

Voice of Westminster



October 2025

If we were asked what do we celebrate on October 31, probably 99% would declare “Halloween!” Yet on this day for well over 500 years, many Christians would declare Reformation Day commemorating Martin Luther’s nailing of his 95 Theses to the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517 which sparked the beginning of the Reformation. Luther was simply trying to bring the church back to the heart of gospel as recorded in scripture. We as Presbyterians fall within this “Reformed” tradition. We recognize that the Reformation was not just an event in history, but was intended to be an ongoing process in our individual lives and in our lives together as a church. So the word “Reformed” means also constantly “being Reformed by the Word of God.” What does this process of becoming more Christlike look like? How does this transformation take place? We continue to pursue these questions this Sunday morning.

Pastor Roger



LOAVES & FISHES UPDATE

Loaves and Fishes numbers continue to grow. Last Tuesday, September 23, we served over 200 people and families. With the number of people needing assistance growing so much, L & F needs your assistance. More volunteers are greatly needed. Volunteers are needed to help unload, setup/stocking, and help during the pantry hours. (Shifts can be accommodated) That's just a small concern that the pantry is facing. HACAP had their funds greatly reduced by the government, and its showing in the amount of food we have delivered each week. Less food and more need is not a good combination. This is where you can help. If you are a part of a group that sponsors non-profits throughout the year, please see about adding L & F to your list to help. (BMX racing did a can food drive last weekend and is donating all proceeds to the pantry plus a generous cash donation of \$400.00. See picture below) These kinds of events are exactly what the pantry needs. Any and all help is appreciated by not just our volunteers, but also the people who come to the pantry for assistance.

Pictured above are a few of our regular volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, contact Jan Kosowski at jmkosows@yahoo.com

Proverbs 22:9 "The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor".





MINIATURE GOLF AND LUNCH WAS A SUCCESS!

Twenty people came together at Twin Pines Golf Course on Sunday, September 14, to have lunch and play miniature golf. It was a perfect day outside, temperature was in the 70's and the sky was blue. Perfect to engage in such a fun activity.

Everyone broke into 5 different groups to have some fun. Each hole was a different challenge for all. I must say, never playing miniature golf there before I found the course to be challenging, beautiful and well designed. After 18 holes of golf everyone met back up and score cards were tallied. The winner of each group was able to choose their favorite candy bar from the snack stand.


Our winners were: Barb Read, Barb Mumford, Gloria Kromminga, Jeff Perkins and Marge Bjornsen. Congratulations to the winners!

Pictured below was Ann and Barb having a fun time with a crazy sign. The sign actually reads: Accessible Route on the top and Non-Accessible Route on the bottom. "Which way do I go?" LOL!



A SPECIAL READ IN REGARDS TO THE WESTMINSTER HOUSE THAT WAS SOLD TO WILLIS DADY

SHELTER & STABILITY WILLIS DADY HOMELESS SERVICES

Printing of this newsletter is an in-kind donation from: 

BILL'S ROAD TO WESTMINSTER

A question we receive often is, "What causes someone to be homeless." That's a question that 57-year-old Veteran Bill had asked himself a time or two during his life. Little did he know the answer would come to him through firsthand experience.

Bill became disabled in 2016. He returned home to the hospital to live with his spouse. Unfortunately, he found the "in sickness and health" part of their vows failing. His wife exiled him to the living room, and the situation became permanent. He was served divorce papers in 2022 and was soon after kicked out of the house to live on the street. With no living family and no nearby support system, where was he to go?

Bill traveled first to Little Rock, Arkansas then to Austin, Texas in search of housing and opportunity. Neither city yielded promising results. "It was so hard. Sometimes I just wanted to step out into traffic and be done with it," he reflected. Isolation and hopelessness are prevalent within the homeless community. A church group in Texas banded together to purchase a bus ticket for Bill. The determined destination was Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Why Cedar Rapids? He really didn't know, but it was a new place to try to find stability.

After a long journey, he arrived in Cedar Rapids with no place to stay. He took a chance and asked the staff at the bus station if they knew of any help for Veterans who were homeless. He was handed Shannon's business card, our Veteran Programs Manager, and that's when things started to look up. He had a connection with resources and the knowledge to help. He gave Shannon a call and after he explained his situation, her immediate response was, "I'll be there in 20 minutes."



After experiencing homelessness for nearly a year, Bill signed his lease and moved into Westminster House. This is a home designed for clients in Willis Dady's Permanent Supportive Housing program. It houses four Veterans in individual bedrooms and shared common spaces.

"It really feels like a home" he shared with us. He was able to get it furnished and is proud of how he takes care of the home. "I call Shannon my Saving Angel. She really cares... she helps me every month with a budgeting plan."

Despite his heartbreaking journey, Bill is looking forward to some big goals including catching up on his bills and saving to move somewhere with a warmer climate. He has hope in securing his forever home.



DEACONS/SESSION ANNUAL PICNIC

Westminster Deacons, Session members and their families held the annual end of the summer picnic on Monday, September 8. The weather was beautiful compared to last years excessive heat that only a few braved. This year over 37 people showed up to enjoy fellowship and food together. Everyone agreed it was a complete success and way to much food!





Calendar: Special Events

- Oct 4** - Alpacas and Wine - 10:30am start at Rainbow Feather Farm followed by lunch at Cedar Ridge Winery
- Oct 5** - World Communion Sunday (last day of Peace & Global Witness Offering)
- Oct 6** - Deacons Meet 5:00pm
- Oct 6** - Belden Courts Owners Meet 6:00pm
- Oct 13** - **Columbus Day**
- Oct 13** - Property Committee Meets 1:00pm
- Oct 13** - Mission Committee 6:30pm (zoom)
- Oct 19** - B.O.L Community Dinner 12:30pm FLC
- Oct 20** - Finance Meets 4:30pm
- Oct 21** - Session Meets 6:30pm
- Oct 26** - Sunday Supper Fellowship 5pm
- Oct 31** - **Halloween**

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

Access the updated WPC calendar at crwpc.org/calendar

Calendar: Regular Events

Sundays

- Natural Swedish Pentecostal Church 9am - Theater
- Westminster Worship 10am - Sanctuary
- Beacon of Light 11:30am - Chapel
- EGPC 1:30pm - Old Dining
- Chorale Midwest 3:00pm - Choir Rm. & Lg. Parlor
- NA (Face Anything/Fear Nothing) 5pm - Atrium

Mondays

- 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



This Month's Birthdays

Truman Johnson	October 3
Heather Wagner	October 7
Beth Allsop	October 12
Shuna Tosa	October 14
Jan Walton	October 19
Jack Evans	October 22
Nancy Haney	October 24
Judy McCracken	October 27
Carl Schuettpelz	October 30



This Month's Anniversaries

Larry & Karol Cooper October 7

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 August

- October 5** - Ann Buckheister
- October 12** - Barb Mumford
- October 19** - Ed Mumford
- October 26** - Val Neubauer

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 7:30 am - Atrium
Prayer Shawl Ministry-1 & 3 Wednesdays
9:30 am - Small Parlor
WPC Chancel Choir Practice 7:00pm - Choir Room

Thursdays

NA (Face Anything/Fear Nothing) 5pm - Atrium
Beacon of Light Life Groups 6pm - Chapel

Fridays

Office Closed

Saturdays

Office Closed
EGPC 10 am to 3 pm - Old Dining
Natural Swedish Pentecostal Church 10am to 4pm
NA (Steps in the Right Direction) 11am - Atrium
NA (Sister & Brothers of Serenity) 5:30pm Atrium

Greeters

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

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



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