

The Westwind

Volume XXXVI Issue 10

October 2007

Editor: Elaine Leiter

From the Pastor's Pen...

Ever wonder how somebody else sees you? Ever considered how a visitor views Westminster? Carol King, Ray and Martha's daughter, was moved to write the following letter after worshiping with us earlier this year. With her permission, I'd like to share it with you.

To My Fellow Members of the Body of Christ at Westminster Presbyterian,

I visited your church on Mother's Day and am aware of your current struggles, because my parents are members of your congregation. I wanted to share with you my thoughts as I was among you.

First of all, each time I am with you I am warmly received and observe the way you treat each other. I see a group of people, who genuinely care for each other; who go out of their way to take care of each other. In short, I see a church of substance, not a flashy superficial church, but one carrying out the true purpose of the church. One not without flaws (as we are all human) but one with a good heart.

As I waited for the service to begin, I prayed for you, my brothers and sisters. I prayed that God would direct you and bless you. I thanked Him for a church that still proclaims Christ and asked that He honor that, because it is increasingly rare. I asked that he honor your efforts, because you are His bride.

I do not know what plans God has for you, but I do know that He will not let a church that is truly seeking him be wasted. I also know that he has a plan for you. As it is written:

"For I know the plans I have for you,"

declares the Lord, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listed to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:11-13.

Listening to the beautiful prayer one of your members said, I could not help but think, "You better get ready!" because if you really mean that prayer, God is going to act! But also, be ready, because His answer may be most unexpected. In my experience, my deepest, most urgent prayers were answered in rich, quiet, and perfect ways that I could have never anticipated. I join you in that prayer and eagerly anticipate hearing about the ways the answer unfolds.

I will close by saying again that I have experienced you as a warm and loving group. Your substance is evident. Christ is glorified. Such things are beautiful to God, and He has a plan. Be watchful. Be humble. Be ready. Do not be afraid, for God's plan, while it may be surprising, is perfect.

(Signed) Carol King

Thanks Carol,



Dates and Events to Remember!

Mark Your Calendars!

The Annual Stewardship Luncheon will be held after Worship, Sunday, October 14th.

The *Donation of the Month* will be Thanksgiving-type items for the Presbyterian Food Pantry, as they are in desperate need.

Thank you for your continued support of this mission!



Presbyterian Women News

Presbyterian Women will meet on Tuesday, October 9th at 10:00AM. The Bible study for the 2007 - 2008 year will be *Above and Beyond, Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*. The author is Carol M. Bechtel.

Margaret Gregory will present lesson two: *Reluctant Prophets and Faithful Foreigners*. A business meeting will follow after the Bible Study. Anyone needing the new book can contact Margaret Gregory or Wanda Garson after Worship on Sunday.

All Westminster women and friends are welcome to attend the meetings.

Notice about Westwind

October 22nd— 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!

On OCTOBER 18, 2007,

YOU

are **invited**

to the

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL GATHERING

from **6:30pm** – 8:30pm, at

FIRST CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

in **ABILENE**, Texas, 325-677-3501.

YOU

are sure to **enjoy** the fellowship, food, music, praise, singing, inspiration, prayer, renewal, and lots of fun, at this ***Cursillo ULTREYA!***

The hosts will be the **Jo Bright & Mary K Haffner**.

COME yourself. BRING a covered dish to share. Bring a **friend!**

EVERYONE is welcome at Ultreyas, whether or **not** they have been to *Cursillo*, or even are Presbyterians.

NOTES FROM THE SESSION:

October Birthdays

- 4 - Grace Sadler
Cary Cooke
Mark Smith
Skyler Johnson
- 5 - Bill West
Connie Gill
- 8 - Cade Smith
- 13 - Mary Lou Chappell
Dante Thayer
- 15 - Jean Losey
Carolyn Ainsworth
- 21 - Harroll Backus
Jeff Armstrong
- 24 - Pat Wallace
- 28 - Crystal Thayer
- 31 - Alden Cathey
Joan Brooks

October Anniversaries

- 3 - Bill & Sue West
- 11 - Cary & Mary Alice Headstream
- 31 - Burl & Pat Hambrick

Celebrations, Odds and Ends & Thanks to you!

Budget Financial Summary
8/31/07

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Budget Monthly: \$11,037.16 | Budget to Date: \$88,297.28 |
| Collected: \$9,109.50 | Actual Giving: \$91,132.68 |
| Difference: (\$1,927.66) | Difference: \$2,835.40 |

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.

The Ladies of Grace Lutheran wish to invite the ladies of Westminster Presbyterian to go "Junkin' on the Trolley" on Saturday, October 13, 2007. Meet at the Grace Lutheran parking lot between 9:15am to 9:30am and we will return at approximately 3:00pm. Join us for a fun day of shopping and fellowship. For more information, please contact: Carrie at 280-2609 or 673-6936, or call the church office at 692-1342

PANTRY NEEDS FOR OCTOBER:

Jelly, canned meat (Spam-type, tuna, chicken, etc.), bath soap, 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!!!

Celebrations!

This year, Amber and I had the opportunity to enter some photos into the Fair. I entered three photos. One is of my friend by the creek which I call the "Modern Day Tom Sawyer". Another was taken down the slide of the playground by the dining hall in the Buffalo Gap Encampment that I edited to look like something in a storybook. My third was the one that won a Fifth Place ribbon, and it was of a rock formation in the mountains overlooking Estes Park, Colorado. Amber entered a photo of a Peace Rose which, sadly, didn't get the ribbon it deserved. Even though my Fifth Place ribbon didn't come with a monetary reward, it has given me a new level of belief in myself and the talent that God has given me. I know I'll keep entering my pictures and maybe more.

— Evelyn Sullivan

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Rob Leiter has a new job at Max's Kawasaki Honda Yamaha Polaris on Mockingbird Lane, where he will be assembling ATVs and motorcycles. He is looking forward to working in a field more in line with his future career plans.

From Gideon International, Abilene South Camp

September 16, 2007

Dear Pastor and Congregation of Westminster Presbyterian Church:

My wife and I enjoyed your worship service this morning very much. It was very exciting to be with you. We are grateful for your hospitality. We look forward to visiting with you again.

The offering that was received was \$179.00 and we thank you very much. For your information: Each motel Bible which costs \$5.00 has a life expectancy of 6 years and the opportunity to witness to 2300 people. Converting that to your offering, it means that you could be missionaries to 82,800 people and never leave the confines of your home or church. Praise God.

Convey our thanks to the congregation. Sincerely in His Service: Richard and Rosalie Sauer

Westminster Prayer List for October 2007

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.

Sept. 30 - Oct. 6th: Jake Y Beverly Armstrong; Rick & Debra Winckler; and Joyce Baughn.

Oct. 7th - 13th: Alden & Catherine Cathey; Ruth Cranor; and Lexi Cruce.

Oct. 14th - 20th: Rett Fuller; Kirk Garson; Ray & Martha King; and David Shanafelt.

Oct. 21st - 27th: Jim & Sue Sullivan; Royse & Vicki Kerr; and Gerry Griffin.

Oct. 28th - Nov. 3rd: Jim & Pat Wallace; Harroll & Barbara Backus; and Al Windham.

PRAYER REQUESTS

*Palo Duro Presbyterian Cursillo # 20 – or PDPC # 20 -- will be held at the Big Country Baptist Assembly Camp at Lueders, Texas, **near** Abilene, on **October 25-328**, 2007. The people serving on Staff at PDPC # 20 will include: Cary Cooke; Mary Cooke; Elaine Leiter; Betty Kruger; Janice Serrault; Jim Sullivan; and Sue Sullivan. Presbyterians from throughout Texas will be attending this **Short Course in Christianity** as Staff and as Participants.*

*Please be in on-going prayer:*

*-- that all aspects of **Cursillo** will be done in accordance with God's Will;*

*-- that the Lord will be with, and will keep safe, each and every person who will go to this **Cursillo** weekend;*

*-- that all persons involved with **Cursillo** always, and only, will rely on Jesus Christ;*

*-- that the Holy Spirit will guide everything that happens at **Cursillo**; and*

*-- that **all** of the people called by the Lord God to attend PDPC #20 as **Participants** will answer His call.*

*Thank you; and De Colores! Yours in Christ, The Palo Duro Presbyterian Cursillo Community*

*A Short Course in Christianity*  
**APPLICATION FORMS** for  
 Palo Duro Presbyterian *CURSILLO* #20 (PDPC #20),  
**October 25 –28, 2007,**  
 and *Cursillo* **INFORMATION HANDOUTS,**  
 are available in the **Narthex**, or from the **Church Office.**

***CURSILLO:***  
**try it –**  
**YOU**  
**will like it!**

Reverend Mary Ferris will be in the pulpit on World Communion Sunday, October 7. Rev. Ferris is a missionary with NOROC (New Opportunities for Romanian Orphaned Children). This endeavor originated with First Central Presbyterian, and Palo Duro Presbytery's goal is to have 100% of churches participating. Westminster is already committed to this effort.

Brenda Merrill will be the primary elder commissioner to the October Palo Duro Presbytery meeting, with Cary Cooke as alternate.

The Session accepted with regret the resignation of Larry Black, our Parish Associate for the past seven years. Larry has been supportive of our pastor, Jim Wallace, during this period, and Westminster appreciates Larry's years of service.

The Session spent much time dealing with the details on replacing three heating/air-conditioning units. One is beyond repair and two are very old and inefficient; some parts are no longer available. This will be a major, but necessary, expense for Westminster.

**The law of any church is, and always will be,  
evangelize or fossilize."**

*George E. Sweazy: Let's March Abreast*

*Therefore, it continues to be the hope, and the prayer, of the Evangelism Committee that each member, and every friend, of Westminster Presbyterian Church regularly and routinely will say to other people:*

***I really would like for you to come to church  
with me at Westminster next Sunday!***

### **Pastor's Monday Evening Bible Study — with a Twist...**

The Pastor-led Monday Evening Bible Study will conclude on October 1st with the final lesson: The Gift of the Jews, which will continue to address the formation of the people Israel, their religious practices and institutions, their struggles with foreign invaders, their internal conflicts, their adaptations to changed circumstances, and their contributions to the world.

The parts are: By the Rivers of Babylon [ Formation to Exile in 587 BC ]  
 The Book and the Sword [ Persian Period, Greek Period, Maccabean Period ]  
 The End of Days [ Roman Period to 70 AD ]  
 The Gifts of the Jews [ Roman Period after 70 and Beyond ]