

## **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

3208 Exposition Boulevard

Austin, TX 78703

512-459-5497

[www.wpcaustin.org](http://www.wpcaustin.org)

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**August 30 – September 13, 2009**

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## **Weekly Word**

Dear Fellow Followers of the Way:

As we seek to grow Christ's church deep and wide, we are starting the fall by talking about connection. How are we connected to God, to others and to the world? In claiming the name Christian, we worship and serve a God who lives in community. We can connect to the Triune God as God has reached out to us first and through

Jesus Christ has invited us into the life of the Trinity. We do this through worship, through study, whether in groups or personal, and through our relationships with others.

Our connection to others brings us closer to God as we are greeting by the God in them. As we connect with others we also become more the body of Christ. We come together bringing our gifts to serve together. As we have opportunities to gather together over meals, during fellowship events, and even in meetings which can deepen our ties one to another. As we get to know one another, we find that we have people to turn to in times of need and in times of great joy.

The deeper we are connected to both God and others our faith naturally draws us to serve the world around us. We are met in our need and we respond by meeting others in theirs. We sense God calling us to take care of the widow, the orphan, the homeless, and the hungry. We bring a piece of the Kingdom of God into our midst.

How are you working to deepen connections with God, others and the world? Do you come to worship regularly? Are you coming to Sunday school or other study weekly and spending time with God every day? Have you been to a fellowship or small group lately? Have you gotten to know the people you go to church with on a deeper level than their names? Are you looking for ways to serve the world and letting your faith reach out to the world?

There are opportunities to do all this things at Westminster -- Worship, Sunday school, Theology on Tap, P3 play dates, youth fellowship, IHN, contributing to Manos de Cristo, and the list could go on. As we start the fall, I urge everyone to seek deeper connections to God, to others and to the world.

Grace, Mercy and Peace,

Karen

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## Calendar

Aug 30, 2009 - Sun		Middle & Hi School Retreat End	Offsite
	08:15 AM	Worship / Communion	Sanctuary
	09:30 AM	Church School (for all ages)	
	10:30 AM	Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	12:00 PM	Usher Training	Sanctuary
Aug 31, 2009 - Mon	11:00 AM	APTS Faculty Retreat	Fellowship Hall
Sep 1, 2009 - Tue	08:00 AM	APTS Faculty Retreat	Fellowship Hall
	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Pastor's Study
	12:00 PM	Adventures	Room 10
Sep 2, 2009 - Wed	06:00 PM	IHN Coordination Meeting	Library
	07:00 PM	Adult Choir	Choir Room
Sep 3, 2009 - Thu	12:15 PM	Mid-day Prayers	Sanctuary
	07:00 PM	Theology on Tap	Offsite
Sep 6, 2009 - Sun		Interfaith Hospitality Network/IHN	Fellowship Hall
	08:15 AM	Worship / Communion	Sanctuary
	09:30 AM	Church School (for all ages)	
	10:30 AM	Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship / Communion	Sanctuary
	05:00 PM	Youth Fellowship	Annex

Sep 7, 2009 - Mon	Interfaith Hospitality Network/IHN	Fellowship Hall
Sep 8, 2009 - Tue	Interfaith Hospitality Network/IHN	Fellowship Hall
	10:00 AM Staff Meeting	Pastor's Study
	10:30 AM Tuesday Circle	Library
	12:00 PM Adventures	Fellowship Hall
	07:00 PM Worship Committee	
Sep 9, 2009 - Wed	Interfaith Hospitality Network/IHN	Fellowship Hall
	07:00 PM Adult Choir	Choir Room
Sep 10, 2009 - Thu	Interfaith Hospitality Network/IHN	Fellowship Hall
	12:15 PM Mid-day Prayers	Sanctuary
Sep 11, 2009 - Fri	All Church Retreat	Mo Ranch
	Interfaith Hospitality Network/IHN	Fellowship Hall
Sep 12, 2009 - Sat	All Church Retreat	Mo Ranch
	Interfaith Hospitality Network/IHN	Fellowship Hall

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## Prayer Requests

**The family of John Gutzke**, upon his August 17 death

**Mrs. Everett Bohls and family**, upon the August 12 death of Everett Bohls

**Marjorie Voiers**

**Lois McGarity**

**Marcia Kiger**

**Kathy Lockart**

**Marilyn Clary**

**Charmaine Denius**

**Amanda McDonald Sutliff and Graham Sutliff and family**, upon the recent death of Graham's grandparents, Eugene and LaVerne Stigall

**The family of Caye Inglis**, upon her recent death (aunt of Adrienne Inglis)

**The family of Taylor Wahrmund**, upon his recent death (cousin of Bryan Saunders)

**Rosemary Denny** (sister of Bob Schriber)

**Lea Dean** (friend of Yvonne and Mike Steckel)

**Maxine Horton** (grandmother of Lisa Rogers)

**Mike Bellamy** (friend of Mike Rush and Terry Allbright)

**Ken Coffelt** (childhood friend of Katie Burns)

**Karen Nathan** (friend of Ann Palmer)

**Michael Estes** (nephew of Glenda Fincher)

**Steve Jennings and family** (friends of Lis Wise)

**Dottie Kotowicz** (aunt of Larry Wise)

**Col. Tim Kopra and the space station crew** (friend of the Tylers)

**Jerry Smith** (friend of the Sullivans)

**Janie Johnson** (sister-in-law of Susan Cockburn)

**Elizabeth Hampton** (neighbor of Josie Whitley)

**James Rohlich** (friend of Mary Jansen)

**Hope Young** (friend of Katie Burns)

**Rose Wahrmund** (Bryan Saunders' grandmother)

**Ricky Davidson** (uncle of Todd Davidson)

**The Rev. Juan Treviño** (pastor of First Presbyterian, Brownsville and friend to many WPC members)

**Shirley Bridges** (sister of Mary Anne Ater)

**Drew Saenz** (friend of Lea Anne Porter and Michael Gianotti)

**Laura Johnson** (friend of Layla Young)

**George O'Dwyer** (friend of the Fields and Shaw families)

**Bill Whiteside** (friend of Jack and Shirley Howard and Susan Cockburn)

**Peggy Huckabay** (friend of the Somervilles)

**Shirley Bird Perry** (friend of Sharon McGraw)

**Rev. Steven Akins** (friend of Karen Wagner and Julie Schriber)

**Civilians and military in war-torn areas: Ron MacKay**, stationed in Iraq; **Scott Cameron**, deployed to Afghanistan (son of Marcia Kiger); **John Ulsamer and Alpha Company**, stationed in Iraq (son-in-law of Jim and Kathy Lockart); **Sgt. Lindsey Rush** (niece of Jim and Karen Nelson)

Victims of oppression

Peace and peace workers

That God's peace may come

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## **Are you looking for a way to participate in worship?**

### **Be an usher!**

Usher teams provide a vital ministry at Westminster as they are often the first people visitors meet. We have five usher teams, one each for the first, second, third and fourth Sundays of each month, and a fifth team for the occasional months during the year that have five Sundays. There is a Team Captain who coordinates the team on their designated Sunday.

Some of the usher duties include welcoming folks as they hand out worship bulletins, collecting the offering, taking a headcount of people in attendance at worship, making sure the recording system is working, collecting the Friendship pad sheets, and general straightening of the sanctuary and narthex after the worship service. It is a relatively easy, but very important service at Westminster and we are looking for committed men, women, youth and even whole families who would like to participate and feel called to this ministry.

**All current and prospective ushers are asked to come to a brief training and informational meeting immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.** There will be a review of operating the AED. All ushers should be familiar with this device in case of an emergency. It will also be an opportunity for Team Captains to recruit and fill out their teams.

If you have questions or are interested in joining a team one Sunday a month, please contact Martha Richardson, 329-8931, [mjrcce@gmail.com](mailto:mjrcce@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you on the 30<sup>th</sup>!

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## **Brown is the New Green**

When City of Austin Stage 2 Water Use Restrictions take effect August 24, 2009, the church grounds will be irrigated only on Fridays. The glorious part of God's creation in which we live has been in an exceptional drought status for a long time. Westminster's commitment to responsible stewardship of our natural resources may result in a few brown patches in our landscape. We ask for your support and understanding as we conserve water so all may have enough. For ideas on how you can conserve water, visit <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/watercon/50ways.htm>.

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## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Below is the financial information as of July 31, 2009 for the General Fund of the church. The full financial statements are available in the church office. We encourage anyone who is interested to pick up a copy or ask Jimmie to email you one.

### Operating Revenues and Expenses As of July 31, 2009

Revenues       \$437,903

Expenses       373,295

Net income     \$64,608

Cash on hand – Operating Fund     \$124,894

Fellowship Hall Debt                \$1,271,000

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### Online Giving

The finance and administration committee is pleased to be able to offer you a new means of making your tithes and contributions. The church is now able to receive pledges and contributions through electronic funds transfer (direct debit) from your bank account. This is an easy, convenient, and safe way to make your gifts to the church. Through Online Giving, your contribution will be automatically deducted from your bank account on a monthly or quarterly basis. At any time, you may change your donation amount, cancel your donation, or change bank accounts by contacting Jimmie in the church office. By participating in Online Giving your gifts will be received safely and promptly. If you wish to make your contributions in this manner, please complete the secure donation form on the website at [www.wpcaustin.org](http://www.wpcaustin.org) or contact Jimmie at [wpcadmin@wpcaustin.org](mailto:wpcadmin@wpcaustin.org) and she will get you the forms.

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### Westminster's New Seminary Intern

Welcome to Robert Thomas Quiring, Westminster's new seminary intern. Robert will begin his senior year at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary this fall. He is a graduate of Austin College in Sherman and is from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. This past year, Robert has been serving as a Young Adult Volunteer in Mission in Nairobi, Kenya through the Presbyterian Church. While serving in Kenya, Robert had the opportunity to lead a group of high school graduates, teach computer and music at an orphanage, and coach a basketball team. Robert also has experience leading youth ministry programs at various churches in Texas and Oklahoma.

While at Westminster Robert will have the opportunity to lead us in worship and participate in a variety of children's, youth, and adult ministries. We look forward to welcoming him on Sunday, September 6 at both the 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

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### Thank You from Manos de Cristo

Dear Friends,

WOW! Through your help and your generous donations of time, talent and treasure we were able to serve over 2,200 children through Manos de Cristo's 2009 Back to School Program. In a time when other organizations are struggling to serve those in need, members of the Presbyterian Community, along with other

local community organizations, rallied together to insure a successful first day of school for 2,221 children in PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We feel blessed to have been able to carry out this program through the loving hands of over 449 volunteers. For many of you who witnessed our program, you saw the true meaning of "Love in Action." Again, we are extremely grateful to you all, and we pray that you will continue your loving support of Manos de Cristo.

Faithfully yours,

Julie Ballesteros, Executive Director

*He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done. Proverbs 19:17*

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### **IHN - Making Westminster Home for a Week**

One of our last items in IHN prep is to make our classrooms where we will be hosting our guests more home-like. We are looking for some donations such as lamps, small tables, or other items that would make our classrooms feel inviting. Ideally these would be small, and easy to move, deliver to the church.

If you have something you feel would work, please e-mail David Rose at [daviddouglasrose@gmail.com](mailto:daviddouglasrose@gmail.com).

Thanks,  
David Rose

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### **Westminster Sewing Bee Meeting Schedule Updated**

The meeting schedule for August and the Fall is as follows:

Sat. Aug. 22, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Amy's house

**Sun. Aug. 30 CANCELLED**

Sat. Sept. 26, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Amy's house

Thur. Oct. 8, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Annex

Sat. Oct 24, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Amy's house

Thur. Nov. 12, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Annex

No 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in November. No meetings in December.

If you would like more information about joining our group or to donate materials, contact Amy Rose, 258-9288 or [arose@austin.rr.com](mailto:arose@austin.rr.com).

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### **Fellowship Hall Acoustics**

Our new Fellowship Hall currently sounds very "live" during classes and meetings. Dr. Elmer Hixson, electronic and acoustical engineer at the University of Texas' ECE Dept. (now retired) has kindly consented to take some acoustical measurements in the Fellowship Hall in order to provide us with some suggestions on making improvements. Dr. Hixson is a long time friend of Property Committee chair Jack Prince. We're grateful for Dr. Hixson's willingness to assist us, and will keep the congregation informed on further progress.

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### **New Book in WPC Library**

Just Hospitality, God's Welcome in a World of Difference, by Letty M. Russell has been given to the WPC library by the Tuesday Circle in memory of Clare Werkenthin. In this, her last book, theologian Russell redefines the commonly held notion of hospitality as she challenges readers to consider what it means to welcome the stranger. The goal is "just hospitality," that is, hospitality with justice.

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## From Previous Connections

### Beat the Heat with Fair Trade Iced Coffee!

We offer Third Coast Coffee's ground and whole bean Peruvian, Ethiopian Harrar, Guatemalan Huehuetenango as well as Peruvian decaffeinated coffee which is great over ice on a hot summer day. We also offer English Breakfast Tea, Green Tea, Earl Grey Tea, and Wild Rooibos Pyramid Tea from Equal Exchange. Please contact Adrienne Inglis at 320-0613 if you have any questions, comments or requests.

### Christmas in July!

You may use up to \$300 to help someone you know who is in need. This can be all or a part of what you give to whoever needs it. You give and the church reimburses you up to \$300. Celebrate a **July Christmas**. Give gifts of love. Forms are available in the church office. Don't know anyone who is needy? Call Manos de Cristo and ask if they can put you in touch with someone (477-7454).

### Mark your calendars now – The All Church Retreat at Mo-Ranch is September 11-13

Registration forms are available in the church office or email Rosemary at [wpc@wpcaustin.org](mailto:wpc@wpcaustin.org) and she will email to you. Registration will also be available online.

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## Worship

### Sunday, August 30

*22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**Preacher:** Bill Clark

**Liturgist:** Kathy Anderson

**Theme:** [Connected to God](#)

### Those Serving as After-Church Elders, Greeters, Cookie Hosts, and Acolytes

**After Church Elders:** Liz Jones, Jim Lockart, Stan Shaw

**Greeters:** South Door, Layla and John Young; North Door, Kathy Taylor and Marsha Hunt

**Cookie Hosts:** Dot Wolfe and Josie Whitley

**Acolytes:** Mary Elizabeth Taylor, Claudia Taylor, Grace Scoggin

### Sunday, September 6

*23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**Preacher:** Bill Clark

**Liturgist:** Kathy Anderson

**Theme:** [Connected to the World through Service and Outreach](#)

### Those Serving as After-Church Elders, Greeters, Cookie Hosts, and Acolytes

**After Church Elders:** Carolyn Long, Jack Prince, Ann Scott

**Greeters:** South Door, Balie and Lea Griffith; North Door, Ann Scott and Liz Jones

**Cookie Hosts:** Liz Jones and Larry Wise

**Acolytes:** Louisa Ehrlich, Markley Ehrlich, Chance Polan

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## Adult Ministries

**Adult church school 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.**

*For more detailed descriptions, please visit the WPC website!*

**Forum Class – Fellowship Hall**

**Sunday, August 30: *Face the Music*** – Byron Almén & Rick Colvin

**Sunday, September 6: *The Windows of WPC*** – Carolyn Long

## Sunday, September 13: *Remember the Sabbath, and Keep It Holy* –

Kathy Anderson

**Coming Up Soon: September 20 – October 11**

### *Witnesses of Faith in the Community*

**Alan Graham** – Mobile Loaves & Fishes; **Ed Clements** – KLBJ and **Randy & Jenna McEachren**;  
**Gilbert Tuhabonye** – The Gazelle Foundation; **Tom Spencer** – Austin Area Interreligious Ministries

**Bible Study – Room 9**      **Sunday, August 30:** Begin study of *The Acts of the Apostles*, focusing on Acts 1 (Prologue)

**Sunday, September 6:** Acts 2 (What Happened on Pentecost)

**Sunday, September 13:** Acts 3 – 4:4 (What Does the Gospel Do?)

**MyConnections-Room 10**      **Sunday, August 30:** Remembering our Children's Baptisms and the Promises Made—Martha Richardson;

**Sunday, September 6:** Growing in our Own Faith and Introducing our Children to God—Martha Richardson

**Sunday, September 13:** The Gift of Sabbath—Martha Richardson

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## Children's Ministries

We are excited to have almost all of our LAMBS teachers returning this fall but there are still opportunities to be involved in children's ministries at Westminster Presbyterian Church. If you are interested in working with our preschool and elementary children please let Karen know. We would love to have you join us!

### Children's Church School 9:30 – 10:30

**Preschoolers:** Preschoolers start in Room 14 for Song Time and the teachers will pick them up and take them to their classrooms. The children may be picked up in their room at the end of Sunday school. 2/3's will be in room 5 and the 4's/K's in room 4. Your child must be 2 by August 1<sup>st</sup> to be in the 2 year old class. Younger children may be taken to the nursery.

A **NURSERY** for our littlest members is in Room 2, staffed by a caring and trained team of child care workers. Children of all ages are welcome in worship at Westminster. The nursery, located in Room 2 of the Education Wing is available for infants through 5 years old.

**Elementary Age Children:** Dwelling Places meets in Room 13. We are starting the year with the Beatitudes. Come join us in Room 13~~

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## Youth Ministries

Church School classes for all youth meet each Sunday morning, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in the Annex, located at the corner of Carlton and Hillview, just beyond the church parking lot.

### Save the Date

August 29-30 - Overnight at John Knox Ranch - \$25 for one youth, \$15 for each additional. This is for WPC members due to limited space. Make sure you have signed up so we know how many are going.

Week of Sept 6<sup>th</sup> - IHN hosts - would like 3-4 youth to come up each evening to read/play with kids, help with homework, interact with the families we host.

**Middle School (Grades 6 - 7)**  
Meets in the Annex Living Room  
Topic: I Know My Bible

**Senior High (Grades 9 - 12)**  
Meets in the Annex Red Room  
Topic: A variety of resources focusing  
on our lives, current events, questions,  
and the role of faith in our lives.

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## Fellowship

**Theology on Tap – Thursday, September 3 @ 7 p.m., B. B. Rover’s Café and Pub, 12101 Research Blvd., in the North Brook Center.** Join us for conversation, drink (your choice), food and fellowship!

**Adventures begins Tuesday, September 8 @ Noon in Room 10**

Join us as we get back together after our summer break! **Jane Garner** will be with us to present a program about her summer trip to Berlin.

Come at noon.

Bring your lunch.

Bring a friend.

Enjoy the fellowship.

Don't miss it!

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## Mission

**Bring Food for Manos de Cristo on Sunday, September 6 – Always the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month!**

**Manos always needs food.** Bring non-perishable food Sunday, **September 6.** And as we are fed at our Lord’s table, we remember to feed others in need! Please remember to give for those who have less than we do.

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