

Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear

Week 1 Chapter 1 *Why Are We Afraid?*

Lucado begins Chapter 1 with a story of his brother, who was an alcoholic for all but the last two years of his adult life. When he died, Lucado says, “rather than panic, he quarried some courage.” He goes on to tell of all the things that could cause fear quoting one source that says, “ordinary children today are more fearful than psychiatric patients were in the 1950's.”

Listing all the things fear never did (write a symphony or poem; negotiate a peace treaty or save a marriage) he says, “Faith did that. Courage did that.” Using the passage of Jesus asleep in the boat while the disciples ride out a storm, Lucado invites us to have faith, not fear, be our default reaction. Some of his comments include:

- ▶ Fear creates a form of spiritual amnesia. It dulls our miracle memory.
- ▶ When fear shapes our lives, safety becomes our god.
- ▶ The fear-filled cannot love deeply.
- ▶ No wonder Jesus wages a war against fear.

Questions:

Why does fear make it harder to love and give generously? Stifle our dreams?

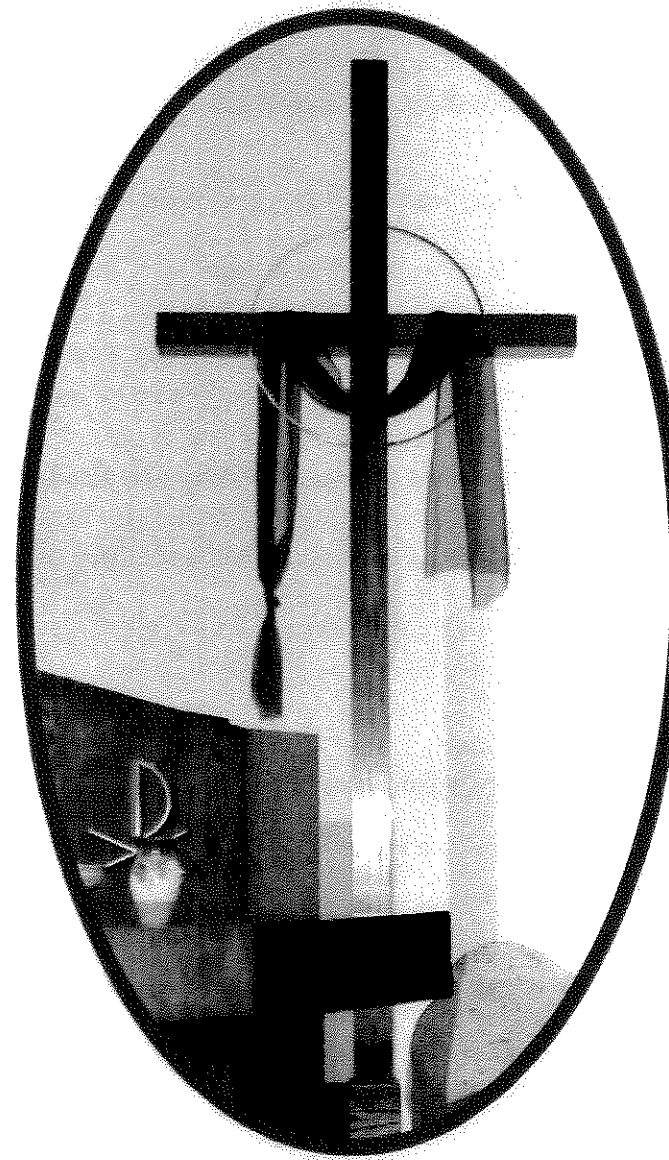
Why does Jesus say don't be afraid more than any other statement?

What does that say about human nature?

Read Matthew 8:23-27 – What connection does Jesus make between fear and faith?

“If Jesus is in your boat, asleep or awake, you have nothing to fear.” Do you agree?

Think about your current fears. What caused them? What did you do about them? Did you involve God in facing them? Why or why not?



“Why Are You Afraid?”

Matthew 8:26

Westminster Presbyterian Church
 8955 Columbia Avenue Munster, Indiana
 219-838-3131 web site: wpcmunster.org
 Pastor: Rev. Bruce E. Haapalainen, D.D.
 revbruceh@sbcglobal.net

February 21, 2010

Traditional Celebration

We ask that you remember to turn off cell phones and pagers (or put them on vibrate) when you enter the sanctuary. Thank you.

*Please rise in body or in spirit

Welcome - to all! Thank you for sharing a part of your weekend with us.
 Westminster Presbyterian Church is a place Where People Care!

Worship Focus: Jesus wants to know, "Why are you afraid?"

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign the Friendship Pad in your pew.)

PRELUDE: on "Hyfrydol"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: By our love, Lord, by our love . . .

People: **Not by creed or propriety, wisdom or style.**

Leader: Not by what we say nor how we seem . . .

People: **But by our love!**

Leader: That's all, that's enough, that's Christ's one spirit,

People: **To touch, to care, to break out of the petty prison of the ego's cell.**

Leader: To stand up for our sister, cry out with our brother, sing with our neighbor! Give us more love, Lord, more love, more love . . .

People: **That all the praise will be yours!**

***HYMN NO. 376: Love, Divine, All Loves Excelling**

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Westminster's Financial Snapshot

The Westminster Financial Snapshot is a brief summary of

1. The current revenue and expenses of the church and
2. A comparison of current revenue and expenses to the previous two years and to the 2010 budget.

This information is provided so that the congregation is kept up-to-date on the financial operations of the church.

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Quinn, Jackie DeRosa or any Session member.

WPC Financial Snapshot
 For the Month ended January 31, 2010

	Month of January	January 2010	January 2009	January 2008
Operating Revenue	\$56,919.43	\$56,919.43	\$ 50,765.87	\$ 57,665.83
Operating Expenses	<u>55,561.53</u>	<u>55,561.53</u>	<u>45,765.27</u>	<u>65,839.07</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 1,357.90	\$ 1,357.90	\$ 5,000.60	(\$ 8,173.24)

2010

	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Operating Revenue	\$ 56,919.43	\$59,583.33
Operating Expenses	<u>55,561.53</u>	<u>59,703.97</u>
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 1,357.90	\$ (120.64)

(This week at Westminster continued)

Thursday, February 25	7:00 a.m.	Acorns, 207
	9:15 a.m.	Bruce's Bible Study, 209
	6:15 p.m.	Handbell Choir, 109
	7:30 p.m.	A.A. Meeting, 305
	7:30 p.m.	Westminster Chorale, 109
Friday, February 26	7:00 p.m.	Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage, 209
Saturday, February 27	7:00 a.m.	Volleyball, South Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Program on Beginning Difficult Conversations, 209
	11:30 a.m.	Youth Choir, 109
Next Sunday, February 28	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
	9:00 a.m.	WPC Kids
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Discussion, 206a
	10:30 a.m. after Children's Chat	Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m.	WPC Kids Adult Enrichment, 209

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

Loving Lord, Creator of all we know and see and so very much more; we come today to be made new. Forgive us, God, for having hidden our fears behind facades of power. Have mercy on us, the Church, for pretending we are lions when we are a flock of lambs needing the courage that comes from following the Shepherd you have sent to us. Forgive us for not always knowing what to do or whom to follow. As we move into this Lenten season of reflection and rededication, move us to live in your love and share it with all the world. In the name of your Lamb who takes away the sins of the world we now pray in silence . . .

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: . . . once we were no people.

People: but now we are God's people,

Leader: . . . once we had not received mercy,

People: but now we have received mercy. Alleluia! Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI NO. 579**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

LITANY PRAYER TO RELIEVE OUR FEARS

Leader: Forgive us, Lord, when we are afraid that we don't matter to You or to anyone else.

People: Jesus said, "So don't be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows." (Mt. 10:31)

Leader: God, lead us when we are afraid we have lost sight of where to turn.

People: "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me," says our Lord. (John 14:1)

Leader: You have created this whole world and all good things for us. Help us to trust in You.

People: "Don't be troubled or afraid." (John 14:27)

Leader: In times when we fear isolation or rejection, touch our hearts.

People: **Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise and do not be afraid."**

(Matthew 17:7)

ALL: **Amen.**

HYMN NO. 80: *Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley*

OUR PRAYER FOR OTHERS

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM: *Come Away* by Ken Medema)

(Westminster Chorale)

Come away for a little time apart, for the changing of the heart; come away.
Come away to a taste so bittersweet, where hope and heart-ache meet; come away.
Here is light to light the darkest maze, here is song to fill the pathless days,
Here is call among the crowded ways.
Bread of Life, wine of happiness and tears, faithfulness and fears,
this feast awaits you here; come away.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Kings 19:9-10

(The congregation may follow along in the Pew Bibles, Old Testament, p. 326; large print version p. 404.)

Mark 4:35-41

(The congregation may follow along in the New Testament, p. 39, large print p. 47.)

MESSAGE Why Are We Afraid?

Rev. Bruce E. Haapalainen, D.D.

This week at Westminster

Today, February 21	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Discussion, 106a
	9:00 a.m.	WPC Kids
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
	after Children's chat	WPC Kids
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Enrichment, 209
	4:30 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper, South Hall
Monday, February 22	5:15 p.m.	Piano Recital, Narthex
	8:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting, 209
	9:15 a.m.	Disciple III, 101
	7:00 p.m.	High Schoolers - Exploring Relationships, 101
	7:00 p.m.	Knitting Group, Lounge
	7:00 p.m.	Volleyball, South Hall
	Tuesday, February 23	9:15 a.m.
4:30 p.m.		Pizza with a Purpose, South Hall
6:30 p.m.		Disciple I Bible Study, 106a
7:00 p.m.		Finance Team Meeting, 207
7:00 p.m.		Green Group, 209
Wednesday, February 24	7:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, 209
	9:00 a.m.	MOM's Group, 209
	9:00 a.m.	Quilters' Group, 301
	5:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class, 209
	5:30 p.m.	High School Volleyball & Dinner, South Hall
	6:00 p.m.	South Side Christian Bible Study, 301
	6:30 p.m.	Joyful Strains, 109
	7:00 p.m.	Contemporary Music Team Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous, 305	

(continued on next page)

Prayer Requests

Prayer doesn't mean that you have exhausted all help. It is a way that we show concern, and we invite God to be a part of our concern. Please take time to pray for these individuals and families.

Damian Santay	Morgan Sidenbender, daughter/Wendy Borbely
Jan Lund	Jean Gloff
Dave Gott	Bud Vance
Betty Durling, mother/Linda Branson	Gail Dixon
Dana Wood	Chuck Weier
Kim Karlen	Patti Lamott
Loretta Barth	Jim Zaun
Jim Jaracz	Dawn Bogner, niece/Ruth Fauth
Nancy Lamantia, daughter/Sue & Ed Harrison	Mia Scola, friend/Mary Lou DiCostanzo
Danny Host, friend/Margie Bahner	Carrie & baby Carter Adler, family/Sally Saculla
Brenda Hall, friend/Sally Saculla	Gavin Ambrose, 5 year old friend/Gelardens
Primo & Esther Grazioli, family/Sue Guy	Lesley Staples, friend Robin Webber & Wendy Borbely
Mattro Marotta, infant friend/Pat Kloiber	
Joan Davis, friend/Belva Knight	

If you have prayer requests please contact the church office at 838-3131. These names will appear on the printed list. Please call again when the situation or person has improved and may be removed from the list. Prayer concerns will be left on for one month. They will be renewed if requested. Some people are in need of prayers but do not want their names to appear on the printed list. If this is the case, please contact the prayer chain leaders, John Karcher (923-8023) or Clara Hamus (836-5727).

FEELING OVERWHELMED BY WINTER? Do you feel overwhelmed, unappreciated, just plain depressed? Do you want someone to listen? Stephen Ministers are always there to lend an ear, some comfort, a cup of cool water. They provide emotional and spiritual support for those going through tough times. To learn more about this program or to request the support of a Stephen Minister, please call Nancy Quinn at 219-680-9641 or Barbara Santay at 219-662-3734.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*
(Carl Strain, soloist)

***DOXOLOGY**

**"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."**

***HYMN NO. 341:** *Blessed Assurance*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: by J.S. Bach

**Westminster is a community
where people of all ages
are transformed by God's love
to serve and grow
as disciples of Jesus.**

Worship Notes and Announcements

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Verdeen Strain
ORGANIST: Verdeen Strain
ASSISTANT ORGANIST: Don Hill
PIANIST: Jorie Nowicki

ELDER HOSTESS: Jackie De Rosa

WORSHIP LEADER: Betty Curvey

USHERS: Bob Golden, Tom Paliga

DEACONS SERVING COFFEE: Joe McDaniel, Cynthia Rentschler.

WINGS OF PRAYER - The origami birds decorating our sanctuary were created by hands young and old. With every fold they prayed.

THE FLOWERS IN OUR WORSHIP AREA THIS MORNING are given by David and Michelle Wendlinger in memory of David's father, Mark Wendlinger, who died last week.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A LARGE PRINT BULLETIN OR A HEARING DEVICE, PLEASE ASK AN USHER.

WESTMINSTER IS HOSTING MANY EVENTS IN THE COMING WEEKS.

Everyone is invited to these activities, and we hope you'll attend. If you need more information or have questions, please call the contact numbers listed with each activity or the church office at 838-3131.

ADULT ENRICHMENT TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY at 10:30 a.m. in Room 209

Tanya Sadagopan will be with us speaking about *Ruth: Finding Abundance in Times of Scarcity*.

THE ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP meets at 9 a.m. each Sunday in Room 106a. The topic next Sunday is *The Road to Your Promised Land*. Leader is Mary Lou DiCostanzo.

WPC'S LENTEN THEME is *Fear Not*. Our Lenten Study will be based on a book by Max Lucado entitled *Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear*. In small group settings, we will be talking about our fears and Jesus' solutions. If you would like to be part of a Lenten small group, sign up in Fellowship Hall today. Questions or can't sign up in person, e-mail Jeanie Haapalainen at haapalong@sbcglobal.net.

LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE (for couples or couples-to-be of all ages). **Fridays, February 26 and March 5, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.** in Room 209. Come for a delightful evening of "seriously" funny hints to keep marriage relationships alive. Leaders: Chris & Therese Morfas, Tim & Stephanie Perlick, Joe & Sally Van Bokkelen. Child care will be available.

BEGINNING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS - Talking Before the Crisis - is the title of the program to be held here in Room 209 next **Saturday, February 27, at 10 a.m.** Presenters are Dr. Charles Helms, Dr. M. Teolis, and two registered nurses from St. Margaret Mercy Hospital. A continental breakfast will be served. This program is intended to assist those with life limiting illness to address the decisions to be made before the need arises.

ANATOMY OF AN ILLNESS - a program sponsored by the Health & Healing Ministry and the Stephen Ministers will be held on **Wednesday, March 3, 7 - 8:30 p.m.** in Room 209. The speaker will be Bunny Schlotman of the Samaritan Center. She will tell the story of how a patient joined with his doctor to heal a devastating illness with unorthodox methods with both physical and emotional components.

LIFE LINE SCREENING will be here on **Saturday, March 13**. Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-679-5192. Screenings covered are stroke/carotid artery, heart rhythm, abdominal aortic aneurysm and peripheral arterial disease. All for \$139.

LIKE TO COOK? Available Friday mornings? Contact Bunny Schlotman at 922-6315.

SAMARITAN CENTER FUNDRAISER - Community Day Coupon Books are available at the Samaritan Center office for \$5. These contain coupons that may be redeemed at local department stores.