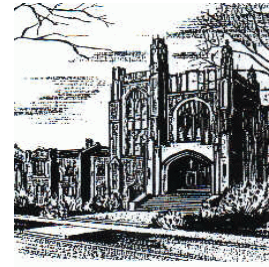


Westminster Presbyterian Church
1360 W. Main Street
Decatur, IL 62522

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit. Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Decatur, IL
PERMIT NO. 147



The **W**estminster *Chimes*



Issue No . 10

October 2011

From The Pastor's Desk



...

"Be the Change You Want to See in the World" Mahatma Gandhi

I have heard Mahatma Gandhi's sentence changed to, "be the change you want to see in others". From the "World of Psychology", "One of life's hardest lessons to learn is that you can only change yourself." The theme of this pastor's page is change. Westminster will see a lot of change and here are some wonderful insights about change.

We see models of change in Abraham, Joseph, Moses, and Jesus. Abraham went to a new land and believed he and his decedents would be blessed – faith. Joseph, how do you keep a positive attitude after being thrown into a well and sold into slavery by your brothers? He was amazingly resilient, faithful and trusted God through every hardship. Joseph remained faithful to his core value of trusting God, no matter what! Moses crossed deserts, faced pharaoh, performed miracles, chose to lead a group of slaves to "a promised land". Moses had faith and trust in God, no matter what obstacle that seemed a barrier to his goal. Jesus believed he could change the world by dying on a cross and experiencing resurrection. As followers of Jesus Christ, our Biblical and personal stories of faith and trust in God are a constant value that moves us into a joyous future.

Change requires an emotional commitment. In John Kotter's book, "The Heart of Change" he points out that some emotions undermine change, they include anger, false pride, pessimism, arrogance, cynicism, panic, exhaustion, insecurity, and anxiety. Your ability to change, to be adaptive will be enhanced by including faith, trust, optimism, urgency, reality-based pride, passion, excitement, hope and enthusiasm." As you look at your ability to change, check out your emotions and attitudes in order to bring awareness and a greater ability to grow through change. This brings a happier you into the world.

In order to "be" the change you can Journal one meaningful event a day for about two minutes a day. Send an email to someone acknowledging and thanking them, be grateful.

(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

Web Site: 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 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 Rinchiuso, Dennis Honnold, Jane Ballion, Shannon Allen, Jim Coryell, Matthew Briggs, Ed Day

Be grateful and acknowledge something that went well in your life. Be aware of your thoughts. When the phone rings, be aware of what you are thinking at that time. Then ask the questions, is what I am thinking getting me where I want to go? What am I thinking or feeling right now and make a conscious shift to another thought. Review your day and be aware of what you would change and be a better you tomorrow - for the glory of God and the enrichment of your community.

Your Changing Pastor,
Steve

October Is Clergy Appreciation Month

October has been set aside as a special time of the year for congregations to honor pastors and their families for the hard work, dedication, and special blessings they have provided throughout the year to the members of their congregations. This is a great opportunity to say "thank you" to God's servants who have made a difference in your life.

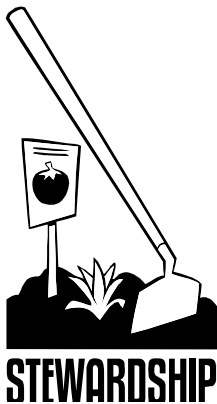


There are many ways to help pastors and their families feel appreciated. Some suggestions are: *send a card, a lunch or dinner invitation, a promise to pray for them, a gift card, etc.*

Take a moment to think of something positive you can do to show your appreciation to our pastor and his family this month!

October 31st Begins Stewardship Emphasis

Beginning on October 31st we will begin our 2012 stewardship program. On Sunday, November 2 our stewardship theme will be "Gift" which will reflect on our lives anchored in God's gifts to us as stewards. On November 13th our theme will emphasize our life as a joyful "Task" and on November 20th the theme will be "Celebration" as we collect the commitment cards and hear the results of the campaign at the Stewardship Celebration & Thanksgiving Dinner immediately after church. You will be receiving commitment cards in the mail beforehand so you will have an opportunity to prayerfully make your decision or you can bring them to the service or mail them to the church office if you are unable to attend this special service.



2nd Annual Community Family Fest ***Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!***

What a wonderful day we had! The weather was beautiful. The smell of the meat cooking was only trumped by the taste of it! We had a good group of people helping with the set up. We had fantastic volunteers, great raffle prizes, and lots and lots of guests!

Thank you to Brian Booth, Doug Booth, Frances Finch, Amelia Finch, Nicky Booth, and Anna Booth for donating and cooking all of the delicious pork, sauce, and pickles for our sandwiches. Thank you to Charles & Jennifer Richardson for their hard work in getting the many items donated for the raffles. Thank you to Randy Reyman for arranging for the Jazz Combo who provided our music. Thank you to the many, many Church Members who volunteered your time to help set up, run the games and activities, and help clean up. The event was a success because we all worked together. Mark your calendars for September 9, 2012!

LOGOS News

The 2011/2012 LOGOS year began on September 21. Our themes this year are based on the many colors God gave us. We started with "Orange You Glad It's Time For LOGOS!" then on the 28th we had "School Colors Night."



Introducing our LOGOS team for this year:

Bible Teachers: Christie Allen, Anne Gray, Frances Finch

Worship Skills: Chris Holman

Recreation Leaders: Joel Winick, Kevin Besser

Dinner Dean: Shannon Allen

Cook: Barbara Phillips

Table Parents: Luciana Frable, Joel Winick, Adam Benson, Laurie Bergschneider, Steve Hill, Teresa Goller

Decorator: Erica Besser

Bus Driver: Bob Moore

Nursery: Alyssa McCoy

October themes: Green Glow Night – Bring a friend, Red & Blue Night (baseball theme), Rainbow Night – Mystery Dinner, & Orange & Black Night.

It's not too late to join. Everyone in Kindergarten through 6th grade is invited to join us on Wednesdays at 5:00.



Questions from the Congregation

Q: "Enjoyed the gospel songs before the service. Can we do it regularly – maybe 4th Sunday each month."

A: Yes. The plan is to ask for song requests on the 1st Sunday of each month, then sing the songs the 2nd Sunday starting at 9:50.

Monthly Youth Group

We are starting a monthly Youth Group for all youth in 7th – 12th grade. The **first Sunday of every month**, starting on **October 2**, all youth are invited to join us from **6:00 to 8:00** for a variety of activities, lessons, music, food, and fun. Invite your friends!



The past two years we have had Trunk or Treat on the Wednesday night closest to Halloween. This year that Wednesday night is the 26th so we have decided to have our annual **Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30 starting at 6:30**. We anticipate having more children therefore we need your trunks! Please consider decorating your trunk and bringing treats to pass out to our children and visiting children. Please let Teresa know if you will be participating. Thank you!

Veteran's Night

We will have our annual Veteran's Night dinner with our LOGOS children on **Wednesday, November 9 at 6:30 p.m.** Invitations will be sent by the children. If you have not participated in the past, please contact the church office to make sure we have your name.



Christian Education News



Our theme for Children's Church in September was "We honor God with our work" The children have been learning about the gifts and talents that God has given us and how we can use those to serve God and others. Our theme for October will be "Extreme Makeover – Redesigned Attitudes". All children ages three through sixth grade are invited to join us in the Pratt Chapel following the Children's Message.

One change this year is the transition from Children's Church to Sunday School. Instead of going to the Fellowship Hall for a snack, the children will have their snack in the room adjacent to the Pratt Chapel. They will then go down the hallway to their Sunday School rooms. If your child/ren is not attending Sunday School, please come to the Pratt Chapel following Worship to pick them up. The children will be singing in Worship on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Please meet Chris in the Sanctuary at 9:40 to warm up.

Weekly Prayer Time



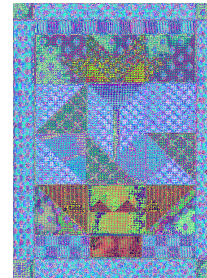
During this time of transition, the Church staff is setting aside a time for the Congregation to pray together. The Blue Chapel will be open each **Wednesday at 12:00** for this purpose. We will have prayer materials available and will focus on a different aspect each week. You may come and go as you choose. If you cannot come to the Church we ask that you try to set aside that time each week so we are all praying together for our future. The weekly focus will be issued in the weekly E-newsletter.

Thanksgiving Baskets



During this time of uncertainty at the church, it reminds us of the struggles of many families in our community where their daily lives revolve around the uncertainty of whether or not there will be enough food to eat. We can make a positive difference in the lives of these families. Each year the Deacons put together Thanksgiving baskets for families in our community through coordinating efforts with the Northeast Community Center. Last year we collected enough non-perishable food items to fill 30 baskets as well as enough monetary donations to cover the cost of the perishable items (roughly \$600) through the amazing efforts of members and visitors at Westminster. What a wonderful gift to the community that we would like to repeat again this year. What an amazing way to show these families the power of Jesus Christ. The Deacons will be available before and after services in the Narthex each week from **October 9th through November 12th**. Please pray to understand how you can best support this project. Thank you from the Deacons.

Cheer Guild Meeting



Thursday, October 27, 2011
Program: Quilt Show by Audrey Sanner and Florence Leckrone
Place: Church Parlor
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Hostess Committee: Bea Fisher and Anne Gray



Ladies mark your calendars and come and join us for a special afternoon of fun and fellowship!

Celebrating Birthdays in October ...

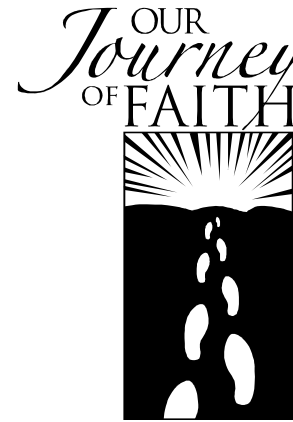
1	Mim Amdal	14	Nancy Minks
1	Chad Lehn	15	Barbara Abbott
1	Waneta Moses	15	Margaret Gant
4	Joseph McAdam, Jr.	17	Alec Shaw
7	Amy Besser	18	Rich Lehn
7	Nathan Smith	18	Max Scott
8	Bernice Doty	18	Chris Williams
8	Amanda Taylor	23	Tracy Martin
9	Ana Luisa Frable	27	Kate Farrington
11	Lily Bell Rinchiuso	28	Vi Staley
13	Jane Ballion	31	Brian Sphar



**Happy
Birthday!**

Westminster Past & Future

Notes from September's WPC Presbyterian Women's Gathering



On Tuesday, September 13th at 10:30 a.m. Twenty women gathered in fellowship Hall to listen to Teresa Goller, Waneta Moses, Jim Olendorf, and George Coutant share stories and memories of Westminster. They talked about the Sanctuary in the beginning with no center aisle that had to be changed for brides and children's choirs that eventually was split into boys and girls choirs. Where the Blue Chapel is now was two stories of Sunday school rooms. The gym was one of the first in West Decatur so many Dennis school children and their parents came to our building many of which continued to attend church. Teresa brought us up to date on current programs including LOGOS. She asked for help with Sunday School as she is getting more attending than she can manage alone. Jean Toney brought her perfect attendance Pin from Sunday School (she never missed even while on vacation). The Hannah Circle served the ladies a delicious lunch of chicken casserole, jello salad and a special apple dumpling dessert that was wonderful!

The next PW event will be on **Tuesday, October 11th at 10:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a demonstration on self-defense with Skip Mower. Assistant Warden, Kimberly Smith, will tell us about the Women's Correctional Center in Decatur. She has asked if we could help with donations of deodorant and shampoo for the women as a mission project. The Mary/Martha Circle will provide lunch. All ladies of the church are invited, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Worship Attendance ~ September

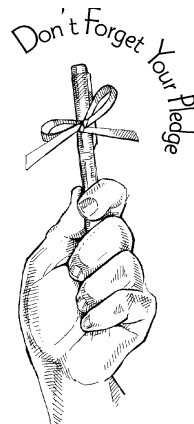


September 4	75
September 11	116
September 18	94
September 25	101

Average Attendance for September ~ 97

Financial Report for August

August Revenue	
Actual Receipts received	\$18,719.88
Endowment money received	0
Interest received	0
Trust money received	0
Total Receipts	\$18,719.88
Total Expenses for August	\$48,522.84
Income Less Expenses	-\$29,802.96



Fall Gathering of the Presbytery Women

Saturday, October 15 ~ 9:30 a.m.

Memorial Presbyterian Church

303 N. Locust St.,

Assumption, Illinois

Lunch: \$7.00

Bible Study: Beatitudes

Least Coin Dedication



Reservations: Joyce Adcock 217-226-3203 by October 11, 2011

W E ' L L C A R P O O L !

The Book Shelves

The book shelves outside the Fellowship Hall hold donated books available for a “on your honor” donation. There might be some you would enjoy! The donations to date total \$26.00 and will be used for baby supplies for the women’s program “Moms & Babies.”



We appreciate your book donations and your cash donations.

Dinah Circle

†† *Congregational Life* ††



Barbara Ann (Boyer) Byrkit, 69, died Thursday, September 8, 2011. Services were held at Westminster on Thursday, September 15, 2011 with The Reverend Stephen R. Hill and The Reverend Ronald T. Allin officiating. Barbara is survived by her husband, Robert; children, Jeffrey and Anne, 7 grandchildren, and their families. She was an active member of Westminster for 43 years, served as an Elder, and many other church committees and activities. She will be greatly missed.

Please remember her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Special Thanks ...

On behalf of our family, I would like to thank the Westminster family for all that you have done during the days before and after Barb’s death. We truly appreciate the care from the pastors, the musicians at the memorial service, the Hannah Circle and the many others that prepared the meal, and all of you that supported us in many ways during that time.

Bob Byrkit

You Are Invited to a ... Going Away Party for Steve



After serving Westminster for the past 8 years, the Reverend Steve Hill has decided to leave Westminster as he believes God is calling him to a new place in his ministry. His last day to serve as our pastor will be October 31, 2011.

Please join us on Sunday, **October 30 at 11:00 a.m.** as we celebrate Steve's eight years of ministry and serving Christ with us. We will have a dinner and a time of fellowship and sharing with Steve and thank him for all he has done for us following the worship service.

October Worship Highlights

Children’s Sabbath is observed on October 16. This Sunday is set aside to lift up the needs and celebrate the gifts of children in worship, through educational events, and advocacy opportunities.



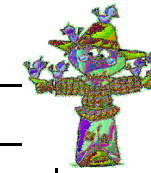
October 16th ~ There will be a Congregational Meeting following the worship service.

October 30th is Reformation Sunday. This Sunday commemorates October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg.

*K
i
d
s
c
o
r
n
e
r*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and
I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long. (NRSU)*

**Calendar of Events
October 2011**



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						1
2 CROP Walk 10:00 a.m. Worship Communion 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 6-8:00 p.m. Youth Group	3 6:30 p.m. Strategic Planning Meeting	4 9:30 a.m. PW Board Mtg 7:30 p.m. Jazz Concert Concert in Sanctuary	5 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 12:00 Prayer Time in BC 5:00 p.m. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	6	7 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Legacy of the Lamp	8 <i>MU Homecoming Weekend</i>
9 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Fellowship <i>MU Homecoming Weekend</i>	10 4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Meeting 7:00 p.m. Christian Education Meeting	11 10:30 a.m. PW Program 2:00 MU Master Classes	12 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 12:00 Prayer Time in BC 5:00 p.m. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	13 7-9pm Camera Club	14	15 Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women at Memorial Presbyterian Assumption 9:30 a.m.
16 JAZZ SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:00 a.m. Deacon's Mtg.	17 PEO Group - FH 12:00-3:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Strategic Planning Meeting	18 2:00 Master Classes 6:00 p.m. Mission Meeting 6:30 p.m. WENA Board	19 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 9-11 Personnel Reviews 12:00 Prayer Time in BC 12:00 p.m. Finance Mtg. 1pm Mary/Martha Circle 5:00 P.M. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	20 3:30 p.m. Trustee Meeting	21 9:00 a.m. Volunteer at Good Samaritan Inn	22
23 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday School	24	25	26 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Chair Exercise 12:00 Prayer Time in BC 5:00 P.M. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Choir Narcotics Anonymous	27 1:00 p.m. Cheer Guild - Church Parlor 7-9pm Camera Club 7:00 p.m. Session	28	29
30 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Going Away Party for Steve 6:30 p.m. Trunk or Treat	31 HALLOWEEN 