

Voice of Westminster



November 2024

Afterglow of Pilgrimage and Combined Worship. As I enter November, I still find myself in the warm afterglow of having spent time on the Leadership Team of the Michigan Pilgrimage at the Amigo Centre in Sturgis, MI. What a delight to reconnect with so many individuals that truly have become “family,” to meet new family members, see transformation in the lives of others, and to grow closer to Christ myself. I invite you to read Troy Lloyd's reflections of his time as a guest below in the Newsletter.

Lord willing, I hope to return for next springs Pilgrimage, May 1-3, 2025 as there are those who want to go from Cedar Rapids. Maybe you would like to join this group.

I further find the joy lingering of last Sunday's worship Service with Beacon of Light and the Global Evangelical Pentecostal Church. It is always refreshing to celebrate the unique gifts each congregation has to offer. Further, it was a delight to fellowship together with some absolutely amazing soup! We will once again come together on Dec. 15, 2024 to unite in an Advent worship gathering, followed by a Christmas reception in the Parlor.

Community Dinner coming Friday, Nov 15. Hopefully, you are also looking forward to our 2nd Annual Community Dinner on November 15, 2024 from 5-6:30, with great food, a positive message from the potter's wheel, and many giveaways. It is an awesome time to serve or come and bring a neighbor, family member, or friend.

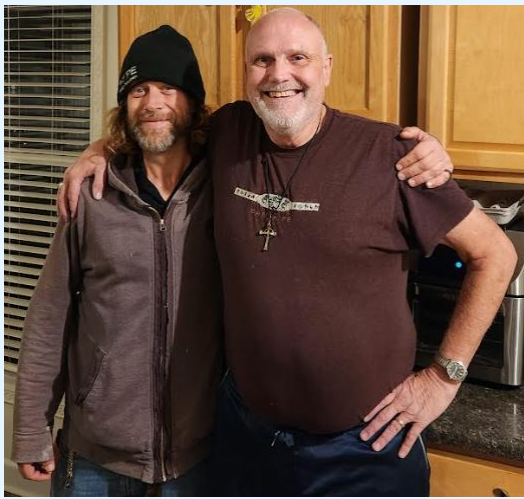
Stewardship Focus, November 17 and 24. We will be focusing on “Planting Our Seeds in the Garden of God's Grace,” with a unique opportunity on the 24th to make a commitment that will grow and be a visible sign for months ahead.

November 24 Clay ornament making begins. This is to decorate a Christmas tree in the parlor and make a few gifts to share with others. Pastor Roger and Val Neubauer will lead in this endeavor from 8:30-9:30am before the worship service and one hour following it in the art room. This opportunity will be available, Nov. 24, December 1, and December 8. Plan on coming two Sundays in order to make the pieces, and then glaze them after they are fired.

November 24 Joint Presbyterian Thanksgiving Service with details forthcoming.

It promises to be an exciting month!
Don't forget to vote on Tues. November 5, 2024!

Pastor Roger



MICHIGAN PILGRIMAGE 2024

LETTER FROM TROY LLOYD

As I look back and think of my time spent at the Pilgrimage I can't help but long for the time I spent with my new family in Christ. As a new believer and follower of Christ oh how I wish the 3 days spent there could of lasted forever. The 3 days we spent learning about God were magnificent. At first I didn't know what to expect but as time started going by I was introduced to what the true meaning of being a servant was and meant. The love that was offered us guests by mere strangers was beyond comprehension. Joy, Love, Grace was all around us at all times. By the time the 3rd day arrived it was quite apparent that we were home. The Holy Spirit was around us all and deeply felt within ourselves and all those around. I cried, I laughed, I was loved, and I was able to Love.

None of this would of been possible without GOD, and with GOD all things are possible! God Loves You and so do I! God is good all the time. Besides God I owe a great thanks and utmost appreciation to my mentor, my coach, my brother in Christ, and my friend Pastor Roger Grandia and his sister Darlene. Thank you all for being there when there was no one else.

Lots of Love, Your brother in Christ!
Troy James Lloyd



"ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION"

On Sunday, October 6, Westminster celebrated 6 couples that have been married more than 60 years. What a glorious thing! If you were not able to join in the celebration we thought a picture of the couples would be a nice way for everyone to see and enjoy.



"CRANKSGIVING 2024"

Cranksgiving is a scavenger bicycle ride through Cedar Rapids to various grocery stores to purchase items from a list that is provided to each participant at the beginning of the event. Our very own Loaves and Fishes is the recipient of this wonderful food donation. Last year the turnout and the amount of food and donations Loaves and Fishes was given was beyond amazing. This year the event is set up basically the same with people gathering in Newbo on November 10 at 11 am and returning to Newbo when they have completed there trek through the city and dropped off all their donations at Loaves and Fishes. Goldfinch Cyclery is the sponsor of this event for the last 8 years. Westminster thanks Goldfinch Cyclery and everyone who is participating in any way to this fabulous fundraiser for the pantry.



"COMMUNITY DINNER"

On November 15 at 5 p.m. Westminster will host its 2nd annual Community Dinner. This is a free meal for everyone. Please plan to join us and afterwards head over to St. Paul's, across the street, for a free concert by the Harmony Hawks. Two of Westminster's members are part of this group; Bill Moss and Tom Read. It will be a great night!



SOUP LUNCHEON - PASTOR APPRECIATION"

Sunday, October 27 Westminster, Beacon of Light and Evangelical Global Pentecost Church all came together for a soup luncheon after the Sunday service. Pastor Roger didn't know that the members of the congregations had also gotten together to recognize him for October Pastor Appreciation Month. To his complete surprise he was presented cards from the congregation and a certificate. We thank you Pastor for all of your hard work. The soup luncheon also was great. So many soups to choose from and no one duplicated a flavor. It was a great time for all!

"MISSION FULFILLED"

After 32 years, the Board of Directors for the Neighborhood Meals Enrichment Program (NMEP) has decided that this last summer will be the last for this program. The program was established to feed neighborhood children during the summer when school lunches were not available, but nothing stays the same. The number of children has declined steadily over the years as public-school enrollment has declined. This summer and next, the public schools will be serving free lunches during the summer. There are also several other food outlets in the area that are available. WPC wishes to recognize Tom Read, who was with the program in the beginning and with it during its last season. We would also like to recognize Mary Jo Crull who also served in a leadership role over the course of the program. Finally, thank you to all the members of WPC who have volunteered over the 32 years of this mission of the church. Well done good and faithful servants!

"MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ROGER"

I just wanted to share my deepest appreciation for the wonderful surprise of the card shower this last Sunday! Thanks so much for the cards, gifts and words of encouragement! What a huge blessing!



"JIM PATTERSON AND AREFAT ALI"

Pastor Roger attended Arefat Ali's cross country race in October. Arefat took 4th place out of the freshman/sophomore division. What a great accomplishment! Guess who was officiating the race? Our very own Jim Patterson. Jim has been doing this for many years in many different sports. Way to go Jim!



Calendar: Special Events

- Nov. 4 - Deacons 5 p.m.
- Nov. 10 - Cranksgiving (See Article)
- Nov. 11 - Property Meeting 1 p.m.
Mission Meets 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 15 - Community Dinner 5 p.m.
- Nov. 18 - Finance Meets 4:30 p.m.
- Nov. 19 - Session Meets 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 24 - Joint Presbyterian Church Service
- Nov. 28 - Thanksgiving Day

Access the updated WPC calendar at
crwpc.org/calendar



This Month's Birthdays

Janet Trotter	November 3
Glenda Patterson	November 4
Cheryl Shanklin	November 4
Brian Read	November 14
Sherry Swanson	November 17
Bruce Chambers	November 21
James Fine	November 21
Maggie York	November 27
Loren Neubauer	November 30

Calendar: Regular Events

Sundays

Breakfast 8 a.m. - Old Dining Room
Worship 10 a.m. - Sanctuary
Beacon of Light 11:30 a.m. - Chapel
Beacon of Light Community Dinner every other
Sunday starting on 4/7
EGPC-1:30 p.m. - Old Dining
Chorale Midwest 5 p.m. - Lg. Parlor

Mondays

Bridge 11 a.m.-4 p.m. - FLC
Marion Gospel Hall Youth Group 7 p.m.

Tuesdays

L&F Pantry 2:30-5 p.m.
Beacon of Light (100 in 24) 6 p.m.

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m. - Atrium
Prayer Shawl Ministry-1 & 3 Wednesdays
9:30 a.m. - Small Parlor
WPC Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. - Choir Room

Thursdays

Beacon of Light (Youth Group) 6 p.m.

Fridays

Office Closed

Saturdays

Office Closed
EGPC 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Old Dining
3 p.m. English as a 2nd Language -
Adult classroom

Liturgist Schedule for Oct.

November 3 - Jan Walton
November 10 - Pam Richardson
November 17 - David Basler
November 24 - Heather Wagner

Greeters

1st Sunday - Jim Fine
2nd Sunday - Terry Perkins
3rd Sunday - Brian Read
4th & 5th Sunday - Kupka's or Neubauers

**Greeters please be in foyer between 9:30
- 9:45 a.m.**

About Your Newsletter

The "Voice of Westminster" newsletter is no longer mailed to you but is delivered to your email address. Homebound members will still receive a printed copy as many do not have access to a computer. Printed copies also will be available in the large parlor kiosk.



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