

October 2020 at Westminster Presbyterian Church

- October 4** **World Communion Sunday**
Texts: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14
Focus Text: Matthew 21:33-46, Sermon: *The Vineyard and the Days of Awe*
10:00 am Children's Time
11:00 am Virtual Coffee Fellowship
11:45 am Adult Bible Study/Sermon Talk-Back
- October 11** **Stewardship Season Kickoff**
Texts: Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Matthew 22:1-14
Focus Text: Philippians 4:1-9, Sermon: *Do Not Worry*
10:00 am Children's Time
11:00 am Virtual Coffee Fellowship
11:45 am Adult Forum on Autism Speaker: Jess Lawinger
- October 18** **Stewardship Sunday**
Texts: Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96: 1-9, 10-13; I Thessalonians 1:1-10
Focus Text: Matthew 22:15-22
Sermon: *Personal Testimonies of Westminster Members and Friends*
8:30am-10am - DRIVE BY COOKIES & COFFEE at Westminster
10:00 am Children's Time
11:00 am Virtual Coffee Fellowship
11:45 am Adult Bible Study/Sermon Talk-Back
- October 25** **Reformation Sunday**
Texts: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; I Thessalonians 2:1-8
Focus Text: Matthew 22:34-46, Sermon: *Finding Connection in a Lonely World*
10:00 am Children's Time
11:00 am Virtual Coffee Fellowship
11:45 am Adult Bible Study/Sermon Talk-Back

WE LOVE "SEEING" YOU

Special thanks to Sandy Curran for "gathering" our congregation (at least photographically) and to the Hayes children for helping us set up. Feel free to stop by the church and take a look!



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Intergenerational Recipes

Hello Westminster families! Since we can't gather in person for an intergenerational potluck this year, the Education Committee would love to put together a Westminster Cookbook instead so we can still share our favorite recipes with one another. Please send us your passed-down family recipes or old favorites, along with any special memories or stories that accompany them to Erin Nass, by email erin.e.nass@gmail.com or mail. In the spirit of a true intergenerational event, please include your kids or grandkids! Do they have special meals they love, around the holidays? We'd like to include them all! Please have all submissions sent in **by October 31**, and the Education Committee will work on compiling them and figuring out distribution. Bon appetite!

THANK YOU!

On September 4th, we delivered over \$700 in school supplies to Thoreau School, our Adopt A School partner. We also have school supplies set aside for the children who participated in the summer literacy program. Because of the move to virtual schooling, we will try to continue to deliver books to these students over the next couple months.



We were also able to provide 20 sets of headphones to the students at Thoreau who are participating in the full day child care program at that location. They all need to do their virtual schooling while in child care, but none had headphones. In addition, your generous monetary contributions allow the Mission Committee to allocate \$650 from your designated donation directly to the Foundation for Madison's Public Schools to support their School Supply Project, providing complete school supplies for 13 more at risk students. Thanks to all for the incredibly generous gifts to meet this need!



Adult Forum on Autism October 11

The Thursday morning group has been reading 'The Reason I Jump' written by a thirteen year old autistic boy. The education committee is following it up with an Adult Forum on autism on October 11th at 11:45am (after coffee hour). During this forum Westminster is welcoming Jess Lawinger. Jess has over 15 years of experience in the areas of personal development, wellness and working with families and people on the autism spectrum. She has over 15 years of experience working with children and families touched by autism. In addition, she has created and implemented a graduate level course about autism, and has trained and presented to numerous organizations on the topic. She received her bachelor's degree in early childhood regular and special education from Edgewood College and her master's degree in special education with an autism certification from the University of Wisconsin Whitewater. ***Please feel free to submit any questions for the speaker ahead of time to Connie Evans at ce24ce24@gmail.com.



All Saints Day

On All Saints Sunday, November 1, we will be honoring members and loved ones who have passed. If you would like to honor a loved one, please submit their name to the church office by October 27 (Call 238-3121 or email info@westminstermadison.org). We will be lighting a candle and sharing those names during the service.

Drive Up Cookies & Coffee Oct. 18!

The Fellowship Committee is so glad that everyone enjoyed coming out for drive-by donuts on Rally Sunday. It was such a success that we have decided to have drive-up cookies and coffee on October 18th! Come on by the church anytime between 8:30am to 10am that morning to grab coffee and cookies! (Please follow proper social distancing). Feel free to hang out and chat with friends outside. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE MUG. If you would like to help, please consider making a batch of cookies and individually wrapping them. Contact Lynnette Tortorich at lynnetteet@outlook.com or Katie at 238-3121 to let us know you're making them so we can have an accurate cookie count. We look forward to seeing everyone on October 18th!



Westminster provides for a pandemic need at Cherokee Heights Middle School

Thanks again to the generosity of Westminster's congregation and community, we were able to fulfill the request of the Cherokee Heights Middle School Band Director, Trina McPeake, to provide 45 ukuleles for her sixth grade band students so that they could learn more about music virtually during the pandemic closure of our public schools. Based on early feedback, having a ukulele in their hands has provided students with an educational and psychological boost.



The goal of \$1,350 was exceeded (to \$1600) which included \$500 in matching funding from our Mission Committee along with donations from the Crawford Marlborough Nakoma Neighborhood Association and Nakoma League! The school has decided to now try to get a ukulele for every student, so contributions are still being accepted.

Peace and Global Witness Offering October 4

Westminster is a connectional church. Our celebration of World Communion Sunday on October 4 is paired with the collection of our Peace and Global Witness Offering, addressing systems of injustice and supporting ministries of reconciliation and peace within cultures of violence and conflict. Westminster and the John Knox Presbytery equally share one-half of the monies received, while the remainder is directed to the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Your offering, joined with others, will work for the good of our community and globally to sow seeds of peace in this troubled world. Checks may be sent directly to Westminster with "Peace" in the memo. Thank you in advance for the prayerful consideration of this offering.

2020 CROP Hunger Walk

The 2020 CROP Hunger Walk is happening October 18. The format has changed but the need is greater than ever to support the fight against hunger. This year you can walk or even bike, hike or paddle as part of the effort to raise funds to avert hunger both in Madison and afar. In 2019 \$35,000 was raised, so the challenge is great to beat this!

Westminster is a Hunger Action Congregation, so we participate as a church in this effort. All activities are to follow pandemic guidelines for safety such as wearing masks and practicing social distancing. If you are interested in being a part of the walk this year, please reach out to Pamela Wilson pwilson@wisc.edu for details including the waiver. You can also help by being a "spirit walker" and donating (make checks to Westminster and write "crop" in the memo). Please encourage other family members and friends to join you as you prayerfully consider how you can participate in this important mission activity.

A Cheesy Thank You!

We are so proud to report that over \$1270 (or 271 POUNDS) of cheese were donated by our congregation to the Madison West High Area Collaborative (in fellowship hall). Again—this initiative feeds about 400 families each week, and we got to support local farmers, so THANK YOU so much for your generosity. It's simply moo-velous!



^
< Drive by Donuts was a hit!



^ Prayer Ribbons decorating our front.

< Our sanctuary has a new roof!

MEET THE NOMINATED CHURCH OFFICERS FOR THE CLASS OF 2023



ROGER FLETCHER (Elder)

Roger Fletcher works for the state retirement system. He enjoys woodworking and tinkering with his Harley-Davidson. Roger and his wife Kate have two teenage sons, Garrett and Sam. He looks forward to learning from the dedicated church members who have served faithfully and repeatedly as Elders.

SARA HAYES (Elder)

Sara Hayes is a true native of Arizona but a midwesterner at heart. She has been a resident of the Madison area since 2011 and has warmed to the brisk Wisconsin winters (and summers). Sara earned a Masters in Social Work from Arizona State University and is currently a Care Coordination Specialist in the emergency department of Meriter Hospital.

While this is Sara's first nomination for the Elder role she has long held many positions with Westminster. She has served on the Mission Committee since 2013 and has helped coordinate Westminster's continuing mission with the Porchlight Men's Drop In Shelter. She has also been integral in the Angel Tree program as well as special programs such as Thanksgiving Turkey donations for Thoreau. In addition to raising her own three children, Anjali (13), David (11), and Lucia (7), she has assisted in Westminster's youth leadership.



KATHY KAMP (Elder)

Kathy retired in 2020 after a 20 year career as the Executive Director of two nonprofits focused on providing affordable housing to low income and homeless individuals and families. In addition, she served as a federal technical assistance provider and in this capacity assisted in the startup or operation of numerous nonprofits across the state focused on housing issues. Because of this work, she has a passion for social justice issues as well as the nuts and bolts of operating nonprofit organizations. At Westminster, Kathy has been involved for many years on the Mission Committee and loves to sing in the choir. Since retirement, she also joined Knitwits (for a few months before quarantine), the Bible Study and Book Group and loves these connections with others at Westminster. Kathy has three incredible children (with three fabulous partners) and five amazing grandchildren. She served once before as an Elder and looks forward to serving the church again in this way.

LIANE KOSAKI (Elder)

Liane Kosaki has been a member of Westminster since 1993. She is a member of the choir and has served on Session and on the Education, Mission, and Personnel Committees at Westminster. She has taught Sunday School and worked on Vacation Bible School throughout her time at Westminster. Outside Westminster, she has served on the Pres House Board and the Wisconsin Council of Churches. Liane recently retired from her position as Assistant Dean and Director of Academic Advising Services for the College of Letters and Science at UW Madison.



KATE FLETCHER (Deacon)

Kate Fletcher is excited to be starting her third term as a Deacon, and she's inspired by the dedication, energy, and creativity that others have brought to this role. Kate works in technical communications at Epic, and she and her husband Roger keep busy with sons Garrett (16) and Sam (13). Kate's hobbies include reading, cooking, and travel.

KATHY KEY (Deacon)

Since growing up in the Presbyterian Church in Georgia and living in Texas for 45 years; Kathy Key moved to Madison and retired in 2013 after the death of her husband. It was easy for her to find WPC because her grandchildren attended the Madinah Academy. She acclimated to the role of Senior Transportation Coordinator for her grandchildren as they participated in a plethora of after school and weekend activities. Now that her grandchildren are older, Kathy is able to focus more on volunteer activities, mahjongo and reading, and can now give back to her church in the role of Deacon.





KEN SADEGHIAN (Deacon)

Ken has been a member of Westminster for 35+ years and has been involved in many church functions and activities. He was born and grew up in Tehran, Iran. When he was 16, his parents arranged for him to finish high school and attend college in the U.S. He attended St. Peter's School, an Episcopalian college prep boarding school in Peekskill, N.Y. and Davis and Elkins College, a Presbyterian supported college in Elkins WV. During his junior year, he met Libby who was a freshman at D&E. After graduation, they were married and moved to New York City. He took graduate courses and worked part time in research at Rockefeller University. His mentor got a professorship of biochemistry at UW-Madison and asked him to join him. Ken and

Libby were glad to leave behind the hectic life in NYC. They have two daughters in San Francisco, three grandchildren and two great granddaughters; one in Eugene, OR and one in Vancouver, WA. By becoming a Deacon again, Ken hopes to further promote love, healing and compassion among our church members and to spread the word of God in our community.

KAREN STEPHENS (Deacon)

Karen Stephens is originally from Sheboygan, Wisconsin, but spent most of her life in southern California. Seven years ago, when she and her husband Gary relocated to Madison, she realized a life-long dream of returning to her home state. Westminster Presbyterian was the first (and only) church they visited. They felt so welcomed that they decided to become members right away! Karen recently retired after working in academia for 22 years, both at the University of California Irvine and at the University of Wisconsin Madison. She primarily worked with graduate students in Biomedical Engineering (UCI) and in Chemistry (UWM), helping them keep on track towards their PhD degrees. She also enjoyed assisting faculty and planning various events in the department. Karen enjoys cooking & baking, attending concerts, Mallards games, Indy car racing, and exploring Wisconsin. She was ordained as a Deacon at their home church in California and is looking forward to serving the church once again.



OFFICER NOMINATIONS TO FILL IN OPEN SPOTS



LIBBY SADEGHIAN (Deacon Class of 2022)

Libby has been a member of Westminster for 45+ years. She has served as a Deacon, taught Sunday School, partnered with a student at Thoreau School for one year, volunteered in the office with newsletter mailings, helped at rummage sales, and served meals at the Men's shelter. She has enjoyed the Westminster fish fries and Plates for Eight Group and looks forward to resuming the fellowship.

LINDA TANKE (Deacon Class of 2021)

Linda Tanke is a life-long Wisconsinite. She grew up in the Milwaukee area, went to college at UW-Madison, and has been a Madison area resident (with a brief stint in LaCrosse after marriage to Bill) ever since. She's also been a member of the Presbyterian church since birth, the last 32 years at Westminster. She will have been married to Bill for 47 years in October, has two adult children--Jon & Christine--and 3 ½ granddaughters. She is retired from the Finance & Accounting Department of Promega.

Linda has served three previous terms as a Deacon. She has also been a member of the Personnel Committee, and a Long Range Planning Committee, taught VBS, and was a substitute Sunday school teacher. She is currently serving as an Assistant Treasurer and a Sanctuary Guild Member. She has also been faithfully attending the Thursday Morning Study Group since joining the church.

Her interests include reading, walking, baking, and visits with the grandkids. She also has been a news junkie since childhood



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please mark your calendars for **October 25** as Session has called a virtual congregational meeting with the purpose of electing these officers. More details for the meeting to be announced.



Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:
Betty Smith, Dan Prine, Flora Adams, Paul Quin, Jerry Donnell

SEPTEMBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Stewardship presented a budget proposal for 2021 that includes 1% pay raises for staff and an increase to 17 hours a week for Amy Poland. Other adjustments included lowering expected revenue from plate and non-pledged contributions and lowering some utility and janitorial expenses while we do not have classes and worship in the building. The plans for the fall stewardship campaign are underway and Session will approve a final budget by the end of the year.

Property reported that the roof work is complete and that they are looking at bids to install one or two cameras in the sanctuary to film worship services. The equipment would be able to be used when the congregation is present and also be capable of live streaming services provided we had sufficient internet speed. The committee also met with Madinah Academy to work out rent for the school year. They will pay a reduced amount while the teachers are here but the full amount when students physically return.

Session approved the recommendation that Josh Mou be the congregation representative on the Endowment Committee to replace Bud Smith. Bud resigned when he became church Treasurer and Josh will complete his 2020-21 term. Session also approved the appointment of Andrea Kenny as (volunteer) Administrative Assistant.

Session called a congregational meeting for Sunday, October 25 for the purpose of electing officers. The nominating committee has completed its work with a full slate for 2021. Look for more information in October on how to attend this virtual meeting.

Session received reports from the Deacons: Fellowship's drive-by donuts event brought about 40 people to the church for coffee and socially distant visiting. Congregational Care Committee regularly calls our home-bound members. The Membership Committee has reached out to some of our less active members and some have requested that they be removed from the rolls.

Vital statistics showed a significant increase of YouTube views of August worship services over the attendance of in person services in August last year -- average of 116 per Sunday in 2020 to an average of 76 in 2019.

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

VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS at 12:30pm

VIRTUAL BOOK GROUP THURSDAYS at 10:00am

**SUNDAYS: ONLINE WORSHIP, ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL/FORUM
& CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**ONLINE COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS AT 11:00AM
AND WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00AM**



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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- Nathan Wilke 10/04
- Karen Hansen 10/05
- Mary Lathrop 10/06
- Aidan Lepien 10/08
- Julie Madden 10/09
- Albert Whitney 10/09
- William Butler 10/11
- Tom Buchhauser 10/11
- Gary Watters 10/12
- Karen Osborne 10/13
- Thatcher Root 10/13
- Donna Norton 10/15
- Hannah Kwiatkowski 10/15
- Joyce Buseman 10/19
- Kimberly Pedracine 10/26
- Jeff Hayes 10/27

