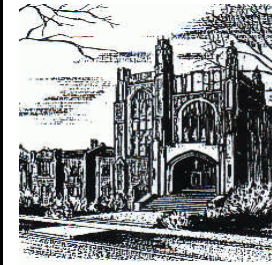


**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
**1360 W. Main Street**  
**Decatur, IL 62522**

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# The **W**estminster *Chimes*



*Issue No. 11*

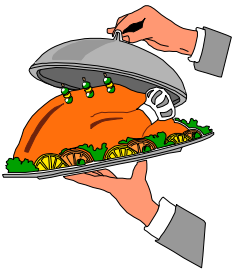
*November 2010*

*From the Pastor's Desk ...*



## *"Thanksgiving"*

To be honest, if you ask me what am I doing for Thanksgiving, I think about who is going where to eat a turkey dinner. We always say a prayer before we eat and I am the one who gives the prayer. When my father was living, he always gave the prayer. Thanksgiving was and is a time to catch up on personal stories that were not shared over the phone or through email. Thanksgiving is a special time to learn more details about each other's lives.



We start out with an invitation to come to someone's home. It used to be simple, go to mom and dad's home. But once they sold the house we changed the tradition. Now it takes us a week to find out what others are doing and by consensus we find a home. Every family is different, we rarely have Thanksgiving with my wife's family - her parents live in New Jersey. There is always risk in finding a place for Thanksgiving, we don't want to offend anyone. This year it will be at my home because my brother is trying to keep his house looking "perfect", he is trying to sell it.

The next organizational task, as you all know is: who is going to bring what dish? Every family has it's traditions: my sister-in-law makes the best mashed potatoes and the host cooks the turkey and dressing. Every year is a little different, now more than at any other time in my life. One change seems to affect the "normal" Thanksgiving celebration. Because my parents are now in heaven and our children move around. Every year has enough change that affects our traditions - who, where and what details.

Once we decide on the specifics and sit around the table we focus on relationships. We first focus on our relationship with God as we give thanks. Next comes the passing and tasting of food followed by telling the cooks how good everything tastes. We then become more intimate by sharing stories and asking questions that go deeper.

*(Continued on next page)*

**Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**Church Telephone: 428-6603 - Church Fax: (217) 428-2580**  
**The Church's E-Mail Address: [wpcdecatur@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wpcdecatur@sbcglobal.net)**  
**Web Site: [wpcdecatur.org](http://wpcdecatur.org).**  
**In Case of a Pastoral Emergency:**  
**Contact the Church Office 428-6603 or The Reverend Steve Hill 429-0867**  
**The Westminster Chimes is published on a regular basis by**  
**Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1360 W. Main St., Decatur, Illinois 62522**

## *The Church Staff*

Pastor ..... The Reverend Steve Hill  
Minister of Visitation ..... The Reverend Ronn T. Allin  
Director of Christian Education ..... Teresa Goller  
Director of Music ..... Randall Reyman  
Organist/Bell Director/Youth Music ..... Rose Marie Thompson  
Administrative Secretary ..... Pat Starbird  
Bookkeeper ..... Helen Miller  
Sexton ..... Skip Mower  
Nursery ..... Alyssa McCoy  
Housekeeper ..... Sharon Moore  
Session Members: Rick Adams, Dennis Honnold, Renee Heath-Elder Elect, Charles Hunter, Steve Huss, Pat Laegeler, John Phillips, Susan Gant-Reynolds, Diana Rinchioso, Ardith Shaffer, Robert Smith, Ed Woare.

We pay attention to the signals others give so we don't embarrass or push or pry - but we show a genuine interest in each other's lives. The next step is to do the dishes and share more stories. Another tradition of Thanksgiving is to go for a walk after the meal, this is done before we settle into watching football or playing games. The walk is another time to be in a small group or just talk to one person in order to discover more intimate details of their past and dreams for the future. My brother has just returned from a vacation in an R.V. What stories will be told? We reconnect with each other through the sharing of thanksgiving stories. These are God moments of knowing we belong to a family clan. Because we are connected to the Church we also talk about what God is doing through us as we live in different Christian communities. My brother will be retired in a year, therefore we will talk about his dreams for the next stage in his life. This is how the Hill clan keeps Thanksgiving in these changing times - thanks be to God!

*Steve*



### *Advent Workshop*



Our annual Advent Workshop will be **Sunday, December 5** following the 9:30 Worship service. This year everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall to experience "Christmas Stories". You will get to experience the Birth of Jesus through the stories of the people who were there. You will meet Mary, Joseph, some shepherds, angels, wise men, and the Innkeeper. Lots of activities and experiences for all ages!



Christmas Program

### *Mark your calendar!*

The **Children's Christmas Program** will be **Sunday, December 19** during the 9:30 Worship Service.

## *LOGOS News*

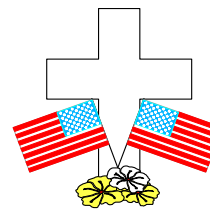
October was very busy for our LOGOS children and adults. We spent time in Bible study, recreation, and Worship Skills. The children will be singing during our 9:30 Worship service on the last Sunday of each month.



At Family Time we enjoyed delicious meals cooked by Barbara Phillips, Bob and Susie Moore, Jane Ballion, RaeNell Spencer, Bea Fisher, and Joyce Robinson. We started the month with Show N Tell. The children and Table Parents brought special items and shared their stories. We then had Bowling Night and Take Me Out to the Ballgame. We ended the month with our annual Trunk or Treat!

We were joined by two new girls each week plus the guests that Josie Martin brought with her. Thanks Josie! We are looking forward to a busy November. We will share our talents, enjoy dinner with our Veteran's, and have a Thanksgiving celebration.

### *Veteran's Day Celebration*



All of our Veteran's, their Spouses, and Widows are invited to a special dinner on Wednesday, November 10. Our LOGOS children and adults would like to get to know and honor these men and women. Dinner will be from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. **Please R.S.V.P. to the church office by 11/8.** If you have any questions, please contact Teresa.

### *Thanksgiving Baskets*



As a reminder, the Deacons are preparing for the annual Thanksgiving Basket project. The Deacons are available out in the Narthex on Sunday mornings to answer any questions but we need everyone's help. You can sign-up to bring non-perishable food items that are needed (**items need to be returned by November 14th**).

There is also a need to raise funds to purchase the perishable food items for each basket. The budget is small but the need is great and we need donations from whomever can give and whatever amounts you can give. If you prefer to write a check, please write "Thanksgiving Baskets" on the memo line and mail to the church office or put in the collection plate on Sunday. We can't reach our goal without your help!

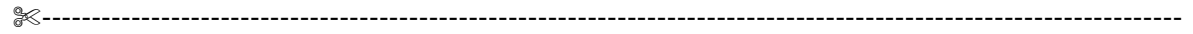
# Thanksgiving Luncheon



*Sunday, November 21, 10:45 a.m. Fellowship Hall*

Our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon will be on Sunday, November 21 following our Worship service and Church Birthday celebration. The meal will be lovingly prepared by our Church members. We will have turkey, dressing, and all the fixings! Please sign up below to help us plan. There is no charge for the lunch but we will accept donations. Please reserve your spot by **Monday, November 15**. Please contact Teresa if you have any questions.

R e s e r v a t i o n s



Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place your reservation in the collection plate or call the church office at 428-6603 by **Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**.



## B.I.G. Time and Sunday School News

B.I.G. Time (our Children's Church) meets each Sunday in the Pratt Chapel following the Children's message. In October we spent time learning about Abraham and how to be patient. In November our focus will be "With God, all things are possible". The children will also be taking more leadership roles during their Worship service. We will have regular song leaders, High Point Challenge leaders, skit leaders, scripture readers, and tech leaders.



Sunday School

In November our Sunday School classes will learn that we can trust God's guidance and care and know that God is always with us. Amanda Taylor, Bob Moore, Susie Moore, and Barbara Phillips lead our children each week. All children ages three through 6th grade are welcome to join us for B.I.G. Time and Sunday School.

## Nursery News



At the end of August we said goodbye to Alyssa McCoy, who had been our babysitter for over a year, and hello to Kirsten Bean. Well, now we are saying goodbye to Kirsten and welcome back to Alyssa. We thank Kirsten for her loving care of our children three years old and under. While we are sad to see Kirsten go we are very happy to welcome back Alyssa. Stop in to see the wonderful activities both young women have done with our children!

## Celebrating Birthdays in November ...

2	Karen Krows	18	Carole Hill
2	Pat Smith	19	Linda Day
4	Florence Leckrone	20	Troy Lehn
6	Janie Jurgens	20	Dorothy Owens
7	Rev. Steve Hill	21	Gen Whitney
8	Teresa Goller	24	Michael Clevenger
8	Helen Baulos	24	Jim Miller
8	Diane Lehn	24	Nicholas Miller
10	Penny Honnold	25	Rick Adams
14	Gladys McCann	27	Greg Davis
16	Julie Downing	27	Audrey Smith-Phillips
17	Brandt Miller	30	Tony Shonkwiler
17	Gail Sanner		



**Happy Birthday!**

## Mission Notes ...

### Mitten Tree ... It's that time of the year again!



We will have a mitten tree collection again this December benefitting those who are in need of hats, scarves, gloves and mittens. You can help by purchasing hats, gloves/mittens. or by warming up your knitting needles, crochet hooks, and making items to donate to help keep those hands and heads keep warm this winter.

### Marion Medical Mission 2010 Update

Many problems persist, severe diesel fuel shortage, and lack of well parts, coordinators with health problems: Mr. Khosa - Malaria (Synod of Livingstonia), Mr. Mahongo - Malarial pneumonia (Synod of Zambia), Mr. Malata - died of malarial pneumonia a few months ago (Synold of Nhhoma), Rev Masakewfa - 4 yr. old child ran in front of his truck and was killed 9/21/10 Tanzania. Tom & Jocelyn Logan's 36 yr. old son was killed in a diving accident 8/22/10, two weeks before they were scheduled to leave. Half of Team 1 arrived a day late; work started a day late, a field officer lost a finger in an accident last week.

However, **God is Good!**

9/28/10 - 441 Wells

10/2/10 - 668 wells

10/8/10 - Parts for 1000 wells arrived Malawi - not the parts ordered, but will probably work.

10/9/10 - 1041 wells, a record for Team 1

10/10/10 - Team 2 arrived safely in Malawi

10/11/10 - Team 1 arrived home safely

**Please keep the prayers coming! Our Goal is 2500 wells by the end of November.**

## ††Congregational Life ††

**Wedding Congratulations to:**

**Grant Daniel Briggs and Cassy May Logue** were married on Saturday, October 2, 2010, in the Sanctuary by The Reverend Stephen R. Hill.

**Cody Michael Davis and Holli Noel Westerfield** were married on Saturday, October 23, 2010, in the Sanctuary by The Reverend Stephen R. Hill.

**Special Thanks ...** A very special thank you to our WPC family for all the prayers, cards, visits, and good during Len's surgery and recovery. All you acts of kindness meant so much. Also a special thanks to the staff!

Len & Jan Walter

## PW Women ... Dates to Remember

✿ **Church Women United** "Building the Beloved Community." Program on Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Prairie Avenue Christian Church, (2201 E. Prairie Avenue) The community is welcome!

✿ **PW Board Meeting** ~ Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 a.m. in the Church Parlor

✿ **PW Work Morning** ~ Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> ~ 9:30 ~ 11:30 a.m. Small clean-ups around the church to do. Your help would be appreciated!

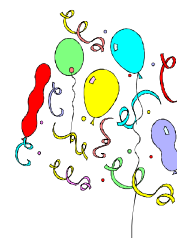
✿ **NEW Exercise DVD** ~ Join us on Wednesday mornings for a 9:30 a.m. workout. Try the Charleston, Rock & Roll, Big Band Swing from a chair! Keeps you moving!

*Ladies Save This Date !!!*

**Christmas**

**PW & Cheer Guild Luncheon**  
**Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ 11:30 a.m.**  
**"Rejoicing with Music"**  
**Program: Betsy Bavor ~ Dulcimer**  
**Handbells: First Presbyterian**  
**Church**  
**Soloist: Phillip Armstrong**

**Don't miss this special Holiday gathering!**



## Westminster Presbyterian Church's 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!

**You and your family are invited to attend Westminster Presbyterian Church's 120th Anniversary on Sunday, Nov 21 at 9:30am. Members of 50 plus years will be recognized. A Thanksgiving/Celebration meal will follow worship in the Fellowship Hall.**

## Update for Church Phone & Address Directory



We will soon be updating our church phone and address directory. If you have any changes in your address or phone number, please contact the church office. We are also updating our E-mail address list and would like to include yours in our church information list. Please let Pat know in the church office your current information.



## Searching ... MacArthur Class of 1965

If you graduated from Mac Arthur in 1965 or know of anybody that did and haven't received a letter, please contact Donna Camp at [MMa1023084@aol.com](mailto:MMa1023084@aol.com). She is trying to track down all the members of the class. The committee is planning a reunion for the summer of 2011.

## Library Notes ...

Featured Author ... November

### Billy Graham

*Billy Graham has touched the hearts and souls of millions with his messages of faith. He is one of the world's most beloved and respected leaders.*



**Answers to Life's Problems, The Journey** (How to live by faith in an unchristian world), **Just As I Am, Unto the Hills, Storm Warnings, Till Armagedon** (a perspective on suffering.), **Approaching Hoofbeats, Thoughts for Every Day, How to Be Born Again, Angels, Angels God's Secret Agents, Evangelist to the World, Sitting By My Laughing Fire**, (by Ruth Graham), **Day by Day, Facing Death and the Life After, The Holy Spirit, Hope for the Troubled Heart, Peace with God, World Aflame, It's My Turn** (Ruth Graham), **Never Let it End** (Ruth Graham).

*Books may be checked out from the white bookshelf display in the Library Lounge.*

## WPC Dining Group



The WPC Dining Group will meet at Jimmy Ryan's at 6 PM on Saturday, November 20th. That's the third Saturday of the month. Please let Sandy Coryell (423-7084) know if you would like to attend. Join us for good food, fun, and fellowship.

## Attendance for October

	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
October 3	113	30
October 10	91	21
October 17	108	No service
October 24	104	20
Averages for October 104		24

## Financial Report for September

September Revenue	
Actual Receipts Received	19,551.34
Endowment Money Received	87,500.00
Interest Received	0
Trust Money Received	0
Total Receipts	\$107,051.34
Total Expenses September	44,461.07
Income Less Expenses	\$ 62,590.27

## Per Capita Report for 2010 ... It's not too late to help!

You can make the mercury climb by paying your per capita apportionment for this year \$36.29 for each confirmed member of your family.

