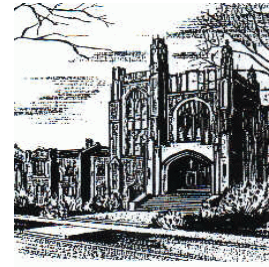


Westminster Presbyterian Church
1360 W. Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522

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The **W**estminster *Chimes*



Issue No . 9

September 2011

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: wpcdecaturnet@sbcglobal.net
Web Site: wpcdecaturnet.org.
In Case of a Pastoral Emergency:
Contact the Church Office 428-6603 or The Reverend Steve Hill 429-0867
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The Church Staff

Pastor The Reverend Steve Hill
Minister of Visitation The Reverend Ronald T. Allin
Director of Christian Education Teresa Goller
Director of Music/Organist Christopher Holman
Administrative Secretary Pat Starbird
Sexton Skip Mower
Nursery Alyssa McCoy
Housekeeper Sharon Moore
Session Members: Renee Heath, Steve Huss, Pat Laegeler, John Phillips, Susan Gant-Reynolds,
Diana Rinchuso, Dennis Honnold, Jane Ballion, Shannon Allen, Jim Coryell, Matthew Briggs, Ed Day

From The Pastor's Desk



...

"Lint in my Dryer"



My wife informed me that the dryer was very hot and not working. When something is broke in the house I have to try to fix it before my wife calls a repair person. Like every intelligent wife, she know how to "motivate" her husband. I knew I had only a few days to repair the almost brand new dryer (8 years old), it looks new, before she makes the "call." I did the usual easy fix it tasks first - does it have power? It did, so the problem had to be inside the dryer. I opened it up, it looked new, no rust, burned or broken parts. In this new age of the internet I went to the web to find an answer - nothing. I go to the manufacturer's web site and talk to them. The technician at the other end said my dryer was broken and I should call a repair person (did my wife talk to them?).

I decided to talk to a repair person in Decatur. He was a friend of Bob and Susie Moore's and he told me that I needed a new "one time" fuse. I met him in Walgreen's parking lot (sounds a little "shady" doesn't it?), paid him for the part and he told me how to change the item. He also said that I need to find out "why" the dryer go too hot. What caused the problem? "Lint," lots of lint that over 8 years slipped through my dryer's filter (that we always clean after each load) had collected at the bottom of the front panel and stopped the air flow. I checked it out and wow, was there enough lint to fill Lake Decatur!

When I told my story to Gary Gray he informed me that he had a fire in his house that was started by lint in his dryer. Lint can be dangerous if it is allowed to build up. As I told my story to the men's Bible study group I saw a smile. Lint is like "sin" or anything small when allowed to grow can eventually really cause a problem. Christ came to get rid of the lint/sin in our lives and if we don't get rid of it, our lives are truly harmed by it. Our prayer life keeps us in conversation with God so we become aware of what we need to do. God knows, God speaks, I listen, and then I act. God helps me know what I need to fix in my life and I am healthier because of that relationship. God, like a good repair person, will help you repair your life even before you get too hot!

(Continued on next page)

Why does God want the lint/sin out of our lives? Because God wants you to have a great, meaningful, loving and adventurous life. Lint/sin makes us less effective as human beings, God created us for a much better life. Let us journey together and enjoy this great life, being the outstanding people God created us to be today and tomorrow!

Steve

Introducing Our New Director of Music and Organist Christopher Holman



Welcome to Christopher Holman, our new Music Director at Westminster. Chris is an organ performance student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and has played and performed on some of the most historically important organs in North America, including those at the Mormon Tabernacle, McGill University, the Eastman School of Music, and other American universities and conservatories. Prior to his appointment at Westminster Presbyterian Church, he served as Organist-Assistant Director of Music at St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Champaign. He also serves as Organ Scholar at the Chapel of St. John the Divine (Episcopal) in Champaign. The winner of various honors and awards, Chris has won first prizes in both performance and hymn-playing at the Albert Schweitzer National Organ Competition in Connecticut, won the Young Baroque Artists Competition, and the Craig D. Jessop Scholarship in competition from The Chorale, all in 2010. He studies under Dana Robinson in organ, and Chester Alwes in choral conducting. We are excited to have him with us!

The Westminster Chancel Choir Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. If you would like to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" please stop by on Wednesdays and meet Chris and join the Choir!



2nd Annual Community Family Fest

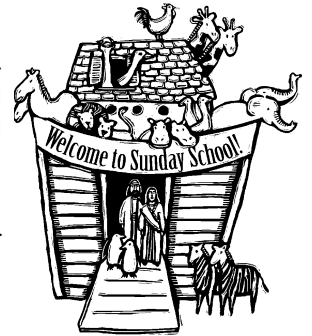


We are almost ready! Your help is needed. Please sign up to help at the many games and activities we have going on. We also need cookie bakers! If you are willing to bake cookies please let Teresa know. You can email her (wpcteresa@sbcglobal.net), call her (972-7093), or tell her at church. Thank you for your help.

Christian Education News

I feel like we should be having a New Years Party! September is a month of new opportunities to learn more and grow in your faith. All this "new" stuff starts **Sunday, September 11**. Our Sunday School classes resume with classes for ages three through adults.

We will have children's classes for Preschool – Kindergarten, 1st – 3rd grade, and 4th – 6th. We will have a class for our Jr. and Sr. High youth, and John's class for adults. We will also have a class on Sunday evenings and Tuesday evenings for adults.



The children will be back in the Pratt Chapel – which has been fixed up by Louis. The room adjacent to the Chapel has also been repaired and will be utilized for the children's snack time which should make the transition from Children's Church to Sunday School smoother.



will resume on **Wednesday, Sept. 14**. We are very excited for our new LOGOS year of Colors! Each week we will have a new color theme. We will start the year with "Orange You Glad It's Time for LOGOS!" Each week, from 5:00 to 7:30, the children will spend time in Bible Study, Worship Skills, Recreation and Family Time.

On **Sunday, September 18**, a new adult study will begin. "Lead Beyond Our Walls" is an eight week series that will help us to "live like Jesus" in today's culture. You will have two opportunities each week to participate. Each session will be taught on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 and again on Tuesday evening at 7:00. You can choose which session works for you each week.

On **Sunday, October 2 @6p.m.** we will start a monthly **Youth Group** for all youth in Jr. and Sr. High School. Watch for more information. Also, watch for more information on a Confirmation Class for youth in 8th grade and above.





Volunteer Opportunities

Feeling called to help, but don't know what is available? Here are a few opportunities from Christian Education.

1. Sunday mornings – Children's Church assistant. With our growing numbers, Teresa needs an adult each Sunday to be an extra set of hands, take children to the bathroom, help with the snack, and to help children who are having trouble sitting still. You can sign up to help once a month or more.
2. Help decorate the Chapel and set up for the theme of the month. We change themes every four or five weeks so help is needed only once a month.
3. Sunday School offering collector. The children are going to be encouraged to bring change with them each week which will be collected to purchase animals for The Heifer Project. Would you like to collect the money each week, count it, and maintain a display showing our progress?
4. Substitute Sunday School teacher
5. Table set up and decorator for our LOGOS tables each week. Tables need to be set up and ready by 6:00 each Wednesday. We will provide ideas and decorations and are very open to new ideas.
6. Laundry help. We use tablecloths each week at LOGOS, which then need to be laundered and returned.
7. LOGOS Kitchen help. A family style dinner is prepared each week. Your help in the kitchen is needed and appreciated. Barbara Phillips is our head cook and has the menus done and also does the shopping. If you would like to help her prepare a meal please let Barbara or Teresa know.

If you would like more information about any of these opportunities please contact Teresa.
Thank you!

Note from Shelbyville Presbyterian Church ...

Through the years our congregation has been greatly enriched by our members participating in mission trips. We have encouraged their efforts by underwriting transportation expenses. Now our church has been blessed by a bequest which we wish to share with the Presbytery. We are willing to pay for the transportation expenses for anyone who wishes to participate in a FOREIGN mission trip which will directly benefit the mission. In short, a go and serve trip as opposed to a go and see trip. All we require is an email or letter from a session or pastor within the Presbytery asking us to do so. Our bequest is substantial enough that in 2012 and possibly for several years there after we should be able to honor any request that meets the guidelines which because of the nature of the bequest must be foreign and must be of one service. For additional information you can contact Shelbyville Presbyterian Church at trichurchoffice@consolidated.net or call 217-774-3624.



E-newsletter

A weekly e-newsletter was started last month. If you are not receiving this mid-week update and would like to, please email your address to wpcteresa@sbcglobal.net

Questions from the Congregation



"Why are we not advertising in H&R? Can we afford NOT to? Small ad?"

This is a tough question. Yes, the cost of advertising each week is very costly. We do run an ad for special occasions and holidays. The decision was made to stop the weekly ad because as we reviewed the benefits we were receiving from that expense, we realized that visitors were not coming because they saw the ad. In an effort to reduce costs that do not help us achieve our strategic goals, we are trying to utilize our web site and outdoor sign as much as possible. We are also always looking for other more economical ways to advertise. And.....our best advertising can be done by you!

Library Notes ... Time to "Hit the Books!"

NEW Additions to the Church Library

Joshua and the Children (A Parable) ~Joseph Girzone

My Struggles with Faith ~ Joseph Girzone

The Prayer That Changes Everything ~ Stormie Omartian

O Love Worth Giving ~ Max Lucado

His Angels ~ Joy Harvey

Miracles ~ C. S. Lewis



Cheer Guild

Date: Thursday, September 22, 2011

Program: Book Review by Jean Patrick

Place: Church Parlor

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Hostess Committee: Barbara Abbott and Jean Jones





Mission Notes

Special Thanks from the Northeast Community Fund

We wish to thank you for your financial gift to help us at Northeast Community Fund. Your special gift makes a significant difference in the total program of assisting hundreds of families here each month.

The Northeast Community Fund continues to be blessed through generous financial gifts, individual food donations, food drives, and donations of fresh vegetables from many people and businesses. The Lord continues to pour our His blessings on us. May the Lord continue to bless you. Thank you for your support there are so many in need right now. You are a blessing!

In His Service,
Jerome C. Pelz, Director

In July ... assisted 1,505 families with a Food Basket
In July ... assisted 122 new families
Served 799 new families since January.



Lynn's Helping Hands ... Did you Know?

... as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to men.

-Ephesians 6:6-7

The Beginning ... This ministry is dedicated to the memory of Lynn Olendorf who faithfully started and chaired this caring service to members and their families for many years.

What It is ... This ministry provides a loving food service to the family of deceased church members, being whatever they desire - a meal in the church fellowship hall or their home following a memorial service or funeral, or they can provide for a dessert reception in the Library Lounge or Church Parlor. They also deliver casserole dishes to members released from the hospital to their homes. This is an excellent opportunity to serve the members of the church, and their families, when they are in need.

What Can You Do... A committee of four people serve during one month a given year. Please give prayerful consideration to joining our mission to provide help when needed. If you would like to become a part of this special ministry of Westminster, please contact June Roby 423-2656, Coordinator.

Celebrating Birthdays in September ...



Table listing birthdays in September with names and dates.

Worship Attendance ~ August

Table showing worship attendance for August 7, 14, 21, and 28.

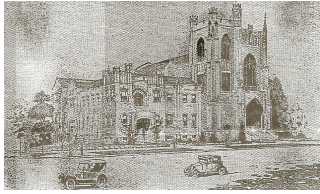
Average Attendance for August ~ 95



Financial Report for July

Table showing July Revenue (Actual receipts, Endowment, Interest, Trust) and Total Receipts (\$96,229.40), and Total Expenses for July (\$60,388.88) resulting in Income Less Expenses of \$35,840.52.





Then

Presbyterian Women Program ... Coming Up!

When: Tuesday, September 13th ~10:30 a.m.

Program: "Westminster Past and Future"

Jim Olendorf, George Coutant, Teresa Goller

Mission: Items for Church

Lunch: Hannah Circle



Now

Through the years!

† †Congregational Life † †



With Sympathy to the Family and Friends of:

Joanne Patterson Leonard, 87, died Saturday, August 13, 2011. Services were held at Westminster on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 with The Reverend Stephen R. Hill and The Reverend Ronald T. Allin officiating. She is survived by her husband, Bruce, daughters, Jane Bussing, Julia Dethrow, Susan Six, 5 grandchildren, 1 great-granddaughter, and their families. Joanne was very active in many groups at Westminster and was a member of the Westminster Choir for 50 years and was a member of Westminster since 1953. she will be greatly missed.

Please remember her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank You! To the 22 Millikin students and advisors who helped with our church work day on Saturday, August 20. The students did lots of outside tasks and helped to cleanup many areas around the church by trimming, weeding, and mowing. Special thanks also to the Westminster volunteers who assisted the students with the work day. Your time and talents were greatly appreciated!

Special Note ...

Dear Westminster,

My appreciation to you for the "love gift" and for the opportunity to serve this church to the best of my ability for almost ten years.

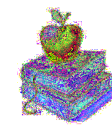
Be supportive to Chris Holman and may God Bless You All.

Sincerely,

Rose Marie Thompson

*O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
Psalm 34:3 (NRSV)*

*Calendar of Events
September 2011*



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1	2 1:30 p.m. Rules of the Road	3
4 10:00 a.m. Worship Communion 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	5 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	6 9:30 a.m. PW Board Mtg. 12:00 p.m.	7 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 3:30 p.m. Staff Meeting 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	8 7-9pm Camera Club	9 10:00 a.m. La Leche League	10
11 FALL KICK-OFF SUNDAY! 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 5-7:30 p.m. Annual Community Family Fest	12 4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Meeting 7:00 p.m. Christian Education Meeting	13 10:30 a.m. PW Program 2:00 MU Master Classes AAUW 5:30-8:00 in Fellowship Hall	14 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 5:00 p.m. LOGOS Begins 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	15 3:30 p.m. Trustee Meeting	16 9:00 a.m. Volunteer at Good Samaritan Inn	17 Fall Family Weekend - Millikin
18 JAZZ SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 11:00 a.m. Deacon's Meeting 4:00 p.m. Bible Study	19 6:30 p.m. Strategic Planning	20 2:00 MU Master Classes 6:00 p.m. Mission Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study	21 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 12:00 p.m. Finance Committee 1pm Mary/Martha Circle 5:00 P.M. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	22 1:00 p.m. Cheer Guild - Church Parlor 7:00 p.m. Session 7-9pm Camera Club	23	24
25 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 4:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Concert & Spaghetti Supper	26	27 2:00 MU Master Classes 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study	28 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 5:00 P.M. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	29	30	