



# *The Voice of Westminster*

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

November 2021

## **Tradition!**

*"Here in Anatevka we have traditions for everything... how to eat, how to sleep, even how to wear clothes... You may ask, how did this tradition start? I'll tell you - I don't know. But it's a tradition!" - From the song "Tradition" - Fiddler on the Roof*

What kinds of thoughts and emotions come to mind when you see or hear the word tradition? For some, the reaction can be a source of comfort. For others, a negative reaction. Perhaps they have faced resistance when they try to bring up new ideas and feel others are stuck in their traditions. "What's wrong with the way we've always done it?" They sometimes forget that it hasn't always been done that way.

Others hear the word and have very positive memories and emotions, "Oh the smell of grandma's house at Thanksgiving; it doesn't get any better.....turkey and mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie and green bean casserole. It all makes my heart warm up and my mouth water."

It has been said that tradition is neither good nor bad in and of itself. The question is whether it still fulfills its original purpose in a meaningful way, to both current participants and hopefully future ones. The challenge comes as what is meaningful for one, may not be meaningful for someone else. Healthy dialogue is helpful in the process so that something new can be created that will incorporate parts of old and new.

Traditions often come to an end because they have run their course and it's time for something different. Other traditions fade due to deaths, people moving away or just a change in who wants to participate. There can be a lot of grieving that occurs because of this, some of it intense.

As we have so often mentioned, the only constant in life is change. We rejoice and are grateful that we worship a God who entered our world and still is in our lives through joys and sorrows. With His guidance, we will create new traditions that provide meaning, if we simply open ourselves to His Spirit.

Sometimes God breaks through to bring something new out of the old; at other times he reminds us of an old truth in the midst of the new. So watch and see what God is going to do this Thanksgiving and Advent at Westminster, in both old and new traditions!

*-Pastor Roger*

## October Session Notes

The Westminster Session met on Tuesday, Oct. 26, at 6:30 p.m. , in the Atrium. The Rev. Michelle Scott (Olivet Church) served as moderator, as Rev. Grandia was ill. Rev. Scott read a devotional that borrowed from "The Velveteen Rabbit" to show how a "you vs. me" culture needs to be a real "us" culture. Rev. Scott's opening prayer included blessings for Rev. Grandia and his doctors.

Session discussed/took action on the following items.

- Session voted to continue with one service, as the trial period is ending. This came after discussion of reaction and input from members, which has been mostly positive.
- Session discussed and then tabled a motion to hold one Christmas Eve service "Lessons and Carols" at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24. Discussion included concerns that an earlier time might be better for families. It was decided that choir would be canvassed to help decide, as their participation in the carols is a key part of the service.
- It was noted that Brian Read and Terry Perkins have agreed to take over as co-moderators of the property committee as Jan Kosowski and Maggie York are stepping down at the end of the year. There was discussion that the Property Committee needs a better description of what it should be responsible for.
- Warren Feerer reported on behalf of the Finance Committee that Westminster was in the black in September and is \$15,900 in the black for the year.
- Session approved an audio proposal by Conference Technologies to improve microphones and speakers in the Sanctuary.
- Session noted a closing date on the Mission House has been set for Nov. 5 at 1 p.m. The house is being sold to Willis Dady.
- Session discussed, but took no action on a three-part proposal to repair exterior stonework on the church.
- Finally, Session discussed pulpit supply (pastor substitutes) upon the news of Rev. Grandia's health concerns. It was agreed that Warren Feerer would talk with Roger and Dedric Roundtree about the matter.

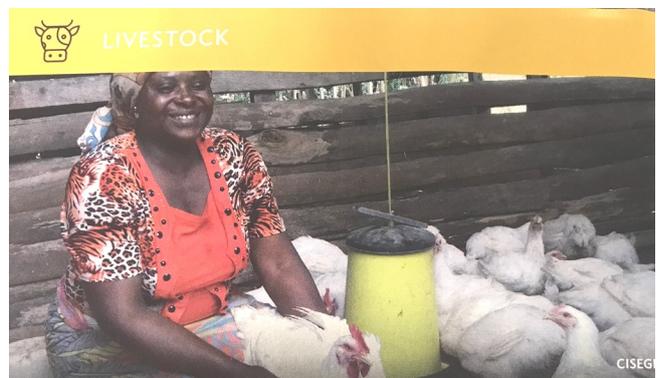
The Session meeting closed with prayer.

## Westminster Kids Learn About Service to Others

Westminster’s Sunday School lessons will be focusing on service and mission for the rest of the fall semester. The best part is that everyone at Westminster can get involved!



Each year, the Presbyterian Giving Catalog offers opportunities to join in God’s mission around the world. Sunday School teacher, Val Neubauer, is leading the kids on a fundraising effort to buy animals for needy families overseas. These are animals that can be used to sustain a food chain or raise money to keep a family going in tough, financial times. The animals below are ones the kids plan to purchase.



**Family of Chickens**

**\$25**

Chickens can provide eggs and meat for food and feathers for pillows. A family of chickens costs \$25.



**Piglet**

**\$40/piglet**

Piglets help families raise money when they go to market. A piglet costs \$40.

Details will follow. Among other things, we will be asking members to bring and donate baked goods for auction on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Proceeds will go to the purchase of the animals through the Presbyterian Gifts Program. Stay tuned!

## Adult Ed Goes From Old to New

Westminster’s Adult Ed class has finished Bruce Wilkinson’s Survey of the Bible series on the Old Testament and has moved on to the New Testament. They meet in the Atrium at 9 a.m. on Sundays. Even if you haven't been coming, feel free to drop in when you can. Barb and Ed Mumford are moderators for the series.

### 5th ANNUAL CRANKSGIVING TO GATHER HOLIDAY FOOD FOR L&F

Goldfinch Cyclery is holding its 5th annual Cranksgiving Bike Ride and Food Drive Sunday, Nov. 21. The traditional ride and food drive resumes this year after an abbreviated version held last year during the height of the pandemic.

We are grateful that once again, Loaves & Fishes will receive the food gathered by cyclists.

“The pantry looks forward to the food gathered by the cyclists to supplement their holiday distributions,” said Jan Kosowski, pantry director. The cyclists bike to various grocery stores and purchase items from a list provided by L&F.



### Club “Bridges” the Food Gap

The Better Bridge Club that meets at Westminster on Mondays is also helping bring extra food in for the holidays at Loaves & Fishes.

If members bring in a canned good, they get a discount on their fees. It’s a win-win!

In the past few weeks, the number of people served at L&F has exceeded 100, so the need continues.

Thank you “Build Better Bridge” members! and everyone who supports Loaves & Fishes!



## Property Changes & Updates

Care and maintenance of Westminster remains an ongoing effort by the Property Committee. The committee's co-moderators for the past few years, Jan Kosowski and Maggie York have decided to step down at the end of this year. Their undying dedication has kept building repairs and maintenance up-to-date and ahead of the curve in terms of setting up service contracts and vendors, and responding to all the issues that arise without warning (think flooded boiler rooms and damaged canopies). Please take a moment to thank both of these women for their hard work!

### Parlor Project

The first phase for the parlor carpet project has been completed. The before and after photos show the difference in the carpet before and after it was stretched and reglued.

The carpet cleaning will be done the first week of November.



*Before*



*After*



### Westminster Polling Place

Westminster will once again host voting in the city and school board election Nov. 2. Election officials will be setting up equipment in the Family Life Center on Monday, Nov. 1. Bridge Club will meet in the Old Dining Room on that day.

### NA Moves on from Westminster

Narcotics Anonymous will no longer be meeting at Westminster, as of Oct. 30. The group has been invited to move to a building that will be their own. The group had met at Westminster for several years.



### November Birthdays

Janet Trotter	3
Sue Patterson	4
Cheryl Shanklin	4
Marilyn Sweet	6
Jack Sedlacek	12
Brian Read	14
Sherry Swanson	17
Bruce Chambers	21
Jim Fine	21
Maggie York	27
Kirk Lampe	29
Loren Neubauer	30



### November at Loaves & Fishes

Following are items needed at L&F this month.

Stuffing mix  
Cranberry sauce  
Kleenex

### The Month of September Thank You Volunteers!

#### Liturgists

Nov. 7—Barb Read

Nov. 14—Loren Neubauer

Nov. 21—Jan Walton

Nov. 28—Deb Liljedahl

#### Greeters (at Front Door)

Nov. 7—Jim Fine

Nov. 14—Bob Moore

Nov. 21—Brian Read

Nov. 28—Terry Perkins

If you are unable to cover your Sunday, please make arrangements with a substitute. Thank you!

### Meme of the Month...



Don't forget to turn back your clocks one hour before going to sleep on Nov. 6. Daylight Saving Time is coming to an end.

# WPC Calendar November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Bridge Club-Old Dining 7 pm – AA-Old Dining	2 7 am-8pm – Election- FLC 2:30-5 pm-L&F Pantry	3 7:30 am-Men’s Breakfast 5 pm-Confirmation Class 7pm-Choir Practice	4 Nothing Scheduled	5 Church Closed	6 Church Closed (Turn Back Clocks)
7 Communion Sunday 8 am-Breakfast-Old Dining 9 am-Christian Ed 10 am -Worship-Sanctuary 4 pm-Chorale Midwest 6 pm-Cedar Singers	8 11 am-Bridge Club 1 pm-Property Committee 6:30 pm-Mission Committee 7 pm-AA-Old Dining	9 2:30-5 pm-L&F Pantry 7 pm-Wellington Heights Assoc-Atrium	10 7:30 am-Men’s Breakfast 9:30 am-Prayer Shawl 5 pm-Confirmation Class 7pm-Choir Practice	11 9:30 am- Kindred Sisters 5:30 pm- Personnel	12 Church Closed	13 Church Closed
14 8 am-Breakfast-Old Dining 9 am-Christian Ed 10 am -Worship-Sanctuary 4 pm-Chorale Midwest 6 pm-Cedar Singers	15 11 am-Bridge Club 4:30 pm-Finance 7 pm-AA-Old Dining	16 Newsletter Deadline 2:30 pm-L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-Session	17 7:30 am-Men’s Breakfast 5 pm-Confirmation Class 7pm-Choir Practice	18 1 pm-Presbytery Meeting-Various Rooms	19 Church Closed	20 Church Closed
21 8 am-Breakfast-Old Dining 9 am-Christian Ed 10 am -Worship-Sanctuary 4 pm-Chorale Midwest 6 pm-Cedar Singers	22 11 am-Bridge Club 7 pm-AA-Old Dining	23 Newsletter Assemblage 2:30-5 pm-L&F Pantry 7 pm-Wellington Heights Assoc-Atrium	24 7:30 am-Men’s Breakfast 9:30 am-Prayer Shawl 5 pm-Confirmation Class 7pm-Choir Practice	25 9:30 am- Kindred Sisters	26 Church Closed	27 Church Closed
28 8 am-Breakfast-Old Dining 9 am-Christian Ed 10 am -Worship-Sanctuary 4 pm-Chorale Midwest 6 pm-Cedar Singers	29 11 am-Bridge Club 7 pm-AA-Old Dining	30 2:30-5 pm-L&F Pantry				

Please visit [www.crwpc.org/calendar](http://www.crwpc.org/calendar) to stay informed of changes to this month’s calendar.

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
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Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403-4084

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*Return Service Requested*

*The Voice of Westminster*  
*November 2021*

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

## Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Sunday Worship

9 a.m.—Christian Education  
10 a.m.—Sanctuary

Online on our YouTube Channel & Facebook Page

*Visit us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Twitter or at [www.crwpc.org](http://www.crwpc.org)*

PHONE: 319-366-7185

### Church Staff

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