



Newsletter & Announcements December 13, 2018

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols This Sunday

In the worship service this Sunday, the Westminster Chancel Choir will lead us in a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. This service is rich with musical offerings, many of which are drawn from the English carol tradition. However, as with all worship services at Westminster, the faithful expression of God's word is our primary focus. In this service especially, the music—the handmaid of the liturgy—is our response to God's word proclaimed. In this Festival, we have an opportunity to respond to God's word through carols and choral compositions from the 4th to the 21st centuries, which exhibit our rich heritage of Christmas music. The service will be enriched by organ, piano, trumpets, and handbell accompaniments along with the congregation. Please invite a friend to join you for this special service of worship at Westminster!

Poinsettias

You are invited to share in the Christmas decoration of the sanctuary by purchasing a poinsettia plant for \$13 each. This is a lovely way to 'remember' someone who has passed, or to 'honor' someone living. Forms can be found outside the sanctuary and church office. Please complete and return it to the church office with your payment (mark poinsettia in the memo line) by this Sunday Dec. 16.

Calling All Kids!

We are looking for children and youth, ages 3 and older, who would like to participate in the 4 pm Christmas Eve service. Costumes will be involved, but there are no lines to memorize. Please contact amy@westministermadison.org if you are interested or have any questions.



SUNDAY 12/16

Just Bakery Sale

9:45 AM - Worship

11:00 AM - Sunday School

TUESDAY 12/18

1:00 PM Esther Naomi Circle

6:00 PM Session & Deacon

Potluck

THURSDAY 12/20

6:00 PM Mary Elizabeth

Circle

SUNDAY 12/23

9:45 AM - Worship

Slow cookers requested

Five additional slow cookers are needed to conduct the Cherokee Heights Middle School cooking class on January 15, 2019. Please contact the church office **by Dec. 17** if you have a functioning slow cooker that you would be willing to donate.

Fund a Farm

During the weeks of Advent, the loose change offering will be used again this year to “Fund a Farm” through the PCUSA Presbyterian Mission. Our goal is to purchase chickens so households can get eggs for food, feathers for pillows and fertilizer for crops. This is truly a gift that keeps on giving. Perhaps we will even be able to purchase a piglet (or more than one) that can provide income to a family when the pig is grown and sold at the market. If we want to dream big, we can purchase a pair of goats that will provide food security for a family through milk, cheese, butter and yogurt. Consult those piggy banks and bring your change to worship on any Sunday in December. All the coins collected during the four Sundays of Advent will go for this worthy mission.

Madison Area Jail Ministry - Christmas Cards & Reading Glasses

Share the joy of Christmas with the men & women incarcerated in the jail. Drop a Christmas card in the “Jail Ministry” basket in the Narthex by Sunday December 16th. The cards will be delivered by Chaplain Todd. FEW RULES: 1). The cards should be simple: no envelopes, no glitter, no sequins. 2) They should be signed with a first name only. READING GLASSES: The Jail Ministry needs reading glasses of all strengths, both new and used, for the incarcerated. The Dollar Store has a great selection! Drop them in the “Reading Glasses” basket in the Narthex. Thanks!

MARGARET CUNNINGHAM—Soon to be 103!

Margaret Cunningham, a treasured member of our congregation, will celebrate her 103rd birthday on New Year’s Day. Let’s help to make her birthday special. All are invited to write cards of good wishes to let Margaret know that we’re thinking of her. There will be a basket in the Narthex labelled “Margaret” to collect the cards. Plans are being

MONDAY 12/24 Christmas
Eve
Church Office Closed
3:30 PM Cookies, Coffee &
Carols
4:00 PM Candlelight Service

TUESDAY 12/25
Church Office Closed
MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Staff:

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

discussed with Margaret's son as to when the cards might be delivered to her home in Cross Plains. Any questions, please contact Rhea Schultz.

Shop while helping support our Adopt-a-School Partner - Thoreau

If you shop Barnes & Noble (7433 Mineral Point Rd.) on December 16th, a portion of your sales to be used to support the Thoreau PTO (just make sure to mention that you are there to support Thoreau when you check out). It's a win-win for you and our adopted school! Barnes & Nobel is more than a bookstore, it has gifts and coffee - and it all goes to help Thoreau. Students might even be there to sing for you around noon!

Mark Your Calendar - Westminster's Annual Fish Fry

Join us for our annual fish fry on Jan 25, 2019 promptly at 5:30 pm at the Hilltop located at 4173 Co Hwy P, Cross Plains. Interested parties must sign up **no later than Jan 17th**. A sign up sheet in the Narthex or contact Bob Bush.

Jack Hamann Update

Jack has been moved to the Boscobel prison and would welcome any correspondence (His birthday is 12/24). We encourage you to wait to write until the new year (as opposed to the holiday season). The extra attention all at once tends to have some repercussions.

He is also allowed soft covered books (from Amazon) and magazine subscriptions (more info on that below).

Jack Hamann #554778

Wisconsin Secure Program Facility

PO Box 1000

Boscobel, WI 53805-0900

For subscriptions the two catalogs are: JL Marcus and Union Supply Company

(Need to have his name, number and location Jack Hamann #554778

Wisconsin Secure Programs Facility)