



The Voice of Westminster

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

January 2020

How Time Flies A Look Back and Ahead

As I pen this, I recognize how quickly a year has passed. A year ago, we were beginning to envision the potential of moving from Battle Creek, MI, to Cedar Rapids, IA, to set down roots here while serving Westminster Presbyterian Church and this community.

There was still the visit to Cedar Rapids on the weekend of January 19 and 20, 2019, to preach at a joint service at WPC, followed by a congregational vote. The target of a start date of Feb. 1, 2019, was being set. Now it will soon be a year of serving at WPC.

It is our first Christmas in Cedar Rapids, which now feels like home, even though all the boxes have yet to be unpacked. I am so humbled to have been given the opportunity to serve here, and feel beyond blessed to be able to serve with so many gifted staff, leaders, and congregational members.

As we (as individuals and as a congregation) enter another year, we know that God has entrusted to us so much, and we seek to use what he has provided to touch the lives of others, and honor the one who has saved us by his grace. It is impossible to know what 2020 will bring. We simply do not know what the future holds, but we are deeply grateful, we do know who holds the future; we trust his guidance to navigate the challenges that will come.

Wishing all of you God's Best in 2020!

Pastor Roger

Loaves & Fishes Volunteers Serve Up Holiday Fare

Our “saints” at Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry worked hard to make sure 173 families were able to serve up a delicious holiday meal. On Dec. 17, the volunteers offered up pork loin, turkey, shredded pork, eggs, milk, bread, sweets and lots of other goodies. Two members of Christ Episcopal donated 200 cans of sweet potatoes and another member brought in fresh apples from his orchard. In all, clients had lots of healthy and delicious choices. The pantry is currently closed, but will reopen on Jan. 7. Thank you to all our volunteers and to Jan Kosowski for serving as director of the pantry.



LOAVES & FISHES 2020

JAN	Mac 'n Cheese Canned fruit Shampoo
FEB	Creamed soup Rice Toothpaste
MAR	Beef stew Cornbread mix Toothbrush
APR	Hamburger Helper Taco mix Deodorant
MAY	Ketchup or mustard Canned vegetables Pork and beans Kleenex
JUN	Peanut butter & jelly Marshmallows Graham crackers Bar soap
JUL	Canned tuna or chicken Mayo BBQ sauce Shampoo
AUG	Salad dressing Kool-aid mix Instant potatoes Toothpaste
SEPT	Spaghettios Crackers Toothbrush
OCT	Canned chicken Gravy mix Deodorant
NOV	Stuffing mix Cranberry sauce Kleenex
DEC	Boxed potatoes Sugar Bar soap



Thank you for supporting Loaves & Fishes, through your time, food contributions and financial support!

December Session Notes

The Westminster Session met Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium. Rev. Grandia read the 23rd Psalm and those present reflected on the inspiration of the Psalm.

The Session voted to welcome Paul and Rachel Kongshaug as members of Westminster. Their children, Cael, Micah, Nolan and Hannah were accepted as being baptized.

The fifth Sunday joint services and holidays were discussed. The following dates were approved for joint services: March 29, May 24, July 5, Sept. 6 and Nov. 29.

Session approved Jan. 26, 2020, as the date for the annual meeting. The meeting will be held in the Family Life Center at 10 a.m. between the 9 and 11 a.m. services.

Session approved the following collective goals and expectations for 2020:

- Hold Consistent staff meetings to improve communication.
- Retain a complete staff for office and worship positions.
- Have a session retreat with a focus on planning.
- Re-establish a Mission Committee with the goal of a quarterly local mission work day and perhaps a summer mission trip.
- Establish one confirmation class.
- Establish a quarterly fellowship event for the congregation-choosing events for people to invite family and friends.
- Facilitate get-to-know gatherings to build stronger internal and external relationships with the community.
- Establish an arts/craft room ministry (subject to fire inspector approval)
- Organize and obtain an updated church pictorial directory.

Session voted to provide three floating holidays for staff in 2020, in addition to the normal holiday schedule. It was noted that several holidays in 2020 fall on days when the staff is normally off or the church is normally closed.

Session approved a third 3-year term for Bill Moss and a second 3-year term for John Henderson on the Foundation Board of Trustees.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Westminster Annual Meeting Reminder

Westminster will hold its annual meeting Jan. 26 at 10 a.m. in the Family Life Center. We will have services at regular times, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Session Clerk Kathie Lane and Pastor Roger Grandia are working on the information packets and agenda. As soon as they are printed, we will let you know so you can read the reports in advance of the meeting.

Spring 2020 Adult Education Schedule

Westminster's Adult Education Committee has been hard at work reviewing materials in order to come up with another outstanding set of topics for the Spring 2020 semester. Please support this important ministry by attending. Adult Ed meets Sundays at 10 a.m. in the church atrium.

Jan. 5 – 19 Mike Bryant – Historian – “King David through an historian’s lens”

The name “Philistine” has become synonymous with barbarism, but in reality they were technologically superior to the Israelites, since they forged their weapons out of iron. These new invaders posed an existential threat that would force the twelve tribes to join forces or perish. Gain a new perspective on King David.

Jan 26 Annual Congregational Meeting – No Sunday School

Feb. 2 Hymnology – David Liljedahl and Don Damsteegt

Music has been part of religious worship for thousands of years. In this 3-week class we will discuss the role of music in worship and will examine the origins of several favorite hymns.

Feb. 23 – April 5 - Lenten Series – “Moving Mountains – Praying with Passion, Confidence and Authority”

This video-based series on prayer is based on the assumption that God empowers us. 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.

Mar. 29 Fifth Sunday – No Adult Ed class

April 12 Easter Sunday – No Adult Ed class

April 19 – May 10 - Peter Jauhiainen – Professor of Religion – Kirkwood Community College

“Religion and American Politics” – Peter will consider changes in the way religion and politics have interacted in the last few decades, including the influence that religious groups may have on the 2020 election.

May 17 - TBD

Special thanks to Don Damsteegt for moderating this committee and to committee members, Dale Crosier, David Liljedahl, John Swanson, Signe Henderson, Gary Teig and Pastor Roger Grandia. Late in the year Paul Kongshaug and Jill Grandia also joined the committee.

Kids and Animals of the Bible

Spring 2020 Sunday School

Two fun themes come together for our spring semester of Sunday School: Kids of the Bible and Animals of the Bible. Sunday School will start up again on Jan. 12. Our team of teachers will rotate through the semester. We are also dividing into two classes to better accommodate the different ages we serve. Please have the kids up on the landing no later than 10:10.

Kids of the Bible

Jan. 12 David (as a youth)
 Jan. 19 Samuel
 Jan. 26 Annual Meeting
 Feb. 2 Cain and Abel
 Feb. 9 Moses/Miriam
 Feb. 16 Isaac-Esau & Ishmael
 Feb. 23 Joseph (as a youth)
 March 1 Jesus in the Temple
 March 8 Jesus heals the little girl
 March 15 No class, Spring Break
 March 22 Open Day
 March 29 No Sunday School-Joint Service

Animals of the Bible

April 5 Donkey that carried Jesus on Palm Sunday
 April 12 Easter-Activity in Old Dining
 April 19 Jonah & the Whale
 April 26 Lions! (Daniel in the Den)
 May 3 Noah & the Ark Animals
 May 10 Snakes!-Adam & Eve or Moses' Staff
 May 17 Celebration for the Kids-Last Sunday

Family Christmas, Family Fun



Over 70 people came out to celebrate the Westminster Family Christmas on Dec. 15. This year was extra fun because the kids put on a Christmas puppet show and Pastor Roger chalked a Peanuts drawing. Everybody got into the 12-Days of Christmas. We do it each year, but it never gets old. Thanks to everyone who brought food or wassail (Tom Read). It was a great time!





Ken Ngombwa	1
Josiane Uwera	1
Luman Colton	2
Antoinette Mukakabanda	4
Karol Cooper	10
Sherry Cornish	10
Signe Henderson	11
Leanne Leeper	15
Brenden McLean	18
Ann Buckheister	19
Linda Smith	21
Mary Sturbaum	25
Jackie Alff	28
Jack Haney	28
Val Neubauer	30
Tim Winegarden	30
Jan Kupka	31



The Month of January
Thank You Volunteers!

Offering Stewards

- Jan. 6 —Maggie York & Warren Feerer
- Jan. 13—Barb & Bill Moss
- *Jan. 21—Warren Feerer & Tom Read
- Jan. 27—Pat Teig & Mark Tyler

*Banks closed on Monday.

9 a.m. Liturgists

- Jan. 5—Val Neubauer
- Jan. 12—Lemi Tilahun
- Jan. 19—Butch Hataway
- Jan. 26—Ben Fashimpaur

11 a.m. Liturgists

- Jan. 5—Dick Trotter
- Jan. 12—Warren Feerer
- Jan. 19—Barb Moss
- Jan. 26—Deb Liljedahl

11:00 a.m. Ushers/Greeters

- Jan. 5—Jean Kenison & Sharon Colton
- Jan. 12—John Henderson & Joan Charters
- Jan. 19—Flora Kitzman & Brian Read
- Jan. 26—Barb Schultz & Dick Trotter

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

A full liturgist and usher schedule will be published in January.

We are still working on the usher and liturgist schedules for 2020. We really need more people to step up to usher at the 11 and serve as liturgist at either service. Please let the office know if you are willing to serve. Thanks!

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day Closed	2 Church Closed	3 Church Closed 8:30 pm - NA	4 7:30 pm - NA
5 Communion Sunday 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service 10 am-Adult Ed 11 am-Traditional Service	6 10:30-Bridge 6 pm-Deacons	7 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA	8 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group 9:30 am – Shawl Ministry 7 pm – Choir Practice	9 11 am-Bridge	10 Church Closed 8:30 pm - NA	11 7:30 pm - NA
12 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service 10 am-Christian Ed 11 am-Traditional Service 4 pm-Chorale Midwest 6pm-Cedar Singers	13 10:30-Bridge 1pm-Property	14 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA	15 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group 7 pm – Choir Practice	16 Newsletter Deadline 11 am-Bridge	17 Church Closed 8:30 pm - NA	18 7:30 pm - NA
19 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service 10 am-Christian Ed 11 am-Traditional Service 4 pm-Chorale Midwest	20 10:30 am-Bridge 4:30pm-Finance	21 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-Session 6:30 pm-NA	22 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group 1pm-Prayer Shawl 7 pm – Choir Practice	23 No Bridge	24 Church Closed 8:30 pm - NA	25 7:30 pm - NA
26 8:30 am-Breakfast 9 am-FUEL Service 10 am-Annual Meeting 11 am-Traditional Service 4 pm-Chorale Midwest 6 pm-Cedar Singers	27 10:30 am-Bridge	28 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm-NA	29 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group 7 pm – Choir Practice	30 No Bridge	31 Church Closed 8:30 pm - NA	

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

Westminster Presbyterian Church
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Return Service Requested

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January 2020

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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