



Westminster Presbyterian Church Stewardship Campaign 2011

Issue 3
December 2011

Special Points of interest

- * *Stewardship materials to be mailed*
- * *Alternative sources for giving*
- * *Video and renderings of possible sanctuary renovations to highlight the informational meeting on November 30*

Inside this issue

<i>Goals for the stewardship campaign</i>	2
<i>Ideas for giving</i>	2
<i>Stewardship principles</i>	3
<i>Prayer vigil</i>	3
<i>Want to know more?</i>	4

Important mail is coming your way

Please watch for mail from WPC the week after Thanksgiving. You will be receiving the materials you need both to be part of the “Telling Time” campaign and to support Westminster’s budget for the coming year.

The envelope will contain a letter from the Stewardship Team inviting you to participate in the “Telling Time” campaign along with

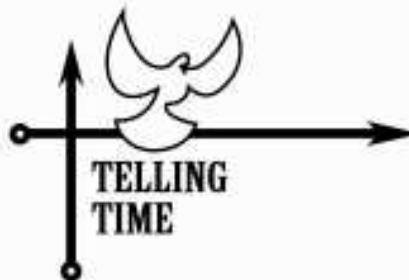
- * A blue pledge card to support the 2012 programs and mission of Westminster.
- * A cream commitment card to indicate your plans to support renovations for the next three years.

Please complete these

cards, place them in the white envelope, and bring them to worship on Commitment Sunday, December 11. Together we will dedicate our willingness to support the church we love. If you cannot attend worship that day, please complete and bring or mail your cards to WPC.

- * A pink offering envelope marked “First Fruits.”
Please enclose your first contribution for our plans for renovation and bring it to worship on December 18 or December 25. This is when we begin our three-year giving to implement our plans.

What’s most important -- Annual giving or the capital campaign?



If circumstances limit your contributions to Westminster’s dual campaigns, one for renovations to the church and the other to support the ongoing work of the church, we ask that you make your pledge to the annual giving first.



Westminster's Goals for "Telling Time . . . into the Hands of the Future"

Surveys of members of Westminster have prioritized the order of needs in the renovation. Without going into long term debt, the needs will be met with the money contributors provide. Estimated costs follow:

1. Sanctuary Renovation—\$500,000
Flexibility, sound, light, heat, cooling, storage, appearance are all being considered to enhance worship.
2. Building Enhancements—\$335,000
A new roof heads the list, followed by skylights and lighting in South Hall, carpet and flooring replacements to provide an open community-friendly campus.
3. Outreach Improvements—\$90,000
Evangelism and mission to increase WPC's ministry to the community throughout the building.
4. Technology Updates—\$25,000
Non-sanctuary technology improvements and updates for networking, databases, software.
5. Gathering Space Remodel—\$75,000
A mini-facelift for this center of hospitality and welcome.
6. Capital Reserve Fund—\$50,000
Seeding a reserve fund to meet unexpected repairs and replacements.

2011 Stewardship Campaign

Executive Team

Sandy Kauffman
Steve Bolanowski
Sara Sweeney
Bruce Haapalainen
Tom Ogren
Branson Isley, *Consultant*

Follow-Up

Jim and Erna Yackel
Dennis and Sharon Orr
Gene and Paula Estill
Tom Paliga
Richard and Barbara Grevengoed

Commitments

Tom and Alice Jenkins
Nancy Echterling
Michael Otic
Jim and Ann Severa
Tim Vick and Jean VanKeppel

Communications

Jane Bomberger
Betty Curvey
Gary Anderson
Ellen Cunningham
Bob Curvey
LuAnn Franklin
John Higley
Radley Robinson
Art and Judy Thompson

Some alternative ideas for giving

Most often when we think of making gifts to Westminster, we naturally think of giving from our income.

However, as we prayerfully consider sacrificial giving to help the church during this campaign, we have an opportunity to reflect on other

sources for giving as well. These other forms of gifts can offer additional benefits to the donor.

Publicly traded securities, closely-held stock, personal property, real estate, gifts-in-kind, paid-up insurance policies, charitable lead trusts, and the charitable IRA rollover are some of the other sources of income that can be part of our gift.

Your financial advisor can help you determine what's the best option for you.

"According to the grace of God given to me, like a master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it." -- 1 Corinthians 3:10

At this “Telling Time,” which of these principles will guide your stewardship decision?

Stewardship Principle

Stewardship is the recognition that God owns all that we possess. It acknowledges that our Lord provides the resources for our life, and, through us, the resources for Godly work and for the church. We are managers, overseers of what God has provided for our life.

We are accountable for all that has been placed into our life, not just for a portion of the amount. Our giving is an expression of our love and gratitude.

Voluntary Principle

Paul stated the voluntary principle when he said, “For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have.” (II Corinthians 8:12)

Again he said, “Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (II Corinthians 9:7)

No one should determine the amount of another person’s commitment. Each person and household is challenged to seek God’s will in determining a personal giving commitment.

Sacrificial Principle

In the Old Testament people came to worship with a sacrifice in hand. The word “sacrifice” can be defined as “to set apart” or “to make holy.” Sacrificial giving is the act of making sacred, or setting apart, our financial resources for God.

“They are to do good, to be rich in works, generous and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.” -- 1 Timothy 6:18

Prayer vigil: Opening our hearts to God

Prayer gives us a chance to talk to and, in turn, listen to God. Prayers for guidance and understanding have been an integral part of Westminster’s “Telling Time” Capital Campaign since its inception.

As Stewardship/Commitment Sunday approaches, two prayer vigils in the WPC sanctuary will give all of us that opportunity for individual communion with the Lord on Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3.

The sanctuary will be open from 4 to 8 p.m. on Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday for those who wish to pray, says Darlene Smith, parish nurse.

Please stay as long as you like in the quiet of God’s presence.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
8955 Columbia Avenue
Munster, Indiana 46321



Campaign Events

November 30 (7-8:30 p.m.) Informational meeting in the Gathering Space

December 2 (4-8 p.m.) & December 3 (10 a.m.-4p.m.) Prayer Vigil -- "Opening Our Hearts to God"

December 4 Churchwide Brunch between services

December 11 Commitment Service

December 18 & 25 First Fruits Services

"Every great journey begins with one step."

Our first step toward our future plans for the renovation project begins on December 18, 2011, with the giving of our First Fruits Offering. This offering begins our three-year giving toward the renovation.

Want to know more?

The Leadership Team of the Capital Campaign, "Telling Time...into the Hands of the Future" invites friends and members of WPC to an informational meeting at the church on Wednesday, November 30, from 7 until 8:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space.

Co-chairs Sandy Kauffman and Steve Bolanowski and Pastor Bruce Haapalainen will share their visions of support for the future of Westminster, along with team members Sara Sweeney and Tom Ogren.

A video and renderings of possibilities for a renovated sanctuary will be shown. Coffee and dessert will be served.