

Westminster Words

Vol. 5
Iss. 8

August 25, 2009



Westminster Church & Preschool
1100 Jeffras Avenue Marion IN 46952

Psalm 19:14

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer"

Book Fair - Aug. 29

The Mission Committee will be sponsoring a book fair August 29, 2009 on the bypass in Century 21's parking lot.

Church Clean-up - Aug. 29

Come help spruce up Westminster at a clean-up day at the church on August 29th to prepare our church for the upcoming Presbytery meeting.

Wedding Reception- Aug. 30

Westminster will be celebrating the marriage of Allen and Heather (Kirkwood) Kincaid by hosting a reception after church on Sunday, August 30. You won't want to miss this event, so put it on your calendar now.

Presbytery Meeting - Sept. 12

Westminster will be hosting a Presbytery meeting on September 12th. Helpers are needed on September 11 at 12:00 PM to help set up tables in fellowship hall. Helpers are also needed on September 12 during the meeting along with tearing down tables around 2 PM after lunch is complete.

Church Campout- Sept. 19/20

The annual church campout will be held at Michael and Lisa Belcher's pond on September 19 and 20. Please join us for a chili dinner Saturday night and for pancakes and sausage starting at 8:00 Sunday morning. The church service will begin at 10:00. Campers are welcome Friday, but church sponsored activities will not begin until Saturday. Please let the Belchers know if you will be camping on Friday. Get all your camping gear together and come pitch your tent for a weekend of fun and fellowship!

Kick-off Sunday - Sept. 27

September 27th is kick-off Sunday! Come join us to start off our new Sunday School year with breakfast and fun at 9:30 AM followed by worship at 10:45 AM. Bibles will be distributed to all children and youth!

Pastoral Epistle: A reminder from Peter

Therefore I intend to keep on reminding you of these things, though you know them already and are established in the truth that has come to you. 2 Peter 1:12

I think Peter pretty much summed up what a pastor is called to do when he wrote what was to become the twelfth verse of his second epistle. After writing that God's power in and through our faith in Jesus Christ has already given us everything we need for life and godliness, Peter then goes into detail how we are to surround and support the faith we have received because of the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ. Ultimately he finishes this thought by basically saying that even though he knows he's preaching to the choir, so to speak, he's going to keep on reminding them anyway, because his greatest desire is for them to always and forever be able to remember these things, so as to keep them from ever stumbling. And that's pretty much what a pastor is called to do!

Each and every fall most churches kick their Christian education courses into high gear, all of them seeking to basically do what Peter did many years ago, which is to say or teach or present in new and interesting and engaging ways that which most members of their churches already know. As a pastor there is always an interesting challenge that presents itself each autumn when trying to create a Christian education program that will catch the interest of the members of an age group for which a particular course is being made. It is especially challenging because we all know very well what Peter knew, that it isn't that the people don't know what they need to know, but that they need to keep on hearing it again and again and again so that they never, ever forget.

As we get ready to kick off another year of Sunday School, I am excited with what we are going to be offering those who attend our Sunday School classes. And even though I know that you already know all of those things which I will be teaching in the Adult Sunday School, if you do happen to learn something new there won't be any reason to worry because I'll never know, unless of course you tell me!

Blessings,

Pastor Justin

August joint Session/Deacon notes

Elders and Deacons met on Saturday, August 15th at Temple for a retreat. We had a great discussion regarding differences between a pastoral church and a program church and what direction Westminster was heading. We are to meet again September 8th at 7:00 to discuss it further.

We had a session meeting after a nice carry in lunch. The biggest challenge we are facing is the parking lot. We are currently waiting on bids to come in to get an idea of how much this project is going to cost.

We are planning to clean up the church grounds on August 29th. Bring your gloves, clippers, rakes and any other yard tools you know how to use and come join the fun. We want our church to look nice when we have our Presbytery meeting on September 12th. There will be about 180 people attending that meeting.

Remember our book fair on August 1st at the Century 21 parking lot.

September 27th our worship service begins at 10:45 so mark your calendars.

In His Service, Jackie Hancock

July Financials

Total income: \$20,253

Total expenses: \$19,546

Net income: \$706

Westminster Contact Info:

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 Prayer Line: 765-671-7817
 Prayer Pagets: 765-651-2716
 Pastor Justin's e-mail:
pastorjustin@indy.rr.com
 Pastor's home phone #: 765-384-4417
 Pastor's cell phone #: 480-586-6829

Informational

"In obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ and with His help: healing what is broken, righting what is wrong, celebrating what is good"

Join us for worship at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays!

Join Westminster Choir today!

In order for organizations within a church to continue, they need people who are willing to volunteer some time and energy. Our Westminster Choir has been a thriving organization for many years. As time has passed, some have moved away or have retired and are traveling more. The choir needs some new recruits who will join us in a unique way to worship and praise God. No one is expected to attend every rehearsal although there are many who consider this Thursday night experience to be a very important part of their week. Childcare is provided and practices last a little more than an hour. Choir members feel uplifted when they leave rehearsals.

In order to continue singing music we have become accustomed to, we need to have voices. There are quite a number of you in our congregation who have such terrific voices, even if you don't want to sing solos. You don't have to be able to read music. You will be amazed how fast you learn your part. Please consider contributing your time and talents to this vital part of our worship service. We welcome you. Rehearsals begin on September 17 at 7:00.

Church Staff

Rev. Justin Schlesinger-Devlin, MSW
 - Pastor
Libby Holloway - Administrative Asst.
Elizabeth Schlesinger-Devlin -
 Preschool Director
Ellen Schramm - Director of Music
Nancy Wright - Organist
Linda Rosen - Pianist
April Raver - Coordinator of
 Youth Ministries
Allen Kincaid - Sr High Youth Leader
Heather Kincaid - Sr High Youth Leader
Vangie White - Nursery Caregiver

Have information for the newsletter?

E-mail westminsterwords@indy.rr.com, call April Raver at 765-661-6110, or drop it in the communications mailbox in the mail room at church. *Deadline for submissions to the next issue is Sept. 25.*

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ed and Marla Keppler on the birth of a grandson, Paxton Robert, born on July 30. The proud parents are Brett and Jackie Keppler, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Help Wanted

● Opportunity to Serve ~ Person needed ●
 ● to help gather information for the ●
 ● monthly church calendar. Knowledge ●
 ● of the computer and internet are ●
 ● essential skills. The person works ●
 ● cooperatively with Libby in gathering ●
 ● information for the calendar. Libby ●
 ● formats the calendar. ●
 ● Anyone interested can call Barb ●
 ● Pack at 664-7307 or email ●
 ● westminstercalendar2007@yahoo.com ●
 ● or bwrwpack@yahoo.com. ●

Collect shampoos

As you travel throughout this year, please continue to collect the lotions, soaps, and shampoos and we will make sure they are donated to the Flannery-Keal Women's Shelter. We thank you in advance for your help!

Thank you note

Dear Westminster Friends,

It always makes my heart swell with gratitude and pride to have been a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church at its inception. This past week has only reinforced these feelings with the special help of our Pastor, Reverend Justin and members of the church with their kindnesses, prayers and food. I sincerely thank you.

Mary Jane Babcock along with my family

In Memoriam

Sally Babcock

A thank you note from Hands of Hope

Dear Westminster Presbyterian Church members;

I would like to thank you for the donation of three bags of sample sized shampoos, soaps and other hygiene items to the Flannery-Keal home, a program of Hands of Hope, a division of Family Services Society, Inc.

As you know, Hands of Hope provides intervention and prevention programs concerning domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking and homeless issues.

We are thankful for the various community donations we receive and appreciate you thinking of our organization when deciding who to donate to.

I also wanted to make you aware of a fundraising opportunity for each of you—Hands of Hope is holding its first Community Walk Sept. 19 . . . If you are interested in . . . pledge sheets and registration forms please call me at 662-9971 ext 123 or email me at lwilk@famsservices.com.

Sincerely,

Linda S. Wilk, Hands of Hope Director, a division of Family Service Society, Inc.

**Community
 Walk
 September.
 19th**

Wee Leader

Director: Elizabeth Schlesinger-Devlin Preschool phone: 765-662-3526 preschool@westminstermarion.com

From the Director - Preschool News

The preschool has begun its 40th year providing a Christian ministry to the children and families. We now offer a full day preschool program in addition to the traditional morning session. The change to our schedule has also changed our enrollment count. As you might remember when kindergarten was a half-day program, teachers were responsible to teach anywhere from 40 to 50 children because 20-25 could come in the morning and 20-25 could come in the afternoon. The change to a full day kindergarten class changed a teacher's enrollment by half. The preschool is experiencing a similar affect; our numbers will be fewer than in the past because one child can now take the slot that two to four different children would have participated in. Currently, half of our students enrolled participate in the full day option.

The Christian curriculum, traditions and values of the preschool have not changed; the only difference is now we have more time throughout the day to provide even more depth in our instruction and ministry. We will begin to offer Chapel time twice a week starting in September. Pastor Justin will be able to share a children's message and we will sing together.

We welcome Ms. Ashley Combs as the teacher of our full one year old class. We are thrilled to have Mrs. Debbie Kukuris- teaching our two year old class, and we welcome Mrs. Mary Cramer as our three year old teacher. Mrs. Jami Briede and Mrs. Margaret Wilson teach our pre-kindergarten classes. Mrs. Lisa Hoke and Mrs. Juliene Gustaveson are our teacher assistants. We have Mrs. Betty Wease working in the office as our book keeper and Mrs. Amanda Worrick overseeing our nutritional needs. We are incredibly



blessed to have such an energetic, creative, dedicated staff that all have a strong walk in their faith to share with one another and our children.

Enrollment is year round, if you are interested in more information visit our website www.westminstermarion.com

Upcoming Events

- 9/2 Staff Meeting 6pm
- 9/7 No School Labor Day
- 9/2 & 9/4 Beach Day
- 9/16 Brankle's Farm Field Trip
- 9/21 Hearing Screening
- 9/23 & 25 Ambulance Visits
- 9/28 & 9/29 Preschool Picture day
- 9/30 Campbell Pumpkin Patch Visit

Gifts, Support & Memorials

Mrs. & Mrs. George Thomas, Carol Milford, and Sara Haleen each made a donation in memory of Sally Babcock. We are honored to be able to lift up the life and memory of Sally Babcock at the preschool.

CASA Sand Sculpture Contest

Dear Westminster Church Members and Staff,

Well, WE DID IT! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation to CASA's Annual Sand Sculpture Artfest. Your corporate sponsorship will aide in CASA's fundraising efforts to better the lives of the children we serve. Donations from the congregation, Men's Prayer Breakfast, Westminster Women and the VBS program were by far the largest collection of money that CASA took in for our event.

Your continued generosity to CASA is a blessing. It was such a wonderful honor to present the People's Choice Award to the congregation at church on July 19. I know we will all enjoy having that displayed in the church for the next year. Bradley and Lauren Belcher are so pleased with what we have accomplished from their idea 6 months ago. The Schramm Family is proud of memorializing Andy with this event and had great fun as a family participating in the day's events. We agree that Pastor Andy would have been the first one in the sandbox!

I look forward to working with you on this event for many years to come! May I also remind the entire congregation of our need for volunteers. Please contact the office at 664.1891 for more information and ways to serve.

Gratefully,

Leslie E. Hendricks, Executive Director CASA of Grant County, Inc.



Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

Inspirational

Devotional: 15 Things God won't ask

by **Author Unknown**
as posted on *inspirationalstories.com*

God won't ask what kind of car you drove, but will ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.

God won't ask the square footage of your house, but will ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the fancy clothes you had in your closet, but will ask how many of those clothes helped the needy.

God won't ask about your social status, but will ask what kind of class you displayed.

God won't ask how many material possessions you had, but will ask if they dic-

tated your life.

God won't ask what your highest salary was, but will ask if you compromised your character to obtain that salary.

God won't ask how much overtime you worked, but will ask if you worked overtime for your family and loved ones.

God won't ask how many promotions you received, but will ask how you promoted others.

God won't ask what your job title was, but will ask if you reformed your job to the best of your ability.

God won't ask what you did to help yourself, but will ask what you did to help others.

God won't ask how many friends you

had, but will ask how many people to whom you were a true friend.

God won't ask what you did to protect your rights, but will ask what you did to protect the rights of others.

God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived, but will ask how you treated your neighbors.

God won't ask about the color of your skin, but will ask about the content of your character.

God won't ask how many times your deeds matched your words, but will ask how many times they didn't.

The answer is always Jesus!

A minister was giving the children's message during church. For this part of the service, he would gather all the children around him and give a brief lesson before dismissing them. On this particular Sunday, he was using squirrels for an object lesson on industry and preparation. He started out by saying, "I'm going to describe something, and I want you to raise your hand when you know what it is." The children nodded eagerly. "This thing lives in trees (pause) and eats nuts (pause)..." No hands went up. "And it is gray (pause) and has a long bushy tail (pause)..." The children were looking at each other, but still no hands raised. "And it jumps from branch to branch (pause) and chatters and flips its tail when it's excited (pause)..." Finally one little boy tentatively raised his hand. The minister breathed a sigh of relief and called on him. "Well," said the boy, "I know the answer you're looking for is supposed to be 'Jesus' ... but it sure sounds like a squirrel to me."

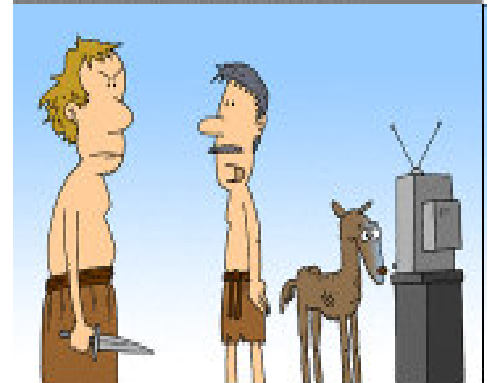


Westminster Presbyterian Church

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See Luke 10: 06-01-2000
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