

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Phone: (360) 357-5750
1925 Boulevard Road SE
Olympia WA 98501

E-mail: office@wpcoly.org
Website: www.wpcoly.org



The Triangle

February 2nd, 2010

Ash Wednesday Meal and Service

Wednesday, February 17th, beginning at 6:00pm



Everyone is invited to attend a simple soup supper on Ash Wednesday at 6:00pm. The meal will be followed by a short service of worship at 6:30pm. The session meeting that evening begins at 7:00pm.

PASTORS' CORNER

The Rev. Dr. David R. Kegley

Isaiah, chapter 5, speaks of a vineyard. In the vineyard things go badly and the yield is both undesirable and small. But the vineyard is a metaphor of the people of Israel and their

lack of integrity with the Torah. In a very intriguing story about rain and the prophet Elijah in 1 Kings 17-18, there seems to be a direct and miraculous relationship between nature and prayer. The same is true for Jesus and the storm at sea in Matthew, chapter 8. And there are other examples of a relationship people have with nature. But, do you think there was a connection between the earthquake in Haiti and people's behavior?

Some religious people do. Some have spoken out about a natural disaster like this one being a judgment upon a people's lack of faith. Some say that it "was God's will." In fact, I heard a touching report on National Public Radio where a pastor ministering to his people in Haiti was interviewed and said those words, "...it was God's will." Personally, I cringe when I hear this. While I affirm that nature often provides ready metaphors about the spiritual life and that prayer has a real, if not mysterious, relationship with the natural order, I cannot accept the connection between our loving God and the random occurrences of natural disasters.

It is true that we live in a dangerous world. It is also true that we live limited lives here on earth, sometimes too limited for our tastes. The trouble is that when deadly things happen either on a small scale or a large scale, human beings have a need to explain why. We often end up in strange territory when we do. Attempting to moralize a natural disaster, or an outbreak of disease for that matter, has us speaking for God in a way that seems tangential to our calling, and often in hindsight, extremely unhelpful. It is at those times that I appreciate the sciences which try as hard as they can to create humane solutions to living in a dangerous world.

Jesus showed restraint when he considered a local disaster where a tower fell on eighteen people and killed them. He used the situation as an example for all people simply to be as close to God as possible in this dangerous world. (Luke 13:1-5)

Where is God in Haiti? God is shuddering with the orphans, bleeding with the injured and coaxing hope's rebirth where there is despair. God is nudging love's power to give, redeem, rebuild, feed, cloth, befriend, and plan for a better Haiti. While the rest of the world log-jammed at airports and misfired with inappropriate solutions, God was first on the scene. I think that so very often it just takes humans time to catch up with God.

Peace, David

Calendar for This Week and Next

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 9:00am Worship
- 9:45am Sunday School for all ages
- 11:15am Worship
- 12:30pm Youth Group
- 3:00pm Olympia Chamber
Orchestra concert

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 1:00pm Grief Support Group (lib)
- 4:30pm Stephen Ministries (rm 7)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 7:30am Men's Breakfast @ I-HOP
- 10:00am Horizon Bible Study (lib)
- 6:00pm TuesdayNightTogether
- 6:30pm Adult Ed meeting
- 7:00pm Craft Group

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- 10:00am Bible Study (room 12)
- 11:30am FH Construction (lib)
- 7:00pm Department meetings

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 9:30am "Sew Happy" Quilters
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 9:15am Book Group

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 9:00am Worship
- 9:45am Sunday School for all ages
- 11:15am Worship
- 12:30pm Youth Group

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 12 noon Triangle articles due
- 7:00pm Rachel Circle

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 7:30am Men's Breakfast @ I-HOP
- 9:30am Elizabeth Circle (library)
- 11:00am Mary-Martha Circle
- 4:30pm FH Fundraising (library)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 9:30am Naomi Circle
- 9:30am Triangle folding (library)
- 10:00am Bible Study (room 12)
- 11:30am FH Construction (lib)
- 6:00pm Ash Wednesday supper
- 6:30pm Ash Wednesday worship
- 7:00pm Session (room 12)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 9:30am "Sew Happy" Quilters
- 1:00pm Dorcas Circle (library)
- 6:00pm Praise Team
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir



FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES . . .

Kids, Jobs, The Shack and Shawls!

All at TuesdayNightTogether (TNT)

Join us for FOOD, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP this Tuesday, February 9th and continuing each 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings in February, March and April.

At 6:00pm -

- LIGHT DINNER provided (\$2/person, \$5/family donation appreciated)

At 6:30 pm -

- ACTIVITIES FOR ALL KIDS, ALL AGES!
Childcare (free), Kid's Club (grade school), and Youth Group activities
- MISSION MINISTRIES
Join making prayer shawls for homebound and others.
- "THE SHACK"
#4 on the NYT 2009 bestseller list - Whether you have read it (liked it or not,) or not read it, join this lively and provocative book discussion with Glen Hunter (February 9th and 23rd)
- "GROWING UP AGAIN"
New participants welcome to ongoing supportive and interesting discussion, with Donna Burkhart, about parenting in the digital age.
- JOB SEARCH AND SUPPORT NETWORK
This workshop is for everyone, including friends and families, securing their employment, searching for employment or wanting a better job in today's tough economic times. Monica Tanner has tremendous experience and resources to help you focus your goals and your search, create and improve your resume, practice interviewing and searching online. There will be special speakers and topics including state applications, cold calls, and youth job market and searches. Please take a class outline and description from the bulletin board and share with friends and family. We especially welcome people from both inside and outside our congregation to take advantage of this opportunity.

*Sandy Crouch, for Christian Education
Cheryl Kinnamon, Director of Family Ministries*

FULFILLING THE VISION

Fellowship Hall Project Update

If you were unable to attend church last Sunday, you missed the exciting announcement that the long-awaited beginning of FULFILLING OUR VISION of constructing the Fellowship Hall and Preschool additions to our church will actually be set in motion Monday, February 1st.

The contractor, Rushforth Construction, has a very ambitious project timeline to completion of 155 days, barring bad weather or other unforeseen setbacks. Every time you visit the church you will notice changes from the last time you visited.

There will inevitably be disruptions and inconveniences due to limited parking and ingress/egress during the construction process. The contractor is very sensitive to our needs and wants to go out of their way to work with us to minimize inconveniences and head off problems as much as possible. If you see a situation that you feel needs attention or you simply have questions, please contact me and I will work with our construction team to try to find a solution to your concern.

The contractor will be providing frequent short interval schedule updates, which we will post out in the narthex for your review, as well as posting with a summary of what to expect next on the church website.

Thank you to the volunteers from several of our hard-working committees who are making adjustments, accommodations and moving things around within the church in order to store and keep track of church assets that will be displaced during this time of construction. Thank you!

Frank Sanborn, Project Coordinator for the Fellowship Hall Steering Committee
Jim Morgan, Chair

THE ALL-CHURCH FAMILY RETREAT SEEKS VOLUNTEERS!

The Mission & Fellowship Department (*see first note on page 7*) is looking for some good leaders for the 2010 All-Church Family Retreat in early June. We have several positions that need to be filled.

- We need someone to organize youth activities and someone to organize adult activities (crafts, entertainment, small group activities/ discussions).
- We need someone to help with the weekend schedule and the exit evaluation form.
- Most of all we need a leader that can bring all the other leaders together.

Is this person you? Is God asking you to help? Please call Glen Hunter at (360) 704-7293, or e-mail at rangerbob@localaccess.com.

Glen Hunter, for Mission & Fellowship

RETIREMENT? NOT QUITE: IT'S MORE LIKE LETTING GO

There is something fitting about having my last year of directing Sunshine Preschool be the first year of the new decade. There is something exciting about this new decade beginning even though the next five months will be my last months as the Director of Sunshine Preschool. There is much joy in my heart and gratitude to God as I nostalgically look back at these eighteen years of work at the preschool and as a staff member of WPC. I look back before it is time for me to move forward.



Once upon a time in a new church building, I began this “Tale of Letting go” by assisting Lydia Saunders and Marjorie Whitbeck with various duties of each preschool day. I began working as a teacher’s aid when my oldest daughter was in college and my youngest daughter was twelve years old. They don’t mind me saying, they are thirty something now! I am not telling my age although that needs letting go of also. Many of the first students I so eagerly assisted are in college today.

Continuing to look backward . . . at that time much of the writing of curriculum, sketching craft designs, and developing monthly calendars were done on paper by hand. Now we can scan designs, download pictures, Google ideas on the web for themes, and email weekly newsletters to families.

During those early years I kept a personal planner and calendar always at my side. These days there is a laptop on the desk and a cell phone in my purse. I have also observed children evolving just as astonishingly as the daily tasks. We move onward!

Through the years one daughter married, and the other became engaged as I merrily played games with other people’s grandchildren. Today, I play with four grandchildren of my own! The children today are much more resilient than in the past. It is a resilience born from 9/11, and knowledge that surges to us from around the world at the speed of light.

The welcoming of two very gifted and talented Pastors to WPC and my association with them and the entire staff is a highly treasured gift from God. David, in a sermon recently, talked about areas of his own life in which he needed to “let go”. I am claiming that phrase for myself as I ponder the remaining months I have left on this job. Letting go when my loved ones died was not easy. Letting go of a mentor and friend as I watched her health deteriorate was also difficult. I am determined, however, to do as she suggested (and God’s word confirms). “Life isn’t a holding action but a process that is often full of grace”. We don’t leave the best parts of ourselves behind in the office or the classroom. These experiences and growth are grafted onto our lives and the spirit thrives because of it. She knew then what I know more intimately now . . . a belief that every exit is an entry, and that we are moving on rather than out. I go on here at WPC. I will continue to listen to children, to hug them every chance I get and to pray for their parents. Once again, with God’s blessing it will soon be time for letting go.

Sunny Petermann, Sunshine Preschool Director

FOR AND ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

Were you wondering about the Mission & Fellowship Department? At the January church officers retreat a decision was made to combine two departments (Mission & Ministry and Fellowship & Outreach) thus Mission & Fellowship. You will be hearing more about this later.

The Worship & Music Department extends its **heartfelt thanks** to all volunteers who helped decorate (and undecorated!) the sanctuary and narthex during our Advent and Christmas seasons. Your time and efforts helped beautify our church and enhance our worship experiences.

Marj Marion, for Worship & Music

Remember the **Marriage Retreat** opportunity! Join us at Oregon's Cannon Beach March 19-21. Brochures with registration forms are in the literature racks or you may call Rachelle Dudley (456-6996) or Pastor Christine Long for more information.

The Presbyterian Women of the Olympia Presbytery invite all women of the Church to our **Spiritual Retreat** in Toledo, Washington. The retreat will be from 9:00am to 2:00pm Saturday February 20. Our speaker will be Rev. Hanna Peterson of Kelso Presbyterian Church who will be leading us in "*Our Faith Journey Continued: Experiencing God's Faithfulness*" based on 2 Corinthians 4:8-10". If you wish to attend please contact Connie at 878-8783

Connie Robinson, Vice Moderator, Westminster Presbyterian Women

Message from your Deacons: The Deacons are currently sending everyone a yearly letter and survey. We hope you will watch for it and return it ASAP in the enclosed envelope.

Vicky Wyrick, for the Deacons

Our prayers and sympathy to the Eugene Seidel following the death of his wife Nancy on January 15, 2010. Eugene and Nancy were members of Westminster in 2001 and 2002. A service will be held this Saturday, February 6th at First Presbyterian Church in Portland OR.

Our prayers and sympathy also to Mary Husted and family following the death of her husband Warren. Warren and Mary were members of Westminster 1990 through 1996.

FOR AND ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONTINUES . . .

There will be a **New Member Class** Saturday, February 20th beginning at 9:30am. Please contact the church office or indicate your interest on the back of your friendship card at worship. The class goes until about 2:30pm and lunch is provided.

We will soon be ordering **offering envelopes for 2011**, so if you would prefer monthly envelopes and you are not on our list – now is the time to let the church office know.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

January 24 – 242 (71 at 9:00am)

January 31 – 222 (75 at 9:00am)



GREETERS FOR FEBRUARY: *Dean and Karen Judd*

Pastor: David Kegley
dkegley@wpcoly.org

Associate Pastor: Christine Long
ctlong@wpcoly.org

Director of Music Ministries:
Terry Shaw, wpcmusic@msn.com

Director of Family Ministries:
Cheryl Kinnamon, ckinnamon@wpcoly.org

Youth Ministry Coordinator:
Katrina Wyman, K8emay@hotmail.com

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Editor: Carol Ryser (360) 357-5750 office@wpcoly.org

Secretary: Lynne Taylor ltaylor@wpcoly.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday, 9:00am-noon & 1:00-3:00pm

WESTMINSTER'S WEBSITE: www.wpcoly.org
Webmaster: **Jennifer Shaw**, operagirl79@msn.com