skills and talents dealing with young children range from being a certified educator to many years experience in day cares and nurseries. If you haven't already done so, please join me in welcoming Katie to the team. Pop into the nursery to say hello!

Save the date for the Family Advent Celebration

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 20th from 5-7 P.M. The event will be held at First Lutheran Church this year and will include advent wreath making, crafts, Christmas cookie decorating, and much more! Mark your calendars and plan on joining us for this special event and kick off your Advent season as a family!

Gearing up for the Toy Drive

Throughout November, each and every congregation member will have the opportunity to assist in helping prepare the toys for the give-away scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd. Bring your family, spouse, friends, neighbors and lend a hand on Saturdays during November as we begin the process of cleaning, sanitizing, organizing, and preparing each toy to be given directly to a child in need. If you would like to help with this, please contact A.J. in the office and he can give you specific details such as time for the Saturday prepping days. Also, the Toy Drive is set for Saturday, December 3rd from 2-4 P.M. If you're interested in volunteering for the event, please let A.J. know. It takes an entire community to make this large of an impact, so please consider how you will help with the Toy Drive this year!

No Logos on November 2nd or 23rd

There will be no Logos on Wednesday, November 2nd in order to accommodate a Logos Ministry Team meeting scheduled at 5:30 P.M., and there will also be no Logos on November 23rd in observance of Thanksgiving. All other dates in November will remain as regularly scheduled activities and programming.

Grace Notes



"CHILD OF HOPE"

I am pleased to announce that the Chancel Choir will present *Child of Hope* to the congregation as a Christmas Message of Encouragement and Peace on December 11, 2011, at 10:00 am in our beautiful Sanctuary.

With this announcement also comes the need for "extras!" This is where the congregation is invited to join us in our presentation. If you'd like to join the choir in singing this cantata, you are welcomed to begin attending rehearsals on Wednesday evenings from 8:15 – 9:00 pm. As rehearsals do come closer to December 11, we will extend this time. There will also be a Saturday rehearsal with orchestra on December 10th.

But the "extras" do not end there. There are several readings within this cantata. We need two narrators – male and female voices, as well as several other readers. We also need a child reader. Each of these reading parts are a few sentences each, but we need many types of voices. There will be minimal rehearsal for these voices.

Please contact Melissa Emerson at memerson@crwpc.org or 319-431-5136.

ANTHEM PREMIERE ON NOVEMBER 6TH

The Chancel Choir will be premiering the anthem "The Lord is Good" by Dale Grotenhuis. This piece was commissioned in memory of our friend and choir conductor, Richard P. Hoffman, by the Chancel Choir of Westminster Presbyterian Church. We hope you will join us in worship on November 6th at 11:00 a.m.

GOSPEL CONCERT FEATURING WESTMINSTER MUSICIANS

The Harmony Hawks Barbershop Chorus is sponsoring a gospel concert on Friday, November 4th at 7:00 p.m. at New Covenant Bible Church, 3090 North Center Point Rd NE, in Cedar Rapids. Westminster's own praise band, Pseudolaic, will be performing, as well as Jake Wilding, Darcie Read, Julie Schlader, Tom Read, and Bill Moss who are in the Harmony Hawks chorus. This concert will include a variety of other performers such as soloists, quartets and instrumentalists. A free-will offering will be taken that will benefit the Salvation Army. We hope you will attend this concert to support Pseudolaic and to enjoy the other groups that will be playing.

HANGING OF THE GREENS & CHILI COOK OFF

Pastor Jim will kick off our sermon series on the music of Christmas beginning with Zechariah's song on November 27th on the First Sunday of Advent. This will be followed at 4pm in the afternoon by Hanging of the Greens and a Chili Cook Off in the Family Life Center. If you would like to enter your favorite chili recipe, make sure to join us!

NOSTALGIC CHAIRS FROM THE OLD CHURCH FOR SALE

The church has sets of double, wooden chairs from the old, original church. These chairs used to be used in the Large Parlor for overflow. They have not been used for several years, and we would like to offer them to members of the church as a piece of old church memorabilia for a reasonable price. Please call the Church Office or look in the bulletin this month for pricing and buying information.

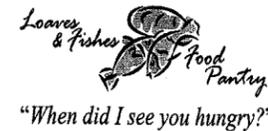
PASTOR KATIE TO TRAVEL FOR THANKSGIVING

Pastor Katie will be cooking Thanksgiving dinner at her house in Danville, IL. Her family can best gather there until the house there sells and they buy a home here in Cedar Rapids. She will leave on Tuesday, November 22nd and return Monday, November 28th. Be in prayer for her safe travels and for her house to sell in the near future.

Mission News

LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

NOVEMBER - BROWNIE MIX, BOXED POTATOES/CANNED SWEET POTATOES, BEAN WITH BACON SOUP, GREEN BEANS, BATH SOAP
CANNED & BOXED FOOD; NO JARS PLEASE. STANDARD SIZE CANS,
AS MOST OF OUR GUESTS WALK TO THE PANTRY.
TOILET PAPER & PERSONAL PRODUCTS ALWAYS NEEDED.



LOAVES & FISHES BLANKET GIVE AWAY ON NOVEMBER 23RD

Insulate our neighbors from the cold winds of winter by donating warm bedding, new or gently used.

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR TOOTHPASTE & SHAMPOO YET?

If you are most of the people we serve each week at Loaves and Fishes, you might not have enough money to buy these necessities that food stamps doesn't cover. This will be part of the "learning curve" in December's classes for adults as we have speakers coming from some of the agencies that serve some of the same people we help feed on Tuesdays.

Beginning this month we are going to collect items NOT covered by Food Stamps (and you'll be a bit surprised or maybe shocked) for men and women, so there will be a bountiful supply of things they can choose from just before Christmas when they go to Loaves and Fishes for their holiday dinner supplies. We have been generously blessed; in turn let others join in our blessings!!!

In September We Served: 46 kids

Next Clothing Give Aways: November 3rd & 5th

October Donation Requests: Baby Wipes

We collect clothing for babies through size 14/16 or boys and girls. We accept new & gently used **kids** clothing. There is always a great need for jeans and new underwear. Please leave donations at the bottom of the basement stairs.



Kid's Closet
Connection

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

The 13th Annual Community-Wide Alternative Gift Market will be on Saturday, December 3rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Coe College. The Alternative Gift Market is a great place for “alternative” shopping, especially when searching for a gift for someone who has everything! You can even purchase “alternative” gifts for our own Loaves & Fishes and Kids’ Closet! Don’t miss out!

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS CARLY WARNER?

Hopefully, in May of next year, she’ll be in Brazil! But she needs our help. I recently received an email from Carly, a child of Westminster and the daughter of Bob and Brenda Warner. Carly is currently attending Simpson College. Since 2005, when she was in middle school, Carly has been sponsoring a child in Brazil through Compassion International. Since beginning this work, Carly’s dream has been to travel to Brazil and do mission work with Compassion International. In May of 2012, she has the opportunity to fulfill that dream.

Unfortunately, mission trips are expensive. In fact, this trip with Compassion will cost close to \$5000. Carly has currently raised about half of that total and is working a part-time job at Simpson to raise more funds.

At its October meeting, the Westminster Session approved asking the congregation to help make Carly’s dream a reality. If you’d like to make a donation to offset the cost of Carly’s mission trip, please make your check payable to Westminster and it will be put into a fund for Carly. Be sure to write “Carly Warner” on the memo line of your check. You could also place your donation in an offering envelope and write Carly’s name on that as well. In return for the congregation’s assistance, Carly will be happy to come and speak to various church groups about her trip and her work with Compassion International.

This is a dream that Carly has had since she was in middle school and first learned about Compassion International at the Great Escape, an annual faith development conference in Colorado, which many of our students have attended. Let’s partner with Carly and make her dream of mission work in Brazil come true

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE=STEWARDSHIP

I hope many of you were able to take advantage of Cedar Rapids’ Clean-up CR Saturdays in September and October. I took things from my home, plus a carload of hazardous materials and electronics from the church. It was a very busy scene, with a total of over 1900 vehicles dropping off items at the various sites. Here are the results of the collection: Wood waste—4481 tons (recycled into fuel); Bulky Items [furniture]—164.03 tons (sent to the landfill, although usable items were taken by Goodwill); Tires—4059 (recycled); Plastic garbage cans—6.14 tons (recycled); Scrap metal—75.72 tons (recycled); Electronics—560 cubic yards (recycled); Household hazardous materials—10.48 tons (processed and disposed of or recycled); Appliances—578 (recycled). All this totals 238.63 tons diverted from the landfill, not including the electronics! Megan at cleanupcr figured that equals 43.4 elephants or 119 cars saved from the landfill!

If you saw the article in the *Business 380* in the *Gazette* of September 25 titled “They want more—Recycling is big business, and it’s growing”, you realize that plastic bags are the bane of the recycling business. Please never put plastic bags in your recycling bins. If you shred paper, please put it in brown paper sacks to put in your curby. Remember to take your newspaper and grocery plastic bags to any Hy-Vee to be recycled. Better yet, take your own bags into all stores, and don’t accept plastic bags! At church, remember to put your plastic sacks in the Loaves and Fishes shopping carts, or into the recycling containers for me to recycle.

Thanks for caring for our earth!

Marilyn Lodge

DON’T BE LONELY FOR THE HOLIDAYS A Health Ministry Article By Sandy Shoemaker

As I am writing this in October, Autumn is supposed to be in the air, and I start thinking of the upcoming holidays and plans need to be made. Those of you who do not have family close by, or no longer have family, don’t sit at home alone and lonely. Make plans, call up some friends, neighbors, some church members, or if you know some college kids (that can’t make it back home for the holiday’s), if you know a military family/spouse, they do not want to be alone either. Make it a fun get together, make it a meal of some type such as a progressive meal or a pot luck, or each can bring along a favorite holiday dish. You can watch football, or play cards, maybe even put on a movie such as a favorite holiday classic. This works for all of the upcoming holidays, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve, and New Years Day. Having the gathering on the holiday makes it less lonely for all involved and gives the entire group something to look forward to. If the group becomes a close knit one then each may take a different holiday and take turns. Think of the new friends/family you have now become and can continue to add more and grow. Military families do this when they are sent overseas away from their stateside families. For starters... think of how many at Westminster that are reading this may be alone for this year’s holidays. Why not start the tradition in 2011? Make plans now. Start calling and see what happens.

NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS

All members of Westminster are invited to join forces and “Walk to Jerusalem”. This is a 12-week exercise and spiritual program to promote physical and spiritual well-being, which will begin January 8th, 2012. The goal is for the congregation as a group to accumulate enough miles of exercise to walk from Cedar Rapids to Jerusalem by Easter. Watch for complete details in the December newsletter. Participating will not only benefit you personally, but will help Iowa’s initiative to become the healthiest state by 2016.



From the Knitting Basket...

Through the year, we use small bits of leftover yarn to create beautiful scarves, hats, and mittens for adults and children. In November, our neighborhood friends can choose their favorites at Loaves and Fishes to keep them warm during the harsh Iowa winter. These are quick, fun projects for us and it warms our hearts to know the items will protect others from the cold.

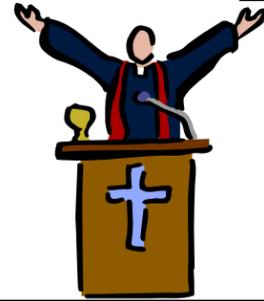
“He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.” Proverbs 14:31

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS

We will once again be ordering poinsettias to be displayed around the church during the weeks before Christmas. An order form will be inserted into the bulletin on November 13th, and forms will also be available in various areas of the church. The poinsettias may be taken home on Sunday, December 18th, or donated to a shut-in to enjoy over the Christmas holiday. Pricing will be available on the order form, or you can call the Church Office for more information. **Orders must be in the Church Office no later than NOON on Monday, November 28th.**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 David Bluder | 19 Richard Whiteaker |
| 2 Jim Weems | 19 David Dicken |
| 2 Matthew Kiley | 19 Carole McFarland |
| 3 Janet Trotter | 19 Tyson Schultz |
| 4 Cheryl Shanklin | 20 Sara Wright |
| 4 Sue Patterson | 20 Beckam Moss |
| 4 Peggy Loomis | 20 Matt Krug |
| 4 Emma Sturbaum-Anderson | 20 Marilyn Lodge |
| 5 Bob Young | 20 Duffy Schamberger |
| 6 Marilyn Sweet | 20 Jim Evans |
| 7 Christi Moss | 21 Bruce Chambers |
| 7 Rick Titus | 21 Jim Fine |
| 8 Carol Bender | 21 Brett Warner |
| 9 Curtis Litow | 22 Andrea Schoenbeck |
| 9 Ashley Banner | 22 Meseret Tilahun |
| 11 Cooper Pearson | 22 Lindsey Crawford |
| 12 Alice Snarskis | 23 Mary Larson |
| 12 Skippy Atherton | 23 Nancy Walker |
| 12 Jack Sedlacek | 23 Jessie Aiff |
| 13 Willard Holtz | 24 Tessa Lovekin |
| 14 Betty Holmes | 25 William Wagner |
| 15 Louie Fine | 25 Henry Wagner |
| 15 Keller Grado | 26 Tony Davis |
| 15 Jack Brokaw | 26 Kaitlin Sturbaum |
| 17 Sherry Swanson | 26 Trenton Steine |
| 17 Johnine Howe | 27 Evelyn Novak |
| 17 Stacy Duffy | 27 Maggie York |
| 17 Lydia Keiper | 27 Erin Ervin |
| 17 Joseph Steine | 27 Jacob Bjornsen |
| 18 Gingie Hunstad | 29 Kirk Lampe |
| 18 Isaac Denning | 30 Berta Mullin |
| | 30 Loren Neubauer |



WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, November 6th - Communion/ Remembrance Sunday

All Services - Pastor Katie Hopper
 "Press On"
 Text: Philippians 3:10-14

Sunday, November 13th - Dedication Sunday

All Services - Pastor Katie Hopper
 "Come Before Winter"
 Text: 2 Timothy 4:9-22 & Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Sunday, November 20th

All Services - Pastor Katie Hopper
 "Attitude of Gratitude"
 Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18 & Psalm 100

Sunday, November 27th - 1st Sunday in Advent

All Services - Pastor Jim Langley
 "Zechariah's Song"
 Text: Luke 1.68-79

A NOTE FROM THE PRESBYTERY

"The PDA grant we received to respond to the 2008 flood is now coming to end. In the last 3 years, our hospitality sites have supported over 390 teams with a total of 4,676 volunteers working 123,000 hours, which is the labor cost equivalent of \$2,340,477!

We thank you for participating in the Disaster Recovery Task Force. It has been an honor serving with you.

May God continue to bless you and the ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church"

Sarah Dyck
 Disaster Recover Coordinator

November 16th is the deadline for the December Newsletter. Contact Christina in the office or email your information to westmin@crwpc.org.

PW CIRCLE NEWS

Martha/Ruth Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 16th at 9:30 a.m. in the Small Parlor. Guests are welcome. Please join us for this time of fellowship!

Naomi/Esther Circle will meet on Friday, November 18th at 9:30 a.m. in the Small Parlor. Please join us!

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Mtg 3:30 pm Loaves & Fishes 7:00 pm Deacons	2 9:30 am 3rd Ave Churches WNA No Logos 5:30 pm Logos MT Mtg	3	4 Pastoral Staff Sabbath 9:30 am Women at the Well 5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal	5 10:00 am Kids' Closet 3:30 pm Wedding in Sanctuary
6 Remembrance Sunday SMA 6:30 pm Emmaus	7 6:30 pm Invite to John LG 6:30 pm Shawl Ministry	8 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Mtg 3:30 pm Loaves & Fishes 6:00 pm Student Ministries	9 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:15 am CR Child's Theatre WNA	10 9:15 am Kindred Spirits 6:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal	11 Pastoral Staff Sabbath 9:30 am Women at the Well 1:00 pm Wedding in Sanct.	12
13 Dedication Sunday SMA Logos Worship Offering @ 9 6:30 pm Emmaus	14 4:30 pm Finance Mtg 5:30 pm Adult Education 6:30 pm Communications 6:30 pm Invite to John LG	15 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Staff 5:30 pm CMT 6:30 pm Mission 6:30 pm Session	16 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Martha/Ruth Newsletter Deadline WNA	17	18 Pastoral Staff Sabbath 9:30 am Women at the Well 9:30 am Naomi/Esther	19
20 SMA 12:00 pm Reception for Herb Family Advent Celebration at 1st Lutheran 6:30 pm Emmaus	21 6:30 pm Communications 6:30 pm Invite to John LG	22 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Worship	23 7:30 am Men's Breakfast WNA No Logos	24 Thanksgiving Office Closed 1:30 pm Dinner in FLC	25 Pastoral Staff Sabbath Office Closed	26
27 1st Sunday of Advent SMA 1:00 pm Turkey Bowl 4:00 pm Hanging of the Greens & Chili Supper 6:30 pm Emmaus	28 6:30 pm Invite to John LG 7:00 pm Property Meeting	29 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Staff Meeting	30 7:30 am Men's Breakfast WNA 6:30 pm Cong. Life Mtg	Pastor Katie Gone 11/22 - 11/28		
	Proof Newsletter	Print Newsletter	Mail Newsletter			

SMA—Sunday Morning Activities

- 8:00 am: Worship in the Atrium
- 8:30 am: Breakfast
- 9:00 am: Worship in the FLC
- 10:00 am: New Member Class
- 10:00 am: Sunday School
- 11:00 am: Worship in the Sanctuary

WNA - Wednesday Night Activities

- 4:00 pm: Logos
- 6:30 pm: Middle School EnterActive
- 6:30 pm: Minster Bells
- 7:30 pm: Chancel Choir
- 8:15 pm: Cantata Choir Rehearsal



Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 6th. Don't forget to set your clocks back on

OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday, November 24th, and Friday, November 25th, in observance of the Thanksgiving.

SESSION MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 18TH MEETING

At 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18th, the monthly meeting of the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church was convened with 17 of 19 Elders present.

Notes from the meeting:

- Year-over-year attendance continues to increase
- Our finances are comparable with recent years
- Session reviewed the results from the recent Retreat and Training for Church Officers, including three projects, for which we will organize as a church. Please contact the church office to volunteer your time or expertise for any of these efforts:
 - Examine the creation of a Coffeehouse/Bookstore within the church to attract both current and potential members.
 - Examine outreach to church members and those close to our church through the creation of hospital baskets to welcome people back home from a hospital stay.
 - Examine how we can build an intentional community at Westminster, across ages and services, offering an opportunity for everyone to more deeply engage the Body of Christ
- A report from the Presbytery had details of recent action at the Presbytery of East Iowa level, including the passage of overtures to remove gender specifics from covenant-related wording in the Book of Order. In the future, the issue will be taken up again at the PCUSA level.
- Our confirmation through High School students number 40-50 and are active through out the church and our community
- A Toy Drive Committee has been established to plan this years' Christmas Toy Drive
- The Congregation-wide Mission Fair will be held October 30th

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Wagner
Clerk of Session

Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Church Clean-Up day on Saturday, October 22nd. The grounds were spruced up all around the church property. Your help was greatly appreciated.

The Property Ministry Team

The last two Wednesdays in October, the children from the Logos program have visited the Willis Dady Emergency Shelter. The children have learned about the services the shelter provides the homeless. On behalf of Westminster, the children brought donations to the shelter of blankets, bedding, towels, and travel size toiletries. Thank you to all who so willingly provided these items for donation. The act of giving is a powerful lesson for our children.

The Logos Committee



WESTMINSTER CANCELLATION POLICY

Whether or not you love the snow, it is inevitably going to come! If Sunday services are cancelled due to inclement weather, we will make every attempt to contact the following television stations: KCRG (Channel 9), KGAN (Channel 2) and KW/WL (Channel 7). The Church's Facebook Page will have the latest updates, and there may also be a message on the Church's voicemail, so you can call to double-check.

Wednesday night children and youth activities will be cancelled if the Cedar Rapids Public Schools have been cancelled or dismissed early due to bad weather. Please contact the Church Office if you aren't sure.

As always, the final decision is in your hands. If you are uncertain or uncomfortable with the weather, please don't venture out.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL NOVEMBER OFFERINGS

November 13th

Doug Wagner begins the 3-week class, "Chronicles of Elijah". At the time of I Kings, Elijah arrives on the scene with little introduction, speaking God's word to Ahab: There will be no rain or dew until God says so. When the water ran out, God led Elijah to the home of a widow who had only a little water and meal left so share with her son. The unfolding drama is a testimony of God's faithfulness to his own.

November 20th

Doug Wagner continues "Chronicles of Elijah" with more discussion around I Kings. I Kings 18 is set in the nation of Israel during a time of terrible drought and famine. The people were in a beaten down and powerless state. They had seen so much hunger and death that it was hard for them to recognize a fresh alternative in the face of Ahab's power. There was little faith, and what there was of it was hiding in the caves. The worship of Yahweh was virtually extinct, until one man, Elijah, stood and challenged the people's lethargy. This text describes a true power encounter. God rests his credibility upon his ability to outperform the prophets of Baal.

November 27th

Doug Wagner concludes "Chronicles of Elijah" as I Kings 19 is discussed and we see the passing of the torch, or in this case, the mantle of leadership, from Elijah to Elisha. It follows upon Elijah's dramatic triumph on Mount Carmel over the prophets of Baal. This text is more personal, dealing with Elijah's emotional response to the situation of Israel. In this study, we will see that God never leaves us alone, even though God's kingdom is bigger than we can imagine.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE AND CAN'T MAKE IT?

If you are scheduled to serve on a Sunday and cannot serve on your scheduled day, please find a replacement or someone to switch with you. Please let the Church Office know of any changes by Thursday of each week to ensure that it is printed correctly in the bulletin. If you have any questions regarding the schedule, please call the Church Office at 366-7185 or email Christina at westmin@crwpc.org. Thank you for your willingness to serve!