

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3208 Exposition Boulevard

Austin, TX 78703

512-459-5497

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

### Connections @ Westminster

October 25 – November 8, 2009

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## Weekly Word

Dear Westminster Saints,

We find ourselves in the midst of an important stewardship campaign for our church—one that will set the course for our ministry not only for the coming year, but for several years to come. Next week you will receive a stewardship packet with helpful information about the campaign.

Before you receive the packet and read the many ways in which you can give of your time, talent and treasure to the Lord's work at Westminster, I want to offer this simple stewardship message: *We at Westminster need*

*you.* We need you at worship, in church school class, at fellowship events, and mission projects. Your presence with us is one of the greatest gifts you can bring.

To those of you who are with us on a regular basis, thank you for the gift of your presence. You add much to the life of our congregation. To those of you who aren't with us that often, I want you to know that you are missed. We are not fully who God calls us to be in your absence. The body of Christ remains incomplete if you are missing.

I realize that some of you are unable to attend worship and other events, but are united with us through your prayers. That is appreciated! You are present with us in prayer.

This year's theme for the stewardship campaign is *Connecting to God, One Another and the World.* The campaign scripture passage comes from the gospel of Luke in which Jesus says, *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."* There are eight variations of the word "you" in this great commandment. The offering of ourselves is obviously essential to our Lord.

I look forward to seeing many of you this Sunday for worship as we Celebrate our Connections, and again on All Saints' Sunday, November 1, and once again at our November 8 Dedication Sunday worship and luncheon. Your presence on these days is a great gift to the rest of us and an offering to the Lord.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Bill

## Calendar

Oct 25 - Sun	08:30 AM	Worship / Communion	Sanctuary
	09:40 AM	Church School (for all ages)	Westminster
	10:40 AM	Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	05:00 PM	Halloween Trunk or Treat	Parking Lot/Fellowship Hall
	05:00 PM	Youth Fellowship/Trunk or Treat	Annex/Parking Lot
	07:00 PM	Spiritual Formation Group	Library
Oct 27 - Tue	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Pastor's Study
	07:00 PM	Session	Room 10
Oct 28 - Wed	01:30 PM -	Lifetime Learning	Room 10
	06:00 PM	IHN Coordination Meeting	Library
	07:00 PM	Adult Choir	Choir Room
Oct 29 - Thu	12:15 PM	Mid-day Prayers	Sanctuary
Oct 30 - Fri	01:00 PM	Lifetime Learning	Room 10
Nov 1 - Sun	08:30 AM	Worship / Communion	Sanctuary
	09:40 AM	Church School (for all ages)	Westminster
	10:40 AM	Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship / Communion	Sanctuary
	05:00 PM	Youth Fellowship	Annex
	05:00 PM	Spiritual Formation Group	Library
	06:00 PM	Service of Remembrance/Supper	Sanctuary

Nov 2 - Mon	12:00 PM	Property Committee	Room 10
	06:00 PM	Delta Kappa Gamma	Fellowship Hall
	07:00 PM	Worship Committee	Library
Nov 3 - Tue	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Pastor's Study
	12:00 PM	Adventures	Room 10
Nov 4 - Wed	01:30 PM	Lifetime Learning	Room 10
	07:00 PM	Adult Choir	Choir Room
Nov 5 - Thu	12:15 PM	Mid-day Prayers	Sanctuary
	06:30 PM	WPDS Board Meeting	Room 10
	07:00 PM	Theology on Tap	Offsite
Nov 6 - Fri	01:00 PM	Lifetime Learning	Room 10

## Prayer Requests

**Matt Wise, Jenn Scollan, and newborn son, Emmett Samuel**  
**Emory Thompson**  
**Red Olander**  
**Lois McGarity**  
**Kathy Lockart**  
**Marilyn Clary**  
**Charmaine Denius**  
**Ann Bassinger** (aunt of Leslie Pettijohn)  
**Elmer Hixson** (friend of Jack Prince)  
**Ricky and Marsha Davidson** (uncle and aunt of Todd Davidson)  
**John Davidson** (father of Todd Davidson)  
**Joyce Ogletree and family** (friend of Marsha Hunt)  
**Chelsee Capezzuti** (friend of LeaAnne Porter)  
**Dick Whittenburg** (great uncle of Bill Clark)  
**David Evans** (friend of Mary and Ed Tyson)  
**Nancy Sien** (mother of Susan Somerville)  
**Andrea Hays** (sister-in-law of Jenna & Randy McEachern, friends of many WPCers)  
**Pat Ward** (father of Steve Ward)  
**Justin Gabriel** and parents, Jim and Jeri Gabriel (friends of 'Becca Scoggin)  
**Susan Britton** (friend of Eleanor Cochran)  
**Ginger Henslee** (sister-in-law of Molly Hatchell)  
**Myrna Benne** (mother of Amy McClintic)  
**Drew Saenz** (friend of Lea Anne Porter and Michael Gianotti)  
**Charlie Chaffin** (best friend of Josie Whitley's grandson)  
**Rev. Steven Akins** (friend of Karen Wagner and Julie 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)  
**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)

**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)

**Civilians and military in war-torn areas: Ron MacKay**, stationed in Iraq; **Scott Cameron**, stationed in Afghanistan (son of Marcia Kiger); **John Ulsamer and Alpha Company**, stationed in Iraq (son-in-law of Jim and Kathy Lockart); victims of oppression; peace and peace workers; that God's peace may come



## **Celebrating our Connections**

*Sunday, October 25*

**8:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

Join us for worship as we give thanks for all that God is doing in our midst. A special presentation of our life and ministry at Westminster will conclude the service.

## **Dedication Sunday & Congregational Luncheon**

*Sunday, November 8*

**8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship with the Rev. K.C. Ptomey, guest preacher**

**All Church luncheon in Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 a.m. service.**

**Reservations can be made at [www.wpcaustin.org](http://www.wpcaustin.org) or by calling the church office.**

*The Rev. Dr. K.C. Ptomey is the Zbinden Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Leadership at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He was the senior pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tennessee from 1981-2008. Ptomey's sermons and articles have appeared in Presbyterian Survey, Journal for Preachers, Weavings, Pulpit Digest, and Reformed Liturgy and Worship.*

***You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind and your neighbor as yourself. (Luke 10:27)***

***A world in need now summons us to labor, love and give,  
To make our life an offering to God that all may live.***

## Trunk or Treat THIS Sunday!!!

Join us in the parking lot for some Halloween fun Oct 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00. We will block the lot and let the treat gathering begin at 5:15. Whether you have kids or not, you are invited to decorate your car. A card table and checkered table clothes for the tailgate café, some dry ice for the mad scientist's car or just some fun seasonal decorations. Be as creative as you want to be.

At 5:45 we will move into the fellowship hall for a Halloween devotion and some carnival style games.

**Come see the kids in their costumes and enjoy some fun and fellowship.**

See bulletin board outside Karen's office for more information or email Karen with your questions.  
Karen@wpcaustin.org

### Stewardship Reflections by Mary Moody

As we passed the peace earlier in the service I thought of our stewardship theme: Connections. We come here to this quiet, beautiful place to become connected to God and to each other. What a precious gift it is to be connected, what a gift to belong to God's own family, our family. My mother always reminded me to write thank you notes when I received a gift. I continued that training with my sons.

There are different ways to say "thank you." When you have the time and talent sheet before you this fall, think about how you might write a thank you note to God. Share your time and your talent in some way that says, "Thank you God, for my church, the friends I have made here, the connections. Thank you God for the loving support you give your children through Jesus Christ. Don't waste a minute! Find your own way of sending God a thank you note.

### All Saints Day Celebration and Remembrance – Sunday, November 1

#### 8:30 & 11 a.m. All Saints Day Celebration

During both morning worship services, we will remember and give thanks for the life and witness of Westminster members who have joined the church triumphant during the last year. The names of members who have died will be read aloud as part of the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving during the celebration of the Lord's Supper. We give thanks that we are surrounded – this day and always – "by so great a cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1)

#### 6 p.m. Service of Remembrance and Hope

We will gather again this Sunday evening to give thanks for the many saints who have touched our lives, and who surround us as a great cloud of witnesses. This candlelight service will offer time for and hearing Scripture, prayer, singing, giving thanks, and silence. We will remember those saints, living or dead, who have shared their faith and witness with us over the years, and for whom we give thanks. Worshipers will have an opportunity light a candle for the person they are thankful for; those names will also be spoken, if you wish them to be, in the prayers of thanksgiving. **If you would like for the name of a loved one – anyone, living or dead (their death doesn't have to have occurred this year, and they don't have to be members of WPC) – to be spoken aloud as part of the prayers of thanksgiving, please e-mail that information to Rosemary in the church office *no later than noon Friday, October 30* so we can make sure they are included on the list.** A reception with light hors d'oeuvres will be served after the service in the Library.

## **A Stewardship Message from the Session**

As we thank God for all that has been given to us, we also need to be preparing for all that God is calling us to live into for the coming year. It is our hope and prayer that we will continue to strongly support our mission in 2010 and we will be able to:

*Connect with God through giving with gratitude as the Lord has given to us.*

*Connect with each other through adequately funded programs and ministries and a well maintained campus.*

*Connect with the world through strong support of mission in Austin and around the world.*

In order to accomplish these goals the Westminster session is increasing the 2010 operating budget to \$843,000 and is asking the congregation to increase annual giving by \$136,000. This increase would allow for:

- debt service on our new building totaling \$85,000
- funding the additional expenses associated with our new facility
- a 20% increase in mission budget
- a 2% raise in pay and benefits for our staff
- partial replenishment of our reserves

This is a significant increase in our operating budget, but it is not an increase in the total amount the congregation has contributed over the past five years. Our combined annual giving to the operating fund and the capital campaign averaged \$1,194,000 from 2005-2009.

**As our capital campaign draws to a close we are asking Westminster members to include what they have given annually to the building fund (or a portion) in their pledge to the 2010 operating budget. A number of Westminster members have indicated their willingness to do this. We believe that with God's help and the generosity of our members we have the resources to achieve our goals.**



**Sunday, November 22**

When: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon - 2 p.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall

### **What it is:**

A chance to browse booths staffed with representatives from local

and global "giving opportunities",

enjoy Fair Trade coffee, tea, hot chocolate ... and some muffins (savory and sweet).

Choose a gift that will benefit a favorite cause  
and honor friends, loved ones, teachers, and co-workers.

### Quarterly Financial Update

The September financial statements presented include the income statement for all the funds of the church and a budget comparison for the General Fund. The full financial statements are available in the church office on a monthly basis. We encourage anyone who is interested to pick up a copy or ask Jimmie to email you one.

We are three quarters through the year and we have received 75% of our anticipated general fund revenue. As expected, our donations slowed over the summer months. Pledges have remained significantly higher than last year. Non-pledged contributions are also higher than last year and are expected to come in higher than budgeted. While some committee's expenses are over budget or will end the year over-budget, total expenses remain within budget. Our utility bills were much higher than expected over the long hot and dry summer. Also, the Youth mission trips came in over budget. We are continuing to hold the additional funds budgeted for Presbytery to ensure we do not run another deficit this year. We have received over \$420,000 and spent \$1,370,000 this year in the Capital Campaign. Our loan totaled \$1,271,000 at the end of September with interest payments made of \$21,400. We expect to pay down a small amount of the loan principal by the end of the year.

The Finance and Administration Committee and the Session are committed to keeping our expenses within our means and working towards the financial challenges we will continue to face in the future. If anyone has questions regarding the churches finances, please contact Jim Lockart, Rev. Bill Clark, or myself.

Becca Thompson, Treasurer

Westminster Presbyterian Church

General Fund Revenue & Expenses

For Period Ended September 30, 2009 (75% of the Year)

		Annual	Percent	Prior	Prior
	YTD	Budget	of Budget	Year	Year
<b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>	Actual	2009	Met	Actual	Variance
<b><i>Revenue</i></b>					
Pledges	467,512	\$ 632,000	73.97%	395,638	\$ 71,874
Non-Pledged Contributions	49,443	52,500	94.18%	36,327	13,116
Miscellaneous Income	3,081	6,150	50.10%	5,657	(2,576)
Investment Income	207	500	41.40%	1,022	(815)
Assets Released from Restriction	1,826		100.00%	6,524	(4,698)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 522,069</b>	<b>\$ 691,150</b>	<b>75.54%</b>	<b>\$ 445,168</b>	<b>\$ 76,901</b>
<b><i>Expenses</i></b>					

Benevolences		21,011	\$ 70,710	29.71%	60,653	\$ (39,642)
Children's Ministries		1,919	4,250	45.15%	1,974	(55)
Adult Ministries		3,085	5,445	56.66%	2,574	511
Youth Ministries		7,388	6,025	122.62%	3,097	4,291
Worship		5,713	11,515	49.61%	6,205	(492)
Fellowship		6,580	7,950	82.77%	4,521	2,059
Membership and Commitment		3,196	5,830	54.82%	4,286	(1,090)
Congregational Care		16	300	5.33%	14	2
Personnel		332,252	452,635	73.40%	320,588	11,664
Administration and Finance		19,302	24,090	80.12%	15,579	3,723
Stewardship		17	1,000	1.70%	178	(161)
Property		87,836	96,400	91.12%	67,869	19,967
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$ 488,315	\$ 686,150	71.17%	\$ 487,538	\$ 777
<b>Net Revenue over Expenses</b>		\$ 33,754	\$ 5,000.00		\$ (42,370)	\$ 76,124
Net Assets, beginning of year		\$ 46,848			\$ 69,494	
Net Assets, end of period		\$ 80,602			\$ 27,124	

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
**Income Statement - All Funds**  
**Period Ending 9/30/2009**

	General	Misc	Capital		
	Fund	Restricted Funds	Campaign	Endowments	Total
<b>Revenue:</b>					
Pledges	467,512		383,322		850,834
Non-Pledged Contributions	49,443	24,637			74,080
Miscellaneous Income	3,081	27,240			30,321
Investment Income and Gains	207	3,224	581	12,632	16,644
Assets Released from Restriction	1,826	(35,507)	36,152	(2,471)	-
<b>Total Income</b>	522,069	19,594			

			420,055	10,161	971,879
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Benevolences	21,011	15,461			36,472
Children's Ministries	1,919				1,919
Adult Ministries	3,085	7,349			10,434
Youth Ministries	7,388	1,369			8,757
Worship	5,713				5,713
Fellowship	6,580	534			7,114
Membership and Commitment	3,196				3,196
Congregational Care	16				16
Personnel	332,252				332,252
Finance and Administration	19,302	1,400			20,702
Stewardship	17				17
Property	87,836	7,294			95,130
<b>Total Expenses</b>	488,315	33,407	-	-	521,722
<b>Capital Expense</b>	-		1,355,981		1,355,981
<b>Interest Expense</b>			21,451		21,451
<b>Net revenue over (under) expenses and transfers</b>	33,754	(13,813)	(957,377)	10,161	(927,275)
<b>Net Assets, beginning of year</b>	46,848	174,475	(55,651)	62,897	228,569
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	80,602	160,662	(1,013,028)	73,058	(698,706)

## 28<sup>th</sup> International Holiday Market

Genesis Presbyterian Church  
1507 Wilshire Blvd., Austin TX 78722

Friday, November 13, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday, November 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Lunch served both days

CASH and CHECKS ONLY

## What is Halloween?

“Hallowed be thy name.” We say it every Sunday in the Lord’s Prayer, but other than that, we hardly ever use the word “hallow,” except at Halloween. “Hallow” means holy or sacred, or to sanctify.

The word Halloween comes from Halloweven or All Hallows Eve, the day before Hallowmas, just like Christmas Eve and Christmas. In the church, Hallowmas was eventually called All Saints’ Day, a day to remember and honor those who have died.

In our church, we choose to have a Service of Remembrance on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

All sorts of Celtic and Irish and English traditions have been rolled into our American celebration of Halloween, such as dressing in costumes, bobbing for apples and, of course, trick or treating.

Did you know that Trick or Treating for UNICEF was started by a Presbyterian pastor and his wife? What a good idea.

## From Previous Connections

### Free Wood

The removal of several dead and dying trees on the church campus and yielded some beautiful chunks of live oak, elm, pecan, and oak. Please help yourself to the wood at the annex or parking lot median for your wood carving project, camp fire, bench, playground toy, or stage prop. First come, first served. If you have any questions about where the wood is or what’s available, please ask Rosemary in the church office at 459-5497.

## Worship

### Sunday, October 25

*Celebrating our Connections*

**Preachers:** Ruth Brownlow, Bill Clark, Leslie Pettijohn and Mike Steckel

**Liturgists:** Kathy Anderson, Robert Quiring

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

**After Church Elders:** Grover Campbell, Bob Schriber, Todd Davidson

**Greeters:** South Door, Linda Tyler and Lis Wise; North Door, Pat and Ben Boswell

**Cookie Hosts:** Pat Boswell and Carol Hawkins

**Acolytes:** Sara Shaw, Katherine Jones, Madeline Jones

**After-Church Flower Deliverer:** Virginia Hill

### Sunday, November 1

*All Saints Day*

**Preacher:** Bill Clark

**Liturgists:** Kathy Anderson, Robert Quiring

**Scripture:** Revelation 21:1-6a; Psalm 24; John 11:32-44

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

**After Church Elders:** Stan Shaw, Debbie Mincher, Jack Prince

**Greeters:** South Door, Corrinne Bowers and Tom Cockburn; North Door, Jim Cochran and Bob Schriber

**Cookie Hosts:** Corrinne Bowers and Julie Schriber

**Acolytes:** Elizabeth Slaughter, Ben Slaughter, Adam Litch

**After-Church Flower Deliverer:** Molly Hatchell

## Adult Ministries

Adult church school, Sunday mornings 9:40 – 10:40 a.m. For more detailed descriptions, please visit the WPC website!

### Forum Class – Fellowship Hall *The Ties That Bind Us Together*

We are enjoying a series of conversations with different rabbis from Austin. They will share insights into Jewish faith and life, strengthening the ties that bind us together.

October 25 – Rabbis Rachel Kobrin & Rick Brody – [Congregation Agudas Achim](#)

November 1 – Rabbi David Komerofsky – [Texas Hillel Foundation](#)

### Bible Study – Room 9

October 25 – Acts 9:1-31 (The Conversion and Commissioning of Saul)

November 1 – Acts 9:32 – 11:18 (Peter's Prophetic Ministry Beyond

Jerusalem)

### Thoughtful Christian – Library

October 25 – Sean Newton, facilitator

November 1 – Susan Versluys, facilitator

### MyConnection – Room 10 Exodus with Bill Clark

This class will deal with a range of topics and issues related to parenting, family relationships, and being faithful Christians in the world today.

## Children's Ministries

**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.

### Godly Play for Preschoolers on Sunday Morning

Children of all ages are welcome in worship at Westminster. We understand, however, that sometimes children grow restless, so during the 11 a.m. worship service, as a part of caring for our youngest saints, we offer a nursery for infants and Godly Play for 3-5 year olds. Godly Play will begin at 11:15, but children may join us at any time after the Passing of the Peace. We ask that parents wait outside Room 13 after worship for children to be dismissed.

**Elementary Age Children:** Dwelling Places meets in Room 13.

October 18 – Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Job

Nov 8 – Nov 22 Amos

## Youth Ministries

Church School classes for all youth meet each Sunday morning, in the Annex, located at the corner of Carlton and Hillview, just beyond the church parking lot.

Save the Date

Oct 25<sup>th</sup> - Trunk or Treat (5-7) youth will be running games for the younger children

Nov 1 - Fellowship at the Annex  
Nov 8 - Fellowship at the Annex  
Nov 15 - making college care boxes

Youth Mid-winters 2010 - put these on the calendar - more information will be coming out soon

January 15-17 Midwinter #1 Junior High  
January 22-24 Midwinter #2 Senior High

**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.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Fellowship

**Theology on Tap – Thursday, November 5 @ 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! Another movie is on tap: *Dogma*.

### **Adventures meets Tuesday, November 3 @ Noon in Fellowship Hall**

Our former intern, **Melissa Koerner**, will join us to talk about her work as a chaplain at Seton Hospital.

Come at noon.

Bring your lunch.

Bring a friend.

Enjoy the fellowship.

Don't miss it!

## Mission

**Bring Food for Manos de Cristo on Sunday, November 1 – Always the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month!** **Manos always needs food.** Bring non-perishable food Sunday, **November 1.** 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.