



The Voice of Westminster

We are a servant church, nurturing each other's spiritual journey and personal gifts. All are welcome!

March 2020



The Journey Through Lent 2020

We have wonderful opportunities in this 40-day season prior to Easter that you simply will not want to miss!

Of course, we started Lent with our Ash Wednesday service in the Westminster Chapel. Because Lent is traditionally a time to examine our own spiritual lives, I want to strongly encourage you to do what Westminster Session members are doing:

Fill out a spiritual gift and spiritual growth inventories. Some of you have done these assessments before, but I encourage you to do it again. The inventory helps us to set goals that will help us grow spiritually. It also helps to establish the support and accountability we need from individuals to make it happen. Having a plan along with encouragement and support from others, are both critical for spiritual growth.

Lent is traditionally about giving something up, and for those of us in the Lenten Bible Study on Mondays at 2 p.m., we are seeking to give up something "bad." We have been uniquely challenged in this area, and I know it will be a blessing.

On the subject of spiritual growth, this year we will be celebrating Maundy Thursday, April 9, with our brothers and sisters at First Presbyterian Church. We'll make times and details available as we get them. In turn, First Presbyterian will attend Good Friday Tenebrae service April 10, at Westminster. That service will be at 6:30 p.m. An added feature will be a joint choir of Westminster and First Presbyterian singers at the Good Friday service. Talk about spiritual growth!

There's an old saying regarding this time period in the Church calendar, "You will get out of Lent and Holy Week what you put into it." It promises to be an impacting season for those who venture out to take advantage of these opportunities!

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Roger

Christ Is Laid the Sure Foundation...But We Need To Help

Our Westminster Foundation was created for the express purpose of permitting everyone, not just those with wealth or financial expertise to make a lasting impact on our church and those whom we serve. For 165 years our church has served Cedar Rapids, 115 of those while worshipping in our beautiful Sanctuary.

Growth required building expansion and we subsequently added two additions. One is now 65 years old. The other, which includes our Family Life Center, church offices, and multiple meeting spaces is now 18 years old. It is humbling to think about those who so generously gave to provide such long-term benefits. Their foresight permits us to serve our community and to provide a ministry to so many.

The Foundation permits us to share our faith and helps to assure that coming generations will continue to have Westminster Presbyterian Church as an 'anchor' in their lives. With that belief in mind, I urge you to strongly consider including Westminster in your will. By taking steps now, you will ensure that our ministries, community service, and the needs of those less fortunate will perpetuate long after God has called us home.

Respectfully,
Roger Grandia, Pastor

February Session Notes

The Westminster Session met Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium. Rev. Grandia asked Elders and those present to take a spiritual gift survey.

Session approved the following:

- Establishment of a task force to investigate options for a replacement facility for the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry.
- Allocation of remaining Kids Closet/Fair Trade Coffee fund money (\$1,308.60) to pay to run the proper electrical components to the new art room with a kiln, located in the former Kids Closet storage area off the Youth Room. Session also approved a request from Pastor Roger to have a silent auction of art pieces to go toward the additional costs of the new art room, including putting in a deep well sink with a small water heater underneath, a kiln vent and initial supplies. Total estimated costs, including electrical work are \$3,845.
- A Saturday retreat for Session members on April 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Location to be determined.
- A joint Maundy Thursday service with First Presbyterian Church to be held at First Pres., and a joint Good Friday service with First Presbyterian to be held in Westminster's Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. The Maundy Thursday service may include a light meal, details and time to be announced.

Kindred Sisters Spring Term Starts in March—Joyce Sedlacek, Group Member

Kindred Sisters Bible Study, comprised of women of Westminster and friends, has been meeting for many years on the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings of the month. This year the study has been Women of the Bible. A feature of this study has been a 20 minute video followed with scripture, questions and discussion.

The Spring session of Kindred Sisters Bible Study begins Thursday, March 12, at 9:15-11:00 in the 2nd floor classroom around the corner from the elevator. Please join us for a time of fellowship, study and reflections on the lives of Mary Magdalene, Mary of Bethany, Martha, Woman at the Well and the Syrophenician Woman.



Kindred Sisters meet in the Adult Classroom. Snacks, coffee, good discussions are all part of the group meetings.

Repairers of the Breach



Throughout the month of March, Westminster, along with other PCUSA congregations, will be participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) campaign. This is the single, largest way that Presbyterian congregations, and eight other Christian denominations, join together to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world.

The focus of OGHS is to provide disaster assistance, hunger relief and investing in communities responding to racism, oppression and injustice. We will providing information in your announcements and envelopes in your bulletins. We will be collecting the offering on Palm Sunday, April 5.

4-for-4 Kudos

On a related note, The PCUSA Director of Special Offerings, Bryce Wiebe, sent Westminster a letter commending the congregation for participating in all four special offerings in 2019. The total raised by Westminster was \$2,695.74. Thank you Westminster! Here is the breakdown by offering titles:

OGHS \$310.00

Christmas Joy \$1,273.21

Peace & Global Witness \$661.32

Pentecost \$451.21



LOAVES & FISHES

FOOD PANTRY

Loaves & Fishes Mission - by Jan Kosowski, L&F Director

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry remains the "largest" mission of our church. "Largest" in the sense that it impacts the lives of well over a thousand people every year, far more than any other mission of the church, but did you know that there are just 8 people in the congregation that assist the mission on a regular basis (non-monetary or other donations). One reason is the time and physical effort involved in most of the things needing done each week in order to serve the average 150-160 people who come to the pantry each week. Another reason is the schedule of the activities needing done. Yet there are some things that could be done on your own schedule that would support the mission without a lot of physical effort. One would be to maintain the records that are required by law to be kept. These are simple records but it takes someone to enter the information each week. Another task would be to do some simple cleaning; sweeping the floors and wiping down the tables and counter tops. If you are interested in contributing to our mission please contact Jan Kosowski, jmkosows@yahoo.com, cell 319-521-6666.



CLEANING HOUSE at L&F

Saturday, Feb. 8, five hard working Camp Fire girls, their lovely leader Jennifer Denner, and Jan Kosowski spent a total of 10.5 man hours cleaning at our Loaves & Fishes mission house. They wiped down walls, chairs, tables, shelves, refrigerators, swept, vacuumed and sorted! Thank you Camp Fire girls for living the Camp Fire rules of worshipping God and providing service. Jenny is a member of our L&F partner, Christ Episcopal.

What is Per Capita-by Jan Kosowski

Every year, every member of the Presbyterian Church is asked to make a contribution to the wider church which supports local congregations, your Presbytery, your Synod, and the PCUSA General Assembly. This year's per capita is \$38 and can be paid to WPC which forwards it to the Presbytery for appropriate distribution (Presbytery \$23.65, Synod \$5.40, GA \$8.95). The portion that stays with the Presbytery of East Iowa (PEIA) is used to pay the very small staff, office space, supporting churches with pastoral searches, educational opportunities, supporting our gem Camp Wyoming, legal costs, and many other functions. The per capita comes to \$3.16 a month for an individual. Of the 170 Presbyteries of the PCUSA, only 20 do not meet this annual commitment - PEIA is one of them. As a member of WPC and as the Moderator of the Board of Trustees for the PEIA, I want to urge each member of WPC to make this per capita contribution. If you have any questions, please contact me, Jan Kosowski, jmkosows@yahoo.com, cell 319-521-6666.



Bunco Rescheduled!

Bunco at Westminster has been rescheduled for Sat., March 7, at 1:30 p.m. After the game, at 3 p.m., Luman Colton will discuss his faith and the role it has played in his life. Please join us!

5th Sunday Combined Service & Lunch



Westminster will hold one service on the fifth Sunday of the month-March 29. The service will be at 10 am. in the Sanctuary. A lunch will follow in the Family Life Center, hosted by the Hospitality Committee. Pastor Roger and Jill plan a few games after we eat. Please join us!



If you have experience with Microsoft Office and working in an office environment, Session and the Personnel Committee invite you to consider a less-than-half-time position in the Westminster Presbyterian Church office. We are looking for someone who can help with multiple tasks – mainly on week-day mornings Tuesday through Thursday. The requirements are listed on the church website at crwpc.org/job-openings. If you are interested and believe you can help, please send a cover letter and resume to personnel@crwpc.org.

**March Adult Education Schedule
Lenten Series**

Now – April 5 - Lenten Series – “Moving Mountains | Praying with Passion, Confidence and Authority” | Prayer: Does it Make Any Difference?

This video-based series on prayer is based on the assumption that God empowers us. That we have a role in making change happen and are not victims of circumstance – that we are sons and daughters of God bestowed with tremendous authority. Each class will have a short video, followed by discussion. Adult Ed meets Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Atrium.

March Sunday School Schedule

Our Westminster Kids continue their series on Kids of the Bible in March, before moving on to Animals of the Bible. Here’s the rundown of topics.

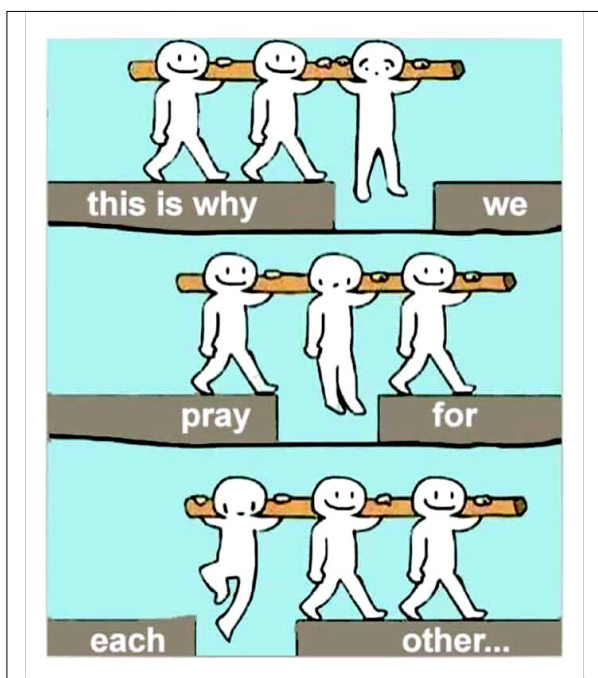
Kids of the Bible

- March 1—Jesus in the Temple
- March 8—Daughter of Jairus is healed by Jesus
- March 15—Spring Break-No Class
- March 22—The boy who supplied the loaf and fish to Jesus
- March 29—No Class-Joint Service at 10 a.m.



March Birthdays

Marjorie Daft	2
Glenn Lane	2
Deloris Meyer	2
John Ruth	2
James Shanklin	2
Darwin Busch	4
Ed Mumford	6
Julie Schlader	6
Linda Cosgrove	11
Dorothy Johnson	12
Jane Heck	17
Lindsay Meade	17
Bill Moss	23



The Month of March
Thank You Volunteers!

Offering Stewards

- March 2 —Maggie York & Warren Feerer
- March 9—Barb & Bill Moss
- March 16—Warren Feerer & Tom Read
- March 23—Pat Teig & Mark Tyler
- March 30—Maggie York & Warren Feerer

9 a.m. Liturgists

- March 1—Lemi Tilahun
- March 8—Val Neubauer
- March 15—Butch Hataway
- March 22—Ben Fashimpaur

11 a.m. Liturgists

- March 1—Barbara Read
- March 8—Barb Moss
- March 15—Deb Liljedahl
- March 22—Sharon Colton

10 a.m. Liturgist

- March 29—Warren Feerer

10 a.m. Ushers

- March 29—Joan Charters & Brian Read

11:00 a.m. Ushers/Greeters

- March 1—Brian Read
- March 8—Sharon Colton & Jan Walton
- March 15—Dick Trotter & Jean Kenison
- March 22—Barb Schultz & John Henderson

If you are unable to serve at the designated time, please try to find a substitute. Thank you!

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Sunday 1 st Sunday in Lent 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service-FLC 10 am – Christian Ed 11 am-Traditional Service-Sanctuary 4pm-Chorale Midwest	2 11 am-Bridge-FLC 2 pm-Lenten Study 6 pm-Deacons Gale on Vacation through March 10.	3 Noon-Optimist Speeches-FLC 3 pm-L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA	4 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast-Atrium 11:30 am-PEO Luncheon 7 pm-Choir Practice	5 11 am-Bridge	6 Church Closed 8:30 pm-NA	7 1:30 pm-Bunco-FLC 3pm-Luman Colton Testimony-FLC
8 Daylight Saving Begins 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service-FLC 10 am – Christian Ed 11 am-Traditional Service-Sanctuary 11:30 am-NA Area Meet 4pm-Chorale Midwest	9 11 am Bridge-FLC 1 pm Property Comm 2 pm-Lenten Study-Sm. Parlor	10 Noon-Optimist Speeches-FLC 3 pm-L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA	11 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast-Atrium 9:30 am-Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm-Choir Practice	12 9:15 am-Kindred Sisters 11 am-Bridge 5:30 pm-Personnel	13 Church Closed 8:30 pm-NA	14 7:30 pm-NA
15 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service-FLC 10 am – Christian Ed 11 am-Traditional Service-Sanctuary	16 11 am-Bridge 2 pm-Lenten Study-Sm. Parlor 4:30 pm-Finance Comm.	17 3 pm-L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA 6:30 am-Session Meeting	18 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast-Atrium 7 pm-Choir Practice	19 11 am-Bridge	20 Church Closed 8:30 pm-NA	21 7:30 pm-NA
22 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service-FLC 10 am – Christian Ed 11 am-Traditional Service-Sanctuary 4pm-Chorale Midwest	23 11 am-Bridge 2 pm-Lenten Study-Sm. Parlor	24 3 pm-L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA	25 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast-Atrium 1 pm-Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm-Choir Practice	26 9:15 am-Kindred Sisters 11 am-Bridge	27 Church Closed 8:30 pm-NA	28 7:30 pm-NA
29 5 th Sunday-1 Service 10 a.m. - Sanctuary 11:15-Meal-FLC 4pm-Chorale Midwest	30 11 am-Bridge 2 pm-Lenten Study-Sm. Parlor	31 3 pm-L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA				

Please visit www.crwpc.org/calendar to stay informed of changes to this month's calendar.

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Return Service Requested

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

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

Sunday Worship Times

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

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

Visit us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or at www.crwpc.org

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