

Messenger July, 2021

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

Weather permitting, on the last Sunday of the month we will worship outside. July 25 and August 29.



THANK YOU WES PRES FAMILY!
We are so grateful for the amazing turn out at our Wes Pres Youth car wash fundraiser! With your help, Wes Pres Youth was able to raise a total of \$944.88!! Thank you so much to everyone who came to get their cars washed, whether it got fully clean or not, we are so thankful for your support and generosity! Way to go, Wes Pres Youth!

Message from Elder's Seeking Wisdom

In a called (Zoom) meeting on Monday, June 28, our session heard a report from the Elders Seeking Wisdom. Responding to both our session's and our congregation's responses to the ESW presentation earlier, the ESW recommended, and session approved, hiring the following transitional positions:

1. Director of Music
2. Handbell Director
3. Contemporary Worship Leader

This action will help solve some of our most immediate and urgent budget and staffing issues. The hill to climb in 2022 looks much steeper. Elders Seeking Wisdom has meetings planned for the next two months to continue this dive into the budget sector-by-sector (building/maintenance, admin, education, pastoral). ESW will return to Session as we make progress with motions for further staffing adjustments.

If anyone knows of good candidates, they should forward those names or inquiries to Jodi Fabrizio, jodi.fabrizio@mediacombb.net, and Marie Hills, danmarie2010@gmail.com.

If you have questions about the ESW process or direction, please send them to Felicia Cass, feliciacass64@gmail.com.

ALL MINISTERING TOGETHER
1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-19

As I write this, Vacation Bible School is in full swing. The children are having a wonderful time learning about God's love in a welcoming, non-judgmental environment. What a great, intensive course on how much God loves us! I pray that the lesson sticks with them for the rest of their lives.

As much as I have enjoyed watching the children running, singing and dancing, laughing and learning, I have equally enjoyed watching the adults bringing this dream to fruition. It's amazing how many people it takes to make Vacation Bible School happen! Set decorators, designers and builders. Dragon creators and a skilled dragon imitator. A knight in shining armor to guide all the young knights. There are song and dance leaders, AV technicians and food providers. There is a nurse, recreation leaders, science teachers and Bible teachers. There are people to lead the children from place-to-place and to supervise their sidewalk chalk art. There is even a tie-dye expert! (Who knew you could do tie-dye without tying anything? It's come a long way since the 1960s!)

Volunteers working together is what makes VBS run smoothly. No one takes their group off in a different direction from everyone else. No one decides to start early or finish late without coordinating what they are doing. The AV crew do not run the dance videos at twice their normal speed just for the fun of it. Everyone works together in an orderly way.

In this regard, they are rather like a body. Bodies function best when all the parts are working together. We run better when our left knees do not try to run in the opposite direction. We see better when our eyelids remain open rather than closed. Little toes provide balance and cannot remain in bed when the rest of the body gets up. Livers do not stop working just to annoy the other organs.

When we all work together as the Body of Christ our church – whether for VBS, summer mission trip, Food Pantry Ministry or Sunday worship – is at its most efficient and effective. Session prayerfully creates policies to guide us towards the foot of the cross. Musicians move our hearts. Teachers teach us how much God loves us. Mission trips challenge us to share the Gospel in unfamiliar situations and Youth Volunteers guide and mentor our youngest, most impressionable disciples.

What animates us all, what keeps us from being just a hodgepodge of people and instead makes us the Body of Christ, is our common commitment to being the best church we can be for this time and place. With Christ as our Cornerstone, we are committed to working together to believe, become, belong and build up the Body of Christ.

Our bodies, Vacation Bible School, and our Church are at their best when all their different members answer their calling to the best of their ability. When no parts or persons think themselves better or lesser than any other, when they all do their best to perform their functions in conjunction with all the others, when they are all driven by the same desire to glorify God – then our bodies serve us well. Children learn how much God loves them. And we are truly the Body of Christ in this place.

Our great thanks to everyone who helped with VBS in any capacity. Our great thanks to everyone who helps our church be a powerful witness to how much God loves us.

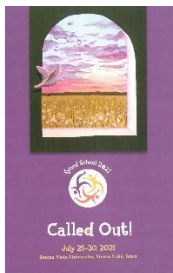
God's peace to all,
Pastor Ken

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/>
[Lakeshore Center at Okoboji](#) | [Facebook](#)



Synod School

Every year, in the last full week of July, 600 to 700 Presbyterians, mostly from the upper Midwest take over the Buena Vista Campus in Storm Lake, IA for the country's last remaining Synod School. This event is unique, like camp and church rolled together. People of all ages, clergy and church members, gray hairs and not yet walking, gather for a week of fun, fellowship, education, and worship. Each day begins with a brief worship after which the children and youth go off to age specific classes, and the adults hear from a nationally known speaker who guides us through that year's

theme. After that we break out throughout the day for classes taught by one another. Many are fun (pickle ball) or art centered (basket weaving), and many are on a huge range of topics from Bible Study and Spirituality to foreign affairs and homeless ministry. Peppered in there are meals at the cafeteria and free time, but every day closes with intergenerational worship and a host of evening fun.

Known to some of you but not all, our Associate Pastor, Dan Voigt, has served on the Synod Committee that runs this event for the last 5 years. If you ever want to get him talking, ask him about this.

If you have interest in attending Synod School this year, July 25-30, or just want to check it out, you can get more info on the website, or look for materials in the Welcome Center at church.
<https://lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/synod-school/>



What a great looking crew of our staff members modeling our new Wes Pres Youth t-shirts! We are so grateful to everyone who has supported our fundraising opportunities and ministry as a whole. If you ordered t-shirts, you can pick them up in the office Monday – Friday anytime between 8am and 4pm or on Sunday morning before or after worship!

SUMMER TRIP

7/7

MEETING



#SUMMERTRIP

All students and parents are encouraged to join us for a super cool super fun Summer Trip expectation and informative meeting!

**WESTMINSTER'S
COFFEEHOUSE
@ 6 PM**

Wes Pres Youth is excited to host a Summer Trip this upcoming July to Detroit, MI for our Jr. and Sr. High students. We have so much excitement to celebrate and invite you to join us in praying for a safe, fun, and fruitful experience for our youth! Reminder for parents and students: We will be hosting a Summer Trip meeting on Wednesday, July 7 at 6PM in Westminster's coffeehouse. We can't wait to see you all there!



The week of June 21-25 was an exciting one at the church as we brought back in person VBS.

In total we had 67 children with over 40 volunteers/leaders who helped plan, decorate, teach, and supply resources. If you were in the building you probably noticed the Christmas trees set up and

sanctuary looking more like a castle than a worship space (complete with a flying dragon). That's because the theme this year was the Knights of North Castle – where the kids (knights) discovered different pieces of the armor of God that Paul outlines in Ephesians 6: The belt of truth, breastplate of justice, shoes of peace, shield of faith, and helmet of salvation. To find each piece of the armor the knights traveled around to different stations to learn songs, bible story lessons, play games, and do crafts and science experiments. All in all it was a fantastic week of fun and discovery. A special thanks to all the volunteers that made it possible and to all of you that give to the ministry of Westminster so we had the funds, building, and staff to pull it off.

Pastor Dan

Here is an email we received from a parent of VBS kiddos!

"Thank you so much- our kids have been loving VBS! Every night at supper, our four year old tells us the story they heard and the older kids and adults try to identify it (lol). We have lots of kids from our neighborhood at VBS (we live on Graceline) and they are doing the dances and songs with kids that couldn't come- it's so cute! Your message is getting Spread! Thank you for all the church is doing!"

Summer Personal Care Drive - July 4 - August 1

Summer is a tough time for many local families. Social Service agencies are often in short supply of personal care items - things clients cannot buy with food stamps (SNAP).

We believe these items are basic necessities to live a healthy and happy life. There is a table in the Welcome Center ready to accept your gifts. Items received will be divided between the NEIA Food Bank and the Presbyterian Pantry for distribution in the community.

Items needed:

soap, toothpaste/toothbrushes, deodorant, diapers, toilet paper, kids 3 in 1 body wash/shampoo/conditioner, feminine hygiene, baby wipes, men's/women's shampoo, adult diapers, shaving cream and tissues

Thank you for your support!

Women Build - Saturday, August 14

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.





All Church Event at Palmer's Family Fun

Join us on Wednesday, **August 18 at 5:30 pm** for dinner and tons of fun! We will provide walking tacos and drinks, bring a dish or dessert to share.

\$6 per person. This includes:

- 2 Go Kart Tickets
- 18 Holes of Mini Golf
- Jumping Pillow
- 3 Batting Cage Tokens

Sign up in the Welcome Center beginning July 4. Pay Sundays in the offering basket, online at wpcw.org/palmers or at the Kiosk

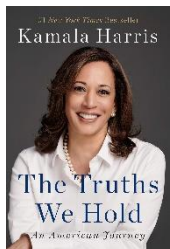
Bible Study



Monday Morning Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study: Meeting in the Coffee House Monday's at 9:00 am. All men are invited to join this group.

Women's Bible Study: Meets Monday mornings at 9:00 am in the Shared Life Center. They are gathering in-person and on Zoom. They are asking participants to be fully vaccinated to attend the in-person class. Pastor Locke is leading the women's group while Cathy recuperates from surgery.



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.

July 18 - "The Truths We Hold: An American Journey" by Kamala Harris
August 15 - "American Dirt" by Jeanine Cummins

Finance – Monthly Recap

For May the Church received \$68,158 in pledges and revenue versus last year's \$46,135. Several members gave their full year pledges for the month which provided this nice one-time increase. Year-to-date, we show giving at \$247,854 or 37 percent of the budget receipts which is about \$43,139 behind last year.

Total expenses stand at \$56,343 for the month versus \$48,977. One major expense, approximately \$8400, was to replace one of the four HVAC rooftop units that failed. Year-to-date expenses are at \$215,043 or 32% of budget and lower than last year's \$281,534. One contributor to this decrease were the vacant music director and Head of Staff positions.

As a reminder, Westminster's budget for 2021 is \$665,681 which includes \$73,156 in reserves and \$77,710 in endowment support. 2020 budget was \$775,505.

BUDGET SUMMARY						
	MAY	MAY	YTD	YTD	BUDGET	BUDGET
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 68,152.78	\$ 46,135.30	\$ 247,854.50	\$ 293,993.71	\$ 665,681.00	\$ 775,505.00
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 2,861.66	\$ 2,250.49	\$ 12,433.11	\$ 13,965.21	\$ 26,200.00	\$ 35,700.00
OPER & MAINT	\$ 16,517.37	\$ 3,668.38	\$ 39,899.28	\$ 33,137.21	\$ 86,000.00	\$ 94,750.00
CHRISTIAN ED	\$ 492.45	\$ 291.12	\$ 2,635.73	\$ 2,190.34	\$ 14,550.00	\$ 24,100.00
PERSONNEL	\$ 31,198.23	\$ 37,113.57	\$ 132,404.12	\$ 198,690.33	\$ 462,125.00	\$ 511,221.00
MISSION	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 4,692.93	\$ 17,797.74	\$ 22,677.56	\$ 47,000.00	\$ 63,000.00
MUSIC & WORSHIP	\$ -	\$ (825.63)	\$ 282.69	\$ 1,273.53	\$ 4,023.00	\$ 15,800.00
STEWARDSHIP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33.52	\$ 59.31	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
HOSPITALITY & DEACONS	\$ 162.46	\$ -	\$ 1,062.67	\$ 772.54	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH	\$ 96.42	\$ 225.00	\$ 418.70	\$ 962.54	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 5,700.00
PER CAPITA	\$ 1,615.25	\$ 1,561.14	\$ 8,076.25	\$ 7,805.70	\$ 19,383.00	\$ 18,734.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 56,343.84	\$ 48,977.00	\$ 215,043.81	\$ 281,534.27	\$ 665,681.00	\$ 775,505.00
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 11,808.94	\$ (2,841.70)	\$ 32,810.69	\$ 12,459.44		

Giving

Please support the ministries of Westminster at wpcw.org/giving or by using the Kiosk on Sunday mornings..

Scrip

The Scrip table will be open this summer on the 1st and 3rd Sunday's of the month. July 18, August 1, 15 and 29. Supporting this program supports Westminster's budget! You can also purchase cards in the church office during the week. **The scrip tables will not be open July 4.**

Presbyterian Pantry

The pantry is open on the 1st 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 208 individual households to date. In June we served 48 and 39 households.

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.

During the summer, the last Sunday of the month we are worshipping outside on the north lawn. Bring your favorite lawn chair or blanket and a drink if you wish. July 25 and August 29.

Many, many thanks to our church family for all the cards, prayers and visits as I recovered from my surgery! They each made my day brighter and I am sure contributed to my quick healing!

Peace and love,
Scott Cose

