

Westminster Messenger

May, 2021

**Worship with us Sunday's at 10:00 am in person
or online at wpcw.org/worship**

Masks are required and we are socially distancing in the pews!

Westminster,

You can finally stop asking when the Transitional Pastor will arrive, because I'm excited to announce Pastor Ken Locke is here!!! He is getting himself moved in this week and will be joining us in worship for the first time this Sunday, May 9. I know that the Session, staff, pastor search committee, and many others have been anxiously awaiting his arrival, and I hope all of you join us in extending a warm greeting to Pastor Ken when you get the chance.



I wanted to take this opportunity to simply thank you for allowing me to serve as the temporary head of staff for the last 7 months. I am grateful for your trust in me and your support during this tumultuous year. The grace that has been extended to me and words of encouragement have meant more than you know. Though the year was filled with many trials, it has also been one of the great joys in my pastoral ministry to witness the staff and volunteers of this church meet every obstacle and keep doing the Lord's work. I've been humbled to see your faithfulness through this time, and it is an honor to be your pastor.

For some, this may feel a bit strange to now have three leading pastors in the last year. But, in light of the coming holy day of Pentecost (where we celebrate the gift of God's Spirit given to the church), it feels an apt time to remind ourselves that in one way, really the most important way, the church leadership is not really changing. In fact, it never has. It has always been God who guides and directs our paths.

Interestingly, in one of the very first churches, people began to segment because they had a tendency to like one leader over another. The Apostle Paul thought this was ridiculous, because even though leaders have their part to play, it really isn't them doing the most important work. It's God.

Here's how Paul puts it:

⁴When someone says, "I belong to Paul," and someone else says, "I belong to Apollos," aren't you acting like people without the Spirit? ⁵After all, what is Apollos? What is Paul? They are servants who helped you to believe. Each one had a role given to them by the Lord: ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God made it grow. ⁷Because of this, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but the only one who is anything is God who makes it grow. (1 Corinthians 3:4-7, CEB).

After all, What is Tricia? What is Dan? What is Ken? They are merely servants with roles to play. And thank the Lord for their dedication to doing good work. But on Pentecost, let us remember the one who is anything is God. The one who has given us the Spirit, and who makes things grow.

May this give you reassurance.

May this give you hope.

From your new and old Associate Pastor,
Grace and Peace, Dan

Congregational Meeting

Just a heads up that there will be an informational congregational meeting in the very near future. The session would like to update you on our church's financial situation. There will be no decisions to make or any voting, but we hope you will join us for this meeting. Stay tuned for the announcement with the date!



Mother's Day Fundraiser Brunch

The Youth are hosting a brunch fundraiser – Sunday, May 9 at 9:00 am. Tickets can be purchased in the office, or call to reserve your ticket. Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per household.



Nest Program

The Mission Committee is once again supporting the Nest Program, which is a part of Operation Threshold and serves Black Hawk, Buchanan, and Grundy counties. It exists to educate income-eligible expectant families and families with children up to 5 years of age, with the goal of

increasing parenting skills and promoting the development of secure nurturing families and healthy children. Group parent education and informal support are the key program components. Classes offer education on topics such as healthy pregnancy outcomes, child abuse prevention, overall health and nutrition, literacy, fitness, family resources, mental wellness, and safety. Families also may earn points for healthy behavior during pregnancy and baby's first five years of life.

How Nest Works

Enrolled families can earn points by attending Nest classes, groups and activities. Points are also earned by signing up for and attending prenatal care, participating in 1:1 parent education, participating in the WIC program and attending WIC appointments, taking children for well child checks, immunizations and dental visits. Each activity is assigned a number of points that may be earned (from 10-50) which may be combined and used to "purchase" baby or child care items.

How Can We Help?

Donations of diapers, wipes, pull-ups, child underwear, baby wash/shampoo, baby lotion, diaper rash cream or baby items of your choice are needed to supplement items the parent(s) may earn.

During the month of May a table will be set up in the Welcome Center for your gifts. If you prefer to make a monetary donation a check made out to **Operation Threshold** (with "**Nest**" on the memo line) can be dropped in the offering plate or to the church office.

Women Build - Saturday, June 5

Westminster Women - Join us for a day of fun and fellowship while helping a local family. We will work from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm. No construction experience necessary. We will be assisted and supervised by an experienced Habitat for Humanity construction supervisor. If you aren't able to help work on the home but would like to help out in another way, we are also looking for volunteers to provide an easy lunch for us. Please call the church office to sign up to volunteer to work on the home or provide lunch. Kassy Grosser can be contacted with any questions.



Wes Pres Youth

We've had a great past few weeks celebrating our 2021 Graduating Confirmands! We are so proud of four 8th graders who have been dedicated to our confirmation classes for three years. Watching them grow has been the greatest joy and all of our Wes Pres Youth leaders are overjoyed to continue watching them grow over the next few years!



We are also ecstatic to celebrate our 2021 Graduating Seniors! The class of 2021 have been some of the best and will truly be missed. However, we are so excited to watch you continue down the journey of adulthood and see you do magnificent things for our world!

Wes Pres Youth has finally come to a close for the 2020-2021 school year. We have laughed, we have shared our hearts, we have grown as humans together. We couldn't have asked for a better year. We are grateful for your patience and grace as we navigated through ministry during a pandemic. We also thank you for the countless laughs and memories made over this time!

Check out our social media platforms to see how Wes Pres Youth looks during the summer time – we have so much to look forward to!

Erica Rissi



Youth Car Wash Fundraiser

Bring your car by for a wash on Sunday, June 6 at 11am to support this fundraiser!



Bible Study



Monday Morning Bible Studies

Men's and Women's Bible studies will begin meeting in person starting Monday, May 10. Men will meet in the Coffee House. Women's Bible Study will offer two options: Zoom and an in-person gathering in the Shared Life

Center. They are asking participants to be fully vaccinated to attend the in-person class. If you have questions regarding the women's group, email Cathy Young at cathyyoung4@gmail.com or call 319.230.0644. Masks required and we will socially distance.

VBS 2021 is ON! June 21 - 25

We are excited to announce we will have in person Vacation Bible School this summer! We will hold as much of it outside as we can, weather permitting!

If this is a week you would like to help with, whether it be as a teacher, helper, set up volunteer or just to provide treats or supplies (see list below), let the church office know (jodi@wpcw.org or dee@wpcw.org)

To register a child between the ages of 3 years old and those going into 5th grade, go to wpcw.org/vbs

Supplies needed are (these can be dropped off to the church office or on Sunday mornings):

- empty cereal boxes
- tin foil
- large brown paper bags
- cotton balls or bags of cotton
- assorted construction paper
- pool noodles - any color
- old white bed sheets



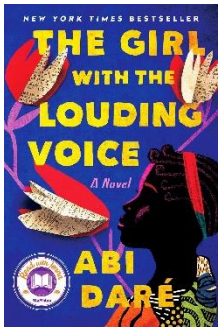
Summer Camp

If you are interested in your child attending summer camp at Lakeshore Center in Okoboji this summer, contact Pastor Dan at dan@wpcw.org or 234-5501.

To view more about this camp:

<https://www.lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org/>

Pastor Dan will be taking a group to the camp to help clean up and prepare for the summer. We will be leaving on Friday evening May 21st and returning Sunday, May 23rd. Contact Pastor Dan if you are interested.



Women's Book Club

The Westminster Women's Book Club meets via Zoom on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 6:00 pm. This group is open to all women! If you would like to be added to the Zoom invite list contact Sandy Lewis at sandycnm@cfu.net or 319-504-2802 or Vicki Grimes at vicki.grimes@uni.edu or 319-240-5296.

On **May 16** - "The Girl with the Louding Voice" by Abi Dare
 On **June 20** - "The Great Alone" by Kristen Hannah

From the Finance Department

BUDGET SUMMARY

	MARCH	MARCH	YTD	YTD	BUDGET	BUDGET
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 43,642.36	\$ 85,684.52	\$ 138,171.40	\$ 200,984.21	\$ 665,681.00	\$ 775,505.00
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 2,879.30	\$ 2,221.11	\$ 6,372.47	\$ 7,212.53	\$ 26,200.00	\$ 35,700.00
OPER & MAINT	\$ 5,546.51	\$ 6,705.54	\$ 16,537.38	\$ 23,915.90	\$ 86,000.00	\$ 94,750.00
CHRISTIAN ED	\$ 271.04	\$ 1,086.42	\$ 1,054.26	\$ 1,685.87	\$ 14,550.00	\$ 24,100.00
PERSONNEL	\$ 25,474.94	\$ 40,696.89	\$ 78,822.22	\$ 124,005.89	\$ 462,125.00	\$ 511,221.00
MISSION	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 2,628.82	\$ 11,047.74	\$ 13,447.33	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 63,000.00
MUSIC & WORSHIP	\$ (353.82)	\$ 88.75	\$ (121.41)	\$ 1,948.37	\$ 4,023.00	\$ 15,800.00
STEWARDSHIP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33.52	\$ 59.31	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
HOSPITALITY & DEACONS	\$ 230.92	\$ 350.86	\$ 597.31	\$ 652.02	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH	\$ 125.00	\$ 476.14	\$ 300.00	\$ 547.54	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 5,700.00
PER CAPITA	\$ 1,615.25	\$ 1,561.14	\$ 4,845.75	\$ 4,683.42	\$ 19,383.00	\$ 18,734.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 39,139.14	\$ 55,815.67	\$ 119,489.24	\$ 178,158.18	\$ 665,681.00	\$ 775,505.00
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 4,503.22	\$ 29,868.85	\$ 18,682.16	\$ 22,826.03		



Giving

If you would like to support the work of Westminster, you can do so at wpcw.org/giving any time.

Session Minutes

If you would like to read the Session minutes from the April meeting, click [HERE](#)

Presbyterian Pantry

The pantry is open on the first Saturday of the month and the 3rd Thursday. We are always needing volunteers to help pass out food on these days but we also need help pre-packing the food the day or two prior. You can call the church office at 234-5501 if you want to come in and help pack. Go to wpcw.org/volunteer to help when the pantry is open.

We have distributed food boxes to 204 individual households to date. We are averaging 50-60 per opening.

Another way you can help is by providing items that we cannot get from the Food Bank such as paper products and personal care items. Below is a list of products needed. You can drop them off on Sunday morning in the Welcome Center or to the church office during the week!

- paper towels
- toilet paper
- Kleenex
- bar soap
- toothbrushes & toothpaste
- feminine hygiene products (tampons, pads, pantyliners)
- men's & women's disposable razors
- women's shampoo & conditioner
- men's shampoo
- kids' 3 in 1 body wash, shampoo, conditioner
- deodorant
- shaving cream
- diapers
- diaper wipes
- adult diapers



Worship In Person or Live Stream

We worship in person each Sunday at 10:00 am or you can view from the comfort of your own couch! You can watch Sunday's worship service with us live, or any time after by visiting wpcw.org/worship.

Salvation Army Opportunity

The Salvation Army of Waterloo/Cedar Falls will be bringing the Hot Lunch Meal program back inside the Corps Community Center for sit down dining starting Monday, May 17. The lunch meals are on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:30am-12:30pm.

They are seeking volunteers (individual or groups) to help with the following duties:

- Prep: 10:00am-noon (2-3 volunteers)
- Greeting/Registration: 11:00am-12:30pm (1-2 volunteers)
- Serve & Clean: 11:00am-1:00pm (6-10 volunteers)

All individuals are required to wear a face cloth/mask, have their temperature taken, and hand-sanitizer will be available. Social distance guidelines will be followed, all dining tables will be spaced out with only four chairs at each table. Chairs and tables will be sanitized after each use.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Reg Nelson by phone or email to schedule.

Reg Nelson

Development & Community Relations Director

The Salvation Army of Waterloo/Cedar Falls

89 Franklin St. | Waterloo, IA 50703

(319) 235-9358 Ext. 103

Ragbrai

We've had a request from Julie Johnson, the Clerk of the Session at the United Presbyterian Church in Washington, IA. She and her friends are looking for a host for Ragbrai. Their group consists of 4 ladies age 50-60. They would like to set up tents, use the bathroom and would need an outlet to charge their phones. She further states that they are a quiet, respectful, small group and you won't even know they are around or that they've been there when they leave. They won't need any food or entertainment as they will be supporting our community groups.

If you would be interested in hosting them, you can contact her directly at 92clerk@gmail.com

References are available or contact Pastor Erin Kaye at UPC Washington.



**WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN**
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