

WESTMINSTER WITNESS

JULY/AUGUST 2022

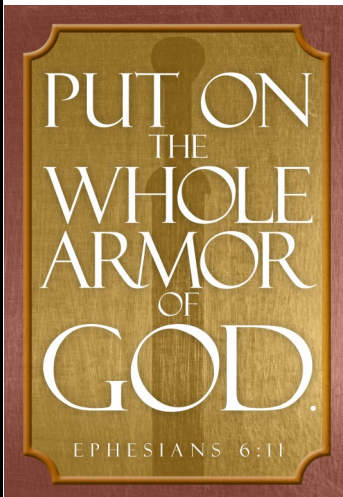
“GROWING IN FAITH, REACHING OUT IN LOVE”

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MIKE


Join in on the Summer Fun at Westminster

With the Summer months already upon us, we wanted to send out a shortened Summer Witness for the months of July and August. During the Summer we do slow down a bit, but we still have plenty of amazing worship, service and fellowship opportunities. Although this is a busy time with travel and vacations, we do value and rely on your support and participation in all that we do. Please try to find some time continue to join us for any or all of the Summer events as well as our regular Sunday Morning Worship. So check out what’s inside and be sure to join us as we strive for “Loved Lived Out!”

God Bless and Have a Great Summer! Pastor Mike



Join us this Summer as we are putting on the Armor of God. Our preaching series this Summer is “The Fight of Our Lives – Putting on the Full Armor of God.” We will explore Ephesians 6:10-20 for an insightful and powerful look at the battles that we face that go beyond the flesh and the blood and enter into the spiritual realm. God has given us armor to prepare us for the spiritual battles and struggles that we face so that we can stand firm in the midst of darkness and evil. God has equipped us for the fight that has already been won for us by Jesus Christ. So, join us as each week as we look at a different piece of armor that protects us and leads us forward into God’s love and grace. Let’s stand firm together!!



Food Packing

‘Real Hope for the Hungry’ Food

Packing - Sunday, August 14th

immediately following our Service:

Join us for our annual Food Packing Event as we pack specially formulated, highly nutritious meals that will be shared locally and globally. This year, our packing will go towards the humanitarian crisis in the Ukraine. This is for all ages, and we look forward to serving together as we provide real hope for those who are hungry!

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All Mission Trip participants are asked to participate in the Worship Service on Sunday, August 21st. We will be leading the service with prayers, music, and a message as we share our experiences with the congregation.

As Summer comes to a close, join us for some tubing on the Zumbro River on Saturday, August 13th @ 8:30am.

We'll meet at the church at 8:30 and head out to River Rats just beyond Rochester for a morning of tubing followed by a picnic.

Cost: \$20

Friends are welcome!

RSVP by August 1st



All Mission Trip Participants are asked to attend the Worship Service on Sunday, July 17th as the church commissions us and has an opportunity to pray for us as we gear up for our week of service.



We've had a fun year with all of our events. Thanks to all who came out and joined in our times of fellowship. We will be taking the months of July and August off. Can't wait to see you all in September!



NEW TO THE STAFF

We are excited to announce that we have hired on Laura Carlson to be the new Children's Ministry Director. She has helped in past years with the Christmas Pageant as well as VBS and other areas of Children and Youth Ministry. She has a passion for the children and their growth and trust in Jesus Christ. We look forward to her expertise in continuing to develop a nurturing place for our kids to grow. She will officially begin August 1st.



New Members

Kathy & Brad Owens

Lonnie & Matt Houff

Chanda, Jeff, Andrew, & Faith Sayles

Jaysin Julios & Jamie Ponapart



PRC Diaper Drive

*Parenting
Resource
Center July
Diaper
Drive!*

Fill the Pack N' Play in the Narthex with size 5 & 6 diapers and wet wipes all during the month of July! Cash donations will also be accepted to purchase diapers and wet wipes.

Thank you!




Westminster Presbyterian Church's Fourth of July Ice-Cream Social

We will be serving Ice-Cream and Root-beer Floats on the Westminster East Lawn from 2 - 4 on Independence Day. This is free and open to the public. It's a great way to get to know our neighbors! Come out and help, or come and have some!



New Arrivals



Hudson Nicholas Kerling
born to
Breanna & Nick Kerling
on April 27, 2022
8 pounds 11 ounces
Proud grandparents: Sarah & Herb Wehner



Graduating Seniors

Terren Baker
Gavin Larson
Annika Nelson
Andrew Sayles
Joseph Walker

CONFIRMED
In Faith

Confirmands

Adah Baron
Alice Osmonson
Ulang Diang
Myles Taylor
Keegan Olsen



Spirit Ringers!

Spirit Ringers would like to invite you to join us this fall. Youth and adults can participate in bells. It is important that you can read music. We can teach you the various techniques. Rehearsals will begin August 31. If you are interested, please contact Ann Flisrand at ann44flis@charter.net or 507-438-4079.



The Sunshine Singers are continuing to meet this summer and teaming up with the Praise Team on the 3rd Sunday of the month to perform a song. Be sure to come see them during Outdoor Worship! We'd love to see more kiddos join our choir, so if you come to worship, they can join us during the second half of the service to learn music and praise God!



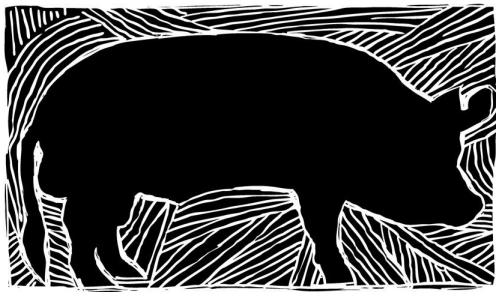
Henry Scott & Jack Leroy Langer
 on June 12, 2022
 Parents: Samantha & Jeremy Langer
 Grandparents: Jim & Cindy Jayes
 and Shirley Langer

Jaysin Julios & daughter
 Ovilia Chloe Julios
 on June 26, 2022
 Chloe's Mom: Jamie Ponapart

Strive Couples Bible Study – Monday Nights in August @ 7pm

All couples in their 30s and 40s are invited to join us for the couples study – *UnCommon Marriage* by Tony and Lauren Dungy. This will be a five-week study that will meet weekly on Monday Nights beginning August 1st as we dive into scripture to explore the blessings and challenges that couples face today. We will be meeting at the Olmsteds, so please contact them if you are interested.

**Corn & Pork
 Community**



Outreach

Wednesday, August 24th
5:30 p.m.

Our FREE Corn & Pork Feed is back this year with '50s & '60s Music and a Car Show as a community outreach!
 Join us for pulled pork, baked beans, fresh corn on the cob, coleslaw, fun, music, cars, & fellowship!





- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Colin Clennon | 1 Steven Clennon |
| 1 Selene Schulz | 1 Gary Wedeking |
| 1 Grace Vortherms | 2 Ben Diang |
| 2 Parker Armagost | 3 Max Coffey |
| 2 Amber Jones | 3 Joe Pacovsky |
| 3 John Lembrick | 4 Marcus Stoulil |
| 4 Steve Berhow | 5 Tori Watkins |
| 5 Jeremy Olsen | 6 Karen Rothgery |
| 6 Kim Potter | 7 Katelyn Coleman |
| 6 John Taylor | 7 Jacky Dietz |
| 7 Cindy Jayes | 8 Andrew Horihan |
| 7 Carol King | 8 Alexander Nelson |
| 8 Ariana Shapinsky | 8 Wesley Roush |
| 8 Olivia Shapinsky | 9 Brad Owens |
| 9 Luke Berhow | 9 Sara Sayles |
| 10 Austin Pelletier | 9 Lisa Tapp |
| 14 Lincoln Massmann | 10 Calvin Jones |
| 14 Gary Ofstedahl | 10 Clair Sorenson |
| 15 Jeremy Langer | 11 Mark Lenz |
| 15 McKenzie Pelletier | 12 Randy Arhart |
| 17 Amelia Greeley | 12 Henry Armagost |
| 17 Samuel Vortherms | 12 Roy Baker |
| 18 Drew Szyszkowski | 13 Peggy Queensland |
| 20 Fayth Nystel | 13 Jacob Wedeking |
| 21 Amy Horihan | 15 Trish Szyszkowski |
| 21 Nancy Roberts | 16 Jack Berthiaume |
| 21 Erik Sherman | 17 Joan Isele |
| 21 Wesley Sherman | 18 Rick Stoulil |
| 22 Sam Gasner | 19 Kenneth Dippell |
| 23 Mackenzie Armagost | 19 Jan Huisken |
| 24 Betty Bender | 20 Gene Crabtree |
| 27 Sandy Nelson | 20 Kathy Owens |
| 28 Christopher Levai | 21 Brady Crabtree |
| 28 Eeva Nelson | 22 Beverly Bridgeman |
| 28 Tara Watkins | 22 Ezra Lassiter |
| 31 Taylor Peterson | Caleb |
| 31 Nicholas Wehner | 23 Wundermachen |
| | 25 Rick Young |
| | 26 Karen Johnson |
| | 29 Brielle Bires |
| | 29 Lola Hanson |
| | 30 George Moore |
| | 31 Laura Larson |
| | 31 Steve Rodewald |



Alex Charlson (Jacky Dietz's great-nephew) -
Army (Jordan)

Seth Clasen - Army

Bryce Gerber - Marines

Christine Hiegel - National Guard

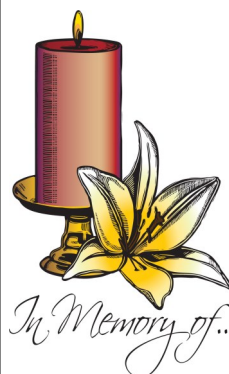
Paul Mueller - National Guard (Africa)

Garrett Smith (Pastor Mike's nephew) -
Air Force

If you or a family member are actively serving in the military, please contact the church office, and we will include them in future Witnesses.



Congratulations!!
Emma Evans-Peck &
Jonah Fisher
Married on May 21, 2022



Alice Johnson
April 27, 2022

Steve Walker
May 28, 2022

Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 8:30am—4pm

Fridays: 8:30am—12:30pm



Session News

Session News and Happenings from May & June, 2022

Your Session met in person on May 17th and June 21st. Each meeting was opened with prayer and a meditation on ministry. We explored what it means to have a *Love that is Lived Out* through baptizing and teaching others. Below are the discussions and actions of Session that took place over the past two months:

Items Approved in our Clerk's Report:

Membership: *Removed Thomas Olmsted at his request. Rec'd Confirmands: Adah Baron, Keegan Olson, Alice Osmonson, Myles Taylor, and Ulang Diang into membership. Received into membership: Brad & Kathy Owens (CoT); Lonny & Matt Houff (RF); Chanda (RF), Jeff Sayles and their children Faith and Andrew (CoT); Jaysin Julios (PF) and Jamie Ponapart (RF). Baptism Requested and Performed: Henry Scott & Jack Leroy Langer – 6/12/22; Jaysin & Ovilia Chloe Julios (Father/Daughter) – 6/26/22. Deaths: Alice Johnson (4/27); Steve Walker (5/28). Lord's Supper: Served corporately on 5/1/22 & 6/5/22; individually on 6/1/22.*

Items of Discussion coming from our Committees and any Session Actions that were taken:

Nurture/Discipleship reporting on end-of-year activities, VBS, and Summer Youth Events. In May, we welcomed in 5 confirmands into church membership. Thanked all volunteers and staff for their extra work on VBS this year. Thanked Coleen Olmsted for her work as Interim CM Director and approved the hiring of Laura Carlson as our regular CM Director.

Personnel/Finance approved a \$600 Educational Scholarship to graduating Seniors Gavin Larson, Joseph Walker, Annika Nelson, Andrew Sayles, and Terren Baker. Approved April and May Treasurer's Reports from Co-Treasurer, Bill Momen. Approved Health Care Coverage for Cindy Jayes as a Full Time Non-Ordained Staff Member. An Employee Classification Guideline was presented and was tabled for further discussions. Had discussions on the use of the Hocker Funds to further God's Kingdom.

Facilities/Grounds worked on improving the grounds and clearing out the Shed and the downstairs Boy Scouts closets. Approved repair work for kitchen stove and roof maintenance work from AllWeather Roofing.

Worship/Outreach approved Summer Outdoor Worship for June 19th, July 17th, August 21st and discussed some ways to make this service feel more special. They scheduled Special Music for the Summer and approved getting an annual subscription to Song Select for using contemporary music in our services. They reported on Corn & Pork Fee Community Outreach for 8/24.

Mission/Fellowship approved the following Mission Fund disbursements: Youth Mission Trip - \$3,000; Vacation Bible School - \$500; David Yoon Ministry - \$1000; Cathy Chang - \$500; Ukraine Special Project Fund at Mission Int'l - \$312. They served cake on 5/29 and at the Church BBQ on 6/16. Planned the 4th of July Ice Cream Social. They are keeping our Food Pantry filled on Wednesday and Sundays. Discussed the Food Packing Event on 8/14.

General Session Approvals: *Parenting Resource Center July Diaper Drive; 4th of July Ice Cream Social for July 4th; Session Meeting on 8/16; Communion change from 1/1/23 to 1/8/23.*

Meetings were closed with prayer and the singing of the Doxology.

Deacon News

May 3rd meeting

We opened up with a devotion that consisted of the third in our series from our "Love Lived Out" Officers Retreat. We talked about baptizing and our role in sharing God's love through that sacrament. We realize that during any baptism we have the opportunity to remember our own vows and to pledge that we will help the newly baptized members in the development of their faith journeys. We also reviewed our care lists, making sure that the congregants we have in nursing homes or homebound have been reached out to. We also reviewed any hospitalizations to make sure we were up to date on how people were doing. We continue to reach out to as many of our members as possible through cards, phone calls, and visits. We were able to bring 14 meals to people in April. Our meal ministry continues to bring meals to those in need after surgery, during illness, or after birth. If you know of anyone who might need meals brought please contact one of your deacons or Pastor Britt.

June 7th meeting

We opened up with a devotion that consisted of the third in our series of four from our "Love Lived Out" Officers Retreat. We talked about teaching. We know that as God's children we all have different gifts and experiences to share. We all have the ability to teach in different ways and to go out and share that gift with others.

We continued to review our care lists, making sure that the congregants we have in nursing homes or homebound have been reached out to. We also reviewed any hospitalizations to make sure we were up to date on how people were doing. We continue to reach out to as many of our members as possible through cards, phone calls, and visits.

We were able to bring 9 meals to people in May. Our meal ministry continues to bring meals to those in need after surgery, during illness, or after birth. If you know of anyone who might need meals brought please contact one of your deacons or Pastor Britt.



Church Directory

UPDATE

**Change of email for :****Angie & Matt Taylor Family:**

taylorgrainfarm@gmail.com

or

mattjohntaylor@hotmail.com

Dick Flisrand:

flisrand68@charter.net

Ann Flisrand:

ann44flis@charter.net

Change of address for:**Breanna & Nicholas Kerling Family:**

1303 4 1/2 St

Kasson, MN 55944

Erna Nelson

202 E North St

Elmore, MN 56027

Nancy Heimer:

313 7th St NE

Melrose, MN 56352-2203

Andrew Bridgeman:

1200 10th St NW

Austin, MN 55912-1983

Josh & Amber Jones Family:

PO Box 60

Dexter, MN 55926-0060

Laurence & Dr. Candace Raskin:

1240 2nd St, Unit 1501

Minneapolis, MN 55415-2639

Emily and Tony Wacholz:

1110 Fairlane Terrace

Albert Lea, MN 56007

Change of phone numbers for Rick & Carol Young:

No more landline

Carol 507-440-6030 & Rick 507-440-3694

New Members: Jaysin Julios & Jamie Ponapart and baby Ovilia Chloe Julios

804 6th Ave SW, Austin, MN 55912

507-509-3722



2022 RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, September 30, 2022

Saturday, October 1, 2022

As you are cleaning and sorting during the weeks ahead, please consider starting your **"take-to-the-Rummage Sale"** box. Contact Gloria Aanonson or Dayle Wedeking if you have questions.

Items accepted are good, clean clothing for children, women and men (including plus sizes), shoes, small furniture, sporting goods, Christmas decorations, knick-knacks, linens, small household appliances (in working order), dishes, games, toys, puzzles, and books.

Festival of the Nativities 2022

Friday, December 2, 2022

Saturday, December 3, 2022



Westminster will host our Annual Festival of the Nativities, a nondenominational, FREE, family event open to the community.

The focus is the season of preparation for Christ's birth through the lighted display of Nativities. Seasonal Christian music, children's crafts, and refreshments are also special features at this event.

Remember: Please mark your calendars!

Westminster Presbyterian Church would like to extend a big "Thank You" to Coleen Olmsted for her time as the Interim Children's Ministry Director. She has done a wonderful job during her time here, establishing new and creative curriculum and opportunities for our kids. Her presence and efforts have blessed our kids and this ministry. She finished this position as of June 8th.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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WWW.WESTMINSTERAUSTIN.COM
(507) 433-3258

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Austin, MN 55912

+ CHANGE SERVICE REQUEST

July/August 2022



OUTDOOR

WORSHIP
on the Lawn



Come and join us on July 17th and August 21st at 9:30am out on our East Lawn for our outdoor worship. We will have our Summer Worship leaders: Emma Evans-Peck & Lorene Strobel leading us in worship, along with specialty hot & cold coffees and teas available before, during, and after the Service. Please join us immediately following the Service for Fellowship & Cookies. Bring your own lawn chair (or use a folding chair provided) and your bible.