

## World Communion Sunday

It started way back in 1933, at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, under the leadership of Rev. Hugh Thompson Kerr. He had been moderator of the General Assembly in 1930, and it had given him a greater awareness of the reality that the church really is all around the world. He hoped that a service that highlighted communion being shared with fellow Christians on every continent world would strengthen our sense of family and community with churches near and far. And so World-Wide Communion Sunday was born.

Although it was quickly adopted by other Presbyterian congregations, it took several years for it to spread to other denominations. The Presbyterian Church in the United States (the old "southern" Presbyterian Church) adopted the practice in 1936. In 1940 it began to be promoted by the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches). World-Wide Communion Sunday spread rapidly to other denominations during the Second World War, in an effort to recognize that Christian people all around the world together belong to the one Lord, Jesus Christ, despite the devastation of war.

In the present day, more Christians gather around the Lord's Table for communion on the first Sunday in October than any other day of the year. (You might guess that Christmas or Easter would be bigger, but that would not be correct.) Not all of those churches are focusing specifically on the global reach of World Communion Sunday, of course; many of them are focusing on experiencing Christ in the sacrament. But that's as it should be. In the end, our focus in communion should be on Jesus, rather than on ourselves.

Still, all around the world, in cathedrals and in cellars, in suburbs and jungle clearings, Christians gather around the Lord's Table and share this sacrament together on this particular day, World Communion Sunday, October 5. Don't miss out. Let's gather at the table, and experience the presence of our Lord, calling us all home.

By Jay Ayers

## Westminster Woods 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary October 4<sup>th</sup>

Visit [www.westminsterwoodscamp.com](http://www.westminsterwoodscamp.com) to see all the events offered on October 4<sup>th</sup> during the Celebration!

## Review: WMW PSK Summer Camp 2014

### Attendees:

Family Camp	30
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	66
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	107
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	124
High School	146
LDP Campers	35
<b>Total Campers</b>	<b>508</b>

### Theme: Grace and Truth

The theme for summer 2014 was grace and truth. The theme verse was John 1:14. Campers learned that Jesus came from the Father, bringing grace and truth. The focus was on God's infinite grace for all and the truth that the Bible speaks into our lives. Campers studied the meaning of grace and truth at each level of understanding for different ages. The main goal was for the campers to have a deeper understanding of what God's forgiveness looks like and the truth God speaks into our lives. This included learning that biblical trust is scripture in context.

*(Friends of WMW Summer 2014 Newsletter)*

## Looking Ahead to WMW Events in 2015!!

WMW Young Adult Winter Retreat	Jan. 9-11 <sup>th</sup>
WMW High School Winter Retreat	Jan. 23-25 <sup>th</sup>
WMW Middle School Winter Retreat	Jan. 30-Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>
Family Camp	May 29-31 <sup>st</sup>
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	June 2-5 <sup>th</sup>
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	June 8-12 <sup>th</sup>
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	June 15-19 <sup>th</sup>
High School	June 22-28 <sup>th</sup>

## First Presbyterian Church, Winfield

participated in the Southwestern College "Purple Pride Tailgate Event," August 14<sup>th</sup>. This event introduced the new freshmen to the many local businesses & churches.



Pictured are Bill Wollard, Mission Outreach Committee and his daughter Carlee Wollard. Also helping were Billy Wollard & Lou Tharp. The "booth" gave away popcorn packages with a note on inviting the students to worship. Students signing a church interest card were eligible for a drawing for a devotional book. The drawing took place every 30 minutes. The "booth" also gave students pens and Church flyers. While visiting the "booth," students could munch on cookies and lemonade.

Upon returning to Wichita,

**Rev. Dawn Flippin** has opened "T" – a tea bar in the Green Elephant Village west of Central and Hillside, Wichita, KS. There are 40 to 50 hot teas available, from



oolong and mates to herbal and white, with a variety of spice and caffeine levels Three iced teas, black, green and herbal are available with different flavors featured each week. Several book clubs are meeting there as well as a Sunday evening prayer service led by Pastor Dawn.

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

## Welcome!

**Maureen Olson** – Pulpit Supply, First Presbyterian Church, Yates Center. Ordination examination occurred during the August Presbytery Meeting and a Service of Ordination was held at the First Presbyterian Church, Yates Center, on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Dawn Flippin** – PSK Member at Large returning to PSK after serving a church in Princeton, NJ for five years.

## Grow Your Ministry Workshop

Approximately 35 people attended the various workshops at the *Grow Your Ministry Workshop*. A better response from across PSK was hoped for, but for those that attended the quality of the materials presented and the teaching were both excellent.

Pastor Brent Johnston hopes that if this event is held every year the idea will catch on that there is a need to learn how to grow our ministries if we are to reverse the downward trend in our denomination, presbytery, and individual congregations.

A special thanks goes to the sponsors for this event without whom this would not have been possible. A special thanks to Rev. Dr. Gary Eller, President of Omaha Seminary Foundation for his support and the Foundation's support in funding excellence in Christian Education. Also, a thanks to Sue Nispel and her Congregational Ministries Committee for supporting this workshop as well. A big thanks to the presenters that day: Rev. Dr. James Wellman, Rev. Dr. Jay Ayers, Matthew Vaughan and Zachery Taylor from the Youth Institute, and the Rev. Amy Baumgartner.

To Rev. Catherine Neelly Burton and Grace Presbyterian Church, thank you for your hospitality in hosting this event. Grace Church had the most attendees!

If you attended the event, Pastor Brent Johnston would love your feedback which will be used to improve this event for next year. You may send along those comments to Pastor Brent at [pastor@firstchurchwichita.org](mailto:pastor@firstchurchwichita.org).