



WCC UPDATE

AUGUST 2024

PERSONALLY FROM THE PASTOR

To My Church Family,

Somehow, a woodpecker got trapped inside of our house.

I was running some errands last Thursday when I decided to stop by my house to grab some lunch. As I walked to the kitchen, I heard the unmistakable sound of a bird flying into glass. I assumed that the bird was hitting a window from the outside, but that wasn't the case—it was, as I said, trapped inside (my best guess is that it entered through our chimney).

I wanted nothing more than to help the woodpecker find its way back to freedom. Slowly, I approached it, speaking in soothing tones. But the woodpecker, in its fear and confusion, misinterpreted my intentions. Every time I tried to guide it toward the backdoor, the bird darted in the opposite direction, crashing into walls and windows.

After what felt like hours, the woodpecker finally paused, exhausted, on the edge of the kitchen counter. Krista and the boys were home by this point. They joined me in my efforts. Maintaining a respectful distance, we all whispered words of encouragement and simply waited and watched, hoping the woodpecker would calm down enough to see the backdoor.

Rest was apparently what the woodpecker needed the most as it eventually found its way back outside. And as I watched it disappear into the trees, I couldn't help but to reflect on the theological significance of the experience.

You see, God desires to guide us toward a life of freedom and joy. But often, in our fear, confusion, and exhaustion, we end up turning in the wrong direction, crashing into obstacles of our own making. In the woodpecker's case, a brief moment of rest was all it needed to regain its senses. The same is true for us as well—when we slow down and listen in, it's possible for us to sense God's guiding presence.

May each of us strive to foster a healthy rhythm of rest and activity!

In Christ,
Matt Stiveson

THANK YOU!

We are so grateful for Paul Gannon and Heather Gonzales' testimonies! Thank you both for sharing with us the ways that God's love and grace have transformed your lives.

WCC'S PURPOSE, MISSION, AND VISION

Purpose—Why We Do What We Do

Our purpose is to faithfully proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and deed so that people might be inspired to live in the transformative power of His love and grace.

Mission—What We Do

Our mission is to share the good news of God's perfect love with an imperfect world.

Vision—Where We're Going

Our vision is to be a welcoming family of Christ followers who are committed to growing in and living out our faith on a daily basis.

MUSIC AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

Hello Church Family!

This has been a fun weekend for our kids as we said goodbye to summer. Our trip to Golden Gate Canyon State Park was fun even though we kind of got off to a "rocky" start. A few of us got lost including myself, but thank goodness for rangers who steered us to the right place. We had a bit of rain and small hail that had us running for cover. It was a beautiful day otherwise, and we were able to spend time together, which was the most important part.

We visited Clear Creek Care Center where the kids sang 10 songs for the residents. They did so well, and there were a few tears shed among our audience. What a special group of kids. I am so proud of them and how they interacted with the residence. They showed them so much love and handed out homemade cards. It was precious. Thank you to the dedicated parents and kids for all of your love and support!

God Bless!

Teresa

Dr. Teresa Crane, D.M.A.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2024

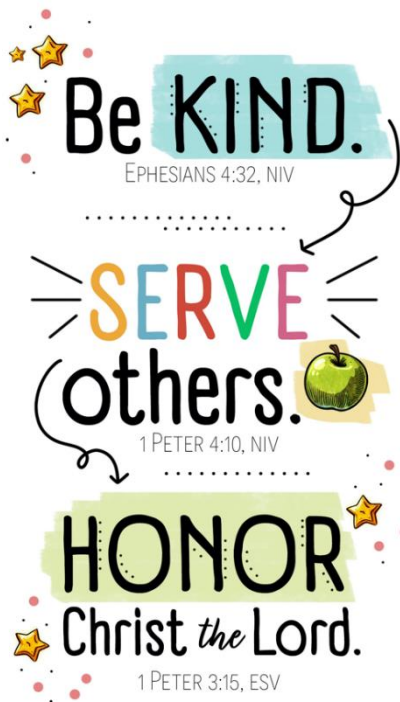
We will be using Signup Genius for scheduling our volunteers for the remainder of 2024. Thereafter, signups will be scheduled every six months. We know that schedules change, and are always flexible.

Please watch for an email from the Church Office. Thanks in advance for your willingness to serve!!

The screenshot shows a Signup Genius page for "WCC Worship Volunteers". At the top, there's a header with "VOLUNTEER" in large letters and "WCC Worship Volunteers" in smaller text. Below that, it says "WCC WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS" and "Karen Olverson" with a "Contact" button. A note says "Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!". There are social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. Below this is a table of volunteer roles with "Sign Up" buttons for each. The roles and their available slots are: A/V BOOTH (09 & 10 slots free), CAMERA OPERATOR (09 & 10 slots free), GREETERS (09 & 10 slots free), SERVERS (09 & 10 slots free), OFFERING/COMMUNION PRAYER (09 & 10 slots free), and SCRIPTURE READER (09 & 10 slots free).

Volunteer Role	Available Slots	Sign Up
A/V BOOTH	09 & 10 slots free	Sign Up
CAMERA OPERATOR	09 & 10 slots free	Sign Up
GREETERS	09 & 10 slots free	Sign Up
SERVERS	09 & 10 slots free	Sign Up
OFFERING/COMMUNION PRAYER	09 & 10 slots free	Sign Up
SCRIPTURE READER	09 & 10 slots free	Sign Up

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



God of all wisdom, we praise You for gifting us with curiosity and learning. Give to all students, teachers, and caregivers a clear sense of your love. May they feel Your presence throughout this school year. Guide their choices, their quest for knowledge, and their relationships. Use their successes and failures as opportunities to grow in understanding of who You would have them to be. Continue to shape them, that they may walk in the way of Christ, grow strong in Spirit's love for all people, and know the complete joy of life in You. In the name of Christ our Great Teacher, we pray. Amen.

Linda Witte Henke, adapted, "From the Vine," in Marking Time: Christian Rituals for All Our Days, Moorehouse

WCC WOMENS GROUP

The next group meeting will be on Saturday, August 10 at 10:00 am. We will continue discussion of the book, *THE PURSUIT OF GOD*. See Susan Libra for more details.

FIRST STEPS

Are you new to Westminster Christian Church and want to know more about our community? Do you have questions about what we believe and why we believe what we believe? Are you interested in being baptized or becoming a member of WCC? If so, we would love to have **you join us for First Steps on Sunday, August 25 at 11:45 am. Lunch will be provided for those who attend.**

GET INVOLVED!

All Wednesday activities—including potluck, adult Bible study, youth group, and choir practice—resume on August 21st. We encourage you to get involved in these opportunities for fellowship and learning as they are a tremendous source of encouragement for all.

PREACHING AND TEACHING SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAYS

August 4: Ecclesiastes 1 and *Living Life Backward* Chapter 1
August 11: Ecclesiastes 2 and *Living Life Backward* Chapter 2
August 18: Ecclesiastes 3 and *Living Life Backward* Chapter 3
August 25: Ecclesiastes 4 and *Living Life Backward* Chapter 4

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

We will be hosting a Vitalant **blood drive on Sunday, September 15 from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.** Be on the lookout for more information regarding scheduling in the coming weeks.



Tuesday mornings	8:30 am	Men's Bible Study —Book of Romans—meeting at IHOP at 221 W. 104 th Ave., Northglenn. See Steve Cancino for information.
Thursday afternoons	12:00 – 3:00 pm	Food Pantry
Sunday, August 4	We collect Pocket Change offerings on the first Sunday of every month and use the money given to this program to promote and purchase materials for the church.	
	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
	11:30 am	Elders' Meeting
Saturday, August 10	10:00 am	Women's Group Book Study, THE PURSUIT OF GOD. Contact Sue Libra for more information.
Sunday, August 11	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
Saturday, August 17	12:00 pm	Lessons in Grief Group —please bring a sack lunch with you. Contact Sharon Keel or Kay Stevens for more information.
Sunday, August 18	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
Tuesday, August 20	9:30 am	Church Women United —join the ladies of our church and other local churches as they create items to give to local care centers.
Wednesday August 21 Activities Resume	6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Potluck dinner (bring main, side, or dessert dish to share) Adult Bible Study and Youth Group Choir
Saturday, August 24	11:00 am	Memorial service for Kim Hernandez
Sunday, August 25	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study for All Ages
	11:40 am	First Steps Class; lunch provided.