

# On The Wind

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[www.pbysk.org](http://www.pbysk.org)



A team from PSK recently traveled to Haiti to as part of **Clean Water, Clean Energy for Haiti**, a mission of PSK. The picture to the left shows Pastor Valentin at the water distribution building at the Foundation For Peace site.

The picture to the right shows the first day of work and a finished system. Pastor Amy Dame is shown explaining the system to Pastor Valentin. Work remained to "wire" the system, test it and "shock" the water system and process the water. Unfortunately, due to Hurricane Sandy, the bridge to the site was washed away. But



Pastor Amy Dame, Samson Sadiq (Westwood Church, Wichita) and John Becker (First Presbyterian Church, Edmond, OK) returned to Haiti on November 18th to complete the project. For a look at the village of Kaney, which will benefit from this new water system, go to [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com) and search for *Help For Kaney*, a video by Pastor Amy Dame.

## Congratulations!



At the November 17, 2012, meeting of the Presbytery of Southern Kansas, Caitlin Hendrix was examined by the Presbytery as part of her ordination process in becoming a PC(USA) Teaching Elder. Caitlin will serve as a Chaplain at the Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Texas. Caitlin's Ordination Service will be Dec. 28, 2012, at *The Chapel in the Woods*, Westminster Woods Camp at 5:00 p.m.



Prayer time during **Pastor Sang Kang's Installation Service** on October 14, 2012, at the Korean Church, Wichita. Pastor Kang is in the center of the picture.

The orchestra and choir, providing the beautiful music during the Installation Service, were comprised of members of the Korean church.



## Westminster Woods Winter Retreats 2013

**Young Adult Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>**

(registration deadline – 12/31/12)

**High School Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>**

(registration deadline – 1/7/2013)

**Middle School Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>**

(registration deadline – 1/21/2013)

For the registration forms you need to print visit:

[www.westminsterwoodscamp.com](http://www.westminsterwoodscamp.com)

During her Installation Service on October 21, 2012, Jack Brubacher presented **Pastor Angela Madden** with a cross made from the original stained glass windows from the Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church, Winfield. The cross was hand-crafted by Lou Tharp, Clerk of Session.



**Parks Presbyterian Church** youth and congregation responded to the needs of the hungry by holding a



**“Hobo Dinner”** in the Fellowship Hall on October 21, 2012. Everyone enjoyed a meal of stew over mashed potatoes, bread and deserts. Tables were covered in newspaper and tin cans placed on the tables were used to collect an offering for the Wichita County Food Bank’s Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. These baskets will be delivered to those struggling to provide adequate food for their families. Funds collected that day, \$259.65, will be used to purchase food that will be combined with items provided by the Food Bank and Thrift Shoppe. In the past approximately 30 Thanksgiving and 30 Christmas baskets have been delivered within the community.

## So Full of Joy

Christmas was going to be so special that year. So full of joy. Jesus was looking forward to it; and yet I wonder if he was a little nervous. It was a new thing for him.

There are certain things you just have to experience for yourself: it doesn’t matter how much you go over them in class or read all about them in books. Falling in love is like that. Military combat. Diving from the ten-meter platform. No matter how well you’ve studied up on such things in advance, it isn’t possible to know what they’re really like until you experience them yourself.

So I wonder what it was like for Jesus, getting ready for what would become the first Christmas. The curtain was about to rise on the grand drama of the redemption of the world, with all the angels scheduled to sing out, so full of joy. It was a good plan, and it was all supposed to work out just fine; Jesus knew that. But he had never done any of this before, himself: being born, growing up, praying, reading the Bible, teaching, dying, rising. We know that he was feeling strong emotion in Gethsemane, just before his arrest. So I wonder if he might have been feeling some anxiety just before his birth.

Something similar happens for us, when we consider doing something brand new for Christmas. We might have a really good plan and be sure it will work out just fine; but in the moments leading up to it, we can feel kind of anxious.

The Letter to the Hebrews tells us that Jesus was so full of joy that it motivated him to go ahead with his sacrificial life: because of the joy he saw ahead of him, he took on the cross (Hebrews 12:2). Sometimes we think we could get things done if we just had better understanding or stronger determination: but apparently it was the joy that did it for Jesus. He had such joy as he realized what his choice would accomplish: and so despite all the anxiety, he could act on the basis of that joy.

Want that kind of joy, this Christmas? Look for the way you can make a big difference in people’s lives: for people you know, and people you don’t know. Not just a little spur of the moment thing: a real substantial wow kind of difference. Let your heart really see just how much good you could do for them, when you take that action to make that difference: so that your heart fills up with joy with that realization. Then let that joy motivate you to act.

*Jay Ayers*