

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3208 Exposition Boulevard

Austin, TX 78703

512-459-5497

www.wpcaustin.org

Connections @ Westminster

May 2 - 16, 2010

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Weekly Word

Dear Friends,

We've been the recipients of good preaching lately, and I'm not talking about my sermons. I am referring to the sermons that you, the members of Westminster, have preached in worship this past month. The Maundy Thursday foot washers gently bathed our feet and reminded us that we were "blessed" that night. The Good Friday readers who brought the passion narrative to life for us during the Tenebrae service. The many Easter Vigil worship leaders creatively proclaimed God's stories of salvation. Those of you who adorned the cross with a flower on Easter morning preached a sermon as well.

Two Sundays ago, eighteen of our Westminster youth led us in worship. Some of the youth retold the story of Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus. Four of the youth told of the ways in which God had opened their eyes to the presence of God's grace. Powerful, memorable preaching.

At least three sermons were preached this past Sunday at the 8:30 service. Before I preached that morning, Westminster member Richard Hernandez preached a sermon of his own. Richard has been receiving

hospice care at his home this past month, unable to eat, weakened after a long battle with cancer. But through what Richard describes as the “prayers, cards, and warm thoughts of all at WPC” and the grace of God, Richard’s appetite has returned, and he regained enough strength to join us for worship this past Sunday. His presence in the pew was a powerful sermon for the rest of us.

The third sermon of that morning was preached during the joys and concerns portion of our worship when it was announced that Richard was able to be with us. Hearing that good news, the congregation broke out into hearty applause. Imagine that, Presbyterians at the early service...clapping loudly! What a memorable sermon. I thought of Paul’s words to the church at Rome, “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” (Ro. 12:15)

Thanks be to God for all of the good sermons at Westminster! May we continue to preach and proclaim God’s Word. Lord, give us the grace to do so, always.

Faithfully yours,

Bill

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Calendar

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| May 2 - Sun | 08:30 AM | Worship / Communion | Sanctuary |
| | 09:40 AM | Church School (for all ages) | |
| | 10:40 | Fellowship | Fellowship Hall |
| | 11:00 AM | Worship / Communion | Sanctuary |
| | 04:00 PM | Children's Choir | Room 14 |
| | 06:00 PM | Confirmation Dinner | Fellowship Hall |
| May 3 - Mon | 12:00 PM | Property Committee | Room 10 |
| | 12:00 PM | Children's Ministries Committee | Library |
| | 07:00 PM | Worship Committee | Library |
| May 4 - Tue | 09:30 AM | WPDS Church Times | Sanctuary |
| | 10:00 AM | Staff Meeting | Pastor's Study |
| | 12:00 PM | Adventures | Fellowship Hall |
| | 12:00 PM | WPDS Staff | Room 10 |
| | 07:00 PM | Girl Scouts | Room 10 |
| May 5 - Wed | 09:00 AM | WPDS Church Times | Sanctuary |
| | 09:00 AM | WPDS Parent Education | Room 10 |
| | 07:00 PM | Adult Choir | Choir Room |
| May 6 - Thu | 12:15 PM | Mid-day Prayers | Sanctuary |
| | 07:00 PM | Theology on Tap | Offsite |
| May 8 - Sat | 09:00 AM | Landscape Workday | Grounds |
| May 9 - Sun | 08:30 AM | Worship / Communion | Sanctuary |
| | 09:40 AM | Church School (for all ages) | |
| | 10:40 AM | Fellowship | Fellowship Hall |
| | 11:00 AM | Worship | Sanctuary |
| | 05:00 PM | Youth Fellowship | Annex |
| May 10 - Mon | 05:45 PM | Fellowship Committee | Fellowship Hall |
| | 05:45 PM | Diaconate | Fellowship Hall |
| | 05:45 PM | Congregational Care Committee | Fellowship Hall |
| May 11 - Tue | 10:00 AM | Staff Meeting | Pastor's Study |

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|--------------|----------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | 10:30 AM | Tuesday Circle | Library |
| | 12:00 PM | WPDS Staff | Room 10 |
| | 05:30 PM | Budget Task Force | Library |
| May 12 - Wed | 06:30 PM | WPDS CPR training | Fellowship Hall |
| | 07:00 PM | Adult Choir | Choir Room |
| May 13 - Thu | 12:15 PM | Mid-day Prayers | Sanctuary |
| | 01:00 PM | Thursday Circle | Annex |
| | 06:30 PM | WPDS Board Installation and Dinner | Fellowship Hall |
| May 14 - Fri | 11:45 AM | Friday Circle | Fellowship Hall |

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Landscaping Work Day at Westminster Presbyterian Church on May 8

Please join us for a Landscaping Work Day at Westminster Presbyterian Church Saturday morning May 8 from 9 AM to 12 noon. Dress for yard work and bring all, some, or none of the following: gloves, yard waste bags, lopping shears, pruning shears, shovels, weather-appropriate clothing, and enthusiasm. Our main task is to remove Nandina and mosquito-harboring Primrose Jasmine, prune some perennials, and do a bit of weeding and raking. No expertise or experience is necessary. You may earn community service hours for helping. Park in the church parking lot and meet at the bicycle rack. Cold water and snacks will be provided. R.S.V.P. to the church office at 459-5497 or wpc@wpcaustin.org or just show up!

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Children's Choir Sings May 9

The Westminster Children's Choir has been rehearsing on Sunday afternoons and will be singing at the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, May 9. Thanks to Karen Wagner, our interim director, for leading the choir this spring.

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Flowers, Flowers, Flowers

At each Sunday worship service, Westminster is blessed with fresh flowers given generously by members and friends to the glory of God. As a part of our stewardship (to use these beautiful pieces of God's creation and to keep them from merely wilting in the sanctuary), it is our practice to take these flowers from the service of worship and distribute them to members or friends. We do this as a reminder to those recipients that they were held up in prayer and remembered by the community of faith. The Deacons who coordinate these special deliveries could use some help. It is an easy and most rewarding task.

Easy-to-follow directions are on a bulletin board in the church office. Vases for arranging the flowers after worship can be found in the library under the sink. For more information and to volunteer to help, contact Suzy Fields, 474-8412. You are needed and will find this to be a most fulfilling experience.

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Speaking of flowers, the congregation was great in answering an earlier request for flower vases. We received an abundance and we thank you. Since some of the Sunday arrangements include flowers with short stems, we are currently in need of smaller and medium sized vases. Please leave those in the church office or Fellowship Hall kitchen marked for "flower deliveries."

Many thanks for your help from the Congregational Care Committee.

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Thank You from Lifetime Learning

The Advisory Council of Lifetime Learning Institute of Austin and the students of the Institute greatly appreciate your gracious support. Without your help LLI would not be able to provide a valuable service to Austin's community of senior citizens. The Spring 2010 semester, with your support, was successful enough to allow Lifetime Learning Institute to express its appreciation through this donation as a small measure of our gratitude.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Martin, Director, and Donald R. Stotts, Site Coordinator

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Come and Celebrate Fiesta with Presbyterian Women!

Thursday, May 20th @ 6:00 pm
in the WPC Fellowship Hall

Food, Fellowship, Music and our Gifts to the Annual Birthday Offering

Need babysitting?
Contact Karen (459-5497)

Need transportation?
Contact Julie (452-8027)

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One Great Hour of Sharing Update

Dear Westminster Saints,

Our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Easter Sunday was a huge success! We more than doubled our offering this year compared to last year! In 2009, we raised just under \$2,000 and Easter Sunday 2010 we raised \$4,000. On behalf of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and the Self Development of People program, THANK YOU! As we tried to repeat every Sunday, the One Great Hour of Sharing offering raises around 20 million dollars annually for national and international projects. The money is split into thirds: one-third goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, one-third goes to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and one-third to goes to the Self Development of People program. This offering, therefore, helps those who need food, need assistance after a disaster, and helps people develop skills in order to support themselves.

I was impressed throughout the Lenten season to see the excitement about this offering from many Westminster members as they approached me and told me that they were filling up their fishy banks or when they asked me questions about the offering. Increasing our offering more than 100% from the previous year is an amazing achievement and a reminder of what we can do as a congregation. So, once again, thank you for

making this year's One Great Hour of Sharing Offering such a big success. The world *will* be a better place because of it.

Sincerely,
Robert the Intern

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C.P.R. and First Aid Training at Westminster

Westminster Presbyterian Day School is offering a great opportunity for you to participate in a combined CPR and First Aid class. They welcome parents, grandparents, nannies, babysitters, and WPC members to attend. Upon completion of the class, you will receive certification cards for CPR and First Aid that are both valid for two years. This is a 2 ½ hour class. Child care will not be provided.

May 12, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in Westminster's Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$25 per person

Reservations are necessary – RSVP by May 7
to the day school at 459-5062 or email lizswasey@wpdsaustin.org

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Worship

Sunday, May 2

5th Sunday of Easter

Preacher: Kathy Anderson

Liturgists: Bill Clark & Robert Quiring

Scripture: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

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

After Church Elders: Trey Fyfe, Debbie Mincher, Todd Davidson

Greeters: South Door, Debbie and Rick Mincher; North Door, Cristia Moore and Lis Wise

Cookie Hosts: Debbie Mincher and Cristia Moore

After-Church Flower Deliverer: Virginia Hill

Sunday, May 9

6th Sunday of Easter

Preacher: Bill Clark

Liturgists: Kathy Anderson, Robert Quiring

Scripture: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:22-22:5; John 14:23-29

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

After Church Elders: Kim Edwards, Corrinne Bowers, Jim Lockart

Greeters: South Door, Steve and Nancy Westmoreland; North Door, O. R. Schmidt and Celia Bell

Cookie Hosts: Nancy Westmoreland and George and Alice Pryor

After-Church Flower Deliverer: Angela Oliver

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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

May 2, 9, and 16 *Family Systems Understanding, Leadership, and the Life of a Congregation*

Dr. David Jones, Director – Doctor of Ministry Program, 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!

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| April 25 | Acts 20:1-16 |
| May 2 | Acts 20:17-38 |
| May 9 | Acts 21:1-26 |
| May 16 | Acts 21:1-26 |

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.

Join us in May as we wrap up discussion with Ed Tyson and begin FOOD!

May 2 - Bill Davis - Farm Animal Welfare

May 9 - Ed Tyson - Attachment to your kids, your faith, and God

May 16 - Marlene Magierski - Food Corporations

May 23 - Todd Davidson - freeing your pantry of processed foods

May 30 - Ann Marie Gonin - Community Gardening, Co-ops and starting your own garden

The Thoughtful Christian Class – Library (Sunday, May 2 – Room 6 for just this one Sunday)

Meets with the Forum class on April 25. Then, on May 2, 9, and 16, you are invited to join us for lively discussions focusing on topics related to theology, spirituality, ethics, and the Christian life.

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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.

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.

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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

May 2nd – Confirmation Dinner – no Fellowship

May 9th – Fellowship 5-7

May 16th – Fellowship 5-7

May 23rd – Fellowship – end of year family picnic

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.

Bring Your Sack Lunch and Join Us for Good Fellowship

and

Highlights of

Jack and Moneta Prince's
Trip to Israel

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS
AND COME!**

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Mission

Bring Food for Manos de Cristo on Sunday, May 2 – Always the 1st Sunday of the Month!

Manos always needs food. Bring non-perishable food Sunday, **May 2**. 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 \(U.S.A.\)](#).