

## **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

3208 Exposition Boulevard

Austin, TX 78703

512-459-5497

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

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**May 30 – June 13, 2010**

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## **Weekly Word**

Dear Fellow Followers of the Way:

I came across something I wrote when we took the youth group on an overnight to John Knox Ranch last August. As I read what I wrote as the youth were starting school, I find it just as true today as we approach the end of the school year. In the last month or so the youth have led us in worship, we have wished our graduating seniors well and we confirmed twelve young people into full membership of the church this past Sunday.

If you have not had the opportunity to get to know the youth of Westminster, you are missing out on a part of our church family. Our youth are great leaders, they are in touch with what is going on in the world, and they bring energy and joy to what they do. Like all youth, they don't always make the wisest of decisions, but they

are willing to listen and are respectful of those who help nurture and guide them (okay, parents you might disagree with me on that, but at church, we haven't had problems with this).

And it isn't just our youth. The children of Westminster bring an energy and vitality to our church family as well. Young voices lifted in praise during song time or children's choir, the sounds of laughter from the playground, watching preschoolers retell parables in Godly Play, or watching Josie Pettijohn skip down the aisle to help take up the morning offering with Chip Somerville.

The children and youth of Westminster Presbyterian church have gifts to share with all of us. They are a part of the family of God. We as the church made promises at their baptism to nurture and guide these young people. Introduce yourself to them over cookies after church, volunteer to teach a Sunday school class, get involved with the youth group as a mission trip sponsor or youth group leader. Offer special interests and hobbies you have to share with the youth group or with the children. Greet them during the passing of the peace on Sunday mornings. I encourage everyone to take time to get to know the children and youth of Westminster, I can speak from my experiences with them, you'll be glad you did!

Grace, Mercy and Peace,  
Karen

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## Calendar

May 30 - 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>
	02:30 PM	<u>APTS Graduation</u>	Univ. Pres. Church
May 31 - Mon		<u>Memorial Day - CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED</u>	
Jun 2 - Wed	12:00 PM	<u>WPDS Staff Luncheon</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Adult Choir</u>	Choir Room
Jun 3 - Thu	12:15 PM	<u>Mid-day Prayers</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Theology on Tap</u>	Offsite
Jun 6 - Sun	08:30 AM	<u>Worship/Communion</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	09:40 AM	<u>Church School (for all ages)</u>	<u>Westminster</u>
	10:40 AM	<u>Fellowship</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	11:00 AM	<u>Worship/Communion-New Member Service of Recognition and Reception</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
Jun 7 - Mon	12:00 PM	<u>Property Committee</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
	12:00 PM	<u>Children's Ministries Committee</u>	<u>Library</u>
	07:00 PM	<u>Worship Committee</u>	<u>Library</u>
Jun 8 - Tue	10:00 AM	<u>Staff Meeting</u>	<u>Pastor's Study</u>
	04:30 PM	<u>COM</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
Jun 9 - Wed	07:00 PM	<u>Adult Choir</u>	Choir Room
Jun 10 - Thu	12:15 PM	<u>Mid-day Prayers</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>

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## Meet Your New Members!

On Sunday, June 6, Westminster Presbyterian Church will formally introduce several new members to the congregation. Over the past several weeks, fourteen folks have attended our New Member/Inquirer Classes and have been officially “received by the Session.” On Sunday, June 6 they’ll be introduced during 11:00 worship, and celebrated during a cookies and punch reception in Fellowship Hall. Our newest members include: Heather Dyke; Marsha Hunt; Sarah Almén; Barbara Slade; Candy Orr; Susan Versluys; Meredith Morgan; Mike and Krystin Johnson and daughter Madeline; Kerri Krupp and daughter, Kline; Jim and Cara Firestone and sons Gavin and Connor; and Kevin and Liz Blockinger and daughter Hannah. Please check the bulletin board in the north entryway to the church for photographs and brief biographies and be looking for new faces. We are blessed to have them as part of our church family.

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## New Books Given to the Church Library

The Liturgy Sourcebooks – [Christmas](#), [Easter](#), [and Baptism](#) – have been given to the church library by the Rev. Kathy Anderson.

The [Presbyterian Handbook](#) is also new in the church library. This helpful little book has humor along with factual information; for example, a chapter on “How to Respond When Somebody Sits in Your Pew,” as well as one on “How to Read the Bible.” It has sections on “Church Stuff” (e.g., Sacraments), “Everyday Stuff” (e.g., How Presbyterians Understand Evangelism), “Bible Stuff” (“The Seven Funniest Bible Stories”), and “Presbyterian Stuff” (“Key Presbyterian Concepts”).

Come check out the library and the library table in Fellowship Hall!

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## Westminster Crafting Bee – Summer schedule

The crafting bee will meet on the last Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. with the following schedule:

June 26, Amy’s house

July 31, Annex

August 28, Amy’s house

Everyone is welcome – come craft with us. Yarn, fabric and expertise is available! Let me know if you need a ride and I’ll help you find one. Contact Amy Rose, 258-9288, or [arose@austin.rr.com](mailto:arose@austin.rr.com) for more information.

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## Old Fashioned Hymn Sing – Sunday, June 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for another rousing hymn sing as we begin our summer life together as a church! We’ll sing some of your good ‘ol favorites, as well as some “newer” hymns. **If you would like to suggest a hymn, please contact Rick & Catherine Colvin** (453-3502 or [rcolvin@austin.rr.com](mailto:rcolvin@austin.rr.com)).

### For our meal:

If your last name begins with **A – K**, please bring some **fried chicken** to share (or some version of chicken, if you don’t want to go the fried route).

If your last name begins with **L – Z**, please bring a **side dish or dessert**.

Or, if you refuse to be categorized, just bring whatever you want!

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## PC(USA) General Assembly to meet in Minneapolis – July 3-10

*“Out of the believers heart shall flow rivers of living water.” – John 7:38*

In July, the General Assembly will meet to deliberate and discuss matters that are of importance to the congregations and member of the **Presbyterian Church**. Commissioners (elders and ministers) from all 173 presbyteries (regional gatherings of congregations, WPC is part of **Mission Presbytery**) gather to worship God and to make decisions for the overall life and ministry of the PC(USA). For more information, see the GA website: <http://www.pcusa.org/ga219>.

**If you want to know more about some of the issues facing the General Assembly, come to the Forum Class on Sunday morning, June 13.** Miles White, the Stated Clerk of Mission Presbytery, will be here to share a preview with us.

Also, the **Presbyterian Outlook** is hosting 5 “webinars” that will explore one of the five key issues facing the General Assembly. Top experts on each topic will speak about the issue – pro and con – and then address your questions.

- June 1**            **Israel/Palestine Task Force Report**  
Led by Ron Shrive (pro) & Jon Wimberly (con)
- June 8**            **New FOG (Form of Government) Proposal**  
Led by Dan Williams (pro) & Gale Watkins (con)
- June 15**          **Overtures to Change or Retain Ordination Standards (Fidelity/Chastity)**  
Led by Tricia Dykers-Koenig (change) & Jerry Andrews (retain)
- June 22**          **Christian Marriage – Civil Unions Report**  
Led by Jim Szeyller (pro) & Bill Teng (con)
- June 29**          **Dialogue Papers: Jewish/Christian and Muslim/Christian**  
Led by Jay Rock, Charles Wiley & Joe Small

The one-hour Webinars will begin at 2 p.m. EST, 11 a.m. PST. The cost is \$9.95 per webinar, #34.95 for all five webinars. You'll need access to a telephone and an internet connection. Register by going to [www.pres-outlook.org](http://www.pres-outlook.org) or call 1-800-446-6008.

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### **Prayer Shawl Consecration this Sunday, May 30**

A new “prayer shawl” ministry has recently begun at Westminster. A prayer shawl is a knit, crochet, woven, or sewn shawl that is made by an individual with (or without) a specific person in mind. Most of the time, a shawl is made with a specific person in mind and prayers are woven into the shawl as it is made. This may be done by initially focusing on prayers/blessings for the recipient and continuing these prayers out loud or silently as the shawl is made. The prayer shawl symbolizes God's unconditional love for us as one is "wrapped in His love." They remind the recipient that they have been, and will continue to be, held up in prayer by their Westminster family. Shawls are given to members experiencing life transitions, such as extended illnesses, losses, and baptisms. Baptismal shawls are often an exception because they are made before the baby is born, so prayers are offered to the recipient and their family as the shawl is made.

The first group of shawls will be consecrated this Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Thank you to the following Westminster members who have made shawls and helped in launching this new ministry: Terry Allbright, Maggie Holstien, Amy Rose, Lesley Saunders, Dottie Sizer, and Cindy White.

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### **New Westminster Directories**

Our wonderful new pictorial directories have finally arrived and are ready for distribution. Thanks to Cynthia Shaw for her many hours overseeing the project; Eleanor Cochran for her grace in recruiting volunteers; Susan Cockburn for her creative hand in designing the photo layout; Carolyn Long for her leadership; Frank and Mary

Lea Baker for their editing assistance; and Rosemary Standerfer for her help and support. If you had your photo taken earlier in the year, or if you sent a photo to us, a directory with your name on it is available for you in on a table in the church library. If you did not have your photo taken, you may pick up a directory in the library as well. Please sign the list on the table to let us know you have received your directory. Limit one per family.

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## Thank You

Dear Westminster family,

We want to thank all of you for all the flowers, cards, jokes, prayers, food, and moral support that have been sent our way after Dot's fall. We have definitely been uplifted by all. As Dot continues her recuperation, we appreciate continued positive thoughts and prayers. Yet again, our church family has been instrumental in keeping us afloat during difficult times.

Much love, Dot, Margie, and Dotti

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***Save the date!***

**Sunday, Sept. 26**

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**HANDS ACROSS EXPOSITION!**

**Sponsored by:**

**Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd  
Tarrytown United Methodist Church  
Westminster Presbyterian Church**

5:00 pm: Begin at Good Shepherd  
***for games & snacks***

5:45: Walk to Tarrytown Methodist  
***for games, performances, hot dogs, and more!***

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## From Previous Connections

**Mark Your Calendars for September Mo Ranch Retreat!**

**September 10-12, 2010** (the weekend after Labor Day)...another fun at the All Church Retreat at Mo-Ranch!

**Flowers for Sunday Worship**

Westminster has a beautiful sanctuary and the arrangement of flowers each Sunday provides additional beauty and a way to give a little bit of Westminster to one of our homebound or ill members/friends each week. Thanks to those who previously signed up. There are still two Sundays available to provide the flowers: **July 4**. Please email Rosemary in the church office, [wpc@wpcaustin.org](mailto:wpc@wpcaustin.org), call her at 459-5497, or simply sign up on the flower calendar in the church office when you're here for worship on Sunday.

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## Worship

### Sunday, May 30

#### *Trinity Sunday*

**Preacher:** Bill Clark

**Liturgist:** Karen Wagner

**Scripture:** Romans 5:1-5; Psalm 8; Proverbs 8

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

**After Church Elders:** Jack Prince, Carolyn Long, Jean Davis

**Greeters:** **South Door**, Jack and Shirley Howard; **North Door**, Linda Tyler and Claire Breihan

**Cookie Hosts:** Jack and Shirley Howard and Terry Tannert

**Acolytes:** Wiley Beale, Patrick Beale, Madeline Jones

**After-Church Flower Deliverer:** Amy Hoffman

### Sunday, June 6

#### *10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**Preacher:** Bill Clark

**Liturgist:** Kathy Anderson

**Scripture:** Mark 4:1-20 *Preaching the Parables*

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

**After Church Elders:** Grover Campbell, Lesley Fields, Lea Anne Porter

**Greeters:** **South Door**, Stan Shaw and Susan Somerville; **North Door**, Meg and Emma Davidson

**Cookie Hosts:** Margery Johnson and Josie Whitley

**Acolytes:** Abigail Cain, Roger Cain, Eliza Cain

**After-Church Flower Deliverer:** Wynn Doughtie

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## Adult Ministries

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

### Upcoming Classes

#### Forum Class – Fellowship Hall

**May 30**

#### *What Are Your Spiritual Gifts?*

We read a lot about spiritual gifts in the New Testament. Believe it or not, all of us possess some sort of spiritual giftedness! Come join a discussion with **Rev. Bill Clark** to learn more about spiritual gifts, and to discover what yours are – and how you might offer them at WPC.

**June 6**

#### *The Amazing Faith of Westminster*

The annual summer favorite is back! We'll have several of these classes over the course of the summer, and each time, two WPC members will share a bit of their life story and faith journey with us.

## June 13 **General Assembly Preview**

Miles White, the Stated Clerk of Mission Presbytery, will be with us to offer a preview of what will be discussed at this year's General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). He'll cover some of the "hot topics" that will be discussed, as well as some of the lesser-known issues that will be on the minds and hearts of Presbyterians this summer.

## **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!

<b>May 30</b>	Acts 24:1-27
<b>June 6</b>	Acts 25:1-27
<b>June 13</b>	Acts 26:1-32

## **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 as we continue our discussion of FOOD!

**May 30 Anne Marie Gonin** – Community Gardening, Co-ops, and starting your own garden

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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.

**Start June 6<sup>th</sup> the preschoolers will meet together to find out if God has a favorite color?**

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 is on break for the summer. Thank you to all the parents who have faithfully supported this program. It wouldn't happen without your help and your willingness to volunteer as storytellers and doorkeepers.**

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

May 30<sup>th</sup> – Salt and Light

June 6-Aug 15 - Parables

**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

Thank you to the Cox-Cain family and the Pass family for the great meal at the family cookout! A huge thank you to Suzanne Plummer for organizing meals and for all the parents who have cooked for the youth group. Fellowship is done for the summer. So no regular Sunday evening activity. However, we will be looking at some dates to go to Barton Springs, Schlitterbahn and some other possible outings.

Also once we know dates in early August we will look for times to help with Manos de Cristo back to school.

And of course we need as many youth as are around to help with VBS August 9-13!!!

**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 20<sup>th</sup> – June 26<sup>th</sup> – To Texas City for Hurricane Clean up with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.**

**Middle School Mission Trip Summer 2010 – June 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 25<sup>th</sup> – 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 on our lives, current events, questions, and the role of faith in our lives.

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**Fellowship**

**Thursday – June 3**  
**7 p.m. @ Opal Divine’s, 700 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Film Topic: *Second Hand Lions***

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.

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**Mission**

**Bring Food for Manos de Cristo on Sunday, June 6 – Always the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month!**  
**Manos always needs food.** Bring non-perishable food Sunday, **June 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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[Westminster Presbyterian Church](#), organized in 1947, is a congregation of [Mission Presbytery](#), the [Synod of the Sun](#), and the [Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#).

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