



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparation for **Worship**

I bind unto myself today the power of God to hold and lead, God's eye to watch, God's might to stay, God's ear to hearken to my need, the wisdom of my God to teach, God's hand to guide, God's shield to ward, the word of God to give me speech, God's heavenly host to be my guard.

Patrick of Ireland (389-461)

Gathering and Preparing for **God's Word**

Welcome and Announcements

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

Prelude *Pastorella* Bach

* Call to Worship Ephesians 2:8, 10

Leader: By grace we have been saved through faith,
People: and this is not our own doing; it is the gift of God.

Leader: We are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
People: which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.
All: Let us worship God!

* Hymn #694 "Great God of Every Blessing" AURELIA

* Prayer of Confession

Eternal God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:
Cleanse us from all our offenses,
and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,
that with reverent and humble hearts
we may draw near to you,
confessing our fears and failings,
confiding in your goodness and grace,
finding refuge and redemption in your Son, Jesus Christ,
through whom we pray. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* Gloria Patri (Hymnal, #581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.

Hearing **God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson, *Luke 10:25-37* p. 844

Epistle Lesson, *Colossians 1:1-14* p. 956

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Coming to the Rescue"

Responding to **God's Word**

* Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Anthem *Standin' In the Need of Prayer* setting, Cherwien

* Doxology (Hymnal, #606)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn #353 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" SOLID ROCK

* Charge and Benediction

* Congregational Response AKERS

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

* Postlude *Toccata in C* Pachelbel

**All who are able may stand*

Leading Worship **this Morning**

Ben Dorr, *preaching*

Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*

Christopher Hanson, *lay reader*

Todd Monsell, *organist*

The Summer Choir

Parks Workman, *head usher*

Carl Muller, Zach Freeman, Mae Todd Mullilns,

Jacob Barker, Caroline Clark, *greeters*

George Blount, Ellen Reynolds, *acolytes*

Worship Notes

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School offices.

WORSHIP BAGS

Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make foundational layers of meaning for faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday. This shift to reusable items demonstrates how we value hospitality and care for creation.

CONNECT WITH WESTMINSTER

Looking for ways to be involved? Please complete a Connection Card from the Ritual of Friendship pad and place it in the offering plate to express interest or sign up for an opportunity.

WELCOME TO WPC!

Please fill out a name tag and find more information about WPC at the Welcome Table in the Atrium. First time visitors are also invited to take home a WPC mug.

OPEN HEARTS • Caring@WPC

PRAYER REQUESTS

As a congregation that prays with and for one another, Westminster invites you to share your prayer requests using the cards located in the Ritual of Friendship pad at the end of each pew. You may complete a card and leave it in the offering plate so that the pastors and/or prayer chain team may pray for you. If you wish to join the prayer chain, please indicate that on your card.

OPEN MINDS • Serving with WPC

SUMMER DONUTS

Want to help with after-worship donuts throughout the summer? Join the Hospitality Team! Volunteers help with church-wide gatherings as they are able throughout the year. Write "Hospitality Team" on your Connection Card or contact Julia Watkins to get connected.

WPCYG – Save the Date

Sign-ups will go live next week, but we want you to save August 20-21 on your calendars. This will be our Back to School Retreat at Look Up Lodge! The trip is from 9a Saturday until 2p Sunday and we will travel to Look Up via charter bus. It is open to all 6th-12th grade youth. Questions? Ask Mary Kathleen or check your email for more details mid-week.

IT'S ELEMENTARY, REGISTRATION ENDS JULY 15

It's Elementary is an after school faith formation group for children in 1st grade-5th grade that meets on Wednesdays during the school year from 2:30-4:30p. Our theme for next school year is "The Life and Teachings of Jesus." Children will learn about Jesus Christ through Bible study, recreation, crafts and games. Registration is required and the link is available on the church website. **Registration ends July 15.**

FILL THE FOOD PANTRY

In this season of abundance, practice generosity by donating the following items to the United Ministries food pantry:

- canned fruit and vegetables
- soups
- pastas
- canned meat
- peanut butter
- powdered milk

Items may be left in the marked wall cabinets in the Friendship Court.

PLEASANT VALLEY SUMMER CAMP

This summer, WPC is partnering with Pleasant Valley Connection to offer enrichment opportunities with under-resourced children in their summer camp. To volunteer, contact Julia Watkins or write "PVC" on your Connection Card.

PROJECT HOST SOUP KITCHEN

Thanks to a strong volunteer response, all spaces have been filled through August. Be on the lookout for more opportunities to serve with Project Host coming soon. If you are interested in serving individually, contact Julia Watkins or write "Project Host" on your Connection Card.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Celebrate WPC's 75th Anniversary by packaging 75,000 meals with Rise Against Hunger. Everyone is welcome to join in this fun service opportunity in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, August 20, with 2-hour shifts from 8a-4p. Register now on the WPC website, or write "Rise Against Hunger" on your Connection Card to get involved.

THE HARBINGER
Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424
www.wpc-online.org

THE HARBINGER: (USPS No. 764160)
Published weekly by the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 Augusta Street, Greenville SC 29605. Periodical postage paid at Greenville SC 29605.

Church Staff

Ben Dorr
Pastor & Head of Staff
bdorr@wpc-online.org

Leigh Stuckey
Associate Pastor
lstuckey@wpc-online.org

Mary Kathleen Duncan
Associate Pastor
mkduncan@wpc-online.org

Lauren Slingerland
Associate Pastor
lslingerland@wpc-online.org

Julia Watkins
Associate Pastor
jwatkins@wpc-online.org

Amos Workman
Parish Associate
aworkman@wpc-online.org

Rosemary Hughes
Interim Director of Music
rhughes@wpc-online.org

Lauren Hood
Associate Director of Youth Ministry
lhood@wpc-online.org

Kathryn Knauer
Children's Choir Coordinator
kknauer@wpc-online.org

Todd Monsell
Organist
tmonsell@wpc-online.org

Cara Puntch
Weekday School Director
cpuntch@wpc-online.org

Michelle Little
Office Manager
michelle@wpc-online.org

Wendy Bagley
Secretary
wendy@wpc-online.org

Michelle Patterson
Interim Financial Secretary
mpatterson@wpc-online.org

Aly Friend
Director of Nurseries
alyfriend@wpc-online.org

Steve Phillips
Building Supervisor
sphillips@wpc-online.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
July 10-17, 2022

Sunday, July 10

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
9:40a Sunday Session Meeting
10:00 Worship Service
11:00 After Worship Fellowship with donuts

Monday, July 11

7:00p Music Director Search Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 12

12:00p Al-Anon Group Meeting
4:00 Gifts & Gratitude Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 13

5:30p Middler Waffle Cone
Wednesday at Spill the Beans
7:00 Senior High Dinner Club at Joy of Tokyo

Thursday, July 14

12:00p Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)

Sunday, July 17

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00a 75th Anniversary Committee Meeting
9:40 Sunday Session Meeting
10:00 Worship Service
11:00 After Worship Fellowship with donuts
11:15 Youth/Parent Montreat Pre-Trip Meeting

THE SESSION

The Class of 2023

Mary Ashmore	Kevin Lancaster
Tony Atkins	Lisa Mangione
Jeff Beck	Rob Morgan
Emily Busby	Carl Muller
Caroline Clark	Mae Todd Mullins
Durden Collins	Laura Williams Sanders

The Class of 2024

Hastings Blumer	Toni Paylor
Laura Cox	Neil Shurley
Jay Culclasure	Keith Stevenson
Ross Glidewell	Lesley Usher
Jara Jones	LeAnne White
Meg McKnight	Russ Williams

The Class of 2025

Jacob Barker	Nikki Grumbine
Marian Carpenter	Bill Holt
Lindsey Donlan	Ginny Reed
Carroll Farmer	Jordan Smith
Zach Freeman	Tom Vanderbloemen
Susan Grier	Parks Workman

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXV | July 10, 2022 | No. 10

From the Pews, Claire Gilliland

When I read our scripture passages for today, the word that came to me was "generosity." We see examples of generosity in both of these scriptures. In Colossians, Paul writes, "we have not ceased praying for you." Given the magnitude of Paul's ministry, offering unceasing prayer to the people in Colossae represents a tremendous act of generosity. Plus, we see the generosity of what we receive from God: spiritual wisdom, strength, endurance, gratitude, and more. In the parable of the good Samaritan, we have a classic example of sacrificial living. The Samaritan man generously used his time and resources for someone in need, crossing the boundaries of social hierarchies to do so. Not only did the Samaritan take the first important step of noticing the beaten man and stopping to help, but he also cared for the injured man's wounds, accompanied him to the inn, and paid more than was necessary for his stay. The cheeky lawyer in this passage described the Samaritan's actions as "showing mercy," but "acting generously" would also fit.

About a month ago, I submitted a prayer request to the WPC staff for the first time. We hear about this opportunity each week with the regular announcement about prayer request cards in the friendship pads, but it took me a few weeks to build up the courage to do it. It can be a vulnerable act to write down a concern, anxiously hold on to the folded sheet of paper during the service, and then put it in the offering plate for others to read. For me, it turned out to also be a tremendously comforting act, once I remembered how generously this church cares for its members. Since then, pastors have checked in at fellowship events and sent hand-written cards expressing their support. Having only been at WPC for a few years, it is clear that this church is generous with those both inside and outside of the congregation.

In these two scriptures, and throughout the Bible, we see God's generosity over and over. At the same time, we have to remember that there are two angles to generosity. In the parable of the good Samaritan, we can imagine both what it would be like to give such generous care to someone else and how it would feel to receive that kind of generosity. These passages challenge me to consider how I can use my time, resources, gifts, and voice as generously as the examples in these scriptures. Who am I being called to serve, and what parts are each of us called to play in sharing God's generosity with the world?



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THE SIXTH DECADE (PART 2)
1997-2007

During this period, the Long Range Planning Committee, the Facilities Utilization Committee, the Building Committee and a capital campaign were at work behind the scenes while Westminster was continuing to thrive.

At the beginning of the new millennium Charlie Bell, Chair - Long Range Planning Committee, presented the committee's recommendations to the Session. The Facilities Utilization Committee was formed to study how Westminster's buildings were being used, both by the church and the many community organizations, and what changes/improvements/additions were needed.

After years of hard work and long days, the Pleasant Valley Child Development Center was finally under construction. Lydia Kellett invested much of her time on this project, bringing both the city and county together, as well as foundations and individuals, to bring this dream to reality. Over \$1M was raised, plus in-kind donations – including architectural services by WPC member, David Narramore.

With leadership from WPC member Scott Kilgore, a Boy Scout troop which had been meeting at Augusta Heights Baptist Church was welcomed to Westminster. WPC became a chartered organization with Boy Scouts of America and began sponsoring a Cub Scout troop, led by Phillip Kilgore.

In April, WPC member Elizabeth Patrick came before the Session as an Inquirer to the Presbytery, giving her statement of faith. Following an interview with Elizabeth, the Session unanimously passed a resolution recommending her. She was the 10th WPC member to enter the path to ordination to the ministry.

In May, Paul O'Neal, Chair – Facilities Utilization Committee, presented recommendations for a building program for Westminster. A Building Committee was appointed and charged with selecting an architect to develop a master plan. By August, three motions were presented: 1) to hire Freeman & Major Architects, PA to prepare a master plan for the next 25 years; 2) that the Building Committee give permission to the architects to select a general contractor; 3) that the Building Committee be given permission to interview/hire a professional fundraiser. In September Paul O'Neal noted that since the last building program in 1993, WPC's membership had grown to 1,400. Even during this active time of planning to build and raise significant funds, WPC planned to give \$400K to local and foreign missions from its \$1.5M 2001 budget. We have always been a mission minded church, giving over 30% of our budget to missions.

On November 3, 2000, the Pleasant Valley Child Development Center became a reality – 12 years in the making. At the Greenville Chamber of Commerce dinner that year, Lydia Kellett accepted the Max Heller Neighborhood Improvement Award for the Pleasant Valley Connection.

In May 2001 Allen Freeman presented a schematic design of the proposed new buildings. Yeargin Construction was selected to do the construction.

The year following 9/11 many churches and nonprofits saw their contributions shrink significantly. In spite of this effect even on our church, Westminster gave \$25K to the 9/11 Disaster Fund. Rather than formally postponing our long awaited building program and capital funds drive, WPC continued working toward making the dream a reality. In spite of delays resulting from neighborhood objections and at least one “no” vote by the Zoning Appeals Board, the Session decided it was the right time to formally launch the capital campaign, “SHARING OUR FUTURE.”

Bing Vick, our long time Music Director, announced he would retire at the end of January 2003, after almost 29 years. The Search Committee recommended hiring Mark Kemp to take Bing's place, in an expanded role. Mark came to Westminster in February 2003, beginning what would become a 19-year career with us.

Under Elder Tim Reed's leadership, a 45-person group of church members began work toward raising an historic \$7.5M for the new buildings. With over \$6M raised for the campaign, groundbreaking was held in May 2003. In early 2004 Elder Scott Roark reported that yearend 2003 resulted in a surplus of almost \$99K, while the 2004 Stewardship Campaign neared its goal.

Associate Pastor Steve Vance announced his planned retirement in January 2004, after 5 years of loyal service. Jean Weaver began full time work upon Steve's departure, and a pastoral nominating committee went to work to find a new Associate Pastor. In September 2004 Elder Susan Robbins reported that “It's Elementary” was beginning its 9th year with attendance of over 100 children.

The new building was dedicated following worship on October 31, 2004. The 62,000sf of new space doubled the physical plant of Westminster. Over 600 WPC folks attended the luncheon prepared by WPC members/professional chefs, Scott Roark and Jeff Dumpert. The new space included the entrance pavilion, gymnasium, state of the art kitchen, and the spacious Fellowship Hall. Almost 20 community groups continued to use our facilities – a mission going back to the 1960's. During 2004-05 Westminster's music program soared under Mark Kemp's leadership, with a number of new choirs for all ages.

Missions continued to grow with the addition of GAIHN (Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) and Trinity Methodist Church, to care for families experiencing homelessness. Unlike similar programs, this program provided for



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THE SIXTH DECADE (PART 2)
1997-2007

During this period, the Long Range Planning Committee, the Facilities Utilization Committee, the Building Committee and a capital campaign were at work behind the scenes while Westminster was continuing to thrive.

At the beginning of the new millennium Charlie Bell, Chair - Long Range Planning Committee, presented the committee's recommendations to the Session. The Facilities Utilization Committee was formed to study how Westminster's buildings were being used, both by the church and the many community organizations, and what changes/improvements/additions were needed.

After years of hard work and long days, the Pleasant Valley Child Development Center was finally under construction. Lydia Kellett invested much of her time on this project, bringing both the city and county together, as well as foundations and individuals, to bring this dream to reality. Over \$1M was raised, plus in-kind donations – including architectural services by WPC member, David Narramore.

With leadership from WPC member Scott Kilgore, a Boy Scout troop which had been meeting at Augusta Heights Baptist Church was welcomed to Westminster. WPC became a chartered organization with Boy Scouts of America and began sponsoring a Cub Scout troop, led by Phillip Kilgore.

In April, WPC member Elizabeth Patrick came before the Session as an Inquirer to the Presbytery, giving her statement of faith. Following an interview with Elizabeth, the Session unanimously passed a resolution recommending her. She was the 10th WPC member to enter the path to ordination to the ministry.

In May, Paul O'Neal, Chair – Facilities Utilization Committee, presented recommendations for a building program for Westminster. A Building Committee was appointed and charged with selecting an architect to develop a master plan. By August, three motions were presented: 1) to hire Freeman & Major Architects, PA to prepare a master plan for the next 25 years; 2) that the Building Committee give permission to the architects to select a general contractor; 3) that the Building Committee be given permission to interview/hire a professional fundraiser. In September Paul O'Neal noted that since the last building program in 1993, WPC's membership had grown to 1,400. Even during this active time of planning to build and raise significant funds, WPC planned to give \$400K to local and foreign missions from its \$1.5M 2001 budget. We have always been a mission minded church, giving over 30% of our budget to missions.

On November 3, 2000, the Pleasant Valley Child Development Center became a reality – 12 years in the making. At the Greenville Chamber of Commerce dinner that year, Lydia Kellett accepted the Max Heller Neighborhood Improvement Award for the Pleasant Valley Connection.

In May 2001 Allen Freeman presented a schematic design of the proposed new buildings. Yeargin Construction was selected to do the construction.

The year following 9/11 many churches and nonprofits saw their contributions shrink significantly. In spite of this effect even on our church, Westminster gave \$25K to the 9/11 Disaster Fund. Rather than formally postponing our long awaited building program and capital funds drive, WPC continued working toward making the dream a reality. In spite of delays resulting from neighborhood objections and at least one “no” vote by the Zoning Appeals Board, the Session decided it was the right time to formally launch the capital campaign, “SHARING OUR FUTURE.”

Bing Vick, our long time Music Director, announced he would retire at the end of January 2003, after almost 29 years. The Search Committee recommended hiring Mark Kemp to take Bing's place, in an expanded role. Mark came to Westminster in February 2003, beginning what would become a 19-year career with us.

Under Elder Tim Reed's leadership, a 45-person group of church members began work toward raising an historic \$7.5M for the new buildings. With over \$6M raised for the campaign, groundbreaking was held in May 2003. In early 2004 Elder Scott Roark reported that yearend 2003 resulted in a surplus of almost \$99K, while the 2004 Stewardship Campaign neared its goal.

Associate Pastor Steve Vance announced his planned retirement in January 2004, after 5 years of loyal service. Jean Weaver began full time work upon Steve's departure, and a pastoral nominating committee went to work to find a new Associate Pastor. In September 2004 Elder Susan Robbins reported that “It's Elementary” was beginning its 9th year with attendance of over 100 children.

The new building was dedicated following worship on October 31, 2004. The 62,000sf of new space doubled the physical plant of Westminster. Over 600 WPC folks attended the luncheon prepared by WPC members/professional chefs, Scott Roark and Jeff Dumpert. The new space included the entrance pavilion, gymnasium, state of the art kitchen, and the spacious Fellowship Hall. Almost 20 community groups continued to use our facilities – a mission going back to the 1960's. During 2004-05 Westminster's music program soared under Mark Kemp's leadership, with a number of new choirs for all ages.

Missions continued to grow with the addition of GAIHN (Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) and Trinity Methodist Church, to care for families experiencing homelessness. Unlike similar programs, this program provided for



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THE SIXTH DECADE (PART 2)
1997-2007

During this period, the Long Range Planning Committee, the Facilities Utilization Committee, the Building Committee and a capital campaign were at work behind the scenes while Westminster was continuing to thrive.

At the beginning of the new millennium Charlie Bell, Chair - Long Range Planning Committee, presented the committee's recommendations to the Session. The Facilities Utilization Committee was formed to study how Westminster's buildings were being used, both by the church and the many community organizations, and what changes/improvements/additions were needed.

After years of hard work and long days, the Pleasant Valley Child Development Center was finally under construction. Lydia Kellett invested much of her time on this project, bringing both the city and county together, as well as foundations and individuals, to bring this dream to reality. Over \$1M was raised, plus in-kind donations – including architectural services by WPC member, David Narramore.

With leadership from WPC member Scott Kilgore, a Boy Scout troop which had been meeting at Augusta Heights Baptist Church was welcomed to Westminster. WPC became a chartered organization with Boy Scouts of America and began sponsoring a Cub Scout troop, led by Phillip Kilgore.

In April, WPC member Elizabeth Patrick came before the Session as an Inquirer to the Presbytery, giving her statement of faith. Following an interview with Elizabeth, the Session unanimously passed a resolution recommending her. She was the 10th WPC member to enter the path to ordination to the ministry.

In May, Paul O'Neal, Chair – Facilities Utilization Committee, presented recommendations for a building program for Westminster. A Building Committee was appointed and charged with selecting an architect to develop a master plan. By August, three motions were presented: 1) to hire Freeman & Major Architects, PA to prepare a master plan for the next 25 years; 2) that the Building Committee give permission to the architects to select a general contractor; 3) that the Building Committee be given permission to interview/hire a professional fundraiser. In September Paul O'Neal noted that since the last building program in 1993, WPC's membership had grown to 1,400. Even during this active time of planning to build and raise significant funds, WPC planned to give \$400K to local and foreign missions from its \$1.5M 2001 budget. We have always been a mission minded church, giving over 30% of our budget to missions.

On November 3, 2000, the Pleasant Valley Child Development Center became a reality – 12 years in the making. At the Greenville Chamber of Commerce dinner that year, Lydia Kellett accepted the Max Heller Neighborhood Improvement Award for the Pleasant Valley Connection.

In May 2001 Allen Freeman presented a schematic design of the proposed new buildings. Yeargin Construction was selected to do the construction.

The year following 9/11 many churches and nonprofits saw their contributions shrink significantly. In spite of this effect even on our church, Westminster gave \$25K to the 9/11 Disaster Fund. Rather than formally postponing our long awaited building program and capital funds drive, WPC continued working toward making the dream a reality. In spite of delays resulting from neighborhood objections and at least one “no” vote by the Zoning Appeals Board, the Session decided it was the right time to formally launch the capital campaign, “SHARING OUR FUTURE.”

Bing Vick, our long time Music Director, announced he would retire at the end of January 2003, after almost 29 years. The Search Committee recommended hiring Mark Kemp to take Bing's place, in an expanded role. Mark came to Westminster in February 2003, beginning what would become a 19-year career with us.

Under Elder Tim Reed's leadership, a 45-person group of church members began work toward raising an historic \$7.5M for the new buildings. With over \$6M raised for the campaign, groundbreaking was held in May 2003. In early 2004 Elder Scott Roark reported that yearend 2003 resulted in a surplus of almost \$99K, while the 2004 Stewardship Campaign neared its goal.

Associate Pastor Steve Vance announced his planned retirement in January 2004, after 5 years of loyal service. Jean Weaver began full time work upon Steve's departure, and a pastoral nominating committee went to work to find a new Associate Pastor. In September 2004 Elder Susan Robbins reported that “It's Elementary” was beginning its 9th year with attendance of over 100 children.

The new building was dedicated following worship on October 31, 2004. The 62,000sf of new space doubled the physical plant of Westminster. Over 600 WPC folks attended the luncheon prepared by WPC members/professional chefs, Scott Roark and Jeff Dumpert. The new space included the entrance pavilion, gymnasium, state of the art kitchen, and the spacious Fellowship Hall. Almost 20 community groups continued to use our facilities – a mission going back to the 1960's. During 2004-05 Westminster's music program soared under Mark Kemp's leadership, with a number of new choirs for all ages.

Missions continued to grow with the addition of GAIHN (Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) and Trinity Methodist Church, to care for families experiencing homelessness. Unlike similar programs, this program provided for

families to stay together – sleeping and eating at the host church. During 2005 Westminster gave \$203K to Homes of Hope as part of the Capital Campaign tithes to build 6 housing units. Also that year, we partnered with Fourth Presbyterian to build another Habitat house. WPC continued to offer a number of groups for fellowship opportunities.

In May 2005 the Building Committee reported that the final cost of our new facilities was less than \$5.8M, coming in well under budget. Shortly thereafter the Session passed three motions related to: 1) the expansion of the sanctuary, 2) a new “green” parking lot on West Augusta Place, and 3) completion of our 25-year master plan by Freeman & Major Architects. In January 2006, the Finance Committee reported a 2005 operating surplus of over \$110K, which the Session voted to apply to the remaining balance on the Share the Future bank loan. In March a luncheon was held to mark the end of our building campaign and missions contributions made as a tithe.

After 19 months, the Pastoral Search Committee entered the name of David C. Carlson into nomination as our new Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission Outreach. At its April 2006 Congregational Meeting, unanimous approval was given to call David. He began work in July and was installed in October, having been ordained in his home church in Columbus, Ohio. Westminster had enjoyed a close relationship with Thornwell Home and School for Children since the 1950’s, especially when WPC former Pastor, Zane Moore, became Thornwell’s President. We renewed our commitment to Thornwell by including them in our 2007 Witness & Service budget and by planning more outings and activities with the children there.

WPC’s Stephen Ministers reported that during the prior year they had provided over 1,000 hours of one-on-one caregiving to 22 WPC members facing difficulties in their lives. Eight new Stephen Ministers completed their 50-hour training and seven committed to two years of service. They were commissioned in May along with a recommissioning of the 29 Stephen Ministers who were currently serving. At the end of 2006, WPC’s active membership was just under 1,500; the Weekday School was larger than ever; “It’s Elementary” had grown to the point such that it would need to be divided into two groups.

In February 2007 a Lenten and Mission Festival highlighted 14 missions with which Westminster was involved. Mission work in Africa and Asia were featured – in particular, Hots Easley’s medical clinic in Malawi and the School for the Deaf. Easter morning was eventful, when WPC maintenance assistant, Ivan, arrived extra early only to discover a fire in the big dumpster near the Fellowship Hall. Ivan immediately called the fire department which came quickly and put out the fire. Mission trips for WPC youth became a focus for spiritual growth and development of their Christian faith for Elder Donn James, a regular mission trip leader, and Associate Pastor Steve Phillips. The young people were praised for their maturity and hard work on mission trips. WPC’s church library has grown from its meager beginnings in 1956, through careful management from Margaret Lindahl and Alma Steading in the ‘70’s and ‘80’s, to Pat Shufeldt since 1995. WPC’s library is one of the finest church libraries in the country.

From the beginning of 2007, the Session discussed renovations to the sanctuary, retiring the SHARING OUR FUTURE debt, and making our buildings more secure. In the April Session meeting Paul O’Neal made the following proposal:

- 1) That the Session approve a Capital Funds Campaign of approximately \$6M to begin January 2008, with funds being used for the following purposes:
- 2) To repay outstanding debt from the SHARING OUR FUTURE building program at an approximate cost of \$1.6M
- 3) A) To make badly needed renovations to the existing sanctuary (44 years young), including a new roof, new roof insulation, new electrical system, new lighting, new sprinkler system, new carpet and new pew cushions;
- B) To make necessary modifications to existing buildings to improve the general appearance and overall security of the church and Weekday School, at an approximate cost of \$1M
- 4) A) To enlarge the existing church sanctuary from 368 seats to 676 seats to alleviate overcrowding;
- B) New construction to include enlarging the choir loft and entrance area, at an approximate cost of \$2.8M
- 5) In keeping with WPC tradition, 10% of funds raised during the Capital Funds drive would be given to the Witness & Service Committee for missions (\$600K).

Westminster lost three pillars of the church during this period: Charlie Bell passed away in May 2004. He joined Westminster in 1951 and was certainly one of the giants of WPC’s history – “an Elder’s Elder.” Elder Tom Gower died in December 2006; he touched many lives for his contributions to WPC and the City of Greenville, as evidenced by the standing-room-only crowd who attended his memorial service. Elder Al Sivewright passed away in April 2007, following two years of a serious illness. His beautiful Scottish accent will never be forgotten.

After 60 years, Sunday School was thriving for all age groups; our pastoral staff was complete; missions locally and around the world were strongly supported. God had richly blessed our family of faith!

Fred Carpenter

My thanks to Sue Inman for her incredible book, *Growing in Faith – A History of Westminster Presbyterian Church* (2007). Her book was a great source of information for this, the sixth in a series of articles on Westminster’s history.

families to stay together – sleeping and eating at the host church. During 2005 Westminster gave \$203K to Homes of Hope as part of the Capital Campaign tithes to build 6 housing units. Also that year, we partnered with Fourth Presbyterian to build another Habitat house. WPC continued to offer a number of groups for fellowship opportunities.

In May 2005 the Building Committee reported that the final cost of our new facilities was less than \$5.8M, coming in well under budget. Shortly thereafter the Session passed three motions related to: 1) the expansion of the sanctuary, 2) a new “green” parking lot on West Augusta Place, and 3) completion of our 25-year master plan by Freeman & Major Architects. In January 2006, the Finance Committee reported a 2005 operating surplus of over \$110K, which the Session voted to apply to the remaining balance on the Share the Future bank loan. In March a luncheon was held to mark the end of our building campaign and missions contributions made as a tithe.

After 19 months, the Pastoral Search Committee entered the name of David C. Carlson into nomination as our new Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission Outreach. At its April 2006 Congregational Meeting, unanimous approval was given to call David. He began work in July and was installed in October, having been ordained in his home church in Columbus, Ohio. Westminster had enjoyed a close relationship with Thornwell Home and School for Children since the 1950’s, especially when WPC former Pastor, Zane Moore, became Thornwell’s President. We renewed our commitment to Thornwell by including them in our 2007 Witness & Service budget and by planning more outings and activities with the children there.

WPC’s Stephen Ministers reported that during the prior year they had provided over 1,000 hours of one-on-one caregiving to 22 WPC members facing difficulties in their lives. Eight new Stephen Ministers completed their 50-hour training and seven committed to two years of service. They were commissioned in May along with a recommissioning of the 29 Stephen Ministers who were currently serving. At the end of 2006, WPC’s active membership was just under 1,500; the Weekday School was larger than ever; “It’s Elementary” had grown to the point such that it would need to be divided into two groups.

In February 2007 a Lenten and Mission Festival highlighted 14 missions with which Westminster was involved. Mission work in Africa and Asia were featured – in particular, Hots Easley’s medical clinic in Malawi and the School for the Deaf. Easter morning was eventful, when WPC maintenance assistant, Ivan, arrived extra early only to discover a fire in the big dumpster near the Fellowship Hall. Ivan immediately called the fire department which came quickly and put out the fire. Mission trips for WPC youth became a focus for spiritual growth and development of their Christian faith for Elder Donn James, a regular mission trip leader, and Associate Pastor Steve Phillips. The young people were praised for their maturity and hard work on mission trips. WPC’s church library has grown from its meager beginnings in 1956, through careful management from Margaret Lindahl and Alma Steading in the ‘70’s and ‘80’s, to Pat Shufeldt since 1995. WPC’s library is one of the finest church libraries in the country.

From the beginning of 2007, the Session discussed renovations to the sanctuary, retiring the SHARING OUR FUTURE debt, and making our buildings more secure. In the April Session meeting Paul O’Neal made the following proposal:

- 1) That the Session approve a Capital Funds Campaign of approximately \$6M to begin January 2008, with funds being used for the following purposes:
- 2) To repay outstanding debt from the SHARING OUR FUTURE building program at an approximate cost of \$1.6M
- 3) A) To make badly needed renovations to the existing sanctuary (44 years young), including a new roof, new roof insulation, new electrical system, new lighting, new sprinkler system, new carpet and new pew cushions;
- B) To make necessary modifications to existing buildings to improve the general appearance and overall security of the church and Weekday School, at an approximate cost of \$1M
- 4) A) To enlarge the existing church sanctuary from 368 seats to 676 seats to alleviate overcrowding;
- B) New construction to include enlarging the choir loft and entrance area, at an approximate cost of \$2.8M
- 5) In keeping with WPC tradition, 10% of funds raised during the Capital Funds drive would be given to the Witness & Service Committee for missions (\$600K).

Westminster lost three pillars of the church during this period: Charlie Bell passed away in May 2004. He joined Westminster in 1951 and was certainly one of the giants of WPC’s history – “an Elder’s Elder.” Elder Tom Gower died in December 2006; he touched many lives for his contributions to WPC and the City of Greenville, as evidenced by the standing-room-only crowd who attended his memorial service. Elder Al Sivewright passed away in April 2007, following two years of a serious illness. His beautiful Scottish accent will never be forgotten.

After 60 years, Sunday School was thriving for all age groups; our pastoral staff was complete; missions locally and around the world were strongly supported. God had richly blessed our family of faith!

Fred Carpenter

My thanks to Sue Inman for her incredible book, *Growing in Faith – A History of Westminster Presbyterian Church* (2007). Her book was a great source of information for this, the sixth in a series of articles on Westminster’s history.

families to stay together – sleeping and eating at the host church. During 2005 Westminster gave \$203K to Homes of Hope as part of the Capital Campaign tithes to build 6 housing units. Also that year, we partnered with Fourth Presbyterian to build another Habitat house. WPC continued to offer a number of groups for fellowship opportunities.

In May 2005 the Building Committee reported that the final cost of our new facilities was less than \$5.8M, coming in well under budget. Shortly thereafter the Session passed three motions related to: 1) the expansion of the sanctuary, 2) a new “green” parking lot on West Augusta Place, and 3) completion of our 25-year master plan by Freeman & Major Architects. In January 2006, the Finance Committee reported a 2005 operating surplus of over \$110K, which the Session voted to apply to the remaining balance on the Share the Future bank loan. In March a luncheon was held to mark the end of our building campaign and missions contributions made as a tithe.

After 19 months, the Pastoral Search Committee entered the name of David C. Carlson into nomination as our new Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission Outreach. At its April 2006 Congregational Meeting, unanimous approval was given to call David. He began work in July and was installed in October, having been ordained in his home church in Columbus, Ohio. Westminster had enjoyed a close relationship with Thornwell Home and School for Children since the 1950’s, especially when WPC former Pastor, Zane Moore, became Thornwell’s President. We renewed our commitment to Thornwell by including them in our 2007 Witness & Service budget and by planning more outings and activities with the children there.

WPC’s Stephen Ministers reported that during the prior year they had provided over 1,000 hours of one-on-one caregiving to 22 WPC members facing difficulties in their lives. Eight new Stephen Ministers completed their 50-hour training and seven committed to two years of service. They were commissioned in May along with a recommissioning of the 29 Stephen Ministers who were currently serving. At the end of 2006, WPC’s active membership was just under 1,500; the Weekday School was larger than ever; “It’s Elementary” had grown to the point such that it would need to be divided into two groups.

In February 2007 a Lenten and Mission Festival highlighted 14 missions with which Westminster was involved. Mission work in Africa and Asia were featured – in particular, Hots Easley’s medical clinic in Malawi and the School for the Deaf. Easter morning was eventful, when WPC maintenance assistant, Ivan, arrived extra early only to discover a fire in the big dumpster near the Fellowship Hall. Ivan immediately called the fire department which came quickly and put out the fire. Mission trips for WPC youth became a focus for spiritual growth and development of their Christian faith for Elder Donn James, a regular mission trip leader, and Associate Pastor Steve Phillips. The young people were praised for their maturity and hard work on mission trips. WPC’s church library has grown from its meager beginnings in 1956, through careful management from Margaret Lindahl and Alma Steading in the ‘70’s and ‘80’s, to Pat Shufeldt since 1995. WPC’s library is one of the finest church libraries in the country.

From the beginning of 2007, the Session discussed renovations to the sanctuary, retiring the SHARING OUR FUTURE debt, and making our buildings more secure. In the April Session meeting Paul O’Neal made the following proposal:

- 1) That the Session approve a Capital Funds Campaign of approximately \$6M to begin January 2008, with funds being used for the following purposes:
- 2) To repay outstanding debt from the SHARING OUR FUTURE building program at an approximate cost of \$1.6M
- 3) A) To make badly needed renovations to the existing sanctuary (44 years young), including a new roof, new roof insulation, new electrical system, new lighting, new sprinkler system, new carpet and new pew cushions;
- B) To make necessary modifications to existing buildings to improve the general appearance and overall security of the church and Weekday School, at an approximate cost of \$1M
- 4) A) To enlarge the existing church sanctuary from 368 seats to 676 seats to alleviate overcrowding;
- B) New construction to include enlarging the choir loft and entrance area, at an approximate cost of \$2.8M
- 5) In keeping with WPC tradition, 10% of funds raised during the Capital Funds drive would be given to the Witness & Service Committee for missions (\$600K).

Westminster lost three pillars of the church during this period: Charlie Bell passed away in May 2004. He joined Westminster in 1951 and was certainly one of the giants of WPC’s history – “an Elder’s Elder.” Elder Tom Gower died in December 2006; he touched many lives for his contributions to WPC and the City of Greenville, as evidenced by the standing-room-only crowd who attended his memorial service. Elder Al Sivewright passed away in April 2007, following two years of a serious illness. His beautiful Scottish accent will never be forgotten.

After 60 years, Sunday School was thriving for all age groups; our pastoral staff was complete; missions locally and around the world were strongly supported. God had richly blessed our family of faith!

Fred Carpenter

My thanks to Sue Inman for her incredible book, *Growing in Faith – A History of Westminster Presbyterian Church* (2007). Her book was a great source of information for this, the sixth in a series of articles on Westminster’s history.

