



www.WPCHattiesburg.com

Summer 2010

Our Mission: **TLC**  
**T**rust God, **L**ove People, and **C**arry Christ into the World

**FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY:**

Jesus said, "The first shall be last." "Whoever will gain his life will lose it" (and vice versa). "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Why did Jesus speak in such riddles? Scholars believe it was a rhetorical strategy designed to confound people who rely on purely human logic. Most people think God is in charge of "souls" but we are in charge of day-to-day decisions. We want to be in charge of practical affairs. Jesus knows that this double-minded approach is doomed. The Kingdom of God is different. It's not business as usual. It's a new ball game. Unless we are like children, we can't even see it. Unless we surrender our agenda, we won't yield to the Holy Spirit. Unless we are born "anew" we will continue trying to fit God into our plans instead of the other way round. The path to true contentment, inner peace, altruism, compassion, and kindness towards others requires us to surrender completely to Jesus as LORD. When we do that, life takes on a whole new cast and meaning. Little things won't upset us. Big things we can take in stride. Our perspective changes. Why? Because we have a new mind. "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 2:5) That, dear ones, is a priceless treasure.

It is a privilege being your pastor. Ellen and I will be driving thousands of miles visiting parents this July. We covet your prayers and love.

## WORSHIP NEWS:

### May attendance:

May 2 - 124      May 16 - 117      May 30 - TBD  
May 9 - 128      May 23 - 127

### **BELONGING:** (See Schedule of Events for summer activities.)

Historic Downtown Hattiesburg comes alive with the sounds of music all day, every day during **FestivalSouth**, June 5-19. Daily opportunities, offering both free and ticketed events, will be held in local coffee shops, bookstores, The Library, Brownstone's restaurant, and even at Westminster Presbyterian Church! On Thursday, June 10 at 4 pm, the **Argot Trio** will present *Slang: A Concert of Russian, Hungarian, and American Music*. On Thursday, June 17 at 4 pm, **Sarah Hogrefe Mabary** and **Victoria Johnson** will perform the afternoon musicale *Unexpected Songs*. Both of these events held at Westminster will be free. The web site [www.festivalsouth.org](http://www.festivalsouth.org) contains detailed information about events scheduled throughout the festival.

Our co-ed softball team, under coach **Erik Graham**, won many games and lost a few close ones. They are about to wrap up a winning season. If you would like to play ball or cheer, please talk with Erik.

The ladies of Eve's House will hold a **garage sale** on Saturday, June 5. If you have items you'd like to donate, please contact Deborah Stover at (601) 584-7401.



**Sunday Greeters:** Please help us greet visitors and members at the front entrance on Sunday mornings. Please **switch** with someone if you cannot serve on a specific date, and notify Kay at 601-584-7574 of the change so she can prepare the name tags.

June	6	Ray & Maggie Scheetz
	13	Pam & Tami Dossett
	20	Wilson & Ben Ruff
	27	George & Sandy Nicholas
July	4	Charles Hogrefe & Kathryn Cummings
	11	Steve & Sheri Gibson
	18	Shayne & Lori Burnham
	25	Dennis & Jeanne Hunt
August	1	John & Merle Meek
	8	Marty & Ivie Pulliam
	15	Gene & Stella Fair
	22	Nate & Sandra Bender
	29	Charles & Beverly Dennis

# Summer Birthdays

June 3	Ellen Ramp	17	Ellen Arnold
8	Buddy Bedenbaugh	28	Jan Bozeman
11	Wilson Ruff	28	George Nicholas
14	Erik Graham	28	Mary Kathryn Nobles
16	Larry Royals		

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July 2	Sam Dossett	21	J. T. Johnson
2	Martha Ann Hogrefe	21	Stephen Wild
3	Shane Brooks	22	Peggy Hsieh
4	Bradley Graham	22	Eric Reidenbach
5	Katie Walker	25	Pam Love
10	Lori Burnham	25	Neva Odom
12	Bobbie Bryant Davis	25	Audra Saunders
12	Dorothy Gatch	27	Betty Norval
15	Nate Bender	28	Peggy Speed
17	Madison Bryant	31	Katie Roberts

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August 1	Glenda Brown	20	McKenna Bryant
10	Ed Brown	25	David Owens
10	Randall Harris	26	Frank Montague
12	Wes Brooks	27	Ginny Graham
15	Frank Whitesell	28	Sunny Davis
16	Janeil Harris	28	Beverly Grice
17	Marty Pulliam	31	Stella Fair
18	Beth Richmond		



We want to include ALL members' birthdays. If you know of one we missed, let us know ASAP!

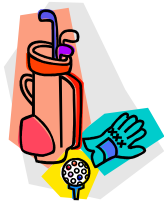
Happy 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Bonnie and Bob Revicki on August 12!

April 23 marked the beginning of swimming season for **Mary Clare Shaw's** Sunday School class. They plan to continue the fun once a month on Sundays from 2:00-4:00 pm. Parents will be notified via email when the date is set for each month.



**Thank Heaven for Little Girls:** Sharon and Richard Potin happily announce the birth of their second grandchild, **Dylan Reese McDaniel**. Dylan was born May 3, weighing in at 6 lbs. 3 oz. and measuring 19 inches long. Her parents are **Betsy and Shawn McDaniel**.

**Jennifer and Jason Crane** welcomed **Jillian Hope Crane** on May 14, weighing in at 7 lbs. 10 oz and measuring 20.25 inches. **John and Cathy Dudley** are her proud grandparents.



# SUMMER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(subject to change)



## JUNE

Thursday	June 3	ShareCare Potluck lunch @ noon
Saturday	June 5	Eve's House garage sale
Sunday	June 6	Communion Sunday; Youth will not meet
Mon-Thurs	June 7-11	Baobab Blast Vacation Bible School
Wednesday	June 9	Potluck supper with Liberty Ministries @ 5:45 pm
Thursday	June 10	4 <sup>th</sup> Day brown bag @ noon
Thursday	June 10	FestivalSouth concert @ 4 pm (Argot Trio - free)
Sunday	June 13	Diaconate @ 12:15 pm; Session @ 1:30 pm
Sun or Mon	June 13 or 14	Youth trip to water park in Collins
Tuesday	June 15	PW Prayer Group @ 9 am
Wednesday	June 16	Memorial service for Don Zillgitt (time TBA)
Thursday	June 17	FestivalSouth concert @ 4 pm (Sarah Mabary - free)
Saturday	June 19	Cursillo of Mississippi Council meeting
Sun-Thurs	June 20-24	Presbytery Jr. Camp
Friday	June 25	Youth leave for mission trip to Yucatan

## JULY

Thursday	July 1	ShareCare Potluck lunch @ noon
Sunday	July 4	Communion Sunday; Clean Water Sunday offering; <b>Red, Hot &amp; Blue</b> Picnic
Monday	July 5	Youth return from mission trip
Mon-Fri	July 5-9	Fill BreadBasket applications
Thursday	July 8	4 <sup>th</sup> Day brown bag @ noon
Sunday	July 11	There will be no Diaconate or Session meeting in July
Wednesday	July 14	Potluck Supper with Liberty Ministries @ 5:45 pm
Mon-Fri	July 19-23	Fill BreadBasket applications
Tuesday	July 20	PW Prayer Group @ 9 am
Mon-Fri	July 26-30	Church office closed



# SUMMER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(subject to change)



## AUGUST

Sunday	August	Communion Sunday; Youth will not meet
Thursday	August 5	ShareCare Potluck lunch @ noon
Sunday	August 8	Diaconate @ 12:15 pm; Session @ 1:30 pm
Wednesday	August 11	Potluck Supper with Liberty Ministries @ 5:45 pm
Thursday	August 12	4 <sup>th</sup> Day brown bag @ noon
Saturday	August 14	Blood drive (sign up at <a href="http://www.blooddonor.com">www.blooddonor.com</a> )
Tuesday	August 17	PW Prayer Group @ 9 am

The **Agape Sunday School Class** hosted a reception on May 16 honoring our graduating seniors **Rachel Harris, Sarah Nobles, Amy O'Steen, and Frank Powell**. This is truly an outstanding group of young people who have been an important part of our Westminster family. We celebrate with them their success and send them on to the next chapter of their lives with our best wishes and prayers.

### GROWING SPIRITUALLY:



**PW Prayer Group** will continue to meet through the summer on the third Tuesday of each month (June 15, July 20, August 17) at 9 am. All ladies of the church are welcome to join during this time of prayerful reflection for church members, family, and friends who have special needs or are counting their blessings.

### INVITING:

We welcomed **Michael Ginn** and **Katie Walker** as new members in May. We are very interested in welcoming newcomers into our fellowship. If you know someone who is not attached to a church already, or who is hungry for a growing relationship with Jesus, please invite them to Westminster and let us know how we can extend God's hospitality in their direction.

### SERVING CHRIST IN MISSION:

At the May meeting, **Men of the Church** elected **Eric Reidenbach** and **Tom McKegney** to serve as president and vice president respectively for the 2010-2011 year. Although MOC will not hold Saturday breakfasts during the summer months, they are still accepting requests for their **Mini-Maintenance Program**. If you are frustrated by small repair problems, contact Butch Nobles (601-408-6161) to place your name on their to-do list.



## SERVING CHRIST IN MISSION: (continued)

One of the **BreadBasket** ministry churches, West Lake United Methodist, made the difficult decision to close their church at the end of January. Because the 2010 schedule had already been finalized by the time this decision was made, four of the other churches in the ministry (Church of the Ascension, Parkway Heights Methodist, University Baptist, and Westminster) agreed to assume application responsibilities for the weeks West Lake had been assigned. What this means to us is that during July, we will need **extra volunteers**. We will be responsible for filling applications July 5-9 and again the week of July 19-23. If you have never volunteered with BreadBasket, now's the time! Advance- or on-the-job training will be provided. It only takes about 1½ hours and is a great way to help those less fortunate in our community.



You may have asked, “Where exactly are the youth going this summer, and what will they be doing?” Seven youth (**Rebecca Gaudet, Rachel Harris, Mary Kathryn Nobles, Amy O’Steen, Frank Powell, Mary Hannah Ruff, and Margaret Shaw**) and three adults (**Sarah Nobles, Amy Ruff, and Mary Clare Shaw**) will be heading to a camp in Xocenpich (pronounced Show-cam-peesh), Mexico in the Yucatan from June 25 through July 5. The trip is through Son Servants which is part of Youth Conference Ministries based in Chattanooga, TN. We will be building with cinder blocks, putting on roofs, doing other repairs and painting, and participating in a children’s outreach program. We will have a couple of days to explore Chichen Itza ruins and shop at the market. Please lift up the youth as they prepare to be in a new culture representing Christ. We look forward to sharing our “adventure” with you when we return.



The **Pentecost Offering** received May 23 yielded \$615. Of this, \$246 (40%) will be retained by Westminster to help children at risk in our own community. In 2009, Westminster used our portion of the offering to help offset the visiting Brazil missionaries’ expenses and to send a young girl to day camp who would not have been able to attend otherwise. If you are aware of a specific need in our community, please contact **Butch Nobles** or **Sharon Potin**.



Over one billion people lack access to safe drinking water. The effect of this alarming fact is that 3 million people each year die of water-related illness and **most** are children. By providing a learning process and a water treatment system that’s simple, sustainable and affordable, **Living Waters for the World** has been able to help those in communities with contaminated water take ownership of making their own water clean again. Please give generously on **Clean Water Sunday, July 4**.

## SERVING CHRIST IN MISSION: (continued)



Flooding in Nashville, TN damaged property and dislocated families. Ray and Kelly Scheetz's home took three feet of water. The Session voted to assist this family as they regroup and recover. If you feel led to contribute to this relief effort, please make your check payable to Westminster and note "Nashville Flood" in the memo. Your support is much needed and deeply appreciated.

In September, Westminster's Presbyterian Women will host the **Fall Gathering of Cluster B** which is composed of 13 PC(USA) churches along the I-59 corridor between Meridian and Hattiesburg. We will hear an introduction to our 2010-2011 study on the book of Revelation. We will also receive an offering for a local charity of our choice and learn more about the work and concerns of PW. This will be a great opportunity to meet our PW Presbytery of MS officers, visit with our sisters in Christ, extend our warm Westminster hospitality, and share with them our beautiful new sanctuary and organ. All women are encouraged to participate! Come and enjoy the fellowship and find out how you can participate in the excellent work of PW.



Westminster will host a **blood drive** on Saturday, August 14. In order to have the blood mobile come and set up in our parking lot, we will need **20** people to make advance on-line appointments at [www.bloodhero.com](http://www.bloodhero.com). The sponsor code is "Westminster". Please contact **Butch Nobles** (601-408-6161 or [butchnobles@comcast.net](mailto:butchnobles@comcast.net)) with questions.

## ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP:

The Diaconate and Session will not meet during the month of **July**.

The **Long Range Planning Committee** held its first meeting May 26. The Committee discussed our mission, our hopes and dreams, and, more importantly, what God is calling us to be and do over the next three to five years.

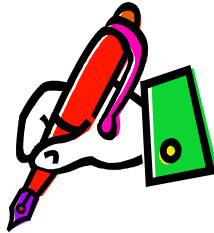
**The church office will be closed the week of July 26-30.**



Westminster's online calendar is revised regularly, so be sure to visit [www.WPCHattiesburg.com](http://www.WPCHattiesburg.com) and click on the "calendar" tab to get updated event information.

Many, many thanks to everyone who came out and supported the **Youth Dessert Auction**, including the Diaconate, members of Westminster, the ladies of Eve's House, and the men of Liberty Ministries. It was a huge success and everyone had a good time. **Mary Clare Shaw** shined as the auctioneer. The total raised for the youth mission trip was around \$1,500. We also extend a very special *thank you* to everyone who baked and/or donated items for the sale. It is greatly appreciated and would not have been possible without your thoughtfulness, time, and wonderful skills in the kitchen.

## *Thanks and More*



I would like the members of Westminster to know that I have been accepted to Columbia Theological Seminary and will begin my studies for ministry in July. I attended Westminster while studying at USM from 2005 - 2007. It was a blessing to be a part of the church family at Westminster during my time there and want you all to share in the joy the Lord has put in my life.  
Sincerely,  
Will Ratcliff

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
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Hattiesburg, MS 39401