



ORDINARY TIME

Several days ago, when I was speaking with Michelle Little about this assignment, I asked if there were a special time of the church year I should address. She looked at the church calendar and told me this time of year was marked “ordinary time.”

Well, let’s face it, there are very few of us who would characterize the past week, month, or year as “ordinary time.” The economic downturn, the severity of which we do not yet know; the pressure it puts on our businesses, our family life, our self esteem is an unwanted burden on top of a part of life which already seemed frenetic.

Today’s uncertainties also give us the opportunity to reflect on the things that nourish our spirits in challenging times. The love and caring of our families, the support and respect of our friends and co-workers are obvious advantages, blessings if you will, in times of trouble. We are fortunate to be a part of Westminster Church, a community of faith which can nourish our souls and minds and connect us to a larger portion of our community. It is important to remember that we need to give others support even as we look for it ourselves.

While considering the extraordinary and the ordinary in our lives today, I found myself reflecting on the career of one of my favorite writers. John Updike, who died last week, was mainly known to the public for his fiction, short stories and novels featuring suburban families who reflected the material success of 1960’s, but who often suffered from a vague unhappiness and a spiritual emptiness. Many times in Updike’s work a character living an ordinary life sees something in the natural world or within his or her own family which affirms faith or at least opens the character’s mind to larger spiritual questions.

Mr. Updike wrote often about his personal religious faith, and he remained a church-goer all his life. I close with an excerpt from an essay Mr. Updike wrote for National Public Radio’s series, “This I Believe.” After approving “materialist science” and its efforts to solve the mysteries of the cosmos and the subatomic world, he states:

“On the other hand, the reality of subjective sensations, desires and — may we even say — illusions, composes the basic substance of our existence, and religion alone, in its many forms, attempts to address, organize and placate these. I believe, then, that religious faith will continue to be an essential part of being human, as it has been for me.”

Duff Bruce

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 15, 2009

9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

It is the aim of this church to present a religion as considerate of persons as the teaching of Jesus, as devoted to justice as the Old Testament prophets, as responsive to truth as science, as beautiful as art, as intimate as the home, and as indispensable as the air we breathe. For the achievement of this goal we bid you welcome, and invite your attendance, your prayers, your gifts, and your service.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

** CHORAL INTROIT Bell
"Be Still"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Take delight in the Lord

People: And he will give you the desires of your heart.

Leader: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him

People: And he will make your righteousness shine like the noonday sun.

Leader: Let us worship God.

* HYMN – No. 476..... LYONS
"O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful Lord, we come before you this morning knowing that we have not always placed our trust in you as we know we should. When we face hard times in our lives, we turn to others instead of to you. When we are unsure of the future, we try to control it, instead of placing it in your hands. When we feel you leading us to a place we do not want to go, we turn away. Dear Lord, remind us that you have a plan for our lives, and help us to trust in that plan and give our lives to you.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (*Hymnal*, No. 579)

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.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMON CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
MINUTE FOR MISSION *Paul O'Neal*

** CALL TO PRAYER..... Bell
"Lord, In Your Mercy"

MORNING PRAYERS
THE LORD'S PRAYER

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SOLO – “He Shall Feed His Flock”..... Beck

Children first grade and younger leave for Children’s Church after the solo.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Psalm 131 (Page 574).....*David Golladay*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – Matthew 6:24-34 (Page 6)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON *Stephen Phillips*

“Bobby McFerrin May Have Been Onto Something”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

* 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; 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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Anthem (9:00 a.m. only) “Give Me Jesus”Hayes

** Anthem – “Give Me Jesus” Fleming

* Doxology (*Hymnal*, No. 592)

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

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN – No. 376..... BEECHER

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

* BENEDICTION

** CHORAL RESPONSE – “God Be With You” Tomer

* POSTLUDE

* *All who are able may stand.* ****11:15 a.m. service only**

HEAD USHERS:	9:00 a.m.	Pete Sweeny
	11:15 a.m.	Ben Rigby
SPONSOR:		Denise Broderick
GREETERS:	9:00 a.m.	Jim Gettys, Charlie Warth, Gaye Sprague
	11:15 a.m.	Wes Bryant, Sam White, Sr., Will Quinn
LITURGIST:		Barbara Stoop

If you are visiting this morning, we extend a special welcome to you. Westminster Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a community of faith open to all who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PARKING

We have permission to use the parking lots at the Uniform Shop and Augusta Commons Mall.

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

A Greenville city police officer will be on duty from 9:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. to help people cross the street from the other side of Augusta Road.

CHURCH NOTES

The leaders for Children's Church this **Sunday, February 15:**

9:00 a.m. *Dan & Kim Eades*

11:15 a.m. *Stephen & Mary Ridgeway*

Musicians leading in worship this Sunday are:

- *Nancy Smith*, pianist
9:00 a.m.
- *Kathryn Knauer*, soprano
11:15 a.m.
- Sanctuary Choir

NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants through four-year kindergarten. Our childcare program provides safe, secure nurseries for our babies and toddlers during worship services. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment to all children.

MARRIAGE

On Saturday, February 7, 2009, *Ellis McClenaghan & Alex Crigler* were united in marriage at Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville.

TNT

TNT will meet at the home of *Chas & Susan Key* (619 Carolina Ave., 286-3492) on **Friday, February 20, at 6:30 p.m.** for the monthly Game/Movie Night. Please bring your own take-out, and remember that children are welcome! Also, mark your calendars for our next movie study on **Tuesday, February 24 at 6:00 p.m.**

CHRISTCARE GATHERINGS

ChristCare Small Groups continue to welcome visitors and new members. Please RSVP to the Group Leader. For more information, go to www.wpc-online.org and click on *Congregational Life* and then *Adult Groups*.

This week's groups are:

- **Movie: Sunday, February 15, 7:00 p.m.**, Room 209, *Dot Elmore*, dotelmore@bellsouth.net, 286-0036.
- **Luncheon: Wednesday, February 18, 12:00 p.m.**, Room 211, *Dot Elmore*, dotelmore@bellsouth.net, 286-0036.
- **Spirituality: Thursday, February 19, 6:00 p.m.**, at the home of *Christie Edgerton*, counselorchristie@hotmail.com, 631-2851.
- **Hiking: Thursday, February 19, 7:00 p.m.**, Room 212, *Ron Lawson*, ronlawson2000@aol.com, 963-1570.

GAIHN

Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network

The next opportunity to assist local homeless families with hospitality in the form of food and emergency shelter is **February 15–17**. Westminster partners with Trinity United Methodist to provide meals, evening and overnight hosts. Contact WPC member and GAIHN Coordinator, *Jara Jones* (jarajones@charter.net or 561-3009) to sign up. You can learn more about this inter-denominational ministry visiting the church or GAIHN website.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CONNECTIONS

Connections, an adult fellowship group for couples and singles, will have their monthly gathering this **Sunday, February 15**, after the 11:15 a.m. service at Copper River on Haywood, 775 Haywood Rd., 627-0041. A reservation will be made for the private room. Please contact *Gretta Lawson* at grettalaws@aol.com or 963-1570 by February 14.

JUNIOR HIGHS

Do you have any hidden talents? Join us this **Sunday, February 15**, for our American Idol, Karaoke, Talent Show. We will see you at **5:00 p.m.** If you have any questions, please contact Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

SENIOR HIGHS

Football is over, but that doesn't mean we can't compete. Join us this **Sunday, February 15**, in the gym for another round of Broom Hockey. Bring a wooden handled broom and tennis shoes. The last fifteen minutes we'll relax and discuss our progress with Youth Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

COLLEGE MISSION TRIP

On **Friday, May 22**, we will once again be heading to the Dominican Republic for our college mission trip. We will return on May 29. The cost of the trip is \$1000, but do not let cost prevent you from coming. There are full and partial scholarships available. **Please sign up by February 15** as we will return all unused plane tickets later that week. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Phillips at 380-5269.

THE FLOCK

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 18**. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed by our study at 6:30 p.m. in the Senior High Lounge which *Kevin Lancaster* and *Stephen Woods* will be leading. If you are coming to dinner, please don't forget to sign up by *noon on Monday, February 16*. Childcare is provided. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Phillips at 232-2424 or 380-5269.

DINE WITH NINE

March - May 2009

Sharing a meal is one of the best ways to establish and renew relationships with members of the Westminster church community. "Dine with Nine" is nine (or so) persons – some couples, some singles, some older and some younger – gathering for a series of two or three dinners on an evening convenient to the group. To sign up, return this form to the church office or call/email the church office (232-2424, wendy@wpc-online.org) with the requested information. The deadline to sign up is *February 23, 2009*.

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please indicate yes or no:

_____ I/We would be willing to host a first gathering of nine or so people.

_____ I/We cannot host the first gathering, but would consider a subsequent one.

_____ I/We cannot host but would like to be part of a group.

_____ I am interested in a "Singles" group (if available).

THE HARBINGER
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
2310 Augusta Road
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424
www.wpc-online.org

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED.

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	<i>wendy@wpc-online.org</i>
Maintenance	Rick Thompson
	Ivan Ryder

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 15 - 21, 2009

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.	Worship Service Membership Committee Meeting Library Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Church School
11:15 a.m.	Worship Service
3:30 p.m.	Tiger Cubs
5:00 p.m.	Sixers and Jr. High Group Meeting Sr. High Youth Choir Rehearsal
5:30 p.m.	GAIHN Meeting
6:00 p.m.	Youth Dinner
6:30 p.m.	Sixers and Jr. High Choir Rehearsal Sr. High Group Meeting
7:00 p.m.	ChristCare Movie Group
8:00 p.m.	Alcohol Anon.

MONDAY

Weekday School Closed for President's Day

5:30 p.m.	Men's Recreational Basketball
5:40 p.m.	Westminster Bells
6:15 p.m.	NAMI
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anon.

TUESDAY

12:00 p.m.	Al-Anon
5:00 p.m.	Cub Scouts
7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts DAR

WEDNESDAY

11:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
12:00 p.m.	ChristCare Luncheon Group
3:00 p.m.	"It's Elementary!" Twins
3:30 p.m.	Cherub Choir
4:30 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. Choristers
5:30 p.m.	Wednesday Dinner
6:00 p.m.	The Flock
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

3:00 p.m.	Daisy Troop
6:00 p.m.	ChristCare Spirituality Group
7:00 p.m.	ChristCare Hiking Group
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY

6:30 a.m.	TNT Movie Night
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ASH WEDNESDAY ALL-CHURCH DINNER

February 25, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Join your Westminster friends and family to enjoy a meal together before experiencing the reflective Ash Wednesday service. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. before the service at 6:45. As is the tradition on Ash Wednesday, a meal of soup and bread will be served. We will also have salad and a simple dessert. For the children, we will have a ham & cheese sandwich, carrot sticks and fruit. Nursery will be available for children under three, and an activity will be available for children during the service. Sign up today by calling the church office at 232-2424 or by e-mailing michelle@wpc-online.org. Website sign-up is also available by visiting wpc-online.org. *Sign-ups for dinner end on Sunday, February 22, 2009.*

Name: _____
 Adults \$6.50 _____ Children (3-11) \$3.00 _____
 Nursery (ages 3 and under) _____

