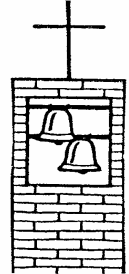


CHIMES



Westminster Presbyterian Church
February, 2012

Issue 625 <http://www.wpclynchburg.org> (434) 847-6655



From your Pastor . . .

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ He who does not love does not know God; for God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. – 1 John 4:7-12

As I was thinking about what I might write about the Session Retreat of January 20-21, 2012, the above passage of scripture came to mind. God's love was flowing freely in among and through us during the course of our retreat as we were all energized with a clearer understanding of what God has done, is doing, and is calling us to do through the ministry of our church.

We are so blessed by the people called by God and elected by the congregation to lead our church at this time. There is tremendous commitment for the future of our church and dedication to working together to let the light of Christ shine through the church and for the world. As your pastor, it is wonderful to be a part of such an inspired and inspiring group of people. We all are sharing in the discovery of one path by which God will grow us and our church deep and wide as the living body of Christ here and for all the world.

Looking ahead, this coming year looks to be one for great times of celebration as we participate in some special events. This month we begin Lent with the Ash Wednesday service at noon on February 22. This Lent there will be some special opportunities for those who want to enrich their spirits. On March 4 we will be celebrating the gifts of women in a special way in worship and with a pancake breakfast. Later in the year we will be having special Sunday celebrations honoring the 25th anniversary of the Free Clinic and the 60th anniversary of Camp Timothy. In October we will have a grand Homecoming celebration.

Out of the session retreat has come, as well, a long list of ideas and projects including those that come out of the brainstorming of the Stewardship Small Group Gatherings, together with insights from the 1976 long range planning efforts that set the direction then for so much of what has happened since. We will be keeping all these matters before us as we move forward in the discernment of the ongoing call we have to be the church at this time in this place with the blessings God provides.

We closed our retreat with a shared commissioning of ourselves to our calling to spiritual leadership through our responsibilities and our commitment to a willing and dedicated discipleship to Christ as a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. We celebrated the opportunity to pray for each member of our church family and to serve with energy, intelligence, imagination and love, relying on God's mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. We ask for your continued support and prayers. Glory be to God. All glory be to God.

In Christ's Love,
Bill Russell

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February

Queen Webb
Jerry Ferguson
Charlie Ross
Anna Bradley McCall



March

Chris Harris
Jimmy Reed
Jennifer Allen
Jonathan Allen
Jacob Reed



Mr. A. Kendall Sydnor, Sr.

Miss Evelyn Hamlet

Mrs. Becky Maxey

Mary Lou Kobert



Ballard Parker

Mary Cary Chipley

If you would like to have a visit, please call our church office (847-6655) and we will add you to our list!

60th Year Anniversary—Camp Timothy 1952—2012

III Annual

“Love is the Key” Concert and Fellowship Dinner
Saturday, February 11th
Westminster Presbyterian Church
11th and Floyd Street—5:00 p.m.

A \$5.00 donation will be collected to benefit
Camp Timothy 2012!

Please join us in songs of praise and worship unto
God and a delicious fellowship dinner.

Our guest soloist for the evening will be
Mrs. Tracey Gentry-Micah

Sponsored By: Churches for Urban Ministry
(434) 847-6655

Camp Timothy’s 60th Anniversary

Camp Timothy is going to be celebrating its
60th anniversary this year.

We are in the process of planning some special events and would like to invite alumni of the camp and anyone in the community who has had a part in the history of the camp.

If you have any names of people who were involved in the camp over the past 60 years or pictures or stories that you could share with us, please contact Joyce Sachs at 847-6655 or email her at cum1022@hotmail.com.

HAITI RELIEF OFFERING

You may help with ongoing disaster relief and recovery work with a contribution to Westminster.

Please indicate Haiti Relief
on your check.



The March Chimes
deadline is February 21st.
Thank you!

CLERK'S CORNER



Session members saw a great deal of one another in late January. On Friday evening, January 20th and most of Saturday, January 21st, the present class of ruling elders and two recently “retired” elders gathered at the Tabor Retreat Center off Langhorne Road in Lynchburg for a time of spiritual retreat. Friday evening, the session was guided by Pastor Bill Russell and included times of prayer, listening and sharing. At the conclusion of Friday’s session, Bill gave a “*homework assignment*” in preparation for Saturday morning’s participation.

- When did you feel the blessing of God’s presence in a special way in your life at Westminster?
- What is some occasion that, as you look back now, you can say: “Surely the Lord was in this place.”
- What are you anticipating in the year ahead?
- What do you want to “give” for the church?

The *homework assignment* paved the way for a period of discussion and planning on Saturday. The topics of the conversations were notes gleaned from the stewardship small-group gatherings last fall. The “brainstorming session” included; the spiritual vitality of members, attracting new members, use of church property, relationship with the neighborhood community and the long-range future of Westminster.

As you might well imagine, fifteen committed elders discussing issues vital to the life of Westminster quickly consumed not only the time allocated for the “retreat” but also encroached on the time planned for the Stated Meeting of Session.

With a proposed adjournment time of 3 p.m. looming, the moderator called the Stated Meeting to order. The time rapidly dissolved as Minutes of the December 2011 Meeting and the January 2012 Annual Congregational Meeting were read and approved, financial reports for 2011 were received and approved, the General Assembly Statistical report for 2011 was approved, Session Committee reports were given and celebrations were added to the calendar of events in the life of the church.

It was a challenge to find a time and date to gather all the elders for a dedicated time of almost twenty-four hours. However, I do believe, we all left feeling renewed and bound closer together as a people of God, called to be and serve, in this time and in this place we call Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Time seems to fly as we deal with all the *shoulds*, *oughts*, *musts* and *wannas* in our lives. It is very important to deliberately and intentionally carve out precious minutes and hours and put our devotional lives first. Every moment and breath is a gift of God.

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:17

Thanks be to God.

Respectfully,
Pix Mahler, Clerk of Session

Save the Date

“HOMECOMING SUNDAY”

Please make your plans to attend our
Westminster Presbyterian Church Homecoming,
which will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2012. We are in the
planning stages right now, so watch the Chimes for future plans.

For information, please contact the church office or
Nancy Booth Duncan, Chairman of the Homecoming Committee,
at 434-821-2837 or e-mail at nancyb.duncan@yahoo.com



Westminster Drivers for Meals on Wheels

Week of February 20th–24th!
Please call Eloise Peters (386-3700)

LUNCH BUNCH

Join us for Lunch Bunch on
February 27th, 12 noon
at Charley's!



Presbytery Meeting

February 18th

9:00 a.m.

Blacksburg Presbyterian Church
Blacksburg, VA



CHOIR NOTES



Organists around the world were saddened to learn of the death of Gerre Hancock on Sunday, January 22. I would venture to guess that there's not an organist out there who anyone would consider to be a household name, but among American organists, to us fellow organists, Gerre Hancock was almost a legend. He was not only one of the greatest players of the last generation, but was also one of the few American organists whose prowess at improvisation approached that of the great French organists. I recall the first time I heard him play. In 1985 my mother-in-law (our organist emerita) was attending a sacred music concert at Montreat. Betty and I went out to spend a couple days with the Sydnors, and Gerre Hancock was one of the presenters at the conference. He gave a recital in the chapel one evening, on a rather modest and not terribly successful instrument, which he ended with an improvisation in the form of a passacaglia on a given bass. It was spell-binding.

For almost 35 years he held the job as music director of St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Fifth Avenue in New York.

Bob Blevins,
Director of Music/Organist



Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs 46 days before Easter.

Westminster Presbyterian Church will have a special service on February 22, 2012 at 12:00 noon – 12:30 p.m.

Prayer Group



Join our Prayer Group!
We meet every Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the board room.

See you there!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

*Please note:
The Morning Circle
will not meet in
February!*



*The Evening Circle will meet on
Monday, February 13th
at 7 p.m.
at the home of
Betty Oliver.
Chapter 4 from "Confessing the Beatitudes"
will be presented by Kathleen Smith.*

Souper Bowl of Caring



On February 5th we will observe Souper Bowl Sunday by bringing to worship gifts of money for Meals on Wheels and/or non-perishable food for the CUM food pantry.

Immediately after worship, Doris Hailey will open the food pantry in the education building so that we may visit and see and hear how it operates. Make plans to stop in and see how this important ministry works!

Nancy Virginia Akers

1/28/24—12/6/11
Memorial Gifts

General Fund:
Eunice Andrews

Children's Activities Fund:
Nancy Duncan

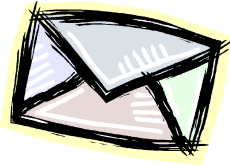
Donate Flowers in 2012

Your Worship & Music Committee has requested that the sanctuary be supplied with either a fresh flower arrangement or live plant every Sunday. You have an opportunity to celebrate your special celebrations/remembrances by donating an arrangement for one or more Sundays during 2012, then you may take the arrangement home, or leave it for use another week.

A fresh flower arrangement will be prepared by a member of our Flower Guild for the reasonable cost of \$35.00. It will be constructed in a plastic pot, which you may take home and return at a later date. Live plants, including flowering plants, may be ordered for \$25.00. Please sign up on the chart outside the fellowship hall, or call the church office. Be sure to specify either flower arrangement or plant, and let us know if you have a preference of color or style. Send your payment to the church prior to the chosen Sunday.

If you have questions or want to consult with us regarding your arrangement, call either Joyce Russell (434-384-3379) or Tica Sydnor (434-386-0020).

**WESTMINSTER NOTECARDS
AND ENVELOPES**



**\$1.00 for 10 cards and 10 envelopes
that feature the church drawing by
Roger Elliott.**

**You can purchase them in the church office
Monday-Thursday, 9-3 p.m.**

**Exercise Class
Mark Your Calendar!**

**Every Wednesday and Friday,
10:00 a.m. — Fellowship Hall
Come join us and
stay fit and healthy!**



**Westminster Presbyterian Church
2011 Year-end Budget Report**

	Jan - Dec 11	2011 Budget	% of 2011 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
1 · Ch for Urb Min - Rent+Secr/Sext	3,227	3,520	92%
3 · Coleman Fund Inc -Maint Ch Prop	58,212	58,212	100%
5 · Helen Whidden Estate Income	2,540	2,540	100%
6 · Mem Gifts Income (Undesignated)	965	2,500	39%
7 · Members No Pledge Income	12,982	12,096	107%
8 · Members Pledge Income	138,989	143,839	97%
11 · Offering Envelopes Income	6		
12 · Plate Offering	2,247	1,401	160%
13 · Presbytery of the Peaks - Rent	18,576	18,576	100%
Total Income	237,744	242,684	98%
Expense			
100 · Administration	32,263	32,171	100%
200 · Benevolences	33,700	33,700	100%
300 · Building and Grounds Committee	73,461	75,763	97%
400 · Christian Education Committee	817	1,450	56%
500 · Professional Staff & Personnel	96,549	97,050	99%
600 · Congregational Care - Visit	44	100	44%
620 · Fellowship Committee	114	500	23%
700 · Outreach & Evangelism Committe	350	500	70%
800 · Worship & Music Committee	1,141	1,450	79%
640 · Legal, Licenses & Permits	45		
660 · Stock Transaction Expense	120		
Total Expense	238,604	242,684	98%
Net	-860	0	

Month of February

February 5 (5th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isa. 40:21-31; 1 Cor. 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

Adult Sunday School: Julia Crim

Children's Sunday School: Ashley Thulin

Fellowship: Otto Vallastro

Liturgist: Kathleen Smith

Ushers: Jimmy Reed & Jeffrey Reed

Children's Message: Joyce Russell

Acolyte: Richard Mahler

Nursery: Doris Hailey

February 19 (Transfiguration of the Lord)

2 Kings 2:1-12; 2 Cor. 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Adult Sunday School: Kathleen Smith

Children's Sunday School: Ashley Thulin

Fellowship: Joyce Russell

Liturgist: Betty Oliver

Ushers: Chris Harris & Valerie Harris

Children's Message: Pix Mahler

Acolyte: Chris Reed

Nursery: Linda Harris

February 12 (6th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

2 Kings 5:1-14; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45

Adult Sunday School: Cary Roberts

Children's Sunday School: Ashley Thulin

Fellowship: Irene Hoag

Liturgist: Bob Wilson

Ushers: Eloise Peters & Mae Kelley

Children's Message: Sharee Coates

Acolyte: Richard Mahler

Nursery: Joyce Russell

February 26 (1st Sunday in Lent)

Gen. 9:8-17; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

Adult Sunday School: Julia Crim

Children's Sunday School: Ashley Thulin

Fellowship: Kathleen Smith

Liturgist: Julia Crim

Ushers: Mike Harris & Linda Harris

Children's Message: Bill Russell

Acolyte: Chris Reed

Nursery: Martha Smith

**CHECK OUT OUR
WEBSITE!**

www.wpclyncburg.org



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1022 FLOYD STREET

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24501

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