

The

Westminster Chimes

Newsletter of the People of Westminster Presbyterian Church
301 E. Whitaker Mill Road • Raleigh, NC 27608 • (919) 828-0507

Volume XLIV, No. 3
March 2010



Notes from Your Temporary Shepherd

Easter is the highlight of the Christian year. It is our most important of all (even more significant than Christmas). On Easter, we proclaim that timeless truth of the Gospel: that not even the grave could keep Jesus Christ captive. On the third day after his death, Jesus was resurrected. Through his death all of us have the opportunity to experience God's great blessing of salvation. I hope that you will join us in worship on Easter Sunday, April 4th. It will be a joyous occasion!

I want to share with you one of my favorite Easter stories. There was a mentally handicapped boy (who we'll call Paul) in a local parish. He went to Sunday school each week, but usually could not understand what the class was discussing. One Sunday the teacher gave them an assignment: each child was given an Easter egg and told to fill it with some item that reminded them of Easter. Every child brought their eggs back; some had butterflies, others had flowers. Paul's Easter egg was empty. The teacher tried to cover for Paul: she did not ask him to explain his egg. Paul protested, "Aren't you going to ask me about my egg?" He said it was empty to signify the empty tomb that has given new life to all of us. Paul died of complications with his illness later that year, but each member of the Sunday school class put an empty egg on his casket to symbolize the new life that Paul has received through Christ who has risen again.

At its stated meeting on February 28, the session voted to renew my contract as your interim pastor for another six months. That contract runs from April 19-October 19, 2010. If Westminster Church is still looking for a pastor in October, my interim contract may be renewed for an additional six months. I am profoundly grateful to be the temporary shepherd of this congregation. This is a wonderful church, full of people who love the Lord. I am grateful for all the ways that you have shared your love and appreciation with me. I look forward to what God has in store for us as we continue in this journey together. Please be in prayer for the Pastor Nominating Committee, as they will be meeting regularly together throughout the month of April.

Peace in Christ,

Jody Moore

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A Word From Our Pastor



The Power of God Sermon Series

**Easter through Trinity Sunday:
April and May 2010**

Reverend Jody Moore's new sermon series will start on Easter Sunday and continue throughout Eastertide, Pentecost, and conclude with Trinity Sunday. The God that we worship is Almighty, which means all-powerful. On Easter Sunday, God displayed that power when Jesus Christ won a decisive victory over the powers of death and evil through his resurrection. When we are weak, we can depend on God's strength. During the sermons series, we will focus our attention on the many ways the Lord demonstrates God's power.

April 4: Easter Sunday– Luke 24:1-2. *The Power of God to Conquer Death and Give Us New Life.* Luke tells us about the event that changes the course of human history: not even the grave could keep Jesus captive. The resurrected Christ appeared to his amazed followers on the third day after his crucifixion. Jesus' victory shows us that God is stronger than even death!

April 11: Acts 5:27-42. *The Power of God to Give Us Courage.* On Palm Sunday, we heard about Peter who folded under pressure and denied Jesus three times before the cock crowed. After having seen the resurrected Christ, Peter is a new man. He is full of the Holy Spirit and willing to risk his life and take a bold stand for his faith.

April 25: Psalm 23. *The Power of God to Protect Us.* The twenty-third Psalm is one of the most beloved passages in the entire Bible. We learn that God is our shepherd. The Lord will shield us and protect us through all of life's trials and tribulations.

May 2: John 8:1-11. *The Power of God to Forgive Us.* The scribes and Pharisees bring a woman caught in adultery to Jesus. At that time, the punishment was to stone a woman who had committed that crime to death. Where that society and we are tempted to punish and seek retribution, Jesus offers mercy and second chances. Jesus forgave that woman and offers to cleanse us of our sins.

May 9: Acts 16:16-39. *The Power of God to Free Us from What is Holding Us Captive.* Paul and Silas are ministering in Christ's name when they are arrested, beaten, and put in prison. In the middle of the night, God opens the prison doors through a mighty earthquake, setting Paul and Silas free. God also has the power to save us from anything that is holding us captive!

May 16: Genesis 11:1-9. *The Power of God to Humble Us When We Become Too Proud.* Humans build The Tower of Babel in an effort to make a name for themselves. When We rely on only ourselves and what we can accomplish on our own, we lose focus on the big picture. We are nourished and sustained by being in relationship with God.

May 23: Pentecost Sunday. Acts 2:1-2 & 41-47. *The Power of God to Send Us the Holy Spirit.* On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the church. The Holy Spirit guides us, strengthens us, instructs us, and purifies our motives. Filled with the Spirit, the early church devoted itself to several key practices that are still important for us today: teaching, fellowship, breaking bread together, and praying.

May 30: Psalm 8 & Proverbs 8: *The Power of God to Create the Majestic Universe.* On Trinity Sunday, we celebrate that we know God in three ways: as Father (Creator), Son, and Holy Spirit. Psalm 8 and Proverbs 8 tells us about God as Creator. It gives us a sense of awe to imagine the enormous size of the universe, yet God still loves us individually and knows each of us by name

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We publish the Westminster Chimes monthly and welcome submissions from readers. Those chosen for publication may be edited. Please submit either written or electronic copy to the church office no later than the 20th of the month prior to publication.

The Staff

Interim Pastor Jody Moore
Director of Music.....Eric Hendricks
Handbell/Chimes Director..... Marilyn Reese
Organist..... Margaret Clyburn
Mothers' Morning Out Director.....Dani Bailey
Adm. Secretary.....Laura Greene
Custodian.....Dwight Wilkins

The Session

Moderator: Rev. Jody Moore
Clerk: Justine Piper

Class of 2010

Rose Creech
Rudy Bartholomew

Class of 2011

Justine Piper
Joe Morgan

Class of 2012

Emily Bradshaw
Dink Puryear

The Diaconate

Class of 2010

Pat Howell

Class of 2011

Betty Ray
Rob Speer

Our mission is to lead people into a loving and growing relationship with Jesus Christ, and to strengthen His church.

Sunday Church School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.

Announcements

Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Please join us for our **Tuesday Evening Bible Study** with Pastor Jody Moore during the month of April. We meet Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Here are the passages that we will be discussing at Bible Study this month:

- April 6: Acts 5:27-42
- April 13: Psalm 23 & John 10:22-30
- April 20: *NO BIBLE STUDY*
- April 27: John 8:1-11

Maundy Thursday Service

On April 1, we will have a Maundy Thursday worship service at 7:00 pm in the chapel. Maundy Thursday is the night of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. To remember and honor that holy meal, we will be celebrating Communion in worship that evening.

People have been wanting a service in the Chapel. This is that opportunity. We hope to see you there! Please remember that we cannot enter and exit through the side aisles. Please enter from the center aisle and move to the end of the pew to allow others to come and sit on the same pew. Also, please assist during the communion by passing the trays down and back up the pew to the Elder who is serving from the center aisle.

April Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Edith Liles | 9 |
| Ray Reeve | 13 |
| Margaret Hicks..... | 14 |
| Jean Stainback | 20 |
| Beverly Nichols | 30 |

April Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| David & Betsey Aldrich | 16 |
|------------------------------|----|



Scripture about Jesus and the cross

One Great Hour of Sharing

On April 4, Easter Sunday, we will receive contributions to the One Great Hour of Sharing. This offering goes to help Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self Development of People. The Presbyterian disaster Assistance fund had helped over the years in many countries as well as the United States. This year, due to the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, your contributions to the "One Great Hour of Sharing" will be even more appreciated. Please share with others by giving generously to the "One Great Hour of Sharing". Jesus said: "Do you love me? Feed my sheep". Check should be made payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church for the "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering.

Dates to Remember

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| April 1..... | Maundy Thursday |
| April 2..... | Good Friday |
| April 4..... | Easter |
| April 5..... | Office Closed |
| April 15..... | Fellowship Dinner |
| April 20..... | Chimes Deadline |

Special Spring Service and Music Appreciation Day

On April 18, there will be a special spring service. We are calling this "Music Appreciation Day". We appreciate the students from NC State University and Meredith College that we have had this year to assist our choir on Sundays and for our special Palm Sunday Service with our mass choir. We know that they have given up a lot of their time to join our choir for practices and for Sunday morning worship service. This means a great deal to us, and we look forward to having students back in the fall.

Since Sunday, April 18 will be "Music Appreciation Day", we are having a light lunch after the 11 am worship service in honor of the students and our choir. Please plan to attend this beautiful service and the lunch that follows. In order to have the right amount of food, please let the church office know by Monday, April 12, 2010 if you plan to attend.

We invite any pictures or articles
you may have for the
Westminster Chimes.

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

Music Ministry



As I'm sitting preparing for this month's edition of The Chimes, I'm somehow drawn to reflect on the beauty of nature. The sun is shining, it is now spring, the birds are singing, the flowers are blooming, and nature is finally recovering from the harshness of winter. During my reflection, it has become obvious to me just how much God is still in

control of my world. Even during the disasters or on the sunniest of days, I am still reminded how very much God is still in control.

I cannot help but to think of the well-known song "For the Beauty of the Earth" that is so loved here at WPC. The words reflect upon the marvelous wonder of nature and how God reveals his true majesty in the world around us. When you look around where do you see God? Maybe this will help steer your mind:

*For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies;
Lord of all to Thee we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour,
of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light;
Lord of all to Thee we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

As we consider these words written by Folliott S. Pierpoint it draws our eyes to the beauty that surrounds us in the world. Everything that we see, hear, and touch is a direct product from the hands of God. This can be a little overwhelming but yet it is very calming to realize how God is really in control.

On April 18th, the Music Ministry will present "Sing Hallelujah! A Festival of Song" during the morning worship service. This service will be our testimony and praise to God for the creation of the Earth and all that dwells here; our praise to God for the wonder of everything he has created. This service will also allow us to examine our hearts to leave the harshness of winter in the past and look toward the future we have in spring. I hope you will join us for this special service.

As I leave you this month I ask you to contemplate the beauty of the earth that God has given us with this Scripture:

(continued in next column)

Easter Flowers



When you read this Chimes, we will have already received money for the Easter flowers for the cross and sanctuary and we will have already ordered the flowers from Greenhouse Designs. Laura Greene, our church secretary, will be getting the flowers for us and doing an arrangement of Easter Lilies for the sanctuary. Worship wishes to thank all those who donated money for the Flower Fund and for the Easter Cross and sanctuary arrangement. There will be some money left in the flower fund for flowers on special occasions this year thanks to all the wonderful donations. Worship would also like to thank Laure for her hard work on the flowers and for the beautiful Easter Lily arrangement. The Easter Service will be greatly benefited by the decorated cross and sanctuary arrangement. A few will gather in the sanctuary on Sunday morning, April 4 at 8:30 am to decorate the Easter Cross. If you would like to join us, please feel free to do so.

Palm Sunday Thank You

Worship would like to thank Jimi Felton and Lily for participating in the litany for Palm Sunday. It was a beautiful service and it was great to see all those palms waving. Worship would also like to thank the Joy Ringers, mass choir, students, and others who participated in any way in the preparation and special services presented on March 28th. This was a major undertaking and a moving performance, and we hope to see something similar next year.

(Music Ministry continued)

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.

In His hands are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are also. The sea is His, for He made it, and the dry land, which His hands have formed. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Psalm 95:1-7

Till we meet again,

Eric Hendricks
Director of Music

Congregational Care

Justine called several shut in members to ask if Diane Rice and she could come and take a picture of them for the April Chimes. The answer was not this time but maybe later. They each sent messages to the Church that they would like to have included in April's Chimes. Emmie Aull sends a message to thank WPC. She says "Thank you Westminster Presbyterian Church for your prayers, cards, visits and telephone calls." Margaret and Jim Lambeth said, "Thanks you Westminster Church for caring for us and remembering us on the special Holidays, and for your telephone calls and cards." Odessa Little, who lives at 3226 Six Forks Road is looking for a ride to the 11:00am Worship Service on Sunday mornings. She lives about 11/2 miles from the church and will help pay for the gas. Call her at 510-7980 if you are able and willing to help. Odessa said she "misses everyone of you and is so thankful for the faithful few".

April Fellowship Dinner

Explore the Magic of Christmas...

Do you remember the weeks before Christmas? Especially when you were young? The lights on the houses and in the stores sparkled, your heart got light and everyone walked around with a smile and cheer for each other. Even that old man down the street, the one who yelled at you all summer long, even he stopped yelling for the month of December.

Santa's Woodsman has been charged with bringing this special holiday magic into every day life, all year long. Santa's Woodsmen is a quiet tradition of service to the requests of Saint Nicholas, stretching back to the late 1800's.

The current heir to the lineage, you know him as Gale Buck, will share the Legend of the Woodsmen and the Magic of Christmas at the Fellowship Dinner on Thursday, April 15.

The Woodsmen have served at the request of Saint Nicholas in Scandinavia and came to the United States around the depression era. Working with such a notable figure, they have also come to know some of his secrets— secrets today's Woodsman enjoys sharing.

Warning, if you were ever told that Santa Claus was a myth to make children be good, you need to come learn the truth. Spend a few minutes with Santa's Woodsman and you will Believe in the Magic of Christmas.

Join us at the April Fellowship Dinner, finish your taxes early and come experience the magic.

Outreach

WPC Ladies Visit the Helen Wright Center

On March 2, we served the ladies dinner that are living at the Helen Wright Center on Cabarrus Street. Pat Howell prepared the meal and Sue Caviness and Diane Rice delivered the meal and served it.

Sue reported that they fed 40 people (which is the maximum allowable at the shelter). Pat Howell prepared a ham, potato, corn and cheese casserole, and apple-sauce along with salad, rolls, tea and cupcakes. The food was enjoyed by the ladies according to Sue.

If you are interested in helping in the future, we serve the ladies 4 times per year (the first Tuesday of March, June, September, and December). The next date will be Tuesday, June 1. Please contact Jimi Felton if you are interested in shopping/cooking or delivering/serving the meal. We welcome all that are interested.

March Fellowship Dinner



Emily Bradshaw and Audrey Pickard ready to enjoy the delicious meal.



Pat Howell at the helm.



Rev. Jody Moore enjoys some fellowship with Gary Stainback, Jean's Stainback son.



Jeff, Jordan, and Emily Bradshaw.



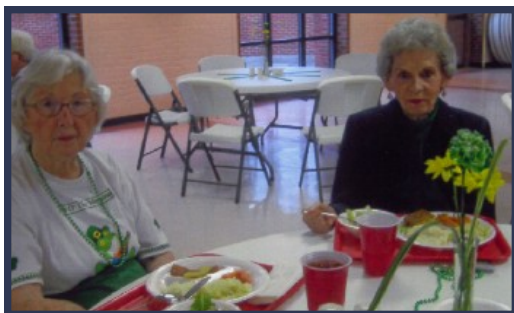
Carl and Jean Edwards helping out in the kitchen.



Diane Rice and Betty Clayton celebrate St. Patrick's Day together at this month's dinner.



Rev. Jody Moore speaks to the crowd.



Elsie Bowling and Betty Ray.



Jeff and Jordan Wilkins, Dick and Cindy Wyatt, and Stanley Jones having a good time.

**Hope as many as possible can join us April 15th
for another wonderful fellowship dinner!**

APRIL 2010

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| <p>4 EASTER SUNDAY 9:30am Church School 11:00am Worship</p> | <p>5 OFFICE CLOSED NO MMO: SPRING BREAK</p> | <p>6 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 3:00pm Dance Practice (Women 55+)</p> | <p>7 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:30am Alanon</p> | <p>1 MAUNDY THURSDAY NO MMO: SPRING BREAK 3:00pm Dance Practice (Women 55+) 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service in Chapel COMMUNION</p> | <p>2 GOOD FRIDAY NO MMO: SPRING BREAK 8:00pm AA Meeting</p> | <p>3 9:00 am Girl Scouts</p> |
| <p>11 9:30am Church School 11:00am Worship 12:15 pm Worship Commit- tee Meeting</p> | <p>12 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:30am Handbells</p> | <p>13 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:00am Circle #1 3:00pm Dance Practice (Women 55+) 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study</p> | <p>14 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:30am Alanon</p> | <p>15 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 3:00pm Dance Practice (Women 55+)</p> | <p>16 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:00 am Bible Study</p> | <p>17</p> |
| <p>8:00pm AA Meeting</p> | | <p>8:00pm AA/Alanon Mtg.</p> | <p>7:00pm Chancel Choir</p> | <p>6:30 pm Fellowship Dinner</p> | <p>8:00pm AA Meeting</p> | |
| <p>18 9:30am Church School 11:00am Worship JOY RINGERS 12:30pm Session Meeting 8:00pm AA Meeting</p> | <p>19 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:30am Handbells</p> | <p>20 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 3:00pm Dance Practice (Women 55+) 8:00pm AA/Alanon Mtg.</p> | <p>21 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:30am Alanon</p> | <p>22 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 3:00pm Dance Practice (Women 55+)</p> | <p>23 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:00 am Bible Study 8:00pm AA Meeting</p> | <p>24 9:00 am Girl Scouts</p> |
| <p>25 9:30am Church School 11:00am Worship</p> | <p>26 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:30am Handbells</p> | <p>27 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 3:00pm Dance Practice 6:30pm Pastor's Bible Study 8:00pm AA/Alanon Mtg.</p> | <p>28 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:30am Alanon</p> | <p>29 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 3:00pm Dance Practice (Women 55+)</p> | <p>30 9:30am-1:30pm MMO 10:00 am Bible Study 8:00pm AA Meeting</p> | |
| <p>8:00pm AA Meeting</p> | | | <p>7:00pm Chancel Choir</p> | | | |



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New Reader? Come Visit Us! We're so glad that you picked up this newsletter.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

Series begins on
Tuesday, March 16th
at
6:30 pm

Easter Service

Sunday, April 2nd
11:00 am

Don't miss this very special worship service.

Maundy THURSDAY



service will be held on
Thursday, April 1, 2010
at 7:00 pm
in the Chapel.

We hope everyone makes plans to attend.

Fellowship DINNER

Come join us for this month's
Fellowship Dinner
on
Thursday, April 15
at
6:30 pm