

WESTMINSTER NEWS

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Rally with Us this September!

Sunday, September 10th - Rally Sunday

Join us as our congregation regathers after the summer for worship and a Mission Fair to kick off the fall. Cake and coffee will be served.

- 9:30 AM** **Worship** with Pastor Scott preaching on the theme "The Altars Where We Worship" based on Exodus 12:1-14. Children K-3 will leave for Children's Time following the children's sermon. Grades 4 and above are welcome to stay in worship.
- 10:35-11:15** **"How We Worship"**—Children K-6 meet with Pastor Scott and Minister of Music Joe Chrisman in the sanctuary for an introductory class on worship. Parents are welcome, too!
- 10:35-11:15** **Mission Fair**—peruse the displays throughout the Narthex reviewing the many forms of ministry at Westminster along with an invitation to get more involved this fall.

Sunday, September 17 - Sunday School Kick Off

Sunday school begins following worship. Classes are available for all ages!

- 9:30 AM** **Worship** with Pastor Scott preaching on the theme, "Seventy Times Seven" based on Matthew 18: 21-25.
- 10:30-10:50** **Coffee Fellowship in the Narthex**
- 10:35-11:45** **Sunday School for Children and Youth.** The nursery is available for Pre-K. Grades K-4 will meet in Room 12. Grades 5-12 will meet in the Youth Lounge downstairs. Scripture focus will always follow the worship theme and focus text for the morning.
- 10:50-11:45** **Sunday School for Adults.** Lectionary Bible Study class led by Pastor Scott will meet this Sunday in the sanctuary. Scripture focus will always follow the worship theme and focus text for the morning.

Sunday, September 24 - Blessing of the Animals

Members, friends and visitors are welcome to bring their pets to worship to receive a blessing. More details will be found elsewhere in this newsletter

- 9:30 AM** **Worship on the Patio** with Pastor Scott preaching on the theme, "The Last Shall Be First" based on Matthew 20:1-16.
- 10:35-11:45** **Sunday School for Children and Youth**
- 10:50-11:45** **Sunday School for Adults**

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Meal

Lead by Sue Bridson (Allied Partners Board member), our Westminster volunteers participated in the Allied Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood Association's Community Meal on Friday, July 28, at the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County. The outpouring of support from our membership was exceptional, with approximately 18 providing salads and/or desserts to accompany the fried chicken prepared by Carl Morris, a local resident. Notable among the contributions was Kathy Kemp's potato dish that served more than 50 people.

The co-chair of the event from the community was Alice Howard. She lead the evenings activities, kicked off with a prayer by Rev. Scott Anderson (also an AP Board member). It was announced that they are planning and praying for a grocery store for their area, listing that as their true first priority at this time. While there we were all encouraged to sit with someone that we did not know and get acquainted with that person during the meal. The process was made more enjoyable by the accordion music provided by our own Sue Bridson who also brought hand held instruments for children to clang along with her music. About 63 people enjoyed the evening together.

It was gratifying to learn how thankful the residents were about WPC's prior contributions to the Allied Dunn's Marsh community. It is nice to know that our efforts have made a difference in people's lives. I'm sure that you'll want to keep this volunteer opportunity in mind when our time to serve comes 'round again.

Article submitted by: Pamela Wilson (Quin)

Sermons from Westminster

Pastor Scott's sermons are available after Sunday worship in several formats. Sermons are posted to the westminstermadison.org website under the "Worship" tab. They can be downloaded as an audio file or listened to directly from the website. Print copies are available on Monday from the church office. If you wish to reserve electronic copies (pdf files) each week, our Church Administrator Katie Bencze can add you to the weekly email list to automatically receive them. Individual copies can be requested from Katie at info@westminstermadison.org. Each week there are also a handful of printed copies placed in the display rack to the right of the entrance to the church office.

Chancel Choir Kick Off



Sing the Lord's Song with Us! The Westminster Chancel Choir will officially kickoff of its season on Wednesday, September 6th. All those interested participating in the Choir's music ministry are encouraged to attend!

From September to June, the Chancel Choir rehearses each Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in preparation for leadership in worship on a weekly basis. Through its Christ-centered approach to worship leadership, the Choir plays a central leadership role in this congregation's worship life and offers its members an opportunity to respond to God's call to be effective stewards of their music talents. If you are sensing a call from God to serve in the music ministry of Westminster but are unsure how to respond, why not give the Choir a try during these months before Christmas?

The Chancel Choir ministers within itself by growing individuals, at whatever level of musical ability or faith formation, with the help of the whole ensemble. The Chancel Choir ministers to the congregation not through individual voices, but through its collective efforts in worship leadership. In this way, each singer gives what they can, and the whole of the worship experience is made greater. Each choir member is valued for the unique gifts they contribute to the ensemble. Some bring outstanding voices or great musicianship. Others bring equally valued gifts like leadership, humor, and warmth. The Chancel Choir is a community of faith in which singers develop all the gifts they have to offer. The basic requirements are the ability to sing in tune and hold a part, enthusiasm for the Choir's ministry, willingness to learn and grow, and a focused commitment to offering one's very best at weekly rehearsals and in Sunday worship.

For more information about the Choir's ministry, please contact Joe Chrisman, Minister of Music, at 288-0872 or speak with any current choir member. We hope to see you, and hear you, at the kickoff rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. on September 6th!

Reading Material Needed

Jack Hamann, the son of one of our members Marjorie Hamann, is currently in the Dane County Jail and we are rounding up reading materials for Jack to help him cope with incarceration. Jack is very bright and has wide-ranging reading interests: gardening, fishing, art (especially watercolor) and art history, and National Geographic magazines, to name a few. He also desires a paperback dictionary and thesaurus.

The Jail has strict policies about reading materials mailed to inmates: only paperback books and magazines, no staples, and only two in one package. If you have a paperback or a magazine (or two) that you think Jack would enjoy, drop them by the church office and we'll make sure he gets them.

A Note from the Worship Committee

The Worship Committee has been discussing removing the scripture text from the bulletins and putting a page number reference in instead. Let us know what you think of this idea. We have also been discussing plans for Rally Day and our new fall schedule test (worship at 9:30 followed by education hour). This would allow Scott and the choir to fully participate and give families an extra half hour to arrive. Our children have been much on our minds lately. We want to engage them more and get them more actively involved in worship (ushers, liturgists, adult "Worship Buddies", etc). A plant subcommittee will be forming to look at placement and planning with the plants in the Narthex and Sanctuary. Let us know if you would like to join in. Looking ahead, Michael Johnson of the Boys and Girls Club will preach with Scott on 9/3/17 and we'll have a Blessing of the Animals service on 9/24/17. Pets in cages or on a leash can be brought to the service to receive a blessing. You can also bring a photo or ashes of a pet who has passed. Finally, we'd like to make everyone aware that a podcast (audio file) of the sermon each week is available on the WPC website if you were not able to join us for worship. Check it out.

- Your Worship Committee: Bob Klassy, Sandy Curran, Jeff Hayes, Gay Didriksen, Vicki Cothrell, Joel Jones, Linda Kwiatkowski, Scott Anderson and Joe Chrisman



Thank you

Linda Schultz and Howard and Judy Thompson want to thank Pastor Scott and members of the congregation for their prayers, cards, and visits during Linda's hospital and nursing home confinements. She is now at home where she is continuing her recovery.

Blessing of the Animals September 24

The Blessing of the Animals - sometimes known as the Blessing of Pets - is traditionally held on October 4 or a Sunday nearby by Roman Catholics as a remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. In recent years, a growing number of Protestant churches have borrowed from this tradition in hosting an annual worship service focused on God's beauty, grace and love that come to us through our animals in the bond of creation.

Westminster Church will celebrate its first Blessing of the Animals during the 9:30 am worship service on Sunday, September 24. On that Sunday, we will be holding worship on the front patio with a canopy to protect us from the elements. **Members, friends, and neighbors are invited to bring their pets to church that Sunday.** We have a few rules to protect both our pets and our human worshippers:

- Dogs should be on leash or crated.
- Cats should be crated.
- Rodents, lizards, turtles, birds and snakes should be appropriately caged

You are also welcome to bring a picture of your pet in lieu of a live animal. Those who have ashes of their pets are also welcome to bring them to receive prayer of thanksgiving. Small children who do not have live pets but have stuffed animals are welcome to bring these as well.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind." And God saw that it was good.

-Genesis 1:24-25





Tuesday Bible Study Starting September 12

Rev. Dr. Mark Achtemeier is a minister, author and theologian of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Mark Achtemeier has served the Presbyterian Church (USA) since 1984 as a minister, speaker, author and theology professor. He taught Theology and Ethics at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary for fifteen years, and is currently engaged in full-time writing and speaking. He is author of "The Bible's Yes to Same-Sex Marriage: An Evangelical's Change of Heart."

Engaging the Word: Learning to read the Bible with confidence, understanding and openness.

Stories abound within the Christian community of people whose lives have been transformed Scripture. But a great many of us find ourselves paralyzed and frustrated at the prospect of reading the Bible on our own. The text of Scripture seems intimidating and perplexing. The scholarship surrounding it is often technical and dauntingly complex.

The goal of this study is to better equip ourselves for fruitful personal encounter with Scripture as a way of deepening our connection with God. In pursuit of this goal the class will...

Formulate a "big picture" understanding of the entire biblical story as a way of providing context and a framework for understanding individual passages. Explore different types of writings contained in the Old and New Testaments, considering pivotal passages, key themes and concepts, major characters, and fruitful interpretive strategies for each type. Practice fruitful group reading and discussion of individual passages. Develop personal habits of devotional Scripture reading. The class will feature a mixture of presentation and discussion, with a variety of viewpoints welcomed. **Come join us Tuesdays, 4pm-5:30pm!**

A Global Mission Supported by Westminster

Westminster was blessed to have visitors on August 13th from the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy, located in the slums of Kenya. Richard Teka, Program Director, Asha Jaffa, an Alumnus, and Shannon Murphy, Executive Director of the KGSA Foundation, shared the story of this amazing school. Facing the dangers of slum life, the school was created to provide girls with access to education, artistic and athletic opportunities, but also to inspire them to be advocates for change. Their visit provided a personal connection and brought this mission to life for those who attended.



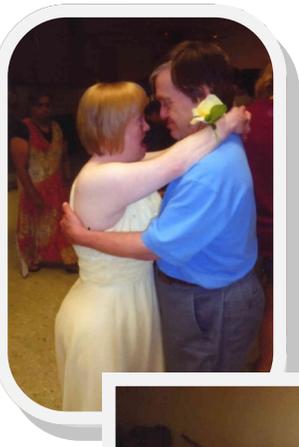
Summer Socials!

Westminster's Thursday Morning Book Group enjoyed several walks and lunches together at places like Allen and Olbrich Gardens. Pastor Scott even joined in on the fun. Starting September 7, the group meets at Westminster every Thursday at 9:30am and **all are welcome!**



Did You Know...

The 3rd Friday of every month Westminster Presbyterian is home to the Doin' R Thing Dance hosted by Jerry, Sharon & Erin Donnell. It's a wonderful dance for people of all ages with special needs. The September Dance will include members from the UW Marching Band. October will be a howlin' good time with costumes and a Halloween theme. Church members are always welcome to come and enjoy the festivities. For more information, talk to Jerry or Sharon Donnell or Katie in the church office.



YOUTH



VBS!

Vacation Bible School was a big success as sixteen youth and children joined us in August for a fun filled week of Christian education. A big THANK YOU to all of those who helped with food, storytelling, leadership and more! We couldn't have done it without you.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	Liturgists	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
9/3/2017	Ken Sadeghian	Andrea Kenny	Dave Granquist	Ed Cothroll
		Lee DeSpain	Kathy Granquist	Thatcher Root
		Rhea Schultz		Margie Knott
		Judy Stone		Julie Madden
9/10/2017	Erin Nass	Doug Halls	Doug Evans	
		Juanita Halls	Connie Evans	
		Doug Kornetzke		
		Karen Osborne		
9/17/2017	Dave Granquist	Lee DeSpain	Paul Bishop	
		Ron Behling	Linda Bishop	
		Julie Madden		
		Andrea Kenny		
9/24/2017	Kathy Key	Bob Weber	Dale Rohde	
		Peg Zimmer	Marian Rohde	
		Bill Bridson		
		Judy Graham		
10/1/2017	Donna Chandler	Andrea Kenny	Dave Granquist	Margie Knott
		Jerry Donnell	Kathy Granquist	Peg Zimmer
		Bob Forsberg		Dick Zimmer
		Ed Cothroll		Sandy Curran

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS:

Session met for its stated meeting on Tuesday August 29th and acted to:

Approve a budget request from the Education Committee for a 6-8 week parenting class this fall during the Sunday School hour. Also approved hiring a college intern to support the children's Sunday morning program and an older college intern (junior or above) to work with youth on Sunday morning and once a month in the evening. The committee will evaluate participation and interest in the children/youth programs during the fall to justify the expenditure.

Approve Westminster's work with Open Doors for Refugees. The Mission committee will keep the congregation aware of needs as they arise. Open Doors coordinates with Lutheran Social Services and Jewish Social Services to help people settle in the Madison area and assist with housing, transportation and other services. The needs fluctuate depending on State Department approval of refugee relocation.

Review and approve job descriptions for Elders and Deacons which will become part of the Officers Handbook and can be used by the Nominating committee. Nominating reported that they are half way to a full slate of officers to be elected in the fall.

Approve Worship committee's request to use money from Betty Paddock's memorial fund to clear the bookkeeping imbalance on the purchase of the Glory to God Hymnals. People who would like dedicate a hymnal to someone may contact the Worship committee.

Worship committee will have a canopy on the terrace for the Blessing of the Animals service on September 24th.

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

Jack Browning, Betty Fox, Shirley Toomey, Vern Forsberg, Wade Waggener, Ann Friedley, Lil Marsh, Marjorie Hamann and son Jack, Connie Dettloff, Wally Douma, Sara Hayes's cousin Courtney, Nancy and Bob Dott, Howard Thompson, Joel & Connie Jone's niece Caitlin Murray



SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 5:30 PM DBSA	2
3 Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Property Committee	4 LABOR DAY Church Office Closed	5 12 PM JKP Regional Meeting Madinah First Day of School	6 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	7 9:30 AM Thursday Morning Book Group	8 5:30 PM DBSA	9 5:00 AM Shelter Breakfast
10 9:30 AM Worship (Rally Day & Mission Fair) 11:45 AM Mission Committee 11:45 AM Education Committee	11	12 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee 4:00pm-5:30pm Bible Study	13 1:30 PM Oakwood West Worship 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	14 9:30 AM Thursday Morning Book Group	15 5:30 PM DBSA 7:00 PM Doin' R Thing Dance	16
17 Just Bakery Sale! 9:30 AM Worship 10:50 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Deacons Meeting	18	19 4:00pm-5:30pm Bible Study	20 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	21 9:30 AM Thursday Morning Book Group	22 5:30 PM DBSA	23
24 9:30 AM Worship (Blessing of the Animals) 10:50 AM Sunday School	25	26 7:00 PM Session 4:00pm-5:30pm Bible Study	27 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	28 9:30 AM Thursday Morning Book Group	29 5:30 PM DBSA	30

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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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

SEPTEMBER

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

New Worship Schedule
Starting September 17

Worship Service:
9:30am Sundays

Sunday School:
10:50am