

# Westminster News - MARCH 2021

## March at Westminster Presbyterian Church



- March 7**                    **Third Sunday in Lent/Communion**  
Texts: Isaiah 56:1-8; Matthew 15:21-28  
Focus Text: Matthew 15:21-28  
Sermon: *Calling People Dogs*
- March 14**                   **Fourth Sunday in Lent/Reception of New Members**  
Texts: Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43  
Focus Text: Acts 10:34-43  
Sermon: *The Terrible Beauty of the Cross*
- March 21**                   **Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
Texts: Micah 6:6-8; 2 Corinthians 5:14-20  
Focus Texts: Micah 6:6-8; 2 Corinthians 5:14-20  
Sermon: *True Compassion*
- March 28**                   **Passion Sunday**  
*Drive by event: Pick up Palms, Coffee & Donuts 8:30-10am*  
Text: Mark 14:1 – 15:47  
Sermon: *Reader's Theatre: Passion Story from the Gospel of Mark*



### **Our 2021 Lenten Schedule** ***Racial Justice and the Way of the Cross***

Join us this Lenten season for an in depth conversation about racial justice in Madison and the way of the cross.

**Worship** – Each Sunday during Lent, Pastor Scott will examine an issue in our holy calling for racial justice and equity as we journey with Jesus towards Holy Week and the cross. We will also be doing a virtual Maundy Thursday (3/1) and Good Friday Tenebrae (3/2) service, each at 7pm.

**Sunday Adult Forums @11:45a**-A joint mission and education planning group will be bringing us six Adult Forums on Sundays via Zoom beginning February 21 featuring a local speaker on some aspect of racial justice in the greater Madison area. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks. Pastor Scott's Bible study class will not be meeting during Lent so all of us can participate in these critical conversations. More details inside the newsletter.

**Lenten Book Study-on Thursdays at 7 pm** beginning February 18, Pastor Scott will lead a six-week book study on *Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism*. The book is written by Austin Presbyterian Seminary professor Carolyn Helsel based on her years of successful work in leading racism training in congregations. More details about the class inside.



## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 2021 Lenten Congregational Book Study with Pastor Scott

We will continue the discussion on the book *Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism* By Carolyn B. Helsel, Thursday Evenings from 7:00-8:00pm. Look for the zoom link in the Thursday weekly announcements! Weekly Topics through March:

- March 4 Mapping Racial Identity Development (Chapter 3)
- March 11 Listening to Different Stories about Race (Chapter 4)
- March 18 Expressing Gratitude (Chapter 5)
- March 25 Spiritual Practices for Race Talk (Chapter 6 and Conclusion)

### Sunday Lenten Adult Forums

Join us every Sunday morning at 11:45am for our Adult Lenten Series (a joint effort from the Education and Mission committees). Look for a zoom link in the Sunday worship email! Weekly Forums through March:

**-3/7 - Dan Davidson**, Principal at Thoreau Elementary

Discussion on working to overcome racial disparity in public education at Thoreau

**-3/14 - Anthony Cooper**, Nehemiah Corp, Vice-President of Reentry Services and External Relationships  
Discussion about the racial disparity in incarceration and the problems of reintegration faced by those returning to society

**-3/21 - Speaker TBA** Issues/advocacy in public health & wellness

**-3/28 - Debrief: Where do we go from here?**

This final moderated session will provide the opportunity to discuss what we've learned, areas for further learning and possible action moving forward.

### Wednesday Bible Study

The Bible Study on Acts with Rev. Jessica Salt continues through May 12 (Wednesdays from 12:30pm-2pm). It's not too late to join! This class explores the biblical text to better understand the history-shaping events that took place in the years following Christ's resurrection paying particular attention to highlights of the gospel of grace throughout the book. Please let Katie know if you would like to join and need a book at 238-3121 or [info@westminstermadison.org](mailto:info@westminstermadison.org).



### Report on the Thoreau Summer Reading Program 2020

Unfazed by the pandemic, the Thoreau Summer Reading Program completed its seventh summer of specialized reading instruction for Thoreau students who need extra attention to learn to read, serving approximately 250 students and their siblings. The program benefits from the leadership of Kelly McCann, an NBC 15 2020 Crystal Apple Award winning teacher, who used her 34 years of teaching experience, 24 of them at Thoreau, to guide 21 children who needed extra attention to continue their quest to become better readers. Her socially distant visits last summer to the student's homes involved bringing each student and their 15 siblings 5-10 age appropriate books/month tailored to their personal interests. One of the benefits of the program is that by the end of the summer these children have their own library of books available to read and reread. Virtual instruction continued in the fall, so we provided additional books and guidance for the students in last summer's program. The Mission Committee voted at the February meeting to fund the program in 2021 due to the continuing need. The good news is that Kelly McCann has again agreed to lead the program. Please watch for further information as to how you too can become involved in helping these students achieve greater success by helping to fund this effort again in 2021 for Westminster's fourth year of financial support of the lead teacher.

### Palm Sunday Drive-up Event

Stop by the church on Palm Sunday March 28 from 8:30-10:00am to say hello, grab a cup of coffee, a donut and a Palm Leaf. There will even be Easter baskets for the kids! Then tune in to worship when you get home to celebrate Palm Sunday.



## New Video System

Our new video recording system has been installed! We will soon be training on the equipment, so if you're interested in helping out on Sundays in the future, let us know! This update is a big step forward in allowing us to continue streaming worship (even after we finally get to return!) . Thank you to John Tarr and Abe Aberle for heading this project!



## December Loose Change Collection

The Mission Committee sends heartfelt thanks to the congregation for their generous giving during the December Loose Change Collection for "Fund a Farm." Almost \$700 was collected allowing Westminster to fund a farm in a wide variety of way. We not only donated goats, chickens, piglets and cows shares but also included a community garden, Moringa Tree seeds, farming tools and a sapling set. Moringa leaves are an important source of nutrition providing protein, amino acids, vitamins and minerals and the trees are quick growing and drought-tolerant.

The set of 90 saplings help restore God's Earth by mitigating climate change, sheltering wildlife, reinforcing soil and providing nutritious food. These gifts of plants and animals will allow families around the world to raise their own food. Thank you for your bountiful gifts!

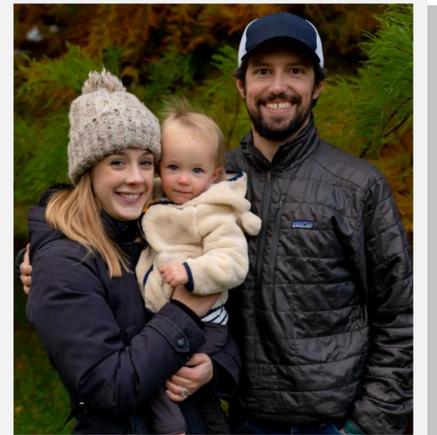
## All-Church Game Day March 14!

Fun! Prizes! Friendly Competition! Join the Education Committee on Sunday, March 14th at 4 pm for an Intergenerational Game Day event. We will be playing games appropriate for all-ages on Zoom. A link to join will be in the announcements that day. Join us for games of Heads or Tails, Bingo, and Scattergories. Unique Bingo cards can be downloaded free at this website: [bingobaker.com#1228516](http://bingobaker.com#1228516). You can play these Bingo cards directly on your computer, tablet, or phone or print cards out ahead of time. If you would like to have Bingo cards sent to your home, please [sign up HERE](#) (and let us know by **March 8** so we can mail them). Paper and a pencil are recommended for Scattergories. That's all you need! So pop some popcorn, gather your crew and join in on the fun! Questions? Feel free to contact Amy: [amy@westminstermadison.org](mailto:amy@westminstermadison.org).



## Welcome to our New Members

Hi! We're Liz, Andy, and Sylvie Jackson. We moved to the Nakoma neighborhood about 5 years ago, and are excited to join Westminster. Andy and I both moved from elsewhere to Madison for work, and have made it our forever home at this point. Sylvie is 2 and we're looking forward to bringing her to meet the congregation once we're able!



Hello, we are the Manning family! We moved to Madison from Wauwatosa in 2014, but recently moved to Verona in November. Lane is a realtor with DreamLane Real Estate of RE/MAX Preferred and Kristen works in Marketing at Promega Corporation. Reese is 13 (7th grade) and Myles is 10 (4th grade) and we have a dog, Kendal. We enjoy boating on the lakes around Madison in the summer, attending our kids sporting events, traveling (before the pandemic) and Badger football games (even though Lane is a Michigan fan and Myles is a Purdue fan!)



**Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:**  
 Betty Smith, Dianne Stevens, Seema Tahir, Carla McCann, Sara Pope & family, Barb Vogelsang, the Fletcher family (on the loss of Roger's dad, Gordon)



**Drive-up Ash Wednesday**

It may have been cold outside but it warmed our hearts to see about 35 members and friends for an Ash Wednesday blessing by Pastor Scott.



**LET'S STAY CONNECTED! (call or check your email for more details)**

**ONLINE COFFEE FELLOWSHIP WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00AM**

**VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS at 12:30PM**

**VIRTUAL BOOK GROUP THURSDAYS at 10:00AM**  
**LENT BOOK STUDY THURSDAYS at 7:00PM**

**SUNDAYS ONLINE:**

**VIRTUAL WORSHIP**

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM**

**ONLINE COFFEE HOUR 11:00AM**

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL/FORUM 11:45AM**



Westminster Presbyterian\*4100 Nakoma Rd., Madison, WI 53711\*608-238-3121  
 www.westminstermadison.org

**LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH**

- > Phone: 608-238-3121
- > Emails: Office - Katie: info@westminstermadison.org
- Scott: scott@westminstermadison.org
- Amy: amy@westminstermadison.org
- > Website: www.westminstermadison.org
- > Facebook & YouTube Search "Westminster Madison"

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- Ron Behling 03/01
- Isabell Buffat 03/04
- Betty Bush 03/04
- Wallace Douma 03/05
- Agnes Dako 03/07
- Pat Mullin 03/09
- Nell Seiberlich 03/10
- Lou Ann Schermerhorn 3/12
- Connie Jones 03/14
- Sam Fletcher 03/14
- Rick Dettloff 03/15
- Kira Dohrn Jones 03/15
- Kathy Key 03/15
- Sam Buffat 03/20
- Kathy DePaul 03/21
- Jerry Tarr 03/21
- Karen Stephens 03/24
- Julia Sherman 03/25
- Judy Thompson 03/25
- Kate Fletcher 03/26
- Scott Anderson 03/28
- Claire Tanke 03/29
- Nanci Bjorling 03/30
- Marcia Stockton 03/30

