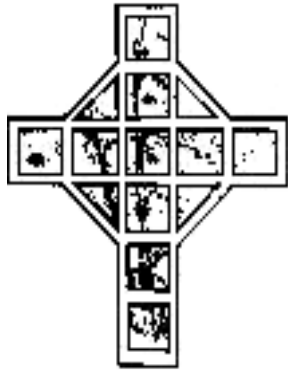


Westminster Presbyterian Church
Phone: (360) 357-5750
1925 Boulevard Road SE
Olympia WA 98501

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



The Triangle

January 18th, 2011

ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS ARE IN THIS TRIANGLE

When does TuesdayNightTogether begin again?

Food Bank, Picasso and Krispy Kreme – who was involved there?

Who is invited to participate in Friendship Dinners?

What happened that provided excitement for the Preschool children?

Theater sports (?) – who is going to do that – and what is it?

How will you be able to remember the new Triangle article deadline?

When and where is the Music Jam Fellowship?

WESTMINSTER'S ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will immediately follow the 11:15am service of worship on Sunday, January 30th.

PASTORS' CORNER
The Rev. Dr. David Kegley

In the December 14th edition of the CHRISTIAN CENTURY Carol Zaleski, Professor of World Religions at Smith College, argues that God as Creator is a much more tenable conclusion to draw than Stephen Hawking's who recently claimed "God did not create the universe." As a physicist, Hawking reasons through his calculations that it is no longer necessary to suggest that God caused the creation of the universe.

Of course many within the religious community have reacted. People of faith tend to get pretty excited about such things. Zaleski points out that over history attempts to claim God as creator have held sway and then required new thinking. Seeing the earth as replete with evidence of a creator fell out of style when philosopher David Humme suggested that making such a statement would imply we had experience observing the universe being made. She then notes that William Paley proposed in 1802 the classic argument about the watch. Putting the parts of a watch in a box, shaking them up and expecting them to assemble into a ticking, time-keeper is about the same as suggesting that the universe just happened on its own, Paley argued.

But later Darwin suggested that organisms adapted as time rolled on. The theory of natural selection and the thinking that followed it made Paley's ideas less compelling. Simple organisms could, over time, become complex. Intelligent design—a more recent theory which asserts that an intelligent cause created the universe over and against the ideas of natural selection but in this case as a scientific approach—is doomed in my estimation because it presumes God into science the same way Hawking presumes God out of it.

What's interesting about the current cosmological discussion is that Hawking and others are theorizing about a multiverse of 10^{500} universes generated out of nothing. This is where Zaleski suggests that a person must be just a little biased toward atheism to conclude that God is out of the question within the assertion that something is 10^{500} beyond what we can actually see. "Shift," she says, "... the burden of proof to the atheist, and what one gets is an assertion of brute fact: the universe (or multiverse if you prefer) just is. What would make such an assertion more rationally satisfying than the confession that God is the maker of the 10^{500} dwelling places?"

The two disciplines of cosmology and theology need to be in dialogue; otherwise both tend to make unreasonable claims about the other. The dialogue is bound to create friction. Scientists and theologians alike need to approach great complexities/mysteries with respect to the other. Remembering Galileo whose theories were banned by the church for his correct reconfiguration of the solar system, those of faith must make room for the possibility that our assumptions may be flawed. And those in the theoretical sciences still need to reconcile with ancient wisdom which declares that we are not alone.

Peace, *David*

Calendar for This Week and Next

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

5:00pm Youth Mission Trip meeting

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

9:00am Worship

9:45am Sunday School for all ages

11:15am Worship

12:30pm Youth Group

MONDAY, JANUARY 24

4:00pm Presbytery Trustees (chapel)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

7:30am Men's Breakfast @ I-HOP

3:00pm Nova School (FH)

7:00pm Bell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

10:00am Bible Study (room 12)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

9:30am "Sew Happy" Quilters

12 noon Triangle articles due

7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

6:00pm Church Officers' Retreat

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

8:00am Church Officers' Retreat
continues

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00am Worship

9:45am Sunday School for all ages

11:15am Worship

12:30pm Annual Congregational
Meeting

12:30pm Youth Group

3:00pm Olympia Chamber Orchestra

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

7:30am Men's Breakfast @ I-HOP

10:30am PW Board meeting (lib)

12 noon Women's Luncheon

3:00pm Nova School (FH)

7:00pm Bell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9:30am Triangle folding (library)

10:00am Bible Study (room 12)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

9:30am "Sew Happy" Quilters

6:00pm Praise Team

7:00pm Chancel Choir



TRIANGLE ARTICLE DUE DATE: You will note that we have moved Triangle article deadlines to an earlier time. The new deadline is before noon on Thursday rather than Monday just before publication. We will always remind you by putting that date in the bulletin and on the back page of your Triangle.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS . . .

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

A Look at the Ministries of Christine and Rachelle

Greetings Westminster family and friends!

As a church family we can celebrate that we begin the new year with all staff positions filled and great ministry happening. 2010 was a year of transitions for us as a church staff. We celebrated Sunny Petermann's retirement and said goodbye to Cheryl Kinnamon and two other preschool staff members, Karen Miller and Tina Wagner.

In preparing to fill Cheryl's position as Director of Family Ministries the Personnel Department considered a new staffing model. The result was to expand Christine's call as Associate Pastor to full-time and to create a new half-time position, Director of Christian Education. The Personnel Department and the Session worked to ensure that Cheryl's ministries would be covered by the new model.

To help you remember who does what please see the lists below. Of course, we are always ready to help you and connect you with the right person or persons for your ministry needs. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and your willingness to serve with us!

Contact Christine, Associate Pastor for . . .

Christine will continue all aspects of her ministry from before which include: worship leadership, preaching, sacraments, officiating weddings and funerals, pastoral care, new member orientation, and coordinating with care ministries like Deacons and Stephen Ministry.

New for Christine is to provide leadership in the planning, organizing, implementation, and evaluation of Christian spiritual formation programs for all ages. Programs include but are not limited to:

- **Children's Church**
- **Youth Confirmation Class**
- **TuesdayNightTogether (TNT)**
- **4th/5th Grade Bible Class (with Rachelle)**
- **Adult Christian Education (with Pastor David and CE Department)**

Contact Rachelle, Director of Christian Education for . . .

Rachelle is responsible for programmatic and pastoral leadership in the area of Christian Education for children and youth. Programs include but are not limited to:

- **Sunday School**
- **Vacation Bible School**
- **Advent Craft Sunday**
- **Sundae Sunday**

Blessings, *Christine & Rachelle*

TUESDAYNIGHTTOGETHER

TNT News from Pastor Christine Long

TNT is food, fun, and fellowship for all ages.
A light supper is included.
Childcare provided.
Classes and fellowship for all ages.

**February, March, and April on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.
6:00pm, beginning Tuesday, February 8th**

Mealtime help needed!

Our fabulous chefs, Emily and Frances, are off to their winter home in Louisiana.
Please consider cooking for one night at TNT....share with a friend!
Of course, if you want to cook several nights that would be great too.
Consider cooking as a family project!
Ingredients paid for by the TNT budget.
Contact Pastor Christine if you are interested.

Feeling crafty?

Christine will be leading Kid's Club (1st – 5th grades) at TNT.
Help needed leading a craft project during options time.
Project provided – but ideas welcome.
Sign up for one Tuesday or more.
Kid's Club is games... music... theater sports... crafts... and a short Bible lesson!

For Youth . . .

Youth Fellowship with Katrina Wyman, Youth Ministry Coordinator
Middle and High School youth welcome!

For Adults . . .

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Discussing Difficult Issues (Current Amendments in the PCUSA)
Music Jam Fellowship
How Much Is Enough? (Parenting Class)

For a full description of these classes, including Sunday morning classes, please see the Adult Christian Education Brochure that is in the literature racks or the next Triangle.

Christine Long, Associate Pastor

YOUTH NEWS . . .

The Youth Group had a great three-day weekend! On Sunday, January 16th, after the 9:00am service, seven youth and two **very much appreciated** parents, Donna Burkhart and Barbara Sadlier, headed up to Seattle to see the Picasso exhibit from the *Musee National* in Paris. We arrived early in the afternoon and enjoyed a delightful lunch at a Vietnamese restaurant nearby. We then spent about an hour perusing works created by one of the 20th Century's most prolific artists. This made for some fun discussion on the way home (and at Krispy Kreme, where we stopped for a little dessert!).

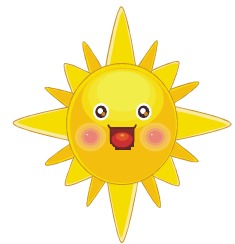
On Monday, which was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, we all met at 10:00am at the Thurston County Food Bank. We had a turnout of eleven youth and, again, two parents: Julie Johnson and Carol Vannerson. Carol and her sons all have a great deal of familiarity with the bank and how things work there. Carol showed us where the food we donate each month at church goes and how it is distributed to members of the local community. We became a part of that process by making about 100-150 boxes of food for families of varying sizes. These boxes will be sent to the Food Bank's "satellite" sites, which serve people who are unable to get to the downtown food bank location. The youth worked hard and we all had a good time!

In the coming weeks' regular youth group meetings, we will continue to explore the topic of grief—as well as the comfort that can be brought to us through God and those we know through God, our church family. We also anticipate having some fun on February 6th at an after-church Youth Group Super Bowl get-together!

Katrina Riippa, Youth Ministry Coordinator

SUNSHINE PRESCHOOL NEWS . . .

During December the children were busy making Christmas decorations and learning the Christmas story and celebrating the birth of Jesus. They also had their own little Christmas party before we closed for Christmas break.



One of the most exciting days was when we were able to watch the installation of our big toy in the playground. The children will soon be able to enjoy sliding, climbing and playing outside. We are thankful to all the volunteers who came to help us with this project. We couldn't have done it without you.

Now the children have returned to Preschool after a two-week break. They were eager to come back and were excited to see their friends and teachers and share their Christmas experiences. This month they will enjoy winter activities, learning about modes of transportation and explore the Asian culture.

Dinali Dhammapala, Sunshine Preschool Director

FOR AND ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

Thank You for Prayers: Belle and I wish to thank our Westminster family for their prayers and their caring thoughts, cards and flowers. We feel totally blessed. Belle's ankle surgery is doing quite well and she continues to improve. We will be active and able to return to church soon.

Clancy Pritchett



Dear Westminster Family: Thank you for all your help and the lovely memorial service for Janet Buresh. Even though mom was homebound, she always enjoyed the Deacon's visits and times of communion. Our family was blessed by your care. Thank you, Westminster family.

The Buresh Family

Your year-end giving statements will go in the mail this week. Please look them over and contact Lynne Taylor if you have any questions. Lynne is in the office Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday and Thursday and Friday morning.

IT'S FRIENDSHIP DINNER TIME AGAIN!

You are invited to participate in this year's program of Friendship Dinners to be held during the months of March, April and May. To participate, you commit to three dinners, just one each month, with one meal around your own table in your home. When at home you provide the entrée and your assigned guests bring the salad and dessert. The other two months you go to someone else's home and take a salad or a dessert.



Friendship Dinners are a wonderful way to become acquainted with others in the church. To participate, just note your interest on the back of your Friendship Card (*those lavender cards in the pew racks*) at church and drop it in the offering plate.

If you have questions, please contact Joan Schlect at 456-4674. Note: This program is intended for adult couples and singles.

Joan Schlect, for Mission & Fellowship and Friendship Dinners

WESTMINSTER'S PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCHEON

Our luncheon is Tuesday, February 1st at noon. It will be hosted by the Mary-Martha Circle and they invite you to come for lunch, enjoy conversation and hear the Readers Theatre Group from the Senior Center present "The Committee Meeting." So, don't forget to join us Tuesday, February 1st in the fellowship hall.

Peggy Pontious, for Westminster's Presbyterian Women

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

January 9 – 212 (67 at 9:00am)

January 16 – 188 (54 at 9:00am)



GREETERS FOR JANUARY:

Dick and Sunny Petermann

Pastor: **David Kegley**

dkegley@wpcoly.org

Associate Pastor: **Christine Long**

ctlong@wpcoly.org

Director of Music Ministries: **Terry Shaw**

wpcmusic@msn.com

Director of Christian Education: **Rachelle Dudley**

rdudley@wpcoly.org

Youth Ministry Coordinator: **Katrina Riippa**

KaRiippa@gmail.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