

WESTMINSTER NEWS

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



May at Westminster

- May 6** **6th Sunday of Easter-Communion Sunday**
Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; I John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
Focus Text: Acts 10:44-48
Scott Anderson preaching
Sermon: Unlikely Receivers
- May 13** **7th Sunday of Easter-Sacrament of Baptism**
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; I John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
Focus Text: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Scott Anderson preaching
Sermon: Expansive Witness
- May 20** **Day of Pentecost-** Sunday School ends; recognition of
teachers; reception of new members
Lectionary: Psalm 104: 24-34, Acts 2:1-21
Focus Texts: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Acts 2:1-21
Scott Anderson preaching
Sermon: Can These Bones Live?
- May 27** **Trinity Sunday-Mark Achtemeier preaching**
Lectionary: Isaiah 61:1-8, Psalm 26; Romans 8:12-17,
John 3:1-7

INSIDE:

- **News & Announcements**
- **Birthdays**
- **Session Highlights**
- **Worship Volunteer Schedule**
- **Joys & Concerns**
- **Calendar**



PENTECOST

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Love on Four Feet

Do you know someone who could benefit from a visit from Koda, a gentle and affectionate yellow Labrador? If so, please contact Mary Koeppe at 608-298-7593 or via email at koeppejm@gmail.com

Mary and Koda have recently been certified by the Alliance of Therapy Dogs® as a therapy dog team. They are eager and willing to visit any church member who would like some conversation and companionship.

Possible visitations include (but aren't limited to):

- Someone who through illness or injury has been confined to their home and would like a visit
- A high school or college student who might be 'stressing' a bit before finals or other exams
- Read to a Dog where children (or adults!) can practice reading
- Or wherever Koda can make someone's day a little better



Koda is a nine-year old, yellow Labrador who loves people from ages 1 to 100, loves to have her ears 'scratched' or her hips rubbed, and adores attention of all kinds. Koda genuinely enjoys meeting new people or reacquainting herself with 'old' friends - just ask anyone in the Thursday morning book group. Koda is the Sioux word for friend – a truly apt name.

May 6 Adult Forum

On May 6, the Education Committee will be hosting Phil Cox, volunteer and coordinator at the Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens, during Adult Sunday School after worship. Phil will talk about the Gardens, which provides fresh produce to low income housing, meal programs, and 32 food pantries in the Madison area. Phil will discuss the Gardens' history, work, and impact in the community with us. Please come to learn more about this important community service!

May 20 Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a special congregational meeting following worship on May 20 for the purpose of electing a ruling elder to fill an unexpired term on the Session. The nominating committee will be nominating Merle Brunsting to serve in the Class on 2020. We anticipate the meeting will be brief.

Direct Withdrawal Now Available

We now have a way to make tithing easier! Direct Withdrawal, or Automated Clearing House (ACH), is an automatic transfer program that allows you to make contributions to the church without writing checks. It saves you time and helps the church stabilize its budget. Just contact Katie in the office for an authorization form: info@westminstermadison.org or 238-3121. Complete and sign the form and return it to the church office along with a voided check. Once you authorize the amount of your contribution, it is then electronically transferred from your account to the church's account either at the beginning or middle of the month (you choose). You can easily modify payment information by informing Katie of any changes in writing at least two weeks before your scheduled withdrawal date.

Parents Day Help

Parents Day at Allied Drive is Monday **May 7th** 12:15pm-5:30pm. This is a great event where underprivileged youth get to pick a gift and give it to their parent or guardian (for Mothers/Fathers Day). If you would like to volunteer or donate funds for purchasing gifts, please contact Ruth Hein at 347-4724.

Q&A: Thoreau Summer Reading Program

Thank you for the many questions and observations that arose after the announcement of Westminster's funding and involvement in the Thoreau Summer Reading Program. It is hoped that your

specific question will be answered below, but if not please feel free to contact Dave and Kathy Granquist or Pamela Wilson, chair of Westminster's Mission Committee.

What is unique about the Thoreau Summer Reading Program (TSRP)?

As many of you have already shared with us you have already identified the very unique feature of this particular program. The reading program is conducted in the student's home or wherever the family finds themselves, even if the student is homeless. This characteristic differentiates the TSRP from any other program sponsored by the Madison Metropolitan School District.

I believe that this question has a second part to the answer. I think that the success of the program has to at least in part be related to the qualities of the person who has led the program for four years, that is, Kelly McCann, the reading expert at Thoreau. She is highly qualified and very motivated to do her best to ensure that each student succeeds to the best of their abilities. She conveys an enthusiasm for learning that is infectious when you are with her.

How was the TSRP funded in the past?

The TSRP was funded for the first three years from grant money from the "We Can Do It" fund. The purpose of the grant was to close the achievement gap and create a climate and culture of belonging at Thoreau. Unfortunately this particular grant ended two years ago and is no longer available. Although many attempts have been made to obtain funding through other granting sources that are much less focused upon reading, no further funding has been able to be secured. Because the reading expert, Kelly McCann, has been involved with the TSRP from its inception and really believes in the value of this particular program, she volunteered her time last year and ran the program again during the fourth year. Without the generosity of the Granquist's lead donation and your additional contributions, this program would not be possible.

Does the Thoreau PTO support the TSRP?

The Thoreau PTO has in the past and expects to in the future provide money for books for the TSRP. Unfortunately according to their by-laws, they can not provide funding to pay a teacher. Currently enough books are available to conduct the program this summer.

What about funding from the "Read Up" program to help the TSRP?

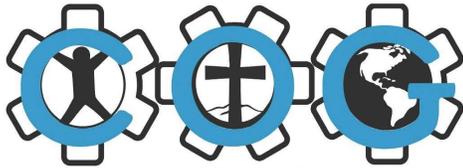
The "Read Up" program is the Madison Metropolitan School District's summer reading program, to be held in 2018 at 12 elementary school summer sites. Thoreau is not one of those sites. Another aspect of the program is funding free books for kids. The monies that many in our Westminster community have told me that they have generously given to support the "Read Up" fund, can not be used for the Thoreau program or even to provide books for the Thoreau program.

How is the TSRP organized?

Kelly McCann, a reading expert at Thoreau, evaluates student who would benefit from help with reading comprehension and fluency. Thus far she has identified 21 students and 13 siblings who have agreed to participate. She is in the midst of conducting an interest assessment so that the most age appropriate books can be provided to each student and their siblings when she conducts her home visits. By the end of the summer each home should be stocked with approximately 20 books that have been given to each family. Because she schedules her visits to the homes, she is able to interact with the student's parents to help them know how to best help their child. All of these activities are helpful in developing homes where reading is valued.

Westminster has been a very caring and generous congregation! We have currently raised \$3100 for this program. If we can reach our goal of \$5000, we will be able to support this program for multiple years. Please prayerfully consider your donation to the Thoreau Summer Reading Project. A donation in any amount will be doubled up to \$5,000 during the Super Sized fund drive thanks to the Granquists. Checks can be made out to Westminster. Please put "summer reading" in the memo line. Thank you in advance for considering this very worthwhile cause.

Luncheon Fundraiser To Support the Hayes Family



***Casting Off Globally
Family Volunteers Inc.***

When: Sunday May 6, 2018

Where: Westminster Presbyterian Church
4100 Nakoma Rd. Madison,
WI 53711

Fellowship Hall (downstairs)

Time: 12:00 - 2:00 pm



As the first volunteer family of **Casting Off Globally**, the Hayes Family will begin their year of volunteer service at the end of July 2018. Their calling will take them to 7 countries and 3 continents over a 12 month period where they will teach English, serve orphaned children, participate in conservation projects, and support nutrition and community development programs.

www.castingoffglobally.org

Please join us to learn more about their calling, their plans, their service, and how you can help. This is a great opportunity to hear about the specific work the Hayes Family will be doing during their service year, as well as learn more about the organizations they will be working alongside.

Soup lunch and refreshments will be served.

This luncheon fundraiser is sponsored by the Deacons and Mission Committee at Westminster Presbyterian Church.



There's always something fun at the Doin' R Thing Dance! Church members are always welcome on the 3rd Friday of every month at Westminster for this dance hosted by Jerry, Sharon & Erin Donnell. It's a wonderful event for people of all ages with special needs. For more information, talk to Jerry or Sharon Donnell (or Katie in the church office.)



MAY BIRTHDAYS



Wrede Smith 05/02
 Dorothy Blotz 05/06
 Linda Bishop 05/07
 Mary Allbaugh 05/11

Bud Smith 05/11
 Aileen Zebrowski 05/12
 Cindy Kornetzke 05/13
 Pamela Wilson 05/13
 Elliott Sweet 05/16
 Dick Zimmer 05/16
 Sara Hayes 05/17
 Sandy Butler 05/18

Andrea Witt 05/18
 Ruth Davis 05/20
 Gay Didriksen 05/20
 Cindy Grady 05/24
 Chris Wehnes 05/24
 Sarah Wehnes 05/25



An early birthday surprise for Dorothy!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session approved proceeding with the upgrade of our 1972 organ console and authorized signing a contract with Walker Technical Company to rebuild it. Once the console is installed, the organ needs to be re-voiced. This is particularly important since the remodeling of our sanctuary and removing the carpet. Session authorized signing a contract with Angerstein Organ Works to re-voice the organ. Both companies are highly respected and have worked with nationally-known organs. Of the \$155,000 funds needed, \$140,725 has been pledged with over half of that already in hand. We anticipate completing the project this coming fall.

The Mission Committee received a donation of \$5000 as seed money to fund the summer reading program at Thoreau Elementary School. Kelly McGann, the reading specialist, has visited students at home over the summer to work with them on maintaining reading proficiency and bringing books for the students and their siblings to enjoy and keep. The district did not fund the program for this summer and Westminster is looking for matching funds to make it possible for Kelly's to continue her very important work. An additional \$3100 has already been donated. Session authorized receiving these funds and seeking addition support for the Thoreau summer reading program. Mission Committee Chairperson, Pamela Wilson Quin has information about how to help.

Session received the resignation of Elder Julie Madden with regret. The Nominating Committee will be seeking someone to complete her term on Session in the Class of 2020. If you are interested in serving Westminster in this capacity, see Elder Carrie Aberle or Deacon Sandra Cole members of the Nominating Committee.

Stewardship recommended and Session approved Abe Aberle to serve a 3 year term on the Endowment Committee. Elders Bob Klassy and Thatcher Root will represent Session on the committee.

Session approved a plan for responding to the goals developed in the officers retreat in February. Various committees will address individual goals and we will look for people to work as an 1-year Outreach Task Force to address three goals: Connect to Nakoma neighborhood in new ways; technology/social media presence and attract more members.



UPDATED WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Liturgists

Ushers

Greeters

Communion Servers

5/6/2018	Cynthia Bush	Bob Weber	Bill Tanke	Abe Aberle
		Gary Stephens	Linda Tanke	Jon Tanke
		Doug Kornetzke		Thatcher Root
		Jerry Donnell		Dorothy Hujik
5/13/2018	Ken Sadeghian	Erin Nass	Patricia Miller	
		Bob Weber	Kathy Key	
		Garrett Fletcher		
		Bob Forsberg		
5/20/2018	Linda Kwiatkowski	Karen Osborne	Dick Zimmer	
		Juanita Halls	Peg Zimmer	
		Doug Halls		
		Dave Granquist		
5/27/2018	Richard Appen	Dorothy Hujik	Andrea Kenny	
		Ed Cothroll	Julie Madden	
		Abe Aberle		
		Carrie Aberle		
6/3/2018	Lee DeSpain	Dick Zimmer	Karen Stephens	Doug Evans
		Peg Zimmer	Gary Stephens	Liane Kosaki
		Garrett Fletcher		Ed Cothroll
		Linda Kwiatkowski		Jeff Hayes



Please Keep Us in the Loop

Have a change in address? Are we missing your birthday? Do you have an announcement for the newsletter or weekly insert? Please let us know! Just call or write Katie in the office: info@westminstermadison.org or 238-3121. Newsletter articles are due on the 15th of each month. Weekly insert announcements are due the Tuesday before it is published. Thanks!

JOYS & CONCERNS

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers for health, peace and wholeness:

Jack Browning, Shirley Toomey, Vern Forsberg, Wade Waggener, Ann Friedley, Marjorie Hamann and son Jack, Howard Thompson, Mary Lathrop's sister Louise, Linda Schultz



MAY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9:45 AM Worship	30	1	2 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	3 9:30 AM Thursday Morning Book Group	4 5:30 PM DBSA	5
6 FOOD SUNDAY 9:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School & Adult Forum 12:00 pm Hayes Luncheon Fundraiser	7	8	9 1:30 PM Oakwood West Worship 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	10 9:30 AM Thursday Morning Book Group	11 5:30 PM DBSA	12 5:00 AM Shelter Breakfast
13 9:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School	14 9:30 AM Knitwits at WPC	15 1:00 PM Esther-Naomi Circle	16 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	17 9:30 AM Thursday Morning Book Group 6:00 PM Mary-Elizabeth Circle	18 5:30 PM DBSA 7:00 PM Doin' R Thing Dance	19
20 Just Bakery Sale 9:45 AM Worship 10:45 AM Congregational meeting 11:00 AM Sunday School	21	22 3:00 PM Stewardship	23 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	24	25 5:30 PM DBSA	26
27 9:45 AM Worship	28 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (Memorial Day)	29 7:00 PM Session	30 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	31	1 5:30 PM DBSA	2

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4100 Nakoma Road
Madison WI 53711

Call: 608-238-3121

Email: info@westminstermadison.org

Fax: 608-441-7798



We are especially thankful for :

Westminster Mission

Ever seeking guidance from the Holy Spirit, we strive to follow Jesus Christ by being...

Attentive to the Word,

Faithful to our covenant with God and each other, and

Diligent in ministering to the needs of the world.

WESTMINSTER NEWS

MAY

STAFF

The Rev. Scott Anderson, Pastor
Office Hours: by appointment
scott@westminstermadison.org

Joe Chrisman, Minister of Music
westminstermusic@sbcglobal.net

Katie Bencze, Church Administrator
Office hours:
Monday-Thursday / 8am-4pm
info@westminstermadison.org

Dorothy Blotz, Accompanist
dblotz@charter.net

Vern Forsberg, Pastor Emeritus
608-230-3164

VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

westminstermadison.org



Search for: Westminster
Presbyterian Church

**"Toward a church as generous and just as
God's grace".**

Westminster is a member of the Covenant
Network, welcoming & honoring all!

Visit: covnetpres.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Service:
9:45am Sundays

Sunday Schools:
10:50am: K-4th grade &
Youth (5th - high school)
11:00am: Adult

~ Child Care available ~