

Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear

Week 3 Chapter 3 *The Fear of Disappointing God*

Lucado begins Chapter 3 with the story of Noble Doss who dropped a championship game pass in 1941 – and has been haunted by it ever since. Like the man whose 4 friends let him down through the roof, we have access to Jesus. Max highlights disobedience by comparing some of our behaviors to those of a dog that, when anything interesting comes up, runs for the hills ignoring its master. Lucado says, “If you haven’t accepted God’s forgiveness, you are doomed to fear. No pill, pep talk, psychiatrist or possession can . . . You may deaden the fear, [but not] remove it. Only God’s grace can.”

Some of his comments include:

- We are afraid “God’s well of grace must have a bottom to it.”
- Fear, mismanaged leads to sin, then to hiding. [So] we avoid contact with God.
- Our prayer asking for forgiveness can be as simple, Lucado says, as, “Dear Father, I need forgiveness. I admit that I have turned away from you. Please forgive me. I place my soul in your hands and my trust in your grace. Through Jesus I pray. Amen.”
- Jesus loves us too much to leave us in doubt about his grace. His “perfect love expels all fear.” (1 John 4:18 NLT)

Questions:

- “Nothing fosters courage like a clear grasp of grace. And nothing fosters fear like an ignorance of mercy.” How has God shown you mercy? Where do you need his mercy most in your life right now?
- Read Colossians 1:13-14. From what have believers in Christ been delivered or rescued? How about you?
- Seek out someone you know to be a dedicated, enthusiastic believer in Christ, and ask how (s)he has battled the feeling of disappointing God.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
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 Pastor: Rev. Bruce E. Haapalainen, D.D.
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March 7, 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's Expectation Is For Our Participation

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

PRELUDE: *Jesu, Meine Freude (Jesus, Dearest Friend)* by J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are called together as the people of God.

People; To celebrate life under that call.

Leader: We are constantly being formed together as the Body of Christ.

People: To be a servant people, giving ourselves to all.

Leader: We are held together by an eternal love.

People: Though we are many, we are one, though we are not uniform, we seek unity.

ALL: Let us worship God!

***HYMN NO. 455: All Creatures of Our God and King**

various music provided under license No. 2222087 from CCLI

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 February 28, 2010

	<u>Month of February</u>	<u>Year to Date 2010</u>	<u>Year to Date 2009</u>	<u>Year to Date 2008</u>
Operating Revenue	\$54,051.44	\$110,970.87	\$105,277.39	\$123,696.37
Operating Expenses	<u>67,205.30</u>	<u>122,462.71</u>	<u>110,484.44</u>	<u>122,527.61</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$(13,153.86)	\$ (11,491.84)	\$ (5,207.05)	\$ 1,168.76
		2010		
	<u>Actual Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget Year to Date</u>		
Operating Revenue	\$110,970.87	\$119,166.67		
Operating Expenses	<u>122,462.71</u>	<u>119,407.94</u>		
Surplus/Deficit	\$ (11,491.84)	\$ (241.27)		

(This week at Westminster continued)

Thursday, March 11	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, March 12	1:00 p.m.	Circle of Eve, 101
	6:00 p.m.	Volleyball Tournament, South Hall
Saturday, March 13	9:00 a.m.	Fearless Bible Study, 101
	9:00 a.m.	Life Line Screening, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Volleyball Tournament, South Hall
	11:30 a.m.	Youth Choir, 109
Next Sunday, March 14	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
	9:00 a.m.	WPC Kids
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Discussion, 206a
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
	after Children's Chat	WPC Kids
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Enrichment, 209
	5:00 p.m.	Volleyball Dinner, South Hall

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

We would follow you, Lord: But not if it means denying ourselves.

We would be saved, Lord: But not by losing ourselves for your sake.

We would confess your name, Lord: But preferably just in worship not anywhere else.

Lord, forgive our obsession with propriety, our cowardice, our selfishness. Take possession of us and renew us – in spite of ourselves. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: God gives us grace. Firmly and simply the Lord says, "Behold, I make all things new."

People: What could be better news? A new day, a new week, a new us! Thanks be to God!

***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 OF AFFIRMATION (from a Brief Statement of Faith PCUSA)

Leader: In life and in death,

People: We belong to God.

Leader: With saints and sinners,

People: We belong to God.

Leader: In body and soul,

People: We belong to God.

Leader: With those who hunger and thirst,

People: We belong to God.

Leader: With those near and far away,

People: We belong to God.

Leader: Those who are stranger and those we call, "Friend,"

People: We belong to God.

ALL: With those present, past and yet to be, we belong to God!

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

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: *Breath of God* by Leland B. Sateren
(Westminster Chorale)

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Till with thee I will one will, to do or to endure.
Breathe on me, breathe, O breath of God, till I am wholly Thine.
Till all this earthly part of me, glows with a fire divine
Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die;
But live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.
O breathe on me.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 12:2-6

(The congregation may follow along in the Pew Bibles, New Testament, p. 641, large print version p. 785.)

Titus 2:11-15

(The congregation may follow along in the New Testament, p. 215; large print p. 262.)

MESSAGE Peculiar People One and All Rev. Bruce E. Haapalainen, D.D.

This week at Westminster

Today, March 7	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 8	1:30 p.m.	Music Video, Fellowship Hall
	8:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting, 209
	9:15 a.m.	Disciple III, 101
	6:00 p.m.	Illiana Artists, 305
	7:00 p.m.	"Fearless" Bible Study, 207
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Education Team Meeting, 106a
	7:00p.m.	High Schoolers - Exploring Relationships, 101
	7:00 p.m.	Knitting Group, Lounge
	7:00 p.m.	Volleyball, South Hall
	Tuesday, March 9	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.		Session Meeting, 209
7:00 p.m.		South Side Christian Board Meeting, 109
Wednesday, March 10		7:00 a.m.
	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, 303
	6:30 p.m.	Joyful Strains, 109
	7:00 p.m.	Children's Ministry Team Meeting, 106a
	7:00 p.m.	Contemporary Music Team Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Deacon Meeting, 209
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 Harrision	Carrie & baby Carter Adler, family/Sally Saculla
Danny Host, friend/Margie Bahner	Gavin Ambrose, 5 year old friend/Gelardens
Brenda Hall, friend/Sally Saculla	Lesley Staples, friend Robin Webber & Wendy Borbely
Primo & Esther Grazioli, family/Sue Guy	Beverly Hughes
Mattro Marotta, infant friend/Pat Kloiber	Betty Staples, friend Robin Webber & Wendy Borbely
Joan Davis, friend/Belva Knight	
Gail Bacon	
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).

THE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets at **1 p.m. in the Lounge** on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 10**. This is a great opportunity for fellow cancer survivors and/or their care givers to connect, share and support one another. For more information, call Gail Dixon at 924-4912.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life: Such a way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.*
- R. Vaughn Williams

*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."

THE FEAST OF OUR LORD

The Invitation

Leader: People of God, come to the table of Christ!

People: **We come from all points on the map, remembering those who have gone before us and those who are yet to be.**

Leader: People of God, come to the table of Christ!

People: **We come bringing our diversity – as beautiful as the imagination of God.**

Leader: We gather here because Christ invites us, here we claim Christ's invitation. Come, Christ waits to meet you in this moment, to change you in this meal, to heal you in your spirit.

People: **With joyous hearts, as the people of God, we come to the table of Christ!**

The Words of Institution

The Communion of the People

The Prayer of Dedication

HYMN NO. 441: *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *on Variation on a Theme by Cesar Franck*

**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: Belva Knight

WORSHIP LEADER: Peggy Howarth

USHERS: Susan and David Radovich, Jim Ogren, Chuck Shike

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 celebration of Roger and Mary Elkins' 52nd wedding anniversary.

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 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 209 - James Wetzstein, Associate University Pastor at Valparaiso University, will speak about *The Relationship between Theology and Church Design*.

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.

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.

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.

THE NEXT NEW MEMBER GATHERING will be held on **Sunday, March 14, 2010, from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. in Room 209**. Child care will be provided. Contact Rev. Bruce for more information.

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SING the *Elijah* with the choir on April 25, come to rehearsals on Saturday mornings from 9 to 10; Thursday evenings at around 8:20 we also work on the *Elijah*. For information, call Verdeen Strain at 838-3131.

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).