



Westminster Woods 50th Anniv Celebration was a great day!

As we sought to bring Glory to God and to celebrate His faithfulness in drawing people to him at Westminster Woods, many people re-connected, shared stories, and talked about how their faith was formed and grew at camp. It was a beautiful day to take a wagon ride, tour the camp, or participate in the prayer walk. Many attendees enjoyed crafts and games, but most people just enjoyed reuniting with others they had not seen in years. During chapel worship services, Brian Wheeler spoke about how we all share God moving in our lives at camp and how that common



history binds us. He also spoke about how our lives were changed because we had someone who cared enough to share the gospel with us. We are all thankful that God has been faithful in His ministry at camp for 50 years. Jeremiah Lange spoke about the future. He talked about his church's



faith in the ministry at Westminster Woods and the congregation's commitment to the impact God is having on lives at the camp. Pastor Jeremiah talked about his hopes for the future of the camp and the support the camp will provide to the faith of his children. Worship included wonderful music which is always so special in the setting of the Woods. We ask for your continued prayer for all of those who serve and participate at the camp: staff, campers and volunteers.



On The Wind

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Rich Toward God

Jesus once told a story about a farmer who was planning for retirement. It had been a good year for his crops; he had a lot of grain. But so did everyone else, and so he didn't want to try to sell his grain at once, because that would make the price go way down. Preserving that much grain, though: that gave him a serious storage problem that he had to figure out.

He also knew that in the farming business – like most businesses – things can turn around pretty quickly. Bad weather or blight or insects could mean that next year's crop would be ruined.

What he wanted was to establish some security for himself. He wanted a plan. He wanted a way to guarantee that no matter what happened, his life would be all set, from now till the day he died.

As the man figured out what he was going to do, he found himself daydreaming. He said to himself, "Self, this is really going to work." (I am not making this up. Jesus actually used that "he said to himself, 'Self'" line. You can look it up in Luke 12.) "This is really going to work. You can get everything taken care of, and then you will know that no matter what happens, you're set for many years of retirement. So I guess it's time to eat, drink, and be merry."

(That famous phrase "Eat, drink, and be merry" is also right there in this story, though that's not the first place it ever showed up. Jesus had read it in Ecclesiastes 8. Within the structure of Ecclesiastes, the phrase functions as a trick slogan: one that looks good at first, and then you discover there's a catch. And the same thing happens as Jesus recounted the parable.)

Indeed, as Jesus told this story, the next thing that happened was that God spoke up. "Oops. You've worked out quite a plan there, and it sounds so nice, but there is one slight problem: you're scheduled to die tonight. So all that daydreaming about all those years when you will get to sit on the porch and drink wine and watch the sun go down: that isn't going to happen."

What's really fascinating is the conclusion Jesus drew, after he had told the story. "This is the risk that everyone faces, whenever you think that life is really all about you, and thereby fail to be rich toward God."

It's a challenging story. I'm not sure I like it. But I think I see the point of it clearly enough: to see that all that I have and all that I am has been entrusted into my keeping by God: and therefore to live in a way that is "rich toward God" from day to day.

That's what I want to do. How about you?

Jay Ayers

WMW Young Adult Winter Retreat	Jan. 9-11 th	Looking Ahead to WMW Events in 2015!!
WMW High School Winter Retreat	Jan. 23-25 th	
WMW Middle School Winter Retreat	Jan. 30-Feb 1 ^s	
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	

**Updates on John and Gwen Haspels
are posted on the following website:**
<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/world-mission/>

July 31, 2014, was the last day in Chicago for **Clarissa Sents** (First Presbyterian, McPherson) who spent the last year working there with the YAD program. Following her time in Chicago, Clarissa left for another mission opportunity in Ethiopia. She left on August 14th, and returned September 6th. Clarissa found the trip to Ethiopia to be very eye-opening to be able to actually witness firsthand things like AIDS, malaria, poor education, poor treatment of women, etc. She suggests that perhaps the term heart-breaking is a better word for what she witnessed. Most of Clarissa's time in Ethiopia was spent teaching English to Suri boys and helping Gwen Haspels prepare meals and visit patients. Clarissa found teaching English to be really fun. She actually found it easier to connect with these Suri boys than many of the kids in Chicago, despite the language barrier. But she admits that she saw many of the same issues in Suri-land that she did while working in Chicago - just manifested a little differently. She witnessed gangs/tribes, murder, malnutrition, broken families, and the list goes on. Clarissa found it was a very interesting way to reflect on her experience in Chicago by being in a similar situation half a world away! Please take the time to visit sentsc.blogspot.com as Clarissa continues to update her blog about her experiences.

Presbytery Meeting - November 11, 2014
First Presbyterian Church, Coffeyville

2014 Presbyterian Women's Fall Gatherings

The 2014 Fall Gatherings of the Presbyterian Women of Southern Kansas were held on September 27th at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church, Wichita, and on October 4th at First Presbyterian Church, Great Bend. The theme of the gatherings was "Living by Faith."

At Mt. Vernon, the Rev. Dawn Flippin told of her new ministry in Wichita, "t--a tea bar," located at 509 N. Lorraine, near Wesley Hospital. She then led in morning worship. The offering of \$347.15 received during worship was designated for the tea bar.

The morning speaker at Mt. Vernon was Diane Wheeler who spoke about Westminster Woods Camp, its ministry to children and adults and the impact that it has on their Christian journeys.

At Great Bend, the Rev. Dawn Flippin led in morning worship. The morning speaker was Debbie Reif, who told of the origin of Kans for Kids Fighting Cancer Fdn. and Camp Hope, both dedicated to assisting children in Barton County who are living with cancer. The morning worship offering of \$173.27 was designated for those organizations.



Workshops on the *Horizon's* Bible Study, "Reconciling Paul, a Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians," and Praying in Color rounded out the gathering program. Faith and Life Bookstore from Newton was available at both gatherings. There were 32 in attendance at Mt. Vernon and 24 in Great Bend. The annual Spring Gathering and business meeting is planned for Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at New Covenant Presbyterian Church, Hutchinson.

**PSK Youth Council's
Westminster Woods Work Weekend
November 21-23, 2014**

Go to www.pbysk.org for information and registration forms