

## Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear

### Week 2 Chapter 2 *The Fear of Not Mattering*

Lucado begins Chapter 2 with a poem about the village of Stiltsville and its inhabitants, the Stiltsvillians. They gather and spend their time on sticks (their stilts to be higher and more than they think they are otherwise.) Lucado says, "There is the question. The Amazon River out of which a thousand fears flow: do we matter? We fear we don't." He says we try to gain meaning by outsourcing our insignificance and gaining value through others: sports teams, celebrities, etc. We are like the character in a Lucado children's book This wooden boy hears the master carver say, "I made you. I don't make mistakes." If we listen, God is saying that to us.

Some of his comments include:

- + We style hair, color hair. Cut hair . . . but we don't cut hair. God does. "The very hairs of your head are all numbered."
- + Fear of insignificance creates the results it dreads, arrives at the destination it tries to avoid, facilitates the scenario it disdains.
- + Why does he (God) love you so much? The same reason the artist loves his (her) paintings . . . You are his idea.
- + For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago" (Ephesians 2:10 NLT)

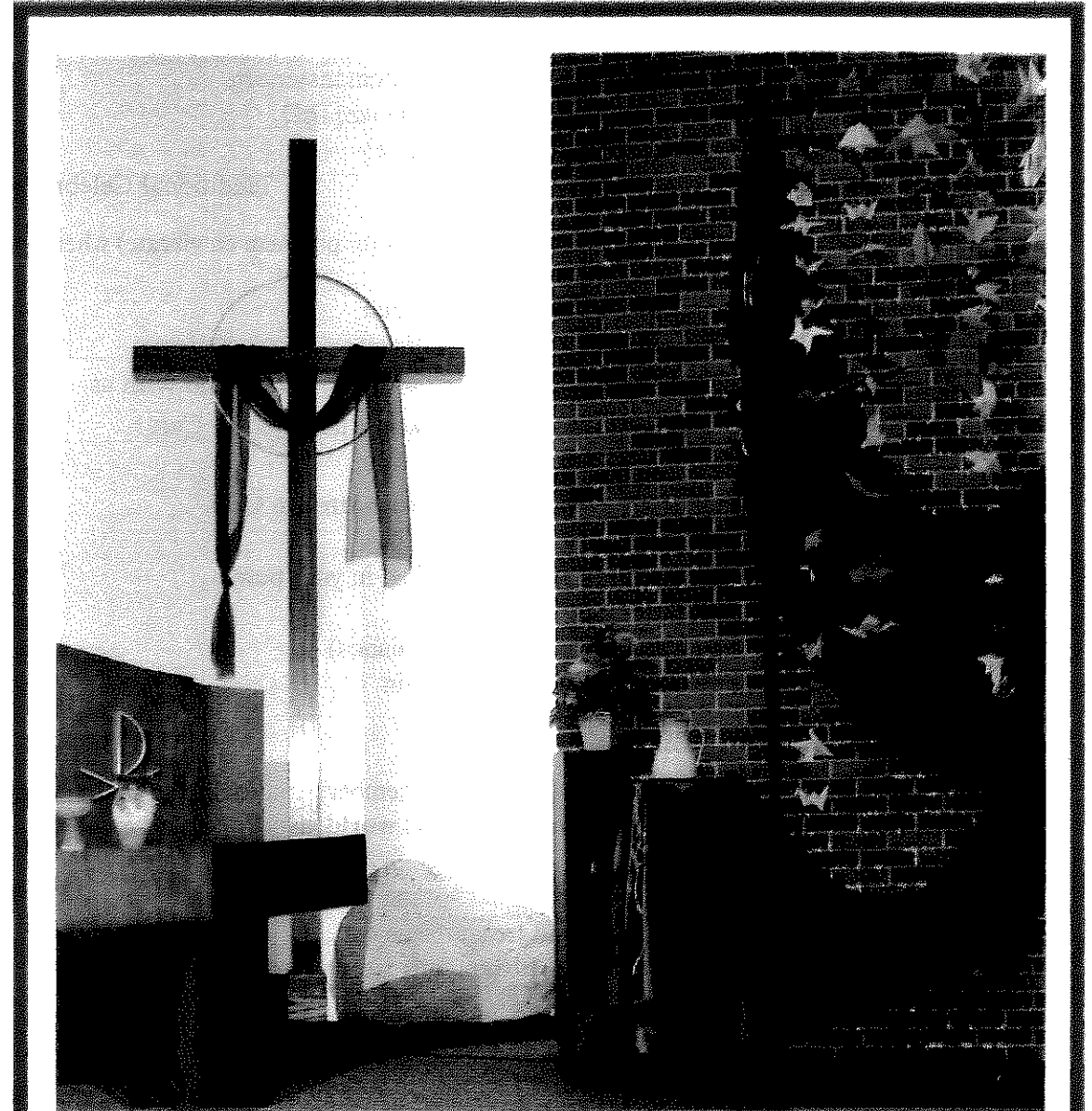
Questions:

Do you ever fear that you don't matter to God? Why? How do you deal with those feelings of insignificance?

Do you feel others are significant and you aren't? If so, why can't you extend that same grace to yourself?

Read Psalm 139: 14-18, 23-24. What thoughts does God have about you – yes you?

Imagine the world if God didn't care about us. What would be different and why?



## *Fear of Not Mattering*

*Matthew 10:26-30*

*Matthew 26:6-13*

**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 28, 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: God made us, we matter to God.**

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

**PRELUDE:** *on Ellecombe* by Jeff Bennett (for two pianos)  
 Jorie Nowicki and Verdeen Strain

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** God has promised never to leave us. God remembers and loves us – each of us.

**People:** **Even when we don't seem to matter in this world, God's caring gives us hope and value.**

**Leader:** God knows all things about us and treasures us still.

**People:** **Let us praise the Lord with our hearts, our heads and our spirits.**

**ALL:** **Amen.**

**\*HYMN NO. 288:** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

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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, March 4	7:00 a.m.	Acorns, 207
	9:15 a.m.	Bruce's Bible Study, 209
	6:15 p.m.	Handbell Choir, 109
	7:00 p.m.	Job Search Ministry, 301
	7:30 p.m.	A.A. Meeting, 305
	7:30 p.m.	Westminster Chorale, 109
Friday, March 5	5:00 p.m.	Volleyball, South Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage, 209
Saturday, March 6	7:00 a.m.	Volleyball, South Hall
	8:30 a.m.	Linking Faith, 209
	9:00 a.m.	"Fearless" Bible Study, 101
	11:30 a.m.	Youth Choir, 109
Next Sunday, March 7	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)**

**God in heaven, help us not to concentrate on our sins, but instead think on the forgiveness you offer to us. Fill our days and nights with the gift of your forgiving grace. When memories of our many shortcomings enter our minds, chase them away, reminding us not of the sins we commit, but of how much and how often you are willing to allow us to begin again. Thank you, Lord, for your love, which ever leads us back to you. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends it is in Christ that we are given new life.

People: **The old is gone. The new is with us in the here and now.**

Leader: In God's love we are here to proclaim the promise that we have value and we are forgiven.

People: **Today we accept God's leading as we discover a new direction in our lives.**

ALL: **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**

**A SHARED LITANY**

Leader: Jesus you plant in us seeds of hope and the potential for significance.

People: **We come to you, seeking to become all that you see in us.**

Leader: You search us and know us. You have made us carefully and lovingly.

People: **Keep reminding us of how much we matter to you.**

Leader: Even when we wander off the path, your nurturing continues.

People; **Search us and know our hearts, O God.**

ALL: **And lead us in the path of everlasting life.**

**HYMN NO. 286: Give to the Winds Thy Fears**

(The choir will sing the first verse, everyone join in on verses 2, 3, 4)

## 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:** *Let Thy Holy Presence* by Tschesnofoff/Cain  
(Westminster Chorale)

Let thy Holy Presence come upon us, we pray, O Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### Matthew 26:6-13

(The congregation may follow along in the Pew Bibles, New Testament, p. 29, large print version p. 36.)

#### Matthew 10:26-30

(The congregation may follow along in the New Testament, p. 10; large print p. 12.)

**MESSAGE** A Love with YOUR Name on It      Rev. Bruce E. Haapalainen, D.D.

### THE OFFERING

**OFFERTORY:** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*  
arr. for SSA by Dorothy Christopherson  
(Ladies of the choir)

#### \*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."

## This week at Westminster

Today, February 28	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	
Monday, March 1	8:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting, 209	
	9:15 a.m.	Disciple III, 101	
	7:00 p.m.	"Fearless" Bible Study, 207	
	7:00p.m.	High Schoolers - Exploring Relationships, 101	
	7:00 p.m.	Knitting Group, Lounge	
	7:00 p.m.	Volleyball, South Hall	
Tuesday, March 2	9:15 a.m.	Disciple II Bible Study, Camilla Higley's home	
	4:30 p.m.	Pizza with a Purpose, South Hall	
	6:30 p.m.	Disciple I Bible Study, 106a	
	7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting, 209	
Wednesday, March 3	7:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, 209	
	9:00 a.m.	MOM's Group, 209	
	9:00 a.m.	Quilters' Group, 301	
	11:00 a.m.	Women's Group Meeting, 101	
	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, 303	
	6:30 p.m.	Joyful Strains, 109	
	7:00 p.m.	Contemporary Music Team Rehearsal	
7:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous, 305		
7:00p.m.	Program on Anatomy of An Illness, 209		

(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	Beverly Hughes
Joan Davis, friend/Belva Knight	Betty Staples, friend Robin Webber & Wendy Borbely
The work of the Stephen Ministers	

*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 Hanus (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.

## \*HYMN: The First Song of Isaiah

The congregation is asked to join the choir singing this refrain after each verse is sung:

ISAIAH 12: 2-6\*

JACK NOBLE WHITE



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the



Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

### VERSE

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
from the springs of salvation.  
And on that day you shall say,  
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

### REFRAIN

### VERSE

Make his deeds known among the peoples;  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,  
and this is known in all the world.

### REFRAIN

### VERSE

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,  
ring out your joy,  
For the great one in the midst of you  
is the Holy One of Israel.

### REFRAIN (sung twice)

*\*From The Draft Proposed Book of Common Prayer. Copyright 1976 by Charles Mortimer Guilbert as Custodian of the Standard Book of Common Prayer. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: on Faithfulness by Miller

**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:** Linda Branson

**WORSHIP LEADER:** Jonah Campbell

**USHERS:** Dave and Darlene Shike, Jim Tufford, Kevin Rice

**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 in memory of Charlene Rossa by Ruth Fauth, Lu Ann Franklin, Diane Hart and Julie Robb.

**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.

**WESTMINSTER'S NEWSLETTER** was mailed electronically on Thursday. If you are not receiving e-mails from Westminster, please give your e-mail address to the church office or e-mail to [wpcmunster@aol.com](mailto:wpcmunster@aol.com).

**ADULT ENRICHMENT TODAY 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 *Can You Drink this Cup?* Darlene Smith and Sonja Ross will lead the discussion.

**WPC'S LENTEN THEME** is *Fear Not*. Our Lenten Study is 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](mailto:haapalong@sbcglobal.net).

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** is an annual offering during Lent. All money collected is sent directly to Presbyterian agencies helping domestic causes and the greater church beyond the USA. Envelopes are in the holders on the back of the pews. Checks may be made payable to Westminster with One Great Hour of Sharing on the memo line.

**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.

**PROM DRESS SALE** - The Hammond Chapter of Tri Kappa is collecting used prom and special occasion dresses for the Prom Dress Resale that will be held on Saturday, April 3, 2010, at Purdue Calumet's Alumni Hall from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Used dresses may be dropped off at the Hammond, Munster, and Lake County Public Libraries beginning March 15. For more information, please contact Martha Wilke (923-8519) or Sara Sweeney (937-3931).