



Westminster News

8200 Devonshire Drive, Dallas, 75209 - 214-351-3251 - July 2010



From Karl's Kredenza

James Taylor has a song titled "The Secret of Life." It has a simple tune. It also has a simple message. According to Mr. Taylor, "the secret of life" is enjoying the passage of time. I think he's onto something there. As we move into July with 2010 already half-way through, we are already looking and planning for the rest of the year and beyond. We're "wrapping-up" and "filing-away" many aspects of the last academic year and already starting to turn our thoughts to the next.

But, what about now? How are we appreciating this moment in time? Are we enjoying these days?

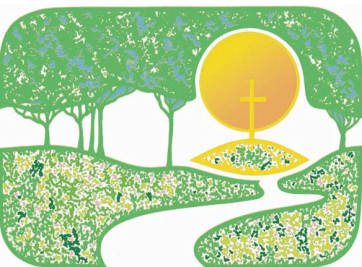
Although the calendar has us in the season of Summer, many of us are in different seasons of our lives. Some of us are in "Spring" – some are in "Fall" – while still others are in the "Winter" of our lives. Whatever our personal situation may be, we have the opportunity to appreciate this time. Much of this appreciation has a lot to do with our appreciation of God and those around us – how it is that we love one another – not dwelling in the past, not always forecasting into the future, but really living in this moment.

Mr. Taylor goes on in the song to say that the "secret of love" is in "opening up your heart. It's okay to be afraid – but don't let that stand in your way because anyone knows that love is the only road." I'm not sure how much of the Bible James Taylor has read (or is influenced by), but his "secrets" are relayed in many places in Scripture. The most obvious to me in this moment is the 3rd chapter of Ecclesiastes. The couplets (most of which were also made into music by The Byrds) remind us that in all of creation there are appropriate times and seasons. The paragraph that follows the couplets also reminds us of God's intent for us to live

our lives and to enjoy them with one another in the context of God's unending love for us.

So this day, my brothers and sisters in Christ, may we live in joy and thanksgiving for all of God's gifts and our times together.

May the Lord continue to bless us all.
Shalom, Karl



4th of July

Devonshire Neighborhood 4th of July Parade

Saturday, July 3

9:00AM - 11:00AM

meet in front of Westminster
enjoy bounce houses, ice cream, and
other tasty treats!

Bring your family and friends!



Church Offices Closed
Monday, July 5
in Observance of
The 4th of July

**No Sunday
School
July 4 or 25**



Date Changes for Communion
2nd Sunday in July & August
July 11
August 8





JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Natasha Masando
- 3 Kym Hunter
- 3 Cecil Smith
- 4 Barbara Coffin
- 5 Margaret Ferguson
- 5 Heather Kemble
- 5 Sophie Gomez
- 7 Jacob Tsai
- 7 Charity Abaraoha
- 10 Betsy Perrine
- 11 Cuinn Cornwell
- 12 Nikki Smith
- 13 Charles Dameron
- 13 Jim Young
- 14 Jonah Ampil
- 15 Alexandra Ziehm
- 15 Rebecca Ziehm
- 16 Dorothy Wells
- 17 Danielle Jenkins-Tsai
- 19 Lynn Puchlopek
- 20 Kathi Childers
- 21 Ugwanna Ndukwe
- 21 Laurel Henderson
- 22 Pete Baldwin
- 23 Mike Stanley
- 24 Alex Barkley
- 25 Charlie Swanson
- 25 Lillian Welch
- 28 Reed Glenn
- 29 Jane Priest

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Mary Gibbs

June 7, 1923 - June 26, 2010



ENGLISH LEARNING PROJECT

We concluded another successful year of the English Learning Project. Thirty-six students completed the year and received certificates. The students expressed their appreciation for the teachers, the program, and Westminster Presbyterian Church for making it all possible. One student stated that she could never repay us for all the help these classes have been to her. Ana Ochoa values our classes so highly that she travels an hour by bus to get here.

Silvia Lanto gave an especially touching tribute to Mr. Ted Cruz who taught the Conversation class. Ted passed away in April. She described him as very loving, caring, and kind. Silvia asked us to applaud Ted. And we did. Ted was a great teacher. He used current events to spark discussions and loved to teach idioms such as "cut the apron strings" and "bring home the bacon". Oh, yes, the students said, like "ganar los garbanzos" which literally translates to "earn the beans" but is used to mean earn a living.

The classes are important to our students for a variety of reasons. The most common reason that the parents of school-age children list for wanting to learn English is so they can talk with their child's teacher. The parents want to be able to help with homework and be a full partner in their child's education.

Isaura Jaimes, a mother of three, worked hard to learn English in our program for the last four years. Here is the result: Isaura announced that her oldest son just graduated from DISD and will be going to Boston University - on a scholarship! Later, Isaura mentioned that although she is proud of her son, she is very sad that he will be so far from home. Ah, yes ---"cutting those apron strings". That is hard.

We are pleased to report that we ended the year in good shape financially. We were happy to donate to WPC the amount needed to repair the sliding-folding room divider in Stewart Hall.

Thank you Westminster for having this ESL program as a mission. We are especially grateful for the personal participation of church members Mike Stanley, Sue Spellman, and Margaret Lake.

We look forward to another year starting in September. And we need one more teacher. If you would like to join us or have questions, please call Louise Smith at 214-358-1361 or email at msmith02@sbcglobal.net.



2010 Mission Trip - Port Arthur here we come!

Participants will leave on **July 20** and return to Dallas on **July 25**.

All trip participants are invited to the

Commissioning Service on **JULY 17**, 5 pm to 7pm

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
(2701 Harwood Road, Bedford)

Dinner will be provided, t-shirts passed out and mission-trip goers will be blessed.





BRIGHT FUTURES

Dear Susan & Westminster,

Hi ya!!! I have the most awesome news! I just received my acceptance letter in the mail from UNT! I'm going to be in the very first freshman class at the Dallas campus! YAY!!! I'm sooo excited! Thank you all soooo much for your support of me and Jairon. Oh and Jairon started school this summer and is doing really well in the program. Hope to hear from you soon. Karlonda

Dear Karlonda,

Wonderful! I am so proud of you. I know you will do well as you have the tenacity to pursue your college degree dream. Keep us updated and let us know if we can help. Susan



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Dear Church Board and Church Body,

I cannot begin to thank your church enough for allowing the neighborhood the privilege of using your land as a dog park and for allowing us to have a community garden. My husband and I have one of the raised garden beds and have enjoyed watching our plants grow and produce fruit. We have gotten to know neighbors that we might not have met under normal circumstances. It has been a true blessing to us.

Sincerely, Steve & Kim Kovac



SUMMER READING

Thank you to all who volunteered their time to make the Summer Reading Program a great success. This wonderful program would not have been possible without its fabulous volunteers.



BLOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Blood Drive on June 27!! If you were not able to attend, but are still interested you may go to any Carter BloodCare Center and donate blood. To schedule an appointment call: 817-412-5000 or go on-line at www.carterbloodcare.org.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Great job to all of our fantastic volunteers! We had over 100 children signed up for VBS this year. The children enjoyed 4 days of music, laughter, science, skits, snacks and fun with their friends.



LOOKING FOR A CHRISTMAS ANGEL or TWO or THREE . . .



This year the Hanging of the Greens Committee (Margaret Chambers, Margaret Lake, Ann McCullough) is working on ways to expand the experience of Advent throughout Westminster and into the hearts of our larger community.

The goal is to add a few exterior Christmas decorations to add excitement to the season and make our church more welcoming. The committee wants to add a few swags of greenery across Westminster's beautiful entrance and at least one good-sized lighted star (symbolic of the Christmas star that appeared in the East and guided the Magi to baby Jesus).

This all costs money that isn't in Westminster's budget. So . . . the committee is seeking Christmas Angels who are willing and able to donate money for exterior Advent items. Any and all donations are appreciated. Diane Spicer, Westminster's accountant, is setting up a "Hanging of the Greens" account. If there are questions, please call Margaret Lake (214) 358-0414.

For those who are able to give, thank you. For others please pray with us as we think of ways to better serve our Lord during the special season of Advent.



CAMP GILMONT NEWS

Retreats for Adults

Senior Adult Retreat - fellowship, laughter, fun, music, interactive work-shops and ministry projects in a relaxed, beautiful setting. Come for the day or stay a spell: September 23-25, 2010.

Women's Retreat - March 11-13, 2011. Two days filled with fellowship, reflection, worship and fun!



Spiritual Journeys

North Texas Presbyterian Cursillo Gilmont is home to spiritual renewal weekends including **Celebration**—led by youth for youth; and, **Pathways**—for college students and young adults.



For Special Needs

Circle of Friends Retreats are for special needs kids and their families - free to all participants. Engage in this ministry by volunteering or donating. Adopt a family for \$1,000! - a great ministry project for your Sunday school class or youth groups.





SECRET O' LIFE

by James Taylor

The secret of life

is enjoying the passage of time
Any fool can do it
There ain't nothing to it
Nobody knows how we got to
The top of the hill

But since we're on our way down
We might as well enjoy the ride

The secret of love

is in opening up your heart
It's okay to feel afraid
But don't let that stand in your way
'cause anyone knows
that love is the only road

And since we're only here for a while
Might as well show some style
Give us a smile

Isn't it a lovely ride

Sliding down
Gliding down

Try not to try too hard
It's just a lovely ride

Now the thing about time

is that time

Isn't really real
It's just your point of view
How does it feel for you
Einstein said
he could never understand it all
Planets spinning through space
The smile upon your face
Welcome to the human race

Some kind of lovely ride

I'll be sliding down
I'll be gliding down

Try not to try too hard
It's just a lovely ride

Isn't it a lovely ride

Sliding down
Gliding down

Try not to try too hard
It's just a lovely ride



COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE

by Edward Wright

**** May **** So far we have had 2 sets of bunnies and the second batch have all gone, but one of them has chosen to stay, live and eat in the garden. I've seen him/her several times and it seems quite fearless. Last week a big, black crow was unsuccessfully chasing him around about 7 AM. The small bunny hid under the hose retractor by the gate as the crow kept jumping back and forth from the top fence rail to the ground.

There are three unused plots. I've cleaned all three of them of grass and weeds: (plot #14 and #17) and have replanted one, plot #15, with squash and mostly okra plants. I plan to plant a longer row of okra by the fence and parking area for the Food Bank and I have plenty of small okra plants for you also. I'm getting ready to harvest the last of my onions in plot #27 and it will be available later this week if you have anyone on the waiting list.

The Food Bank beans on the outside of the fence are just starting to bloom. This cool May weather has slowed plant growth, but Summer appears to be here this week as we start to hit the low 90s. Gardeners are starting to harvest onions, squash, sugar snaps and a few of the first tomatoes are turning red as they start ripening. The cool weather has allowed the lettuce to continue to grow and be harvested much later than normal.

I see bees and butterflies every day flying from bloom to bloom and pollinating our crops. The flowers in a few plots seem to be helping to attract the bees. The birds ate 15 pounds of birdseed in just two weeks and almost never ate a bug that I could observe. Sparrows are messy eaters and the local pairs of doves loved all the extra seed that was tossed to them on the ground. The doves eat small gravel almost every morning from the parking lot for their craw to grind that day's seeds.

**** June **** Well, we now have our 3rd burrow of new bunnies which are located in Plot # 21. They are well hidden underground. Kim, the gardener of Plot # 4, found one of the newborn bunnies out of the burrow and lost. She was able to replace it in the burrow. Our faithful mother rabbit generally stays in or near our garden, even during daylight hours. And we still have the one remaining young bunny from the last group that also lives in our garden. With all the thick vines, it is easy for both of them to hide. Watering generally makes them move over to another plot. We may be able to raise both "free range rabbit" and fresh vegetables in our garden.

The Food Bank row of bush beans by the fence are blooming and starting to make young beans. We will need to start picking next week and storing them in a paper bag that breathes in a refrigerator until we have enough to deliver to the Food Bank.

I have just planted a long row of Kentucky Wonder vine beans on the north fence where the sugar snap peas were harvested. The beans are just starting to germinate. This row should provide 50 - 100 pounds of green beans in 6-10 weeks.

Have you seen the large church garden on Inwood Road at Mockingbird Lane on the north side of the church? It appears to be a large Food Bank garden project by the members.



The Westminster Tattle - Tell

FROM THE KNITWITS

Jean Doty has made over 100 quilts! She has donated many of them to McDonald House, Vocal Alcove and the Children's Advocacy Center. Jean has been quilting since 1992. It is her passion along with her granddaughter and the nursery babies. The Knit-Wits, so far, have donated 871 items including prayer shawls and infant caps for the Parkland Nursery newborns.

Chris Stanley is making a blanket for a gnome that lives on her patio.

LEAVING ON A JET PLANE...

Emily Crump (our super Administrative Assistant) and her family have just returned from a vacation trip to Cancun, Mexico. Olé to that!

George and Susan Gee - Have also just returned from their tour of China, including Beijing, Hong Kong, and the Great Wall. What a great way to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

Rebecca Schwarz, our minister's daughter, spent a brief time in China on a student exchange program. The entire **Schwarz Clan** just jetted in from a week at Disney World. Our very talented accountant **Diane Spicer** and her husband also spent 4 days at Disney visiting with her relatives in from England.

OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN

Ken Adams, Chris Stanley and **Margaret Lake** are our most avid gardeners. Plantings include herbs of every kind as well as tomatoes, lettuce, onions, radishes, cabbage, green beans, okra, squash and, of course, a weed or two.

GOLDILOCKS AND THE GOLDEN DEEDS

Our new member, **Nancy Jarrett** has been growing her beautiful hair to cut for wigs for patients recovering from cancer.

Lynn Puchlopek has also contributed her gorgeous hair several times to the same cause. Kudos to both ladies!

YUM YUM!

The **Boy Scout Troop 35** which uses our Fellowship Hall hosted an All-Church Breakfast on May 23. Also, on that date, **John & Stephanie Spillane**, (new members) had their son **Jack**, Baptized and hosted a luncheon following Church for everyone and catered by Cantina Laredo! Glory be!

OUR DOG SHOW - Arf! Arf!

Hotdogs, chips, and ice cold lemonade were on hand for those attending Westminster's annual Dog Show which is open to the neighborhood as well as our membership. **Sophie Gomez's** Jack Russell got free from his leash, no doubt taking his cue from Sophie's dad, **Ty**, who along with **Art Barkley** scrambled to the top of the Church Steeple, setting a fine example for all to see! **First prize winner** was a brown and white miniature dachshund who won a Petco gift card.

NEW FACES AROUND US

Welcome to our new Director of Christian Education and Discipleship, **Lisa Reece** and our new Pastor Intern, **Chuck Schneider**.

GOING TO AND FRO

Bill Young, KERA (Ch. 13) big wig and son of our own **Margaret Young**, and his wife will be traveling to England this summer to audition writers and characters of English comedies. Bill, who is Vice president of Broadcasting and Programming, has been with Channel 13 for 33 years.

And just back from Africa are **Bob and Margot Knothe**.

Westminsterites are well traveled indeed!

THOUGHT TO SHARE

"Make new friends, but keep the old. Those are silver - these are gold."

Westminster Presbyterian Church

8200 Devonshire Drive ~ Dallas, Texas 75209

A Not-For-Profit Organization

Church Office - 214-351-3251
Preschool Office - 214-350-6155
Karl Schwarz - karls@wpcd.org
Chuck Schneider - chucks@wpcd.org
Lisa Reece - Lisar@wpcd.org
Emily Crump - emilyc@wpcd.org

July 3 - Serving Breakfast at The Bridge
July 4 - No Sunday School, Happy 4th of July
July 5 - Offices Closed
July 11 - Communion Sunday
July 12 - Administration, Church Life, CE
& Worship Committee Meetings
July 14 - Prayer Group
July 17 - Mission Trip Commissioning
July 19 - Stated Session Meeting
July 20 - Mission Trip to Port Arthur
July 23 - Newsletter Information Due
July 25 - No Sunday School
July 28 - Prayer Group, News Volunteers

**Every Tuesday at 12:30 - *Knitting Group in the Parlor*
**Every Friday at 5:30PM - *Friday Evening in the Chapel*

