

Westminster Presbyterian Church

1285 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

319-366-7185

319-366-7187 (Fax)

www.crwpc.org

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

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

Friday

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Worship Times

Sunday

8:00 a.m. traditional service in the Chapel

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

11:00 a.m. traditional service in the Sanctuary

Communion is served on the first weekend of each month.

Head of Staff, Rev. Dr. Katie Hopper: revdrkatie@crwpc.org

Associate Pastor Jim Langley: jlangley@crwpc.org

Director of Christian Education, A.J. Plummer: cedirector@crwpc.org

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Church Secretary, Christina Anderson: westmin@crwpc.org



The Voice of Westminster

October 2011

Volume 26, Issue 10

THOUGHTS FROM THE HEART OF PASTOR KATIE



I ran across this devotional for October and thought you would all enjoy it.

Cleaning The Inside
Devotional by Judy Miller

Romans 8:29-30

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. (NASB)

As I was cleaning out a pumpkin to make a jack-o-lantern, I realized how much we are like these pumpkins. I had looked over the whole bin of pumpkins, and chose the one that I wanted -- the one that would do the job for me. God also chooses us. Even before He chooses us, He knows which one of us will do the job for Him that He wants us to do.

When the time came, I cut the top off the pumpkin. I looked inside and saw stringy material and seeds that were not needed for the specific purpose for which I had chosen the pumpkin in the first place. I cleaned all the seeds out and threw them away. They were detrimental to my purpose for the pumpkin. God looks inside us as well -- into our hearts. He wants to take out all the harmful things in our lives -- all the dependencies, all the addictions, all the seeds of sin.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (KJV)

After I had all the seeds cleaned out, I cut holes for eyes, nose, and mouth. I put a smiling face on him. I thought this is like us as well -- once Jesus Christ has cleansed us of our sins, we are happy and rejoicing in the Lord.

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! (NASB)

Then I put a light in the jack-o-lantern. You notice its name has changed. At the beginning it was a pumpkin. Now it is a jack-o-lantern. Our name also changes once Jesus has come in.

Isaiah 62:2

Foreign countries will see your righteousness and world leaders your glory. You'll get a brand-new name straight from the mouth of God. (MSG)

The light shone brightly through the facial features I had made. Is this not like us? Jesus' light shines through us -- through our faces, through our smiling mouth, through our twinkling eyes. He has given us new life. He has given us a reason to smile. He has cleansed us -- from the inside out. Praise God!

May you enjoy this fall and our focus for the next few weeks on our relationship with God.

Lovingly,
Pastor Katie

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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JOTTINGS FROM PASTOR JIM

I used this space in the September newsletter to talk about the importance of community and the fact that the church, as a faith community, is called to reflect Jesus Christ in everything we do. Well, I want to expand on that a little this month because I think it's easy to lose sight of the fact that the call to community extends beyond the four walls of our church building. Our community isn't just the people we worship with on Sunday morning or enjoy fellowship activities with on a regular basis. Our community, like the community with which Jesus associated, is the world...and all the diverse people who inhabit it.

To describe a community that reflects Jesus is to describe a community that is willing to embrace the outsider as readily as it embraces the socially acceptable. Notice that when Jesus interacted with those on the fringes of his society – the tax collectors, prostitutes, lepers and irreligious of his day – he did it simply by getting to know them. He talked to them. He touched them. He called them friends. He sat at table with them and shared life with them.

Well, what if Jesus became our model for good leadership...or evangelism...or outreach...or making disciples? I say "what if" because I'm not sure many of us approach those who are outside our faith community (or our comfort zone) the way Jesus did. We like to be comfortable, so we invite people we're comfortable with to our tables and into our church, our homes, our small groups. Occasionally, we'll extend that, but, really, when was the last time you intentionally entered into a relationship with someone who was outside what you're comfortable with...what you're familiar with? What steps could you take to move toward a place of discomfort where you were actually extending yourself to embrace another?

Could you learn to serve that elderly neighbor down the street, the one who's always so grumpy, by mowing his lawn or raking his yard? Could you become friends with someone everyone else isolates? Or, what about a colleague at work who's been diagnosed with cancer? Could you go and visit them? Would you be willing to brave the hospital with its strange smells and sobering realities...even if this person wasn't a close friend? One of the things I've learned over the years is that when the thought of doing something makes me uncomfortable, I need to pursue it, because often, Christ is present there.

Being a community that reflects Jesus means we're willing to cross boundaries between our world and the world of the other...the one who is unlike us. It means that, like Jesus, we die to ourselves and learn to inhabit places of grace where we begin to live for someone else. The call to follow Jesus wasn't a call to safety or elitism. It was...and is...a call to empty ourselves and embrace those who are furthest from us. I hope you'll spend some time thinking about what this might mean for your faith...and for the life of Westminster...as we seek to be a presence in this Wellington Heights neighborhood.

Peace!
Pastor Jim

MISSION FAIR – STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

On the 30th of October we will have one worship service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary to celebrate Reformation Sunday. The theme of our Stewardship campaign this year is the Reformation Motto: Reformed Always Reforming, According to the Word of God. Our worship will center around the 95 theses of Martin Luther and the many ways that we as Stewards of the Kingdom in Cedar Rapids can Stand Up for our Faith. Part of the celebration will be a Mission Fair that features a booth from each ministry in our church. These booths will allow members and friends to sign up to give their time and talents and Stand Up for Their Faith. Reformed Always Reforming was chosen to represent the Re-forming that we are doing as a church family. There are many changes about the church. These are new and exciting times in the life of Westminster, and we want everyone to be excited and on-board to raise our Sails and become the Spirit driven Church Jesus is calling us to be. This commitment is for everyone. The worship and mission fair will be followed by a special catered Stewardship Luncheon. The Stewardship team is treating you to lunch while you hear and see their presentation in the Family Life Center. If you attend and pick up your pledge packet, you will not receive a visit. So we are expecting 100% participation as we Stand Up for Our Faith in Cedar Rapids. Join us for this fun and exciting day of re-formation.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR OCTOBER 2011

8:00 a.m. Greeters/Ushers

October 2 Jim McWhinney & Ruth Nash
October 9 J.P. & Becky Ranck
October 16 Jim & Sue Patterson
October 23 Maggie York & Connie Hayes
October 30 One Service at 10:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Greeters/Ushers

October 2 John & Lisa Conkling
October 9 Dave & Leanne Leeper
October 16 Brian & Cheanne Gosgrove
October 23 Savannah Cosgrove & Marilyn Philipp
October 30 One Service at 10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Head Usher

Scott Olson

11:00 a.m. Greeters

October 2 Berta Mullin & Eileen Naber
October 9 Dick Trotter & Jane Wilson
October 16 Emily Sweet & Ibsa Tilahun
October 23 Bill Wilding & Sandra Yarrington
October 30* Tamene Gelashe & Ted Kahler

11:00 a.m. Ushers

October 2 David Basler & Bruce Crawford, Dee Davis, Chuck & Mary Jo Crull
October 9 Claudia Warfel, Dale Weiske, Bill Wilding, Mike & Nancy Walker
October 16 John Henderson, Signe Munson, Lemi Tilahun, Jack & Joyce Sedlacek
October 23 Jerry & Donelle Daugherty, Tamene Gelashe, Herb & Carm Hammerberg
October 30* Luman Colton, Nick Groves, Bryan Hawkins, Gary & Vicki Owens

Offering Stewards

October 2 David Jiruska & Mike Zimmermann
October 3 Pat Teig
October 9 Marcia Elhart & Dale Crosier
October 11 Connie Hayes
October 16 Steve Allard & Karol Cooper
October 17 David Basler
October 23 David Basler & Marcia Elhart
October 24 Pat Teig
October 30 Jackie Alff
October 31 Martha Griffith

Nursery Volunteers

9:00 a.m.
October 2 Jacqueline Fashimpaur
October 9 Tricia Brown
October 16 Kim Langley
October 23 Katie Carfizzi
October 30 Jacqueline Fashimpaur

10:00 a.m.

October 2 Shelly Teberg
October 9 Andrea Schoenbeck
October 16 Tiffany Matteucci
October 23 Alisa Shields
October 30 Shelly Teberg

11:00 a.m.

October 2 Hailey Voyek
October 9 Paula Maddy
October 16 James Bruce
October 23 Nicole Corcoran
October 30 Marcia Elhart

Computer at 9:00 Service

October 2 James Bruce
October 9 John Carver
October 16 Chad Gammon
October 23 Doug Wagner
October 30 Julio Martinez

Liturgist

October 2 Loren Neubauer
October 9 Dale Crosier
October 16 Dick Trotter
October 23 Gingie Hunstad
October 30 Connie Ripley

Handicap Host / Flower Delivery

October 2 Linda Cosgrove
October 9 Glenn Lane
October 16 Stephanie Martinez
October 23 Nancy Ritter
October 30 Tricia Brown

Coffee Hosts

October 2 DJ & Abbie Smith
October 9 Bill & Kay Clark
October 16 Jerry & Donelle Daugherty
October 23 Eileen Naber & Dee Davis
October 30 Alice Crosier

9:00 a.m. Communion Servers

Pat Thies, David Marner, David & Linda Cosgrove

11:00 a.m. Communion Servers

Carm Hammerberg, Ann Hearn, Gingie Hunstad, Laura Koontz, Marcia Elhart, Jim & Cheryl Shanklin, Tom Read, Kathie Lane

Communion Prep

Phil Brooks, John & Lisa Conkling

Communion Clean Up

Linda Cosgrove, Tim Winegarden & Dick Trotter

STUDENT MINISTRIES NEWS

Confirmation Class

Confirmation continues to meet in classroom 3 downstairs as they continue use the curriculum entitled *Re:form and Traditions*. This curriculum was developed by a multi-denominational team including a number of Presbyterian pastors and educators. Topic discussions for the month of October include “Did Jesus Know He Was God?”, “If Jesus was God, Why Did He Have to Die?”, “Do I Have to Believe Jesus Performed Miracles to be a Christian?”, “Why Did Jesus Get Baptized?” and “Is Believing in Jesus Really the Only Way to Get to Heaven?”.

Emmaus

Senior High Sunday School continues to meet on Sunday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. They are currently looking at the top 13 questions asked about God. The following are questions that will be discussed during Sunday School: “How is Jesus Different than Mohammed & Buddha?”, “What happened when Jesus Died on the Cross and Was Resurrected?”, “What is Salvation All About?”, “Will God Forgive Any and Every Sin?” and “Why Would a Loving God Send People to Hell?”.

On Sunday, October 2nd, we will have our mother YouTube night. Please come prepared with two YouTube videos: one that shows a message that Jesus would want to share with others, and the other simply just the funniest thing you’ve seen on YouTube. If you are unsure of the content of your video, please clarify with Stan to make sure it is appropriate to share with the group. Everyone present will get to vote for their video in each of the two categories. Prizes will be awarded to the winners!

On Sunday, October 9th, we will be talking about Jesus and his parables and on Sunday, October 16th, we will be discussing the topic of Jesus and the Desperate People.

Please mark your calendars for the Fright Night Lock-In happening on Friday, October 28th from 9:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Students should consider joining us for Trunk or Treat on October 30th. Please be thinking of some ways we can decorate the back of Stan’s Element for this event. There will be no Emmaus on October 30th.

EnterActive

Students in grades 6th thru 8th, please join us on Wednesday evenings in October as we continue our study on worship. Jackie Alff will be leading EnterActive on Wednesday, October 5th and Pastor Katie will be leading on Wednesday, October 19th.

Mark your calendars for our Fall Lock-In, which will be taking place on Friday, October 14th from 9:30 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. The theme for our lock-in will be Action Heroes as we will be taking a look at some famous action heroes of the Bible: David—The Heart of a Hero; Joseph—The Character Hero; Judas—The Not-So-Hero; Moses—The Reluctant Hero; and Rahab—The Unexpected Hero.

Stan Will Be Gone

Please note that Stan will be gone with Pastor Jim and A.J. from October 5th through October 8th as they will be attending the Catalyst Leadership Conference in Atlanta. Stan will also be gone from October 19th through October 24th on vacation.

“COLLEGE AGE” DINNER WITH PASTOR KATIE

We would also like to invite you to a once a month gathering with Pastor Katie at a local eatery to fellowship and plan other fun or inspirational outings. Join us in October 27th, at 9:00 p.m. at Applebee’s on Edgewood Rd. Call Pastor Katie to let her know if you need a ride. Bring a friend too!



CHURCH CHATTER FOR CHILDREN

A Reception for Emily Fisher

On September 11th, we said farewell to Emily Fisher who has been our Nursery Attendant for the past eight years. Emily has chosen to pursue other ministries throughout the church and to find new areas where her passion and love can be utilized. As such, we will recognize Emily’s service to our congregation in both the 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. worship on Sunday, October 9th. After the 11:00 A.M. worship, there will be a cake reception honoring her service with us. Please plan on attending worship that morning as we celebrate and thank Emily for her dedication to our children and congregation.

And so it begins...

The first official night of Logos is Wednesday, October 12th from 4-7 P.M. If you have not yet registered your child but are interested, please contact A.J. in the office for more information. Also, if you and your child would like to participate, but you are unable to get your child to the church by 4 P.M., please let A.J. know and he can provide alternative transportation to ensure your child doesn’t miss a second of the fun!

Trunk or Treat

The air is getting crisper, and the trees are slowly changing colors and shedding their leaves. That can only mean one thing: TRUNK OR TREAT. Last year, we participated, along with First Lutheran & St. Paul’s UMC, in providing a safe environment for almost 300 kids and their parents to Trick or Treat. Our members had fun bringing their own kids, decorating the trunks of their cars, and participating alongside our neighbors in this great event. Well, this year we have the same opportunity. The event will be **October 30th from 3-4 P.M.** in the 2nd Avenue parking lot immediately behind St. Paul’s UMC. There will be games, hot apple cider, kids’ crafts, hot dogs on the grill, and of course, candy!!! You can help make this event a hauntingly-HUGE success in four different ways: (1) donate pre-wrapped candy to the main office; (2) sign-up to decorate the trunk of your car; (3) volunteer to help set-up, clean-up, serve hot dogs, or run the games; or (4) bring your own kids or grandkids! *If you’re interested in helping with the event in one of those ways, please sign up on the bulletin board outside the office no later than Thursday, October 27th or contact A.J. in the office.*

Toy Drive Shows Dedication of an entire community

Each year, Westminster plays host to one of the most meaningful community outreaches to Wellington Heights in our annual Toy Drive. As the years go on, our congregation continues this long tradition of making sure each child in our neighborhood has a toy on the morning of December 25th. There are always a lot of words begging for more toys leading up to the drive, and that has been no different this year. All that can be said is continue to pray and listen for the quiet whisper of God as you discern your role in this year’s Toy Drive. Perhaps you’ll find you’re called as a volunteer for the event. Or perhaps you’ll be called to help clean, sanitize, and organize the toys throughout November. Or perhaps you’ll be called to be one of the countless many who continue to support the drive by donating new or gently used toys. Whatever your role, please know that each is as important as the next and that it takes the dedication of an entire community of believers to ensure each child in needs receives a toy for Christmas. Thank you in advance for your generous hearts!

Grace Notes



OPEN CHOIR

The Chancel Choir is an open choir—open to those who would like to sing and even those who'd like to give singing a try! An open choir means you can come at any time and sing with the choir. There are no limits or "attendance" records. You do need to be in high school or older, but other than that there are no requirements. Say you are a mother with a soccer kid who has games every Wednesday through October but you'd really like to sing in the choir. Just come in for rehearsals after soccer has finished. Or you teach an evening class on Wednesdays, and can only come when school is out. Come during the winter and spring breaks. You can come in and out of the choir at any time. This is never a closed activity but always OPEN to those who would like to sing.

Choir is also open to those who have never sung in a choir before. It's okay if you don't read music! It helps if you read English, but even that I can work with! You do not need any formal training, and no matter what your elementary music teacher may have said—EVERYONE can sing! If you can talk, you can sing. There is a very small percentage of the world that cannot match pitch (approximately 2%).

If you'd like to just participate in the Choir at some of the special times of the year, you're welcome to do that as well! Starting mid-October, we'll be having a "Christmas Cantata Rehearsal" time. It will be within the Chancel Choir rehearsal but devoted just to the cantata for Christmas. Watch the bulletin for more information. Give it a try sometime and you might find a new gift God's been waiting to use! If you still feel like choir isn't really your thing, I can always use instrumentalists! The Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Melissa Emerson

A NOTE FROM STEVE SANKEY

Greetings from Atlanta!

I saw you had a pretty hot summer but I hope you were able to beat the heat and enjoy it! I will be doing exactly that now as I am on my two week break between chaplaincy internship and the beginning of the fall semester.

In August, I finished my 10-week internship at the Atlanta Veterans Administration Hospital working as a chaplain stationed on a general medical floor, a dialysis clinic, and an outpatient waiting room. My job was to visit with the veterans and their families and provide spiritual care and support through prayer and pastoral presence. It was a challenging 10 weeks but it allowed me to develop confidence in my pastoral authority and preaching skills (I preached 2 sermons!) and I now have an even greater respect for the sacrifice of our veterans and their families. Suffice to say, between working as a chaplain at the Atlanta Veterans Hospital and preparing to get married this coming May, I've had quite a summer!

I am looking forward to this fall semester as I will be taking courses in Theology, Hebrew, the History of Islam, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Looking back, it has been an incredible year and I am looking forward to another. As I have seen God at work in my school, in my community, and at the hospital, I pray for the eyes to see God at work this coming fall and the ears to hear his voice as I continue to discern my call for ministry. Amidst this journey, I continue to be thankful for your support and your prayers.

Steve Sankey



LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

OCTOBER - BEEF STEW, CREAM OF POTATO SOUP, SPINACH, TURKEY GRAVY, DEODORANT, Q-TIPS, BAND AIDS, TOILET PAPER
CANNED & BOXED FOOD; NO JARS PLEASE. STANDARD SIZE CANS,
AS MOST OF OUR GUESTS WALK TO THE PANTRY.
TOILET PAPER & PERSONAL PRODUCTS ALWAYS NEEDED.

In September We Served: 37 kids

Madge Phillips Center: 2 Families and 7 children.

Next Clothing Give Aways: October 6th & October 8th

October Donation Requests: Diapers size 4 & 5

We collect clothing for babies through size 14/16 or boys and girls. We accept new & gently used clothing. There is always a great need for jeans and new underwear.
Please leave donations at the bottom of the basement stairs.



*Kid's Closet
Connection*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pastor Katie will be leading a conference in Oklahoma October 3rd through the 7th and Pastor Jim along with A.J. and Stan will be attending a conference in Atlanta, GA October 5th through the 8th. While they are gone, Pastor Heather Hayes from First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Rapids will be handling pastoral emergencies on October 5th and 8th and Pastor Julie Schuett from First Presbyterian Church in Ely will be covering in case of pastoral emergencies on October 6th and 7th. Please let the Church Office know if their services are needed.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

The first Sunday in October is always the Sunday we celebrate communion with the whole Christian world. In honor of this special Sunday we will be having special worship services. Pastor Katie will be preaching. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper. We will even try out some different languages in worship, like the Lord's Prayer in French and *Jesus loves me* in Spanish. Come and make this day a special part of your life in Christ.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS NEEDED!

We are looking for singles, couples, families or groups who would like to light the Advent candles during our 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services beginning on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27th, we well as our 5:30 and 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services. Email Pastor Jim at jlangle@crwpc.org or call the Church Office at 366-7185 to sign up. A prepared "script" will be provided!

Thank You

A special thanks to the Worship Ministry Team for the work they did in preparing the Large Parlor and Sanctuary for Rally Sunday. It was beautiful and a great addition to our wonderful "Wizard of Oz" worship that day!



“GETTING IT ALL TOGETHER”

Register now! The **S.A.M. Fall Bus Trip** is scheduled for October 20th. Sign-up for the bus trip will end on October 6th. We are going to the John Deere Assembly Plant in Waterloo to see that division “getting all the parts together” to complete a John Deere tractor. (**Note: No open toe shoes**) This will be a guided tour via tram. We then will go to Oelwein to visit the Hub City Heritage Corporation Railway Museum. From there we will proceed to the Homestead Restaurant in Independence for lunch. In Independence a local “step-on” guide will take us on an interesting detailed tour of Independence. We are leaving Westminster at 6:45 a.m. and returning at 4:30 p.m. (See the handout at the display table for an exact schedule.) Please plan to **pay when you make your reservation** so that we have a firm number for the tour company. There is a limited amount of funding available for assistantships, so if you wish to join us and need financial help, please contact our Business Manager. The trip is planned for participants of **all ages** and the event is **not limited to WPC members**, so invite a friend (or friends) and join us for a day of fun. Mark your calendars now!

PASTOR KATIE’S TRAVELS TO WEE KIRK MIDDLE AMERICA CONFERENCE IN OCTOBER

Our own Pastor Katie is the Planning Team Moderator this year of a national conference for small churches called Middle America Wee Kirk, in Wagoner, OK. Plenary speakers include Rev. Dr. Paul Detterman, Rev. Dr. Katie Hopper, and Rev. Jay Lee. The theme this year is Holy Olympians. “I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” Our pastor, Katie will also be teaching Easy Worship, which is an audio visual contemporary worship computer program. Her husband Jimmy will be the Chaplain in Residence for the week. Pastor Jimmy will be a workshop leader teaching his current fall Bible study. Katie will also be running the planning meetings before and after the conference. This is part of her service to the larger church. She will be gone October 3rd through 8th for this Wee Kirk Conference.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE=STEWARDSHIP

In case you missed the September dates, the City of Cedar Rapids is sponsoring Clean Up CR Drop-off Events in October. On Oct. 1, you may drop off materials at St. Paul’s Methodist or *Lot 44 behind 295 2nd St. SE, and on Oct. 8 at Taft MS or *Public Works 1201 6th St. SW. Both events are from 10-2. Accepted items include furniture and household items, clothing, wood waste, home electronics, scrap metal, tires, and garbage cans. Most of these items usually have to be taken to one of the landfill sites, so this makes it very convenient. For specifics on the above items, go to www.cleanupcr.com. The * locations also accept hazardous materials, which are usually only accepted by appointment at the Marion landfill. These include adhesives, glue, resin, brake fluid, bug sprays, degreaser, floor care products, furniture polish, gasoline, kerosene, kitchen and bathroom cleaners, metal polish, oil-based paint, pesticides, spray cans, stain remover, stains & thinners, solvents and varnishes, wood preservative, weed killer. No latex paint will be accepted. (Did you realize all the household materials that are considered hazardous?) Please take advantage of the easy locations to clean out your basement, garage, kitchen and bathroom!

October 15 will also be Neighborhood Litter Clean-up Events. Please see the above website for more information. Last spring 18 volunteers in the Wellington Heights Neighborhood alone collected 36 bags of litter. The total collected by volunteers from the city was 503 bags.

As always, thanks for making our world a better place!

Marilyn Lodge

“SAFETY TIPS” FOR FALL A Health Ministries Article by Susie Moran

Here are some seasonal safety tips to observe as the air turns cooler and leaves turn color & fall from the trees:

- 1 – Clean out chimneys and have furnaces inspected.
- 2 – Use a fireplace screen to keep sparks from flying out of the fireplace.
- 3 – Never leave a burning fire or candles unattended (inside or outside).
- 4 – Never use the stove or oven to heat your home.
- 5 – Change batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors when you turn back your clocks for daylight savings time.
- 6 – Be sure to douse fire pit with water after using.
- 7 – Watch for animals (especially deer) crossing the roads.
- 8 – Plan outdoor activities earlier as it gets dark sooner.
- 9 – Use make-up on kids, or have masks that fit child, for Halloween.
- 10 – Get fire retardant costumes.

Remember November 6th – daylight savings time ends – fall back!

Have a Great Fall and Happy Halloween 🍁



From the Knitting Basket...

“Pocket Prayer Shawls” are small knitted rectangles that can be carried in a pocket, purse, or backpack. They can be used when a traditional shawl may not be appropriate or allowed – such as an intensive care unit or procedural area of a hospital. Our group made a number of pocket prayer shawls this year. They are 4x5 inches with a cross centered in a relief pattern. We gave many at the Westminster Spring luncheon in a variety of pastels. A white one was given at a baptism this summer at Westminster. Others were given to Methwick Manor, where the small squares have given comfort to the very sick or dying, and their families. The recipient can feel the softness of the yarn and the pattern of the cross. The comfort received has prompted the staff of Methwick to request more!

Linda Smith

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

This year our church family will be invited to participate in the writing of the devotionals to be used during the season of Advent. Pastor Katie would like to create an Advent book that will include the worship services for the season of Advent and a devotional written by a member of the congregation for each day of Advent. There will also be special Advent service information for home worship around the Advent wreath for our families. Beginning the first Sunday in September, Pastor Katie will be circulating a clipboard with scriptures for the Advent book. Individuals or families may sign up for one of these scriptures. You will be emailed or mailed a copy of what you selected and be asked to return your short, one to two paragraphs, devotional by October 15th. Reading devotionals created by our church family will be touching and add to the depth of our observance of Advent. We invite you to take part in this special opportunity. Each family will receive a complete booklet mid-November and a copy will be provided in the pews that will remain in the pews throughout the season of Advent.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Norman Krauth | 15 Lynn Comried |
| 1 Brianna Olson | 16 Wilma Grim |
| 2 Evelyn Primmer | 16 Alexander Davis |
| 2 Sherry Weiske | 17 Pat McKee |
| 2 Ava Anderson | 17 Terri Wendler |
| 2 Tyler Denning | 17 Christopher Weiske |
| 3 Truman Johnson | 18 Jeanne Messner |
| 3 Matt Daugherty | 18 Peter Evans |
| 4 Alisa Shields | 19 Brad Lock |
| 4 Spencer Young | 19 Kay Basler |
| 4 Skyler Young | 19 Madison Edwards |
| 5 Matthew Patterson | 20 Rebecca Mumaw |
| 6 Terry Bjornsen | 20 Liz Owens |
| 6 Kay Clark | 21 Morgan Chambers |
| 6 Colleen Hoffa | 21 Bill Shanklin |
| 7 Karen Fashimpaur | 22 Sarah Christensen |
| 7 Heather Wagner | 22 Jack Evans |
| 7 Jeremy Mead | 22 Sue Daughtery |
| 7 Sherry Purdie | 22 Lisa Gammon |
| 7 Amy Altorfer | 22 Casey Dawson |
| 8 Greg Bjornsen | 23 Kenneth Perkins |
| 8 Jason Swanson | 23 Kaitlyn Gammon |
| 8 Louis King | 24 Paula Keiper |
| 9 Warren Chadima | 24 Nancy Haney |
| 9 Kade Skogman | 24 Lillian Solbrig |
| 10 Brenna McRae | 24 Ashley Foley |
| 10 Keegan McRae | 25 Wally Pinckney |
| 10 Joel Sasek | 25 Mike Denning |
| 11 Mozelle Davis | 26 Sonya Ehret-Woolsey |
| 11 Marion Engel | 26 Judith Schoff |
| 12 Beth Allsop | 27 Steve Bowman |
| 12 Becky Carver | 27 Judy McCracken |
| 12 Ayub Kibui Mburu | 27 Wreese Marner |
| 12 Joyce Ferguson | 27 Chelsey McDill |
| 12 Max McDill | 28 Inga Schoenbeck |
| 13 Leola Baierlein | 29 Mathew Davis |
| 13 Sharon Grim | 29 Diane Mealhouse |
| 13 Dustin Lane | 29 Joe George Jr. |
| 13 Hanna Langley | 30 Carl Schuettpelz |
| 14 Marshall Clark | 30 Tim Stolba |
| 14 Timothy Vancura | 30 Vicki Owens |
| 14 Shuna Tosa | 30 Ben Skogman |
| 14 Thomas Schoenbeck | 31 Anne Groom |



WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, October 2nd - Communion
 All Services - Pastor Katie Hopper
 "Are We Just Faking It?"
 Text: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22

Sunday, October 9th
 All Services - Pastor Jim Langley
 "Becoming a 'Regardless' Giver"
 Text: 2 Thessalonians 3.6-15

Sunday, October 16th
 All Services - Pastor Katie Hopper
 "Lydia—Living Stewardship"
 Text: Acts 16:11-15, 40

Sunday, October 23rd
 All Services - Pastor Katie Hopper
 "Keepers of the Keys"
 Text: Matthew 16:13-25

Sunday, October 31st - Stewardship/Reformation Sunday
 10:00 a.m. Service - Pastor Katie Hopper
 "Reformed Always Reforming According to the Word of God—Stand Up for Christ in Cedar Rapids"
 Text: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14



Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 6th.
 Don't forget to set your clocks back on Saturday, November 5th!

October 17th is the deadline for the November Newsletter. Contact Christina in the office or email your information to westmin@crwpc.org.

PW CIRCLE NEWS

Martha/Ruth Circle will meet on Wednesday, October 19th at 9:30 a.m. in the Small Parlor. Please join us for this time of fellowship. Guests are always welcome!

October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Peacemaking Sunday World Communion Sunday SMA 6:30 pm Emmaus	3 6:30 pm Invite to John LG 6:30 pm Shawl Ministry	4 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Mtg 3:30 pm Loaves & Fishes 7:00 pm Deacons	5 7:30 am Men's Breakfast WNA—No Logos	6 4:30 pm Kids' Closet	7 9:30 am Women at the Well	8 10:00 am Kids' Closet
9 SMA Emily Fisher Reception After 11 am Service 6:30 pm Emmaus	10 9:30 am SAM Meeting 5:30 pm Adult Ed Mtg 6:30 pm Invite to John LG	11 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Mtg 3:30 pm Loaves & Fishes 5:30 pm CMT 6:30 pm Mission	12 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:15 am CR Child's Theatre WNA—Logos Begins!	13	14 9:30 am Women at the Well 9:30 pm EA Lock In Newsletter Deadline	15
16 SMA 6:30 pm Emmaus 8:00 pm Perpetual Life Grp	17 4:30 pm Finance 6:30 pm Invite to John LG 6:30 pm Communications	18 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Mtg 3:30 pm Loaves & Fishes 6:30 pm Session	19 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Martha/Ruth WNA	20 Sam Bus Trip	21 9:30 am Women at the Well 9:30 am Naomi/Esther	22
23 SMA 6:30 pm Emmaus	24 5:30 pm Worship Meeting 6:30 pm Invite to John LG 7:00 pm FLC in Use (Buckheister)	25 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Pastoral Mtg 3:30 pm Loaves & Fishes	26 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry WNA 6:30 pm Cong. Life Mtg	27 9:00 pm College Aged Dinner	28 9:30 am Women at the Well 8:30 pm Emmaus Lock In	29
30 Stewardship Sunday One Service in Sanct.at 10am 11:00 am Lunch in FLC No S.S. 3:00 pm Trunk or Treat	31 6:30 pm Invite to John LG					

SMA—Sunday Morning Activities
 8:00 am: Worship in the Atrium
 8:30 am: Breakfast
 9:00 am: Worship in the FLC
 10:00 am: New Member Class
 10:00 am: Sunday School/Confirmation
 11:00 am: Worship in the Sanctuary

WNA - Wednesday Night Activities
 4:00 pm: Logos (Begins 9/12)
 6:00 pm: Middle School EnterActive
 6:30 pm: Minster Bells
 7:30 pm: Chancel Choir

DON'T FORGET!

There will be one service held on Stewardship Sunday, Sunday, October 30th, at 10:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary, followed by a church wide potluck in the F.L.C. You won't want to miss it!

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you," ~Philippians 1:3~
 October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

SESSION MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 20TH MEETING

At 6:30pm on Tuesday, September 20th the Session opened by singing "Jesus Loves Me"

Of note:

- * Average weekly attendance, year-over-year, for the month of August was up by 8 people
- * Although we are still in the red for the year, our financial shape continues to improve
- * WPC will host a meeting of the Presbytery of East Iowa in February
- * Pastor Katie will be traveling on October 3-7 to the Middle America Wee Kirk Conference
- * Pastor Jim, AJ and Stan will be traveling to Georgia for a ministry conference
- * Session approved the hiring of Lindsay Meade and Katie Stober as Nursery Attendants to replace Emily Fisher
- * Session also approved one service only, at 11am, on Christmas Day and New Year's Day

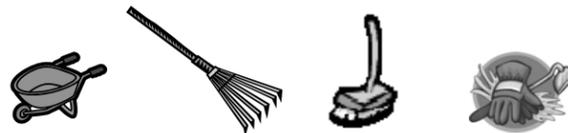
Session also agreed to enter into an agreement with Family Promise of Linn County (FPLC) to become an active congregation within their organization. FPLC serves homeless families by arranging for up to 3 families of no more than a total of 14 people to live within a room at a church for one week. The family would move in at 5pm on Sunday and move out at 7am on the following Sunday. During the day, adults are at Day Centers or a job or learning skills to find a job, while youth are at school. In the evening, the family assembles back at the church for dinner, to study, social time, and to pack their lunches for the next day. Host congregations host families once a quarter for one week. WPC will be responsible for partitioning off spaces for the families' living space, providing breakfast and dinner, and food for packed lunches. Approximately 50-60 volunteer SLOTS are available. Elder Martha Wilding is available with more information on how to become involved in making a positive difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ through this mission opportunity.

The Session approved the purchase (for \$1) of the house located between Loaves and Fishes and the church, which had been owned by the WPC Foundation. Connected with this property, in the long-term, Session is examining a long-term partnership with the Willis Dady Shelter in an effort to better serve our brothers and sisters in Christ. In the short-term, assistance is needed to clean the inside of the house, which until recently, had been used as a rental.

Session adjourned at 8:22pm with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Wagner



PROPERTY CLEAN-UP DAY

Join the Property Ministry Team on Saturday, October 22nd at 8:00 a.m. for our annual Fall Clean-Up Day! Donuts, juice, and coffee will be provided in the Family Life Center before we get busy cleaning and sprucing up the inside and outside of the property. This is a great way to show your support for our church building and grounds and to have a part in the bigger picture! We hope to see you here!

YOUTH COMMITMENT SUNDAY COMING UP IN NOVEMBER!

As the Student Ministries prepares for Youth Commitment Sunday, I would like to share some thank-you's and some reflective moments from a couple of students who attended FITS this summer:

"Dear Congregation, thank you for donating the money for us to go on this trip. We could not have done this trip and it was well worth the money that was donated. I have most definitely connected with God. I have sacrificed myself and before I had wandered. I am to the point in my life where I am not afraid to express God in public. Also, I have learned how God talks to me because I had not known that before, so thank you. It was much appreciated."

"Thank you so much for donating money so that we could go to South Padre Island. I really appreciate all that you do for us. I grew a lot in my faith on this trip and I sincerely thank you for that. On this trip I became close to God and our youth group. I also learned that God never leaves me, I may stray from him but he doesn't leave me. Thank you SO much!"

Stan Letscher

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OCTOBER OFFERINGS

October 2nd

Don Damsteegt, Ph.D continues his class on "The Parables of Jesus". Based on Luke 15:11-32, "The Prodigal Son" will be discussed. Questions such as "who do we identify with—the faithful, hard-working, but resentful son or the irresponsible, impulsive, but penitent son?" and what can be said about God and His Kingdom.

October 9th

Don Damsteegt, Ph.D returns for the final week of "The Parables of Jesus". Based on Luke 16:19-31, we will discuss "The Rich Man & Lazarus". Once again Jesus predicts a reversal of fortunes in the next life. What truths can we glean from this parable about God and His Kingdom?

October 16th

Mary Ducey, Ph.D and Professor of Philosophy at Mt. Mercy College begins this class based around "Lord of the Rings Themes" with an introduction to author J.R.R. Tolkien and his life. We will explore his desire to recreate a mythology for England, a set of stories and values that he thought were lost in the country he loved because of the Norman Invasion.

October 23rd

Mary Ducey, Ph.D and Professor of Philosophy at Mt. Mercy College continues her class as we learn about Tolkien's experiences as a soldier during World War I, his views on war as expressed through letters to his son serving in World War II, and how he brought this to the Lord of the Rings. Mary will finish up this series in November.

October 30th

There will be no Sunday School today, as there is one service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary to celebrate Stewardship Sunday.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE AND CAN'T MAKE IT?

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