

The Westwind

Volume XXXVII9 Issue 10 October 2009

Editor: Sue Siltman

**The fields are harevested and bare,
And Winter whistles through the square.
October dresses in flame and gold,
Like a woman afraid of growing old.**

Anne Mary Lawler

Now Indian summer arrives, a change of season that's more a sense memory than a date on the calendar. Finally, the heat is passing. Gradually familiar surroundings don a rustic palate of jewel tones that dazzle with their beauty. Let October seduce you with her charms. "Beguile us in a way you know," poet Robert Frost entreated this season of abundance. "Release one leaf at the break of day".

October has always been my favorite month of the entire year, perhaps because of memories

of going to the farm with my dad, with our two dogs, one a little toy fox terrier and one a mix of German Shepherd and collie. We would tromp the pasture and truly enjoy nature and each other's company. My parents were Presbyterians and therefore I am a cradle Presbyterian. I remember my dad working at the church, even putting in a curb, and my mother having the Women's Society at our home, usually serving dainty sandwiches and tea, etc. I remember when we were without a full time pastor and we had visiting students from Dallas Seminary and my mother took turns having those young men home for dinner. So I am proud to be a Presbyterian and I love Westminster Presbyterian Church and that means the people that have meant so much to my life and still do. We have some outstanding Bible teachers in our congregation that offer

wonderful opportunities for learning. We have an active Presbyterian Women's Bible Study Group and these ladies have influenced my life. We have a fantastic music program that often give me chills when our choir performs. We have so much that God has given us. Let us take care of each other and continue to worship together and praise our Lord for all His wonderful blessings that we enjoy in this congregation.

God bless Us All.

Abby Parham



Mark Your Calendars!
The Annual Stewardship Luncheon will be held after Worship, Sunday, October 25th.

Dates and Events to



Presbyterian Women News

The October meeting of Presbyterian Women will be on Tuesday the 20th at 10:00 AM in the church library. Sally Carthel will present lesson 2, *A Leader is Called*. A business meeting will follow.

Women of Westminster and friends are invited to the Bible study and/or business meetings.

Notice about Westwind

October 19th— next due date! +++

If you have anything you wish to be included in the next *Westwind*, please send the items by e-mail to the church office **as soon as possible**: office@wpcabilene.org or put them in the *Westwind* box. Thanks!

Happy Birthday! Happy Anniversary!

If you are celebrating your **birthday** or **anniversary** this month, please be sure to attend the after-worship coffee time on

October 11th.

Your Westminster family will celebrate with you as part of this fellowship time!

EVERYONE
is invited to the
SPIRITUAL RENEWAL GATHERING
(*Cursillo* Ultreya)
at 6:30 pm, on **OCTOBER 22nd**, at
FIRST Presbyterian Church,
14th & McCaulley Streets
in Sweetwater, TX.

ALL persons are welcome at Ultreyas, whether or **not** they have been to *Cursillo*, **or** even are Presbyterians; **so** **COME YOURSELF**, invite a **friend**, and **bring** a covered dish to share!

October Birthdays

- 4 - Grace Sadler
- Cary Cooke
- Mark Smith
- Skyler Johnson
- 5 - Connie Gill
- 12 - David Chenevert
- 13 - Mary Lou Chappell
- 15 - Carolyn Ainsworth
- 21 - Harroll Backus
- 27 - Connor Messersmith
- 28 - Crystal Leiter
- 29 - Jamie Tindall
- 31 - Joan Brooks

October Anniversaries

- 11- Cary & Mary Alice
- Headstream

**EVANGELISM
really is the task
and the responsibility of
EVERYONE,
and NOT just the task and
the responsibility of the
*Evangelism Committee!***

Aluminum Cans

Please save your aluminum cans for Jim Sullivan. Money raised will go to benefit the Encampment. You may drop them off at the church office at any time.

PRESBYTERIAN FOOD PANTRY

The Presbyterian Food Pantry serves hundreds of Abilene families every year. Donations of **non-perishable food items** and **cash** very much are needed and greatly will be appreciated.

Each and every Sunday YOUR donations can be placed in the **grocery cart** located in the Narthex.

The Pantry is located in the Edgar Building, at the corner of Orange and North 4th Streets.

GREETINGS FROM THE SULLIVANS

Once again the Sullivan family plans to host our annual Thanksgiving lunch at the Presbyterian Camp. As always, we will furnish the turkey, dressing and giblet gravy. Please plan to bring your favorite side dish or dessert. If you would be willing to bring paper goods please let me know.

Also, please plan to bring your items for the silent auction. The proceeds from the silent auction go to support the camp. We are blessed to be allowed to continue using the camp since my retirement. Please be generous with your auction items and your money. We will begin gathering at 11:00 AM and eat lunch around 1:00 PM.

Your RSVP will help us have the appropriate amount of food.

We very much look forward to being with you again!

Christ's love and ours too,

The Sullivans

Jim's cell: 325-669-1732

Email: BGPBI@ aol.com

James' cell; 325-669-7254

Email: POPPYONE@taylortel.net

PRESBYTERY MEETING

The 114th Stated **Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery** will be held at **WESTMINSTER** on Friday, **October 16th**, and Saturday, **October 17th**. Westminster and the First Presbyterian Church in Sweetwater are co-hosting this meeting. **Registration** will begin at 3:30 pm on Friday. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm. The meeting will be called to order at 6:15 pm. There will be a **Bible Study** from 6:30 pm until 7:15 pm. Items of business then will be addressed until 8:00 pm. Following a **Worship Service** at 8:10 pm, the meeting will recess for the day at about 9:15 pm.

The Presbytery meeting will begin again with an **Opening Worship** on Saturday at 8:30 pm. Between 8:40 am and 8:50 am several Reports will be given. From 8:50 am until 10:20 am there will be a **Stewardship Presentation**. A number of other business items then will be addressed. It is planned for this meeting to be closed by adjournment at about 12:05 pm, with lunch to follow.

The overall theme for this Presbytery meeting will be “**Stewardship**.” The Worship Service on Friday night will be held in the **Sanctuary**. All of the other activities at this meeting will be held in the **Youth and Family Building**. Meals, the Bible Study, presentations, discussions, etc., will take place as table groups. While only Pastors and elected Commissioners will be eligible to vote on matters that come before the Presbytery, **each** person in attendance will be able to join a table group; and **all** will be encouraged to participate in every study, discussion, etc.

The Choir will be taking part in the Friday night Worship Service. It is planned for the Presby-Pickers to play for the Opening Worship on Saturday morning. There is going to be **much** work involved in preparing for, setting up for, and putting on this meeting of Presbytery at Westminster; so, when next possible, please let Mary Cooke know when **you** will be available to help out.

Every member and friend of Westminster is encouraged to attend all or part(s) of this meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery; and it is hoped that **many** of Westminster members and friends will do so. This will be the last Presbytery meeting prior to the major changes in the structure of Palo Duro Presbytery that will be taking place as of January 1, 2010. If you have any questions about the **Presbytery**, etc., please feel free to contact Cary Cooke, who is the current Moderator of the Presbytery’s Coordinating Council. **Registration Forms** for this meeting are available in the Church Office.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Mission Emphasis and Offering for October will be Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The Poster in the Narthex emphasizes the ubiquitous nature of the presence of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in the States and around the world. When we look at the sites where this organization is actively providing help and hope, it looks like a list of disasters over a ten year period or so. We must remind ourselves that these are indeed current disaster sites, and these are areas of current services. Cooperation between Nongovernmental Agencies, government agencies at all levels, and Businesses has become legendary and expected. In addition, the Church supported actions give everyone involved reminders that Hope is the perhaps biggest contribution of all. I remember Dr. Fane Downs telling a story of the lady on the Gulf Coast who decided the day had come for her to give up and die. That same day, a Presbyterian work crew knocked on her door and rescued her because they couldn’t find the house where they were sent. This is our chance to be a part of that kind of Hope Giving.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO:
PALO DURO PRESBYTERY'S MISSION
"BIRTH"-DAY PARTY**

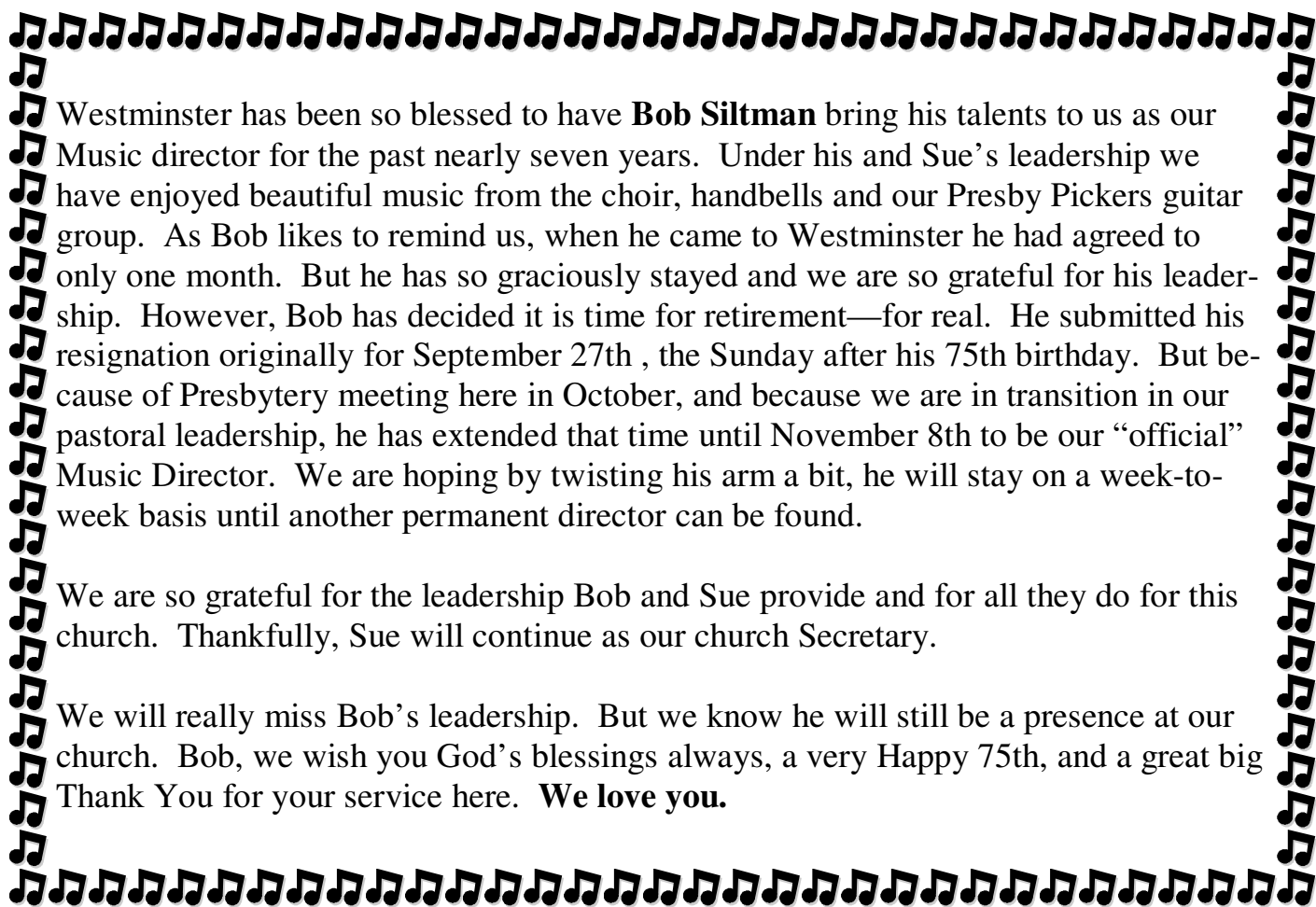
Where: The 113th Stated Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Abilene, TX

When: Friday and Saturday, October 17-18, 2009

Why: To celebrate the end of the present presbytery structure and the re birth of the new structure.

Gifts Accepted: All are asked to bring voluntary gifts for the various mission projects sponsored by PDP. Suggest gifts: \$1.00/year that God has given each commissiner and each church in the presbytery with a goal of at least \$10,000.

These gifts will be received in the offering at worship on Friday evening..



Westminster has been so blessed to have **Bob Siltman** bring his talents to us as our Music director for the past nearly seven years. Under his and Sue's leadership we have enjoyed beautiful music from the choir, handbells and our Presby Pickers guitar group. As Bob likes to remind us, when he came to Westminster he had agreed to only one month. But he has so graciously stayed and we are so grateful for his leadership. However, Bob has decided it is time for retirement—for real. He submitted his resignation originally for September 27th, the Sunday after his 75th birthday. But because of Presbytery meeting here in October, and because we are in transition in our pastoral leadership, he has extended that time until November 8th to be our "official" Music Director. We are hoping by twisting his arm a bit, he will stay on a week-to-week basis until another permanent director can be found.

We are so grateful for the leadership Bob and Sue provide and for all they do for this church. Thankfully, Sue will continue as our church Secretary.

We will really miss Bob's leadership. But we know he will still be a presence at our church. Bob, we wish you God's blessings always, a very Happy 75th, and a great big Thank You for your service here. **We love you.**

PRAYER REQUEST

*Palo Duro Presbytery's **Presbyterian Cursillo #23** (or PDPC #23) will be held on **November 5-8, 2009**, at Camp Butman, Merkel, Texas. Serving on **Staff** at this wonderful "Short Course in Christianity" will be Presbyterians from many of Palo Duro Presbytery's churches, including Westminster and First Central in Abilene. Please be in ongoing **prayer** for all of the people who have been selected to be on Staff at this spirit-filled weekend.*

At this time, God is calling Presbyterians from throughout north-west Texas to attend PDPC #23 as **Participants**. Please also be in ongoing **prayer** that all of these people will hear God's call, will answer God's call, and will come to this **Cursillo**.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

Dear Westminster Presbyterian Church members,

Thank you for the school supplies you provided for our students.
Your thoughtfulness and generosity are greatly appreciated.

On behalf of our students,
Ketta Garduro
Counselor
Reagan Elementary

YOU
will enjoy
the wonderful fellowship, music, prayer, food, worship, fun, singing, and communion at Palo Duro Presbyterian CURSILLO #23 on November 5-8, 2009!
An application form for **YOU**
is in the Narthex or the Church Office.

Many thanks to those who contributed items to send to my grandson in Iraq. David has received the box and was touched by the idea that I started out with a small box and had to get a larger one. Thanks Sunday Morning Live Sunday School Class.

Sally Carthel

Westminster Prayer List for October 2009

Each week we will be praying specifically for several of our WPC families. We invite you to join us as we ask God's blessings upon our sisters and brothers in Christ.

Oct. 4th - 10th: Joyce Baughn, Cary & Mary Headstream, and Wanda Gray

Oct. 11th- 17th: Terry Carpenter, Mark & Shelia Smith; Mary Lou Chappell, and Sally Carthel

Oct. 18th -24th: Royse & Vicki Kerr, Harroll & Barbara Backus, and Rodney Price & Sue Rust

Oct. 25th- 31st: Cary & Mary Cooke, Russ & Fran Evans, Don Hamilton, and Rodger & Su Hiatt

REMINDER

Rev. Kristine Brantley-Gearhart has requested that each of you fill out the form, which is an insert in the bulletin, to let her know what your favorite hymns are. She has asked that each person list five favorite hymns from either hymnbook (no Christmas hymns, please). You may drop the list of hymns in the offering plate or leave them in the office. Then you need to be present each Sunday to hear yours and your fellow church members favorite hymns.



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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ABILENE, TX 79605-4736
