

The Voice of Westminster

April-May 2023

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



Holy Week-Westminster Style

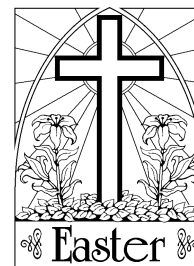


Symbols of Holy Week are important at Westminster. Our Westminster Kids learned all about them in Sunday School with the help of Lego™ models that they built and placed on display in the Large Parlor. Hosanna!



Special Music For Holy Week

The Westminster Chancel Choir will be joined by many musical guests during Holy Week this year. Starting with Palm Sunday, local composer, educator, and violinist Natalie Brown will accompany the



choral anthem, "Hosanna, Hosanna," bringing to life a festive arrangement of Christ's ride into Jerusalem.

The following Sunday, our Easter worship will be full to the brim with music accompanied by a string quintet comprised of very talented local musicians, including the Associate Concertmaster of Orchestra Iowa. Complementing the piece are the choir, string quintet, and Lindsay Meade on flute/piccolo for the anthem, "Our Hope is Alive," an energetic work exclaiming the joy and hope of Christ's resurrection. A select group of choral singers from Coe and Cornell Colleges will also be joining us for Easter, thanks to the generosity of Jan Kosowski, Sharon Colton and Joyce Sedlacek. With congregational hymns accompanied by piano, string quintet, and the Chancel Choir, this year's Easter worship will be a joyous celebration not to be missed.

Holy Week-Palm Sunday-Easter Worship

Palm Sunday, April 2, 10 a.m. (Breakfast 8-9:30 a.m.)

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7 p.m. Communion and Tenebrae Service at
First Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday, April 9, 10 a.m.—Sanctuary (Breakfast 8-9:30 a.m.)

From the Pastor's Desk...

The Gift of Prayer

I have been impressed with the ministry of the His Hands Free Clinic since I arrived in Cedar Rapids four years ago. I remember visiting for the first time when the clinic was located on the corner of 12th St. and 4th Avenue. I was amazed at the breadth of services they offered, though the space was limited. One of the areas that was offered was prayer for each patient. I was asked to consider being a prayer partner, but having just arrived I was hesitant to commit at that time. I continued to contemplate this opportunity, but never decided to commit.

When they made the move to the current location at 1245 2nd Ave. SE, I went to the open house. I was amazed at the growth of both space and services. Again, the opportunity to be a prayer partner presented itself. I still did not sign up.

Then a month ago, pastors were invited to a time of prayer. I decided to attend. I finally felt the timing was right, and after returning to my office, I went online to fill out an application. After, clearing the background check, taking the training necessary, and job shadowing, I then took my first shift (a morning one). We began the day with prayer with the entire staff, and then went to our respective places.

At the appropriate time I would go into the room and ask the patient how I might pray for them. Some do not wish to have prayer, but most appreciate it. After offering prayer we offer a Bible in their own language, a devotional, and a paper with the names of numerous churches available. (Yes, Westminster is on it). What a blessing to be able to be involved in this ministry. I thoroughly enjoy serving at Loaves and Fishes, but because it receives government commodities, no mention of Christ or invitations to church are allowed. Perhaps God might be calling you to volunteer.

- Pastor Roger

Deacon Bible Trivia



Question: Which two tribes of Israel were not named after sons of Jacob?

Answer on p. 6

Stories From Loaves & Fishes

Over this last year we came to realize what a large percentage of our food pantry clients have food restrictions or special needs. These needs range from medical conditions, lack of teeth, and limited or no cooking facilities (which often means they are homeless). In an effort to meet some of these needs, so clients can make use of the food we are offering, L & F from time to time offers our clients cooking utensils, storage containers, dishes, and pots and pans. We also occasionally have some towels or bedding to offer them as well. Sometimes we are able to offer personal care items such as shampoo, toothpaste, soap, laundry detergent or other cleaning supplies. Once in a while we get a glimpse of how these offerings can make a difference for someone. We were able to provide one gentleman, who did not have a means to cook but was not homeless, with a George Foreman Lean Mean Grilling Machine. When he is offered some kind of meat he always asks "Can I cook this in my George Foreman Lean Mean Cooking Machine?" He is very proud of that machine! Thank you dear Saints for supporting L & F with donations of money and other items, and for your prayers for both the volunteers and for our clients. - *Jan Kosowski, Director*

Time's a Wastin'



We are heading into the final month (April) of the HyVee reusable bag campaign to raise money for Loaves & Fishes. If you purchase a \$2.50 reusable bag at the Edgewood HyVee during the month of March or April, HyVee will donate \$1.00 to Loaves & Fishes. This is only good at the HyVee at 5050 Edgewood Rd. NE during the rest of this month and April. Help L&F and the environment with this neat program.

Still Time For Mother's Day L&F Donation

Loaves & Fishes has an unusual Mother's Day request . Volunteers are collecting new packages of women's undies during March and April for giveaway on Tuesday May 9, for Mother's Day . While undies are not something you would traditionally give your mother, many, many of the clients that come to L & F have little or no money for this most basic item



of clothing. Having a new pair of undies makes you feel so good! We are especially asking for larger sizes as this is the greatest need. Please consider contributing a package of new undies of any style during March and April. Just place them in the L & F grocery carts. Thank you.

Dinner & A Movie



We have had several shared worship opportunities with First Presbyterian Church this year including the Maundy Thursday service coming up.

After Easter, we are planning dinner and a movie for the women of both churches. Several men from each church, attired in black aprons, will be serving the sit-down dinner prepared by Chef Tom Read. Dinner and a movie will be held at Westminster on Saturday, April 15, beginning with the movie at 4 p.m. We will be watching the movie CODA in the Family Life Center. Coda is the story of a young woman who is the only hearing person in her family, and the effect that has on her life and the life of her family. Following the movie, we will enjoy dinner and a discussion lead by Babs Haggin who grew up as the daughter of deaf adults and is a proud member of CODA (Child Of Deaf Adults). Reservations can be made in the church office or by calling Barb Mumford at 319-361-2580. A member of Westminster will be in the large parlor taking reservations April 2 and 9. Cost for dinner is \$10.00, payable when you make your reservation.

Soul Sisters Schedule Change

Effective April 1, 2023, the Soul Sisters will now only meet once a month on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 9:30am. We are concentrating on having a guest speaker each month. April's guest speaker will be Barbara Peterson discussing Cancer Genetic Testing. Barbara spoke at the Men's Breakfast and the response was so positive, we have asked her to come back. All church family is invited to attend.

Anyone wishing to be reminded of future Soul Sisters meetings can forward their name, cell phone # and email to Jill Grandia.

Walk the Walk

Westminster will serve as the starting point for the Second Chance Prayer Walk on Sunday, April 23. The Second Chance Walk is sponsored by Hope Community Development Association, a Christian-based program for men who have been released from prison and are seeking a second chance in life. This will be a 1.2 mile walk that raises awareness for people who want second chances in life. The national sponsor is Prison Fellowship and there will be numerous events around the country.

Here in Cedar Rapids, the event will begin in Westminster's parking lot from 1-2 p.m. where walkers will park their cars, make announcements and hand out t-shirts. There will be three other stops along the way where walkers will hear from community leaders. The walk ends at Redmond Park. Walkers will come back to Westminster to get their cars around 3:30 p.m.

If you would like to join in, just be in our parking lot at 1 p.m. on April 23.





April & May Birthdays

April

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

May

Bob Vancura	May 1
Richard Cornish	May 2
James Heck	May 5
Prince Nabuyoli	May 7
Sue Winegarden	May 7
Tony Huebsch	May 12
Fran Hanzel Johnson	May 13
John Henderson	May 20
John Swanson	May 22
Paul Kongshaug	May 23
Steve Allsop	May 26
Joyce Sedlacek	May 26
Pat Teig	May 27

The Month of April & May Thank You Volunteers! Liturgists

April 2—Val Neubauer

April 9—Warren Feerer

April 16—Ed Mumford

April 23—Val Neubauer

May 7—Barb Read

May 14—Jan Kosowski

May 21—Brian Read

May 28—Jan Walton

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: Ephraim and Manasseh

Newsletter Changes

You will notice on p.7, that our newsletter calendar format has changed. Since much of the calendar is repetitious, we are dividing activities into the weekly recurring events, like the worship service and then adding meetings that are regularly scheduled in the next column. This is also the first newsletter that includes two months of information for April and May. Our weekly print and e-mail announcements will continue to contain the latest Westminster news and information.

On Our Calendar

Weekly Recurring Activities

Sundays

Communion Sunday (1st Sunday)

8 a.m. – Breakfast-Old Dining Rm

9 a.m.-Sunday School

10 a.m. – Worship

1 p.m. Beacon of Light

1:30 p.m. Swahili Pentecostal Service

3:30 p.m. – Chorale Midwest

Mondays

11 a.m. Bridge Club

7 p.m. AA-Old Dining Rm

Tuesdays

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

6 p.m. Beacon of Light (Housing Initiative)

Wednesdays

7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast

7 p.m. – Choir Practice

Thursdays

6 p.m. Beacon of Light

Fridays

Church Closed

Saturdays

Office Closed

10 a.m. Swahili Pentecostal

Special Services & Events

Palm Sunday, April 2, 10 a.m. - Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday April 6, 7 p.m.-at First Pres

Easter Sunday, April 9 10 a.m. – Sanctuary

See story about special music, p. 2

Dinner & A Movie Saturday, April 15, 4 p.m. - FLC

Other Meeting Times

1st Monday Deacons 6 p.m.

2nd Monday Mission Comm. (time varies)

2nd Monday Property Comm. 1 p.m.

3rd Monday Finance Comm. 4:30 p.m.

3rd Tuesday Session 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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Return Service Requested

The Voice of Westminster
April-May 2023

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

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

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Office Manager, Lisa Freeman

Communications Coordinator, Gale Smetana

Interim Music Director, A.J. Plummer

Bookkeeper, Tina Mueller

Nursery Attendant, Lindsay Meade

Nursery Assistant: Jill Lorimor

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