



## Updates & Announcements November 25, 2021



- **Children's Story:** This week our video is a cute preschool story about giving thanks and how everyday can be thanksgiving. [CLICK HERE](#)



### Coffee Prep Help Needed!

We are fortunate to be able to have Coffee Fellowship after the worship on Sundays, but to continue, we really need some help. Plus, what better way is there to reconnect with your fellow church friends than over a cup of coffee or hot tea? Please consider being a coffee helper. It's easy! We have directions and will train you. You can even set up the coffee before Sunday. The sign up is on the coat-rack table in the narthex. We need immediate help for December and hope to put a rotating schedule out after that. Many hands make light work! If you have questions, please call Kathy Key.

### We need ONE more team of 2 people on December 3rd!

Westminster will deliver boxes of shelf stable food weighing 12-15 pounds



### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

A reminder that the church office will be closed on Thanksgiving. Happy Thanksgiving!



The church directory has been updated – for a copy, email [info@westminstermadison.org](mailto:info@westminstermadison.org).



Haven't turned in your 2022 pledge card? No problem - just [CLICK HERE](#)



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

to Thoreau families. At 8:30am, the teams will meet at Westminster to load 2 boxes/family into their vehicles and receive addresses for delivery. A Navigation Map is recommended for directions. The team can decide if they prefer to deliver to 5-6 families or 11-12 families.

(Please let me know when you respond.) If no one answers, simply leave the boxes at the door. The entire process will take about 2 to 2 1/2 hours. If you're available on December 3rd, please contact Rhea Schultz by email at [rannschu@gmail.com](mailto:rannschu@gmail.com). You can ask a spouse or friend to help!

### **COVID Update: Session makes minor changes to building use policy**

On Tuesday November 23, the Dane County Public Health Department extended the county-wide indoor mask mandate until January 3, 2022, with one change. For groups of people who are fully vaccinated, masks may be removed. The Session has acted to make the following changes to our COVID-related building use policy effective immediately:

1. For small groups meeting at the church, if everyone participating has been fully vaccinated, masks may be removed.
2. During service, worship leaders in the chancel area (pulpit, lectern, communion table and musicians), may remove their masks while speaking. Otherwise, masks are still required on Sunday mornings.
3. In the sanctuary for worship, the front sections of the sanctuary will have the blue tape removed from every other pew so congregants can sit where they please, mindful of social distancing. The back sections of the sanctuary (between the two entry doors) will continue to be taped, blocking every other pew, for those who wish more distance from others in worship. Sunday morning coffee fellowship will continue in the fellowship hall downstairs through the winter months. Masks should be worn unless eating or drinking.

### **Adult Forum: Tiny House Villages in Madison with Allen Barkoff December 5**

Join us Sunday, December 5 at 11AM in the Narthex for a special presentation. Occupy Madison, Inc. is a non-profit organization that oversees 2 Tiny House villages in Madison. The villages are a place where people without current safe housing can live and work cooperatively in a way that promotes dignity, safety, stewardship, and environmental sustainability. The first Village, established in 2014, will soon have 9 Tiny Houses with 9 occupants. The second Village established in 2020 has 23 people living in Conestoga Huts soon to be replaced by Tiny Houses. Allen will discuss the history of the organization, what requirements Occupy Madison had to meet for City approval, successes and the challenges the organization had to overcome, how the two Villages

**Care List (rotating weekly):** Shirley Dieter, Sally & Vern Forsberg, Ann Friedley, Jack Hamann, Gloria Hanson

**Members & Friends:** Kelly McCann, Gloria Stange, Ruth Hein, Dale Rohde, Sandra Cole, Bob Bush, Joel Jones, Joyce Schultze, Doug Rouse



**Have a hearing aid? We have a hearing loop in our sanctuary! [CLICK HERE](#) for more information!**

### **Nursery Reminder**

We are pausing the nursery during worship due to lack of use. However, if you are interested and would like to have it open in the future, please send us an email ahead of time at [info@westminstermadison.org](mailto:info@westminstermadison.org) and we would be happy to arrange care again.



### **Staff**

**Scott Anderson**, Pastor  
**Joe Chrisman**, Minister of Music  
**Amy Poland**, Childrens Ministries Coordinator  
**Katie Bencze**, Church Admin  
**Dorothy Blotz**, Accompanist  
**Vern Forsberg**, Pastor Emeritus

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**For Sunday Worship and Bulletins, click the image below:**

are financially supported, and its vision for the future. Allen Barkoff taught biology at Madison Area Technical College (Madison College) from 1969 until 2001 when he retired. He's been with Occupy Madison (Tiny House) Villages since 2014.



### Stewardship Campaign is Close to Goal

There's still time to get in your pledge for 2022, even though our campaign is nearing its end. There are still a few pledges we hope for but haven't received yet, but the good news is that pledges received from our very faithful and generous congregation have already climbed to within 12% of our goal. If you're among those who plan to pledge, but just haven't had a chance to get your pledge in, it would be a great help to Session as they plan our programs for 2022 for your pledge to be received soon.

One of our goals as we plan for 2022 is to account for expected inflationary pressures on our 2022 budget. If you were able to increase your pledge over last year's, thank you for your help. If you haven't, please consider adding five to ten percent to last year's pledge. There's still time! Katie Bencze can help you with modifying your pledge, including increasing the amount automatically transferred from your bank.

### Dessert and Auction, Saturday, December 11

Join us for fellowship, fun and some early Christmas shopping at the PWW Dessert and Christmas Auction, Saturday, December 11 from 1pm - 3pm in the narthex. We will be following the church's Covid protocols. If you would like to donate to the auction, please bring a new item that you have created, cooked or wish to donate to the auction.

Proceeds benefit local community agencies and our Westminster PWW mission work. Thank you! For questions contact Judy Graham.

### Angel Tree - Gift Tags Still Available!

The Angel Tree is up! We will provide 60 gifts to Allied Drive families so they can have a fun and happy Christmas! If you'd like to help simply:

- Choose a tag from the tree.
- Write your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet.
- Keep gifts around \$35 total--you don't have to buy everything on the tag, just up to the \$35 amount.
- Wrap gifts and tape the Angel Tree info tag securely to the package.
- Return gifts to church by Sunday, December 12th.

If you do not want to shop and wrap a gift, but you do want to participate in this program, our Westminster confirmands are here to help! Just:

### Coffee Fellowship

A reminder that coffee hour takes place in Fellowship hall downstairs after worship. Feel free to join us!

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### Online Giving:

To contribute using a debit or credit card, follow the [THIS LINK](#) to our secure giving site. **Please make sure to specify the name of the offering in the "notes" part of the second page.** You do not have to create account unless you want to save your information for quicker use in the future.



Our **WPC NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER** is now available. [CLICK HERE](#) and catch up on all the church happenings!

- Pick a tag.
- Put your \$35 donation in the basket on the table near the tree with your chosen tag, and put your name next to that

### **Christmas Cards for Dane County Jail**

The congregations of MAJM provide Christmas cards to the men and women in jail during the holiday season. Westminster is seeking volunteers to write heartfelt messages of encouragement. Cards can have no embellishments. Blank Christmas cards are available on the table in the Narthex (next to the white card collection basket), so feel free to write a few after worship! Any questions, please contact Rhea Schultz at [rannschu@gmail.com](mailto:rannschu@gmail.com). Examples are available. Cards due by December 1st. We hope to collect 75. Thank you!

### **Coats for Thoreau Students**

The social worker at Thoreau has informed us that they are in need of coats, hats and mittens for students. If you have a children's coat (sizes 6-12) that you would want passed along to the school, please bring it into the church (narthex) and the Mission Committee will make sure it gets there. Knitwits is donating hats and mittens and we will use mission funds to supplement donations so they have what they need. Thank you!

### **Help at Fort McCoy**

Wisconsin Council of Churches is looking for volunteers at Fort McCoy. They are looking for people who would make a commitment of volunteering regularly; either volunteering once a week for a set time (for example, every Tuesday for 8 weeks) or people who would like to go up to Ft. McCoy and stay for a week (there is housing on base available). The volunteer will need to have lots of energy and an ability to work with people (especially children). There is a huge need for female volunteers and educators. Volunteers have to be 18+, pass a background check, and be given a base pass before they can begin. The Wisconsin Council of Churches will help with this process. Contact [volunteer@wichurches.org](mailto:volunteer@wichurches.org) if you are able to help out.

### **An Advent Devotional for You**

Rise Up Shepherd: Advent Reflections on the Spirituals by Luke A. Powery. African American spirituals give us profound insights into the human condition and the Christian life. Dr. Luke Powery, who is Dean of Duke Divinity Chapel and Professor of Homiletics at Duke Divinity School, leads the reader each day through the spirituals as they confront the mystery of incarnation and redemption throughout the season of

Advent. This is a follow up to the popular Lenten devotional that we used last Spring, also written by Dr. Powery.

Each daily reflection includes scripture readings, a focus on one of the spirituals, and a closing prayer, and is an ideal companion through this special season. The first day of Advent is Sunday, November 28. Books are \$12 and are available in the church office. It is also available on Kindle and can be purchased through Amazon.

### **Poinsettia In Honor/In Memory**

We will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas worship with poinsettias and you are invited to purchase these poinsettias in honor or memory of a loved one for \$13 each. To order, fill out a form at church or online: [CLICK HERE](#). You may also call the church office at 608-238-3121. Please make checks to Westminster and mark "Poinsettia" in the memo.

### **2022 Dine with Nine (or Ten)**

A reminder to sign up for Dine with Nine if you are interested and have not done so already. The sign-up is in the Narthex or you can send an email to Juanita at [jjh71152@gmail.com](mailto:jjh71152@gmail.com). There will be a brief meeting after church on December 12 to answer any questions.

### **Attention Cookie Bakers!**

Cut out sugar cookies are needed for decorating at the intergenerational Advent event on Sunday, December 12th. Cookies will be shared with the students of Pres House as they are entering semester finals. Please consider donating 2 dozen plain sugar cookie cut-outs. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

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