

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3208 Exposition Boulevard

Austin, TX 78703

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

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February 21 -- March 7, 2010

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## Weekly Word

Dear Westminster saints,

As you know, the season of Lent is upon us. By the time you read this, many of you will have been in worship a short day or so ago for Ash Wednesday, either as part of the early morning crowd, or as part of the evening gathering. Many of you will undertake certain spiritual disciplines during this season, perhaps by “giving

something up” or by seeking to be more aware of your life and what it means. Although we often think of Lent as a time of **fasting**, it can be more than that; Lent can be a season of **feasting**. We can embrace this season as a time to fast from certain things and to feast on others. It is a season in which we can:

- Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ indwelling them.
- Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of all life.
- Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light.
- Fast from thoughts of illness; feast on the healing power of God.
- Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.
- Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.
- Fast from anger; feast on patience.
- Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.
- Fast from worry; feast on divine order.
- Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.
- Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.
- Fast from unrelenting pressures; feast on unceasing prayer.
- Fast from hostility; feast on non-resistance.
- Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.
- Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.
- Fast from personal anxiety; feast on eternal Truth.
- Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.
- Fast from facts that depress; feast on truths that uplift.
- Fast from lethargy; feast on enthusiasm.
- Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.
- Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire.
- Fast from shadows of sorrow; feast on the sunlight of serenity.
- Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence.
- Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that undergirds.

- William Arthur Ward

*American author, teacher and pastor, 1921-1994*

So as we make our way toward Easter and the promised day of resurrection, may our **“fasting from”** be congruent with our **“feasting on.”** As the Ash Wednesday liturgy says, “I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.” Blessings to you this day, and always...

Grace and peace,

Kathy

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## Calendar

Feb 21 - Sun	08:30 AM	<u>Worship / Communion</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	09:40 AM	<u>Church School (for all ages)</u>	
	10:40 AM	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	11:00 AM	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	01:30 PM	<u>Girl Scout Activity</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	05:30 PM	<u>Chili Cook-off</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
Feb 23 - Tue	10:00 AM	<u>Staff Meeting</u>	<u>Pastor's Study</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Session</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
Feb 24 - Wed	01:30 PM	<u>Lifetime Learning Class-Great Decisions</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
	06:00 PM	<u>Lenten Soup Supper</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>

	06:45 PM	<u>Lenten Worship Service</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	07:30 PM	<u>Adult Choir</u>	<u>Choir Room</u>
Feb 25 - Thu	12:15 PM	<u>Mid-day Prayers</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
Feb 26 - Fri	10:00 AM	<u>AARP Tax Counseling</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	01:00 PM	<u>Lifetime Learning - Jane Austen</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
Feb 27 - Sat	10:00 AM	<u>Westminster Crafting Bee</u>	<u>Offsite</u>
Feb 28 - Sun	08:30 AM	<u>Worship / Communion</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	09:40 AM	<u>Church School (for all ages)</u>	
	10:40 AM	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	11:00 AM	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	05:00 PM	<u>Youth Fellowship</u>	<u>Annex</u>
	05:00 PM	<u>Spiritual Formation Group</u>	<u>Library</u>
Mar 1 - Mon	12:00 PM	<u>Property Committee</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
	12:00 PM	<u>Children's Ministries Committee</u>	<u>Library</u>
	06:00 PM	<u>Delta Kappa Gamma</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Worship Committee</u>	<u>Library</u>
Mar 2 - Tue	10:00 AM	<u>Staff Meeting</u>	<u>Pastor's Study</u>
	12:00 PM	<u>Adventures</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Girl Scouts</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
Mar 3 - Wed	01:30 PM	<u>Lifetime Learning Class-Great Decisions</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
	06:00 PM	<u>Lenten Soup Supper</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	06:45 PM	<u>Lenten Worship Service</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Adult Choir</u>	<u>Choir Room</u>
Mar 4 - Thu	12:15 PM	<u>Mid-day Prayers</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	06:30 PM	<u>WPDS Board Meeting</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Theology on Tap</u>	<u>Offsite</u>
Mar 5 - Fri		<u>Mission Presbytery - Corpus Christi</u>	
	10:00 AM	<u>AARP Tax Counseling</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	11:45 AM	<u>Friday Circle</u>	<u>Library</u>
	01:00 PM	<u>Lifetime Learning - Jane Austen</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
Mar 6 - Sat		<u>Mission Presbytery - Corpus Christi</u>	
	08:00	<u>WPDS Workday</u>	<u>Slab, Playground</u>
	10:00 AM	<u>"Ladies Who Brunch" Saturday Circle</u>	<u>Library</u>

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### **Ashes to Fire: Lenten Season at Westminster**

Join us each Wednesday evening during the Lenten season for Wednesday night soup suppers and worship. Soup suppers will be served at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed by 6:45 p.m. worship in the sanctuary. Preachers for the *Ashes to Fire* series are:

- Feb. 24      The Rev. Dr. Monya Stubbs, Assistant Professor of New Testament at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- March 3     The Rev. Dr. Ted Wardlaw, President and Professor of Homiletics at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- March 10    The Rev. Dr. Arun Jones, Associate Professor of Mission and Evangelism at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- March 17    Karen Wagner, Director of Christian Education, Westminster Presbyterian
- March 24    Robert Quiring, Westminster's student intern and senior student at Austin Presbyterian

Lenten devotional guides will also be available in the narthex.

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### **Thank You Note from the Doane College Choir**

Dear Westminster members,

Thank you so much for graciously hosting us on our tour this year! We greatly appreciate all the planning that you did in order for us to sing at your church. The food was delicious, the homestays were great, and the church was a beautiful place to sing a concert in. What great hospitality you have provided us and have made our stay in Texas a great one. Thanks for all you have done!

The Doane Choir

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### **Annual Congregation Meeting, Feb. 21**

The Westminster session has called a congregational meeting this Sunday, Feb. 21 immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship. The purpose of this meeting is to hear the annual report from the finance committee and vote on proposed changes in terms of call for the Rev. Bill Clark and the Rev. Kathy Anderson.

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### **Spiritual Formation Group: *Praying Through Lent with heart, soul, mind and body***

On Sunday afternoons, February 28 through March 28 at 5:00 p.m. a small group will gather in the church library to listen to each other as we journey through Lent sharing our stories, listening to God's Word, and praying together. If you are interested in being a part of this group or if you have questions contact Linda Tyler at [lmr@ausitn.rr.com](mailto:lmr@ausitn.rr.com) or call 452-8623.

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### **Were You Wondering? ...**

... what to do with the vases that held your Valentine's flower arrangements? When those flowers have wilted, we could use the vases at Westminster. We deliver flowers every Sunday after church to various folks in the congregation and we are running low on our supply of vases. We could also use flower deliverers. If you are interested taking these flowers to someone on a Sunday afternoon, this is a wonderfully rewarding way to serve.

It is a very simple process and Suzy Fields would be happy to walk you through it. Give her a call at 474-8412.

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## **From Previous *Connections***

### ***Manos de Cristo* is Grant Finalist! – VOTE to help them receive grant money**

*Manos de Cristo* has been chosen as a finalist for Tom's of Maine *Dental Health for All* Project Sponsorship. As a finalist, they have the chance to get a **\$20,000 grant** to provide dental treatment to low-income individuals.

Through March 12, Once a Day Vote Here: <http://www.tomsomaine.com/community-involvement/dental-clinic-vote.aspx?proposal=30>

### **Presbyterians Respond to the Earthquake in Haiti**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is accepting funds to enable a significant response for relief and recovery efforts related to the earthquake in Haiti. Direct donations to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, [can](#)

[be made online](#) or you may give through Westminster. Checks should be made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church with "Haiti" in the memo.

### **Presbyterian Women Tee Shirt Sale**

Tee shirts on sale each Sunday in the Narthex from 10:30 – 11 a.m. and 12 noon to 12:30 p.m. Tee shirts are black 100% organic cotton in Junior size Baby Tee S-L and Ladies sizes S-XXXL. Tee shirts are available to try on. Buy your Westminster tee shirt now!

### **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual CROP Hunger Walk**

When: Saturday & Sunday, March 6-7, 2010  
Sat. Registration, 9:30 am; Walk begins 10:00 am  
Sun. Registration, 1:45 pm; Walk begins 2:30 pm

Where: \*\*\*\*\***NEW LOCATION-Walter E. Long Park**\*\*\*\*\*  
(6614 Blue Bluff Road, near Travis County Expo Center)

What else is new: This year features a 5k race. CWS will donate 25% of the proceeds from this year's walk to Haiti. There will be a table in the Narthex for members to pick up packets February 14, 21, and 28, from 12:00-12:30 p.m.

### **Haiti Relief Donations Qualify for Immediate Tax Relief**

If you have given to relief for Haiti, including donations to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance directly, or through Westminster, that donation may be deductible on your 2009 income tax return. Taxpayers who itemize deductions on their 2009 return qualify for this special tax relief provision, enacted January 22. Only cash contributions made to these charities after January 11, 2010, and before March 1, 2010, are eligible. This includes contributions made by text message, check, credit card or debit card. The new law only applies to cash (as opposed to property) contributions. The contributions must be made specifically for the relief of victims in areas affected by the January 12 earthquake in Haiti. Taxpayers have the option of deducting these contributions on either their 2009 or 2010 returns, but not both.

### **New PW Circle Group Begins**

**ATTENTION all ladies of WPC:** Do you enjoy chatting with girlfriends (or womenfriends) over a cup of coffee while noshing on yummy brunch cuisine? Would you like to part of a group who does?

JOIN THE **PW LADIES WHO BRUNCH!** The Ladies Who Brunch is **the new Saturday circle** of WPC PW. We always **enjoy a delicious brunch** during our time together. We are **open to any ladies of WPC** who care to brunch and share their faith in a small group setting. We **meet each month** on a Saturday morning **from 10:00-11:15 a.m.** in the church library. The next meeting is Saturday, March 6.

For more details contact Terry Allbright (512-284-8435) or Layla Young (512-965-5646, [laylaryoung@gmail.com](mailto:laylaryoung@gmail.com)).

### **WPC Crafting Bee**

Join us for crafts and fellowship. Experienced, beginners, and wannabes accepted! Just come hang out with us.

Meetings, Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – location will alternate between the Annex and Amy Rose's house (11607 Windermere Meadows, 78759)  
February 27, Amy's House  
March 27, Annex  
April 24, Amy's House  
May 22, Annex

Please join us! For more information contact Amy Rose: 258-9288 or [arose@austin.rr.com](mailto:arose@austin.rr.com)

## **Need Some Help With Your Income Tax Return?**

Friday, February 15, 2010 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm will see the opening of 2009 US income tax return preparation activity in WPC's Fellowship Hall. Volunteer tax return certified preparers will be working under the AARP's Tax Counseling for the Elderly program. **There are no income or age restrictions and no costs.** The general public is to be served, not just WPC members.

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## **Worship**

### **Sunday, February 21**

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent*

**Preacher:** Bill Clark

**Liturgists:** Kathy Anderson, Robert Quiring

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2,9-16; Luke 4:1-13

### **Those Serving as After-Church Elders, Greeters, Cookie Hosts, Acolytes, and After-Church Flower Deliverer:**

**After Church Elders:** Stan Shaw, David Rose, Jack Prince

**Greeters:** South Door, 'Becca Scoggin and Celia Bell; North Door, Wadene Harrison and Marsha Hunt

**Cookie Hosts:** Corrinne Bowers and Marsha Hunt

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

**After-Church Flower Deliverer:** Scott Pass

### **Sunday, February 28**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent*

**Preacher:** Bill Clark

**Liturgists:** Kathy Anderson, Robert Quiring

**Scripture:** Genesis 15:1-12; Psalm 27; Luke 13:31-35

### **Those Serving as After-Church Elders, Greeters, Cookie Hosts, Acolytes, and After-Church Flower Deliverer:**

**After Church Elders:** Grover Campbell, Ann Scott, Jim Lockart

**Greeters:** South Door, Tom Cockburn and Doris Etheridge; North Door, Shaaron Conoly and Hazel Herring

**Cookie Hosts:** Susan Somerville and Eleanor Cochran

**Acolytes:** Phillip Doughtie, Wynn Doughtie, Sam Pollard

**After-Church Flower Deliverer:** Walter Torres

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## **Adult Ministries**

**Adult church school, Sunday mornings 9:40 – 10:40 a.m.**  
*the WPC website!*

*For more detailed descriptions, please visit*

### **Forum Class – Fellowship Hall**

**February 21, 28, and March 7 Lenten Series: *The Wide, Wide Circle of Divine Love***

Dr. Gene March, Old Testament professor and Jean Brown  
Visiting Scholar,  
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

### **Bible Study – Room 9**

Interested in reading and studying the Bible? No prior knowledge is needed, just your willingness to read the Bible and reflect on it with others! Join us!

**Meet with the FORUM class during the season of Lent**

## **MYConnection Class – Room 10**

This class will deal with a range of topics and issues related to parenting, family relationships, and being faithful Christians in the world today. **Join us for the season of Lent!**

## **The Thoughtful Christian Class – Library**

**Meet with the FORUM class on February 21, 28, and March 7**

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## **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.

Feb 21-28 – Esther – on February 28<sup>th</sup> we will learn about the Festival of Purim  
March 7-28<sup>th</sup> – Holy Week

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## **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.**

Fellowship

Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – No Fellowship – Chili Cookoff

Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – Fellowship at the Annex

March 7<sup>th</sup> – Crop Walk

March 14<sup>th</sup> – No Fellowship

Looking ahead – March 21<sup>st</sup> (end of Spring Break) – we are hosting a **PARTY** and inviting some other youth groups. More info soon.

Youth Sunday comes up in April. Be looking for emails about ideas for theme.

### **Save the Date**

**High School Mission Trip Summer 2010 – June 20<sup>th</sup> – June 26<sup>th</sup> – To Texas City for Hurricane Clean up with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.**

Still working on dates for Middle School to Hugo – mid July is most likely

**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

**Thursday – March 4**  
**7 p.m. @ Opal Divine's, 700 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Topic: *The Invention of Lying***

If you have a chance to watch the movies ahead of time, please do...but if you can't, don't stay away; there will be plenty to talk about.

Bring a friend, neighbor, or co-worker! **Opal Divine's is on West Sixth Street across from Katz's Deli. This is a great place; we have the upstairs room all to ourselves!**

Here's a link to the website if anyone wants to preview the menu:

<http://www.opaldivines.com/freehouse/index.html>

There is a parking lot in the back and lots of street parking as well within a block or two that is generally free. Suggestion: Why not meet at the church parking lot and carpool with others? Talk it up; ask around; the less vehicles we have to park the easier it will be.

**Adventures meets Tuesday, March 2 @ Noon in Fellowship Hall.**

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, March 7 – Always the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month!**

**Manos always needs food.** Bring non-perishable food Sunday, **March 7.** 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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[Westminster Presbyterian Church](#), organized in 1947, is a congregation of [Mission Presbytery](#), the [Synod of the Sun](#), and the [Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#).