

On The Wind

A Publication of the
Presbytery of Southern Kansas
June 2015

www.pbysk.org

Three Things to Strengthen Your Ministry of Welcome

One Sunday morning a young family walked into your church's sanctuary. I'm not sure what they were hoping to find. Maybe they were looking for a place of Christian education for their children. Maybe they were new in the community, eager to find a church home like the one they had left behind in their previous town. Maybe they were feeling a questing in their souls, hoping to experience the presence of God.

They were checking out your church. They came to worship. But as it turns out, they didn't come back. It's probably not fair that they made their decision based on just one Sunday. Somehow they just didn't feel like this was the place for them.

How can we make sure people will feel welcome in our church? It's true that some people will be looking for something we can't provide, and they'll end up looking elsewhere. But for most church guests, we can do three things that will help them feel at home.

1. **Say your name. Say their name. Introduce them to someone.** Names are important. If you say their name, and if you then use their name when you introduce them to someone, you'll be much more likely to remember their name, so that you can chat with them some more after worship.
2. **Say "Thank you for being here."** It's fine to say "We're glad you're here today." But something strong happens when we say "Thank you" to someone. Genuine gratitude is hard to find in this world. Be thankful, and say so: "Thank you for being here."
3. **Let the love of Jesus be powerful in your soul,** so that you can greet people with genuine warm-hearted affection. People can see when you are looking at them as an assignment. Pray for all the graciousness of Jesus to fill you up, and you'll find you can welcome people with real earnestness.

Jay Ayers

WELCOME TO PSK!

Rev. Deborah Hollifield – Interim Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Newton

Dr. Dixie Voss Anders - Interim Pastor, New Covenant Presbyterian Church, Hutchinson

Kevin Salzman, CRE - First Presbyterian Church Dodge City & Spearville Federated Church

The Wichita Korean Church had a fund raising event which was organized by the church's Women's Mission Group, supported by Men's Mission Group, High School and the Middle School Students. The event was a joint event by everyone in our congregation.

This event had two main purposes. First, it was to raise funds for our Sunday School children to attend summer camp at Westminster Woods Camp. Secondly, the event was to raise funds to support the Women's Mission Group general fund. The Women's Group planned the event and Men's Group provided the heavy labor.

The event consisted of various activities:

1) Huge Garage Sale. All members donated items from each of their home. A gigantic sign for advertising was donated and everyone worked hard throughout the day.



2) Lunch Box – Church members provided a couple of lunch box choices and those were sold prior to the day.

Some of the church members took 10 tickets to sell at work or to friends. About 100 lunch boxes were sold even before the day of the event. We also had for sale, on the day of the event, freshly prepared lunches.

3) Baked Goods. High School students prepared cake pops, and cookies to sell on the day of the event.



4) Car Wash. High School and Middle School boys volunteered as "car washers."



We felt that through this event the whole church came together as one and we raised much more money than we expected! All the unsold items (a truckload full) were donated to "His Helping Hand" after the event was over. During the day, We could all feel God's love and grace with us.

Another huge Garage Sale and Lunch event was planned for May 16th

The Presbyterian Women of Southern Kansas held their annual spring gathering and business meeting on April 21, 2015, at New Covenant Presbyterian Church, Hutchinson. Fifty-eight members and guests from 14 churches were in attendance. Morning worship and Holy Communion was led by the Rev. Kitty Lum of First



Presbyterian Church, Liberal, KS. The offering of \$284.63 was designated for the mission fund of PW (USA). The 158 completed school kits and 67 extra bags will be given to *Gift of the Heart School Kits* for Church World Service. These will be delivered to Ferncliff Distribution Center in Ferncliff, Arkansas. Toni Spieth, who attended the 2014 Presbyterian Women's Global Exchange to the Caribbean, showed pictures of her visit to Jamaica and Guyana. Rhoda Frasier from Concordia, KS, spoke about her participation in the September 2014 Reformation Tour to Geneva, Switzerland and southern France. During the business meeting officers were elected/re-elected. Those newly-elected and returning members of the Coordinating Team were installed. **Prayers for the fourteen women** from PSK plan to attend the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women, June 8-21, in Minneapolis, MN. During the meeting, they were commissioned and led in prayer by the Rev. Kitty Lum.



L-R: John Haspels, Laura Frazey, Don Owens

Congratulations to **Rev. John Haspels** as PSK reflected on his many years of service in the mission field as part of his Recognition of Honorable Retirement Service during the May 12th Presbytery meeting.

Viola United Presbyterian Church recently enjoyed a great celebration! The church had a **"Burning of the Loan Papers"** since their building loan has been paid. Additionally, the members celebrated the completion of their basement.

The celebration was the result of a lot of hard work by the members over the past ten years. The architecture of the new building incorporated items from the old church building. The front doors from the prior building are used as the doors leading to the new Fellowship Hall. The windows you see when you enter the church are from the old building as well.



THANK YOU! \$4686 and some actual buckets were donated to the PSK Bucket Brigade, as well as, School Kits and Hygiene Kits. All will be forwarded to Ferncliff DAC for Church World Services.

Thank you...for your many prayers for Brian & Diane, the counselors & staff of WMW Summer Camp!

PSK Summer Camp 2015

- Family Camp** May 29-31st
- 3rd & 4th Grade** June 2-5th
- 5th & 6th Grade** June 8-12th
- 7th & 8th Grade** June 15-19th
- High School** June 22-28th

www.westminsterwoodscamp.com