

Westminster Presbyterian Church

1285 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

319-366-7185

319-366-7187 (Fax)

www.crwpc.org

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Worship Times

Saturday

5:30 p.m. casual service in the Atrium

Sunday

9:00 a.m. contemporary service in the Family Life Center

10:30 a.m. traditional service in the Sanctuary

Communion is served on the first weekend of each month.

Pastor Don Houdeshell: pastor@crwpc.org

Associate Pastor Jim Langley: jlangley@crwpc.org

A.J. Plummer: cedirector@crwpc.org

Director of Student Ministries, Leah Romanelli: lromanelli@crwpc.org

Business Manager, Marilyn Shoger: mshoger@crwpc.org

Church Secretary, Christina Anderson: westmin@crwpc.org



August 2010

Volume 25, Issue 8

Another Thought About Stewardship

This fall's stewardship campaign theme is "Faithfulness Sustains the Generations". The theme is anchored in God's Word: "Know that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations." (Deuteronomy 7:9) That theme seems particularly appropriate for Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC) where up to three generations from several families worship and serve God. The theme underscores the reality that many generations have grown in their faith and have served God through the mission and ministries of Westminster in its 155 year history. Were it not for the faithfulness and sacrifices of previous generations, we would not be able to enjoy and participate in the work, worship and witness of Westminster in 2010 as we look toward the year 2011 with eager anticipation.

In 2005 the congregation celebrated the 150th anniversary of Westminster Presbyterian Church's birth. Licentiate, Rev. Richard Morrow and his wife, Nannie, came to Cedar Rapids in 1855 to gather a nucleus of believers. In the first four years, 72 people had committed to membership in the new church. The first church building was erected in 1858 at a cost of \$3500. (pp.5-6. *Sharing the Spirit – The History of Westminster Presbyterian Church*)

We find some revealing facts in the "Statistical Snapshot for Westminster Presbyterian Church for the calendar year of 2009", on the Presbyterian Church (USA) website www.pcusa.org. Westminster had 713 members at the end of 2009. The average PC(USA) congregation had 195 members. Westminster had 248 enrolled in Christian Education. The average C.E. enrollment for all Presbyterian congregations was 114. Overall contributions to the mission and ministry of Westminster were \$547,052. These contributions were larger than the average of \$237,343 for all PC(USA) churches.

It is tempting to think of stewardship in purely material terms, and that it is members and money alone that sustain the mission and ministry of the Gospel community. True, members and money undergird the mission of the church. True, the church has to have sound business practices. It would be wrong, however, to base a stewardship campaign on the desire to get more members and more money. I would like to suggest couching stewardship in spiritual terms. The unseen is the real world for believers. Faith, hope and love are the things that last. If faithfulness sustains the generations, what is it that truly sustains you? Is it not the drink that quenches your thirst, namely, the living water of Jesus Christ? Is it not the food that satisfies your hunger, that is, the bread of heaven? Is it not prayer alone with God? Is it not time spent in reading the Bible? Is it not the inspiring anthem by the choir or sermon by the pastor? Is it not the lesson by the Sunday school teacher? Is it not feeding the hungry? Is it not building a house for the homeless? The church is the Gospel community where our faith is birthed and nurtured by the power of the Holy Spirit. The church is the Jesus followers who keep us accountable and on track in our commitments to grow in faith, serve God and make this world a kinder, gentler place.

Keep your eyes and your ears open over the next few weeks and months. You'll be seeing and hearing more about how all of us can be challenged to grow in our understanding and practice of biblical stewardship to the end that "Faithfulness Sustains the Generations".

Yours in Christ,

Interim Pastor Don

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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1285 Third Avenue South East

Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403-4084

A MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION

THE VOICE OF WESTMINSTER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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PASTORAL PREFACE

What has impressed me the most in my first ten weeks as a resident of Cedar Rapids and Interim Pastor of Westminster, is the amazing resilience of the people here. The city is in the early stages of recovery from the June 13, 2008 flood. The city is two years in to what normally takes ten years of rebuilding. I read that the 2008 flood ranks somewhere around #5 in the top ten natural disasters experienced in the United States. Westminster, along with the hospitals and other churches and institutions, lost the common source of its steam heat after the flood. Less than two years ago the congregation was hustling to replace the steam heat at considerable cost. No doubt many members and friends experienced losses from the flood related to their business, jobs and homes. People picked up the pieces and carried on. The Science Station, flooded out of downtown, relocated to Westminster and the program continued.

A few Monday evenings ago, Julie and I had dinner in the Family Life Center with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance volunteers from First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, NE. They were staying in the basement of WPC's new addition. Each week through July, church groups from around the nation were at Westminster and engaging in flood recovery.

My first experience with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance was when I was the Interim Pastor of Faith Community Church (Reformed Church in America) in Littleton, Colorado. Faith Church was just across the park from Columbine High School. I stood in the parking lot and watched the television helicopters overhead the day of the tragic shooting and loss of fifteen lives in April 1999. The church secretary's two daughters were in the lockdown of Columbine High School. The girls were hiding inside Columbine for over four hours. They heard the gunfire and one of them saw the shooters. The two girls communicated with their mother by cell phone. The youth pastor rushed to the scene where parents were gathering in the elementary school library across the street from Columbine High. The day following the disaster, Faith Church held an evening service and prayer vigil. A couple hundred teenagers were there. I watched with amazement as Columbine High School students hugged and comforted each other. The tears flowed freely. Faith Community Church also hosted Christian media in the Fellowship Hall for a month or so after the disaster struck. The Community Memorial Service, planned by the Jefferson County School District, was a collaborative effort between the Littleton clergy, school teachers and administrators. The planning took place in the narthex of Faith Community Church.

One Monday evening Julie and I watched the DVD, *Epic Surge*, so skillfully produced by television's KCRG, Channel 9. I found myself caught up in the story of the 500 year flood and choking back the tears. While the disaster I had experienced firsthand in Littleton, Colorado near Columbine High School was different, it was nonetheless traumatic. Recovery began the next day after the shooting in terms of the spiritual resources we had available to us. When we don't know what else to do, we pray. We sing. We cry. We hug. When we don't know what else to do, we go to church. The resources of our faith flow deep and wide and provide us the comfort and the hope we need in times of loss.

The quote that leapt out at me in *Epic Surge* came from the pastor of the Methodist Church on the SW side that was wiped out by the flood. I cannot remember it word for word but it was something like, "There is no need to fear the future because God is already there."

A new day is dawning for Cedar Rapids and Eastern Iowa communities. A new day is dawning for Westminster Presbyterian Church. Evidence of the 2008 flood is still visible, but so are the signs of recovery says Greg Eyerly, Director of Cedar Rapids Flood Recovery in *The Gazette* newspaper, June 9, 2010. Still, Eyerly says, "After two years, we're just starting to get it that this is a long, long process." And so Eyerly and others are counseling patience in the recovery effort. We need to be patient, too, as we move through this time of transition between called and installed pastors. There is much still to be accomplished before we are ready to call a new pastor and, as they say, "Rome wasn't built in a day". In this case, we are not building Rome; with God's help and inspiration, we are building the faith and mission of God's Gospel community, Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Faithfully,
Don

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR AUGUST 2010

Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Greeters/Ushers

August 7th Don & Sherryl Hoepfner
August 14th TBA
August 21st TBA
August 28th Youth Sunday

9:00 a.m. Greeters/Ushers

August 1 Kim & Katherine Brokaw
August 8 Jack Brokaw & Sheridan Sealy
August 15 Kristina Farrington & David Marner
August 22 Terry Tiede & Jacob Alff
August 29 Brad Lock & Katie Carfizzi

10:30 a.m. Head Usher

Jerry Daugherty

10:30 a.m. Greeters

August 1 Joanne Koza & Chuck Davis
August 8 Jack & Nancy Evans
August 15 Herb & Carm Hammerberg
August 22 Dale Crosier & Laura Cummings
August 29 Darlene Cox & Luman Colton

10:30 a.m. Ushers

August 1 Chuck & Mary Jo Crull, Dee Davis, Herb & Carm Hammerberg
August 8 Ted Kahler, Jean Kenison, Flora Kitzman, Carl & Velma Kintzel
August 15 Donelle Daughtery, Betty Van Fossen, Berta Mullin, Signe Munson, Debra Salz-Steenblock
August 22 Kent Steenblock, Jim & Cheryl Shanklin, Bob & Joan Zirbel
August 29 Emily Sweet, Terry Tiede, Lemi Tilahun, Gary & Vicki Owens

Offering Stewards

August 1 Butch Hataway & Dale Crosier
August 2 Kathryn Phares
August 8 Tom Read & Doug Wagner
August 9 Connie Hayes
August 15 Jim Sankey & Marcia Elhart
August 22 Jenna Alff & Mike Zimmermann
August 23 Dick Cornish
August 29 Jackie Alff & Debbie Richardson
August 30 Ed Brunsting

Nursery Volunteers

9:00 a.m.
August 1 Macy Ripley
August 8 Wreese Marner
August 15 Jessie Alff
August 22 Tricia Brown & Hailey Voyek

August 29 Jordan Entsminger

10:30 a.m.

August 1 Lauren Zimmermann
August 8 Jack Brokaw
August 15 Dee Davis
August 22 Andrea Schoenbeck
August 29 Marcia Elhart

Handicap Host / Flower Delivery

August 1 Randy Walton
August 8 Fran Hanzel Johnson
August 15 Kirk Lampe
August 22 Signe Munson
August 29 Bob Warner

Coffee Hosts

August 1 Herb & Carm Hammerberg
August 8 Alice Snarskis & Dale Weiske
August 15 Bryan & Nancy Hawkins
August 22 Jerry & Donelle Daugherty
August 29 Dee Davis & Abbie Smith

9:00 a.m. Communion Servers

Pat Thies, David & Linda Cosgrove, Tim Stolba

11:00 a.m. Communion Servers

Mary Tyler, Luman Colton, Beth Roof, John Ruth, Randy Walton, David Marner, Kim Langley, Dale Weiske

Current Deacons

Tricia Brown
Katie Carfizzi (youth)
Linda Cosgrove
Jennifer Edwards
Marion Engel
Carol Ferguson
Fran Hanzel Johnson
Ted Kahler
Lois Kahler
Kirk Lampe
Glenn Lane
Stephanie Martinez
Signe Munson
Vicki Owens
Nancy Ritter
Deb Sprague
Pat Thies
Randy Walton
Bob Warner
Tim Winegarden

Current Elders

Jackie Alff
Jenna Alff (youth)
David Basler
Dale Crosier
Marcia Elhart
Butch Hataway
Kathie Lane
David Marner
Tom Read
Debbie Richardson
Rich Ripley
Jim Sankey
Tim Stolba
John Swanson
Doug Wagner
Martha Wilding
Sue Winegarden
Mike Zimmermann

NEIGHBORHOOD MEALS & ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The N.M.E.P. summer lunch program began on June 14th. June has been a busy month at both meal sites. A total of 4,902 meals were served: **Imago Christi Church- 2126 meals** (Boys and Girls Club and the Neighborhood - 1606; Matthew 25 - 520) and **St. Paul's United Methodist Church - 2776 meals** (The Bridge - 770; St. Paul's SPRINT and the Neighborhood - 2006). We want to thank all of our members who have volunteered to help. A special "Thank You" to the Westminster youth group who worked in the St. Paul's dining room the week of July 5th.

There are a number of unfilled volunteer slots for July and August. The St. Paul's sign-up boards are downstairs at St. Paul's. Imago Christi also has sign-up boards in the downstairs of Imago Christi. Volunteers are **badly needed for the Imago Christi site**. You may call Ruth Nash at 366-036 or Mary Jo Crull at 364-3682 if you can help. Your assistance is **needed and appreciated**. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LESLIE WRIGHT

WPC member, Leslie Wright, has received the "Rebuild Iowa Award for Service". This award recognized Iowans who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in Iowa's 2008 disaster recovery efforts. Way to go, Leslie!! We're proud of you!



WELCOME ON BOARD FOR THE 2010 S.A.M. "FALL FOLIAGE CRUISE"

On Wednesday, September 29th we will meet at Westminster to travel to Dubuque, IA in one of Cedar Valley World Travel's new motor coaches. There we will board the "Celebration Belle" for a relaxing trip on the Mississippi River. This trip is planned for **all ages** and is **not limited** to Westminster members, so bring your family and call a friend (or friends) and invite them to join us. There will be great (and abundant) food, entertainment, and the opportunity to spend time with fellow travelers. This trip is planned to provide **maximum** beautiful scenery with a **minimum** of walking.

Registration for the trip began on July 4th and will **continue through August 29th**. Payment is requested when you make your reservation. Detailed information is available at the sign-up tables and S.A.M. members will be available to answer questions. SO -- mark September 29th on your calendars and join the fun!!

FINANCE CORNER

June was a bit of a disappointment in revenue. Hopefully, July & August will pick up in revenue. The general contributions in June were \$32,234. You should have received your 6-month contribution statement by now. Let me know if you have any questions,

<u>General Contributions thru June 30, 2010</u>	
Amount Budgeted	\$274,842
Amount Received	<u>256,972</u>
Deficit	\$ -17,870

I'm sure you have noticed how nice our 3rd Ave Parking Lot looks. Since we have 3 separate parking lots, I try to have one sealed every summer. It really helps the longevity of the black top to seal the cracks and the whole area. The striping also looks nice when new and visible.

Marilynn Shoger

JOTTINGS FROM PASTOR JIM

I've been thinking a lot recently about numbers...specifically, attendance numbers. Now, they taught us in seminary not to measure church health by counting the people in the pews on Sunday morning, but sometimes it just can't be helped. And summer is one of those times!

One of the things I've come to dislike about summer is the fact that church attendance tends to drop. Family vacations are scheduled, the weather's too nice to go to church, the kids aren't in school so you can actually sleep in...believe me, I know all the excuses, and I've even thought about figuring out how to use them myself from time to time! But as a pastor, there is always this lingering doubt in the dark recesses of my brain, "What if they don't come back? What if a little hiatus from church turns into a permanent break?" And that does happen! One week quickly becomes two, then two becomes three and pretty soon, a couple of months have passed. Suddenly, without even deciding to, you've dropped quietly out of the public worship of God.

Has that ever happened to you? Is it happening right now? If so, as we begin this final month of summer, I would encourage you to get back into the church habit. Before school starts and life gets even busier, make the time to come back to worship. Going to church is a commitment, the fulfillment of a promise we made when we decided to be active members in the church of Jesus Christ.

As the church, we exist to worship God; and we miss more than we can ever know when we don't make time for God in our lives. Now, I know the argument: church attendance isn't all there is to being a Christian...and that's true! But I also know that no Christian stands alone. Like the different parts of the human body, the body of Christ needs each of its members if it's going to be a complete and whole body.

I also know those other arguments that are often used for not going to church: it's boring. I don't like the way the pastor preaches. I don't like what the pastor chooses to preach about. I don't think our denomination is heading in the right direction. But here's the thing: worship isn't about us! It's not about our preferences or the pastor or our denomination. Worship is about God! It's about being thankful for all that God has done for us. It's about seeking God's grace and guidance for our lives. It's about rejoicing in God's love. By going to church you do yourself a world of good; by staying away, you do nobody any good. I hope you'll give some thought to your church commitment and that I'll see you in church this Sunday!

Pastor Jim

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Christmas Toy Give-Away

Yes, Christmas! For the past six years our Children's Ministry has reached out to our neighbors with the gift of Christmas toys. Last year by the first of December, we had very few toys collected and we talked about canceling the project. Well, the congregation came through with the biggest give-away ever! **But** we don't want to be in that position again this December. Toys can be brought to the church at any time. And remember the project this summer at all those great garage sales!

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for **August 4th!!** As part of Vacation Bible School along with the help of the Deacons, Westminster will be hosting an Ice Cream Social for the church and the immediate community from **7-8 P.M.** in the church parking lot. Come and have some free ice cream and enjoy the live music while we reach a welcoming hand to those around us. Loaves and Fishes, Kids' Closet, and our local HyVee stores will all be represented as a way of promoting those missions that most directly influence our neighbors. So **come together** for some cool eats and fun in the sun. Won't you be my neighbor?

"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." - Matthew 18:20

LIFE GROUPS

“LIFE Groups” is the name of Westminster’s small group ministry program. LIFE is an acronym for Living In Faith Everyday, which is what these groups help us do. Westminster has LIFE Groups that meet in a variety of locations at a variety of times. Some meet weekly; some meet every other week. Each group has its own focus – from book discussions to Bible studies to women’s and men’s groups. To learn more about joining a LIFE Group, please contact Kay Basler at 550-2614 or email her at ksbangel@mchsi.com. Or, you can also contact Pastor Jim for more information by emailing him at jlangley@crwpc.org or by calling the Church Office at 366-7185.

LIFE GROUP LEADERS WANTED!!!

Do you have a passion for spiritual growth? Are you kind and compassionate? Would you be willing to give up a couple of hours each week to help other members of the Westminster family grow in their faith, while growing in faith yourself? If so, please let Pastor Jim (jlangley@crwpc.org) or Kay Basler (ksbangel@mchsi.com) know! We are always looking for new leaders for our LIFE Groups. Training will be offered, so sign up today!



THE WESTMINSTER 200 AUTO TOUR

Set aside Saturday, August 21, for the 10th annual Westminster 100 auto tour. As always, both collector cars and modern vehicles are welcome. Cars with back seats should consider making it a ‘foursome’.

"If you build it, they will come," from the movie, Field of Dreams, is an apt motto because we plan to visit the famous Dyersville baseball field after lunch. Who knows, maybe Shoeless Joe will once again emerge from the cornfield! Closer to home, we’ll take a short break at the Daly Creek Winery and Bistro in Anamosa. It’s a chance for a tasting or two or to just enjoy a fountain soft drink or water. We’ll get back to Cedar Rapids about 5pm.

Collector cars and modern vehicles are both welcome. Drive what ya got! If you want to go along but don't want to drive, we'll make every effort to find a ride for you. After expenses, all monies collected will be donated to the youth mission trip fund. Registration forms are available from the church office, or by calling John or Sherry Swanson at 362-5644.

A NOTE FROM STEVE SANKEY

Hello all (or I should say y’all)!

Now that I’m settled in, I thought I’d send an update. I am in my third week of Kamikaze Greek and my brain is starting to feel like mush, but I am working through it. I have become friends with many fellow students, playing Frisbee, camping and playing jazz. This morning I played sax with a jazz ensemble composed of other first years that performed “This Little Light of Mine”. The worship was incredible! I am excited to have found this group and hope to play with them often. I have also been playing sax at Mercy, a church composed of a mostly homeless congregation. I have been there only three times, but each time has given me a different perspective on life and scripture (they have very moving, honest and intelligent things to say during bible study) and it has allowed me to love those who really need it.

I made a friend, Martin Mwangi, a pastor in Kenya who is working on a book about the Generation Gap in Kenya. I have had some good conversations with him about youth ministry, culture and studying abroad in Kenya—something I will be thinking about. Excluding the integrity of my brain mass, everything is going great down South! Hope all is well in Iowa. I am a little sad that I will be missing out on sweet corn season this year.

Steve Sankey

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE=STEWARDSHIP

I believe I have talked about BPA chemicals in previous articles. However, more concerns are growing about this. In a Reader’s Digest article from May 2010, it says, “Though BPA is nearly everywhere—in the linings of food cans and many hard-plastic drinking cups, bottles, and containers—the FDA recently advised consumers to reduce their exposure. Among other reasons for worry, a new study suggests that men with high levels of BPA are more likely to have cardiovascular disease. To avoid unnecessary doses: 1) *Switch to cartons*. BPA in the lining of metal cans may leach into foods and beverages. Look for soup, tomatoes, sauce, and juice in cartons or bottles; pick fresh or frozen fruits and veggies instead of cans. 2) *Know your numbers*. Plastic containers marked with recycle codes 3 or 7 may contain BPA; those marked with 1, 2, 4, 5 or 6 rarely do. 3) *Toss your old bottles*. Most US manufacturers of plastic baby bottles—and many makers of hard-plastic sport water bottles, too—stopped using BPA more than a year ago. 4) *Heat food in glass*. High temps speed the release of BPA from packaging materials, so transfer food from plastic trays to a microwave-safe glass or ceramic plate before zapping.”

A reminder about cooking oil: Never pour it down the sink, where it will solidify and cause blockage. I don’t believe we have a program locally that offers free cooking-oil recycling, although they do exist. Instead, place the oil in an unrecyclable container and place it in the trash. Need to raise your laptop and keep it cool? Find a couple of those old nonskid wedge shaped door stops and prop the computer on it!

Keep washing and reusing those plastic plates that you use for summer eating. Paper plates that are not too dirty can go in your yardy, as can paper towels, napkins, and all fruit and vegetable debris.

Questions? See me! Thanks!

Marilynn Lodge

Thank You

We’d like to thank Jim Shaff for his many years of service to the church with the trimming of the church bushes, shrubs, and trees. Jim has retired from this job, and we appreciate all the help he has given through the years. Thank you, Jim!

Darlene Cox would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, thoughts, phone calls and cards that were sent to her during a recent illness. She would especially like to thank the Shawl Ministry. She loves the shawl that was sent to her. Darlene is on the mend and hopefully we will see her back in church soon!

A CALL TO COMPASSION

One of the responsibilities of Deacons in the church is to offer the support and compassion of Jesus Christ to those who are unable to attend worship due to physical ailments or the general aging process. Deacons visit as often as they are able, but at least once or twice a month. They provide a way for those who can’t get out to worship or other church events to remain connected to the life of the church. Through the compassion and ministry Deacons provide, they become the tangible presence of Jesus Christ in the life of someone in need. If you know of an individual or couple who might benefit from having a Deacon, please contact the Church Office or Pastor Jim (jlangley@crwpc.org).

TO MISSION WORKER VOLUNTEER MEAL PREPARERS:

For the past two years, many here at Westminster have prepared dishes that were served to mission workers from all over the country. In the spring, summer and fall, it was almost a weekly occurrence. Joining the workers on these occasions was a “gourmet” experience. I would like to share these wonderful recipes with those workers that stayed here at Westminster. And of course, I would share them with our own congregation, as well. So, if you were one of those wonderful cooks, please drop off your recipes to the Church Office, email me at neubyspony@southslope.net, mail them to me at 5005 Cedar View Dr, 52404, or catch me at church on a Sunday.

Thank you,
Loren Neubauer

Grace Notes



THANK YOU

SPECIAL THANKS go out to all who participated in the July 4th Festival Choir to sing the “*Battle Hymn of the Republic*”. It was wonderful to see so many folks come together for this event! Thanks especially to Marilyn Lodge and Julia Titus for their work at the organ and the piano, and to Julie Read for leading the choir. This performance was truly an honor to those who serve our country, and an inspiration to all who were able to listen.

MINSTER BELLS

ARE YOU A HANDBELL LOVER? Want to give it a try? The Minster Bells, Westminster’s Adult Handbell Choir, will meet for rehearsals on Wednesday nights from 6:30 – 7:30, beginning September 1st. Child care will be available. If you would like to ring, to sub occasionally, or even help set-up and tear-down on the Sundays that we perform, please call director Julia Titus at 365-7033, or the church office at 366-7185. We’d love to have you join our group!!

SUMMER MUSIC AT WESTMINSTER

As the summer season continues, so do the changes in our worship schedule and our music programming. Our casual worship services continue on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. in the atrium with Marilyn Lodge leading music from the piano. Each week the congregation will have the opportunity to choose their favorite hymns to sing! Jason Wright will continue to lead the Praise Band in song for the 9:00 a.m. FUEL services. At our 10:30 a.m. traditional worship services, special music will be provided by a variety of soloists and small groups. Be sure to come to worship and enjoy the musical gifts these folks will share with us!

August 1 -	Rick Titus and Bernie Tiede, vocal duet
August 8 -	Gayle Elliott, Deanna Long and Rebecca Mumaw, vocal trio
August 15 -	Paula Grady, vocal solo
August 22 -	Julia Titus, piano solo
August 29 -	Sweet Adelines vocal quartet
September 5 -	Jake Wilding, vocal solo

Notes from the Choirmaster

What’s better than your own bag of Oreos and a glass of cold milk??? WESTMINSTER CHANCEL CHOIR, that’s what!! Rehearsals for the fall season begin on Wednesday, September 1st at 7:30 p.m. You know you want to join, so DO IT! Current members, remember, I have your phone number—I plan to see all of you... Come early and have some Oreos and cold milk—the best of both worlds!!

Rich Hoffman, Choirmaster

ADVERTISE IN THE CHURCH GUIDEBOOK & DIRECTORY

We are in the process of updating our annual Guide Book and Directory for the church. As last year, the book is being provided at no cost and includes a mailing to each family as it is subsidized by local businesses who advertise in it. If you own or manage your own business and want to find out more about advertising in the Guide Book, please call the Church Office. Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1% of families would rather patronize our Guide Book and Directory advertisers over a non-advertiser. It “does pay” to advertise in our Guide Book & Directory.

A NOTE FROM LEAH ROMANELLI...

Dear Westminster family,

It is with great sadness and great excitement that I say goodbye to you. Back in December I began to hear God’s call to move onward, but promptly ignored it. By May, however, it was undeniable. It’s time for another (yes, another) change at Westminster and in it’s youth program.

I have absolutely no fears for the future of Student Ministries at Westminster. We are lucky to have a very committed core of students and parents who make Emmaus and EnterActive a priority in their lives. During the next months as you begin the search process, I hope that more and more members will step forward with Jackie Alff, who has agreed to lead the programs until a full-time director is called.

I have seen our students grow and mature in great ways over the last two years. They have bonded together as a unified community and dug into learning from God and the Bible in new and more difficult ways. They are ready and in many cases eager to have a voice and to share responsibility as full-members of WPC. While we cannot expect our youth to have the same ideas and priorities that an elder serving on Session for three years will have, I hope that as they continue to express their desire to participate, more and more doors will open to areas in which they can contribute fully.

Having spent much time with other Directors and Youth Pastors in Cedar Rapids, I assure you that WPC Student Ministries is unique, as are our students and their individual circumstances, all of whom I am confident the church will continue to treasure. They are not a “youth group”, they are a family that WPC has nurtured, many from a young age, which speaks to the success of our Christian Education Department. It is my belief that as they continue to grow through life and in faith, they will become a strong generation of members who will lead the church in its next phase. I am so proud of them and this congregation for fostering such a great community of leaders.

As for myself, I am temporarily headed to Wisconsin to reconnect with old friends and family and do some boating on the Wisconsin River. I am in the process of applying to go to Lesotho with Africa Inland Mission, one of the oldest mission agencies in existence. From a young age it has been my dream to teach in Africa; back in April, the opportunity almost literally knocked on my door (appeared in my e-mail inbox, anyway). If I am accepted into this two-year program, I will head out by Christmas 2011. In the meantime, I will learn to ride a horse (a prerequisite, as there are no roads) and take some ESL classes. I look forward to keeping in touch as the process progresses!

Lastly, thank you for the kind welcome and unfettered support you have given me as the Director of Student Ministries at WPC. The job has been challenging, but overwhelmingly rewarding. I have learned so much and seen God at work so many times in the last two years here that I hardly know how to hold on to it all. I will treasure the many friendships and memories we’ve built together.

Peace be with you,

Leah Romanelli
Director of Student Ministries

New contact information:
234 E Main St. Apt. A
Reedsburg, WI 53959
LeahRomanelli@gmail.com
319.350.2842

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Betty Rohrbough	14 Philip Brooks
2 David Warner	16 Holly Zazza
3 Phyllis Lindsay	16 Zachary Shields
3 Lee Anne Hataway	17 Herb Hammerberg
3 Sean Leeper	17 Barbara Louvar
3 Jordan Holmes	18 Pat Ervin
3 Elijah Marner	18 Jamie Voorhees
4 Mary Jo Crull	19 Bob Zirbel
4 DJ Smith	19 Don Hoepfner
4 Diana Hobson	20 Carl Kintzel
4 Garland Alff Jr	20 David Cosgrove
4 Jacqueline Fashimpaur	20 Troy King
4 Avery Tamlyn	21 John B. McCrane
5 Karen Tyler	22 Suzanne Huebsch
5 Keaton Young	22 Kent Steenblock
7 Connie Hayes	22 Mike McCormick
7 Ann Rogan	24 Marjorie Bjornsen
7 Dick Shoemaker	24 Douglas Schoff
7 Amy Bemus	24 Larry Cooper
8 Marybeth Allsop	24 Chad Gammon
9 Katherine Bjornsen	25 Jim Patterson
10 Bill Wilding	25 Graci Kalous
11 Louise Morgan	27 Nancy Hawkins
12 Laurie Roth	27 Jan Perkins
12 Carrie Canning	28 Lauren Zimmermann
13 Flora Kitzman	28 Marilyn Owen
13 Jo Ann Skogman	29 John Carver
13 Maxwell Lampe	30 Bob Warner
14 Pearl Bristow	31 Hannah Zimmermann
14 Ardyce Brunsting	31 Terry Ingledue



WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday August 1st
 All Services - Pastor Don Houdeshell
 "Passing the Mantle - Managing Shifts in Leadership"
 Text: 2 Kings 2:1-3

Saturday & Sunday, August 7th & 8th
 All Services - Pastor Don Houdeshell
 "We've Got Connections - Renewing Denominational Linkages"
 Text: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15

Saturday & Sunday, August 14th & 15th
 All Services - Pastor Don Houdeshell
 "Ready, Set, Go! Committing to Engage a New Pastor and New Directions in Ministry"
 Text: Deuteronomy 31:1-8

Saturday & Sunday, August 21st & 22nd
 5:30 p.m. & 9:00 a.m. Services
 - Pastor Jim Langley
 "The Intentional Church: Wisdom"
 Text: Luke 14.25-35
 10:30 a.m. Service - Guest Pastor

Saturday & Sunday, August 28th & 29th
 All Services - Youth Sunday

GUEST PASTOR TO PREACH IN AUGUST

The Committee on Ministry of East Iowa Presbytery and the Pastor Nominating Committee of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Iowa City, have requested the "neutral pulpit" of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Westminster has responded positively to the request and granted the "neutral pulpit" at 10:30 a.m. August 22 in order for the St. Andrew Pastor Nominating Committee to see and hear a potential candidate for pastor.

E-NEWSLETTER

If you are interested in receiving the newsletter by email instead of a hard copy by mail, please contact Christina in the Church Office at 366-7185 or westmin@crwpc.org.

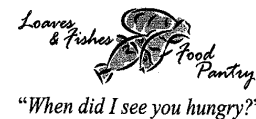
CIRCLE NEWS

Martha/Ruth Circle will meet on August 18th at 11:00 a.m. at Maria's Tea Room in Czech Village. Guests are welcome!

August 16th is the deadline for the September Newsletter. Contact Christina in the office or email your information to westmin@crwpc.org.

August 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Worship in FLC 10:30 am Worship in Sanct 6:00 pm VBS @ Bever Park (Red Oak Pavilion)	2 6:00 pm VBS @ Bever Park (Red Oak Pavilion)	3 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm VBS @ Cleveland Park (Ding Dong Game)	4 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 6:00 pm VBS (Ice Cream Social!)	5	6	7 10:00 am Kids' Closet 5:30 pm Worship in Atrium
8 9:00 am Worship in FLC 10:30 am Worship in Sanct 6:00 pm Emmaus	9 6:30 pm Shawl Ministry	10 10:00 am Staff Meeting 4:45 pm Stewardship	11 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 6:00 pm EnterActive	12 4:30 pm Finance Meeting	13	14 5:30 pm Worship in Atrium
15 9:00 am Worship in FLC 10:30 am Worship in Sanct 6:00 pm Emmaus	16 Newsletter Deadline	17 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Session Meeting	18 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 11:00 am Martha/Ruth 6:00 pm EnterActive	19	20	21 Westminster 200 Auto Tour 5:30 pm Worship in Atrium
22 9:00 am Worship in FLC 10:30 am Worship in Sanct 6:00 pm Emmaus	23 7:00 pm Property Meeting	24 10:00 am Staff Meeting	25 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry 6:00 pm EnterActive	26 5:30 pm Health Ministries Proof Newsletter	27 Print Newsletter	28 Youth Saturday 5:30 pm Worship in Atrium
29 Youth Sunday 9:00 am Worship in FLC 10:30 am Worship in Sanct 6:00 pm Emmaus	30 Mail Newsletter	31 10:00 am Staff Meeting				



LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:
 AUGUST - TUNA HELPER & FRUIT COCKTAIL
 SEPTEMBER - BEEF STEW & PINEAPPLE

If anyone is interested in renewing or subscribing to the magazine **Presbyterians Today**, please contact Marilynn Shoger at the Church Office on or before August 15th.

If you are scheduled to serve on a Sunday and cannot serve on your scheduled day, please find a replacement or someone to switch with you. Please let the Church Office know of any changes by Thursday of each week to ensure that it is printed correctly in the bulletin. If you have any questions regarding the schedule, please call the Church Office at 366-7185 or email Christina at westmin@crwpc.org. Thank you for your willingness to serve!