

Voice of Westminster



June 2026

The fourth focus point of transitional ministry is LEADERSHIP. Transition is a time that allows the congregation to honor those who have exercised leadership in the past, while recognizing that new ideas, approaches, and relationships may be necessary as the congregation moves into the future.

The focus points I discussed in previous newsletters provide important criteria for the kind of leadership required to move forward:

Leaders must be appreciative of the unique HERITAGE of the congregation.

Leaders must be committed to fulfilling the congregation's MISSION.

Leaders must strengthen CONNECTIONS to the community and beyond.

Leadership that is firmly rooted in heritage, mission and connections, is more likely to be aligned with the aspirations and passions of the congregation. Thus, this approach takes into account not only WHO leads, but HOW they lead. Leadership skills, styles, and functions must align with the congregation's sense of effective ministry, while recognizing the reality of ever-emerging and ever-changing contexts, both internal and external.

How can Westminster offer leadership development that is consistent with this approach? One way is through our connections! Elsewhere in this newsletter, you can read about Dubuque Seminary's "Congregational Equipping Program." The Seminary would like to offer an 8-week course to Third Avenue Churches in Cedar Rapids this fall if at least six individuals will register. The program is designed to nurture the gifts of Christian leaders to build up the ministry of the local church. Please let me know if this program interests you.

Next time, the fifth and last focus point: FUTURE.

Pastor Randy



MAY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Discussed chapter 1, "Our Fascination With Growth," in the book *The Gift of Small*. The basic claim of author Allen Stanton is that the goal of the local church is not simply to increase participation or worship attendance. An obsession with size or numerical growth is an improper goal. Rather, the goal of the local church is to help a group of people learn the habits and virtues that Jesus commanded the church to teach.
2. Adopted a Policy on Private and Public Spaces for the church building and parking lot in response to the potential appearance of ICE agents. Copies are available in the church office.
3. Approved the Personnel team recommendation and hired a part-time bookkeeper to begin June 16. Emelly Nezi Padilha is a recent graduate at Mount Mercy College with a degree in Finance. Emelly is originally from Brazil. She will also begin a graduate program at Mercy and help coach the soccer team.
4. Heard from the Finance team that contributions exceeded budgeted income for the fourth month in a row. Session is grateful for the generosity of members.
5. The Property team reported that re-paving the parking lot is completed. The next major project is to replace electrical panels to bring them up to the code of Church Mutual Insurance. Also, the controller on the digital sign will be replaced to get it functioning again. The integrity of the sign's power source has been verified.
6. The Mission team announced that Loaves and Fishes will be closed on Election Day, June 2. WPC is a polling site.
7. Pastor Randy shared that the Cedar Rapids Presbyterian pastors are discussing the possibility of a combined worship service on the campus of Coe College sometime this fall.



Strengthening Christ's Church by Equipping Congregations

Congregational Equipping courses offer a focused dive into the things you need to participate in ministry leadership, whether you serve as a church officer, a Christian Education leader or teacher, want training to become a commissioned ruling elder (CRE), or simply want to deepen your understanding of the Christian faith.

Students in Congregational Equipping courses can take individual courses based on specific ministry opportunities or can choose to complete a series of courses to earn a certificate in Congregational Leadership. Course offerings begin each semester and are provided flexibly online in 8-week sessions with experienced UDTS faculty and limited class sizes.

Rev. Dr. Tisha Brown from Dubuque Seminary would like to offer a course to Third Avenue Churches this fall if we can interest 6-8 individuals. More information about the Congregational Equipping Program is available in the church office and online at DERegistration@dbq.edu.



ANNOUNCEMENT FROM OUR PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Property Information: The month of May held some very large projects being completed and some new challenges that had to be addressed. First our fence in the south parking lot was hit by a car, verified by police, and that damage had to be repaired and a portion of the fence replaced. The picture above shows it before and after.

Secondly our south parking lot asphalt was removed and in doing that Pate Asphalt discovered some sinkage that had to be addressed before continuing. The picture below to the right shows the mounds of dirt and rock that had to be brought in, dumped and leveled before new asphalt could be laid. Good news is that it is complete and looks great!

In the meantime inside the building we developed a new leak in the atrium that Dry Space was able to repair quickly. Last of all we found water in the boiler room on the floor and quickly discovered our sump pump was not working. We tried to reset unfortunately it was history and had to be replaced. Our saying is becoming "If it isn't one thing it's another!" Praying for a better June.





PENTECOST SUNDAY/MEMORIAL DAY

Pentecost Sunday fell on Memorial Day weekend this year so there was much to be celebrated. Pentecost is the "birthday of the Church", celebrating the Holy Spirit descending upon the apostles. It is a call to step out from behind closed doors, trade fear for boldness, and carry the transformative flame of love, understanding, and unity into our daily lives.

Memorial Day is a day to be thankful to so many who devoted their lives to others. We remember and thank all the fallen soldiers, current soldiers and all of the families of these soldiers. All of these people everyday trade fears for boldness in protecting the United States. Sadly if there was a little more love in this world maybe things would show more unity. Let's add a prayer everyday this year into our prayer list for the world, our leaders and all God's children.





DURETI ALI GRADUATION

Dureti has begun a new chapter in her life. Pictured above is her family that was taken at her graduation party at Westminster on Sunday, May 24. Westminster members have watched her grow up and are so proud of the young lady she has become. We love you and wish you all the best for your future Dureti!



Calendar: Special Events

Pastor Randy on Vacation June 1-7
June 1 - Deacons Meet
June 2 - Primary Elections
June 6 - Big AA Meeting - FLC
June 7 - Communion Sunday (Guest Pastor)
June 8 - Property Meeting 1pm
June 15 - Finance Meets 4:30pm
June 16 - Session Meets 6:30pm
June 25 - WPC Member Meal 5:30pm
June 25 - Metro Mix Chorus Concert 7pm
June 28 - Guest Pastor



This Month's Birthdays

Sharon Colton	June 2
Ben Fashimpaur	June 5
Sherryl Hoepfner	June 5
Warren Feerer	June 11
Bonnie Keiper	June 13
Barb Read	June 16
Sandra Yarrington	June 14
Gloria Kromminga	June 17
Terry Perkins	June 20
Pam Feerer	June 24
David Basler	June 26

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry will be every Tuesday from 2:30 - 5 p.m. at Westminster in the Lower Level

Access the updated WPC calendar at crwpc.org/calendar

Calendar: Regular Events

Sundays

Natural Swedish Pentecostal Church 9am - Classroom

Westminster Worship 10am - Sanctuary

Beacon of Light 11:30am - Chapel

EGPC 11:30pm - Old Dining

NA (Face Anything/Fear Nothing) 5pm - Atrium

Mondays

Staff Meeting 11am - Pastor's Office

Bridge 11 a.m.-4pm - FLC

Marion Gospel Hall Youth Group 7pm - Atrium

Tuesdays

L&F Pantry 2:30 - 5pm - Downstairs

Beacon of Light (100 in 24) 6pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 7:30am - Atrium

Prayer Shawl - 1 & 3 Wednesdays 9:30am

Thursdays

NA (Face Anything/Fear Nothing) 5pm - Atrium

Beacon of Light Life Groups 6pm - Chapel

Fridays

Office Closed

EGPC 8pm First Fri. of mth. Women's overnight prayer

Saturdays

Office Closed

EGPC 10 am to 3pm - Old Dining

Natural Swedish Pentecostal Church 10am to 4pm

NA (Steps in the Right Direction) 11am - Atrium

EGPC 7pm last Sat. of mth. Men's overnight prayer



This Month's Anniversaries

Jim & Sue Patterson	June 4
Loren & Val Neubauer	June 6
Ed & Barb Mumford	June 22
Gary & Pat Teig	June 23

ATTENTION - If your birthday or anniversary does not appear in the specific month please contact the office so we can get your information updated.

Liturgist Schedule for June

June 7 - Pam Richardson

June 14 - Barb Mumford

June 21 - Ed Mumford

June 28 - Heather Wagner

Greeters

1st Sunday - Jim Fine

2nd Sunday - Terry Perkins

3rd Sunday - Jim Patterson

4th Sunday - Neubauers

5th Sunday -

If you would like to greet any Sunday please be in the foyer between 9:30 - 9:45 a.m.

Everyone is encouraged to greet anytime.



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