

On The Wind

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The **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FOR PLANNED GIVING** held on Tuesday, Sept 24th at the First Presbyterian Church of Derby was an exceptional opportunity to obtain critical information concerning why we should give, tax implications for planned giving, what is planned giving and options for investments. Especially interesting was the presentation concerning keeping family harmony during estate planning. Plans are underway to conduct a similar seminar next year.

On Sunday Sept 22, **First Presbyterian Church, Winfield**, was fortunate to welcome **Stephen Bennett, guest artist at this year's Annual Walnut Valley Festival**. He provided wonderful music for those gathered. Mr. Bennett is an extraordinary musician whether playing his great-grandfather's 1909 harp guitar, his own 1930 National resonator guitar or a standard 6-string guitar.

Later in September, the sounds of smooth jazz drifted out from the church's court yard area when **Jazz for Jesus** performed. This 10 member jazz band composed of farmers, band directors, students and public servants range in age from middle school to retirees. An ice cream social topped off the evening.

"An Abiding Hope" – PSK PW Fall Gatherings

Sandi Larson and Susan Wyman with the toiletries collected at the **PSK PW Fall Gathering** held at First Presbyterian, Newton. These supplies went the Harvey County Homeless Shelter. Items collected at the gathering held at the United Presbyterian, Jetmore, went to the Dodge City Crisis Ctr.



The ladies were led in worship by Kay Hull, CRE and Rev. Denise Pass. Guest speaker was Bev Stobie who participated in the 2013 USA Mission Experience to Eastern Tennessee & Western North Carolina. She is the Synod of Mid America Representative. During her presentation she spoke about all the places she saw and the challenges faced by women, children and families living in these areas of the U.S.



Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 12, 2014 at First Presbyterian Church, Wichita.

On Sept 11th, **Grace Presbyterian Church** invited their neighbors to dine with church members while sampling the variety of foods offered by the food trucks parked in Grace's parking lot. The event provided a great way for everyone to connect. The food trucks will return to Grace for **Trunk or Treat** on Friday, October 25th.



Look! Up in the air!
Is it a bird, or a plane?
No, it is **Covenant Presbyterian Church's** fun filled weekend Sept 20-22 during the Confirmation and Family Retreat at Westminster Woods. As you can see from the attire of capes, masks and crowns, the theme for the retreat was "What's your Superpower?"



7th and 8th Grade Summer Camp

Westminster Woods had even more campers for 7th & 8th grade! This means extra cabins were used and it was a split camp. Paintball was available for this age group, and it was a favorite free time activity. These campers also participated in numerous night games (like Capture the Flag and Secret Church) which were for the whole camp.



These campers were also given special opportunities to worship. In addition to chapel, there was a night of stations, late night worship, and communion. The Lou Crew led stations that taught campers practical ways to practice their faith at home. On the last night, there was a special chapel that gave campers the opportunity to take communion given by pastor Ben Ray. After all of the events were finished that evening, everyone went back to the chapel for late night worship with lots of loud singing and dancing.

A much loved message that Ted Dower gave was about the yellow plate. Ted had a favorite yellow plate that he ate from at the Woods. He thought he lost it, but Diane found it and gave back to him. Before Ted could take it, a friend of his took it and broke it without thinking. The friend felt horrible and glued it back together. Ted used this example to talk about brokenness in the world and how God works through



that. The staff made a video that illustrated their brokenness and how God worked through it. Ted played that video and it was a great way to

illustrate God's love for us even in our brokenness.

I Stand at the Door

That's the title of a poem by Samuel Moor Shoemaker (1893-1963), the Episcopal minister who would become the spiritual mentor of Bill Wilson, the founder of Alcoholics Anonymous. His instruction to Bill W. became the twelve steps on which AA was built, leading to the sobriety of millions of individuals.

When Shoemaker died in 1963, Billy Graham said: "Words cannot express adequately the sense of personal loss I have felt at the home-coming of our beloved Sam. What a blessing it has been for me to talk and especially pray with this giant among men. I doubt that any man in our generation has made a greater impact for God on the Christian world than did Sam Shoemaker."

Part of his poem says:

I admire the people who go way in.
But I wish they would not forget how it was
Before they got in.

To know the depths of the love of God: this is such a great thing. Yet the heart of Shoemaker's poem is his longing to be used by God in guiding those who are still outside the door of faith. There are millions of them: and yet most importantly there are:

One of them, two of them, ten of them.
Whose hands I am intended to put on the latch.
So I shall stand by the door and wait
For those who seek it.
'I had rather be a door-keeper ...'
So I stand by the door.

The challenge for you and me today is this: to find one of those people who is struggling along outside the door, and help them put their hand on the door to enter in to the household of faith.

Jay Ayers