



**Updates & Announcements      December 2, 2021**

**NEWSLETTER**

The December Newsletter is here! There is a lot going on this holiday season so please take a moment and check it out! [CLICK HERE](#)



 **CLICK HERE** for  
*Pastor*  
*Announcements* 



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

 

- **Children's Story:** This is a wonderful video about the meaning of Advent. It is geared for older children and adults: [CLICK HERE.](#)

And for the younger crowd, this video is the Story of Christmas (Mary and Joseph): [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 need some help. Plus, what better way is there to reconnect with your fellow church friends than over a cup of coffee or hot



**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...**

**Care List (rotating weekly):**

Margie Knott, Hugh Moss, Patrick Mullin, Bucky Pike

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

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 contact Kathy Key.



**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

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



**Coffee Fellowship**

#### **Adult Forum This Sunday: Tiny House Villages in Madison with Allen Barkoff**

Join us this 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. 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 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.

#### **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:

- 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

## 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!

## 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 this Sunday in the Narthex or in the office during the week. 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.

## December 12: Advent Together - Intergenerational Event

Join us on December 12 following the service for our Advent Event! We'll be decorating cookies and making decorations and ornaments. Some of our cookies and decorations will be shared with the students of Pres House as they enter semester finals and some are for us! This event is a wonderful opportunity to

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.

gather together and welcome Advent with the church community.

**Speaking of...Cookie bakers needed!** Cut out sugar cookies are needed for this event. Please consider donating 2 dozen plain cut-out sugar cookie. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex or email Katie in the office: [info@westminstermadison.org](mailto:info@westminstermadison.org). Please let us know if you are planning to bake some so we can plan accordingly. Thank you!

### 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.

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