

The Westwind

Volume XXXVII Issue 5

May 2008

Editor: Elaine Leiter

From the Pastor's Pen...

Let's start with a correction of my April Westwind article. In the comments about the June Palo Duro Presbytery mission trip to Romania, I wrote, "This will not be a working trip." That is a big TYPO. It should have read, "This will be a working trip." Just thought it best to clear that up.

Session members are in need of your input about an issue they have been discussing. They are considering taking the necessary steps, which would include an amendment to our church constitution, to decrease the size of the session from the present twelve members to nine. This is in response to the Officer Nominating Committee's difficulties over the past few years of finding four persons each year who are willing to serve a three-year term on the session. For the most part this difficulty is the result of declining membership and the aging of our current members

This reduction in session size was proposed nearly ten years ago but at the time met with considerable opposition. The idea was dropped, but the consensus of the present session is that now may be the time for reconsideration. The session wants to

hear your opinions. Please speak with any of the active elders or myself as soon as possible. The names of the current active elders are printed in the bulletin each week.

With an abrupt change in topics, Sunday, May 11th marks a pair of events; one of which is secular in nature and the other being religious. They are Mothers Day and Pentecost. In observance of Mothers Day, red and white carnations will be distributed in honor of our mothers. The red carnations also work with our Pentecost celebration, because red is the liturgical color for the day. The paraments will be bright red, and you are also urged to wear red to worship on May 11th.

Oh, did I mention that I am looking forward to the June Romanian mission trip? Did I also clarify that it will be a working trip?

Christ's Shalom,



Jim

Items for Romania

Here is a list of some of the possible items Jim can take with him to Romania. (For further information see Jim's article on the front page of the April *Westwind*.)

Children's chewable vitamins; Ibuprofen and Advil or generic brands; Band-aids...all shapes and sizes; Acne medicine; Beanie Babies; Elmer's glue; Eye glass cases, new or used; CDs of American music, new or used; CDs of computer games; Small toys like what you buy in multi-packs for birthday parties; T-shirts, good used or new ones of all sizes—promotional ones are fine. The kids love American T-shirts; Socks and underwear—boys' and girls'—all sizes except XL or XXL as most of the kids are relatively small; Pajamas—the kind you can wear to the hospital; Clothes for small children, not baby clothes; Games—all kinds except jacks and checkers—Backgammon is the game of choice; Water balloons, regular balloons.

Dates and Events to Remember!

Mark Your Calendars!

The next Church Potluck Luncheon will be held after worship on May 25th. The *Donation of the Month* for the Presbyterian Food Pantry will be specified at a later date.

Thank you for your continued support of this mission!

PANTRY NEEDS FOR MAY

Peanut Butter, Jelly, canned meat (Spam-type, tuna, chicken, etc.), and money—Thanks!

Your help is very much appreciated!

Please REMEMBER that the FIRST Sunday of every MONTH is PANTRY DAY. Come to worship and bring with you, FOOD (non-perishable items) and/or MONEY (cash or checks) for the PANTRY. The hungry people of Abilene will THANK YOU!!!

There will be a

CURSILLO ULTREYA

(*Spiritual Renewal Gathering*)

on Thursday, **MAY 15, 2008,**

from **6:30 pm** – 8:30 pm, at

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH, 4515 South 14th Street,
in **ABILENE**, Texas.

Please **COME** -- and **ENJOY** -- great fellowship, good food, grand music, sincere praise, joyous singing, wonderful inspiration, thoughtful prayer, genuine renewal, and much fun.

The hosts will be the **Mary and Cary Cooke**.

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

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will meet on Tuesday, May 13 at 10:00AM.

Martha King will give lesson #9, *Ordinary People*. This is the last lesson for 2007-2008. There will be **no** meetings in June, July and August. The Birthday Offering Luncheon will follow the Bible Study and business meeting.

The Bible Study for 2008-2009 will be *Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor* by Dale Lindsay Morgan.

All Westminster women and friends are invited to the Bible Study and/or luncheon.

Have a Great Summer!

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 May 4th. Your Westminster family will celebrate with you as part of this fellowship time!

May Birthdays

- 2 - Peg Ruschmeyer
- 4 - Melvin Barton
- 5 - Ed Shelly
- 10 - Farren Sadler
- 16 - David Ainsworth
- 17 - Ray King
- 24 - Shelby Peaton

May Anniversaries

- 15 - Curtis & Lauren Johnson
- 23 - Mike & Nancy Brehm
- 26 - Raymond & Mary Roberson
- 27 - Jim & Sue Sullivan

Miscellaneous

Budget Financial Summary 3/31/08

Budget Monthly: \$9,770.83	Budget to Date: \$29,312.49
Collected: 11,791.03	Actual Giving: 34,502.38
Difference : \$2,020.20	Difference: \$5,189.89

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. Thanks!

Notice about Westwind

+++ **May 19th** — next due date! +++

If you have anything you wish to be included in the *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**.

Special Gifts Donations

March of 2008

In memory of
Pauline Larsen
by Rosemary Walford, and
Robert & Pat Gaines

In memory of
Tom Houghton
by Rosemary Walford,
Robert & Pat Gaines, and
the Monday Ma-Jong group

In memory of
James Dawley
by Margie Dawley

Stewardship Opportunity

The Meek Bloodmobile will be at the Westminster parking lot on Sunday, June 1st from 9AM until noon. We are asking that anyone able to give blood to participate as it may save a life.

Dear Westminster Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, and phone calls concerning the recent loss of my brother. My loss has been easier knowing so many of you cared.

*Sincerely,
Pat Hambrick*

Plan NOW to attend
the NEXT Palo Duro Presbyterian
CURSILLO weekend on
October 30 – November 2, 2008, at the
Mercy Center in Slaton, Texas.

There really are folks who are waiting
for
YOU
to invite them to Westminster!

LIBRARY NEWS

The Christian Education committee has been diligently working in Westminster's library. We have been trying to locate lost or missing books and preparing for circulation many books that were in our possession, either by gift or donation.

We would like to encourage everyone to use our library, make suggestions for books, and just come to browse. Below are some of the books recently placed on our shelves for the first time and their shelf call numbers.

“What’s So Amazing About Grace?”--- Philip Yancey (234)

“Light From Heaven”--- Jan Karon (Fiction)

“The Revelation”--- Beverly Lewis (Fiction)

“Where Miracles Happen”--- Joan Wester Anderson (202)

“What It Means to be Human”--- Michelle J. Bartel (233)

The first Sunday of every month, someone from the committee will be in the library following worship to offer assistance as needed. Our library has been blessed for many years by the talents of Frances Barnes. We want all to enjoy the “fruits” of her labors. We desire to continue her tireless efforts. Come and enjoy!

Westminster Prayer List for May 2008

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.

Apr. 27th - May 3rd: Al Windham; Ray & Connie Gill; Luther & Beverly Hollowell; and Rodney Price.

May 4th - 10th: Rosemary Walford; David Shanafelt; and Lefty & Andy Cleveland.

May 11th - 17th: Gerry Griffin; De Nicklas; and Patrick Messersmith, Kristi Lee, and Connor.

May 18th - 24th: Brenda Merrill, Brandon, Becca; Tracy Pierce; and Walter Christen.

May 25th - 31st: Gary & Nancy Shanafelt; Pam Veltkamp; Larry & Nedra Black; and Wanda Gray.

Hurricane Names

Each year there is a pre-approved list of names for tropical storms and hurricanes since 1953. At first they were only female names. Since 1979 the list alternates between male and female. Hurricanes are named alphabetically, from A to W excluding Q and U. There are six lists that rotate. When a hurricane is devastating **the name is retired** and another name with the same first letter replaces it.

2008: Arthur, Bertha, Cristobal, Dolly, Edouard, Fay, Gustav, Hanna, Ike, Josephine, Kyle, Lara, Marco, Nana, Omar, Paloma, Rene, Sally, Teddy, Vicky and Wilfred.

2009: Ana, Bill, Claudette, Danny, Erika, Fred, Grace, Henri, Ida, Joaquin, Kate, Larry, Mindy, Nicholas, Odette, Peter, Rose, Sam, Teresa, Victor and Wanda.

~Article submitted by our very own hurricane Wanda



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4515 SOUTH 14TH STREET

ABILENE, TX 79605-4736
