



The Voice of Westminster

August – September 2023

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

Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer-at Westminster

From the ball park to the parking lot, Westminster members kept busy this summer. The Cedar Rapids Kernels are having a good season and Westminster was there. Pastors Roger Grandia and Dedric Roundtree donned their aprons and grilled lunch for the neighborhood in July. Like all summers, we have to set aside the fun and get back to the real work of the church.



Holy Moments

I saw the book on our coffee table. I picked it up and read the title: Holy Moments: A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life by Matthew Kelly. I ended up finding that my sister, who had visited a few days before, had left it on the coffee table.

The title intrigued me, so I picked it up and began to read and kept reading until I was done. It is an easy read, and does not take long. As I read, I found it intriguing in reframing how to see things and live out our love for others.

The idea of Holy Moments is as Matthew Kelly notes, "Profoundly simple, astonishingly practical, and once you discover it, your life will finally make sense. It is time to let Holy Moments show you what is possible. It is time to explore your soul potential."

When we kick off our fall in September I intend to explore through sermons some of the biblical basis of this concept. Each person will get a copy of the book to discover what Holy Moments are, and how it can guide us in our daily lives. We further hope to participate in what is called the "21 Day Challenge" (information coming at a later time)." I am excited to see what God might do through this!

-Pastor Roger

Special Offering Totals

Westminster continues its dedication to the mission-centered special offerings collected for PCUSA. The two previous offerings brought in substantial amounts:

One Great Hour of Sharing: \$970.00

Pentecostal Offering: \$520.00

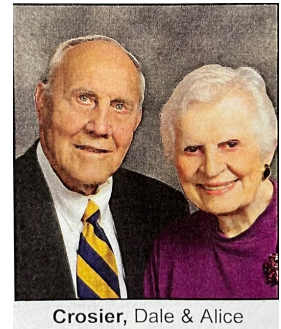
Forty-percent of these offerings stayed with Westminster for local projects: \$1,208.00

Our next special offering will be the Peace and Global Witness Offering which will from Sept. 3-Oct. 1, which is Worldwide Communion Sunday.

There will be additional information in your Sunday bulletins.

Fond Farewells

Westminster will have not one, but two farewell receptions during August (sadly). On the first Sunday of August (6th), we will say farewell to longtime members Alice and Dale Crosier. They are moving to the Des Moines area (Clive). The Crosiers' contributions to Westminster and the community have been many. The Hospitality Committee has planned a reception for after the service in lieu of our regular coffee hour.



Crosier, Dale & Alice



A.J. Plummer, our music director, will be leaving at the end of August. He and his wife Marta will be moving to the Denver area. This has been A.J.'s third stint at Westminster. A.J. most recently was director of music. He directed both the choir and the praise band and was instrumental in transitioning musically to the combined service. During Covid, he regularly recorded music for our online services from his home. A.J. will be missed, but we wish him and Marta the best. We will hold a celebration for A.J. after the service on Aug. 27, his last Sunday, in the Large Parlor.

Please plan to join us for both of these receptions and give folks a happy sendoff.

Hospitality Events Coming Up

Hospitality Committee has been busy planning several activities to give everyone a chance to get together for fellowship.

Sunday, Sept. 10

Mini-Golf at Twin Pines

After Church-More details coming

Other "Save-the-Dates" coming up later in 2023:

Sunday, Oct. 15—Fall Chili Lunch-FLC-after church

Sunday, Dec. 10—Christmas Fellowship-Large Parlor-after church

Watch weekly announcements for more information, mark your calendars and look for signup sheets with more information in the Large Parlor!

L&F Numbers Soar

Volunteers at our Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry continue to serve high numbers. In the past two weeks alone, they have served from 187 to 190 people. Approximately half of these people have been new visitors to L&F. Despite the added work load, volunteers manage to smile and even have a chuckle or two. L&F likes to offer other items to clients—anything from clothing to sunglasses. Pantry Director Jan Kosowski shared a few snapshots from one of their busier days.



This is a good time to remind everyone that L&F relies on contributions to keep up with the growing demand for food. Checks to Westminster with "Loaves & Fishes" in the memo line will find their way to the pantry. Thank you to everyone for their support of this important mission. Thank you, too, to the volunteers who show up week after week to help.



Grillin' Wednesdays A Success

Westminster and Beacon of Light Ministries teamed up in July for "Grillin' Wednesdays," an opportunity to share hamburgers and hot dogs with neighbors in Wellington Heights. Pastor Roger and Pastor Dedric teamed up, with aprons in tow, to grill and serve lunch from 11:30 a.m.—1 p.m. in the Westminster parking lot. Turnout was excellent with 85-to-95 neighbors stopping by the food and conversation.



Cold lemonade, water, chips and homemade cookies were also given out. Kids got a chance to play with legos and puppets.



The Deacons Bible Trivia Question

What is the longest book in the Bible, and within 500 words, how long is it?

Answer on p. 6

Operation Back-to-School

Westminster has been approached to help a family from the Pentecostal Swahili congregation that worships at Westminster. They need a little help getting their kids ready for school. There are five school-aged children, the husband is totally blind and the wife recently had a stillborn. They are not working. The kids, ages 6-17, need items for school. If you are willing to help, we will have a signup board in the Large Parlor, complete with photos and needed items in the coming weeks. We will keep a container to collect items. These items are based on the Cedar Rapids School District . We also hope to purchase a back-to-school outfit for each one.



Beatrice, 10



Irene, 12



Merci, 15



James, 6



Sawadi, 17



Back to School Jubilee!

Our Back to School effort with Beacon of Light Ministries last summer was so successful, we're going to do it again. The event will be held Saturday, Aug. 19, at Westminster. Like last year, we will be collecting money for shoe cards and laundry detergent. The grill will be going to provide food for visitors. Last year, we served about 200



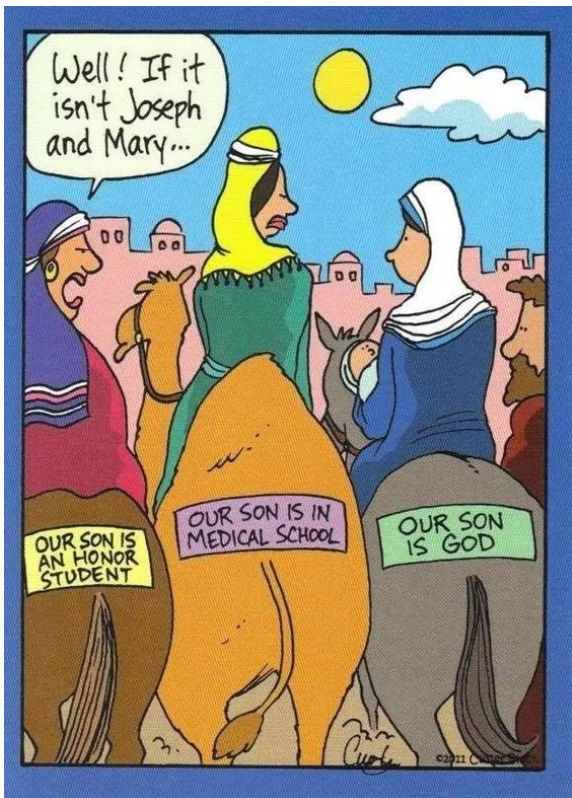
August

Lee Anne Hataway	August 3
Mary Jo Crull	August 4
Jacqui Fashimpaur	August 4
Connie Hayes	August 7
Marybeth Allsop	August 8
Flora Kitzman	August 13
Don Hoepfner	August 19
David Cosgrove	August 20
Suzanne Huebsch	August 22
Marjorie Bjornsen	August 24
Larry Cooper	August 24
James Patterson	August 25
Nancy Hawkins	August 27
Jan Perkins	August 27
Robert Warner	August 30

September

Lisa Conkling	September 4
James Ngombwa	September 5
Kathie Lane	September 6
Becky Ranck	September 6
Barb Mumford	September 8
Janalee Kosowski	September 9
Gary Teig	September 14
Susan Kibui	September 25
Alice Crosier	September 27
Bob Moore	September 27
Marilyn Alford	September 29
Mike Canning	September 29

Meme of the Month(s)



**The Months of August & September
Thank You Volunteers!**

Liturgists

Aug. 6—Deb Liljedahl

Aug.13—Brian Read

Aug.20—Jan Kosowski

Aug. 27—Jan Walton

Sept. 3—Ann Buckheiser

Sept. 10—Warren Feerer

Sept. 17—Heather Wagner

Sept. 24—Brian Read

Greeters (at the Front Door)

First Sunday—Jim Fine

Second Sunday—Brian Read

Third Sunday—Terry Perkins

Fourth Sunday—Jim Fine

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

Bible Trivia Answer:

The book of Psalms is the longest book in the Bible, with 30,147 words in length.

On the Westminster Calendar

Weekly Recurring Activities

Sundays

Communion Sunday (1st Sunday)

10 a.m. Westminster Worship

11:30 am. – Beacon of Light

1:30 p.m. – Evangelical Pentecostal Church (Swahili)

5-9 p.m. – Chorale Midwest

Mondays

11 a.m. Bridge Club-FLC

5:30 p.m. – Ceramics Class

7 p.m. A.A-Old Dining

Tuesdays

2:30-5 p.m. Loaves & Fishes

6 p.m. – Beacon of light (Housing Initiative)

Wednesday

7:30 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

Thursday

6 p.m. – Beacon of Light

Fridays

Church Closed

Saturdays

Office Closed-10 a.m. Evangelical Pentecostal Church (Swahili)

Other Event Times

Aug. 18 – 8 a.m. Bridge Tournament

Aug. 19 – 1-3:30 p.m. - Back-to-School Jubilee

Sept. 2 – 10 a.m.-10 p.m. – NA Speakers

Mondays:

1st Monday-Deacons, 6 p.m.

2nd Monday Mission Comm. (time varies)

2nd Monday-Property Comm. – 1 p.m.

3rd Monday – Finance Committee 4:30 p.m.

Tuesdays:

3rd Tuesday Session 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays:

1st & 3rd Wednesdays Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:30 a.m.

Thursdays:

2nd Thursday Soul Sisters 9:30 a.m.

2nd Thursday Personnel Comm. 1:30 p.m.

4th Thursday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

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

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1285 Third Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403-4084

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Return Service Requested

The Voice of Westminster
August-September 2023

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday Worship

10 a.m.—Sanctuary

We livestream on our YouTube Channel & Facebook Page

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

Phone: 319-366-7185

Church Staff

Pastor, Roger D. Grandia
Office Manager, Lisa Freeman
Communications Coordinator, Gale Smetana
Music Director, A.J. Plummer
Bookkeeper, Tina Mueller
Nursery Attendant, Lindsay Meade
Nursery Assistant: Jill Lorimor

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