



Westminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Voice of Westminster

May 2016

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1

If you've ever sat and watched the river rolling by, you know that Heraclitus was right: "No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river." Nearly everything about a river is in constant flux – the level and speed of the river; the amount of debris it carries; its temperature and color; even the number of bugs and birds swarming over the surface! Just about the only constant is that rivers have something to do with water in motion.

Many people have likened time to a river, picturing our lives, then, as a boat-trip down the stream of days. Whether as individuals or communities, we, for the most part, move with the currents of our time. If you aren't skilled in navigation, you can try to hug the shore for safety. Or if you're feeling brave – and lucky – you can try to maneuver out to the middle of the river where the ride is more exciting. The only option not open to us is to dock our boats and wait for a different time we might like better. Whatever the weather, whatever the condition of our boat, we have little choice but to ride the river of time which surrounds us. And, in those moments when we have the presence of mind to do so, most of us gratefully offer our thanks to God for these good gifts of time and location, and the companions who ride along side us.

Heraclitus had a second reason for saying what he did, though. Unfortunately, it's often truncated from his adage: No man steps in the same river twice, not only because it's not the same river, but because he is not the same man. If you think about that even a little, the truth of it is obvious. Just in our own lifetimes, the human experience of God's world has changed enormously. Man has been to the moon and back, discovered creatures living at the bottom of the deepest ocean, and created machines that can compute and convey more information than any person can possibly comprehend. Yet, more important than any of these external changes, is the fact that we are being continuously transformed by the Holy Spirit from the inside out, conformed to a shape and image more and more like that of our Lord Jesus Christ with each passing day.

Our world is constantly changing, which is as it should be. We celebrate weddings and funerals and baptisms; new believers are drawn by Christ into faith, just as renewed disciples are drawn to the world to offer healing of hurts. The only real constants are the Holy Spirit's power propelling us through the world, the Father's faithful provision, and Christ's loving hand to guide us. Yet with the certainty of these three, we can be fearless in the face of change. Hold fast to the promises of God, and enjoy the ride!

Praising God always, in all ways!

Pastor Randi

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1—Faustine Banner
 1—Bob Vancura
 2—Dick Cornish
 5—James Heck
 5—Missy Sturbaum-Anderson
 7—Stephen Sturbaum
 7—Sue Winegarden
 7—Richard York
 11—Jason Schoenbeck
 12—Tony Huebsch
 13—Mike Azevedo
 13—Corda Ewen
 13—Carm Hammerberg
 13—Fran Hanzel Johnson
 13—Elsa Schoenbeck
 14—Rhae Lampe
 17—Roy Ewen
 18—Judy Ruth
 19—Ethan Shields
 20—Ray Buser
 20—John Henderson
 20—A.J. Plummer
 21—Lori Sturbaum-Anderson
 22—John Swanson
 23—Anogene Stary
 23—Julie Sturbaum
 24—Michelle Azevedo
 24—Betty Whiteaker
 25—Ken Davis
 26—Steve Allsop
 26—Jimmy Bassett
 26—Joyce Sedlacek
 27—Anna Long
 27—Pat Teig

P.W. CIRCLE

The P.W. Circle will meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 A.M. in the Family Life Center going forward. Join us this month on Wednesday, May 11. Guests are always welcome to join us for this time of fellowship.

Breakfast Menu

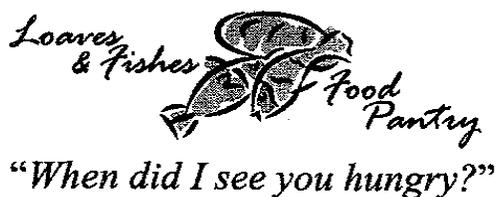
May 1: Hash browns
 May 8: Biscuits & gravy
 May 15: Made-to-order omelets
 May 22: Cooks choice (last breakfast until fall 2016)

Summer Worship Times

Session approved a revised summer worship schedule for 2016. Contrary to past years, **there will not be a Saturday evening worship for 2016**. Instead, ALL worship services will remain on Sunday morning. There will continue to be an 8:00 A.M. chapel service and 9:00 A.M. contemporary worship in the Family Life Center. **The traditional service will begin at 10:30 A.M.** This summer worship schedule will be in place for the months of June, July, and August.

Highlights from April Stated Meeting

Session had a long meeting of discussion. The body met with the Foundation Trustees for dialogue, and Session approved the following motions: to solicit input from Kristin Hutson, Coe College Chaplain, regarding a potential inquirer for seminary.



May Donations

White, navy, or pinto beans; canned fruit
 plastic grocery bags; bath soap or shower gel
Canned and boxed food only; no jars, please.
Standard-sized cans as most of our guests walk to the pantry.
Toilet paper and personal products always needed.

Navigate Update

In April, Navigate reconvened to discuss the future steps of Westminster. The team is reading through a book titled "Our Iceberg is Melting" and continues to have excellent conversation about the health and direction of our church. After considerable dialogue, Navigate settled on a timeline by which to help lead the congregation through this time of transition. This timeline will be further discussed by the Session, and ultimately, will need to be implemented by that body with the help and guidance of Navigate.

In general, Navigate has articulated four transitional phases. These phases, listed below, are not necessarily linear and should not be viewed as such. It is possible for a congregation to move through these phases in various ways, and to move backward and forward at various stages, for a variety of different reasons. What these phases do for us, however, is help us to better understand the roadmap and the work ahead of us.

Phase One includes a number of tasks including processing grief, resolving conflict, coming to terms with history, and coming to terms with present circumstances. Phase Two covers processes for discerning and claiming identity (who the congregation is) and expressing purpose (why the congregation exists). Phase Three includes adjusting to shifts in leadership and power, changes to structures as needed, and leadership development. Finally, Phase Four is when we connect our mission to our context (presbytery, church, community), complete a mission plan (vision and strategy), and form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

The goal is to complete these steps in a deliberate and thorough way in order to ensure WPC moves toward a place of spiritual health and growth. Navigate anticipates that this process could be completed by the end of calendar year 2018. Current Navigate members are: Warren Feerer, Signe Henderson, Loren Neubauer, John Wood, & Leslie Wright.

Reception for David Sherman

Please join us on Sunday, May 15 after the 11:00 A.M. worship service to thank David for his ministry with us these past two years. We encourage the congregation to bring notes of thanks for David and a token of appreciation if you are able. We wish David well in his future ministry as God continues to speak through his music and work.

Summer Soloists & Small Groups

We are looking for individuals and groups to present special music on Sundays this summer. If you play the piano, flute, clarinet, trumpet, kazoo; sing as a quartet, quintet, sextet, octet or in the shower (you get the idea) we would love to have you share these musical gifts in worship with us. Please talk with David Sherman in May, and we will find a place to utilize your talent in worship.

Worship Volunteers for May 2016

Offering Stewards

May 2 — Pat Teig & Mark Tyler
 May 9 — Ed Brunsting & Maggie York
 May 16 — Larry Cooper & Barb Schultz
 May 23 — Connie Hayes & Warren Feerer
 May 31 — Pat Teig & Mark Tyler

8:00 A.M. Greeters/Ushers

May 1 — Jim & Sue Patterson
 May 8 — Darwin Busch & Jim McWhinney
 May 15 — Bob & Carol Ferguson
 May 22 — Jack & Nancy Haney

9:00 A.M. Greeters/Ushers

May 1 — Kent & Debra Steenblock
 May 8 — Leanne Leeper
 May 15 — Ted & Lois Kahler
 May 22 — Kent & Debra Steenblock
 May 29 — TBA (ushers only)

11:00 A.M. Greeters

May 1 — Fran Hanzel Johnson & Mary Jo Crull
 May 8 — Dale & Alice Crosier
 May 15 — Barb Schultz & Flora Kitzman
 May 22 — Luman & Sharon Colton
 May 29 — Joan Charters & Fran Hanzel Johnson

11:00 A.M. Ushers

May 1 — Jean Kenison, John & Signe Henderson
 May 8 — Barb Schultz, Luman & Sharon Colton
 May 15 — Claudia Warfel, Jim & Cheryl Shanklin
 May 22 — Ed Brunsting, Dick Trotter, Joan Charters
 May 29 — no ushers needed

11:00 A.M. Liturgists

May 1 — Val Neubauer
 May 8 — Val Neubauer
 May 15 — Butch Hataway
 May 22 — Loren Neubauer
 May 29 — Barb Read

11:00 A.M. Coffee Servers

May 1 — Sharon Colton & Carm Hammerburg
 May 8 — Signe Henderson & Flora Kitzman
 May 15 — Cheryl Shanklin
 May 22 — Abbie Smith & Pat Teig
 May 29 — no servers needed

8:00 A.M. Communion Servers (May 8)

Bob & Carol Ferguson

9:00 A.M. Communion Servers (May 8)

David & Linda Cosgrove, Don Damsteegt, Mark Tyler

11:00 A.M. Communion Servers (May 8)

Signe Henderson, Tom Read, Jan Kosowski, Val Neubauer, Amy Shoemaker, Carm Hammerburg

Communion Prep

Joyce Sankey & Sharon Colton

Communion Clean Up

Larry & Karol Cooper

L&F - Loaves & Fishes
 MB - Men's Breakfast
 SS/MIA - Sunday School/Mission in Action

May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00a Worship 8:30a Breakfast 9:00a Worship 10:00a SS/MIA 11:00a Worship	2	3 3:00p L&F 6:00p Deacons	4 7:30a MB 5:30p Youth Group	5 5:30p Personnel	6 5:30p FLC Reserved	7
8 Mother's Day 8:00a Worship 8:30a Breakfast 9:00a Worship 10:00a SS/MIA 11:00a Worship	9 1:00p Pastor Randi Drop-in Hours 1:00p Property	10 3:00p L&F	11 7:30a MB 9:30a PW Circle 9:30a Shawl 5:30p Youth Group	12 9:15a Kindred Spirits Bible Study 1:00p Pastor Randi Drop-in Hours	13	14 8:00a FLC/Choir Room Reserved
15 8:00a Worship 8:30a Breakfast 9:00a Worship 10:00a SS/MIA 11:00a Worship 7:00p Cedar Singers	16 Newsletter Deadline 1:00p Pastor Randi Drop-in Hours 3:00p Property	17 3:00p L&F 6:30p Session	18 7:30a MB 5:30p Youth Group	19 1:00p Pastor Randi Drop-in Hours	20	21 12:00p FLC Reserved
22 8:00a Worship 8:30a Breakfast 9:00a Worship 11:00a Worship 7:00p Cedar Singers	23 1:00p Pastor Randi Drop-in Hours 4:30p Finance	24 3:00p L&F	25 7:30a MB 1:00p Shawl 5:30p Youth Group	26 9:15a Kindred Spirits Bible Study 1:00p Pastor Randi Drop-in Hours	27	28 5:00p FLC Reserved
29 10:00a Worship	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31 3:00p L&F				

Budget Update

Over the past several months, we have been monitoring our budget situation very closely as has been reported on a number of occasions. Certainly we have all seen the changes around Westminster as a result of the budget restructuring, namely with regard to our staff. In light of this, we want to make sure we are keeping you—the membership—as informed as possible about how our current fiscal year is tracking thus far.

Though the changes have been difficult for all involved, our 2016 budget is in great shape as a result of the restructuring. Based on current actuals, we anticipate our gross expenses to be \$471,563. Currently, and with the additional income from hosting a preschool for a year starting this coming fall, our estimated income for 2016 is \$471,457. For those who may not be fiscally savvy, this is fantastic news as it means our anticipated expenses are nearly even with our anticipated income. Thus, our 2016 budget is considered “balanced”. The previous several years we have operated at a deficit, meaning our anticipated expenses outpaced our anticipated income, which caused a shortfall in our budget and a great deal of anxiety about our financial situation. Because of the prudence of the Finance Team and Session, our budget has been balanced, and our financial outlook is stable.

This good news is in no small part due to the number of committed individuals and members who have continued to make good on their pledges for 2016. While some adopted a “wait and see” attitude, a majority have not, and it has allowed us to continue the valuable ministry at Westminster as a result. Of all our families, 79% are giving at or above the levels they pledged during last fall’s stewardship campaign.

It goes without saying that the dedication of these families is such a blessing to Westminster, and honestly, we would not be able to continue our collective ministry without your support. Thank you for believing and investing in the future of Westminster!

HIPPA & Hospital Visits

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPPA, placed a number of restrictions on hospitals and nursing homes to guard patient confidentiality, which is a good thing, but it also made it more difficult for the church to know who is in the hospital.

PLEASE NOTE: *You need to let the church know every time you move to another care facility. For example, if you go to the hospital, then a rehab center, then some other care facility before you go home, WPC will not know any of that, and due to the HIPPA law, the facilities cannot tell us that you've moved. Let your family members know to call Westminster if you are unable to do so. Our Deacons would be happy to visit with you to discuss this further. Please let Joyce Sankey know if you have questions about hospital visitations or how Westminster might be able to care for your loved one.*

Fifth Sunday Joint Worship

Plan to attend our 5th Sunday Joint Worship Service on Sunday, May 29. This service came about as a result of a desire by the Session to find opportunities to unite the congregation in communal worship. As a result, the Session decided to hold a joint worship service on every 5th Sunday this year. This one in May is going to be a very special service, pulling from a very talented pool of our members. There will be singers, dancers, story tellers, and much more. Not only will this be a great opportunity to worship God together as a church family, it will also be a fun and engaging experience. So, plan on joining us on Sunday, May 29 at 10:00 A.M. in the Family Life Center for worship.

Property Committee Update

With the recent loss of staff, including Larry Bachmann and our custodian Rich Hillyer, the Property Committee has found its remaining four members are having to pick up many of the day to day tasks of keeping our facilities running. The Committee has stepped up to the plate and is devoting many, many more hours to WPC, but the entire congregation must heighten our love and care for our building if we want to sustain it. It is no longer someone else's job. We see others adopting this spirit of "if you see something needing attention, fix it/clean it, and if you can't, report it". Just a reminder that there is a clip board hanging in the office for reporting things that need attention.

Jan Kosowski (Co-Moderator), Maggie York (Co-Moderator), Dave Cosgrove, Ted Kahler

Summer Newsletter

Last year, we had a single edition of our newsletter for the months of June and July. Since the summer is a time for our leaders, committees, and staff to catch their breath and plan the next year, it is a slower time in terms of programming. Thus, a single newsletter for June and July seemed to work well. As such, we will be doing the same this year, and with that in mind, all content for the summer newsletter should be submitted to ajplummer@crwpc.org by Monday, May 16. Ministry Team leaders are encouraged to look ahead and plan accordingly in order to include relevant content in the summer edition.

Adult Education in May

Have you ever wondered why the PC(USA) is organized in the way it is? Have you ever questioned why certain decisions were made in the manner and through the process in which they were? Have you ever found yourself confused by the variety of processes needed in order to make a decision in the church? Well, you are not alone! In answer to these questions and more, Elder Scott Shoemaker and Elder Dr. Rebecca Blair, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of East Iowa, will lead participants in a discussion of Presbyterian government and structure. They will cover such topics as how the U.S. government structure is patterned after the Presbyterian Church, how the Presbytery relates to the local church, and how pastors are called and dismissed. This will be a great class for anyone looking to brush up on their understandings of the inner-workings of Presbyterian polity and governance.

May Communion Change

Due to Pastor Randi's vacation, we will be changing our May communion schedule. Typically, communion is served on the first Sunday of the month; however, in May, it will be served on the second Sunday which is May 8. Rev. Jim Langley will be officiating all three services that day and will lead us in the sacrament of communion.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship Times

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel
9:00 a.m. blended service in the Family Life Center
11:00 a.m. traditional service in the Sanctuary

Visit us on Facebook or at www.crwpc.org!

Church Office

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