

Spring Break at Westminster Woods

Some of the youth from FPC Derby journeyed to camp and did a “mission day” during the week of spring break. The camp appreciated their help so much!



From left: Emily Smith, Megan Denis, and Karli McLean. Standing behind the cabinet is John Hoefer, Youth Director for FPC Derby

Prayer Request for Westminster Woods

www.westminsterwoodscamp.com

**Would your church begin NOW to pray for
summer camp at Westminster Woods Camp?**

Please pray for the campers that are making their plans for the summer to commit this time to their relationship with God. Please begin praying for Brian and Diane as they are preparing for camp.

Please pray for the staff listed below. This list includes everyone it takes to make sure a camper has a great experience. The people below have a variety of responsibilities that might include: Cooking, counseling, doing dishes, lifeguarding, health room, office work, maintenance, planning ac-tivities, taking photo's etc.

Samuel Cheyney, Kalynn Vibbert, Gracie Frank, Neal Heitmann, Judy Osborn, Kyla Claiborne, Kaleb Wheeler, John Boss, Terri McDaniels, Allie Griffin, Catherine Klunder, Caroline Olson, Caroline Swanson, Hope Faflick, Lindsey Eriksen, Katelyn Stoss, Emily Henry, Katelyn Do-herty, Connor Smith, Christ Jordan, Ryan Bretches, Andrew Calderwood, Dylan Clark, Brandon Gamache, Dane Frazier, Katie Hart, and Ana Chacon

On The Wind

A Publication of the
Presbytery of Southern Kansas
May 2012

www.pbysk.org

The Meaning of Life

Don't bank down those inner fires. Give in to your heart's desires until the day comes when they come for you. You can't take it with you, Jack, and once you're gone, you can't come back. You are only going – through!

That was a popular song, a few years back. What's that? You don't remember it? I guess maybe it was before your time. The lines here are a paraphrase of part of “The Song of the Harper,” which was a big hit on the Egypt Top 40 around 1500 BC.

The Song of the Harper expresses an understanding of the meaning of life which is actually not too different from the sentiment that was expressed in the old beer commercial, “You only go around once in this life, so you have to grab for all the gusto you can get.”

The people of God are not immune to this notion. Isaiah lamented (22:13) that in a time of distress when people should have turned their hearts toward God, they were only interested in their own momentary pleasure: “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!” Paul echoed this line, with an interesting twist: if we don't believe in the gospel promise of eternal life, then maybe “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die” is the best we can do (I Corinthians 15:32).

But in fact we do believe the gospel. And that means that we have a better understanding of the meaning of life than “try to grab for a few fleeting moments of happiness, if you can get them, before you die.”

All down the ages, the world has supposed that the meaning of life is, “How can I get the most I can, for me and my family, in the time I have?” But as followers of Jesus, we have come to know that the meaning of our lives is found in knowing and following Jesus, and fulfilling the calling that he has given us: bringing the message of redemption to those who have never quite gotten it before.

As we move through Eastertide toward Pentecost, let me encourage you to take time to offer thanks to Jesus because his resurrection and his gospel give you the meaning for your life. Let that thanks be expressed in the actual words of your prayers, and in the actual deeds of your life, day by day.

Jay Ayers

Sleep "Less" in Sterling – Out of the Box

By: Dayton W.

In March, the PSK Youth Council (PSKYC) hosted it's annual Sleep "Less" in Sterling event. We had a wonderful weekend full of worship, fellowship and new friendships. There was an amazing turnout of 107 youth and 34 adults. The fourteen churches represented were: Newton, FPC Wichita, Caldwell, Ark City, Chase, Covenant, El Dorado, Winfield, Derby, Garden City, Halstead, Larned Sterling, and Westwood.

Our theme for the weekend was "Out of the Box."

Throughout the weekend, everybody was encouraged to examine what their box was – what was keeping them where society wants them and away from where God wants them—and how to get out of that box. We would like to thank all of the students who attended, the churches who sent their students, and the Presbytery as a whole for supporting events like Sleep "Less" in Sterling. We hope to continue in our goal of furthering the spiritual growth of all of the students within our Presbytery and helping to shape the church's future leaders.



Spring Break Lock-in for the Parks Church Youth



On March 13, the Parks Presbyterian Church youth of rural Leoti enjoyed a spring break lock-in at Garden City with sponsors Tracey Baker and Rhei Thurman. Six students, grade school through high school, enjoyed an afternoon of golfing or bowling. In the evening they played games, went swimming,

and had devotions at the hotel where they spent the night. Those participating took a quick morning swim before they returned home the next day to Leoti.

Twenty Presbyterian Women from Wichita-First met at the **Kansas Food Bank**, Wichita, in March for a tour, and some work time. The Kansas Food Bank has been in operation since 1984 and helps serve over 32,600 people each week in 85 Kansas counties within a network of over 500 hunger-relief partners. The ladies filled backpacks of food for children to take home and eat over the weekend. Each school week 5,900 backpacks are prepared and distributed statewide to chronically-hungry children through the Food 4 Kids program. The ladies pictured filled 57 boxes totaling 456 pouches of week-end food. This was both satisfying and fun for the ladies. They will be doing it again! Many volunteers are needed to assist at the Food Bank. For more information go to: www.kansasfoodbank.org. To schedule a date for your group contact Larry Gunkle, Director of Volunteers, KFB, 316-265-4421.



Has your church heard Rev. Skip Johnson tell the exciting news of the PSK Mission "Clean Water...Clean Energy for Haiti" Contact Rev. Skip Johnson – 620-727-3523 or revretired@gmail.com

Please hold in prayer our group of mission workers who are part of the PSK Mexico Mission Trip to Agua Prieta, Mexico. May 25 – June 1, 2012.