



The Voice of Westminster

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

September 2022

Last month we looked at portions of Lisa Rodriguez-Watson's article entitled, "*Why Immigrants Are Our Greatest Hope for Church Renewal*." One of the quotes we shared was the following:

"If we will embody mutuality, marked by a true understanding that we need one another, we will flourish. If we are open-handed and share power, we will thrive. If we say "yes" to this movement of God, it will simultaneously feel like loss and gain. Will we choose to surrender our power, our preferences, our positions, and receive the gift of renewal? If we are concerned with saving our lives as we know them—our comforts, our convenience, our rights—we will lose them. But if we are willing to lose our lives for the sake of God's mission in the world, then we will most assuredly find them." (If you would like to read the entire article contact me)."

Our Session, in their August meeting, took steps to move in this direction by honoring a request from Pastor Theogene Havugimana, a Pastor from Rwanda. He was able to come to the United States in 2010 after six years in refugee camps. His congregation plans to worship in the Old Dining Room on Sundays from 2 pm-5pm.

After coming to the United States, Pastor Theo started the Evangelical Global Pentecost Church; where he is both the founder and chief executive. Pastor Theo notes, "We help refugees and immigrants worship in their culture, integrate themselves in the community, find jobs, and share their experiences."

After being in the United States for several years, Pastor Theo attended the University of Iowa, where he completed a B.A. in Religious Studies, a B.A. in Global Health, and a B.A. in International Studies and graduated in all three majors in May 2018. He is currently working on his Masters of Divinity/Chaplain.

He strongly believes that after this Biblical training, he will be able to positively empower the community, helping build strong leadership and discipleship, especially to African church leaders in the U.S. and in Africa.

To better reach African church leaders without any barriers, he founded "Enihakole Ministries" based on Judges 15:18-19. In this group, African church leaders can feel welcome and gain leadership training in the United States and in Africa. According to Pastor Theo, "We use this ministry in outreach, and with our limited resources we try our best to help others in need. During the pandemic we fed 135 families in Rwanda, we paid health care fees for 180 people in Rwanda for a year, and bought 17 goats for 17 widows in Burundi.

How did this connection with Westminster come about? This congregation formerly met at First Presbyterian in Iowa City. They wanted to move the church to Cedar Rapids, because most of their members are residents here. Knowing we had hosted other congregations in the past, the Presbytery recommended Pastor Theo contact me. They will begin worship here on Sunday September 4, 2022. Please make them feel welcome!

- Pastor Roger

Back to School Jubilee

Westminster + Beacon of Light = God's Work

Westminster teamed up with Beacon of Light to provide school supplies for a little over 200 people. Prayers for a great school year were offered and lunch provided. One of the organizers, Marcy Roundtree called the event "phenomenal". Thanks to the volunteers who helped set up and tear down and those who offered prayers and staffed the grill. The event was topped off with a very positive story on Channel 9's news. It's amazing what we can do when we all work together!

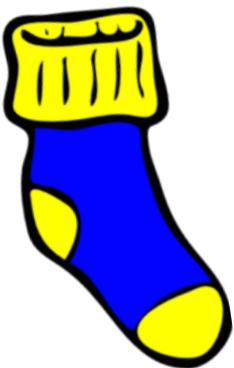


Westminster Day at the Kernels

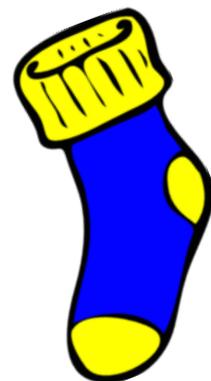
Westminster-ites took in a Kernels baseball game Sunday, Aug. 21. Great game, great weather and good ball park food. The Kernels beat the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers 7 to 3, including three 2-run home runs. Wowza! Thanks to everybody who came out to enjoy some ball park fellowship.



Put a Sock In it! (for L&F)



When cooler weather sets in, our clients at Loaves & Fishes (in particular the men) are in need of socks to help keep feet warm. So, through September, we are collecting new socks to give away in November. Next time you're out and about, pick up a pair or two and drop them off in the L&F grocery cart in the foyer. Our clients thank you!!





Session Notes from August 2022 Meeting

Ruling Elders present: Barb Read, David Liljedahl, Brian Read, Jim Fine, Terry Perkins, Jim Patterson. Elders absent: Tamene Gelashe, Doug Horton, Jan Kosowski, Bob Moore Guests: John Swanson .

The meeting opened with a discussion of Carey Nieuwhof's article "7 Things Christians Should Give Up to Reach Unchurched People." Discussion focused on how the article might relate to Westminster.

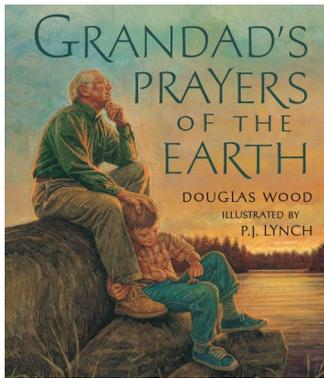
Session approved a motion by a task force for building use to enter into a relationship with Pastor Theogene Havugimana for use of the Old Dining Room and Youth Room on Sundays from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Pastor Theo's purpose is to establish a Swahili speaking congregation. The congregation's first worship service will be Sept. 4.

The meeting was closed with prayer. The next Session meeting is scheduled for September 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor VLC Update from Maryland!



The Mizo Presbyterian Church (Chartered Member of The PC USA) was founded on January 2, 1994, they have been worshipping at the Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church since September 1995. The Mizo Presbyterian Church has 117 members (84 adults, 4 associate members, and 29 baptized/children). They are immigrants who came from Burma/ Myanmar as a refuge and India. Vanlal Chhangte (VLC) will be the third pastor at the Mizo Presbyterian Church.



Westminster launches its fall semester of Christian Education on Sunday, Sept. 18 at 9 a.m. Adult Education will explore a series called "If". Pastor Roger will moderate.

Our Westminster kids will be learning about many different topics, including taking care of the Earth, diversity and the amazing Animated Adventures of Bibleman. We plan to use a teacher-rotation system that we used a few years ago, before the pandemic. We will post a full list of topics and teachers in upcoming bulletin announcements.

The Sunday before Christian Ed gets underway, we will have a Rally Sunday Cookout. See the details below.

RALLY SUNDAY COOKOUT!

Sunday, Sept. 11, plan on having lunch at Westminster after worship. We will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. We'll have sides brought in by HyVee. What can you do? How about bringing in cookies or your favorite bars for dessert?

David Leeper will cook outside, but we'll eat inside-in the Family Life Center.

We'll have a raffle for some goodies and learn a bit more about the Christian Ed fall semester at Westminster. We hope you'll join us.



DEACONS BIBLE TRIVIA—HOW KNOWLEDGEABLE ARE YOU?

The Westminster Deacons have come up a new addition to the monthly newsletter-Bible trivia! Each month, a question will be asked in the "Voice of Westminster" newsletter and Pastor Roger will reveal the answer during the church service. So, here's the question for this month, courtesy of Glenn Lane:

Who was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot after he betrayed Jesus?

1. James
2. Matthias
3. Joseph
4. Barnabas

Pastor Roger will have the answer during the worship service on Sept. 4.



September Birthdays

Dorothy Benesh	Sept. 4
Lisa Conkling	Sept. 4
Marcia Elhart	Sept. 4
Bryan Hawkins	Sept. 4
Kathie Lane	Sept. 6
Becky Ranck	Sept. 6
Barb Mumford	Sept. 8
Janalee Kosowski	Sept. 9
Gary Teig	Sept. 14
Alice Crosier	Sept. 27
Bob Moore	Sept. 27
Marilyn Alford	Sept. 29
Bob Allsop	Sept. 29
Mike Canning	Sept. 29

The Month of September Thank You Volunteers!

Liturgists

Sept. 4—Barb Mumford

Sept. 11—Loren Neubauer

Sept. 18—Warren Feerer

Sept. 25—Ed Mumford

Greeters (at Front Door)

Sept. 4—Jim Fine

Sept. 11—Bob Moore

Sept. 18—Brian Read

Sept. 25—Terry Perkins

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

Meme of the Month...

Following a major incident in the Garden of Eden, news broadcasters interview a key suspect who denies everything.



WPC Calendar Sept. 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Communion Sunday 10 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary 1 p.m. – Beacon of Light 1:30 p.m. Swahili Language Service	5 Labor Day-Church Closed 7 pm – AA-Old Dining	6 2:30 p.m. – L&F Pantry 6 p.m. – Beacon of Light	7 7:30 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast-Atrium 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30 p.m. – Life after Life	8 11:30 a.m. – Sunshine Club 1 p.m. – Personnel Committee 6 p.m. Beacon of Light	9 Church Closed	10 Church Closed
11 10 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary 11:45 a.m. – Rally Sunday Cookout-FLC 1 p.m. Beacon of Light 1:30 p.m. Swahili Language Service 3 p.m. – MW Chorale	12 11 a.m. – Bridge Club 1 p.m. – Property Committee 6 p.m. – Deacons Meet 6:30 p.m. Mission Committee 7 p.m. AA-Old Dining Room	13 11:30 a.m. – Sunshine Club-FLC 2:30 p.m. – L&F Pantry 6 p.m. – Beacon of Light 6:30 p.m. Wellington Heights Assoc	14 7:30 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast-Atrium 5:30 p.m. Life after Life-Atrium	15 9:30 – Westminster Wonder Women 6 p.m. Beacon of Light	16 Church Closed Newsletter Deadline	17 Church Closed
18 9 a.m. Christian Ed Launches 10 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary 1 p.m. Beacon of Light 1:30 p.m. Swahili Language Service 3 p.m. – MW Chorale	19 11 a.m. Bridge Club 4:30 p.m. Finance Meeting 7 p.m. – AA Old Dining	20 2:30 p.m. – L&F Pantry 6 p.m. – Beacon of Light 6:30 p.m. Session	21 7:30 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast-Atrium 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30 p.m. – Life after Life	22 6 p.m. Beacon of Light	23 Church Closed	24 Church Closed
25 9 a.m. Christian Ed 10 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary 1 p.m. Beacon of Light 1:30 p.m. Swahili Language Service 3 p.m. – MW Chorale	26 11 a.m. Bridge Club-FLC 7 p.m. AA – Old Dining	27 2:30 p.m. L&F Pantry 6 p.m. Beacon of Light	28 7:30 a.m. Men’s Breakfast 9 a.m. Newsletter Assemblage 5:30 p.m. Life after Life	29 6 p.m. – Beacon of Light	30 Church Closed	

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

The Voice of Westminster
September 2022

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Office Hours

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

Sunday Worship

10 a.m.—Sanctuary

We live stream on our YouTube Channel & Facebook Page

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

Phone: 319-366-7185

Church Staff

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