



The Voice of Westminster

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

June 2019

Fertilizer for Our Faith

Having grown up on a farm where we had several large gardens, it has been sort of in my blood. I love watching things grow, and of course enjoy harvest time. In the process, I often used fertilizer to accelerate the growth and production.

As I think of this season, I also think of our spiritual lives, and what provides a catalyst or fertilizer to boost our growth, so that we can bear the fruit God intended. God has used many things over the years in my own life. One of the key things has been Pilgrimage. In my 33 years of ministry, I have not seen any other event or weekend retreat that has even come close to invigorating people's faith more than this one. There are many different versions of the weekend, all with the same format, but coming out of different denominational roots: Walk to Emmaus, Via De Cristo, De Colores, Kairos, Cursillo, etc. Each follow the same impacting format.

Just as I was involved with Pilgrimage in Michigan, I intend to be involved with Central Iowa Cursillo here. Cursillo (pronounced kur-see-yo) is a Spanish word meaning "little" or "short course." This unique journey began in Spain and migrated to the United States in the 1950s. Cursillo was designed to revitalize the church through providing opportunity to deepen one's personal relationship with Christ, and equip one to live more joyfully and effectively as a disciple of his.

People of all ages (18-90), various faith backgrounds, walks of life, along with those who have just begun their faith journey and those who have been key leaders in their congregations for decades, have gathered for this very intentional, enjoyable, grace-filled, one-of-a-kind weekend. God seems to meet people exactly where they are, and inspire and guide them to the next level of their faith journey. It is a transforming time that cannot be explained; it simply has to be experienced.

I invite you to prayerfully consider attending this fall's Cursillo, held October 24-27, 2019 at a camp near Eldora. By the end of the weekend you will feel like family to those who have attended.

The price is right for guests: \$0. Don't miss this opportunity!

Pastor Roger

Joint Service with First Lutheran Set for June 30 Luncheon to Follow

Instead of Westminster's usual joint service on a fifth Sunday of the month, we are planning a joint service with our First Lutheran guests. First Lutheran has been conducting services at Westminster since April 28. Session voted to approve the service which will be on Sunday, June 30, at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Pastor Roger will be giving the sermon.

Afterward, plan on sticking around for an indoor picnic. We'll have hamburgers, hot dogs and lots of other goodies. Hospitality Committee will be organizing the event with contributions from First Lutheran. The luncheon will be in the Family Life Center.

Additional details will be forthcoming, as planning has just begun. We hope you can join the celebration that Sunday. We have heard lots of compliments First Lutheran members about how gracious and friendly Westminster has been.



Vacation Bible School Goes Fishing!

One of the many benefits of sharing our building with First Lutheran is that our children will have the opportunity to go to Vacation Bible School here at Westminster. That's because First Lutheran will be holding VBS June 17-20 at Westminster.

This year's theme is "Gone Fishing." Can you believe the word fish is used nearly 40 times in the Bible. Sound fishy? It's not. If you have children between pre-school and 5th grade, check out the web address to learn more and sign up! Registration deadline is June 10.

Here is the registration website:

<https://www.firstlutheranncr.org/vacation-bible-school.html>

Meet Pastor Barb Furman

Gospel Mission Director

Greetings!

I'm Rev. Barb Furman, founder and director of Gospel Mission. I'm excited to announce we'll be starting Saturday evening worship at Westminster Presbyterian Church! Please join us for our first service on July 6 at 6:30 p.m.

In 1986, I graduated from Mt. Mercy College and went to work for The Department of Corrections. I left corrections to attend The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Upon graduation, I became chaplain at The Linn County Jail. And though I'm no longer with Mission of Hope, I was its founder in 2001. I'm ordained in The United Methodist Church and have been in the ministry for 25 years.

I feel called to help "the least of these his brothers and sisters." Often, they can get overlooked and become separated from the rest of society. I've had experiences in which I can relate to them. This is probably why God led me into corrections and certain specific ministries throughout my career.

We wish to thank Rev. Roger Grandia, Gale Smetana, and Session, for this opportunity! We appreciate their encouragement and support! And, once again, we hope you'll join us for Saturday evening worship!

Gratefully, *Pastor Barb*



Westminster, along with other Presbyterian Churches, will be collecting a special offering for Pentecost, June 9. Special envelopes will be enclosed in your bulletins on June 2. Session recently reinstated the offering. It targets programs for youth and 40% of what we collect stays here in our community. Our Sunday School kids put together collection boxes, so keep a bit of change in your pocket.

This special offering was originally meant to build a foundation of faith in new generations. The offering breaks down like this:

40% stays in our congregation

25% supports young adult volunteers

25% supports ministries with youth

10% is devoted to children at risk to improve education and provide safe havens.

If we all give a little, it adds up to a lot. Thank you for caring!



Oh the Places You'll Go!

Westminster will honor its high school graduates at the 9 a.m. service on June 2. Grant Wright and Audrey Fashimpaur are both graduating seniors. Grant graduated from Jefferson High and is going to Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Audrey graduated from Washington High and will likely go to Luther College in Decorah.

Other graduates from the Westminster extended family include:

Starteise Partee was graduated from Iowa State University. She is the granddaughter of John and Judy Ruth.

Elizabeth Sue Haars was graduated from Jefferson High School. "Lizzie" was baptized at Westminster. She is the granddaughter of Jim and Sue Patterson.

Congratulations to all!

Haji Ali Takes World Food Prize

Sometimes the progress of young people in our church is amazing. That's certainly the case with Haji Ali. Last year at the World Food Prize at the State University of Iowa in Ames, he was named a Norman Bourlag honoree for his presentation on water problems in Ethiopia. He won a \$250 scholarship to Iowa State.

This year he was invited back to present a solution to the problem. Haji's solution of building a community well on his family's property in Ethiopia, and teaching the people how to use drip irrigation earned him a \$1,500 scholarship. He has been invited to make a presentation at a conference in Des Moines in October with the chance of a larger scholarship.



Haji also made a presentation to the Adult Education group at Westminster last fall on the topic of water shortages in Ethiopia.

Many of you remember when Haji was a young boy brought to the US with his brothers and sister from Ethiopia by his Aunt Shuna Tosa and Uncle Tamene Gelashe.

Session Notes

Westminster's Session met for their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Roger opened the meeting and generated discussion of how our culture has changed and how that changes Westminster's ministry.

- Session formally approved a joint service in the Sanctuary with First Lutheran on June 30, followed by lunch in the Family Life Center.
- Session voted to allow the Gospel Mission to use the Old Kitchen to bake cookies prior to their Saturday evening service in July. It was agreed that an extra \$50 per month should be charged for the additional room use.
- Session approved Property Committee motion to purchase a new riding lawnmower at the end of this mowing season when prices are best.
- Session declined to participate in the PCUSA's "Matthew 25" program. This was the second time the issue was considered.
- Session approved Pastor Roger's request for vacation from July 17-24 to officiate at a wedding he previously committed to and to see his new grandson, due June 15. Rev. Barb Furman is scheduled to preach on July 21.
- Session closed with prayer by Jim Shanklin.



While it is quite a ways off, now is the time to prepare for Christmas - yes Christmas. This past year we had some extra Christmas decorations and offered them to our clients and they were a big hit. As you do your spring cleaning, downsizing, or holding a garage sale, please keep L & F in mind as we are collecting decorations for a December offering. Please just place these donations in the L & F baskets at WPC. They will be sorted and put out at the pantry at the appropriate time.

Loaves & Fishes is also looking for a freezer to replace the one it uses in the Family Life Center Kitchen. The old freezer needs to be defrosted which is a chore and the door does not always close properly. If you know of a possible donation or low cost freezer, please let Jan Kosowski know.

Thank you Westminster for supporting this important ministry!

The Month of June
Thank You Volunteers!

Offering Stewards

- June 3—Pat Teig & Mark Tyler
- June 10—Barb & Bill Moss
- June 17—Pat Teig & Mark Tyler
- June 24—Maggie York & Ann Buckheister

9 a.m. Liturgists

- June 2—Kate Fashimpaur
- June 9—Lemi Tllahun
- June 16—Butch Hataway
- June 23—Stephanie Martinez

11 a.m. Liturgists

- June 2—Ann Buckheister
- June 9—Signe Henderson
- June 16—Brian Read
- June 23—Loren Neubauer

June 30-Joint Service with 1st Lutheran

11:00 a.m. Ushers/Greeters

- June 2—Barb Schultz & Sharon Colton
- June 9—Claudia Warfel & Brian Read
- June 16—Dick Trotter & Joan Charters
- June 23—Joan Charters, Jean Kenison
- June 30—Barb Schultz, John & Signe Henderson
 (Joint service with 1st Lutheran)



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Sharon Colton	2
Darald Schultz	2
Chuck Crull	3
Basil Tilley	3
Ben Fashimpaur	5
Sherryl Hoepfner	5
Warren Feerer	11
Bonnie Keiper	13
Barb Read	14
Rick Whiteaker	14
Sandra Yarrington	14
Gloria Kromminga	17
Terry Perkins	20
Diane Brooks	23
Pamela Feerer	24

Did the "Voice of Westminster" miss your birthday? Please let us know. Sometimes the database doesn't do its job right (it's never operator error ;). Please contact the office and we will make sure your birthdate is added to appropriate month.

And, happy birthday!



June

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 5pm-1 st Lutheran 7:30 pm-NA
2 Communion 9 am FUEL-FLC 9am 1 st Lutheran-Sanctuary 11 am-Traditional-Sanctuary 11:15 am-1 st Lutheran-FLC	3 10:30 am Bridge Club 6 pm Deacons Meeting	4 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm NA	5 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group	6 11 am-Bridge Club 6pm 1st Lutheran Rehearse-FLC	7 Church Closed 7:30pm NA	8 12:30 Marion Music Academy 5 pm 1 st Lutheran 7:30 pm-NA
9 Pentecost 9 am FUEL-FLC 9am 1 st Lutheran-Sanctuary 11 am-Traditional-Sanctuary 11:15 am-1 st Lutheran-FLC 12:30 Marion Music Academy	10 10:30 am Bridge Club 1 pm Property	11 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm NA	12 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group 9:30 am -Shawl Ministry	13 9:15 am-Kindred Sisters 11 am-Bridge Club 6 pm 1st Lutheran Rehearse-FLC	14 Church Closed 7:30 pm NA	15 5 pm 1 st Lutheran 7:30 pm-NA
16 Pentecost 9 am FUEL-FLC 9am 1 st Lutheran-Sanctuary 11 am-Traditional-Sanctuary 11:15 am-1 st Lutheran-FLC	17 8 am-1 st Lutheran VBS 10:30 am Bridge Club 4:30 pm Finance Comm.	18 8 am-1 st Lutheran VBS 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm NA	19 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group 8 am-1 st Lutheran VBS	20 8 am-1 st Lutheran VBS 11 am-Bridge Club 6 pm 1st Lutheran Rehearse-FLC	21 Church Closed 7:30 pm NA	22 5 pm 1 st Lutheran 7:30 pm-NA
23 Pentecost 9 am FUEL-FLC 9am 1 st Lutheran-Sanctuary 11 am-Traditional-Sanctuary 11:15 am-1 st Lutheran-FLC 6 pm-Cedar Singers	24 10:30 am Bridge Club	25 3 pm L&F Pantry 6:30 pm NA	26 7:30 am-Men's Breakfast Group 9:30 am -Shawl Ministry	27 9:15 Kindred Sisters 11 am-Bridge Club 6 pm 1st Lutheran Rehearse-FLC	28 Church Closed 7:30 pm NA	29 5 pm 1 st Lutheran 7:30 pm-NA
30 10 am Joint Service 11:30 Lunch						

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

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Return Service Requested

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June 2019

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship Times

9:00 a.m. FUEL service in the Family Life Center
11:00 a.m. Traditional service in the Sanctuary

Visit us on Facebook or at www.crwpc.org

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