

ONE CHURCH. TWO LOCATIONS.

Westminster Presbyterian Church is a Christ-Centered Community of Faith that prayerfully seeks God's direction as we provide opportunities for spiritual growth and expression through worship, education and servanthood, responding with God's love and compassion to the needs of the world.



inside
next issue:
Gearing up
for Renewal
Weekend 2007

Urban Evangelist: Ray Bakke

Ray Bakke is a professor, a pastor, and an activist dedicated to improving life in cities worldwide. Bakke is the keynote speaker during the action-packed *The Church Has Left the Building* Renewal Weekend that will leave you inspired and with the tools to make a difference in the community and the world. Save the dates of March 16-18. You'll hear Bakke, attend breakout sessions, and enjoy some great music and fellowship.



Ray Bakke

WESTMINSTER *life*

Multi-site makes a move

As we begin our second year as a multi-site church, Westminster's campus in Northwest Greensboro, lovingly called the Vine, is on the move again-but just around the corner.



Rev. Cindy Higgins and Clint Whitlow, assistant director of the Worship Band, look forward to welcoming worshippers on February 4 at the Northwest campus' new home -- a former church building on Lake Brandt Road.

With the Greensboro Day School's purchase of an actual church building on Lake Brandt Road, they offered us to change our venue and hold weekly worship at that location. What a novel thought! A church to worship in a church!

Having gathered for two years on Lawndale Drive in the Sloan and then the Bell Theatres, we have thrived at each. But the multi-site leadership team decided to pursue the new possibility, always open to the leading of the Spirit, especially if such a change would reach more people living in Northwest Greensboro.

"It's about growth and about sharing the journey," said Sarah Benson, a Worship Committee elder. "You go where you think you can reach out more. So I'm really excited."

Westminster is planning the first worship service for February 4, and the new

site will be known as Westminster's Lake Brandt Road Campus.

Previously the home of Hope of Glory Ministries, and prior to that, Christ Community Church, the church building at 4747 Lake Brandt Road, adjacent to the school's property, offers a number of enhancements to benefit all, which was the unanimous acclamation of the multi-site leadership team. They toured it and liked what they saw!

"We believe it will enhance worship and community," said the Rev. Cindy Higgins, the campus's anchor pastor. As the number of visitors and worshippers in-

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WHAT'S INSIDE January 2007

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Return service requested

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THE PASTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Friends:

My annual new year's resolutions in aggregate would sound something like this. "This year I resolve to...eat less, sleep more, exercise regularly, and read for pleasure; spend more time with family, pray consistently, worry less; learn to snowboard, play piano, and speak Spanish; find a spiritual growth group, read the New Testament, and give away more money." You get the idea. We mark the occasion of a new year with renewed focus, and entropy inevitably intercedes.

During the first weeks of 2007 we will focus our attention on the wide ranging topic of leadership, what it means to set the standard, to lead by example, to be, as Mahatma Gandhi once said, "the change you wish to see in the world." We'll look at many leadership models in scripture and focus particularly on what it means to follow in the footsteps of Jesus who came "not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life..." We trust this "Leadership for Life" sermon series will be helpful for every life circumstance and solicit your prayers as we prepare.

Some other exciting developments await us in 2007. Specifically, on Sunday February 4, the second campus will be moving (albeit just around the corner) into what is now The Hope of Glory Sanctuary. This building, originally constructed by Christ Community Church, holds several important advantages for us, and we are extremely grateful for this opportunity. We'll host an Open House on January 21 from 10:45 a.m.-noon and invite you to a preview of this expanded and welcoming space.

Additionally, our Westminster on Wednesday program fires up next Wednesday, January 10! Great programs, choirs, classes, and meals are available for all ages. Look for details in this issue and read carefully the full brochure coming your way. This is an excellent entry point and natural way to fulfill that New Year's resolution to "pray more, worry less, and read the New Testament," though due to space limitations learning to snowboard will not be available this year.

Warmly,

Bob Henderson

Kenya Update Ambulance has arrived

The ambulance/community health vehicle for Tumutumu Hospital in Kenya has arrived. Westminster donated \$40,000 for the vehicle.

"The blessing of this vehicle is indescribable," writes Maria Zack, president-elect of the Medical Benevolence Foundation. "It will enable the staff to reach patients in the rural areas where the roads are nearly impassible by ordinary vehicles."

The hospital's work in these communities is primarily basic health care (pre-natal checks, well baby checks, family planning, immunizations and treatments of illness and injury). The hospital also has extensive networks of community health workers that care for HIV/AIDS patients.

Newsletter's changes to include more stories

Westminster Life is the church's newsletter and the newspaper, the *Chimes*, morphed into something a bit more representative of our faith community. We are a vibrant, energetic congregation and the newsletter has been redesigned to reflect our church life.

We still will have information on the what is happening when, but we hope to bring you the "why" and tell you more about the "who." Westminster is more than just-for-Sundays, its people blend their spirituality into all facets of their lives so what better to call this new publication than *Westminster Life*.

If you have story ideas or would like to be a part of the *Westminster Life* writing and design staff, please contact me at the church office. Enjoy!

- Elizabeth White

Kim Priddy: New face in Children's Ministry



Kim Priddy

Kim Priddy starts her New Year in a new role. Priddy is the assistant director of Children's Ministry. She will be the anchor person for Children's Ministry at the second campus, as well as organizing the Westminster on Wednesday evening programs that will be at the Friendly Avenue campus and the multiple vacation Bible School weeks this summer.

Priddy has attended Westover Church for 12 years, but many here will know her from her work in the P.T.A. at Sternberger school where she is currently president.

One of the things she looks forward to is helping not only children grow in their faith, but their whole family through different events and programs.

"I am most excited about being part of the second campus worship life," Priddy said. "I like working with both children and their families."

She is married to Brent Priddy and they have three children: Brad and Ryan, both 8 years old, and Kate, 5 years old. In her spare time, she plays tennis and enjoys running.

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CAMPUS: New site for second campus features windows and more space to grow

creases, about 120 plus worshippers and growing, so does the need for an open and welcoming space. Plus, the gathering time before and after the service has become the "buzz," especially on the Sundays when the Youth hold their Black Box services or when the Vine Voices sing.

The new space offers a number of significant improvements: First, at times the school's activities cause our worship to be moved to another location, such as the school gym. Though we optimized such occasions, celebrating with special activities, our new venue would be more consistent. "The Day School," said Higgins, "has no current plans for the sanctuary or nearby classrooms to be used on Sunday mornings. Worshippers at the Lake Brandt Campus should seldom if ever have to relocate.

The new space also will make it possible to keep activities - worship, youth and nursery - in the same building and on the same floor. This is similar to the Friendly Avenue campus site.

What's more, the new location will be larger, accommodating more people as Lake Brandt campus worship grows.

"Since this new sanctuary at Lake Brandt is a more permanent space we have the ability to add an acoustic piano to the band,

which will enhance the music ministry," Clint Whitlow, Assistant Director of Worship Band, said. "The new sanctuary is light and bright and you feel like you are in "church" when you enter in the space. There are lots of windows and a high ceiling; it is a nice large space with room for growth."

The move also should make it much easier on the teams of volunteers who have set up worship in the theaters each Sunday and take it all down after services.

That's especially true on Sundays when the second campus has had to move to the gymnasium, said Abby Calhoun, who works with greeters and ushers.

"You've got to haul everything from the theatre to the gym," she said. "It's not hard, but you do a lot of transporting."

Calhoun is also looking forward to "being back in a church atmosphere."

Multi-site team leaders expect to begin introducing the new space in January and to have an open house there following the January 21 Lawndale Drive campus service.

"Place does matter," Higgins said. "The oldest name we have for God means 'place.' Our move to the new location means we feel God has invited us to this place to find Him there. The new place has a warm and welcoming feel to it."

- Meredith Barkley

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YOUTH: Multiple mission trips leave lasting impression on world and participant

Q What was your favorite memory of the Mexico trip?

A Every day after work, the church would have a worship service for us and everyone in the Reynosa, Mexico, community. It was very humbling to see the people in the community, who had little or nothing, praise the Lord with such enthusiasm and passion.

Q What is your favorite memory of the Navaho land trip?

A The Navaho community is located in the beautiful Arizona Mountains, around the Grand Canyon area. My work group repaired a woman named Eleanor's house. Her

yard was basically the Arizona canyons. It was so spiritual to work and be surrounded by God's amazing creation.

Q What would you say to someone or their parents as they are considering going on a Youth Mission Trip?

A Know that mission trips are hard work; they require hard work, dedication, and an open mind. If you take these qualities with you on your mission trip, then you will find the experiences on mission trips to be life changing. You will see God's love and people in new ways, and feel closer to the youth group. They are wonderful opportunities and you will remember the memories forever.

Recipe for Caring

Volunteers get joy from caring for Just Older Youth



From left to right, Diane Sergeant, Jean Davis, and Babs Gill serve J.O.Y. Group members during their monthly luncheon.

The J.O.Y. Group (Just Older Youth) is made up of members who are 55+, who meet at noon on the 4th Tuesday of each month for lunch, fellowship and a program. To make this monthly gathering possible, a group of women shares tasks such as taking reservations, planning and cooking meals, planning programs, shopping for food, placing items in the newsletter and writing thank-you notes. The team is led by Janet Daw, Mary Ann Shaver and Jean Davis, with help from several other volunteers.

About 8 or 9 years ago, when her oldest child was a baby, Janet Daw was looking for something to do outside of her home. Her friend, Lucy Mischen, was leading the J.O.Y. Group at the time, and Janet decided to volunteer. When Lucy moved on to other endeavors, Janet stepped into the leadership role.

What she finds most rewarding about her work with the J.O.Y. Group, she says, is that it's a ministry to the people where you can really get to know them. "It's cool because I provide a meal and a place to come, but they really nurture me." The people she's gotten to know through her time there have gotten to know her children, and her family attends the 11 a.m. service so that they can all see each other regularly.

When asked what sorts of gifts she

“It's cool because I provide a meal and a place to come, but they really nurture me.”
- Janet Daw

brings to her work with the J.O.Y. Group, she says that she loves to cook, and finds it fun to come up with easy, healthy meals that people will enjoy. She also likes to shop and is good at thinking mathematically, which is helpful when cooking for a crowd. Above all, she seems to truly enjoy caring for the people.

Mary Ann Shaver has been volunteering for this group for 10 years. Her sons, Luke and Robbie, help during the summer months with Luke even playing the piano for the group.

“We've seen some people be lost to the group through death or illness, but their spouses will continue to come,” Shaver said. “It is a faithful group.”

Jean Davis began working with the group about 7 or 8 years ago. She had just retired, and wanted something to do. She enjoys the people; talking to them, finding out how they're doing and making them feel welcome. She says that many of the seniors don't see many people during the week, and they appreciate the affirmation of feeling needed and loved. She says that she enjoys not only the members, but the other people on the team as well.

There is a sense of camaraderie and fellowship, and “everyone really seems to care about the seniors.” Jean says that “It's a happy time and an easy way to get involved if you enjoy working with older adults and feel that need to serve one another as Jesus commanded us.”

- Jennifer Kirschner

LOOKING BACK

Looking back, 2006 had many highlights. We'd like to name a few highlights. We hope our list (in no particular order) triggers your own reflections.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2006

- The church paid off its mortgage.
- We celebrated the one year anniversary of being a multi-site church.
- Children released butterflies at Easter.
- Youth went on their first Spring Break Mission Trip to Gulf Coast.
- We heard sermons from heaven to hell, on eagle's wings, on manure, featuring the Apostle Paul, and the Grinch.
- The drama team performed the Last Supper Reenactment and Christmas Tale.
- 106 people received flu shots.
- Two Vacation Bible Schools were held due to popular demand.
- We launched a medical mission in Kenya.

Newcomer's Class looks at ways to connect

Bob Henderson will be leading *Discovering the Faith* class that explores not only what are the beliefs of Westminster and of Presbyterians, but also ways you can get involved in the life of the church.

This five-week class will start January 10 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. It is not mandatory to attend to join the church. The class is structured to answer participants questions in a relaxed atmosphere.

Whether you are a long-time visitor or new to the church, you are welcome to attend. Simply show up to the first class or call the office at 299-3785 if you have questions.

What is your mission?

2007 Mission trip information meetings in January

January is a time to plan. People with days - some even weeks - of vacation time to fill are figuring out how to wisely spend their time off. For many, they go on one of Westminster's mission trips. Will this be your year to go on a mission trip?



From left, Dave Johnson, Jennie Betton, Diane Bishop, and Emily Hoxworth pour concrete during the July 2006 Mexico Mission trip.

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS:

January 6 and 7 during fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall and January 14 at the Lawndale/Vine campus.

SIGN UP DEADLINE:
February 5, 2007

LOCATION:
Piedras Negras, Mexico.

TYPE OF WORK:
Build one home a week along with future homeowners. A medical team will go and will work with patients in the clinic and do health education classes.

COST:
\$600 for travel expenses. Fund raising, working on Westminster's Mission Auction, will be required.

DATES:

Adult and College Team: May 19 - 26, 2007
Intergenerational Team: June 23 - 30, 2007
Medical Team: June 23 - 30, 2007
Intergenerational Team: June 30 - July 7, 2007

AGE/ABILITY:

Participants must be 14 years old (parent or guardian should accompany minors) or older. On-the-job training for the building teams. Medical team composition includes physicians, dentists, optometrists, nurses, translators and assistants.

Contact Anne Hendrix at the church office or look for sign ups on web site or Worship Response Card.

Youth Mission Trips

Mark your calendars for our amazing summer youth trips.

- High School Spring Break trip to the Gulf Coast - April 1 - 6
- Middle School Atlanta Mission Trip - June 24 - 29
- Middle School West Virginia Trip - July 9 - 14
- Middle School Camp Ophelia- August 10 - 12
- Middle School Boys trip - to be announced
- High School trip to Reynosa, Mexico - July 31 - August 5

Mission Trips: A Youth Perspective

Abby Breaux has been on several mission trips as both a youth and as a youth advisor. We asked her about her experiences.

Q Which Mission trips have you gone on?

A Mexico Mission trip 2004, SSP Navajo Reservation mission trip 2005, and Atlanta Middle School mission trip as a high school advisor.

Q What prompted you to first go on a youth mission trip?

A It seemed like a great way to spread God's message through action, see new places, and become closer with the youth group.

Q What were your feelings while you were on the Atlanta trip?

A Going as an advisor, I was able to experience the trip from a different point of view. I felt from the time the kids got on the bus to the time they got off they were growing closer to each other and to God. For many of the middle schoolers, the Atlanta trip was a first time experience of mission work, and I could see how the awesome feeling of helping someone through your own two hands gave them a clear example of how Jesus spent his life.

Q What was your best memory of the Atlanta trip?

A Just the memory of seeing the whole middle school youth group working together to accomplish one goal: spreading God's love through fixing homes. It was amazing to see all the kids putting their all into painting, cleaning the yard and gutters, and building a new porch.

See Youth on page 7

Fast Forward: Items for your calendar

W.O.W. MEALS

The next session of Westminster on Wednesday (W.O.W.) begins January 10. Come for a meal and fellowship – and stay for a class. Sign up for a meal on a Worship Response Card or the web site. Remember meals must be reserved by Monday at noon each week of W.O.W.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men kick off the new year with the first breakfast on January 6 at 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be David Page – Metro Director of Greensboro's Young Life. Sign up on a Worship Response card or the web site.

WOMEN'S SOUP LUNCHEON

All women are invited for a soup luncheon on Saturday, January 27 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making teacher appreciation gifts first and lunch starts at 12:30 p.m. Bring your favorite soup. Call Carole Albright at 854-8681.

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 9, at 9:30 a.m. at Marie Wood's house at 3507 Chadford Place, 286-7792.
 Tuesday, January 9, at 7:30 p.m. at Karen Graham's house at 103 Frederick Road, 288-3794.
 Wednesday, January 10, at 10 a.m. at the Youth House. Call Carol Thomas at 299-4897.

LAKE BRANDT CAMPUS WORK DAY

Saturday, January 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. we will painting, cleaning, and yard work at the new worship campus on Lake Brandt Road. Call Kim Priddy or Robert Greene at 299-3785.

M.O.M.S NIGHT OUT

Any mom is invited to a Super Suppers 101 Party on January 16 at 6:30 p.m. Contact Victoria Townes at 254-7300.

LUNCH ETC.

A small group of women meet once a month for lunch and Christian fellowship on the third Wednesday of the month. If you are interested please contact Alice Theall at 545-9363.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Nurses will be available Saturday, January 20, and Sunday, January 21, following the services and in between services to take blood pressure. Look for posters for room location.

GAME NIGHT/COVERED DISH

Everyone loves a good game! January 27 following the worship service we'll serve a covered-dish dinner and get competitive with some board games. This is an all church event. Sign up on a Worship Response Card and on the web site. Bring a dish to share – and join in on the fun! There will be childcare for children 0-4yrs

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AND LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 28, there is an open house between services and afterwards until 1 p.m. Stop by for a for a treat for your eyes as well as your stomach. Learn how you can be a significant part of the spiritual development of the children in this church.

CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR

Every Thursday at 10 a.m. there will be a preschool story hour in the Children's Library. Please join us. Questions? Contact Ann Wren at 299-3785 x22.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK HOSTING

During February 11-18 the church will host homeless families in our children's wing. Many volunteers are needed to help with meals, room set-up and take-down, overnight and evening hosting, and van driving. Sign up on a Worship Response Card or on web site. For more information, please contact Jan Swanton at the church.

Wednesday Nights: Food, Fun, and Learning



Children across the campuses used fabric paint to decorate squares for quilts. Adults sewed together the squares and quilted. The quilts were given to soliders, a sick child, and other people in need of comfort and love. Children were told something about the likes and interests of the quilts' recipients in order to create something special.

Children & Youth Programs during W.O.W.

The children and youth will enjoy classes tailored just for them on Wednesday nights. All children's classes will be at the Friendly Avenue campus' first floor. Youth classes will be in the Youth House across the street from the Friendly Avenue campus.

WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS BIBLE STUDY

Both youth guys and gals will enjoy exploring *The Chronicles of Narnia* and how it relates to Christian faith.

CLUB OPHELIA

This club is for middle school girls only. Club members will learn how to handle peer pressure and relational aggression.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children K-5th grade will learn songs for worship. The choir will be split into two age groups: kindergarten - 2nd grade with Betsy Hyslop, and 3rd - 5th grade with Jimmy Jones.

BLITZ TIME

Children K-5th grade will have a packed evening of activities, games, and Bible time that will encourage and grow friendships.

PRESCHOOLERS (AGES 3-5)

Preschoolers will focus on faith, fun and fellowship. Children will have a time of digging into the Bible, music, as well as free play time while making friends.

NURSERY (0-2 YEAR OLDS)

Nursery will be provided for this age group. Advance sign-ups are greatly appreciated as they allow us to staff rooms properly and provide the best care for your child.

GETTING HOOKED ON BOOKS

Westminster Studies explores books' messages

This upcoming Westminster Studies, educational classes for adults, will explore several topics found in best-selling novels. Session 1 class is January 10 - February 7. A complete listing of Session 1 topics is available at www.westpreschurch.org or in the Westminster Studies catalog available in the church office. Register on the web site or on your Worship Response Card during the services.

Gale Greenlee, of the Greensboro Public Library will lead a discussion group exploring the works of Noble Prize winning author Toni Morrison. Morrison wrote *Beloved*, *The Bluest Eye*, and *Sula*. Morrison will be in Greensboro as part of the Guilford College Bryan Lecture series on March 13. The library is sponsoring "One City, One Author: A Celebration of Toni Morrison."



Toni Morrison

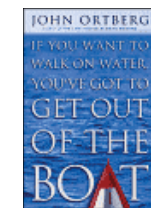
LaMonica Mitchell, marriage educator with the Family Life Center, will be leading *The Languages of Love* class. This class is designed to enhance communication and intimacy in your marriage or relationships. The class is based on the best-selling book *Five Languages of Love* by Gary Chapman. Each week a different "love language" will be explored. Mitchell herself has been married 33 years. She is an ordained min-



ister at Mt. Zion Church. Robin Phillips is teaching *One More Lesson from the Farm: Learning How to Fish*. This innovative Bible study class will teach you how to study the Bible and how to hook some Biblical truths.



Altina Layman will be facilitating a new small group geared for single parents. This group will study John Ortberg's book *If You Want to Walk on Water, You Got to Get Out of the Boat*.



Congregational Nurse Brenda Young will lead a series of topics from *American Red Cross Family Caregiving Program*. Topics include: Home Safety, General Caregiving Skills, Positioning and Helping Your Loved One Move, Assisting with Personal Care, Healthy Eating, Caring for the Caregiver, Legal and Financial Issues, Caring for a Loved One with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia, and Caring for a Loved One with HIV/AIDS.

Other Westminster Studies classes are: *Discovering and Connecting the Faith* lead by Bob Henderson. This class helps newcomers and visitors learn more about Westminster and ways to connect.

Navigating Pot Holes: A Practicum in Adaptation through Woodwork (10 weeks) lead by Rev. Erich Thompson.