

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3208 Exposition Boulevard

Austin, TX 78703

512-459-5497

www.wpcaustin.org

Connections @ Westminster

April 18 – May 2, 2010

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Weekly Word

1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Dear Fellow Followers of the Way:

The passage from 1 Corinthians, which is quoted above, goes on to talk about how believers in Christ have been baptized into one body and how the body needs all its various parts to function. Baptism marks our entrance into the body and we are reminded of our baptism weekly as the assurance of pardon is spoken from the font, as we celebrate Baptisms, and as we participate in the remembrance of Baptism during the Easter Vigil.

In our Baptism God claims us. It is a sign and seal of God's grace, a reminder that we cannot do anything in and of ourselves, but that what we do is in response to the grace of God. The words most frequently spoken in the church where I grew up were a reminder that we are made new.

Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiving and be at peace.

So in being made new; in receiving God's grace; and in joining the Body of Christ, what is it that we should do to respond to what we have been given?

As it is stated in 1 Corinthians 12, we have all been given spiritual gifts. We, as members of the Body of Christ, are called to make use of those gifts to serve God, the world, the church and one another. What are your gifts? What are the things that light you up from the inside? Are you the hands that serve the homeless? Are you the ears that listen to members? Are you feet that spread the good news?

We all have gifts and everyone is needed. Take a look around the church, where are opportunities to live out of your baptismal identity as a child of God and serve? It may be seemingly unlikely. When you find ways to exercise your gifts, you will be energized and filled. You will find yourself emptying yourself for others so that you may be filled again. May we all find our gifts and ways to use them to serve in the Kingdom of God!

Grace, mercy and peace,
Karen

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Calendar

Apr 18 - 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
	04:00 PM	Children's Choir	Room 14
	05:00 PM	Youth Fellowship	Annex
Apr 19 - Mon	07:00 PM	Youth Ministries Committee	Room 9
Apr 20 - Tue	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Pastor's Study
	12:00 PM	Adult Ministries Committee	Library
	05:30 PM	Admin/Finance Committee	Library
	05:45 PM	Human Resources Committee	Pastor's Study
Apr 21 - Wed	09:00 AM	WPDS Parent Conferences/Staff Inservice	Education Building
	07:00 PM	Adult Choir	Choir Room
Apr 22 - Thu	09:00 AM	WPDS Parent Conferences/Staff Inservice	Education Building
	12:15 PM	Mid-day Prayers	Sanctuary
Apr 23 - Fri	01:00 PM	Lifetime Learning	Room 10
	06:00 PM	MyConnection Class Get Together	Fellowship Hall
Apr 24 - Sat	10:00 AM	Westminster Crafting Bee	Offsite
	01:00 PM	Delta Kappa Gamma Exec. Board	Annex

Apr 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
	04:00 PM	Children's Choir	Room 14
	05:00 PM	Blessing of the Animals Service	West Lawn
Apr 27 - Tue	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Pastor's Study
	07:00 PM	Session	Fellowship Hall
Apr 28 - Wed	07:00 PM	Adult Choir	Choir Room
Apr 29 - Thu	12:15 PM	Mid-day Prayers	Sanctuary
Apr 30 - Fri	01:00 PM	Lifetime Learning	Room 10
	05:00 PM	First Presbyterian Youth Retreat	Fellowship Hall
May 1 - Sat		First Presbyterian Youth Retreat	Fellowship Hall

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Youth Sunday is April 18

This Sunday our youth will be leading our Sunday morning worship. This is a chance for them to share their many gifts with the whole congregation. The worship will be centered on the story of Saul's conversion found in Acts 9. How has an encounter with the Risen Lord left you changed? Join us for worship this Sunday!!

Westminster's Resurrection Butterfly

The Great Orange Tip butterfly was chosen this year as our symbol for the Resurrection Cross. It is native to Asia – China, Korea, Japan – India, Indonesia, Malaysia. Many Presbyterian Missionaries have lived in this part of the world in the last 200 years, serving as the “Hands of Christ.” Members of our own church include Lib Minter, Joan Smith, and Jack and Moneta Prince.

It is to remember and honor this service that this butterfly was chosen, reminding us of our responsibility and opportunity to be the “Hands of Christ” wherever we find ourselves in this shrinking world where our ability to interact draws us ever closer together.

Marian Robertson, April 2010

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From the Peace, Justice, and the Environment Sub-Committee

Interfaith Environmental Network Invites You to

Green by Faith

A time to celebrate and grow our faith commitment to environmental care.

Sunday, April 25

2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

St. David's Episcopal Church

301 E. 8th Street

Austin TX

[Interfaith Environmental Network](#) (IEN) was formed in early 2009 to inspire the Austin area faith community to claim our common call of environmental stewardship. We carry out our mission through acts of learning, community service, and influence on public policy.

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Blessing of the Animals - Sunday, April 25 at 5 p.m.

Join us as we gather on the lawn west of the Fellowship Hall for a time of worship, thanksgiving, and fellowship as we give thanks to God for all the creatures - great and small - that share our lives with us. You are invited to bring your animal(s) with you to this event, for there will be a special part in the worship service to remember and give thanks for them! *Dogs need to be on leashes; cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, snakes, gerbils, birds, and other pets need to be in their crates or cages.* Animals that are crated can rest on the cool west porch of the Fellowship Hall. We'll keep different species separate so as not to stress anyone out - human or animal! *If your animal loves you, but is not fond of other creatures (and thus does not work or play well with others) - or if your pet is no longer with you, and has died - you are invited to bring a picture of him or her to share.* Please bring a light snack (human food) to share! We'll be finished in time for you to get home for supper. See you then and there!

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POTLUCK PICNIC!

All families with children 0-5th grade: Mark your calendar for Friday, April 23rd at 5pm. We will have a potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall and the kids can play on the playground or toss balls on the lawn. Bring your favorite main or side dish, or you can email Jean Davis (jeandavis13@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

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"Where Are We Going and How Did We Get Here?"

Putting the present health reform debate in historical context"

Austin Seminary's 2010 Heyer Lecture

Wednesday, April 21 at 4:00 p.m.

Shelton Chapel

The U.S. Congress recently passed historic healthcare legislation that includes, among other provisions, important insurance and access reforms. This talk will place the present health reform effort in its historical context. Why do we have the system we have? How did we get it? How will these present reforms impact patients, physicians, and the healthcare industry? What might this mean for the future? Come hear Dr. Inrig, a historian of medicine and health policy, discuss health care reform and the factors that led us to where we are today.

Dr. Stephen Inrig will be Austin Seminary's 2010 Heyer Lecturer. He studies the history of medicine and health policy, focusing particular attention on social determinants of health, the process of health policy development, and the consequences of policy decisions on the burden of disease in vulnerable populations. He also specializes in the ethics of clinical research and public health policy on vulnerable children and minorities.

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Thank You

With the congregation's prayers and chicken soup, it looks like I am going to pull through. Hospice had only given me hours maybe a day or two to last so I am definitely a testament to all the prayers, cards, and warm thoughts of all at WPC. I will probably stay home this Sunday since I did chemo again Tuesday and will want to stay close to home, but I think you will see me again in church soon.

Please offer prayers of thanksgiving this Sunday for me and let everyone know how grateful we are to the power of prayer and all those who sent cards and hope my way. Hope to see you soon ... Richard Hernandez

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WPC Interfaith Hospitality Network Update

In 2010, WPC is continuing its support of [Foundation for the Homeless](#)' Family Promise Program otherwise known as the [Interfaith Hospitality Network](#). WPC is currently scheduled to host two more sessions this year. Our next session is June 27th through July 4th.

Our core of volunteers would like to extend an invitation to those who want to become more involved in this ministry. If you are interested in participating we would like to pair you up with one of our veteran hosts on the day and slot of your choice. You will learn from the best and always have a buddy available as you learn about this rewarding experience.

There are many ways to volunteer – and many positions only require one or two hours during the hosting week. You are also invited to involve your family. Our volunteer positions include dinner host - *preparing or serving dinner to our guests*, evening and weekend / holiday hosts - *being present, interacting with the families, and having fun* for several hours, and finally the overnight / morning hosts - *spending the night at WPC and seeing our guests off in the morning*. We also need help to set up and pack out (great for youth), management of supplies, and volunteer coordination.

If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact David Rose (daviddouglasrose@gmail.com) or Moneta Prince (myongsook@aol.com).

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From Previous Connections

WPC Prayer Shawl Ministry Begins

Do you like to knit, crochet, weave or sew? If so, this is for you! (If not, we still need your help!!) We're beginning a Prayer Shawl Ministry at WPC and we are looking for people who are interested in participating! Lap robes, prayer shawls and baptismal blankets will be made by WPC members and given to members of our church as a symbol of the church's love and prayers during times of life transition.

We plan to provide the yarn, patterns, and some suggestions for prayers to use while the item is being made. Shawls can be created at home on your own time and at your own speed or you can bring your project to the WPC Crafting Bee to work on it. You can also get help with your project and/or lessons on knitting or crochet at the Crafting Bee. You don't have to attend a group or come to the meeting to participate!!

On May 9 (Mother's Day), we will have a Moment for Mission and will set up a table in the narthex to receive donations of washable yarn, knitting needles, crochet hooks, etc. and money to help us buy yarn. It takes about \$30-35.00 of yarn to make a shawl or lap blanket. Baptismal blankets cost less to make because they are smaller.

So please help us with your donations, your creative skills and your prayers for this new ministry at WPC. For more information or to find out how to participate, contact Lesley Saunders (lesley.a.saunders@gmail.com or 512-689-7000) or Terry Allbright (TAllbrightLPC@gmail.com or 512-284-8435).

New Members'/Inquirers' Class Begins

The Westminster New Members'/Inquirers' Class begins Sunday, April 11. This four-week class will meet on Sunday mornings in the church library from 9:40-10:40. During our time together we will discuss some of the basic beliefs of the Presbyterian Church, describe the ministries taking place in and through Westminster, and provide an opportunity for participants to explore God's call to become involved in the Westminster community of faith. Those who have recently joined the church as well as those who are seeking a church home are encouraged to attend.

Southwestern University Chorale "All Bach" concert conducted by Kenny Sheppard. The orchestra will consist of Southwestern music faculty and other professional musicians, performing Johann Sebastian Bach's Magnificat, BWV 243 and Cantata 140, Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme.

Sunday, April 11, 2010, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Soloists for this performance, all members of the SU Chorale, are Catherine Klassen, Katie De La Vega, **David Shaw**, Ashley Foster, Zach Zeman, Brooke Lyssy and Brian Miller.

Southwestern Faculty members playing in the orchestra are, Eri Lam, **Adrienne Inglis**, Stephen Martin, Susan Douglas and Pam Rossman.

Lois Perkins Chapel

Free Admission

Sponsored by The Sarofim School of Fine Arts, Department of Music

Contact Lacy Vain, vainl@southwestern.edu or 512-863-1379

Southwestern University is located in historic Georgetown, a 30 minute drive north of the Texas State Capital, Austin, 1001 E. University Avenue, Georgetown, TX 78626 (512) 863-6511

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Worship

Sunday, April 18

3rd Sunday of Easter

Youth Sunday

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

After Church Elders: Ann Humphreys, Jim Lockart, Grover Campbell

Greeters: South Door, Ehrlich family; North Door, Kathy and Kathryn Taylor

Cookie Hosts: Kathy Cox and Bonnie O'Reilly

Acolytes: Phillip Doughtie, Wynn Doughtie, Julia Schriber

After-Church Flower Deliverer: Frank Baker

Sunday, April 25

4th Sunday of Easter

Preacher: Bill Clark

Liturgists: Kathy Anderson, Robert Quiring

Scripture: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Rev. 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

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

After Church Elders: Ann Scott, Lea Anne Porter, Stan Shaw

Greeters: South Door, Ann Culver and Katie Burns; North Door, Lesley Fields and Leah Griffith

Cookie Hosts: Marlene Magierski and Jean Grant

Acolytes: Elenor Griffith, Kim Griffith, Balie Griffith

After-Church Flower Deliverer:

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Adult Ministries

Adult church school, Sunday mornings 9:40 – 10:40 a.m.

WPC website!

For more detailed descriptions, please visit the

Upcoming Classes:

Forum Class – Fellowship Hall

April 11, 18 and 25 *The Love of Wisdom...How Three Ancient Greek Thinkers Can Change Our Lives: Epictetus,*

Epicurus, and Seneca

Dr. Michael Jenkins, Academic Dean & Professor of Pastoral Theology (April 11 and 25) and Dr. Lewie Donelson, the Ruth A. Campbell Professor of New Testament Studies (April 18)

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!

April 11 Acts 18 – 19:7

April 18 Acts 19:8-41

April 25 Acts 20:1-16

MYConnection Class – Room 10

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

For April and May, MyConnection will be looking at "The Developing Minds of Babies, Toddlers and Young Children," led by Dr. Ed Tyson, and "Food," covering various topics such as factory farming, cooperative farming, growing our own food, slow food, being vegetarian and appreciating where our food comes from, led by MyConnection class members. Check the website, Sunday bulletin and watch your e-mail inbox for specific dates and topics.

Also, add Friday, April 23rd to your calendars. We'll be having a potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall and on the playground starting at 5pm.

The Thoughtful Christian Class – Library

This class will meet with the Forum Class on April 11, 18, and 25.

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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 1st 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.

April 11- 25 – Resurrection Stories

May 2 - 16 - Jonah

VBS - SAVE THE DATE!!!!

WPC Vacation Bible School will be August 9-13

More information will follow.

Looking for help with crafts, science, music, and other areas. Let Karen know if you will be able to help.

Children's Choir has started!!!

Karen Wagner will be leading the children's choir this spring. They meet in Room 14 from 4:00-4:45 on Sunday afternoons. It is for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade. We will be singing for Mother's Day. A perfect time to come join in making a joyful noise!!!

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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

April 18th – no Fellowship

April 25th - All Church Blessing of the Animals

May 2nd – Confirmation Dinner – no Fellowship

Save the Date

Please let Karen know ASAP if you are interested in going on the mission trip.

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

Middle School Mission Trip Summer 2010 – June 22nd – June 25th – Waxahachie, TX Presbyterian Children's home

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

questions,

on our lives, current events,

and the role of faith in our lives.

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Fellowship

Thursday – May 6

7 p.m. @ Opal Divine's, 700 West 6th Street

Topic: *Up in the Air*

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, May 4 @ 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, April 4 – Always the 1st Sunday of the Month!

Manos always needs food. Bring non-perishable food Sunday, **April 4.** 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 \(U.S.A.\)](#).