

Voice of Westminster



April: “SECOND CHANCES”

April happens to be “Second Chances” month. As we enter this month, we are so grateful for Jesus’ death and resurrection, which enable us to experience “second chances” amidst our failures and unfaithfulness. **Romans 6:23** (NLT) declares: **“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”** Christ died in our place so we could experience grace and forgiveness, emotional and spiritual healing, abundant and eternal life. **What a gift!**

I am so richly blessed to be able to serve on the Leadership Team for the Sheepgate Cursillo on April 4-8, 2024. This is a unique weekend (similar to De Colores, Via de Christo, Walk to Emmaus, Pilgrimage, etc.) held in a unique setting, a historical building that has been everything from a plush resort to a “pig” palace to a monastery, built on a bluff overlooking the little town of Colfax, IA. Those who will be participating are men engaged in a year-long process to overcome addiction. Many have also served time in prison.

While yet to be scheduled, I am hoping to have a graduate of Hope CDA, share in one of our April services. This ministry, located in Wellington Heights Neighborhood near us, is also helping individuals who were previously incarcerated, and battling addiction, experience a “second chance”, by helping them develop work and life skills, built on the foundation of a relationship with Jesus Christ.

It has been a pleasure serving on the taskforce to bring in Father Michael Lapsley, an Anglican priest from South Africa here to Cedar Rapids, IA. He was an activist in the fight against apartheid. After being expelled from South Africa, he was sent a letter bomb, which, when opened, blew off his hands, took an eye out and burned much of his body. Among his numerous activities around the globe, Father Michael is the Founder and President of the Institute of Healing of Memories in both South Africa and the US. This ministry is seeking to help people, communities, and countries be released from the horrible memories of past traumatic experiences, giving them a new lease on life, truly a “second chance.”

Hopefully, as spring arrives and we see the signs of growth in nature, these and other opportunities can be a catalyst to our own spiritual growth.- **Pastor Roger**

Maundy Thursday



Last Thursday we commemorated the Lord's Supper here at Westminster with other Cedar Rapids Presbyterian Churches and our 2 partner churches, Beacon of Light and Evangelical Global Pentecost Church. We started the evening with a soup and sandwich supper and of course cookies! After the meal everyone joined together in the Sanctuary for a special Maundy Thursday service. Our service had six different reading stations all preformed by the different churches in attendance. After each reading one of the six candles was extinguished by Pastor Theo. The night was enjoyed by one and all.



Rightnow Media

Did you know that Westminster has an account with **Rightnow Media**? What is **Rightnow Media** you ask? It is access to 20,000 + bible study videos-anytime, anywhere from any device. By now you will have received a special email and a flyer in Sundays bulletin giving you 2 ways to sign up for your free account courtesy of Westminster. If you have any questions or problems setting up an account please contact Lisa in the office or feel free to stop by anytime Mon - Thur. 9am - 3pm. We would love to get you going!

Father Michael Lapsley



Father Michael will be visiting Cedar Rapids from Africa in April. In a presentation on April 15 at 7:30 pm in the Sinclair Auditorium at Coe College he will introduce us to the power of healing through stories. He will share his own riveting story that led him to form the Institute for Healing of Memories in South Africa in 1998. Everyone is welcome to attend. It will be an amazing evening.

Pastor Theo Havugimana



Pastor Theo spoke at the Men's breakfast on March 27. He began by giving a background about himself. He is from Rwanda and lived in a refugee camp in Tanzania for 6 years where he met his wife. He and his wife have 4 children. He talked about the horrible conditions and corrupt police force that ran the camps. He explained how difficult it is to break the vicious cycle and get out of a camp. Pastor Theo then explained the classes he has taken to be able to head the sponsorship for the family living in the refugee camp in Tanzania. Pastor Theo and his ministry need to raise \$3,000 for each of the seven family members. This money must be verified by the government before they will bring the family to the U.S. Session approved a \$2,000 donation in March from the mission budget, the men's breakfast group also donated \$250.00 to help get this family here. Anyone wanting to donate extra to help this family may contact Lisa in the office at 319-366-7185 or lisa@crwpc.org.



Calendar: Special Events

- April 1** - Deacons Meet 5:00 p.m.
- April 7** - Guest Pastor - Anni Thorn
No Adult Ed Class
- April 8** - Mission Committee 6:30 p.m.
(zoom)
- April 15** - Property Meets 1 p.m.
Finance Meets 4:30 p.m.
- April 16** - Session Meets 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Roger is gone April 4-8 to serve as a Spiritual Director at Sheepgate Cursillo in Colfax, IA (a spiritual renewal weekend for those battling addiction and/or previously incarcerated.

Access the updated WPC calendar at crwpc.org/calendar

Calendar: Regular Events

Sundays:

- Breakfast 8 -9:30 a.m. - Old Dining
- Adult Education 8:30 a.m. - Atrium
- Worship 10 a.m. - Sanctuary
- Beacon of Light 11:30 a.m. - Chapel
- Beacon of Light Community Dinner every other Sunday starting on 4/7
- EGPC-1:30 p.m. - Old Dining
- Chorale Midwest 3 p.m.- Large Parlor

Mondays

- Bridge 11 a.m.-4 p.m. - FLC
- Women in Action 7 p.m. - FLC

Tuesdays

- L&F Pantry 2:30-5 p.m.
- Beacon of Light (100 in 24) 6 p.m.



This Month's Birthdays

Betty Pohorsky	April 1
Nancy Evans	April 2
Bob Moran	April 8
Arefat Ali	April 8
Butch Hataway	April 10
Mark Tyler	April 10
Joan Charters	April 12
Barbara Schultz	April 20
Jennie Shanklin	April 25
Karen Zazza	April 26
Thomas Read	April 26
Ann Hearn	April 29

Liturgist Schedule for April

- April 7 - Brian Read
- April 14 - Ben Fashimpaur
- April 21 - Jill Grandia
- April 28 - Ed Mumford

Greeters

- 1st Sunday - Jim Fine
- 2nd Sunday - Terry Perkins
- 3rd Sunday - Brian Read
- 4th & 5th Sunday - Kupka's or Neubauers

Greeters please be in foyer between 9:30 - 9:45 a.m.

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m. - Atrium
Prayer Shawl Ministry-1 & 3 Wednesdays
9:30 a.m. - Small Parlor
Choir 7 p.m. - Choir Room

Thursdays

Bible Study-2 & 4 Thursdays 9:30 a.m. -
Atrium
Beacon of Light (Youth Group) 6 p.m.

Fridays

Office Closed

Saturdays

EGPC 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Old Dining

About Your Newsletter

The “Voice of Westminster” newsletter will no longer be mailed to you but delivered to your email inbox. This was approved by Session. Homebound members will still receive a printed copy as many do not have access to a computer. Printed copies also will be available in the foyer kiosk.



Westminster Presbyterian Church | 1285 3rd Ave SE-Cedar Rapids, IA |319.366.7185 | crwpc.org

Westminster Presbyterian Church | 1285 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

[Unsubscribe westmin@crwpc.org](mailto:westmin@crwpc.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by westmin@crwpc.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!