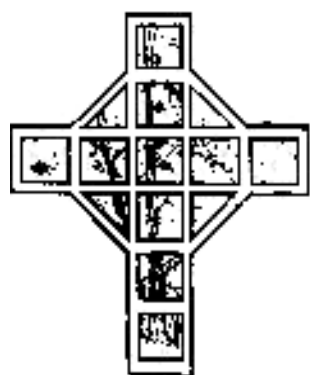


Westminster Presbyterian Church
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The Triangle

October 4th, 2011

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REMINDER

Join us this Saturday, October 8th for our church grounds workday. Bring gloves and tools including rakes, loppers and clippers. There will be a task for everyone, so come alone or bring your family for a time of work, fun and good fellowship.

Ernie Petermann, for the Buildings & Grounds Department

PUMPKIN CARVING IS AN ALL-CHURCH EVENT

Everyone is invited to the Pumpkin Carving & Potluck Sunday, October 30th at 5:00pm. Childcare will be provided at 5:30pm following dinner. Please bring your own pumpkins and carving tools. We encourage you to hollow out your pumpkins at home, speeding up the carving process. Carved pumpkins will be judged at 6:30pm. Bring a dish to share, according to the following chart: If your last name begins with A-F bring dessert; G-P bring salad; Q-Z bring a main dish. Bring a dish to serve eight people.

Beth Julian, for the Mission & Fellowship Department

PASTORS' CORNER
The Rev. Dr. David Kegley

During our Congregational Meeting this last January the Session presented our budget for the year. The budget was well prepared and well thought out. The Elders and especially the Stewardship & Finance Department had done an outstanding job in balancing income and expenses while also facing up to a very challenging reality. The reality was that while we aimed at providing essential ministry, maintaining our facilities and supporting staff in a positive manner—all without significant increases—we would have to borrow just over \$20,000 from reserves. A comment was made during the meeting that stuck with me. It had to do with the idea that over several years of tightening our budget we were losing ground. We were becoming less able to move into areas of growth for the mission of the congregation.

That's when I began to get a hopeful vision. I saw that our budget was unlike most institutions which are indeed making massive cuts and jettisoning goods and services in our recessive economy. By contrast our budget is modest and we are more nimble. In my prayers and thinking it occurred to me that we could make a minor increase in our giving as a group—\$250, or \$500 if you felt you could compensate for those whose personal budgets were too tight to increase this year. With that we could cover that \$20,000 deficit and give the budget some room to breathe. I spoke and wrote about this several times in the winter and spring of this year. You listened to me. You were responsive. The Session was also very frugal, holding back on expenses. Just last week Elders Aaron Hare and David Ammons of our Stewardship & Finance Department reported that to date we had received \$14,000 in extra giving and are in the black for our budget. Further, we have not had to draw on our reserve funds.

Thank you. Thank you for listening and getting the point about the health of our budget and the need to deal with the realities of our finances. Thank you for relieving our collective worries about whether or not we could keep pace income-to-expenses. Thank you for caring about your church.

Of course, I say this at the risk of causing all of us to relax and set aside our alert posture. That's not the message. There's so much ministry to do and the Session knows where they could utilize more funds to better fulfill our vision for the future. The message is both gratitude and confidence. We can accomplish such a thing as good economics with our modest budget and careful attentiveness. With God's help, we still do transform our worldly goods into blessings. We do this together. We do this within the realities of our time. We do this following Christ, fulfilling a grand vision of love for the world.

Peace, *David*

Calendar for This Week and Next

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:00am B&G Work Day (page 1)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

9:00am Worship

9:45am Sunday School

11:15am Worship

12:30pm Youth Group / Confirmation Class

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

1:00pm Grief Support Group (lib)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

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

1:00pm Horizon Bible Study (lib)

6:00pm TuesdayNightTogether meal

6:30pm TNT classes and activities

7:00pm Bell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

10:00am Bible Study (room 12)

6:30pm Stephen Ministry (library)

7:00pm Department meetings

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

9:30am "Sew Happy" Quilters

12 noon Triangle articles due

6:30pm Nominating Comm (library)

7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:15am Book Group (library)

1:00pm Golden Delicious lunch at Main Buffet

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

9:00am Worship

9:45am Sunday School

11:15am Worship

12:30pm Youth Group / Confirmation Class

3:00pm Olympia Chamber Orchestra

5:30pm United Churches Stewardship planning (FH)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

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

9:30am Elizabeth Circle (rm 12)

11:30am Mary Martha Circle

6:30pm Dave Ramsey class

7:00pm Bell Choir rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

9:30am Triangle folding (library)

10:00am Bible Study (room 12)

7:00pm Session (fellowship hall)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:30am "Sew Happy" Quilters

1:00pm Dorcas Circle

6:00pm Praise Team rehearsal

7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School is up and running. Our kindergarten – 5th graders are learning about some key relationships in the Old Testament: Adam & Eve, Samuel & Eli, Jacob & Esau and more. Last Sunday, in the 3rd – 5th grade class, the story of Cain & Abel taught us that holding jealousy is heavy to bear. Literally heavy! This was illustrated by running a race with buckets. The bucket labeled “forgiveness” was empty, thus light, and the other bucket labeled “jealousy” was filled with bricks and was heavy. The moral: *forgiveness is indeed lighter than and not as hard to carry as jealousy - a good reminder for us all.*

Our 9th – 12th graders are studying Hinduism and a Hindu couple will be coming to speak on October 9th. On October 16th, we have an interfaith fieldtrip planned that will entail visiting a Hindu temple in Maple Valley, lunch at the temple and grabbing dessert at Punjab Sweets (Indian Bakery). Starting October 23rd, the youth will begin a mini unit on Judaism. If you have any experience you would like to share or treasures from your travels, please let me know.

Last Sunday was our first group activity and lesson on the issue of access to clean water. Our kindergarten – 8th graders learned some sobering facts like: polluted water isn't just dirty, it's deadly; over 5,000 children die each day as a result of diarrhea, equaling an average of one child dying every second; more than a billion people lack access to clean water; the most precious natural resource on earth isn't gold or oil – it's clean water! The children took home a water usage survey and we are curious to see what the average amount of water is used everyday. Their challenge for the week was to thank God everyday for their ability to turn on a water tap and get clean water! There but for the grace of God go I.

Water 1st International is coming to Westminster to do a presentation and water activity with our Sunday School children and youth. Everyone is invited. See your invitation in the article below. Stay tuned, it's going to be an exciting year!

Blessings, *Rachelle Dudley*, 357-5750, rdudley@wpcoly.org
Director of Christian Education

SUNDAY SCHOOL INVITES YOU to attend a presentation by:

Water 1st International
Sunday, October 30th, 9:45-10:45 in the chapel

Water 1st International is a Seattle-based organization that educates people about the global water crisis and provides opportunities to respond in a way that has a lasting impact on people's lives. They raise funds that go to poor communities around the world to implement sustainable communities through managed projects that integrate water supply sanitation, and health education.



FROM OUR YEAR-ROUND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

WPC: Loving God and Loving Others

Between now and mid-November, the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC), with the support of the Year-Round Stewardship Committee, will be engaging a conversation about how **WPC Loves God and Loves Others**.

The theme **WPC Loves God and Loves Others** comes from the command and example given to us by Jesus himself. When Jesus was asked which commandment is the greatest, he replied: *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”* (Matthew 22:37-39)

Loving God and Loving Others is the foundation of the mission of WPC. Our congregation makes a difference in the lives of its members and in the lives of those in our community through:

- ♦ Sunday worship that welcomes all, characterized by excellence in preaching and musical leadership;
- ♦ Many adult and family-oriented programs that love and teach parents and children alike including Sunday School, TuesdayNightTogether, Children’s Church, Youth Fellowship, Women’s Circles, Men’s Fellowship, and more; and
- ♦ Activities that extend God’s love to our community, including Parents’ Night Out, involvement in the CROP Walk, the Thurston County Food Bank, Camp Quixote, Safeplace, Interfaith Works, Operation Christmas Child, and many other organizations.

Soon, you will be receiving a letter and a pledge card in the mail. As you consider how WPC makes a difference in your life and in our community by **Loving God and Loving Others**, the Session encourages you to consider maintaining and increasing your financial stewardship to WPC. Your financial gift is a response to God’s love for each of us, in order to support WPC which nurtures its members and its community by extending God’s love.

During Sunday worship on November 13th, everyone will have the opportunity to bring pledges forward during the first or second worship service. Additionally, please plan to attend the congregational celebration on November 13th from 3:30 – 5:00pm in our fellowship hall. This will be a fun gathering with refreshments, entertainment, and a congregational photo with you in it! Come rejoice with us!

Julie Johnson
on behalf of the Year-Round Stewardship Committee
and the Session of WPC

WESTMINSTER'S BOOK GROUP – You are invited!

Our next meeting of Book Group is Friday, October 14 at 9:15am in the church library. We are reading *THE GOOD RAIN* by Timothy Egan. The book, slim but meaty, is nonfiction, and pulls together political, environmental, geographical elements of Pacific Northwest history. Written in 1990, it provides thoughtful discussions on what has changed and what problems still continue unresolved. Egan, a native Seattleite and former New York Times Pacific Northwest correspondent for 18 years, also wrote *THE BIG BURN*, about the establishment of the National Forest Service. Anyone is welcome to attend, whether they have read the book or not.

Suzanne Fell, 459-2404, ssfell@comcast.net

FLEECE FABRIC NEEDED FOR MIDWIFE KITS

Every year our Presbyterian Women put together midwife kits, sent to Banso, Cameroon. The kits, in gallon ziploc bags, are filled with a bar of Ivory soap, a knit or crocheted cap, an infant lapped t-shirt, latex gloves (for delivery), a washcloth, and a fleece blanket. These kits are assembled in early January, and then sent to Minneapolis, to be transported by hand, by missionaries Drs. Alison LaFrence and John Edwards, who go to Banso each year to teach and upgrade the skills of village midwives. When the midwife classes are complete, the midwives receive the kits to take back with them to their villages. Last year we sent 250 kits, and over the years have probably sent 1,000. The Women's Circles donate the gloves, soap, washcloths, t-shirts, caps, but this year we are in need of fleece fabric. One yard of fabric will yield two blankets. With the "Sew Happy" Quilters' help, we use a decorative rotary cutter to cut the fabric, and thus don't need to sew hems. The fleece can be purchased at Jo-Ann Fabrics (*using coupons is terrific*) or Wal-Mart and can be colorful – your choice (*no Logo fleece, please*). If you have unused fleece in your fabric stashes, or wish to purchase some at the fabric stores, we would be very grateful. Fabric less than a yard is too short. There will be a donation/collection box in the church library. With thanks.

Suzanne Fell, 459-2404/ssfell@comcast.net
for Dorcas Circle, and Westminster's Presbyterian Women

NOTE: The Bell Choir is missing one of their foam pads – one of five pieces in a trapezoid shape approximately 2½ x 4 ft and 3-4" thick. It should have the letter "E" marked on it as well. If anyone knows of its whereabouts, please return it to either the choir room, or the closet in the back hallway near the back door to the choir room, where it had been stored. Thanks from the Bell Choir Ringers

MEET LARA – OUR NEW YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

On behalf of the Search Committee and the Personnel Department, it is my pleasure to announce that Lara Crutsinger-Perry has recently agreed to serve as our Youth Ministry Coordinator.

Lara, her partner, and children, moved to the Olympia area this year from the Washington, D.C. area. She earned a Master's of Arts in Church and Community Ministry from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Master's of Science in Social Work from the University of Texas at Arlington. Her employment background includes work with institutions of higher learning and a national youth advocacy organization. Lara has served as a professional social worker for the past fifteen years.

Our search committee included Linda Bell, Greg and Matt Burkhart, Cris Johnson, David Kegley, Laurel Mack-Wilson, Paul Taylor and me. As you can see, our search committee included representatives of youth, parents of youth, elders, our interim Youth Ministry Coordinator and our pastor. The Search Committee conducted two interviews with Lara – asking her several questions about her faith and theology, her experience with youth, and her leadership and organization skills. We are impressed with her experience and credentials, and her responses to our questions of her faith journey.

Lara began serving as our Youth Ministry Coordinator on Friday, September 23rd. During this time, she has been working with Paul Taylor, our interim Youth Ministry Coordinator, to ensure a smooth transition.

I particularly want to recognize and thank Paul Taylor for agreeing to serve as an interim Youth Ministry Coordinator over the summer and for his work with Lara as she begins.

Please join me in welcoming Lara! And please pray for her, and for our youth, for a vibrant successful Youth Ministry Program at Westminster.

Kevin Krueger, Chair, Youth Ministry Coordinator Search Committee

FOR AND ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY to Virginia Nordman and daughters Lorna Linden and Lisa Midles following the death of their husband and father Arvid Nordman. Arvid died September 20, 2011. A service will be held at a later date.



OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY also to the family and friends of Ray Coon who died September 15, 2011. A service was held for Ray in our chapel Saturday, October 1st.

As a result of your donations, Westminster was able to send \$455 to the Thurston County Food Bank in August.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

September 25 - 205 (55 at 9:00am)

October 2 - 230 (63 at 9:00am)



GREETERS FOR OCTOBER:

Jerry and Beth Julian

Pastor: **David Kegley**, dkegley@wpcoly.org

Associate Pastor: **Christine Long**, ctlong@wpcoly.org

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

Bell Choir Director: **Leah Wilson**
LWilson372@aol.com

Director of Christian Education: **Rachelle Dudley**
rdudley@wpcoly.org

Youth Ministry Coordinator: **Lara Crutsinger-Perry**
lcrutsingerperry@me.com

Sunshine Preschool Director: **Dinali Dhammapala**
ilanid7@yahoo.com

THE TRIANGLE is published the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.

The next article deadline is Thursday, October 13th before noon.

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