Greetings Jodi,

What you need to know about what's happening in October. We want to be sure these important dates and events are on your calendars! All are invited to join us!

9 For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. Colossians 1:9-10

Paul’s prayer for the church at Colossae is the same spirit in which our Stewardship team prays for the disciples of Westminster for 2019. May we together generously unite our hearts in continuing to make a difference in the Cedar Valley and beyond with the gifts of our time, efforts and resources. Please prayerfully consider your part in the life of Westminster and return your pledge card by Sunday, October 14. Your pledge card will arrive in the mail early next week. Please don’t put it in a pile with all the other mail. Instead, please look at the pictures on the brochure and the giving chart. Consider the ways God has been so faithful to you and to our faith community. If you have others who are part of your giving, discuss with them what sacrifices you could make so that you could give more. We will celebrate our commitment on the 14th at 10 am worshipping together in the sanctuary, followed by a free brunch in the social hall.

The picture below is from our first Wednesday worship back on September 5, it is a reminder to me of all the GOODNESS at Westminster and how we live together with hope and love. If your heart needs to be lifted consider attending Come Together First Wednesday Worship on October 3 at 6:35 pm in the sanctuary. Some other great opportunities include Feed My Starving Children, our Fall Fest on October 14 for everyone, Community Concert on October 21 and All Saints Sunday on October 28.

With Great Hope,
Pastor Tricia Jacobs

Wednesday Night Worship
Join us Wednesday, October 3 for a brief worship, music and a time of fellowship at 6:35 pm in the Sanctuary.

Adult Education Sunday School
For the month of October there will be 2 options. Pastor Dan will keep his Bible Class going following Sundays Lectionary in Room 216.
Oct. 7 – 10 Commandments
Oct. 14 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
Oct. 21 - David and Bathsheba
Oct. 28 - Solomon.

Or, for something a little different.

We will bring back spiritual director Juli Rowell to teach on three kinds of prayer: Lectio Divina, Centering, and Welcoming. They will meet in the Chapel.

Oct. 7 - Lectio Divina, more commonly known as Praying with Scripture, is an ancient prayer form in which we spend time with a short scripture passage allowing it to transform us from the outside in. It is a way to deepen our relationship with the living God and awaken to God's presence and action within us.

Oct. 21 & 28 - Centering Prayer is a discipline and method of prayer that both purifies our unconscious motivations and prepares us to receive God's gift of contemplation. It moves us from conversation to communion with God. It is a prayer of our consent to rest in God's presence within us giving God time and space to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves thus transforming us from the inside out.

Nov. 4 - The Welcoming Prayer is a method of consenting to God's presence and action in our physical and emotional reactions to events in our daily lives. As in all contemplative practices the purpose is to deepen our relationship with God. The fruit of the practice is a dismantling of the emotional programs of the false self system and the healing of our woundedness. We are thus able to respond rather than react to what life brings us. The Welcoming Prayer utilizes both interior and exterior factors in the process of our transformation in Christ.

October Music Schedule
October 7: 9am: Chancel Choir 11:15am Praise Team
October 14: 10am: Chancel Choir, LightShine, Messengers, Praise Team
October 21: 9am: Chancel Choir, Westminster Chimes
11:15: Church Mice & Praise Team
October 28: 9am: Meisteringers 11:15: Praise Team

Ecumenical Choir Concert
Join us Sunday October 21, 2018 at 6pm for a choir concert featuring Westminster’s Chancel Choir and Central Christian Church’s Adult Choir.

This free event will be held in Westminster’s sanctuary and is open to all. Bring a friend and enjoy an evening filled with beautiful choral music!
Calling All Singers, Instrumentalists, Narrators, Sound & Light Techs!

Our 2018 Christmas Cantata, Little Lion, Little Lamb is here! Everyone is welcome to join in this beautiful cantata written by Heather Sorenson. In addition to singers, opportunities are available for a narrator, volunteers for sound and light control, and instrumentalists for a full orchestra.

Our next Cantata choir rehearsal is October 24 at 7:30pm, please contact Patrick to receive your materials. The orchestra rehearses in December, please pick up materials from Patrick by November 1. The Cantata choir will rehearse on the following Wednesdays at 7:30: October 24, November 14, December 5, & December 12. Saturday morning rehearsals will be held December 1, 8, 15. The cantata will be performed in worship at 9am & in the evening at 6:30pm on December 16, 2018.

For more information about the music program please contact Patrick Marchant at patrick@wpcw.org or 319.234.5501 ext. 110

Clergy Appreciation Month

The month of October is Clergy Appreciation Month. I find it kind of sad that we need a specific month to remind us to appreciate our pastors. Although pastors are given days off like "normal employees", the truth is that the job is a 24/7 obligation. Evening meetings and activities, hospital visits, and evenings spent preparing sermons because emergencies come up during the week are among the many challenges we lay at a pastor's feet. In addition to working a 24/7 shift, a spouse and children also depend upon our pastors for love and support.

Please take the time this month to say thank you to Pastor Tricia and Pastor Dan for their guidance and commitment to God's work at Westminster. When you are done thanking them, please also remember and thank the entire staff at Westminster. We are blessed with a staff that does a tremendous job of keeping things running smoothly every day. Finally, while we acknowledge October as Clergy Appreciation Month, let's strive to offer our appreciation and prayer support each and every month during the year to our pastors and staff. They deserve it!

Personnel Committee

All Saints' Day

This year All Saints' Day is Sunday, October 28. All Saints' Day is a time to give thanks for the life of our loved ones who have preceded us in death. You will be invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one during both services.

Feed My Starving Children

We will once again host a packing event on October 8, 9 and 10. If you have not signed up to help, go to our website at wpcw.org/fmsc to register. Please let your friends know about this special opportunity.

Wes Pres Kids
October 14
- NO Sunday School
- 10:00 am service, followed by Brunch

October 10 AND 31
- NO Discovery Night Meal
- NO After School Pickup or Programming for elementary
- NO classes or music practices for Pre-K through 5th grade

November 11 is Bible Presentation Sunday.
Our 3-year olds and 3rd graders will be presented with age appropriate Bibles. Families will receive a letter in the mail with details about this special event.

December 2 will be an Advent Festival from 4:00-6:00 pm. A complementary meal will be served, and there will be holiday crafts you can make. This Festival will take place before Cocoa & Carols, so that those adults and children who have music practices may come and go from the Festival in their free time, as well as have an opportunity to eat dinner.

Alisa Engelhardt

Wes Pres Youth
WPY has kicked off their year to a great start by diving into a series called Identity. For the past three weeks our students have been challenged to see how their identities reflect the call that Jesus has for their lives. With biblical teachings and real-life stories, this series encourages students to ground their identity in Christ and live boldly as children of God and heirs of heaven. Keep us with Wes Pres Youth throughout the year on our social media’s for more in-depth coverage of our weeks!

Erica Fernandez

From the Finance Department

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AmazonSmile

What is AmazonSmile? It is a simple and automatic way for you to support Westminster Presbyterian every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase to Westminster Presbyterian. Also, if you purchase Amazon gift cards from our Scrip table, the church receives double rewards!

How do you shop at AmazonSmile? To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and starting your shopping.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations? Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

Can you use your existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile? Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry and other account settings are also the same.

How do you select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile? On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of your purchase does Amazon donate? The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes or service charges. From time to time, there may be offer specials, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services for additional donations.

Can you receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from your purchases on AmazonSmile? Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

Please consider this easy way to help support Westminster Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions on this, please contact Becky at the church 234-5501 or email Becky@wpcw.org.

Thank you
Finance Committee

Session Minutes from September 25 meeting. Click HERE.

Responding to Mental Health Needs
The Synod of Lakes and Prairies Presbyterian Church (USA) is offering an event for church staff, deacons and members about addressing mental health in our congregation and community. If interested, please click HERE for the poster and more information.

Please go to our website at www.wpcw.org to view the full church calendar.