

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3208 Exposition Boulevard

Austin, TX 78703

512-459-5497

www.wpcaustin.org

Connections @ Westminster

September 5 - 19, 2010

All New This Week

[Weekly Word](#)

[Calendar](#)

[The Connections Café Keeps Coming Our Way!](#)

[New Seminary Intern for Westminster](#)

[It's Time for ... Hand's Across Exposition!](#)

[Thank You Notes](#)

[Godly Play Begins September 19](#)

[Theology on Tap](#)

[Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Opportunities](#)

From Previous Connections

[Your Input is Needed for Minter Alternative Gift Market](#)

[Remember to Bring Food for Manos de Cristo](#)

Regular Attractions

[Worship - Are You an After-Church Elder, Greeter, Cookie Host, Acolyte?](#)

[Are You Scheduled to Deliver Flowers After 11 a.m. Worship?](#)

[Mission](#)

[Children's Ministries](#)

[Youth Ministries](#)

[Adult Ministries](#)

[Fellowship](#)

[Daily Scripture Readings](#)

Weekly Word

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Dear Fellow Followers of the Way:

I have been reading a book entitled Shift. It is a book about family ministry based on the Shema. These verses have long been a part of daily prayer life of Judaism. As you read the verses above, the first part is a declaration of One God and of having faith with all that we are in that One God. Then in verse 7 we are instructed to recite these words to your children and to talk about them at home and away.

While this text is nothing new, it is a great reminder to all of us that church and home are inseparable. Parents are the primary religious educators as children learn from watching their parents. Prayers at mealtimes, at the beginning and/or end of the day, and reading the Bible are great ways for families to engage in spiritual disciplines at home.

If you feel like you don't know the Bible stories, get a children's Bible and read stories with your children. Talk about what happens in the story and where God is acting. Ask your children where they have seen God in the world today. Maybe in the sunset, or in a bright blue sky, maybe they have seen God in someone they interacted with at school or at the store with you.

Get involved in the life of the church as well. When children know their parents are going to Sunday school or going to worship, they see that as well. There are several Sunday School classes for adults as well as different opportunities for children. Serve as a greeter and have your child serve with you; have your elementary student sing in the children's choir, have your youth participate in youth group events, come to all church events like the retreat at Mo Ranch or the upcoming events such as Hands Across Exposition or the Barn Dance. Let your children see your faith at home and help them build it by becoming an active part of the church family of Westminster. We are a great family of faith. Let us all remember to serve the One True God with all that we are and to tell our children about God.

Grace, Mercy and Peace,

Karen

[\[back to top\]](#)

Calendar

Sep 5 - Sun		<u>IHN begins</u>	
	08:30 AM	<u>Worship / Communion</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	08:30 AM	<u>PW Board</u>	<u>Library</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 / Communion</u>	<u>Sanctuary</u>
	05:00 PM	<u>Youth Fellowship</u>	<u>Annex</u>
	05:00 PM	<u>Children's Choir</u>	Room 14
Sep 6 - Mon		<u>IHN</u>	
		<u>CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED/LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</u>	
Sep 7 - Tue		<u>IHN</u>	
	12:00 PM	<u>Adventures</u>	<u>Fellowship Hall</u>
	06:30 PM	<u>Girl Scout Leaders</u>	<u>Room 10</u>
Sep 8 - Wed	12:00 PM	<u>Stewardship Committee</u>	<u>Library</u>
		<u>IHN</u>	

	07:00 PM	<u>Adult Choir</u>	Choir Room
Sep 9 - Thu		<u>IHN</u>	
	12:15 PM	<u>Mid-day Prayers</u>	Sanctuary
	01:00 PM	<u>Thursday Circle</u>	Annex
Sep 10 - Fri		<u>IHN</u>	
		<u>All Church Retreat at Mo Ranch</u>	
	11:45 AM	<u>Friday Circle</u>	Library
Sep 11 - Sat		<u>IHN</u>	
		<u>All Church Retreat at Mo Ranch</u>	
Sep 12 - Sun		<u>IHN ends</u>	
		<u>All Church Retreat at Mo Ranch</u>	
	08:30 AM	<u>Worship / Communion</u>	Sanctuary
	09:40 AM	<u>Church School (for all ages)</u>	
	10:40 AM	<u>Fellowship</u>	Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	<u>Worship</u>	Sanctuary
	04:00 PM	<u>Children's Ministries Committee</u>	Library
	05:00 PM	<u>Youth Fellowship</u>	Annex
	05:00 PM	<u>Children's Choir</u>	Room 14
Sep 13 - Mon	12:00 PM	<u>Property Committee</u>	Room 10
	12:00 PM	<u>Budget Task Force</u>	Room 9
	12:30 PM	<u>Adult Ministries Committee</u>	Library
	05:45 PM	<u>Human Resources Committee</u>	Pastor's Study
	07:00 PM	<u>Worship Committee</u>	Library
Sep 14 - Tue	09:00 AM	<u>WPDS Committee Meeting</u>	Room 10
	10:00 AM	<u>Staff Meeting</u>	Pastor's Study
	10:30 AM	<u>Tuesday Circle</u>	Library
Sep 15 - Wed	09:00 AM	<u>WPDS Parent Education</u>	Room 10
	10:00 AM	<u>Lifetime Learning</u>	Fellowship Hall
	07:00 PM	<u>Adult Choir</u>	Choir Room
Sep 16 - Thu	12:15 PM	<u>Mid-day Prayers</u>	Sanctuary
	07:00 PM	<u>Nominating Committee</u>	Pastor's Study
	06:00 PM	<u>Travis Audubon Society</u>	Fellowship Hall
	07:30 PM	<u>WPC Book Group</u>	Offsite
Sep 17 - Fri	02:00 PM	<u>Lifetime Learning</u>	Room 10

[\[back to top\]](#)

The Connections Café Keeps Coming Our Way!

It's now less than (barely...) two months away! October is coming this year to Austin with attractions, thrills, and The Big WPC Event! There's a cornucopia of options approaching for WPC's artistes, music lovers, and performers, even those still unconnected.

Here are some very good tips. Start the month with the ACL Music Festival October 8-10 or the Gruene Music and Wine Fest the same dates. The Austin Film Festival happens October 21-28 and you can opt for The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Mozart concert on October 22. The best tip of all for the unconnected (or connected) WPC performing art aficionado is definitely the Connections Café in the Fellowship Hall on October 24th. Definitely.

The unconnected performing art aficionado will discover our outstanding music program involves everyone, regardless of age or skill. Our musicians fill the sanctuary with praise, add spice to events, educate, and provide an outlet for all who love to worship God through song. The **Adult Choir** sings a wide variety of musical styles at Sunday service and special occasions, including at least one major work per year with orchestral accompaniment. Get singing! Get connected at the Café.

For the unconnected film buff, why not visit **Theology on Tap** at the Café? This connected, with-it, and tres-hip group meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at an Austin venue appropriate for thoughtful and lively theological conversation, fun, good food, and beer! Come from work, get a sitter for the kids, bring a friend, eat dinner, or just enjoy some "liquid dessert!"

Remember and heed what the sagacious Yogi Berra once said; "When you come to a fork in the road, take it."

Keep watching this connections news spot, or miss your connection!

[\[back to top\]](#)

New Seminary Intern for Westminster

Welcome to Caitlin Deyerle, Westminster's new seminary intern. Caitlin is a senior student at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She is a member of the Sandia Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico and graduated from Rice University with a B.A. in Psychology and Religious Studies. Caitlin's husband, James Deyerle, also a Rice graduate, is an engineer at the Texas Railroad Commission in Austin.

Caitlin will be leading worship at both the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services this Sunday and will also be joining us for the Mo Ranch retreat. She will be involved in ministry with our youth throughout the year and have opportunities to teach children and adults during church school classes. Be sure to give Caitlin a warm Westminster welcome!

[\[back to top\]](#)



It's Time for ...

Hands Across Exposition!

Sunday, September 26

5:00 p.m. Meet at Church of the Good Shepherd

5:45 p.m. Move to Tarrytown United Methodist Church
(Transportation will be provided for those unable to walk.)

Food, Fun, Fellowship

Please have your children and youth wear a white t-shirt for a craft project.

Be sure to bring blankets!

[\[back to top\]](#)

Thank You Notes

Thank You from Hazel Herring

Hazel Herring and her family would like to thank Westminster members for their many kindnesses. Your prayers, visits, cards, and flowers are greatly appreciated. Hazel is continuing her stay at the Westminster Manor Health Care Center, room 610.

Thank You from Ruth Brownlow

Dear friends in my Westminster family,

You made my 95th birthday such a special day! Thank you for the cards, flowers, notes, and calls. I am so fortunate to have had 63 years as a member of this church.

Much love,
Ruth Brownlow

A Note from Liz Blockinger

Although recovery is a slow process, it's getting better day by day. Through God's grace I will stay strong and beat this.

I just wanted to thank all of you for your gift of prayers and well wishes. Also, thank you so much for the prayer shawl. I love it!

Sure miss seeing all of you ☺ and being there! I'll try and keep you all updated a little better. Right now I'm trying to finish up radiation – ending date 9/22/10. I will have to stay on chemo for sometime thereafter.

Love to you all!

The Blockinger family

A Thank You from Manos de Cristo

Dear friends,

The children of Austin and Manos de Cristo would like to thank you for your generous support and contributions to this year's Back to School Program. With over 475 volunteers we were able to serve 2,249 children with two changes of clothes, backpacks and school supplies, providing them with the necessary tools for a successful school year. Thank you so much, it is only through your support that we are able to provide this much needed service to our community!

I feel very fortunate to be a part of such a great organization, and blessed to be able to carry out Christ's mission of love. Please join us in the future as we continue to practice our *Love in Action*.

Faithfully yours,

Julie Ballesteros,
Executive Director-Manos de Cristo

[\[back to top\]](#)

From Previous Connections

Your Input is Needed for Minter Alternative Gift Market

As we look forward to the Minter Alternative Gift Market, let us know which organizations that you would like to be recipients of our gifts.

Please email your suggestions to Rosemary Standerfer in the church office, wpc@wpcaustin.org. Thank you.

[\[back to top\]](#)

Worship

Sunday, September 5

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Bill Clark
Liturgist: Caitlin Deyerle
Scripture: Jeremiah 18:1-11, Psalm 139, Luke 14:25-33

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

After Church Elders: Lea Anne Porter, Jim Lockart, Stan Shaw
Greeters: **South Door**, Jack and Shirley Howard; **North Door**, Kathy Taylor
Cookie Hosts: Cara Firestone and Josie Whitley
Acolytes: Markley Ehrlich, Louisa Ehrlich, Justina Lange
After-Church Flower Deliverer: Frank Baker

Sunday, September 12

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preacher: Bill Clark
Scripture: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

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

After Church Elders: Carolyn Long, Jack Prince, Ann Scott
Greeters: **South Door**, Bryan and Lesley Saunders; **North Door**, MaryAnne Ater and Ann Culver
Cookie Hosts:
Acolytes: Wiley Beale, Patrick Beale, Madeline Jones
After-Church Flower Deliverer: Corrinne Bowers

[\[back to top\]](#)

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

September 5 ***Children: God's Gift, Our Calling***
LifeWorks Austin

LifeWorks is Austin's only non-profit organization to provide a continuum of services to youth and families, addressing critical needs to achieve lasting, positive change. By working in areas of housing, counseling, and education, LifeWorks helps homeless youth achieve self-sufficiency and avoid long-term dependency on social services; provides children and youth in at-risk situations with the support, knowledge and skills necessary to reduce the occurrence of behaviors that negatively impact opportunities for life success; and strengthens families dealing with crisis, emotional distress and violence by helping them build on inherent strengths, utilize existing resources, develop emotional competencies, employ family roles effectively, and improve communication and advocacy skills. **Come learn more about this vital and valuable outreach to the children and youth of Austin.**

September 12 **Questions that You've Always Wanted to Ask But Never Had the Chance!**

Have you ever had a question about church, God, or faith that you've always wanted to ask, but never had the opportunity? Or, is there something that you've always wondered about that you want to ask about? If so, come join us for an informal Q & A time with Rev. Bill Clark. You'll have the opportunity to write down your question, put it into a box, and have it chose to be talked about. Come one, come all! There are no bad, stupid, or wrong questions!

September 19 & 26 **Hope for the Thinking Christian: Seeking a Path of Faith Through Everyday Life**

We welcome Dr. Steven Reese, Jesse H. Jones Professor of Journalism, UT College of Communication, for two weeks as we focus on the following:

Where does the thinking Christian fit in the Body of Christ and community of faith? That question has become more critical as the world-wide call of fundamentalism has encouraged a style of absolutist belief, tribalism, and self-righteousness at odds with tolerance, community, and a rewarding life of the spirit. Meanwhile, in the communities of our daily lives--whether work, home, or family--diversity of belief has become more the rule than the exception. Surveys show that the ranks of the unaffiliated believers have grown, especially among young people, and Americans are less likely than ever to follow the faith tradition they were raised with—to have their beliefs handed to them. That makes it all the more important that we think the faith journey through, rejecting false absolutes in favor of tolerance and openness to the grace and mysteries of God in daily living.

In working through his own response as a thoughtful believer to the question “Where do I fit?” Dr. Reese engages this dialog at the intersection of theology and personal spirituality. These devotional reflections explore the faith journey we all take through “everyday life,” confronting the challenge of staying spiritually intentional in a busy world of demands from work and family. The author explores the special difficulty faced by men in being vulnerable and open about their faith and inner life. Paul’s message of God’s “power made perfect in weakness” describes a basic principle of Christian discipleship, but the false certainties of belief, politics, and professional competence, make living that principle difficult.

Join us for a very rich two weeks!

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!

September 5 I Corinthians 1 – 2:5
September 12 I Corinthians 2:6 – 3:23
September 19 I Corinthians 4 – 5

MyConnection – Room 10

Blessings of a Skinned Knee (September 29 - October 3)

Join us as WPC member Marlene Magierski leads us in this study.

[\[back to top\]](#)

Children’s Ministries

Preschoolers: On Sunday mornings preschoolers ages 2-5 start in room 14. Their teachers will pick them up and take them to their respective classrooms. The 2’s and 3’s meet in room 5 and the 4’s and 5’s meet in room 4. Both LAMBS classes are studying God Made Our Family for the next few weeks.

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.

Elementary Age Children: Dwelling Places meets in Room 13. This is the class for 1st -5th graders. This Sunday we will be starting a new curriculum, “Seasons of the Spirit.” It follows the lectionary readings which we use in worship. We are excited about this new curriculum and think it will help us tie worship and Sunday school together.

Attention Parents: Godly Play for 3-5 year olds will begin on September 19 during 11:00 a.m. worship.

[\[back to top\]](#)

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

Sept 10-12 – All Church Retreat at Mo Ranch

Sept 19th – 5-7 Swim Party at the Richardson’s

Sept 26th – Serving Hot Dogs at Tarrytown UMC with Youth from Tarrytown and Good Shepherd for Hands Across Exposition.

Oct 3rd - Fellowship at the Annex

Oct 10th All Church Barn Dance

Oct 17th Fellowship TBA

Oct 24th Trunk or Treat

12)

Room

resources focusing

Middle School (Grades 6 – 7)

Meets in the Annex Living Room

Senior High (Grades 9 –

Meets in the Annex Red

Topic: A variety of

events, questions,
our lives.

on our lives, current
and the role of faith in

* * * * *

[\[back to top\]](#)

Fellowship

Theology on Tap

Thursday – Oct. 7

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

Film Topic: ???

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.

[\[back to top\]](#)

Mission

Bring Food for Manos de Cristo on Sunday, Sept. 5 – Always the 1st Sunday of the Month!

Manos always needs food. Bring non-perishable food Sunday, **Sept. 5**. 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.

[Westminster Presbyterian Church](#), organized in 1947, is a congregation of [Mission Presbytery](#), the [Synod of the Sun](#), and the [Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#).