



THE WESTMINSTER LOG

This Fall, we are telling stories. Adam, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Samuel, David, Elijah, Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezekiel... leading us right into the birth of Jesus and the story of Christ among us. It's a wonderful way to follow how in covenant with us, God has promised, "I will be your God, and you will be my people," from the first days until the last. As we learn more and more how we are blessed to be a part of God's story, it is good for us to remember how it is that the church is able to carry God's story into the future through the "Great Ends" of the church.

When we talk of the "ends" of the church, we are focusing on our purpose - our goal - where it is we want to "end up." So, these six ends show the mission of the church is not singular, but plural: not *one* purpose for the church, but six; not one mission, but half a dozen; not a single, uniform job description, but six different ways of doing and being the church. All of these are important. To focus on some to the exclusion of others is not fully living into who God would have us be.

And they aren't that mysterious or hard to figure out. In fact, this summer during our confirmation program, our students were able to name every single one, in their own words, just from the prompt: "What's the point of the church?"

Confirmation Kids	The Book of Order - (F-1.0304)
telling people about Jesus	the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind
taking care of one another	the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God
praising and worshiping God	the maintenance of divine worship
speaking up for what's right	the preservation of the truth
doing good in the world	the promotion of social righteousness
showing love as God loved us	the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

As the church of Jesus Christ, we have a story worth telling. Both the story of how God has revealed Himself to people for millennia and how God is doing amazing things even now. In a world that is so bent on division and anger, provocation and retaliation, we are called to something more, something different. We are called to be the church; and, this is what the church is: a believing fellowship called to seek Christ, to love one another, and to love God.

Which one of these "Great Ends" is the easiest for you? Which is a challenge? Through our work and worship, I pray that we offer our very best to the God who gave us life and breath and all manner of good things; and, that we continue to reflect a vision of hope to a world so in need of it.

May God bless us on our way,
Pastor Matt

WEDNESDAYS @ WESTMINSTER 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Children 3rd grade and up, join us for an evening of music and special workshops!

JUNIOR CHOIR
Grades 3 and up
5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

JUNIOR BELLS
Grades 5 and up
6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

FELLOWSHIP & WORKSHOPS

Youth, grades 3 and up
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Programming starts at 6:30 p.m., but
hangout time starts at 6:00 p.m.

Also on Wednesday evenings...

ADULT CHOIR
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

**Watch our sermons
on our website!**

Office Hours:
Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Closed for lunch noon - 1 p.m.)

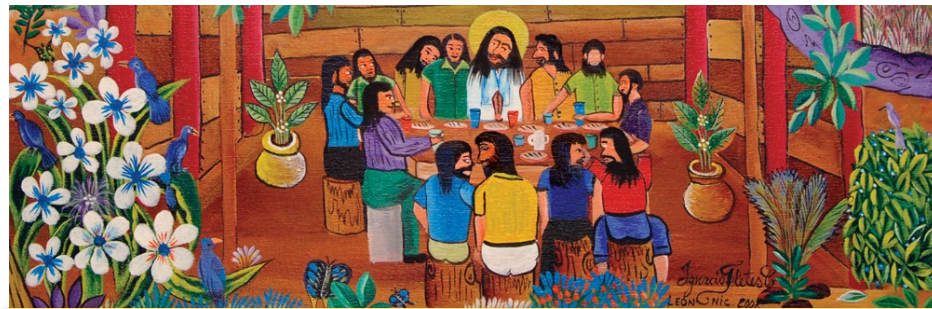
Phone: 989-686-1360
E-mail: office@wpcbc.org

- Pastor
Rev. Matthew Schramm (ext. 204)
- Parish Associate
Rev. Linda Williams (ext. 203)
- Church Secretary
Judy Harrelson (ext. 201)
- Treasurer
Heather Heidman (ext. 206)
- Christian Education
Nikelle Johnson (ext. 208)
- Custodian
Harold Miller (ext. 205)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
1 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time 12:00 p.m. Rummage Sale Drop Off	2 Rummage Sale Set-up 7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting	3 Rummage Sale Set-up 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 6:00 p.m. Personnel 6:30 p.m. Crisis Committee 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
8 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	9 6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting 6:30 p.m. Small Group 7:00 p.m. Family & Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Stewardship	10 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 1:00 p.m. Lions Sight & Hearing 6:00 p.m. Spiritual Growth 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
15 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:15 a.m. New Members Class 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. 50-Year Member Luncheon	16	17 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
22 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:15 a.m. New Members Class 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	23 6:30 p.m. Small Group	24 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 12:00 p.m. Seasons of Grace / Aging & Spirituality 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
29 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study 9:15 a.m. New Members Class/Received 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time	30	31 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Hands 1:00 p.m. Log Crew 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 5:30 p.m. W @ W 6:00 p.m. Rummage Sale for Members 6:00 p.m. Choir 6:00 p.m. Property 7:00 p.m. Mission Partnerships	5 9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale 3:30 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith 6:00 p.m. PW Board Meeting	6 10:00 a.m. My Tempo	7
11 5:30 p.m. W @ W 5:45 p.m. Bay City Fireworks 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. Worship	12 8:30 a.m. TOPS 3:30 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	13 10:00 a.m. My Tempo	14
18 5:30 p.m. W @ W 6:00 p.m. Choir	19 8:30 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Esther Circle 1:00 p.m. Lydia Circle 3:30 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith 7:00 p.m. Deborah Circle	20 10:00 a.m. My Tempo	21
25 5:30 p.m. W @ W 6:00 p.m. Choir	26 8:30 a.m. TOPS 3:30 p.m. My Tempo 5:00 p.m. Food of Faith	27 10:00 a.m. My Tempo 6:00 p.m. Family Movie Night	28
October		Happy Birthday to... Leota Clark Conrad Drescher James Rowley Beverly Pacynski Fran Ferdinand	

*Birthdays listed are for our 75+ Members



Fall Communion Servers

October

Randy Thibo
Sandy Thibo
Pat Horning
Betty Lurger
Ruth Toth
Jacob Bennett
Dawn Reszke
Patti Wesenick
Lois MacPhail
Lisa Beson

November

Len Petroff
Sheryl Petroff
Donna Tetil
Tom Majchrzak
Ann Jay
Tom Tolles
Barb Tolles
Pam Binder
Marilyn Bechtel
Nancy Swantek

December

Candy Green
Bill Shelt
Pam Monville
Jack Gustafson
Russ Marvin
Chris Thurman
Tiffany Frontjes
Brian Graves
John Hegenauer
Joyce Hegenauer

Condolences



Prayers of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Dorothy Eickel. Dorothy passed away on Wednesday, September 13, 2017. A funeral service was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 16, 2017 with Rev. Matthew Schramm officiating.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Building Improvement Fund

July Balance:
\$8,078.96
August Income:
\$599.00
August Expense:
\$0.00
August Balance:
\$8,677.96

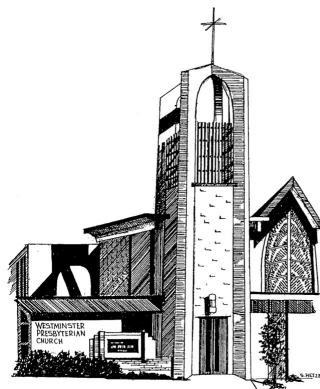
Operating Fund

August Income:
\$26,913.22
August Expense:
\$33,715.82

Major Repairs Fund

\$7,881.00

Donate online at
www.wpcbc.org



NEW MEMBERS CLASSES

If you are interested in exploring your faith and what membership at Westminster Presbyterian Church means, please consider attending New Members Classes beginning Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. Please call the church office at 686-1360 for more information.

Music at Westminster

The following ensembles will play during worship in October:

- | | |
|----|---------------|
| 1 | Chancel Choir |
| 8 | Chancel Choir |
| 15 | Junior Bells |
| 22 | Chancel Choir |
| 29 | Adult Bells |

Rummage & Bake Sale

Wednesday, October 4
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Members Only

Thursday, October 5
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

You may bring in items for sale beginning after church on Sunday, October 1 – Tuesday, October 3.

ESCAPE

Fall Pre-Teen Retreat
4th – 6th Grades
November 3 – 5, 2017
\$65

The Fall Retreat at SpringHill takes 4th – 6th grade students out of their everyday routines, giving them freedom to experience God in profound ways through fun activities, challenging moments, inspiring speakers, and awesome bands!

The theme of this year's Fall pre-teen retreat is Escape. That is why this weekend we will focus on being astonished and amazed by how big our God is in simple and complex ways.

Join us for a weekend filled with fast-paced fun, incredible speakers, and bands! The total cost of the retreat is \$130, but the fee for students is only \$65. Westminster will cover the remainder of the cost. Please register with Nikelle and make checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church. Please sign up by Wednesday, October 18 (or sooner!) to ensure your spot!

SpringHill



Consumers Energy

Earn up to \$2,000 for your faith organization.

Call 888-316-8014
HomeAnalysis-ConsumersEnergy.com

Westminster's promo code:
WPCBC0917

All people of faith are called to care for God's creation. Conserving energy is one important way for us, as Christians, to protect our planet and love our neighbors.

REWARDS TO THE ENERGY-WISE

The more committed our faith community is to saving energy, the greater the reward. Check the table below to see how you can help our faith community earn up to \$2,000.

ADVOCATE \$500	Host an energy efficiency workshop with minimum attendance of 25	Promote Home Energy Analysis over 90-day period	50 scheduled appointments
SUPPORTER \$1,000	Host an energy efficiency workshop with minimum attendance of 35	Promote Home Energy Analysis over 90-day period	75 scheduled appointments
AMBASSADOR \$2,000	Host an energy efficiency workshop with minimum attendance of 50	Promote Home Energy Analysis over 90-day period	100 scheduled appointments

WHERE DOES WESTMINSTER STAND?

Westminster is well on its way to earning the \$2,000 reward. On Sunday, September 17 we hosted an energy efficiency workshop with 56 people in attendance. Our goal now is to schedule 100 Home Energy Analysis appointments before December 17, 2017.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Home Energy Analysis Program offers Michigan residents 90-minute initial in-home assessment performed by a trained analyst. He or she will perform a visual inspection of your home, install high-efficiency measures where needed, and share a customized summary report with energy-saving tips and recommendations for your home.

Fifty-Year Members

On Sunday, October 15, 2017 we will celebrate our 50-year members!

We would like to thank the following parishioners on their continued witness to the glory of God.

The Deacons are hosting a wonderful luncheon following the service, and all are welcome!

1933
Arvilla "Rae" MacPhail

1945
Elizabeth Dore
Marilyn Lewis

1946
Russel Marvin

1948
Marian Larive

1953
Betty Lunger
Patricia Quantz

1954
Alma Watton

1955
Ross Brown
JoAnne Deuscher
Neil Everson
Margaret Hanson
Robert Hanson
Mary Lou Higgins
Bonnie Scheddel

1957
Claire Jacobson
Hazel Kish
Howard Schmidt

1958
Peggy Hawkins
Janice VanNostrand
Florie Wright

1959
JeAnne Hebner
Richard Hebner
Joyce Hegenauer

1960
Doris Bibbee
Charlotte Blumenstein
Edith Elliot
Joyce Grigg
Roy Grigg

1961
Dianne Grabke
Thomas Kayner
Philip Reagh
Richard VanNostrand
Robert VanNostrand

1962
Carol Castrodale

1963
Ronald Deuscher
Thomas Lange
Beryl Mall
Colleen Schmidt
Sharon Hignite
Joy Thompson

1964
John Hegenauer
Carol Lange
Karen Schoeppach

1965
Marie Capp
Elaine Edwards
Marilyn Kayner
Molly Molyneaux
Judy Randall
Elizabeth Talbot

1966
Gloria Bublitz
Paul Dannesberger
Robert Merritt
Mary Kay Prudden

This year's 50-year members:

1967
Dianne Young
John Young





Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2017



Portrait of Martin Luther, engraved by John Sartain, 1835

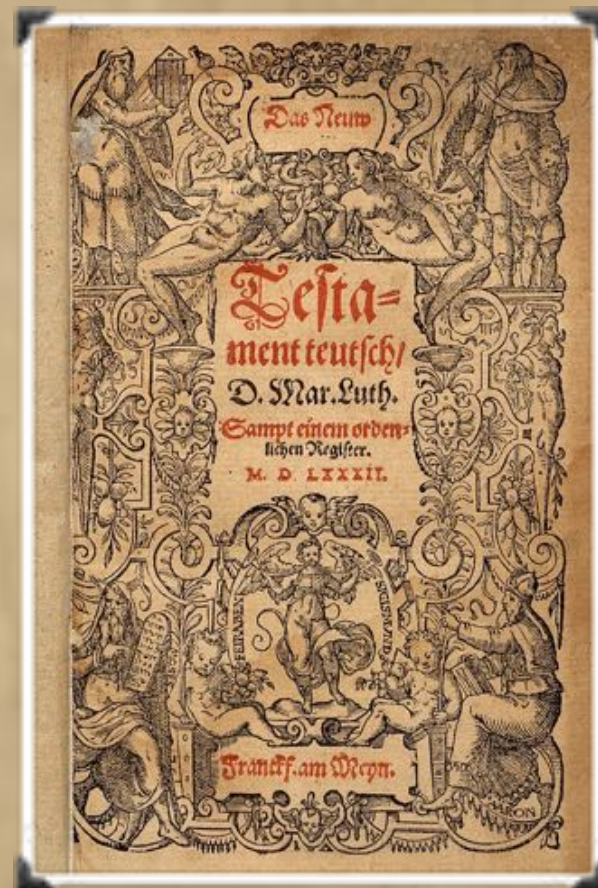
This year Presbyterians celebrate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses. The theses, which criticized the sale of indulgences by church officials, are considered the opening salvo in the Protestant Reformation — a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone.

Luther is also celebrated for a second piece of writing: his translation of the Bible into German. After Pope Leo X excommunicated Luther in 1521, the reformer took refuge inside Wartburg Castle. There he completed his translation of the New

Testament, based on Erasmus's 1516 Bible text. First printed in September 1522, the "September Testament" does not include Luther's name on the title page, an elision meant to limit church reprisals.

The Old Testament translation proved more difficult, owing in part to Luther's struggles with Hebrew and his insistence that the text be accessible to all Germans. "The translator must not be led by the Hebrew words," Luther wrote. "He should make sure that he really understands the sense and ask himself: 'What would the German say in such-and-such an instance?'" His editorial philosophy required inventive interpolations. For example, he replaced the word "chameleon," which would have been unknown to sixteenth century Germans, with "weasel."

It took Luther and a team of fellow scholars twelve years to translate the Old Testament, which was printed in 1534 together with Luther's New Testament. Despite criticism for the way he valued certain books of the Bible over others and for editing passages to fit his own theology, Luther's Bible was an immediate and lasting success; one Wittenberg publisher alone printed 100,000 copies between 1534 and 1574. Many Germans regarded it as a work of literary genius, the way English readers would revere the King James Bible in the century to come.



Title page of Luther's translation of the New Testament, 1582. PHS Rare Books Collection

On average, a customer participating in the Home Energy Analysis Program receives about \$50 worth of energy-saving measures, which provides an estimated savings of up to \$100 – \$150 after the first year. These \$50 worth of improvements may include:

- LED bulbs
- Kitchen and bathroom faucet aerators
- High efficiency shower heads
- Water heater pipe wrap
- LED nightlight
- Programmable thermostat



To help Westminster receive the \$2,000 reward, please sign up before December 17, 2017.

Sign up by calling Consumers Energy at 888-316-8014
or visit HomeAnalysis-ConsumersEnergy.com

The Home Energy Analysis promo code for Westminster is:

WPCBC0917



Thank you!

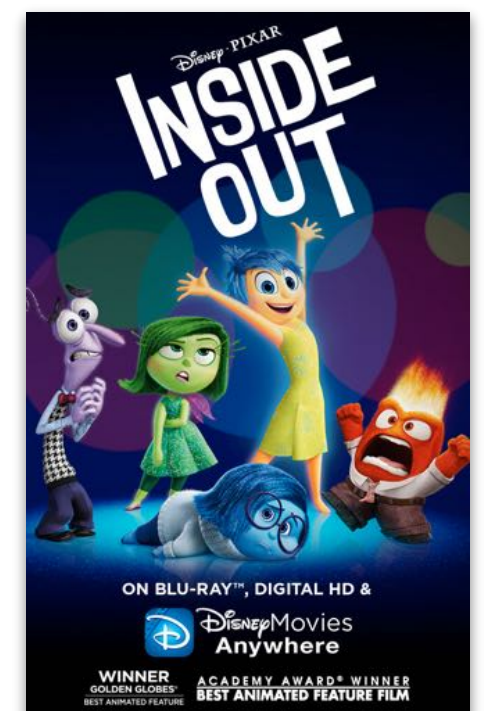
Bonnie Marsh
Judy Randall
Jason Hildebrant
Chris Elzinga
Martha Tapley
John Tapley



Thank you for all of your hard work
volunteering at the Saginaw Rescue
Mission on Saturday, September 16!



Join us for Family Movie Night!
Friday, October 27 at 6:00 p.m.





Mission Connections

Four Soils for CHE

Michael & Rachel Ludwig

Do you know what it means to see the “eyes” bulging on the “ears” of millet? It means the excitement level for the harvest is quickly approaching in Niger. The rains around our city have been very good, meaning that in fields with good soil and drainage the staple crop of millet is over everyone’s head and getting full “ears” on its “cat-tail” like ends. As we watch the farmers coming and going along dusty roads with long-handled hoes that look part sickle, it’s easy for us to think in the rich realm of farming imagery. You’ve heard the story about the sower who went out to sow the seeds of the Good News in different types of soil, haven’t you? It feels like we’re in the middle of that story in this season of our work in Niger.



For more than a year we’ve been planting the seeds of Community Health Evangelism (CHE) in Niger with our partner church, the EERN (Eglise Evangelique de la Republique du Niger). We’ve cast seeds widely through vision presentations, detailed national plans and on-the-ground training. Now that we have four CHE evangelists using this method in their villages, I have come to see clearly that each community is like a different ecosystem or soil for the CHE practices to grow in. The soil in each community ranges from an ecosystem that initiates successful community projects using CHE principles, to thorny soil that allows little receptivity to the ideas or people to carry them forward. The range also includes places with some community involvement but an ecosystem that encourages more spiritual fruit and soil that provides good engagement but has rocky interruptions of migration and or previous unhealthy development projects. I’d like to share with you the short stories of the people working in these four different soils.

Fruitful Soil

Attahiru leads a church that already has 100 members, local youth are always gathering at his house, and he is diligent with following what he learned at our CHE training. He started by sharing the beginning CHE lessons, which are basically stories that get people talking about their needs and healthy ways of dealing with them. The men of the church decided that clean water was the biggest struggle, and that they could do something about it themselves. So, they dug out the poorly-functioning existing well that was filled in with three meters of sand. Now they have the most water they’ve ever had from the well.

With that “seed project” done, Attahiru was not sure what else people were willing to do. Consequently, the CHE trainer came to visit him with the other CHE evangelists to help clarify some next steps. They met in groups separately with the village men, women, youth — all of whom were intrigued to meet an outsider. The CHE trainer helped tell two main CHE stories about finding solutions for their problems at the size the village can tackle itself. People started really discussing and debating the meaning of the stories. The fact that someone was genuinely seeking their opinion about the stories shocked the women at first, but then they became very emboldened. At the end, everyone was excited to learn more through CHE. The soil in this village is clearly made up of those willing to learn more and do more.



A Student at Dogon Gao Bible School shows his new garden plot near a reservoir for small scale irrigation.

Rocky Soil

Haruna lives in a small village where the chief has taken him under his wing. He’s involved in village youth activities, and he’s the secretary of the women’s group (because he’s one of the few with the skills attained through completing an elementary school education). Haruna told CHE stories to the youth he plays soccer with. They got motivated to fix the road into the village that had been washed out for a while. But now almost all of them have gone up into the desert with the hopes of making money in the artisanal gold mining starting there. Another solid barrier he faces is that the women’s group in the village has recently done some simple community projects, but they were all initiated by an outside NGO that gave them gifts for completing them. Dependency on handouts is exactly the type of ineffective aid that the CHE method tries to undo, so this leaves Haruna wondering how many times he’ll have to go over this same rocky soil.

Spiritually Fruitful Ecosystem

Himma’s large-sized village had already asked him to help with their development needs a few years ago. Since our training, they’ve been quick to see him as a resource, and he’s been asked for a lot of advice. The idea that really clicked for Himma was the multiplication concept of CHE, that the learning should be practiced and shared (multiplied) with others. Multiplication is cultivated when group lessons have clear action steps and then follow up the next week with sharing how the steps went. So, he’s gotten three groups to meet weekly to tell the CHE stories and Jesus’ parables with continued follow up. The people have mostly been interested in discussing the spiritual stories but are also thinking about a starter “seed project” they can do in the area of agriculture. It’s interesting that this “ecosystem” has latched onto the Bible stories more than the development ideas so far, but the experience of CHE practitioners shows that the physical usually goes better when the spiritual is already in mind.



The director of the Augie Bible school and a student cook a mixture of oil and ash to make soap.

Thorny Ecosystem

The more distinguished Pastor Haruna lives in the last decent-sized town in his region near where the pure desert starts. He’s found lots of needs, but the “soil ecosystem” has not been receptive to the Gospel message before because of the dominance of some conservative religious sects. Pastor Haruna has groups in three different neighborhoods of the town that he’s working with. They have generally been interested in the health and hygiene aspect of CHE, so he’s done some teaching on that subject, but the participants haven’t been motivated to do much yet. He’s still looking for “people of peace” or potential “champions” of the CHE method for development who are willing to go deeper. One of the groups has a Muslim religious leader in it, which has the potential for bringing richer dialogue and legitimacy to the group. Unfortunately, more thorns are poking out as this leader has also shown some signs of trying to co-opt the group into a time for his own teachings that don’t have the holistic emphasis of CHE or fail to leave any room for the Gospel connections.

We’re thankful to God for the beauty in all these unique “soil ecosystems” and the chance to work with these talented and dedicated people. As the CHE workers carefully plant the seeds and cultivate the holistic fruit of the CHE teachings, it’s clear to us that all these soils will require lots of time and effort. Some may go faster, some may have more obstacles, but we know we can pray to the Lord of the Harvest to help them on their own roads to developing a healthy and whole community the way our loving God desires.

Michael and Rachel Ludwig



The grain-grinding machine, which was purchased with funds from U.S. Presbyterians, for a church rebuilding relationships with its neighborhood.