



On The Wind

A Publication of the
Presbytery of Southern Kansas

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November 2009

Thoughts From Our General Presbyter

Lessons From a Rubik's Cube

I am indebted to Richard Kriegbaum in his book *Leadership Prayers* for the following analogy about change:

"Some Things Cannot Be Changed." The center square determines what color each side of the cube must be. Everything else about the cube can be changed in endless permutations, but the color of any one face is determined by the center. Inherently optimistic, I assume I can accomplish whatever the organization needs, but I have always been blessed with a few faithful "reality therapists" who make sure we do not waste time and energy trying to do the impossible.

You Can Never Change Just One Thing. The only way to move any square on any face of the cube is to move 12 squares all at once. I may want to move one manager, rewrite one section of the plan, modify one advertising concept, drop one product line, add one new customer service, or relocate one branch office. But every change has multiple results, planned and otherwise.

You Have to Give Up What You Have to Get What You Want. Getting one face of the cube all the same color is not too difficult, but progress beyond that point requires losing part of that beautifully complete face. Most people fail the cube because they cannot destroy the first complete face they achieve. They cling to the lovely but unfinished present and sacrifice the future."

In many ways the decision of the Presbytery to set 2010 as a time for discernment, prayer, and study toward a vision for our future is something like working with a Rubik's Cube. We cannot see the outcome from where we are and we are uncertain how we are going to get there. The one thing that will not change is that God has a plan for us and if we seek to faithfully follow God's leading we cannot fail.

Don Owens

Garden City Presbyterian Church held a "Filipino Festival" (Cultural Awareness Night) on Wednesday, September 16th. The church choir served Filipino foods, and several members of the Filipino-American community in Garden City attended and spoke. Pictured above are the youth of the church as they practice the national dance of the Philippines called "Tinikling"- where two people beat, tap and slide bamboo poles on the ground and against each other as one or more dancers step over and in between the poles.

Presbytery Meeting – Nov 10th
Pratt Presbyterian Church

Habitat Build 2009
Wichita, KS



PSK "Lay Education Academy"

"Teaching/Preaching the Gospels", a two-credit hour course will be taught by Rev. Jay Ayers in November. **Participants will need to attend both weekends – Nov 6-7 and Nov 20-21** at the Presbytery Office. On Friday nights the time will be 7-9 p.m. and on Saturdays the time will be 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The cost for the class is \$75 for CLP credit and \$50 for those not in the CLP program. To register: secretary.pbysk@sbcglobal.net or 316-946-9481.

Together in mission....



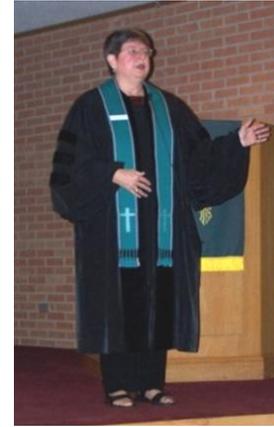
Junior High age students from First Presbyterian Wichita, Garden City Presbyterian Church and Covenant Presbyterian Church, joined forces for a week long mission camp in Wichita. Teams of youth and sponsors made lunches for a drop-in center for the homeless, delivered "Meals-on-Wheels," worked at the Union Rescue Mission and at the First Presbyterian Church Camp where they stayed, played and worshiped together.

Look carefully at the information provided for the 2009 Christmas Joy Offering and you will notice that this **beautiful** picture by Audrey Farrel, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Wichita, is featured on the Christmas Joy Offering "coin box."



Audrey Farrel, age 6
Covenant Presbyterian
Church, Wichita, Kansas

PSK Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering 2009



At the PW Fall Gathering in Hutchinson, Pastor Mary Carol Perrott, Lyons, KS (left) led the worship service and Pastor Mary Nebelsick, a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) mission worker serving in the Philippines, was the guest speaker. Pastor Nebelsick serves at Union Theological Seminary in Dasmaringas, near the capital city of Manila.

See What Busy Hands Can Accomplish at Westminster Woods!

Much appreciation goes out to First Presbyterian Church of McPherson for all they accomplished during their annual work weekend at Westminster Woods Camp. Many projects were completed including clearing of the way through the woods to make way for the water line to the new chapel! If your church would like to have a mission day at Westminster Woods, contact Brian Wheeler at 316-650-3585.



NOTE: Nov 20-22nd - PSK Youth Council Work Weekend at WW