



The Voice of Westminster

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

September 2017

Doing a New Thing

A few weeks ago at Synod School, I had the joy of hearing our Stated Clerk of the PC(USA), the Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, address a gathering of 700 Presbyterians (can you imagine such a thing!) about the state of our church. He was optimistic about the future, though not because we've started a new program or created a new slogan or figured out a new model for pastoral ministry. He was optimistic because we have an old promise that God is poised to do a new thing - not just once in history, but over and over again. In every generation, God calls his people to build the beloved community.

As we (reluctantly) leave summer behind, it seems natural to start planning for the "new" year, and there are many "new-old" things on our horizon at Westminster. We will continue to feed the poor and clothe the naked as Jesus instructed us (an old thing), but we will be doing some of it in new ways. Building on partnerships in our neighborhood, we'll be joining Jane Boyd Community House this fall in their winter coat and clothing drive. We will continue to teach young and old alike about the mighty deeds of our God, with new offerings for both adult education and Sunday School (Old Testament Heroes!). We are reaching out to build new relationships with Coe students and providing gathering space for a growing number of community groups. There are plans for pot lucks, Sunday breakfast, the world premier of a new chorale work, and maybe even a talent show in our future. We will elect a Pastor Nominating Committee within the month, and they will begin their work to seek the new "settled" pastor whom God is leading to this place. And the congregation here, young and old alike, will continue the ancient, yet ever-new labor of prayer and worship, discernment of God's will and witness to the power of Christ's love, because we are convinced that faith in Jesus makes a difference through our daily struggles.

The future is not in our hands. It is in God's. And this is what God says:

"Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers through the sun-baked earth, drinking water for the people I chose, a people custom-made to praise me."

excerpt from Isaiah 43:16-21 (MSG)



Praising God always, in all ways!
Westminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Randi

Pastor Nominating Committee—We're Close

Keep your eyes open for announcements of upcoming meetings for both the Session and the Congregation to vote on the Pastor Nominating Committee slate. We'll keep you updated via "This Week at Westminster" and the printed bulletin announcements.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Wendell Snow	1
Jacob Alff	3
Dorothy Benesh	4
Lisa Conkling	4
Marcia Elhart	4
Bryan Hawkins	4
Bill Altorfer	5
James Ngombwa	5
Cheanne Cosgrove	6
Kathie Lane	6
Barbara Mumford	8
Frankline Nabuyoli	8
William Clark	9
Janalee Kosowski	9
Amy Morris	13
Gary Teig	14
C.J. Sturbaum-Anderson	17
Alex Philpott	19
Tricia Brown	22
Beth Roof	22
Donald Thomas	23
Doug Wagner	24
Susan Kibui	25
Debra Salz-Steenblock	25
Alice Crosier	27
Marilyn Alford	29
Robert Allsop	29
Michael Canning	29
Elise Hataway	30

Sprucing Up the Family Life Center

Monday, Sept. 18, the floor of the FLC will be stripped and waxed . We will need the congregation to take down the table and chairs and move out all other obstructions from the FLC after the service on Sept. 17. We are asking the Men's Breakfast Group to set it back up again on Wednesday after their meeting.

If you are physically able to help, we would appreciate it. Many hands make light work.

Blood Pressure Screenings

The next free blood pressure screening will be Sunday, October 1. Since the first Sunday in September is on Labor Day weekend we've decided to start the school year with Sunday, October 1st. There will be a table set up outside the office area between the 9:00 and 11:00 services as we did last year. We'll see you then!



September Loaves & Fishes Donations

Boxed potatoes/sweet potatoes

Corn

Razors & shaving cream

*Canned and boxed food only; no jars, please.
Standard sized cans as most of our guests walk to the pantry.
Toilet paper and personal products always needed.*

New Christian Education Schedule

If it's fall, it must be Christian Ed time! Lots of thought-provoking topics for learning and discussion. Join us for all or join us when you can! We'll meet in the Atrium, Sundays at 10 a.m.

Adult Education Schedule

Sept. 10 – Oct. 1—Biblical Archeology with Phil Drey, PhD, Religion Professor at Mount Mercy University -

Phil has a PhD in Biblical archeology and languages and participated in an archeological dig in Jordan as part of his graduate study. He will show us how archeological findings can give new understanding to Biblical passages. He also will teach us some basic Hebrew words to deepen our understanding of the passages.

Oct. 8 -15—Generational Differences and the Church with Don Damsteegt, PhD

Don will share information about generational differences and the church, using a power-point created by Augsburg Fortress Press. We will discuss how these sociological changes impact our church.

Oct. 22 The Fear of Being Seen Dawn Marie Bailey. Author

Dawn was victim of abuse as a child. She found courage and healing through her faith. She will share her story and the faith that helped her heal.

Oct. 29 Fifth Sunday—No class

Nov. 5 Discerning God's will

Westminster Session will lead a discussion of Strategic Priorities at Westminster.

Nov. 12 – 26 – Theological Controversies

The Adult Education committee will lead a discussion of various theological topics using some materials called Re:Form, originally purchased for confirmation classes at Westminster. Topics may include why bad things happen, anger and the devil, why there are so many religions and churches, and why Jesus had to die.

Dec. 3 – 17 - Martin Luther - 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

We will watch a critically acclaimed video to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. For 3 weeks we will watch Luther, a 2003 Hollywood movie about Martin Luther starring Joseph Fiennes. Additional coursework will follow in January.

The Real Super Heroes of the Old Testament

Forget the fictional Superman and Spiderman you see on the big screen. This fall, WPC's Children's Sunday School will focus on the real heroes of the Old Testament!

Val Neubauer and Jan Kosowski have pulled together a great lineup for all school-aged children starting Oct. 1. The lineup of heroes will include women and children heroes. Classes will meet upstairs in the regular Sunday School rooms. Classes will start at 10:10 so everyone can eat breakfast, just like the super heroes do!

And speaking of super heroes, you could be one if you'd offer to help teach a class for us. It's always lots of fun and the materials are prepared. Please let Jan, Val or Gale know if you would be interested.

Here's the rundown of the fall classes:

Date:	Bible Hero
Oct. 1	Jonah
Oct. 8	Miriam
Oct. 15	Samson
Oct. 22	Ruth
Oct. 29	David & Goliath
Nov. 5	Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego
Nov. 12	Daniel in the Lion's Den
Nov. 19	Esther

Prayer for Peace

Jill Duffield, Presbyterian Outlook

Sweet Jesus, what has happened to your beloved world? What darkness is on the loose when those who hate their neighbors pray in your name and ask for your blessing? Creator God, Living God, God of the new thing, the very good thing, show us where to be and what do to and how to be the light and the salt and the leaven and the love you call us to be.

Grant to them eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Westminster lost two of their own during the month of August.

James Woodson

James Woodson, a WPC member for 40-years left this life to join Christ. Many remembered Jim for his many years of service at the First Avenue HyVee. Not only was Jim a “helpful smile in every aisle,” but he was a faithful member of Westminster Presbyterian Church for more than 40 years. Jim had been a regular attendee at the 9 a.m. service in the Family Life Center (FLC). He often sat at one of the back tables with “the guys.” Jim was 82 when he passed from this life. His children say they’ll miss Dad, but know he is with their Mother, Harlene.

Thelma Johnston

Thelma began her journey in faith as a member of the Quaker community near West Branch, IA. Ever the independent young woman, Thelma moved to Iowa City when she was just shy of her 17th birthday and worked at the University hospitals before entering St. Luke’s School of Nursing when she turned 18. She went on to marry her life partner, Harlan, after he had been one of her patients while she was in nursing school. Among other accomplishments, she was a campus nurse, bookkeeper, newsletter writer and kitchen director at Camp Wyoming. After Harlan’s death, Thelma volunteered at Westminster Presbyterian Church where she was a member. Many at Westminster knew Thelma through her daughter, Joyce Sedlacek.

We All Are Fragile

We acknowledge the uncertainty of our life on earth. We do not know the number of our days, but we know how fleeting life is. While we all die to this life, we are assured through Scripture that those whom God has loved are held safe and secure in that love forever and will be united with Christ in a never-ending life.

Please keep those who have suffered loss in your prayers. We all heal in our own way, in our own time.



Volunteer News for September 2017

Offering Stewards

Sept. 5* —Larry Cooper & Barb Schultz
Sept. 11—Maggie York & Ann Buckheister
Sept. 18— Pat Teig & Mark Tyler
Sept. 25—Connie Hayes & Warren Feerer
*Moved to Tuesday because of Labor Day

Sept. 3—10 a.m. Joint Service-Sanctuary-Communion

Ushers/Greeters

Sept. 3—Joan Charters, Claudia Warfel & Barb Schultz

Liturgist

Sept. 3—Dick Trotter

11:00 a.m. Ushers/Greeters

Sept. 10—Dick Trotter, John & Signe Henderson
Sept. 17—Jean Kenison, Luman & Sharon Colton
Sept. 24—Jim & Cheryl Shanklin

9 a.m. Liturgists

Sept. 10—Ben Fashimpaur
Sept. 17—Joe Lisieski
Sept. 24—Audrey Fashimpaur

11 a.m. Liturgists

Sept. 10—Barb Mumford
Sept. 17—Deanna Long
Sept. 24—Loren Neubauer

Kids Closet Winter Drive



WPC's new
Kids Closet
initiative is a
winter coat

and clothing drive to benefit the Jane Boyd Center. Bring your donations to the big gray tub on the lower level, just before the double doors. Gently used or new winter coats, boots, mittens and other winter clothing will be accepted through Sept. 10. All sizes and ages are welcome.

Thank you for your supporting this important ministry.

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Contacts

Sep 2017 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Comunion Sunday 10 am - Joint Serv. @	Labor Day Closed 1 pm - Pastor Randi	3 pm - L & F Pantry @ 6 pm - Deacons Meeting	7:30am - Men's Brkfst 9 am - Property 7 pm - Chancel Choir	1 pm - Pastor Randi 5:30pm - Personnel		9
9 am - FUEL Worship @ 11 am - Traditional 4pm - Chorale Midwest 7 pm - Cedar Singers @	1 pm - Pastor Randi	3 pm - L & F Pantry @	7:30am - Men's Brkfst 9:30am - Shawl 7 pm - Chancel Choir	1 pm - Pastor Randi		16
9 am - FUEL Worship @ 10 am - Prep FLC for 11 am - Traditional 4 pm - Chorale Midwest	8:30am - FLC Floor 1 pm - Pastor Randi 4:30pm - Finance	3 pm - L & F Pantry @ 6:30pm - Session	7:30am - Men's Brkfst 6:30pm - CE Comm 7 pm - Chancel Choir	1 pm - Pastor Randi		23
9 am - FUEL Worship @ 11 am - Traditional 4pm - Chorale Midwest 7 pm - Cedar Singers @	1 pm - Pastor Randi	3 pm - L & F Pantry @	7:30am - Men's Brkfst 1 pm - Shawl Ministry @ 7 pm - Chancel Choir	1 pm - Pastor Randi		30

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Office Hours

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

Summer Sunday Worship Times

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

Visit us on Facebook or at www.crwpc.org

Church Office

Intentional Interim Pastor, **Randi Henderson**
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