



The Voice of Westminster

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

November 2017

We often hear about the negatives of social media, but every now and then, one comes across something that just resonates. Such was the case recently on Facebook. As Westminster focuses on the theme of "Living Generously," this particular post reminds us all what being a Christian is all about--service to others, financial generosity and being an advocate for those who have nowhere else to turn. As you will gather from reading this, it was written by one of our own. Out of respect for that person's privacy, we're publishing this without a byline.

From Facebook, Oct. 2017—

"Every so often I am reminded that we mainstream Christians need to call out to let the world at large see the variety of Christians that are out there and that we are not all the same as those we often see in the news.

At my church we do service work in the community, we feed those who need food, we have sheltered those who need shelter, we have advocated for refugees and new citizens when they had legal problems.

We do not see ourselves as perfect or better than but as very flawed and needing forgiveness and to improve. We don't gather to judge others--we gather to support one another through hard times, to celebrate good times, to be grateful for what we have been given and to work to improve ourselves.

We gather to challenge each other to live according to laws of our country but even more so to the philosophy of Jesus as stated in the Bible.

We study, we argue respectfully, we try to look for how we can help others in our world. We don't always agree. We are engineers, teachers, elderly and midlife. We are American born, African born and South and Central American born. We are married, single, divorced, heterosexual and homosexual. We are liberals and we are conservatives and in-between. We love our history and we are willing to adapt to the future.

We come together because we happen to be people who find comfort in the belief that our world has a greater power or source other than us and that our lives have meaning. We feel good having reminders that even as flawed humans we have value and are loved and we are not alone. We like to hear a challenge to be better than our instincts.

We bond together because we can accomplish more as a group and because sometimes we need support.

We also just enjoy singing, laughing or having a beer together. We attend adult Sunday School where we learn about and discuss history, archaeology, current events, personal journeys, etc. We welcome everyone to our church or Sunday school.

So, if you have bad feelings about Christians for any reason --please keep meeting them. Each one is unique just as each atheist is unique. Thank you."

I'd say that sums it up, wouldn't you?

Praising God always, in all ways!

Music Memorial & More

-by Barb Read

There are some exciting things happening in our choir life at Westminster! First of all, on All Saints Sunday, November 5th, we are honored to present a piece that was commissioned in memory of Peggy Hungerford, a long-time member of the church and our choir mother for many years. The piece is "Pie Jesu", composed by Joseph Martin. When Peggy passed away, our choir director, David Sherman, was attending a choir conference where Joseph Martin was a clinician. David had known Mr. Martin personally and shared the sad news with him. It was decided that a piece composed by Joseph Martin would be perfect for Peggy as the choir had performed several of Martin's Christmas Cantatas over the years and they were some of Peggy's favorites. Mr. Martin was pleased to compose something in Peggy's honor but he asked the choir members to send him descriptions of Peggy so that he could "get to know her". It wasn't difficult for us to describe this wonderful woman, and Joseph Martin obviously was inspired by the descriptions that he received. Many of you gave money in Peggy's honor which resulted in this beautiful piece. Pie Jesu - Holy Jesus. The message is one that gives us all peace even in our loss:

Holy Jesus, Holy Jesus
 Who takes away our sins
 Holy Jesus, Holy Jesus
 Grant them thy eternal rest
 Lamb of God, Lamb of God
 Who takes away our sins
 Grant them thy eternal rest.
 Holy Jesus, Holy Jesus
 Grant them everlasting, perfect rest.
 Holy Jesus, grant them rest.

We hope that you will come and experience this beautiful tribute to Peggy's faith and all that she contributed to Westminster. (Note: Read more about choir happenings on p. 3).



Music, Music, Music

Speaking of Joseph Martin, the choir will present a Christmas cantata on Sunday, December 17, at the 11 a.m. service. It is entitled "Appalachian Winter." We have sung several of Martin's cantatas over the years and this one is yet another beautiful and inspiring message for the Christmas season. We hope to see you there!

"Best Of" Performance

The Westminster Choir has been invited to perform on the Annual Best of Cedar Rapids Gospel Concert presented by the Harmony Hawks Barbershop Chorus. We will be "rocking out" with some toe tapping gospel music done "Damon Cole style"! The concert is free and will be held on Friday, November 10 at 7 p.m. at New Covenant Bible Church, 3090 N. Center Point Road NE in Cedar Rapids. A free will offering will be taken to benefit the Salvation Army. We are proud to be part of this tradition and hope you'll join us for a great night of gospel music!

Cedar Singers Concert



-By Pam Feerer



Cedar Singers, directed by Damon Cole, will present their 3rd Annual Fall Concert, "Stars," on Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Justin Roberts will be our emcee. Please join us for an evening of song highlighting American Standards, Patriotic selections and musical theatre. Light refreshments will be served following the concert. A free will offering honoring the veterans will be taken. Many members of our Chancel Choir sing in the chorus, so please show your support and come and enjoy an evening of musical favorites.

You're Invited

The Nominating Committee is looking for strong, dedicated members who would be willing to serve as Deacons and Elders. Because we don't want to overlook anyone, we're inviting each of you to prayerfully consider the people you know who would make good Elders (administrative and leadership skills) or Deacons (caring and concern for WPC members). Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee with the names of members you'd like to see lead our church forward. Members of the Nominating committee are: Karol Cooper, Marcia Elhart, Nancy Evans, Lee Anne Hataway, Barb Moss, Ed Mumford, and Gary Teig.

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The PNC met with the Committee on Ministry (COM) from the Presbytery and WPC Session Oct. 14. Information was exchanged and the PNC is now beginning its work to find a new pastor.

Whole Lotta Learnin' Goin' On!

Adult Education in November

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 will include why bad things happen and why Christians believe their religion is the best.

November Superheroes!

Westminster Sunday School wraps up its study of Super Heroes of the Old Testament in November.

Nov. 5—David & Goliath

Nov. 12—Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego

Nov. 19—Daniel in the Lion's Den

Nov. 26—Esther

In December, students will learn about gold, frankincense and myrrh—the gifts the Magi brought the baby Jesus.

Kohawk Connection

Those cookies were delicious!

Thank you!

Mmm...
Cookies

Here's a big Westminster shout out to the folks who have been providing cookies for the Wednesday night Coe College Bible study at Westminster. Thank you Val Neubauer, Ann Buckheister, Barb Moss and Barb and Tom Read for your baking skills and generosity!

The new Coe Chaplain, Melea White, holds Bible study at Westminster on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 (or 9-ish). If you're in the building on a Wednesday evening, stop by the conference room outside the pastor's study and say hi! The Hospitality Committee plans to hold Sunday suppers for Coe students—the first one was Oct. 29. We hope to grow this ministry as we go along!

News Bits

If you haven't already, you should receive a 2018 pledge card in the mail. Please give prayerful thought to what you can give to Westminster. Keep the stub part of the pledge card and either mail the card back in in the yellow envelope provided or drop it in the collection plate or office. Thank you!

Blood Pressure Screenings

The next free blood pressure screening will be Sunday, Nov. 5. 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!



Please Welcome...



Gary Mohomes is Westminster's newest staff member. He'll be handling custodial and light maintenance issues for the church. Gary grew up in Chicago, but moved to Cedar Rapids with his daughters, who are 5 and 7 to get away from the violence in Chicago. His daughters attend Prairie Elementary School. Gary is fascinated with exotic fish and when he's not working, he's buying new ones or looking at tanks and other accessories for them. Gary also loves reading history and hands-on projects. Welcome Gary!

Voice of Westminster



Offering Stewards

- Nov. 6 —Warren Feerer & Ann Buckheister
- Nov .13—Pat Teig & Mark Tyler
- Nov. 20— Maggie York & Ann Buckheister
- Nov. 27—Larry Cooper & Barb Schultz

11:00 a.m. Ushers/Greeters

- Nov. 5—Dick Trotter, Joan Charters
- Nov. 12—Flora Kitzman, Jim & Cheryl Shanklin
- Nov. 19—Jean Kenison, John & Signe Henderson
- Nov. 26—Claudia Warfel, Barb Schultz

9 a.m. Liturgists

- Nov. 5—Joe Lisieski
- Nov. 12—Audrey Fashimpaur
- Nov. 19—Barb Mumford
- Nov. 26—Ben Fashimpaur

11 a.m. Liturgists

- Nov. 5—Barb Moss
- Nov. 12—Butch Hataway
- Nov. 19—Barb Read
- Nov. 26—Dick Trotter

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David Bluder	1
Janet Trotter	3
Sue Patterson	4
Cheryl Shanklin	4
Emma Sturbaum-Anderson	4
Marilyn Sweet	6
Ashley Banner	9
Cooper Pearson	11
Skippy Atherton	12
Jack Sedlacek	12
Louie Fine	15
Sherry Swanson	17
Isaac Denning	18
Bruce Chambers	21
Jim Fine	21
Brett Warner	21
Andrea Schoenbeck	22
Meseret Tilahun	22
Kaitlin Sturbaum	26
Maggie York	27
Kirk Lampe	29
Loren Neubauer	30

Don't Forget Election Day

Tuesday, Nov. 7 is election day in Cedar Rapids and Linn County. And once again, Westminster Presbyterian Church is scheduled to be a precinct polling place. Voting takes place in the FLC from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Poll workers arrive around 6 a.m. and leave between 9 and 10 p.m.

Nov 2017 (Central Time)

Westminster Presbyterian Church,

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
8:30am - Breakfast 9am - FUEL Worship 10am - Adult 10:10am - Sunday 11am - Traditional 4pm - Chorale			7:30am - Men's 5:30pm - Nominatin 6:30pm - Coe Bible 7pm - Chancel Choir	1pm - Pastor Randi 5:30pm - Hospitality 5:30pm - Personnel		9am - Cedar Singers 7pm - Cedar Singers
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Comunion Sunday 8:30am - Breakfast 9am - FUEL Worship 10am - Adult 10:10am - Sunday 11am - Traditional 4pm - Chorale	1pm - Pastor Randi	7am - Election Day 3pm - L & F Pantry 6pm - Deacons	7:30am - Men's 9:30am - Shawl 6:30pm - Coe Bible 7pm - Chancel Choir	9:15am - Kindred 1pm - Pastor Randi		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30am - Breakfast 9am - FUEL Worship 10am - Adult 10:10am - Sunday 11am - Traditional 4pm - Chorale	12:30pm - Property 1pm - Pastor Randi 5pm - Budget Sub-	3pm - L & F Pantry	7:30am - Men's 6:30pm - Coe Bible 7pm - Chancel Choir	Newsletter 1pm - Pastor Randi		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am - Breakfast 9am - FUEL Worship 10am - Adult 10:10am - Sunday 11am - Traditional 4pm - Chorale	1pm - Pastor Randi 4:30pm - Finance	3pm - L & F Pantry 6:30pm - Session	7:30am - Men's 1pm - Shawl 6:30pm - Coe Bible 7pm - Chancel Choir	Office Closed 9:15am - Kindred 1pm - Pastor Randi	Office Closed	
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8:30am - Breakfast 9am - FUEL Worship 10am - Adult 11am - Traditional 4pm - Chorale	9am - Hanging the 1pm - Pastor Randi	3pm - L & F Pantry	7:30am - Men's 6:30pm - Coe Bible 7pm - Chancel Choir	1pm - Pastor Randi		

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

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Office Hours

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

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**
Communications & Shared Ministry Coord.
Gale Smetana
Choir Director & Church Musician,
Damon Cole
Contemporary Worship Leader, **Jason Wright**

westmin@crwpc.org
pastorrandi@crwpc.org
gale@crwpc.org
cole1350@gmail.com
jason@historycenter.org

Bookkeeper, **Tina Mueller**
Nursery Attendant, **Lindsay Meade**
Newsletter Editor, **Gale Smetana**
Newsletter Proofreader, **Barb Moss**

bookkeeper@crwpc.org
lindsay_meade@hotmail.com
gale@crwpc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1285 Third Avenue South East
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403-4084
PHONE: 319-366-7185
Fax: 319-366-7187
E-Mail: westmin@crwpc.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cedar Rapids
Iowa
PERMIT NO. 139