

March 2019 Messenger

well hello,
march

What's happening in March you ask? Well ... hopefully an early spring, but other than that, let's take a look!



Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Matthew 16:24

This year the month of March ushers us into the very meaningful season of Lent. We will Worship together on Wednesday, March 6 for our Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.

As we continue to ask ourselves questions as disciples of Christ, I want us to consider what does it mean to *Follow Christ*? Here are some tools we hope you will embrace in this special time to especially help you explore your own faith as we walk towards the cross and the empty tomb.

- After the Ash Wednesday service pick up a Lenten devotional for your own personal time with God
- Attend the Taizé services on Thursdays during Lent (March 14, 21, 28, April 4 and 11) at 7 pm in the Chapel
- Commit to reading and studying one of the Gospels during the six weeks of Lent
- Choose ONE verse to recite in your heart and mind each day of Lent
- Participate in the Deacon sponsored prayer vigil which is April 13
- Sign up to serve at Sunday Supper (schedule is in the Welcome Center)
- Write a letter each day or perhaps each week to someone you want to encourage in their walk with Jesus
- Be present at the special Holy Week services on Thursday, April 18 and Friday, April 19. Both begin at 7:00 pm.

Imagine how full your heart will be as you sing *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* as you've reflected on this very important question, "What does it mean to follow Christ?".

Let us commit together to a meaningful Lent,
Pastor Tricia



Ash Wednesday Service, March 6

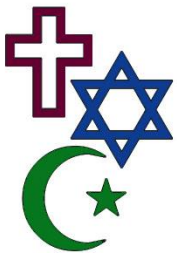
We will have regular Wednesday night programming until 6:45 pm, and then families can attend the Ash Wednesday service together at 7:00 pm. The nursery will be open for children 5 years and under.

Taizé Services

Taizé services will be offered on the Thursdays of Lent (March 14, 21, 28, April 4 and 11) at 7 pm in our beautiful chapel. A Taizé service is a time of Worship with repetitive choruses, prayers and scriptures to ensure we have a focused time of reflection.



Lent is a time in which we either take things out of our lifestyle which remind us of our need for Christ, practices such as fasting from meals or social media. We might also add things into our lifestyle like a Taizé service or an extra walk in the wilderness. So, set aside this special time to experience this important season of Lent.



Adult Sunday School

Perspectives from Women of other Faiths

For four Sundays in March and April our friends Dema Kazkaz and Erin Madin will come and give us, "an inside look at the lives of religious women from Muslim/Jew Perspective." As usual, these two are not to be missed.

March 3, 10, 31 and April 7

Class will be in the chapel at 10:15-11:00 am

Snowshoeing at Hartman Reserve

On Sunday, March 10, at 2 pm Westminster will be going Snowshoeing at Hartman Reserve. The cost to rent snowshoes is \$5 and we will have cocoa, water and cookies for refreshments. Sign up in the welcome center or let Dan know if you will be going: dan@wpcw.org



Spring break is March 18 - 22.

On Sunday, March 17, we will have just ONE worship service at 10:00 am.

No Discovery Night on March 20.

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for this great week of learning and fun!

VBS will be June 17-21!





Summer Music Camp 2019

Join us July 15-19, 2019 as we journey together in a week long, full-day music camp for ages 6-18 culminating in a production of Disney's Frozen JR. Let your child be a star in one of the country's favorite musicals! New to Broadway, and just released for JR. productions, we are so excited to bring Disney's Frozen JR. to the Cedar Valley! For more information and to register visit promisemusic.org or contact Patrick Marchant.

Easter Choir

All are invited to join the Chancel Choir in singing for the 9:00 am Easter morning worship service on April 21, 2019. We will be singing John Leavitt's *Festival Te Deum* with brass and organ & Craig Courtney & Lynda Hasseler's arrangement of *I Will Rise* with string quartet and piano. Please contact Patrick Marchant so we can prepare a choir folder for you! We will rehearse our Easter music selections on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15pm March 13, 27; April 10 & 17.

March Music Schedule

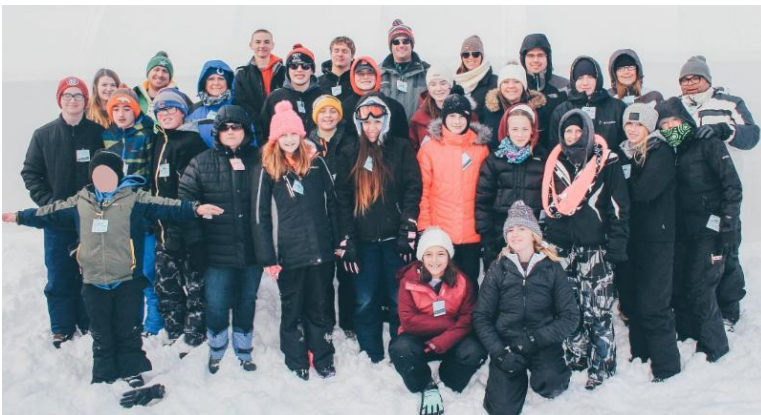
March 3: 9am- Chancel Choir, 11:15- Church Mice & Worship Team

March 10: 9am- Messengers & Chancel Choir, 11:15 Worship Team

March 17: 10am- Chancel Choir & Worship Team

March 24: 9am- Chancel Choir, 11:15am Worship Team

March 31: 9am- Meisteringers, 11:15am LightShine & Worship Team



Wes Pres Youth

Wes Pres Youth has had a wonderful winter season (despite all of our snow days)! We have spent our time getting together for small group bible studies, also known as Summit Studies. One of our favorite events of the winter has been our Winter Tubing Trip to Des Moines! We had a blast with our students sledding and tubing, and of course our long drive down filled with laughter, old country music, and LOTS of snacks. Thank you for all of our chaperones who helped make the day

possible! Look forward for more to come for Wes Pres Youth in the future by following us on social media!

From the Mission Committee

As you know Westminster has supported CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) the past few years at Christmastime providing presents to kids who would probably not receive any gifts (From the Heart). We thought you might like to know more about this special organization you have helped.

What is CASA?

National CASA Mission Statement:

"The mission of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association, together with its state and local members, is to support and promote court-appointed volunteer advocacy so that every abused and neglected child can be safe, establish permanence and have the opportunity to thrive."

Iowa CASA Mission Statement:

"The Iowa Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program commissions trained and qualified community Advocates to serve as an effective voice in court for abused and neglected children, strengthening efforts to ensure that each child is living in a safe, permanent and nurturing home."

CASA Infographic

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program is a unique volunteer experience that aligns concerned citizens with abused and neglected children in their community. CASA Advocates are ordinary people who have decided to volunteer their time and talents to ensure children who are already victims of abuse or neglect, are not further impacted by the system intended to protect them. After receiving extensive pre-service training, the Advocate receives an order from the court appointing them to represent the needs and wishes of children in court proceedings and allows Advocate's access to information about the child. The Advocate meets with their assigned child or sibling group monthly and gathers information from everyone involved with that child such as caregivers, therapists, teachers and other providers. Advocates prepare a Report to the Court for each hearing involving the child. Through this report, the Advocate gives a voice to the child's wishes and informs the court about what is in their best interest by advocating for the child's needs. CASA Advocates serve as a consistent presence in the life of their assigned child and remain assigned to the case until successful case closure.

From the Finance Committee

BUDGET SUMMARY					
	JANUARY	JANUARY	YTD	YTD	BUDGET
	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 82,482.63	\$ 107,978.31	\$ 82,482.63	\$ 107,978.31	\$ 784,669.00
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 4,167.45	\$ 3,411.96	\$ 4,167.45	\$ 3,411.96	\$ 35,700.00
OPER & MAINT	\$ 8,224.95	\$ 11,327.85	\$ 8,224.95	\$ 11,327.85	\$ 94,750.00
CHRISTIAN ED	\$ 412.60	\$ 60.99	\$ 412.60	\$ 60.99	\$ 24,100.00
PERSONNEL	\$ 40,501.87	\$ 44,359.92	\$ 40,501.87	\$ 44,359.92	\$ 514,515.00
MISSION	\$ 5,171.47	\$ 6,578.36	\$ 5,171.47	\$ 6,578.36	\$ 68,000.00
MUSIC & WORSHIP	\$ 84.99	\$ 461.43	\$ 84.99	\$ 461.43	\$ 15,800.00
STEWARDSHIP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
HOSPITALITY & DEACONS	\$ 106.08	\$ 43.23	\$ 106.08	\$ 43.23	\$ 5,000.00
MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH	\$ -	\$ 200.34	\$ -	\$ 200.34	\$ 5,700.00
PER CAPITA	\$ 1,633.68	\$ 2,008.96	\$ 1,633.68	\$ 2,008.96	\$ 19,604.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 60,303.09	\$ 68,453.04	\$ 60,303.09	\$ 68,453.04	
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 22,179.54	\$ 39,525.27	\$ 22,179.54	\$ 39,525.27	

Friendship Club - Thursday, March 7

This group meets at 6:00 pm on March 7. This is a potluck so bring a dish to share. The program this month is: Chiropractics and Your Health & Wellness, speaker: Dr. Abby Welsch. Join us!

Women's Book Club

All women of Westminster are invited to join this monthly gathering of book review and fellowship! The women meet once per month usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 6:00 pm. The dates can change depending on church activities. This group is led by Cindy Harmon and Sandy Lewis.



The next group gathering is Sunday, March 17 at 6:00 pm. The book selections coming up are:

March 17: *On Living* by Kerry Egan

April 28: *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

May 19: *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande

If you have any questions about this opportunity, feel free to contact Cindy or Sandy.



I want to thank those of you who sent cards to me and said prayers for me throughout the past 6 months. Some of you told me you were not afraid to face with me whatever the diagnosis, even if it be serious. Some of you encouraged me to endure patiently a struggle that was apt to prove lengthy. And, 2 of you bolstered my spirits when you wrote, "Don, believe in your courage, and believe in your strength!" Your doctor believes you have these in you and if you

do, he can't promise but he is pretty confident that God and he together can get you well! Folks, I sincerely appreciate all the help I received! Don Benson



**WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN**
C - H - U - R - C - H

1301 Kimball Ave / Waterloo, IA 50702 / wpcw.org / 234-5501