

Westminster Presbyterian Church
1360 W. Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522

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The **W**estminster *Chimes*

Issue No. 2

February 2010

From the Pastor's Desk ...



“A Day in the Life of Your Pastor - What a Wednesday Looks Like”

There is no such animal as a “normal” day. The phone rings, someone walks in the office and God calls me to respond, sometimes now, sometimes later.

2:15 a.m. I awake, I want to keep sleeping until 6:30 a.m., but I keep thinking about people and events at Westminster. I pray for the people and events and ask God to help me be wise and see what is real. I pray, God let me sleep. At about 3:30 a.m. I fall back to sleep.

The alarm goes off at 6:30 a.m., I am still tired and I turn on the news to see how cold it is. I think through my day and decide how to dress. I go through the routine, shave, brush, dress, let the dog out...

At 7:20 a.m. I arrive at the Men's Bible Study/Fellowship event at Millikin. They are talking about shepherds, Jesus being the Good Shepherd.. I reminded them that shepherds did not have a good reputation in the time of Jesus, we talk and Gary Gray asks if he can carry the food tray for Joe because of his recent broken arm. Joe says no and we ask Gary if he will carry our trays - bad joke but we all laugh. We eat and fellowship, still on question 6 but for next week we will address question number 7, maybe come back to number 6.

It is 8:10 a.m. and George and I are walking the parking lot, someone lost their phone. We didn't find the phone and I take George home. At 8:30 I am in the office. I meet with Pat and we talk about the Annual Report. I review a report, seek clarification and wonder if there is a better way to convey the idea so it is better understood. I check my email, most I don't read and I determine which ones need reading and which ones need an immediate answer. There are Committee On Ministry, Fair Housing Committee, clergy and church member emails to respond to, so I do it.

10:00 a.m. rolls around and I meet with the children who lost their mother and a husband that lost his wife. They called me because I officiated at two of the children's wedding and they felt comfortable with me. One daughter arrives early and we talk, then the other family members. We pray and talk about the service. They tell me stories to help me know their mother / wife and I show

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Church Telephone: 428-6603 - Church Fax: (217) 428-2580

The Church's E-Mail Address: wpcdecatur@sbcglobal.net

Web Site: wpcdecatur.org.

In Case of a Pastoral Emergency:

Contact the Church Office 428-6603 or The Reverend Steve Hill 429-0867

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Organist/Bell Director/Youth Music Rose Marie Thompson
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Bookkeeper Helen Miller
Sexton Skip Mower
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Housekeeper Sharon Moore
Session Members: Rick Adams, Donna Dunnuck, Charles Hunter, Dennis Honnold, Steve Huss,
Cindy Neff, John Phillips, Ardith Shaffer, Susan Shaw, Donna Spangler, Chris Williams, and
Ed Woare.

them the sanctuary and they leave. I inform Pat that they would like to use the Fellowship Hall for a reception - I send her into cardiac arrest. It is understandable because she is working on typing, collating, editing the 35 page Annual Report, a newsletter, and now another event! She gets it done.

At 11:10 I take an early lunch and meet my daughter and Michael at Sams for lunch.

At 12:10 p.m I am back at the office and I check-in with Pat; any messages? what is her progress? I also check-in with Teresa to see if I need to "fill-in" for anyone (last week I had extra duties in music). All is good and I move to finally finishing the bulletin. Randy Reyman pops in and we talk about Sunday's worship service. Interspersed throughout the task of completing the bulletin are phone calls, mail, emails and my part is completed. I make copies and send them out via email and in the staff mailboxes. Tonight is "talent night" at Logos and my talent is playing the guitar. So I practice the song "Blind Man". Then I get ready for my 4:00 meeting.

4:00 p.m. and Kevin & Jaime appear for their first pre-marital counseling appointment. It goes well and it is now 5:30.

5:30 p.m. A church member comes to my office and we talk for 30 minutes or so.

6:00 p.m. Time to get my guitar and head down to the Fellowship Room. I talk to the cooks and offer my assistance (they rarely accept it, but I want them to know I appreciate their gifts and I am always ready to help out). Then I listen to the Logos staff and tell a few stories myself.

6:30 p.m. Dinner starts and I am at my table with Sherry, my co-table parent, and the children arrive, full of energy. We have to work fast tonight so everyone has time to share their talent - God gives us all talent! Tonight we celebrate God's gifts in all of us.

7:10 p.m. It is a miracle, by the time I go the kitchen to help with the dishes - they are done! I wonder, did it go faster because I wasn't there to help? Actually, some parents came early to pick up their children and they helped out. I talked to the parents for a few minutes until they leave the building. Did you know Jason H. is a woodworker and Brittany H. can't eat spaghetti now (she is pregnant and the baby doesn't like it).

7:30 p.m. Time to put things away, grab a book to read at home and help Teresa lock-up. Wouldn't you know it, it snowed. Being the gentleman that I am, I help Teresa brush off the snow from her car. Teresa offers to clean my car, I decline her offer, I know she is tired. I then head home. But the snow is deep enough that I have to push it off the drive before I put the car away. A good neighbor comes over and helps me scoop. I thank him, put my car in the garage. I put salt on the drive so Laurie, who isn't home yet, will have a safe surface to drive on (translated, so she doesn't hit anything and get hurt).

8:00 p.m. or around there and I let the dog out and in, talk to my daughter Gwen, talk to Laurie (she always calls just before she leaves Champaign) vacuum, read a little, listen to the "State of the Union" talk to Laurie and go to bed around 10:10. I like to pray in bed after watching something light on TV. I give Laurie a kiss good night and offer up my final prayer of the day. I give thanks to God for all the good things that happened today and understanding for all the open questions in ministry. Somewhere in the prayer I fall asleep.

Steve

Per Capita Apportionment for 2010



For the year 2010 Westminster is assessed \$36.29 per member by the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois. Per Capita is defined as "A means providing for all members to share in the cost involved to conduct and administer the ecclesiastical, judicial, and legislative functions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)." The \$36.29 apportionment is divided as follows \$6.15 supports the General Assembly, \$3.60 supports the Synod of Lincoln Trails and the remaining \$ 26.54 supports the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois. ***You may help your church's budget by making additional contribution to cover your family's apportionment.***



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Everyone is invited to join us for the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 16. Dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Pancakes, sausage, and drinks will be served.



Please reserve your spot now for our Valentine Dinner and Movie! The cost is \$10 per person and the menu includes: Steak, Chicken Alfredo, Salad, Green Beans, Rolls, and Dessert.

Babysitting is available upon request.

Please call the church office to make your reservation by February 10.

***Call Teresa in the church office (428-6603)
if you have any questions.***

Lenten Soup Suppers



Please join us for our Lenten Soup Suppers beginning Tuesday, February 23. Each Tuesday we will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 for soup, a brief Bible study and fellowship time. The soup suppers will continue through March 23.



Looking ahead....

Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School! Sunday, June 27 - Thursday, July 1, 2010 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Celebrating Birthdays in February ...

1	Len Walter	12	Rachel Besser
4	Wade Davis	12	Randall Reyman
4	Joanne Leonard	15	Lisa Miller
5	Justin Eichenauer	18	Melissa Livasy
5	Benie Kalala	19	Russell O. McCann
8	Steve Hengst	20	John Spencer
9	Kim McSherry	22	Jan Walter
9	Deb Miller	23	Ellie Allen
10	Andrew Thompson	24	Jeff Fasick
11	Jeanna Gentry	26	Steve Grohne
		27	Matt Thompson



Helping Hands for February ...

Cindy Smith	422-7836
Nancy Eichenauer	429-6402
Lynne Winick	422-2017
Carole Hill	865-2051



Cheer Guild Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 25, 2010
Program: Pat Laegeler ~ City Council Member
Place: Church Parlor
Time: 1:00 p.m.

Hostess Committee: Waneta Moses, Jane Ballion & Fran Livasy



Ladies mark your calendars and plan now to attend