

On The Wind

A Publication of the
Presbytery of Southern Kansas
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www.pbysk.org

Your Christian Ambition

“It is my ambition,” Paul told them, “to preach the gospel where no one has ever heard of Christ.” He was kind of in a reflective mood, wrapping up his letter to the church in Rome, pondering on what he had done with his Christian life thus far, and dreaming about how he might be used by God in bringing the gospel to Spain – where no Christian missionary had ever been, at that time (Romans 15:18-24).

What is your Christian ambition? We all have ambitions for our careers and our families: but what is your Christian ambition? What is the dream in your soul, for how God might work in and through your life, to make a difference in this world?

Centuries after Paul hoped to become a missionary to Spain, Francis Xavier (1506-1552) went as a missionary from Spain to the far east. Educated first in Navarre and then in Paris, he sailed for India in 1541, where he served as an orderly and chaplain in the hospital, and started what we would now call neighborhood vacation Bible schools.

Over the next ten years he founded churches, hospitals, and schools in Japan, Malaysia, and China. His decade of service, from when he landed in India in 1542 until his death in China in 1552, is a testimony to his missionary zeal: but especially it is evidence of how one individual, given to the service of God, can bring the love of Christ into the lives of many people.

It gave him perspective. Just before he left India to go to Japan, he wrote a letter to a friend back in Paris, expressing this wish: “How I would like to run through the streets of Paris shouting to the students, ‘Give up your small ambitions and come east to proclaim the gospel!’ ”

I confess this is a phrase that touches me deeply. Give up your small ambitions – so that you can fulfill the large ambition, the Christian ambition, of what God do through you.

What is your Christian ambition? How are you praying that God will use your life, to make a difference in this world?

Jay Ayers



(l-r) Elton and Doris Garrison married 67 years, Chet and Mary Johnson 67 years, Forrest and Iris Weirick 63 years.

The Presbyterian Women of **First Presbyterian Church, Wichita** celebrated

wedding anniversaries in June. Members were invited to share their wedding photographs for a display during the month and on the last Sunday, fifteen couples married fifty-five years and longer were recognized at the beginning of worship. During coffee fellowship anniversary cake was served and some of the couples shared how they met. Married the longest were Ralph and Roberta Fieback, 70 years this May and Warren and Harriet Lewis married 70 years in November 2012.



Covenant Presbyterian Church VBS: “Babylon, Daniels Courage in Captivity”

96 kids and 60+ volunteers!

Dalton (Covenant volunteer) leads his “tribe” through VBS activities.

Congratulations to PSK Youth Council's Elected Officers

Moderator – Hannah Whitesell
Vice Moderator – Christina Sledd
Historians – Cayla Bromlow & Kayla Smith
Adult Moderator – Bob Barrett
Clerk – Dayton Winter
Editor – Nick Lockyear

PSK YC Work Weekend at Westminster Woods – Nov 16-18

Online special ed. endorsement at SC

Across the nation there is a shortage of special education teachers, and Sterling College is beginning an online adaptive special education program to help Kansas schools fill this need.

The program will provide the necessary classes for Kansas educators to add an adaptive special education endorsement in grades K-6 or 6-12 to their current elementary or secondary teaching license. This endorsement will be offered in a convenient, online delivery format.

The Sterling College Online course is designed for

educators who are currently working in a school and would like to add to their professional credentials.

The program requires 21 credit hours and includes field experience to apply lessons directly to a classroom setting. Educators who are currently serving in a school may be able to use current classroom time as field experience.

Classes will begin this fall. To apply to the program or to request more information about the adaptive special education program, visit www.sterling.edu/online/education/special-ed.

Trinity Presbyterian Church VBS

The theme was "SKY: Everything is Possible with God." Mark 10:27



In July 2012, ten women from PWSK attended the Churchwide Gathering in Orlando, FL. "A River of Hope" flowed through the gathering. Plenary sessions provide much information & inspiration! There were forums,

workshops, and opportunities for justice & peace & mission excursions. PC(USA) leaders Rev. Neal Presa (elected Moderator), Roger Dermody (Deputy Exec Director of Mission for the PC Mission Agency) and Gradye Parsons (Stated Clerk) spoke to PW at the business meeting. Ladies were educated, energized, encouraged, and challenged. Gift cards totaling \$41,246.15 were collected to aid the work of **Beth-El Farmworker Ministry**. The special offering (at last count \$40,655.82) was designated for **building water wells in Akobo, South Sudan**, where women often walk as far as 10 mi. for fresh water. "Spare Change" of **\$3,377.42** was donated at each meal in the dining hall to support the **Presbyterian Hunger Program**.

**PWSK Fall Gatherings: September 25th - Covenant, Wichita
October 2nd - Coffeyville**

Westminster Woods Winter Retreats 2013

Young Adult	Jan. 4 th – 6 th
High School	Jan. 18 th – 20 th
Middle School	Feb. 1 st – 3 rd

www.westminsterwoodscamp.com

During the PSK meeting on August 14, 2012, the Presbytery welcomed Rev. Angela Madden, who will serve the First Presbyterian Church, Winfield, and Rev. Sang Ouk Kang, who will serve the Korean Presbyterian Church, Wichita.



Welcome!



Rev. Mark Adams spoke to the Presbytery of Southern Kansas on August 14, 2012.

Rev. Adams explained the **Café Justo Presbytery to Presbiterio Partnership** where a church may purchase coffee through



Frontera de Cristo's Just Trade Center. Those desiring more information may contact Tommy Bassett, who serves as Just Trade Center's Developer, at tommy@fronteradecristo.org.