

1957

ON THIS ROCK

The Continuing Story



Westminster
Presbyterian
Church (U. S. A.)
Salem, Oregon 97302

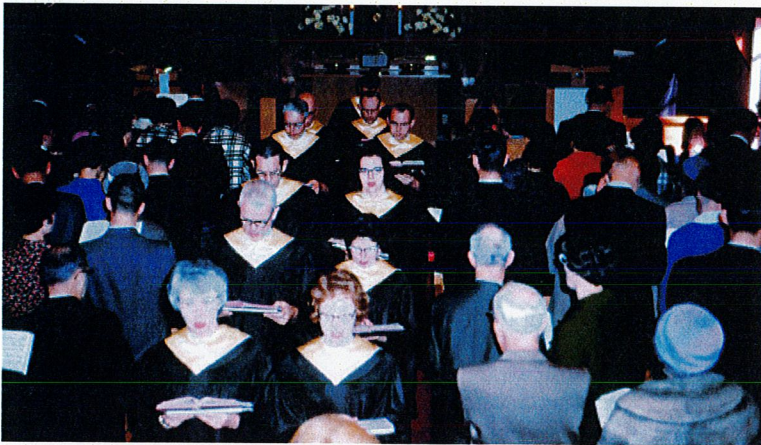
Cover Design by Rosemary Bell



Chancel Choir practicing - 1962



Youth ready for a trip - 1962



Chancel Choir recessing - 1978



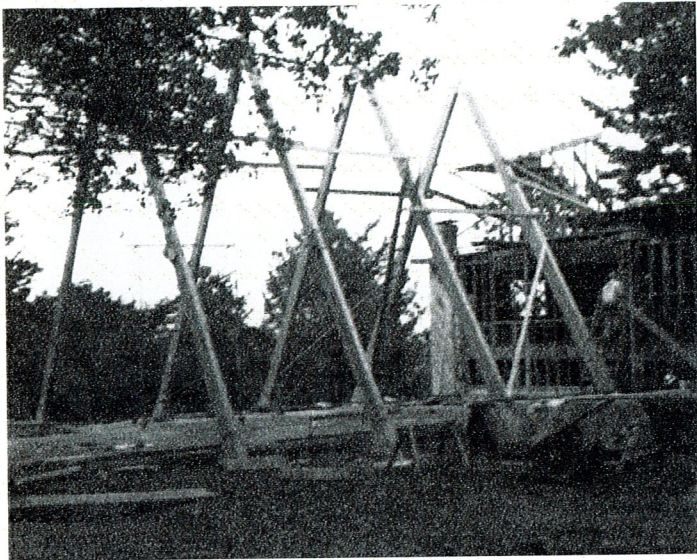
Helen McGauhey at work - 1973



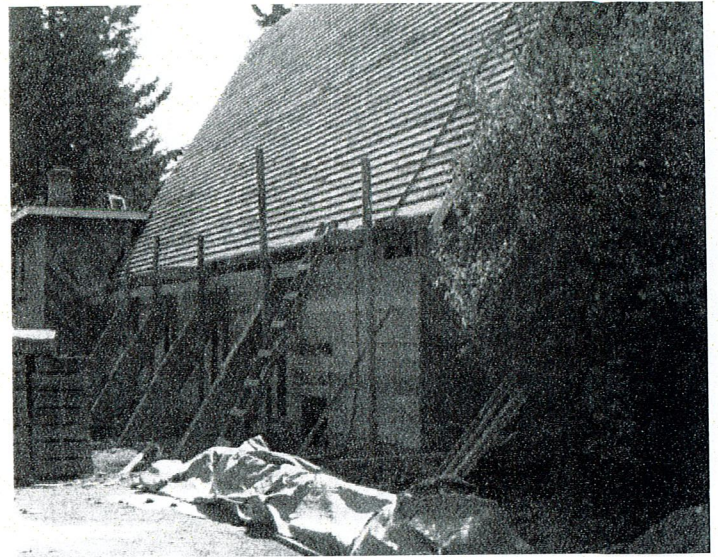
Children at Church Picnic - 1985



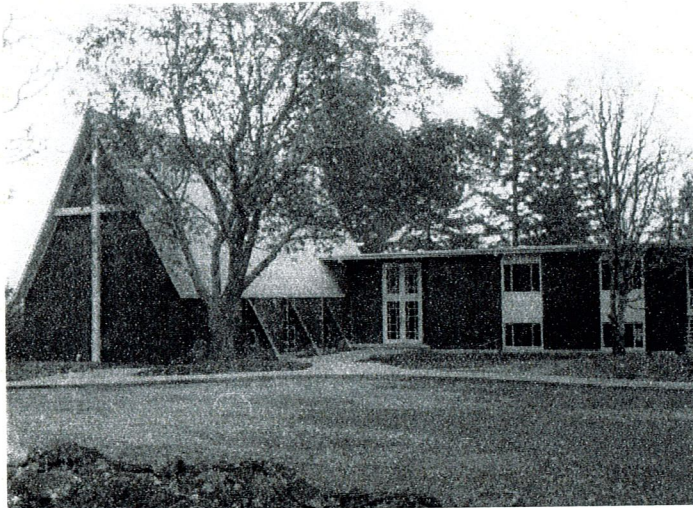
Tenth Anniversary Cake - 1967



Sanctuary Underway - August 1956



Sanctuary Underway - October 1956



Church Complete - February 1957



Manse/Harris Hall Demolished - May 1986



New Sanctuary Roof Truss - October 1986



Westminster at Dedication - February 1987

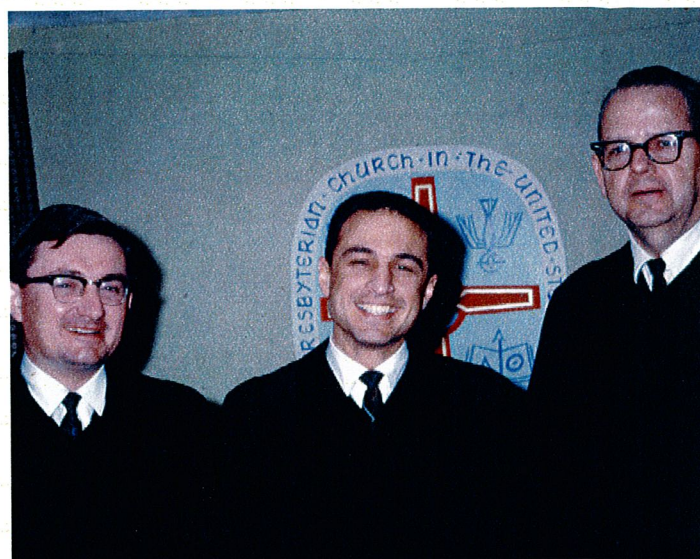
1957-2007
THE FIFTY-YEAR HISTORY
OF
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



3737 LIBERTY ROAD S.
SALEM, OREGON 97302
503-364-3327



Westminster 10th Anniversary - 1967



Past Pastors Todd Martin, John Najarian and Dwight Russel at 20th Anniversary - 1977



Jackie James and kids at beach - 1994



Cliff Eberhardt and Ken Friday on youth outing - 1980



Advent - 1965



Halloween Party - 1967

Table of Contents



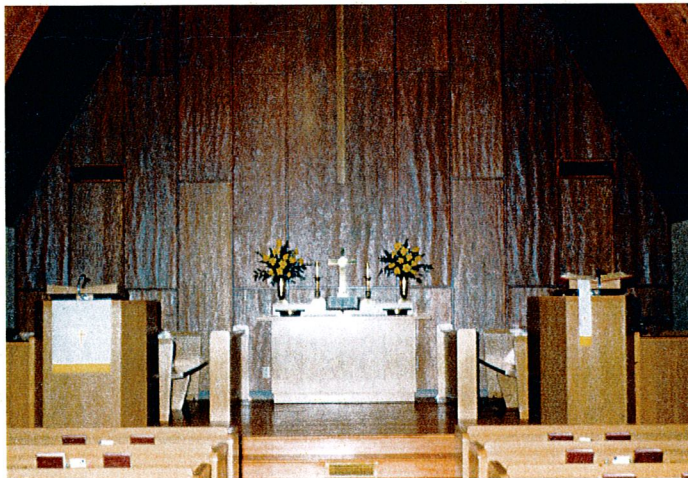
Images of Westminster.....	Throughout
Acknowledgements	3
Additional Contributors.....	4
Charter Members	6
Pastor’s Message	8
Director of Christian Education’s Message.....	9
Youth Director’s Message.....	10
Music Director’s Message	11
Previous Pastors of Westminster	12
Chronological History	
1957-1962	15
1963-1973	18
1974-1984	22
1984-1994	27
1990-1999	35
1996-2006	39
Organizations	19
Sister Church.....	29
Sponsorship	
Boy Scout Troop 108	30
Refugee Families	33
Significant Dates Table	45



Sunday School - 1962



Communion Table - 1962



Sanctuary - 1962



**Scoutmaster Bruce Marsh and
Scouts of Troop 108 - 1965**



Sunday School - 1973



**Pastor John Najarian
& his mop - 1962**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A special thanks to those who assisted in writing or providing the information for this history. To gather information over a 50 year period was a bit of a daunting task! The 30-year history book produced in 1987 was a great start. We were able to glean a lot from that history in addition to Annual Reports, Boulder Knoll Scrolls and additional input from many of you from the past 20 years.

I cannot begin to express my gratitude to all of you who were so helpful and understanding as you were called on for assistance. A special thanks to Rosemary Bell, for the beautiful front cover of the history book; Jackie Hilfiker, whose institutional memory was so important; Walt Friday whose computer skills made it look easy when it wasn't, and Denise McCauley who was so patient when I asked so many questions. So many of you contributed to the book and we are so grateful for your willingness to help, as it was truly a work of love for all of us. To include everything that has happened during the past 50 years is impossible. We hope this overview will give a sense of accomplishment, appreciation and a feeling of what Westminster is all about.

Sandy Allen, Coordinator
50th Celebration History Book
Recognition needs

to be given to the entire 50th Celebration Committee who had a
combined 389 years as members of Westminster:

Bert and Carol Huber, Co-chairs

Sandy Allen
Pat Ballantyne
Jeanette Fields
Walt Friday
Peggy & Bob Hershey
Jackie Hilfiker
Marian Minty
Sara & Ralph Morgan
JoeEve & Bob Netz
Ginny Peterson
Lu Pope
Wally Turnidge.

May God Bless us as we strive to truly become a
“**Christ Centered Community Church**”-- the goal of Westminster.

Additional Contributors to the 50th Celebration History Book

Pastor John Moody
Gail Moody
Linda McCreery
Todd Clark
Denise McCauley
John Hunt
Katie Nelson
Bill Nelson
Bill Foster
Linda Trigg
John Trigg
Janet Budke
Gloria Crenshaw
Phyllis Posekany
Bob Hershey
Peggy Hershey
Wally Turnidge
Lois Turnidge
Bob Ohmart
Shirley Ohmart
Pauline Mather
Ellen Chambers
Sandy Albright
Dorothy Eberhardt
Bruce Marsh
Doris Friday
Ron Speck
Jennifer Billman
Louise Frost MacDonald

Westminster is not just a new building
Or even an old one.

It's not only a rocky knoll,
A collection of banners,
Or famous sculptures.

It's the people, the congregation,
The church family,

All of us—all ages, all opinions,
All sizes, shapes and convictions,

All of us, before the cross
In the light and shadow of God.

Any Church's history is more than the sum of its parts.
Changes in the building and staff, additions to or losses from the congregation, are only a fragment of what makes up a church's historical background." Individual events, joys, woes, achievements – all these are the "glue" that bonds people to building, and congregation to God.
It was Eugene O'Neill, the great American playwright, who once wrote:

Man is born broken,
He lives by mending.
And the grace of God
Is the glue.

Together, we become greater than the sum of our marvelous variations.

From Book I Church History 1987-1993
Louise Frost MacDonald
Church Historian

Charter Members of Westminster

Charter Rolls opened October 7, 1956 - closed on February 3, 1957

*Members still living in 2006. +Charter Members as Youth

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|------|--|
| 1. | Leo V Reed | 53. | ++Keith Harland Higley |
| 2. | Doritta Poole Reed | 54. | Richard D Denton |
| 3. | Charles Sumner Campbell | 55. | Janice J Denton |
| 4. | Della Wagerman Campbell | 56. | Freda Vera Younger |
| 5. | Timothy Joseph Campbell | 57. | Russell LeRoy Younger |
| 6. | Paul F Bale | 58. | Maxie Leonard |
| 7. | Dorothy Lee Andrews Bale | 59. | *+ <u>Linda Schwarz Roth</u> |
| 8. | Judith Mae Bale | 60. | Roy Everett Davidson |
| 9. | Bliss S Leslie | 61. | Lois C Davidson |
| 10. | Mary Huston Leslie | 62. | Roy Earle Davidson |
| 11. | Loyd Byron McCain | 63. | Louise Elizabeth Davidson |
| 12. | Marie Reiter McCain | 64. | Robert Wayne Davidson |
| 13. | Doris Ekstrand Huyett | 65. | James Stephen Davidson |
| 14. | Robert S Huyett | 66. | Elsie Rodgers Carleton |
| 15. | Burch R Judson | 67. | P Russell Handley |
| 16. | * <u>Mary Jane Gilchrist Judson</u> | 68. | Catherine M Brunner Handley |
| 17. | Laura Borden Cook | 69. | Robert F Howells |
| 18. | James Earl Cook | 70. | Sara L Shields Howells |
| 19. | Irene Furedy Bradfield | 71. | Carolyn Howells |
| 20. | John L Bradfield | 72. | * <u>David Robert Howells</u> |
| 21. | Beverly Schmidt Schwarz | 73. | Orcutt William Frost Jr. |
| 22. | * <u>Fred R Schwarz</u> | 74. | Mary D Bills Frost |
| 23. | Ruth Moller Konka | 75. | Charles Rowland Knapp |
| 24. | Edward J Konka | 76. | Francis Weatherford Knapp |
| 25. | Elizabeth C. B. Stellmacher | 77. | Carol Robb |
| 26. | Wallace D Gilchrist Sr. | 78. | George Robb |
| 27. | E Pearl Kingsbury Gilchrist | 79. | Ralph M Gordon |
| 28. | Judith M Baker | 80. | Mrs. Ralph (Marybelle) Sampson
Gordon |
| 29. | Ruth M Johnson Baker | 81. | * <u>Thomas W Wann</u> |
| 30. | Phyllis Haberly Bunson | 82. | Louise Blake Wann |
| 31. | Harmon Thomas Harvey | 83. | Sara Lucinda Lumbard Wilcox |
| 32. | * <u>Jane Ann (Grow) Harvey</u> | 84. | Mable I Rapp Cunliff |
| 33. | Jayanne Harvey | 85. | Leslie Owen Warren |
| 34. | M Inez Thomas Harvey | 86. | Mary Edna Whitney Warren |
| 35. | Minnie Britt Stewart | 87. | Benjamin E Cave |
| 36. | Alvin B Stewart | 88. | Bernice Hanson Cave |
| 37. | Joan Woodhouse Robb | 89. | *+ <u>Mary Ann Cave</u> |
| 38. | Samuel Robb | 90. | Francis P Colgan |
| 39. | * <u>Gloria Crenshaw</u> | 91. | Mabel Alrick Colgan |
| 40. | Walter J Crenshaw | 92. | Marilyn Colgan |
| 41. | Elizabeth Barnes Nesvik | 93. | Gretchen Garner Anning |
| 42. | Catherine Hermann Dench | 94. | Judith Hogberg Morrow |
| 43. | Thomas William Dench | 95. | Hugh Morrow |
| 44. | May Yearsley Morgan | 96. | Floyd A Baker |
| 45. | James E Morgan | 97. | Belle Pierce Sickler |
| 46. | *+ <u>Ralph Morgan</u> | 98. | Everett J Sickler |
| 47. | Bonnie Russell | 99. | * <u>Jeanette G Fields</u> |
| 48. | Florence LaRue Russell | 100. | Gene A Fields |
| 49. | Nellie A Poole | 101. | Eunice Van Eaton |
| 50. | Ames N Higley | 102. | Dr. Joseph D Van Eaton |
| 51. | Miriam E Higley | 103. | Ermina Fisher |
| 52. | *+Gwen Higley | | |

- | | | | |
|------|----------------------------------|------|--|
| 104. | Harold C Rosebraugh | 161. | Raymond LeVerne Tompkins |
| 105. | Isabel Childs Rosebraugh | 162. | Alice Denck |
| 106. | David Edward Rosebraugh | 163. | Grace McCloud Merrifield |
| 107. | * <u>Marlene Farmer Schalk</u> | 164. | Ward Alvin Merrifield |
| 108. | * <u>William Jay Schalk</u> | 165. | Luzerne Marie Hanes Trussell |
| 109. | Eunice Irish Odegaard | 166. | Glenn Eugene Trussell |
| 110. | Elmer Odegaard | 167. | Vergene Napier Lawther |
| 111. | Betty Davis Humphreys | 168. | William Everett Lawther |
| 112. | Sue Sickler | 169. | Roger Franklin Colgan |
| 113. | * <u>Carolyn Johnson</u> | 170. | Evelyn Shirk Stevens |
| 114. | Jerilyn Hughes | 171. | Allan Lawrence Stevens Sr. |
| 115. | Mrs. Mildred Yount Bullock | 172. | Allan Stevens Jr. |
| 116. | Charles Louis Bullock | 173. | Anne Stevens |
| 117. | Bertha Carla Nelson | 174. | * <u>James Ernest Culp Sr.</u> |
| 118. | Bernice Brown Nelson | 175. | Ellen Mathison Culp |
| 119. | Arno C Nelson | 176. | James Ernest Culp Jr. |
| 120. | Mabel Duncan McDonald | 177. | Mary Ellen Campbell |
| 121. | Lyman McDonald | 178. | Catherine Joan Campbell |
| 122. | Lois Jeanne Lane Shepherd | 179. | Margaret Joan Cook |
| 123. | Robert Malcolm Shepherd | 180. | Lorna Mullan Rose |
| 124. | Norma Converse Bacon | 181. | Robert Clyde Rose |
| 125. | Harold Edward Bacon | 182. | *+ <u>Bonnie Baker Voyles</u> |
| 126. | * <u>Mary Jasper Johnson</u> | 183. | *+ <u>James Lloyd Voyles</u> |
| 127. | Wallace Arthur Johnson | 184. | Joseph Baker Christian |
| 128. | * <u>Mary Ellen Vaura Lander</u> | 185. | Bette Mabary Christian |
| 129. | * <u>Wayne E Lander</u> | 186. | Tryna Mae Christian |
| 130. | Phillis A Beckel Henderson | 187. | Linda Lee Christian |
| 131. | Harry A Henderson | 188. | Mildred Jernigan Lane |
| 132. | Mrs. Mary Denton Mollert | 189. | Darel James Lane |
| 133. | Mrs. Isabel Scott Abdo | 190. | * <u>Mrs. Beverly Ann (Peterson) Walburn</u> |
| 134. | Mr. Ollie Abdo | 191. | * <u>Dana Franklin Walburn</u> |
| 135. | * <u>Mrs. Helen Tompkins</u> | 192. | Donna Stowell Golden |
| 136. | * <u>Robert L Tompkins</u> | 193. | Robert Thomas Golden |
| 137. | Gary Dene Filsinger | 194. | Mrs. Alice Lucille (Peterson) Givens |
| 138. | Sherry Lee Filsinger | 195. | Marjorie Jean Anderson |
| 139. | Edna Ostring Filsinger | 196. | Parker Hale Evans |
| 140. | * <u>Betty Phelps Walker</u> | 197. | Mrs. Alice Gertrude Fitzgerald |
| 141. | Denton O Walker | 198. | Lawrence Watson Fitzgerald |
| 142. | * <u>Jean Bowman Walker</u> | 199. | Mrs. Mitsu Watanabe Fujii |
| 143. | Howard G Walker | 200. | Howard Thomas Fujii |
| 144. | Maynard C Shiffer | 201. | Elizabeth Jane Fujii |
| 145. | Mabel Cross Shiffer | 202. | * <u>Raymond Anthony & Billy Fujii</u> |
| 146. | * <u>Julie Shiffer Vigeland</u> | 203. | Dick Gordon Colgan |
| 147. | Edwin E Thompson | 204. | Russell Winter Whittmer |
| 148. | Miriam Lovejoy Thompson | 205. | Edith Annie Edgar |
| 149. | * <u>Harvey D Ronne</u> | 206. | Leonard George Edgar |
| 150. | Sylvia S Ronne | 207. | Alberta Brandenberger Francis |
| 151. | Howard Wayne Krytych | 208. | James Newell Francis |
| 152. | Joan Bernice Krytych | 209. | Betty Jean Miller Ingalls |
| 153. | * <u>Gerald Andrew Hoiland</u> | 210. | * <u>Ruby Maud Batterton Hawkins</u> |
| 154. | Cathleen Sharp Hoiland | 211. | * <u>Aileen Louise Hawkins Scharer</u> |
| 155. | Robert Parker Allison | 212. | Robert Dale Hawkins |
| 156. | Ruth Cook Allison | 213. | Richard LaVerne Hawkins |
| 157. | Robert Thomas Judson Jr. | 214. | Stephan Zardarko |
| 158. | Leola L Zander Judson | 215. | Sally Thomas Zardarko |
| 159. | Florence Merrill Toler | | |
| 160. | Alice Jackson Tompkins | | |

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



John Moody
Pastor

A fifty year celebration is a time for reflection.

Westminster's half a century of service to Christ and God's Kingdom is characterized by loving, sacrificial service through people whom God called to Boulder Knoll. In both our life together and in our service, deep and abiding friendships were born. At this significant celebration we therefore recall special people, lay and clergy alike, who together have lifted up the Christ, seeking to fulfill their calling in him as members and staff of Westminster.

Westminster is both a "people" and a "place."

We are a people who fifty years ago settled on "Boulder Knoll" as a place to build a church. We are a people in whom God has come alive to be a blessing to one another, and to the community. We are a place to whom people have journeyed to offer worship, gain instruction, discover strength for their life's journey, and to sing and to lift up a song of faith. We are a people who have laughed, cried and prayed together, as we wrestled with difficult, challenging issues of contemporary life, while seeking to respond as witnesses to Jesus Christ. We are a place where all people in the Salem community are welcome. And we are a people who have reached out to welcome them.

Westminster is a place where people made promises to God and to one another through wedding vows, baptismal vows, confirmations and ordinations. It is a place where friends have gathered to remember and celebrate the life of loved ones. It is fitting that we remember those saints who have come and gone before us and whose contributions to Westminster have made us strong in our ministry and witness.

Westminster is both a special people and place. How wonderful it is to offer our thanks and praise to God for our life together and the ministry in which we have been privileged to share. And thanks be to God Who through out these fifty years has been so faithful!

Yours in Christ's service,

Rev. John R. Moody

GAIL MOODY, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Gail Moody
Director of Christian Ed

Christian Education has gone through countless changes over the past 50 years at Westminster. Some programs have been adapted to meet changing needs in our world; some have been discontinued altogether, while at the same time new programs have been consistently initiated. Vacation Bible School seems to be one of the constants, although it has seen many transformations, especially visual ones, with more engaging activities and outstanding decorations each year. We have become an extremely visual society and at Westminster we are trying to keep up with new approaches.

We are on the verge of new things in our Sunday School program as well as experimenting with midweek after school program for elementary age children. Moving from station to station and room to room seems to be an upcoming trend.

How we use our classrooms is shifting. We are on the threshold of some new and exciting ways to do educational ministry. But then the Presbyterian Church has always been a reforming and transforming church. We hope that in the midst of a very busy and active society that our families will continue to make Christian Education a priority.

We look forward to many more years and many more opportunities to grow in our faith and to grow closer to one another.

in Christ's service,

Gail Moody

THE YOUTH PROGRAM



Todd Clark
Youth Coordinator

This past year, the youth program has gone through the adjustment period that new staff brings. As we look toward building the youth program, the mission is simply to provide youth the opportunities to explore God and engage each other. The vision is to have a youth group that is a community, not groups of individuals, that is Christ-centered, not self-centered; authentic, not superficial; legacy-minded, not selfish; and missional, not exclusive. We have been pursuing this vision through a variety of opportunities.

We have well-balanced gatherings on Sundays that provide a meal, free-time, a large group game, music, and small group learning. High School meets throughout the school year for Morning Prayer on Mondays. Mid High had Tuesday night discipleship exploring such topics such as Prayer, Narnia, and Contemporary Music. We also provide a variety of events such as Mid High Mania, CPYA, various fundraisers, 30 Hour Famine, Hogar Mission trip, and Mid High Pilgrimage along with various other outings. Each of these events has provided opportunity for relationship and or connection with God in a relevant manner.

As we look toward another school year, we will be focusing on the second value of being Authentic as we explore the topic of identity through looking at the "I AM" statements of the book of John as well as other sources.

Todd Clark

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Dustin Clark". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Youth Director



Youth beach trip in June of 1964

THE MUSIC PROGRAM

Following the retirement of Wally Johnson in April 1987 after 35 years as music director, Westminster experienced several changes that are expected with the passage of time, but based on the foundation he and Mary established. Del Chinberg directed the Chancel Choir from 1987-1989, while Marie Chinberg directed the Sunshine Choir for primary school age children. Wendy Crane directed the Westminster Chimes Handbell Choir, and Andie Miller directed the elementary-age Star Choir.

From 1989-1992 Dan Miller served as Music Director, leading both the Chancel and handbell choirs. I volunteered leading the Star Choir, and the Sunshine Choir was disbanded when the Chinbergs moved away.

In 1992, the job of Music Director expanded when I took on that position, leading the Chancel, handbell, and Star Choirs. In 1996 the Sunshine Choir began again under the volunteer leadership of Katie Nelson. The Youth Choir was added to the Music Director's job description in 1998. In the last few years Nikki Fennell has volunteered to lead Youth and Adult Beginning Handchimes.

Mary Johnson retired in July 1995, after 38 years of extraordinary service as Westminster's organist. Our church has been blessed with continued excellence at the keyboard since that time. After a few months of substitutes, Andrew Todd served as organist/pianist from 1996-1998, followed by Susan McDaniel from 1998-1999. MaryRuth Helppie has been our leader from the bench since 1999. Kathleen Knauss, who had been our Youth Choir Accompanist since 2001, began a job-share with MaryRuth in 2005, playing in worship once a month.

In 2004, after several stops and starts, Westminster instigated a Contemporary Worship Service, under the excellent volunteer leadership of Tim Duffy. The services are twice a month, every other worship hour. Much new equipment has been added to aid the music ministry at Westminster. A 7 foot Schimmel concert grand piano was purchased in 1997 for the sanctuary. Retractable screens, PowerPoint computer, upgraded sound system, drum set, and electronic keyboard have been purchased. Three octaves of handbells have expanded to nearly 5 octaves, and 3 octaves of handchimes.

Years of Christmas cantatas, musicals presented by children, youth and adults, instrumental, solo and ensemble music, have also enhanced the worship experience at Westminster through music ministry. We look forward to continued growth and new experiences in the future as together we make our joyful noise to God.



Linda S. McCreery
Linda McCreery
Music Director



Linda McCreery

PASTORS



J. Dwight Russell

Born 9/1/18, Washtucna, WN
Monmouth College, Illinois
Pittsburg Seminary
Doctor of Divinity-Monmouth College
Pastor Emeritus, First Presbyterian Church
Klamath Falls, OR
Deceased-August 5, 1985



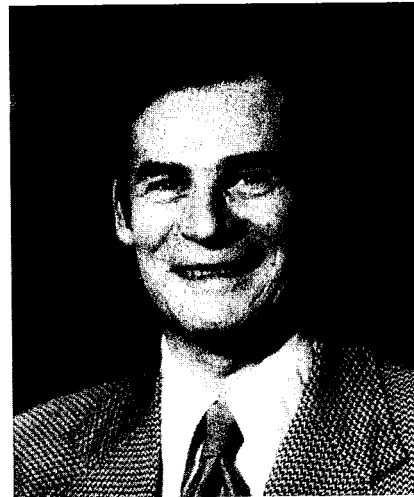
John Najarian

Born 7/8/33, Fresno, CA
Fresno State College
San Francisco Seminary
Present - President of K/P Graphics
Berkeley, CA. 1981-1988
Retired as Pastor of Claremont
Presbyterian Church, Claremont, CA 1989-
1998, Retired 1998



C. Todd Martin

Born 4/10/36, Hamilton, Ohio
Stanford University
San Francisco Seminary
University of Teubingen, Germany
Western Oregon State College
Retired – Southwest Washington
Medical Center, 2005



David Weed

Born 5/4/24, Calexico, CA
University of Redlands, CA
San Francisco Seminary
Deceased

PASTORS



Jack Chan

Born 2/8/31, Portland, OR
Whitworth, College
San Francisco Seminary
Retired 1999
Interim Reedsport, McMinnville
Presently preaching when needed



Barry Heath

Born 7/4/46, Philadelphia, Pa.
Indiana University
San Francisco Seminary
Dominican College
Present – Chaplain, Salem Memorial
Hospital-Salem, OR



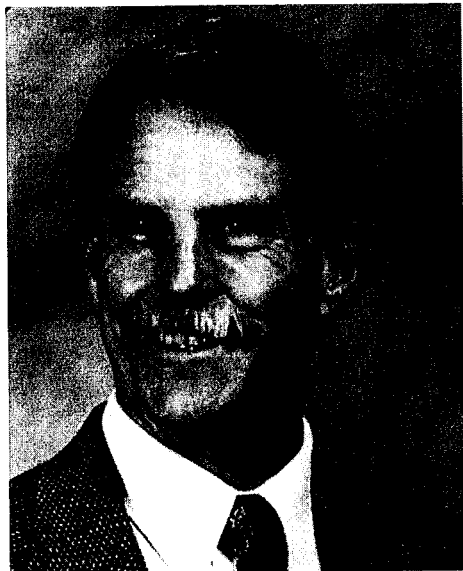
Jack McNary

Born 12/7/54, Portland, OR.
Portland State University
Fuller Theological Seminary
1986-94 Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Salem, OR
1994 Associate Pastor Fremont Presbyterian Church
2005 At-Large in Sacramento area



Charles Webster

Duke University, NC,
University of Edinburgh, Scotland
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ
Thirteen Interim Pastorships
Doctorate Candidate at McCormick Theological
Seminary, Chicago, IL
Our Interim Pastor, 1994-1995



John Moody

Born July 4, 1952, Burbank, CA

University of Redlands, Redlands, CA, 1975

Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, 1978

Pastor West Trenton Presbyterian Church, West Trenton, NJ, 1978-84

Pastor First Presbyterian Church of North Hollywood,
North Hollywood, CA 1984-95

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Salem, OR, 1995-
Present

Pastors at Westminster

J. Dwight Russell	Slated Supply, April 1956 to May 14, 1957 Pastor May 15, 1957 to July 29, 1959
John O. Najarian	Pastor Nov 24, 1959 to April 15, 1969
C. Todd Martin	Assistant Pastor, Jan. 1, 1967 to Feb. 12, 1972 Co-Pastor Feb. 13, 1972 to Jan. 18, 1975 Pastor, Jan. 19, 1975 to July 1,
David H. Weed	Pastor, Dec. 1, 1969 to Oct. 31, 1974
Albert C. (Jack) Chan	Interim, Sept 1, 1980 to Dec. 31, 1981
Barry B. Heath	Pastor, Jan. 24, 1982-1994
Jack F. McNary	Associate Pastor, Mar. 13, 1986 – 1994
Charles Webster	Interim, 1994 – 1995
John R. Moody	Pastor, Dec 1995 to Present

HISTORY

1953-1962 THE BEGINNING

In the fall of 1953, M. DeWitt Safford, Field Secretary of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, came to Salem, to announce to the Presbyterians at First Presbyterian Church that the denomination was looking for an opportunity to found a new congregation in Salem. After being assured that the United Presbyterians were willing to loan \$85,000 for the establishment of the new congregation, the Session of First Church appointed a committee co-chaired by Burch Judson and Arthur Myers (for whom Myers Elementary School is named) to cooperate with the United Presbyterians in finding a site. The committee determined that South Salem was the most logical area for the new church. Within a year, property on Boulder Knoll off Liberty Road had been secured. This 5.2-acre, heavily wooded property had been



First Presbyterian Church

the estate of H. S. Gile, Salem cannery owner. It included a four-bedroom house and a three-car garage.

RUSSELL ORGANIZING PASTOR

In 1955, the United Presbyterians appointed the Reverend. J. Dwight Russell of Weiser, Idaho as the organizing pastor of the new congregation and selected architect Ben Cave to work with the United Presbyterians in planning the new building. The building fund was established by February 1956 under the chairmanship of Leo Reed. E. R. Batterman was the low bidder at \$542,385.

Rev. Russell was given a year to contact every family south of Mission Street, north of Boone Road, west of 12th Street and east of the Willamette River. About fifty families of First Presbyterian decided to transfer to the South Salem congregation.

The spring of 1956 saw the groundbreaking and the start of construction. The Russell family, consisting of Pastor Russell, his wife Florence, son Bill and daughter Florence Elinor (Bonnie), moved into the former Gile residence, known as the manse.

Vesper services at 4:30 p.m. Sundays were started in the summer of 1956 and held on the lawn of the manse. Wallace Johnson led the singing, with Mary Johnson as organist and Sara Howells, substitute. Stone Piano and Organ Co lent an electric Hammond organ.

The building was completed by November, with the first service held Nov. 25, 1956, followed by an open house and coffee hour. The charter roll of the church was held open until the formal dedication on Jan. 13, 1957. Church school children were registered at the manse until classes could be held in the new building.

PROVISIONAL SESSION

The first Provisional Session meeting was held September 15, 1956, with the Rev. Dwight Russell as Moderator. By this time, five committees were functioning: Spiritual Aims, Grounds, Building, Finance and Christian Education. It was decided to use the Faith and Life Curriculum of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. At the Oct. 7, 1956 Session meeting, 40 people were accepted as members of Westminster. Space was provided for names of people who were not able to be present.

NEW BUILDING & CHURCH DEDICATION

The first church service was held in the new building on Nov. 25, 1956. Communion service was celebrated at the 11 o'clock service, using previously ordained elders from other churches. Until the formal organization of the congregation on Feb. 10, 1957, all Session meetings included the reception of new members.

The new building was dedicated at 3 p.m., Jan. 13, 1957, with Dr. James K. Leitch, Associate Secretary of Board of Missions delivering the dedicatory sermon. The charter roll was closed on Feb. 3, 1957 with a total of 215 members.



FIRST SESSION

The Commission of Oregon Presbytery appointed for the organization of Westminster United Presbyterian Church met at 9 a.m., Feb. 10, 1957. Representing the Commission, the Rev. John C. Nevin stated that the congregation was organized. The congregation at that time elected elders and deacons and accepted the constitution and by-laws. The following were elected as elders: Paul F. Bale, Benjamin F. Cave, J. Earl Cook, and Dr. Chas. Campbell, Dr. Harmon Harvey, Robert F. Howells, Edward Konka, Leo V. Reed and Robert S. Huyett. Elected as deacons were: Harold Bacon, John Bradfield, Della Campbell, Francis Colgan, Walter Crenshaw, Richard Denton, O. W. Frost, Jr., Betty Humphreys, Mac Morgan, Betty Nesvik, Samuel Robb and Dr. J. D. VanEaton. J. E. Culp was elected chairman, Mrs. Charles Bullock recording secretary and Gerald Hoiland, treasurer of the congregation.

The ordination and installation of all elders and deacons was held on Mar. 10, with the Rev. John Humphreys assisting the pastor. The Provisional Session was dissolved as having completed its mission.

The first meeting of the newly elected Session was held at



Pastor Russell Greeting - 1958

7:30 p.m. Wed. March 13, 1957. J. Earl Cook was elected Clerk of Session and three services were planned for Easter Sunday. Session recommended to the congregation that it become self-supporting as of March 1, 1957 and that Presbytery be asked to hold a special congregational meeting to formally call a minister.

At a meeting on May 15, 1957 the congregation called the Provisional Moderator, Dwight Russell, as pastor at a salary of \$4,666.66. Oregon Presbytery installed him as pastor on May 26, 1957. It should be noted that the Christian Education Committee had been active at the start of the provisional congregation, with James E. Morgan as Chairman and Sunday School Superintendent. With the formal installation of the Session, Dr. Chas Campbell became Chairman of Christian Education.

John M. Humphreys, Chaplain at Oregon State Hospital, was assistant pastor and Vice Moderator of the Session. The Session approved two Sunday morning worship services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., with Church School at 9:30 a.m. On June 5, 1957, E. Gene Thompson became Church School Superintendent, replacing Mr. Morgan.

BONNIE RUSSELL MEMORIAL

In February 1958, Florence Elinor (Bonnie) Russell, daughter of the pastor and his wife, was tragically killed in an auto accident in the family car on the way to Portland. Over \$52,900 was contributed to the Bonnie Russell Memorial Fund, which was used to purchase carillon chimes and establish a memorial garden and patio area adjacent to the manse. A plaque was placed in the narthex to tell of the memorial to Bonnie. The chimes were dedicated with a short carillon concert Sun., Dec. 7, 1958.

CHURCH DEBT

The Moderator reported that all interest and principal payments on the church debt had been met and that \$8,000 of the debt had been reduced because the church had been self-supporting since its inception. On Jan 21, 1959, Edwin C. Boal was elected Clerk of Session, following the resignation of J. Earl Cook. Francis Colgan was reappointed head usher, with Sam Robb as assistant.

LANDSCAPING OF ISLAND

In May 1959, Building and Grounds Committee reported that areas in the landscaped island had been assigned to the various Clippers for maintenance. The Long Range Planning Committee recommended an addition to the educational wing of the church and a plan developed for the financing.

On July 8, 1959, a call was issued for a congregational meeting to dissolve the pastoral relationship with J. Dwight Russell, who had been offered the position of Synod Executive for Oregon. On July 29, 1959 the relationship was dissolved with regret and a nominating committee of 12 members was appointed to seek a new pastor, Chaplain John M. Humphreys served as Moderator of the meeting.

The three-car garage was moved to the back of the property and renovated as a youth building. When completed in fall of 1959, it was named Merrifield Lodge in honor of Ward Merrifield, the first adult member of Westminster to have died.



Najarian at home - 1967

NAJARIAN PASTOR

On Oct. 11, 1959 a congregational meeting accepted the call to John O. Najarian Jr. as pastor of Westminster. The terms of the call were \$4,200 salary, \$600 car allowance and \$600 utilities allowance. A \$296 washer-dryer and a 5179 Monarch range were installed in the manse.



Fifth Anniversary Cake Cutting - 1962

EDUCATION WING

On May 11, 1960, Session moved that construction begin immediately on the educational wing, since all but 51,650 of the 525,000 Broadway bonds had been sold at 5% interest.

On Jan. 5, 1961, J. Dwight Russell, Synod Executive, reviewed our church building debt. He reported a total cost of \$91,345.55, a grant from Board of Home Missions of \$34,035.05 and a loan of \$41,849.52, which had been reduced by \$8,000, because Westminster had been self-supporting. The interest loan was 4% and a repayment schedule was accepted.



Removing boulders for new addition - 1960

The minister's salary for 1962 of \$5,400 was adopted, with a total of \$7,695 including allowances. A budget of \$37,500 was suggested for 1962 by the Session, with 30 % of local budget for Mission. A meeting of the congregation held Dec. 5, 1962 increased the number of Session members from 9 to 12.

FIRST WOMEN ELDERS

Catherine Dench, Mabel Shiffer and Sara Howells were the first women elected to serve as elders in our church. Westminster participated in the dedication of John Knox Church in Keizer the same year.

1963-1973

Early in 1964, Session extended an invitation to the Rev. Mr. Walter (Wally) Johnson from Australia for a year beginning in August. He brought much enthusiasm in his teaching and assistance with Christian Education. Martin Hessel, a student from San Francisco Seminary accompanied by his wife Pam and small son, assisted the pastor in the expanded ministry the following year. Rich Custer also served in this capacity.

The participation of children and youth was high during this period. In 1964 the Church School reported a fall enrollment of 443 with 37% coming from non-member families. There were 45 junior high youth in the Pioneer Group and 32 senior high youth in the Highlanders. A Junior Choir, under the direction of Jackie Hilfiker, included 20-25 fourth, fifth and sixth graders. Increased need for use of every available space brought the decision to install draperies for the overflow room in the sanctuary so that classes might meet there when necessary.

During these five years, Peter Batten and Herb Carnahan served as Superintendent of Christian Education. In 1966, Rae Carnahan, Dorothy Kent and Mary Sue Gingerich supervised Daily Vacation Bible School, attended by 105 children.

ORGANIZATIONS

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER AND CIRCLES

The official organization of Women of Westminster and the six circles took place in January and February of 1957. The circles were Charity, Faith, Friendship, Grace, Hope and Patience. During that time, the women purchased 102 place settings of silverware for the kitchen. In March, after hearing a talk by Chaplain John Humphreys, the group decided to adopt a ward at the State Mental Hospital. Throughout the year the patients were the recipients of parties, cards, Christmas gifts and once-a-month parties.

The circles accepted the responsibility of furnishing and distributing altar flowers, supporting and maintaining the church nursery, catering of weddings and preparation of communion elements. Least Coin Collections were made monthly and given to World Wide projects. In the 60's they sponsored Mother-Daughter and Father-Son Banquets each year.

CLIPPERS

Through the years there have been from five to eight Clipper groups providing fellowship to their members and service to many individuals and groups. Clippers originally were couple-oriented, but today they are for members, non-members, couples and singles. In 1986 there were six Clippers groups with Bounty and Oregon being two of the original ones.

One of the Clippers provided transportation for Chemawa Indian School students to church, took a group to the beach for a picnic and gave them Christmas gifts. For over 20 years residents at Fairview have enjoyed monthly parties in the Fellowship Hall, sponsored by Clipper groups. Bounty II started with the parties in 1965 and Fairview Clipper in 1972, with Bounty I often assisting. Clippers assumed responsibility for maintenance of the landscaped island in the church grounds and continue the project to the present. Cabinets have been built, rooms cleaned and painted and Bibles given to fourth-graders. The Westminster family has enjoyed the creche scene, built by the Bounty Clipper in 1962. Each year the two Bounty Clippers set it up for the Christmas season.

KNIT AND SEW

This organization has been in existence for over 20 years. In the Deacons minutes of Sept. 17, 1968 we read "\$50.00 was given to the 'Knit and Sew' for supplies to make needed articles for a leper colony." In 1969, the 15 members shipped to the American Leprosy Mission the following articles: 6 packets of rolled bandages, 71 small knitted bandages, 25 knitted bandages eight feet in length, 114 pairs of knitted socks and 2 crib blankets. Through the years, this group has provided articles for many different organizations, including State Hospital, County Health Department and Fairview, as well as helping individuals and families.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

This group is reported to be the oldest continuous one at Westminster. The June 11, 1956 Oregon Statesman, reports:

"The men of the new Westminster Church will meet for breakfast in Coral Room of the Marion Hotel at 7 a. m. Tuesday to hear Rev. J. Dwight Russell speak on 'Loyal Order of St. Andrew.'" For many years, the group met for Bible study and meditation. In recent years they have been meeting on Thursdays mornings, 7:00-7:45, for fellowship and informal discussion on current issues.

SENIOR LUNCH

At a Session Meeting in 1979, the Mission Committee, under the direction of Rosemary Bell, suggested that thought be given to ways of revitalizing the program and mission of the church. A lunch for senior citizens in the South Salem area was suggested. A committee composed of Patty Garrett, Dee Wolf, Becky Pemberton, Keeta Lauderdale,



Senior Lunch - 1983

Charlotte Boal, Sarah Howells and Peg Secoy developed the program. Letters were sent to people in the neighborhood over 55 years of age. Of the 33 who came the first time, only 15 were members of Westminster. Members of the congregation donate food for each luncheon. The monthly luncheons, which include time for visiting, a program and celebration of birthdays, have continued to be successful, with attendance as high as 75.

50 MILLION FUND

In 1966, the United Presbyterian Church presented the two-year, "50 Million Fund Campaign". Churches throughout the nation were asked to select projects and determine a goal, which provided this financial assistance. Westminster set a goal of \$20,000.00, selected Mr. Frederick Krives as a general chairman and chose as projects: financial aid to the Union Theological Seminary in the Philippines and assistance to the Christian Medical Center in Ludianha, India.



Pastor Martin Greeting - 1966

TODD MARTIN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

In April of 1966, the Session discontinued the Student Intern Program in favor of a full-time position, which led to the decision in September to invite the Rev. C. Todd Martin to serve as the first full-time assistant for Westminster Church. Moving to Salem with him were his wife Nancy and daughter, Cheryl. In August, Loree, another daughter, was added to their family.

MIGRANT MINISTRY

The Migrant Ministry was organized in 1966 with Terrence James as Chairman. The purpose was to extend and express Christian concern and aid to migrants through personal contacts. Weekly visits were made to a farm migrant camp. Evening activities included sewing, woodworking, movies and games. Six children were brought to Vacation Bible School. A trip to the Portland Zoo was a highlight for some of the children. In 1967, two swing sets were repaired and placed at the camp.

MISSION GOAL & MISSION STUDY

Westminster set a goal in 1962 to increase our giving to General Mission by 5% per year until there was 50% as much given to Mission as was spent for local operating expenses. By 1967 Westminster had reached 45%.

Annual budgets increased during this time. In 1962 the total budget was \$532,500 from 167 pledging units. Not including the manse in which the pastor lived, his salary was \$4,800 with utilities at \$491.83, pension \$717.60 and conference allowance \$46.15. By 1967, with two pastors on staff, the budget had increased to \$52,229.

At the 1967 annual meeting, questions were raised concerning the future planning of the church with reference to building and land requirements. These questions required the Session to address itself to the mission of this church in this community, and to an investigation of the purpose, program plans and policies relevant to that mission. Session appointed the following committee: Paul F. Bale, Peter J. Batten, Catherine Dench, Ermina Fisher, Charles R. Fullerton, Paul S. Kuhns, Jr., Roy V. Proctor, Wallace E. Turnidge and Alfred T. Goodwin, Chairman.

MISSION PRIORITY

The church's budget grew during the five-year period, from \$56,413 to \$62,761, but was raised with increasing difficulty, especially in 1970-71, when inflation struck the Willamette Valley and membership losses were most notable. The share to mission(s) dropped from about 30% in 1968 to less than 12% in 1972. A change in nomenclature explains part of that drop. The larger change may have been the attitude of many members who believed that local missions deserved a higher priority than other missions in a time of financial difficulties.

DAVID WEED, PASTOR

In early 1969, Westminster's senior pastor, the Rev. John Najarian, accepted a call from the First Presbyterian Church in San Anselmo, CA. Associate pastor, the Rev. C. Todd Martin, served as Pastor and Session Moderator until a new pastor was called. A Pastor Seeking Committee was formed, with the following serving: Paul Bale, Peter Batten, Ted deLooze, Paul Hancock, Sara Howells, Paul Kuhns, Betty Mannock, Marian Minty, Stephanie Neer and Rev. John Stewart from First Presbyterian Church, Salem. On October 19, 1969, the call was made to the Rev. David Weed of Portland. He was accepted by the congregation and began his work on Oct. 19, 1969. Coming to Salem with him were his wife Jean and daughters Nancy and Janice.

Communion Bread

*Served during the time John Najarian was pastor
(1959-1969)*

*The recipe came from the kitchen of
Ruby Hawkins - Charter Member*

*1/4 to 1/3-cup sugar 1/4 tsp salt
1 cup shortening 2 cups (scant) flour
1 egg 1/2 cup milk*

1/2 tsp baking powder

*Cream sugar and shortening, blend in egg, add milk
and*

dry ingredients alternately.

Spread in lightly oiled cookie sheet (12 x 18).

Dough will be very stiff.

Bake at 350 degrees, 8-10 min.

Take out of oven and score into 3/8" squares.

Return to oven and bake 10 min, maybe longer.

Store in cool place, covered.

COMMUNION ELEMENTS

Preparation of communion elements has always been the responsibility of the deacons. In 1972, the "shortbread," an unleavened wafer, baked by May Morgan, a devoted member since the beginning of Westminster, was changed to the leavened loaf.

HELP TO HILLCREST

Westminster volunteers were working at Hillcrest School for Girls and at Oregon State Hospital. Church families invited Chemawa Indian School students into their homes for the holidays. At times, the Indian students were bused to Westminster for worship services. Migrant day care centers were provided with some financial funds to match federal funds. Members of the congregation volunteered their service at the centers.



Indonesian Celebration - 1974

ANGELA DAVIS

Perhaps one of the most controversial questions faced by the denomination during these first 30 years of our church was the grant of legal aid for black activist Angela Davis, which came before the Session in June 1971. Westminster, as a congregation, put no money at that time into the Legal Aid Fund established by the 182nd General Assembly. Declaring "the intent" of the body "commendable and deserving the support of members of Christ's Church," the Session's statement suggested that the fund should assist persons, helpless and without knowledge of where to obtain financial, support, and that applications should be screened more closely.

CHURCH SCHOOL

The Church School, which had filled its space to overflowing with 340 pupils at the beginning of 1968, had 486 at the end of the year. Herb Carnahan continued to serve as Church School Superintendent during most of this 5-year period.

ADVENT FESTIVALS

There have been many inspiring and creative Advent Festivals at Westminster. The 1969 Church School Christmas pageant may have been one the most colorful and unusual-- Los Posadas, a celebration borrowed from South of the Border. Quoting from the January 1970 Scroll: "The families in attendance had as much fun as the participants as they followed the parade through town (from the sanctuary to the fellowship room) in a pilgrimage in search of the night's shelter. The entire village doors were locked ... but one...And behind that door--what a sight for little pilgrims. Flags....luminaries Bulging Pinatas. As the parade returned to the sanctuary, they found the same scene they had seen for the eight previous days, except that tonight EL NINITO JESUS was lying in the crib. The children of Eusevio and Maria Ramos (one of our refuge, families)--Guadalupe, Rosita, Merta, Susanne and Eusevio, Jr. were the happy smiling angels, Joseph and Mary. The story of Los Posadas and the Shepherds was read to the children as they pantomimed the action."

PIONEERS AND HIGHLANDERS

The Pioneers (junior high youth) and the Highlanders (senior high youth) were both very active during this period. Twenty to 40 Pioneers and 20-30 Highlanders participated in Sunday evening discussions on such topics as military draft and involvement in Viet Nam. They enjoyed firesides, hikes to Marion Lake and a party with Trinity Methodist youth. One activity particularly enjoyed by both groups was a picnic at Mt. Angel Abbey, where, with two monks serving as hosts, they shared in a monks' vesper service. The youth groups square-danced with Chemawa Indian School students, played bingo with nursing home residents and had a swimming retreat on the North Santiam.

MANSE TO HARRIS HALL

In 1972, the former manse was named Harris Hall in memory of Hugh Harris. Members who knew him well said he was "a man of smaller stature than any other at Westminster, but of great and willing hands, whose many services to the church were so quietly undertaken that many did not realize who had accomplished them until he was gone."



Harris Hall - 1972

1974-1984

NURSERY SCHOOL

"Sharing--Caring for Others" seems to be the dominant theme throughout this period. In late 1972, on a trial basis, Westminster welcomed to its educational facilities, the South Salem Co-operative Nursery School and to its sanctuary, the South Salem Seventh Day Adventists. The group used the church several years, while the South Salem Nursery School continues to use the facilities on a rent-lease type of arrangements. Not only did the school use the facilities, but it also helped with providing toys and equipment and painting some of the rooms.

CAMERON HOUSE SERVICE

In the summer of 1972, youth from Westminster and First Presbyterian churches spent three weeks as counselors in day camps sponsored by Cameron House, Presbyterian mission in Chinatown, San Francisco. In Boulder Knoll Scroll, September 1972, one of the youths wrote, *"I worked with another counselor, Curtis, and we had 14 second-grade boys to pick up in a school yard each morning and take to Golden Gate Park. We found a campsite, took nature tours, had cookouts, read stories, went on trips and played games. Our team lived in Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, using the kitchen to prepare meals and lunches to take with us. We had training sessions which we had been taking before we left Salem so we were busy. We took a sociological tour of Chinatown, toured Cameron House, learned its history, and attended their church. There were many experiences, some good and some not so good, but I learned a lot about human nature and how to handle various problems."*

NEW MEXICO SERVICE

A group of Highlanders from Westminster and Corvallis spent several weeks in the summer of 1974 at the Menaul School in New Mexico, where they contributed to the educational effort of the school.

"COOL IN THE FURNACE"

That same year, they presented "Cool in the Furnace," a musical adaptation of Daniel and his friends, under the direction of Jackie Hilfiker----a production thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. This production was also presented at Morningside Methodist and First Presbyterian in Woodburn at their request

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

During this time, the contemporary form of worship was being used much more. An issue of Boulder Knoll Scroll described the services--9:00 a. m. with balloons and guitars; 11:00 with Presbyterian restraint and the choir. Some would say "Contemporary" at 9:00 and "Traditional" at 11:00. The early service tended to portray or to explore the Good News in a variety of ways, while the 11:00 service emphasized traditional patterns and hymns, choir, organ music and preaching.

REMODELING

Several changes occurred in the building structures. The overflow room of the sanctuary was tiered to provide greater visibility for those sitting in that area. The narthex was enlarged at a cost of \$500.00. New carpeting was installed in the narthex, the steps and the hall, courtesy of Tom Kay.

20-YEAR CELEBRATION

Westminster celebrated its 20th-year celebration on Jan 30, 1977 with the Revs. J. Dwight Russell, David Weed and Todd Martin participating. Newly-elected Deacons and Elders were ordained and installed. The Rev. Kazuyoshi Suzuki from Kasukabe, Japan was an honored guest, and a letter of congratulations was received from the Shalom congregation in Jakarta, Indonesia. A reception followed the celebration. One of the Deacons wrote in an Annual Report, "Not being accustomed to prosperity, we were slow to reach out to projects that involved long-term commitments."

STAINED GLASS



"Stained Glass Guild" taught by Walt and Louise Pollock, was one of the groups participating in the Advent Festival for November 1975. The lovely stained glass panels in the upper windows of the sanctuary were made by the Guild. Some of these windows may be incorporated in the new building. The windows are all symbols of our Christian Faith, and a special thanks goes to the following people:

Alpha and Omega—Ann Toland

Epiphany Star—Kent Toland
 Burning Bush—Hollis Hilfiker
 Chi Rho—Marje Sedestrom
 Red Rose—Jeff Kovach
 Lighted Candle—Mary Lou Iremonger
 Sacrament of Communion—Amer Higley
 The Fish—Ginny Kovach
 All Seeing Eye—Miriam Higley
 Descending Dove—Rosemary Bell

VALOR AWARD TO BETTY MANOCK

Eugene and Betty Manock were long time members of First Presbyterian and then at Westminster. Betty was a writer of Church School Curriculum, which was used by the national church. In the June 1973 Boulder Knoll Scroll, we find this tribute to Betty: "U.S. Coast Guard has announced that a special award for valor will be made, posthumously, to Westminster member, Betty Manock, during the Rose Parade in Portland. The award ceremony will take place aboard a Coast Guard vessel, June 8, 2: 30 p. m." Betty lost her life in the ocean near Coos Bay in the rescue of two of her Girl Scouts who were in trouble in the rough surf.

NEW BY-LAWS

The preamble of the by-laws adopted at the Sept.1982 congregational meeting began as follows----

"Looking to our Heavenly Father for his blessing and asking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we, the members of Westminster United Presbyterian Church, in order to:

Further the general welfare of the community and deepen the spiritual life of those who fellowship with us by providing for dignified public worship of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and be encouraging private devotional life and administer His Kingdom's work in an orderly fashion do hereby ordain and establish these by-laws. Seeking to serve in Christ's name those of our community in need of the ministry of Christ's Church, we determine to make our denomination affiliation a means to that end and the channel whereby we fulfill Christ's commission to carry His Kingdom to the whole world. We accept as our motto: **"A Christ-Centered Community Church."**

MISSION

Bill Ghormley told us about the 'Food Barrel' in the narthex where donations for the 'Food Bank' may be placed. Ruth Wrend told of 6 women from Westminster who served as drivers for 'Meals on Wheels'--a program that takes hot meals to shut-ins. Charlotte Hartwig representing Volunteer Services Program presented a certificate to Westminster in appreciation of our financial assistance. Jackie James reported that an aquarium was delivered to the Adolescent Treatment Center and that the deacons will soon paint the staff room at the Center."

"Further the general welfare of the community will deepen the spiritual life of those who fellowship with us." The leadership provided during this time appropriately required us to share Westminster's ministry in the church and in the community. Todd Martin completed his 14-year ministry in June 1980, when he accepted a new challenge as pastor of Cascades Presbyterian Church in Vancouver, Washington. The celebration, held for him at the Queen of Peace Catholic Church, was characteristic of his ministry, with participants representing the Salem community and Westminster. The Rev. Albert C. (Jack) Chan of Albany, who had worked closely with Todd in Synod Leadership School, provided a smooth interim year transition.

BARRY HEATH, PASTOR

The Pastor Nominating Committee selected at a Congregational Meeting Jan. 18, 1981, included Andy Harris, Chair, Rosemary Bell, Carrie Yates, Michelle Johnston, Bob Hawkins, Steve Chambers, Roy Proctor, Jackie James, Tom Pemberton, Warren Thompson, and Nancy Martin. The committee completed its successful search, with the Rev. Barry Heath, from LaGrande, Oregon, accepting the call on Dec.12, 1981. He came to Salem in early January, with his wife Connie and daughters Bryn (4) and Ashley (1).

FAMILY CLUSTER GROUPS

Patty Garrett, Chair of Christian Education reported to Session in January 1980 the Adult Forum, Intergenerational Committee, Family Cluster programs and group meetings of "Mothers of Young Children," all reflective of the belief that Christian Education is truly a lifetime process. The Family

Cluster groups were started, with an intergenerational group of people who met informally and were led, generally by Arlene Pate, in learning activities that gave a better understanding of one another.

CLERK OF SESSION

Denton Walker resigned as Clerk of Session in April 1978, after having served since January 1962. In recognition of his dedication he was presented a framed statement of his service, designed by Rosemary Bell and signed by most of the elders and pastors who had served during the time he was Clerk.

CARE GROUPS

Care Groups were established in March 1982 at a Deacons' Meeting, as reported by Glen Green. Members, new and old, were assigned into groups with a deacon responsible for convening and organization. The Care Group concept helps all to become more aware and responsive to needs within the congregation, as well as sharing joys and concerns.

MEMBERSHIP

The transition years began with 514 members at the beginning of 1978 and ended with 414 members in 1982. During these years, the congregation was involved in researching possibilities to better meet the needs of the church and the community. Elder Andy Harris reviewed the process for the special congregational meeting of Oct. 21, 1979. Two specific questions were the purchasing of a new organ and building of a sanctuary.

NEW SANCTUARY & ORGAN

October 22, 1978: At the congregational meeting, it was moved, seconded and carried that the "Congregation of Westminster Presbyterian Church resolve to build a new sanctuary, designed by Chrisman and Grimm P. C. and to purchase an eight rank pipe organ from Balcom and Vaughn, Inc. of Seattle, contingent upon raising at least \$180,000."

FUND DRIVE AND BUILDING PLANS

April 22, 1979: Kick-off Snack-Luck was held at Sprague High School. Roy Proctor directed the drive for funds, which resulted in three-year pledges totaling \$191,000.

June 2, 1979: Moved, seconded and carried that Architect Keith Chrisman be directed to proceed with preparation of working drawings to be available for bids. The finance committee was instructed to investigate financial arrangements for building of the sanctuary. Moved, seconded and carried that \$20,000 be designated as the pledge to "Major Mission Fund."

August 8, 1979: The Moderator read from a letter written by Cascade Presbytery, stating that "Westminster Presbyterian Church be authorized to borrow up to \$175,000 for construction of a sanctuary, such loan to come from commercial sources at current rate of interest, repayable over ten year period through congregational pledges and contributions".

SANCTUARY BUILDING DEFERRED

A special meeting of the congregation March 15, 1981 was called to re-evaluate the "Sanctuary Building Program." Hollis Hilfiker, Chair of the Building Committee, presented financial information and results of a survey of the Westminster congregation, which included life styles, housing patterns, family and pledging unit composition and membership. He presented the following recommendation of the Sanctuary Building Committee:

1. Complete payment of 3-year pledge of \$191,000 by June 1981
2. Invest money at highest return available
3. Create need for sanctuary through increased membership and the holding of two services each Sunday.
4. Reconsider construction in two years.

The congregation adopted the recommendation as presented.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATE

Rosemary Bell was selected by Presbytery in early 1980 to be a Commissioner to the General Assembly that year. Since selection is on a rotation basis, it may well be 30-40 years before Westminster is again represented.

KERYGMA

Kerygma, the "Challenge to Grow"--This newly introduced program, in which 94 people have participated, is a 33-lesson in-depth study of the people of God, comprehensive, challenging and effective. It might also describe the transition years at Westminster, which was the result of study, meeting, researching, prayer and a strong leadership with a positive focus on the future.

NEW PROGRAMS

Many new programs were initiated during this time. These included:

- Gatekeeper program to involve and retain new members.
- Tape Ministry (sermons taped and available to shut-ins)
- YACS (a program for young adults and couples)
- Carillon Bell Choir (youth)
- Knoll Men's Breakfast Club
- Care Groups
- Clown Ministry
- Stephen Ministry
- Neighborhood mail-outs inviting the community to participate
- Single Women's Group

New permanent signs, displaying the Celtic Cross, were placed at the Ewald and Winola entrances and at the crest of the hill on Liberty.

NEW COMMITTEES APPOINTED

In January 1983, a Building Review Committee was formed by the Session. The members were Bob Ohmart, Bob Howells, Bob McGauhey, Jack Johnston, Mary Johnson, Bill Ghormley, Del Wolf, Barbara Nelson, Hollis Hilfiker, and Janet Budke.

Later in 1983, the Building Review Committee presented to the congregation, its recommendations, which contained

the establishment of a Long Range Planning Committee to prepare a building program, which included the assessment of program, worship and mission needs and amount of space needed to facilitate these areas of our ministry. This recommendation was approved and the following elected to be members of the L. R. P. C.: Ted Dethlefs, Cliff Eberhardt, Jackie Hilfiker, Nancy Martin, Bill Marshall, Helen McGauhey, Marian Minty, Becky Pemberton, Lorene Tindall and Bob Ohmart, with Rosemary Bell as alternate.

At a special meeting of the congregation, Nov. 1, 1983, Cliff Eberhardt, Chair of the L.R.P.C., presented the committee's report. The four areas covered were Christian Education, Worship, Congregational Care, and Fellowship and Outreach. Each area included "Mission Statement, Needs Statement, Program Implications, and Facility and Non-facility Recommendations." The congregation voted to accept the recommendations of the committee, which included the election of a Building Committee at the January 1984 congregational meeting. The charge of this committee was to:

1. Develop a facilities design and plan no later than January 1985 and report it to the congregation.
2. Develop a financial plan for construction no later than January 1985 and report it to the congregation.
3. Oversee the construction phase.

A Building Committee composed of Marion Embick, Bob Ohmart, Dick Posekany, Joan Green, Bill Nelson, Maxine George and Jack Johnston was elected at the January 1984 congregational meeting. Others who later served on the committee were Walt Friday, Larry Rowat, John Glasscock and Bill Foster.

1984-1994

CAPITAL FUND DRIVE

In April 1985, a Capital Fund Drive under the leadership of Jackie James resulted in \$304,714 being pledged. By February 1986 the architect, Keith Chrisman, completed the working drawings. Dalke Construction of Salem was awarded the contract for the building, at a cost of \$509,400. A 100-year loan of \$260,000 was secured from Commercial Bank, with a 15-year amortization at 10.875 per cent fixed interest.

GROUND BREAKING

Groundbreaking for the new sanctuary, also to be used as a multipurpose room, took place on May 4, 1986. A service was held on the site and members came with shovels in hand to share in the joy of a dream come true. A tape was made and placed in an appropriate place in the building for future generations to hear.

MORE PARKING

More parking was acquired when Andrew and Sue Harris gave us property at 3575 Winola Ave. S. The original sanctuary of Westminster will be known as "Russell Hall" to commemorate the life of Rev. J. Dwight Russell, who died August 5, 1985, for the dedication, contributions and love he gave to us.

JACK McNARY, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

At the annual Congregational meeting Jan. 21, 1985 an Associate Pastor Seeking Committee was selected. It included Hollis Hilfiker, Chair; Hal Brunstad, Len Van Kleek, Linda Miller, Cliff Norris. Dee Wolf and Ted Dethlefs. On Jan. 26, 1986, the committee presented the nomination of the Rev. Jack McNary to the congregation.

CLOWNS

Early in 1985, Bud and Lenore Frimoth of "Open Door Ministry" in Portland conducted a Clown Workshop. Much



Clowns at Pentecost - 1989



Jack McNary at Vacation Bible School

interest was generated and our own clown ministry began. This small, wonderful, laughable group, which has included Steve Proctor, Joan Green, Ron and Trish Hanna Terry and Erik Fennell, Lu Dethlefs, Dorothy Calvert and Arlene Pate, continues today, with excellent support and response from the congregation.

HELEN McGAUHEY RETIRES

On Sunday April 27, 1986 at Salem Heights Community Hall, an appreciative group gathered for a retirement party for Helen McGauhey, who had served more than 10 years as Church School Coordinator.

SYMBOLIC SCULPTURES

Sculptures symbolizing the Trinity, designed and executed by Roy Setziol, of Sheridan, a retired Presbyterian Chaplain, are high on the walls and form a focal point for the sanctuary-multipurpose room.

DEDICATION OF NEW SANCTUARY

"CALLED TO THE GOSPEL TASK" is the theme of the building dedication. The planning committee for the events includes Jackie Hilfiker, Chair; Nancy Martin, Bill and Lucy Foster, Dee Wolf, Marian Minty, Dorothy Eberhardt and Helen McGauhey. At the 9:30 coffee hour, Feb. 1,

new members will be recognized and Russell Hall will be dedicated. Both services will begin with worshippers carrying the worship furnishings into the sanctuary. Communion will be observed. On Friday evening, a congregational dinner in the new multi-purpose sanctuary will celebrate the 30 years of Westminster.

Westminster was fortunate to have had "the Johnsons" as Choir Director and Organist for thirty years. J. Dwight Russell, the organizing pastor of Westminster, contacted Mary and Wally Johnson, upon the suggestion of Mary's aunt, a member of Dwight's church in Weiser, Idaho. At the groundbreaking ceremony for the building, Mary played the piano from the back of a truck for the hymns that were sung. That was the beginning of "Music for Westminster."

When the sanctuary was finished, the first choir was formed with 12-15 participants. John and Bev Hunt, who have been in the choir at least 20 years, have enlightened rehearsals many times with their sense of humor. Ray Yandell, with his dry wit, once brought a couple of coconut halves to produce the sound of horses, an effect that was needed for a particular Palm Sunday anthem. Hollis and Jackie Hilfiker have been choir members for a long time. Jackie has sung many solos and also solos within an anthem.

Lu Dethlefs, Lorene Tindall and Lucile Newton, sopranos, Neysa Hickok and Jean Marshall, altos, have been in the choir for a long time. Jean has soloed with the choir many times. Lori Karvandi, recently of the First Presbyterian Church in Portland, has given numerous contralto solos. New choir members in recent years include Kathy Curlee, Francis Allen, Dave and Wendy Crane, Rue Manhire, Russ Wittmer, Lucy and Bill Foster, John Wood, Lysa Hall and Kay Souter.



Bell Choir Rehearsal - 1986



Mary and Wally Johnson

WESTMINSTER CHIMES

For several years, the Handbell Choirs have added much to our worship services and a special thanks goes to Wendy Crane, Director. Ruth Custer, a resident of Capital Manor in West Salem and a former member of this church purchased the original set of two octaves in 1975. After using the handbells for a limited time at the manor, Ruth gave them to Westminster in 1979. Wendy Crane began weekly rehearsals with a group in 1980. Two years later, Pauline Mather's mother, Mrs. Bernard Huenike, in memory of her late husband, gave the third octave to Westminster. In 1984 a youth handbell choir, now known as Carillon Bell Choir, began weekly practices.

SISTER CHURCHES

Kasukabe

During 1985-86, a young Japanese girl, Nobuko Suzuki, was a member of the Westminster Highlander Youth Group. She was part of the continuing exchange between the congregation of Kasukabe Christian Church of Japan and Westminster. The exchange between Salem and Kasukabe began before Nobuko was born, and the story should be told of this association with a Japanese Christian congregation of 125 members that in 1986 celebrated its 100th anniversary. In the early 1950's, Miriam Higley, a former member of Westminster, was serving as secretary/treasurer of Church Women United of Salem. That group was sending money monthly through Mrs. Higley to assist three young Japanese men to attend a seminary in Tokyo. Miriam added correspondence of her own, along with Christmas gifts, and kept in touch for about eight years. Kazuyoshi Suzuki, one of those seminary students, became a pastor of the Kasukabe Christian Church and has worked to increase the bonds between the members of the two churches. In June of 1971, he made his first visit to our area to attend the Presbyterian Summer School held at Willamette University. He brought with him a few teachers from the kindergarten, which the church sponsors.

Rev. Mr. Suzuki took a year's sabbatical leave, and came to Oregon to work on a daily basis with several pastors. Several Westminster families alternated as hosts for him during his stay in Salem. John Hunt was the Session Chairman of the Mission Committee at that time and became well acquainted with the Rev. Mr. Suzuki.

John and Bev's daughter, Sandra, journeyed to Kasukabe later, staying with the pastor's family and working in their church kindergarten for five months. Later, the eldest son of the Rev. Mr. Suzuki (Masakazu or "Mazzie") attended Sprague High School for two years while living with the Hunts. He participated fully in Westminster activities while here, and the Kasukabe Church made a significant contribution of money to Westminster's first building fund drive in 1979. At that time and later, the Rev. Mr. Suzuki attended many sessions of the Cascade Summer Schools, usually bringing with him several teachers from the Japanese

Church Schools. They always visited with families of Westminster while in Oregon, keeping the congregational ties refreshed. When "Mazzie" graduated, Mrs. Suzuki, a brother and sister made the journey to Salem to see him reach his goal.

Visitations went the other way, too. These included the Rev. C. Todd Martin with his daughters Cheryl and Loree, and at another time John and Bev Hunt. In 1986 Becky Hilfiker spent six months at the Suzuki home. A stay which concluded with a short visit by Becky's mother, Jackie, along with Jackie James, Mary Johnson and others.

On the reverse side, the youngest daughter of the Suzuki's, Nobuko has been living with the Hunts in Salem, attending Sprague High School and participating at Westminster. At the Worship Service on Sept. 14, 1986, Nobuko presented a check for \$3,000.00 to Pastor Barry Heath for the Building Fund. The students in the Kasukabe Church School, the parents, the teachers, the church staff and members of the church had collectively made this gift possible. Subsequently, the Building Committee has dedicated this gift to the building of a deck for our new building. The Kasukabe congregation is being asked to give the deck a name.

Shalom Church, Jakarta, Indonesia

During the mid-seventies, the Shalom Church in Jakarta, Indonesia and Westminster developed a relationship, primarily through the efforts of the Rev. Frank Cooley and his wife, Ruth, fraternal workers in Indonesia. The Cooleys lived in Salem and were members of Westminster for a time and created the contact necessary for such communications.

SPONSORSHIP

BOY SCOUT TROOP 108

Troop 108 was chartered in late 1957 under the sponsorship of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Amer Higley was the first Scoutmaster and Russ Handley, the Institutional Representative. Bob Curtis, Bob Hawkins, Vance Tribbitt, and Charles Knapp helped organize and lead the Troop in the early years. The twelve to fifteen boys in the group made bird houses and feeders to raise money for tents and other troop equipment. Paul Kuhns was Scoutmaster in 1961-62, followed by Dick Schaefer in 1963-64 and Walt Friday in 1965.

Each year since the beginning the boys have attended Scout Camp at Camp Pioneer near Mt. Jefferson. Scouts in 108 have participated in every National Jamboree since 1969 and a few have attended several World Jamborees. A number of Scouts and adults have also gone to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico as campers or as staff members. Since the early sixties the highlight of the year for the troop members has been a week-long "50-Miler" backpack trip to the mountains or a float trip on Oregon rivers.

Nearly every year at least one member has reached the rank of Eagle Scout with Ron Petsch being the first in 1965. Mike Marsh earned the first "God and Country Award" in 1966.



Rose Marie and Bruce Marsh - 1983

At a Congregational Meeting Jan. 15 1984 Bruce Marsh was recognized for 25 years of leadership including 15 years as Scoutmaster. Others who have worked with the troop include Bob McGauhey, Dan Barnes, Ted Dethlefs, Glen Green, Herb Carnahan, Ed Kupillas, John Howarth, Bob Toney, Bob Hollen, Morris Hunsaker, Sam Allison, Erl Svendsen, Jeff Kovach, Gene Fields, Jim Pate, Don Follas, Bob Tinnell, Del Wolf, Jack Doty, and for many years, Walt Friday. Tom Nathe served as Scoutmaster from early 1984 until mid 1985 when Mike Beagen, our current scoutmaster, assumed the leadership of the troop.

In 1970 Merrifield Lodge was expanded by fifty percent to better accommodate the 40 to 50 members in the troop.

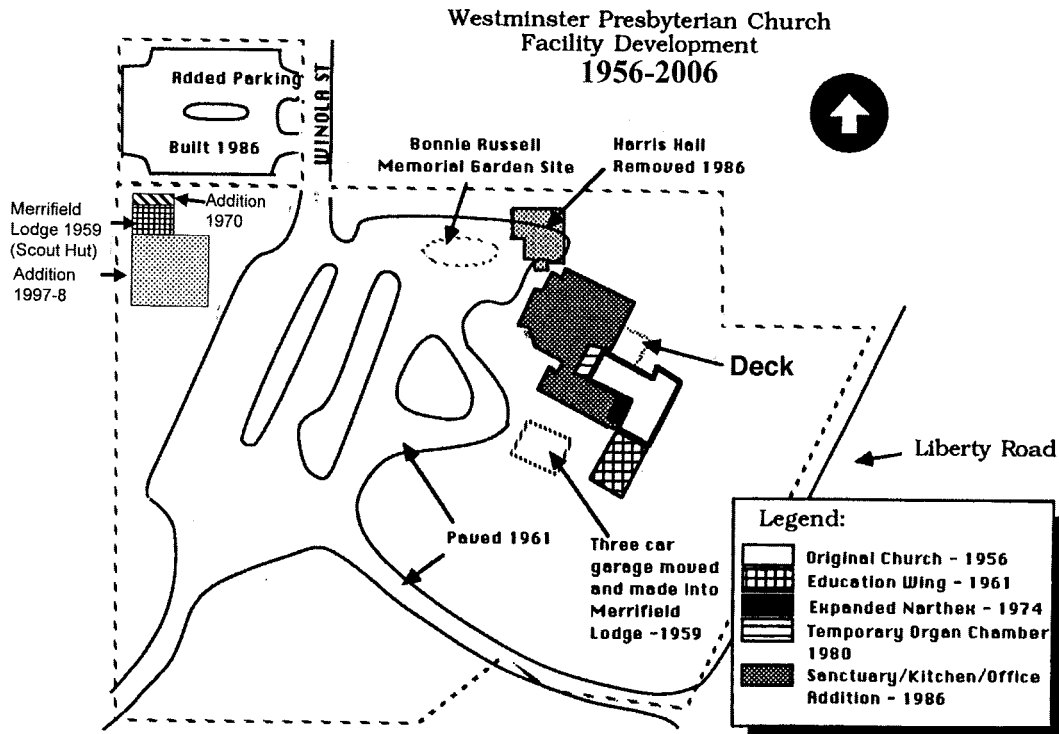
On April 5, 1997 ground was broken for a major expansion of the scout facility increasing the space by nearly four times; adding restrooms, simple kitchen, leader's office and large meeting room. The new addition was dedicated October 4, 1998 and named for Bruce Marsh. This construction was a community effort with donated funds, material and local contractors participating. Dale's Remodeling led this effort.

The Lodge remains the meeting place for the troop and has served well over the years with the church parking lot providing space for many outdoor activities.

Westminster's Troop 108 has afforded hundreds of boys opportunities for scouting experiences, outdoor training and preparation for adult life.



Troop 108 horseplay - 1967



New Eagle Scout Mike Marsh and Scoutmaster Walt Friday - 1966



Scoutmaster Bill MacMorris-Adix and scouts of troop 108 -1995



Merrifield Lodge getting new roof & addition - 1970



New Scout facility built - 1997-98

The Following Scouts achieved the rank of Eagle Scout

Ron Petsch	1965	Shane O. Rogosin	1993
Mike Marsh	1966	Zachary Calhoon	1993
Ron Dixon	1967	Kailean J. Kneeland	1994
Doug Barnes	1969	Justin T.S. Nakamura	1994
Eric Larson	1971	Kirk Matthews	1994
Mike Proctor	1971	Brian J Zakarian	1995
Ken Allison	1973	Ryan T. McGirr	1995
Ron Hunsaker	1973	Scott D. Burwash	1996
Dick Palen	1975	Scott R. Upton	1997
Kris Carnahan	1975	Doug Hoffman	1997
Steve Kuhns	1975	Brendan Finlayson	1998
Brian Fields	1976	James Rosenlund	1998
Allen Han	1976	Chandler Depenbrook	1998
Brett Hunsaker	1977	Jesse Thetford	1998
Rick Naimark	1978	Monty Grubbs	1998
Dan Quoidbach	1978	John Chase	1999
John McDonald	1979	Doug Stewart	1999
Tim Doty	1979	Scott Buell	1999
Cliff Elling	1979	Keegan Bergerson	1999
Jeff Allison	1979	Greg Austin	1999
John Seymour	1980	Cutler Boughn	2000
Ken Doty	1980	Ryan Hill	2000
Andy Kovach	1980	Blaine Witter	2000
Jeff Morris	1981	Chris Coffey	2000
Richard Garland	1981	James Boyle	2000
Mike McDonald	1982	Mac Brookman	2001
Dave Wiley	1982	Justin Reed	2001
Tom Bailey	1982	Chris Fanshier	2001
Ken Friday	1983	Jamie Payne	2001
Mike Boeder	1983	Keegan Ireland	2002
Kent Meier	1984	Kevin Foster	2002
Rob Tinnell	1985	Matt Hughes	2002
Chris Turpen	1986	Doug Wardell	2002
Scott Pugh	1986	Garrett Staten	2002
Richy Bello	1987	Lewis Pettenger	2003
Ron Tinnell	1988	Sonny Cuffe	2003
Lee Rubel	1988	Eric Fosdick	2003
Brian Dirx	1988	Adam Miles	2004
Kevin Bosch	1989	Matthew Mongenel	2005
Scot Pears	1990	David Zelmer	2005
Michael Munks	1991	Nick Reed	2005
Scott Zakarian	1992	Nich Weber	2005

REFUGEE FAMILIES

CATALANI FAMILY

Leo and Vilma Catalani, our first refugee family, was Indonesian and came to us by way of Holland. They and their two small sons arrived by train on May 29, 1961. Leo had been in the import-export business in Indonesia and the family was forced to leave in about 1958. Both spoke English quite well.

The Deacons took major responsibility for the family but called on many church members for help with various needs. A house was rented for them on Commercial Street. Members of the church furnished the house and stocked it with food for Catalani's arrival. The Women of Westminster gave \$100.00 to the family for their use. Seventy dollars was used to cover rent, heat, utilities and garbage collection the first month.

GUS ENVELA FAMILY

In the late sixties, the First Presbyterian Church of Salem sponsored the Gus Envela family, which consisted of Gus, the father, Victoria, his wife and their five children from Equatorial Guinea. A Presbyterian minister, Mr. Envela had been serving as his country's delegate to the United Nations.

Apparently, political upheaval in his country prevented Mr. Envela and his family from returning home. The National Presbyterian Church, through the Oregon Synod, contacted the First Presbyterian Church, which in turn, sponsored the family. Mr. Envela was hired by the State Vocational Rehabilitation Division in Salem, where he continues to work.

RAMOS FAMILY

In 1968, the Migrant Committee at Westminster, under the direction of Terrence James, adopted the Ramos family that consisted of Eusavio, his wife Maria and their children, Nancy, Guadalupe, Rosita, Merta, Susanne and Eusavio, Jr. Since Mr. Ramos was not able to work, Maria and the children provided the income by working in the fields.

For more than four years, Westminster helped the family. Food was donated quite regularly. There were needs too, for bus fare to kindergarten, help with rent or utilities and

clothing or medical assistance. Many people at Westminster were involved in this program, but Patty Garrett and Grace Fullerton probably contributed most to the families and are the ones who have maintained contact with the family through the years. The church also assisted Maria and Nancy in securing their permanent visas, since they were Mexican citizens, whereas the others were born in Texas.

HER FAMILY

In approximately 1979 Westminster, through SOAR, sponsored a family of 8 who were refugees from Laos and were living in a refuge camp in Thailand. The camp was being closed and they could not safely return to Laos as their family had helped the American forces in Vietnam.

Over a period of two days the family flew directly from the camp to Salem arriving literally with only the clothes on their back. For a week or so the family lived with Cliff and Dorothy Eberhardt.



Her Family - 1980

The Her family consisted of father Chung Kue Her, son and daughter-in-law and their two sons, and an additional son and two daughters in ages between 12 and 16. They stayed in the old church manse (which has since been torn down) for well over a year. Church members assisted them in learning English (they spoke only Hmong- local Laotian dialect) and helped them to become self-sufficient. Nurses Pauline Mather and Patty Garrett took care of their medical needs.

Of the original 8 only one daughter (Chue Her, now Chue Xiong) and her family remain in Salem. Family members now live in California and in the Minnesota area.

To date (2006) Chue has 5 children who have graduated from high school and 3 younger still in school. Of the older children three are currently working and going to college in the Los Angeles area. The family has overcome many obstacles (learning English, and gaining knowledge not previously learned in Laos schools). Chue has a family business selling flowers in local farmer markets. The family is active in their Hmong Christian Church.

HUONG FAMILY

Late in the summer of 1983 an extended Cambodian family by the name of Huong came to Salem under the sponsorship of John Keo, a Cambodian working for the Oregon Employment Service. The original group consisted of twelve people from three related families. They were upper middle class people in Cambodia. One of the men had been the director of a nursing school. The husbands of the two mothers in the family were killed in the fighting in Cambodia. The rest of the family escaped into Thailand and then to Refugee camps in the Philippines. Health problems prevented both of the women from seeking employment.

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES

Westminster Church members led the way in bringing a not-for-profit, Fair Trade store to Salem. In previous years our church Alternative Gift Market had sold hand crafted items provided by the Self Help Crafts store in Dallas, OR, however, in December 2000 that store closed. A group of interested persons in Salem committed themselves to reviving this resource and bringing it to the larger location in Salem. Early in 2001 a meeting was held at the church inviting people who might be interested. A number of Westminster members joined the effort and were active members of the start up committee and later the Board. Many continue to volunteer regularly in the store.

One time sales and a seasonal store were steps toward starting a permanent store in June of 2002. Pastor John Moody sent letters to fellow pastors to engage the involvement of other churches. The community support grew and since then the store has continued to thrive and Westminster members continue to be involved.

The mission of the store is to assist disadvantaged artisans in developing countries by being a marketplace for their handcrafted goods. Fair Trade means disadvantaged artisans receive fair compensation for their crafts, are treated with dignity and respect, and are able to earn a living wage with which they can support themselves and their families. Fair Trade supports work environments, which are safe and healthy, and improves artisan quality of life by allowing families to remain together, to be able to educate their children, and obtain adequate healthcare. During each year of operation the store has increased sales which means helping more people around the world who are in need. The future holds great promise for continued growth. One of the long range goals is to be able to devote some of the store proceeds to needs in our local community.

HISTORY 1980'S CONTINUE BY JOHN HUNT

A common remark about church history is that we stand upon the shoulders of those who have gone before us. This is certainly true as we remember the expansion of the church facilities during 1987-88.

During this lengthy process, everyone had the chance to provide suggestions about the style of the all-new sanctuary and the type of seating, the design of a totally-new kitchen, and many other features. Much-needed additional office space was another result of the expansion. With the establishment of a new place for worship, the former sanctuary was transformed into Russell Hall, (named for the founding pastor of Westminster, Dwight Russell). This created room for storage of choir robes, and music, and the hand bells. For activities, there was now generous space for many meetings, and for choir warm-up before church service.

Perhaps the most noticeable change was the relocating of the church library from its former space in a small room off an upstairs hallway, down to its current location which is easy to access in Russell Hall. With the dedicated efforts by a small group, (especially Lois Turnidge and Dee Wolf), it has attracted many more donations, and now even includes many VHS tapes and DVD recordings of movies, plus 'talking books' and those with large print. Volunteer support has been the foundation of an active library.

The goal of having a staff position for Youth Ministry Coordinator was realized in a small way in 1989. For a

few months a part-time position was filled. This was given greater support in the budget for 1990, but still only as a part-time position. There are great desires in this area, but problems of funding and recruiting have continued.

We applaud the members' response to calls for extra financial support, and the work efforts, which created the facility we enjoy today. This willing response was also needed when the decision was made to increase the number of members of Session and of Deacons for the future.

'Change', it is sometimes welcomed, and often feared, especially when a group as diverse as Westminster's congregation is involved. In early 1986, Jack McNary was called to be an associate pastor, to serve with Barry Heath. This restored staffing to what it had been during part of the past. The partnership of these two men provided a beneficial stability, which continued for many years.

In those years the number of members grew also. 1987 began with 484 members, and ended with 531. 1988 ended with 542 on the active rolls; and 1989 ended with the same net number. 1990 ended with 574 on the roll of active members, and 1991 closed with a membership of 596.

It was a shock to choir members when Wally Johnson retired from the director's job in April of 1987. He and his wife, Mary, had led the music program at Westminster from the beginning of the church some 30 years before. Mary continued as organist to ease the move into a new era.

CROSSING A NEW THRESHOLD

From Book I Church History by

Louise Frost Hunt

Church Historian

In January 1987, Westminster's congregation had been meeting in the new sanctuary for several weeks. Fresh in the group's minds were the joys and vagaries of the preceding construction year (1986): they well-remembered that "homeless" feeling of having been inadvertently locked out at Faye Wright Elementary School one rainy autumn Sunday morning – they had been meeting there for some Sundays; this feeling was balanced by the repeated joy of being able to meet while there as a single congregation – at 11:00 a.m. – the early birds and the late risers once more a unified whole.

Over the past months many had been concerned about how well some members of the congregation – especially the most senior people—would cope with minor upsets, such as folding chairs for snug and favored pews. But to everyone's amazement and delight, most of these cherished people had looked upon this "adventure in moving" with grace and aplomb, as a bonus they might not otherwise have been able to experience and share.

Now with the arrival of 1987, all hearts began to tilt with anticipation toward the week of formal dedication activities planned for early in February. The congregation had been dodging around evidence of incompleteness: a radial arm saw in the center aisle, covered with a green cloth and decorated with springs of holly for Christmas; they had stepped carefully over huge rolls of carpet; they had been learning their way through mazes of new electronic audio equipment and coping with the adjustment of new heating and lighting controls. Now they puzzled out newly assigned names and room designations in older areas of the facility. The operative word was NEW!

Plans were well under way to celebrate simultaneously the church's thirtieth anniversary and the dedication of the new sanctuary, culminating on February 8, 1987, with a formal dedicatory service of worship...complete with programs and descriptions of the week's activities, as well as diagrams of the new facility, are included in the pocket-folder following this "1987" section.

1990-1999

By Katie and Bill Nelson

The years 1990 through 1999 were memorable ones at Westminster! It was a decade that saw many changes to all aspects of the church, including the addition of some wonderful programs and special people. These changes continue to be a part of who and what we are today. Membership stayed constant at an average of 566 people. The highlights of these ten years can be summed up within the following areas: Christian Education; Christian Nurture; Outreach, Worship, and Music; Staff; Gatherings; and Building and Grounds.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Because our congregation consisted of many families with young and adolescent children several parenting classes were offered. Nancy Orem was the first paid staff under the title Director of Christian Education, followed by Gail Moody in 1996.

The Family Ministry Committee was created by the Session in 1998, which organized the first Parent's Night Out, an outreach program for families of Salem Heights elementary. The specific purpose of the committee was to identify, guide and develop Westminster's services and resources that sustain and enhance the spiritual and emotional well being of families across the lifespan. As a result Family Ministry sponsors Notes of Encouragement – These words of encouragement are sent out twice a year to post high-school individuals.

Another program is Rites of Passage, which recognize significant events that occur in family members' lives throughout the year. These include obtaining a driver's license, entering kindergarten, starting middle school and retirement. Each person is given a small token to mark this special event in his or her life.

During the summer the Family Ministries Committee also sponsors several Wednesday Nights at Westminster. These are opportunities for congregation members across the generations to gather together for a meal provided by the Deacons, fellowship and an engaging program." The library facilities were used more and more as the decade progressed. It is interesting to note that in 1990 there were four videotapes on the library shelves, but by 1999 a total of 603 videotapes were checked out by the congregation!

CHRISTIAN NURTURE

In 1995 the New Member Assimilation Committee joined forces with Evangelism Committee. The Small Group Ministry committee provided a chance for us to get to know each other better in a more intimate setting. The Muffin Project began in 1997, and Men of Westminster began meeting socially in 1998.

OUTREACH, WORSHIP, AND MUSIC

It may be hard to believe, but the first Alternative Gift Market marked the beginning of the decade. That is also when the yellow prayer cards were thoughtfully placed in the chair racks of the sanctuary. The School Supply Giving Tree, benefiting 7 local Title I schools and the Advent Walk both began in 1996. In 1998 contemporary elements of worship were first introduced, and the Youth Choir began. Star Choir, for grades 2-5, grew in numbers to 25 strong, and Sunshine Choir, a training choir for preschool through grade 1, was started in 1996. There were a variety of very special Christmas Pageants put on by the talented children, including "Christmas Around the World" (1993) and Las Posadas (1996). That same year we also purchased, with the expert help of Andrew Todd, a beautiful grand piano for the sanctuary. The first 5pm Christmas Eve service focusing on telling the Christmas message to families with young children was in 1999. Special musical moments that marked the decade included Noye's Flood (1991), Oh, Jonah! (1994), Hurry On Down! (1996), and Folk Psalms (1998), which all featured the talented youth of our church.

STAFF

We have been blessed to have exceptional people on staff at Westminster, and the 1990's were no exception. The position of Parish Associate was created and Paul Evans was hired (1991), later followed by Norman Austin (1999). Expansion of the physical space made it necessary to give our custodian, Mike Behnke, fulltime hours, beginning in 1991. The music program really started growing when Linda McCreery became Music Director in 1992. It was a sad day when Mary Johnson retired in 1995 after 38 years of being our organist, but we greatly benefited from the musical gifts of Andrew Todd (1996), Susan McDaniel (1998), and later Mary Ruth Helppie (1999). When Associate Pastor Jack McNary left in 1993, Don Caughey became our interim associate pastor. In 1994 when Barry Heath left, Charles Webster became our interim pastor. The position of Youth Ministry Coordinator was created, and Randy Hunt, Christine Parker (Heyen), and Tim Goodfellow ably filled that role between 1992-1999. Gail and John Moody arrived in 1995, as pastor and later as Christian Education Coordinator (1996), respectively.

PASTOR JOHN MOODY AND FAMILY COME TO SALEM

I came to Westminister from First Presbyterian Church of North Hollywood. I was selected as pastor by recommendation of the Pastor Nominating Committee and elected by the congregation in October 1995. I arrived to begin my responsibilities on December 1, 1995. I was installed as pastor in February 1996. After spending a portion of November, December and January in Salem, house sitting for members of the congregation, my family joined me in Salem the first week of February. We purchased a home in the Sunnyslope neighborhood.

The move from Southern California brought us to a place much different than the San Fernando Valley. I had served as a pastor in an urban setting, serving as an urban



Pastor John & Gail Moody

/redevelopment pastor. Gail was employed as a Christian Educator in a congregation in the Chatsworth portion of the San Fernando Valley. Our daughters Heather and Ashley left a very familiar place, where they had spent a goodly portion of their childhood, leaving behind close friends. Heather, a freshman in high school, enrolled at Sprague High School. Ashley a 6th grader, enrolled at Crossler Middle School. You can imagine how one daughter who was a teenager, and the other who was almost a teenager, felt about moving to Oregon! A place they had never seen. I am very proud of how they handled the move, it took a lot of courage on their parts. It all worked out in the end with everyone becoming very happy here.

The move was challenging for all of us. The weather was wicked, we were greeted by the 1996 flood and also snow. Something that we did not anticipate was Gail being invited to serve on the staff being hired part time in November of 1996 as a Christian Educator. This was new wrinkle in our relationship as husband and wife.

My time in Salem has been characterized by the following community involvement: Board member on the Salem Pastoral Counseling; President and Board member of the Salem Kiwanis Club; President and Board member of the Willamette Valley Hospice; Vice President and Board member of the Willamette Valley Road Runners. I have also served on several committees in the Presbytery of the Cascades.

Running has been a big part of my life in Salem. We have a wonderful running community here, and I have gained great friendships through it. I improved my running skills running in many marathons since coming to Salem. The Boston Marathon was a highlight of my life, and especially so, since the congregation was kind enough to contribute toward my expenses. When I finished the course it was hard for me to believe that I had indeed run in and finished the famous Boston Marathon. I am deeply appreciative for the opportunity to have gone to Boston.

OFFICE MANAGERS

Eunice Lambert was Office Manager for over 13 years at Westminster until 1994 when Gerri Curless replaced her. In January of 1998, Denise McCauley took over as Office Manager. With Denise at the helm the office computers were upgraded and well as improvements with new furniture and other technology upgrades.

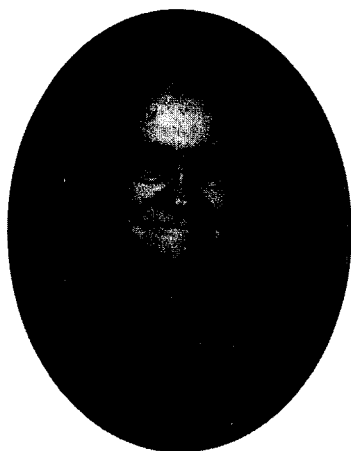
Becki Quiring is serving currently as an office assistant and several members of the congregation volunteer in the mornings and afternoons. Their duties include answering the phone, proof reading and other light duties. Groups of volunteers also come in weekly and print the Boulder Knoll Scroll, another group folds the BKS and put the labels on for mailing. This group includes Bert & Carol Huber, JoEve and Bob Netz, Lu Pope, Marian Minty, and Bill and Donna Grupe.

There are approximately 30 volunteers who assist at one time or another. Denise reports that it is such a wonderful and giving congregation that she sometimes is overwhelmed by their willingness to donate their time and talents for the benefit of the church office.

NORMAN AUSTIN, PARISH ASSOCIATE

Pastor John Moody offered this information: "In January of 1999, Rev. Norman Austin was invited by the Session to serve as our Parish Associate. This relationship continued until Norman's death in July of 2006. A Parish Associate is

an ordained Minister of the Word and Sacrament who is often retired or serving in another capacity besides a local congregation. The relationship begins when the pastor of a particular congregation invites such a person to be a Parish Associate. The Session and Presbytery must concur with this invitation. It is a one year relationship. It ceases either when the current pastor leaves, or it may conclude by mutual consent.



**Norman Austin
Parish Associate**

The beauty of the Parish Associate relationship is that it allows for a great deal of freedom between the pastor and the Parish Associate to decide how the Parish Associate will relate to a particular congregation. Norman's desire was to be of service to me, and the congregation. It was his desire to be involved at Westminster, as he was able, so that the congregation could benefit from his experience and talents, and I could be supported in my ministry too.

Norman was a true blessing to the staff and the congregation. He worked with the Board of Deacons and on a regular basis assured the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was available to folks unable to be present in worship. He taught many Bible studies, assisted in the New Member classes, preached in my absence, followed up on newcomers and visited in the hospital. He loved going to Presbytery meetings.

Norman truly endeared himself to the congregation through his service to us. I appreciated the depth of his friendship to and for me, along with his true love and concern for the congregation."

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

A small but mighty committee worked tirelessly behind the scenes, maintaining the property, buildings, and equipment. Some of the highlights included: installation of a sprinkling system (1991), the beginning of South Salem Pre-school (1990), paving of the lot and new signage (1997), and hiring a professional landscape maintenance company (1999).

The 1990's were years that brought many positive changes to Westminster. Hopefully those years will be remembered with great fondness and joy.

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

Fine Arts Festival Committee at Westminster was formed after the first Fine Arts Festival and was the brainchild of Helen Schafer with Linda Lowery's assistance. Helen had held art shows in her home and felt it would be a wonderful way to show off our newly built sanctuary with the Roy Setziol carvings as well as helping artists market their creations. The original committee consisted of Helen, Linda, Dolores Byrnes, Bernice Cave, Helen Titus and Shirley Ohmart.

The first festival was rather small and the artists were mostly church members. There was no jurying of artwork, no restrictions as to the number of pieces each artist could show and no rules as to the kinds of creations that could be shown. Items did not have to be for sale. The show was arranged around an Amish-style quilt designed and created by Louise McDonald and had been featured in a national quilting magazine. The committee had a lot of fun using the bold colors of the quilt as a centerpiece for the show.

The festival was upgraded considerably when Philip Augustin joined the committee. Not only was he an artist himself (photography) but also he was working on large trade shows at the time. He suggested our Breakfast with the Arts feature, which is always held on Saturday morning of the three-day festival and, other than the Thursday night's artist reception, is the most popular event. He also worked to convince the committee that professional artist jurors would be effective. We now have 3 paid jurors, 22 active members and 2007 will be our 20th annual festival.

The Fine Arts Committee has funded various concerts including several children's musicals present by the youth of Westminster. Other uses for proceeds include shelving in the library, lights for handbell music stands, scaffolding, donation to carpet fund, donation to new piano fund, donations to youth mission project, food for Breakfast with the Arts, art pieces for church and church office, pottery for communion, forum (Dancability), Vietnamese dinner benefit, payment of musicians for various performances throughout the festivals.

1996-2006

HOGAR INFANTIL

In 1997 the Westminster youth committee and Christine Parker were inspired to initiate an on-going mission trip experience for the high school youth. Pastor John Moody supported this vision but encouraged the youth committee to seek a relationship in area of the world that was unique and not currently being supported by other churches or organizations. During the search church member Ellen Chambers made contact with one of her colleagues who was associated with Hogar Infantil. Hogar fit the criteria John had proposed. It was located in the poorest state of Mexico, which is Chiapas, nestled in the hills near Guatemala. Hogar Infantil is a home for 80 children who have been abandoned, are without parents, or don't have family members who can feed and cloth them.

The first trip was organized and led by Christine Parker, youth leader and two Westminster members, Steve Chambers and Julie Speck. These three adults traveled with 17 youth for 10 days to this remote village. The focus of this trip



Children of Hogar Infaniti - 1999

was to play and support the nearly 80 children ages 5-23. Returning with energy and excitement Westminster decided this was a project that we needed to continue. Both John and Gail Moody have visited Hogar and every three years our youth group returns to spend time with the children. During the years when youth groups are not traveling to Chiapas other members of the congregation go as a family or in small groups.

In addition to mission trips Westminster Church supports Hogar through the following efforts:

- Provides clothing and bedding for the children
- Provides Christmas gifts for the children and staff
- Provides backpacks and school supplies
- Our Sunday School raises money for books and other supplies
- One member supported the installation of a new water system
- Providing financial support for the day-to-day expenses.

Hogar brings as many rewards to those from Westminster who have traveled there as it does to the children of Hogar. We are blessed to be a part of this experience.

COLONIA LIBERTAD

In March 2006 Westminster was asked to help at Colonia Libertad. Colonia Libertad is a migrant farm worker-housing complex on Saddle Bag road just off Lancaster Drive SE. Linda Johnson and Doris Friday agreed to participate.



Doris Friday Helping at Colonia Libertad - 2006

Linda gathered volunteers to read to the migrant children. Doris Friday assembled supplies and sewing machines for a mother's sewing group. Doris also participated with Maria Alcazar, a 4-H leader, working with migrant children until school was out. The mother's group took over the apron project not completed by the children. They finished 30 aprons with the Colonia Libertad name printed on them. After the aprons were finished the mothers started individual

projects. Some made tiered skirts for their daughters. Some bring mending. The most difficult problem is the language barrier. A volunteer who could translate would be an asset.

BOUNTY II CLIPPER

From 1960 to 1985 the group worked with 28 to 30 Fairview residents once a month from September through May. During those 25 years the group planned an activity and treats. The members took turns escorting the residents on buses coming to and from Fairview. In 1973 the group expanded their giving of Christmas gifts beyond the 30 or so residents to the general population. In 1985 Bounty II adopted the Mission Mill Church. Hollis Hilfiker furnished the tree and greens and Fred Schwarz furnished greens and cones. Members made wreaths, swags, garland and other decorations. This was discontinued in January of 1990. In 1989 Bounty II requested decorating Westminster sanctuary for Christmas. Up until 1991 Helen McGauhey provided candles for the advent wreath made by Ed Hoem. Prior to 1995 all the poinsettias were real. However, in 1995 silk ones were purchased. Unfortunately someone watered them in 2001 so bows had to be replaced. From 1973 to 2003 the women of Bounty II did a complete kitchen cleaning every 3 months. The group also made many improvements to the church, which included new coffee pots, many painting projects, planting shrubs, started a garbage disposal fund and raised the necessary funds. The group has made many Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, contributed to organ fund, donations for a refugee family and donation to the Kasukabe Church. An interesting project in 1982 required money, gifts and clothes be provided to defecting Bulgarian sailors. Additional projects have included caroling, meals provided for members just home from hospital, calling donors for Red Cross, yard work for shut-ins.

STOWAWAY CLIPPER

The Stowaway Clipper was formed in the spring of 1991 at a meeting at Greta and Bill McCormick's home. Eight couples and two singles formed the original group.

The Stowaways have been very active in the life of the Church. Several have served as receptionists in the office; one was librarian for 17 years. Nearly all have held committee chairmanships, served on committees and/or have been elected as an Elder or Deacon. Two of the group

are ordained and have filled our pulpit and played important roles in the transition to a new pastor in 1995-96.

The clipper has given fellowship and outreach support by serving coffee in March and October for several years; painting the lower restrooms, art festival, helping purchase kitchen appliances, weeding yards and responding to special family needs. The group has made monthly and annual donations to SOS. They have attended plays, picnics, covered bridges, church visitations and monthly gatherings for meals, meetings and programs.

VOYAGER CLIPPER

The Voyager Clipper was formed in October 1997. The charter members included Norman and Iris Austin, Sidney Barbera, Max and Millie Duprau, Lyle and Sue Gibby, Dale and Betty Hohbach, Bob and Merva Justice, Ralph and Sara Morgan, Fred Schwarz, Erl and Clarice Svendsen, and Del and Dee Wolf. The clipper was formed to provide an additional opportunity for fellowship with members of the Westminster family.

Planning and hosting of monthly meetings rotates among the members. The meetings, which either take place in member's homes or the church, consist of a short devotional, followed by an activity and refreshments. Sometimes the monthly get-togethers involve meeting at a restaurant or theater.

Dues are collected monthly and put aside to cover such expenses as meals for members during times of family illness or death and service projects approved by the membership. In the past such projects have included purchasing food and serving at the Union Gospel Mission and assisting underprivileged teens with the selection of school clothing at local department stores.

CASTAWAYS CLIPPER

The group does not meet regularly but is a very congenial group which includes Dennis & Rebecca Dusek, Bill & Donna Grupe, Jeff & Bonnie Kovach, Carolyn & Mark Lawrence, Gordon & Laurie Hain, Roger & Janet Budke & Dave and Lois Martin. Their more recent activities have included a personal tour of Dave Martin's hanger, the Crop Walk in which they met at the Oregon State Capitol and joined in a walk with others in the community as witness to

the needs of the hungry. They attended a concert in Albany and also one at Willamette University. The group also raised funds to help with the purchase of a new refrigerator for the church kitchen.

INTREPID CLIPPER

Intrepid was a result of existing clippers that had grown to the point it became difficult to accommodate so many people in member's homes. An invitation was made to church members interested in forming a new clipper to attend a meeting at the home of Bill and Greta McCormick. Two new clippers were formed and the result was Intrepid and Stowaway.

In 2001 Intrepid met with twenty-three members, meeting 10 times during the year. That year a generous donation was made to Habitat for Humanity and also to the Women's Crisis Center.

Other activities have included a game night, dinner and production at Mission Mill. One member took the members on a photographic trip to Italy. Sandy & Bill Albright hosted a meeting at Russell Hall in 2002 in which Greta Krahn, Coordinator of the Institute for Learning and Retirement at Chemeketa spoke about local trips and tours through the college.

CHARITY CIRCLE

Of the original eight circles that were a part of Westminster's beginning, Charity Circle is the lone survivor of the noble beginning. The current chairwoman is Gloria Crenshaw with about fourteen members. Recently it was voted to have meetings at the church rather than in homes to accommodate a larger group and simplify transportation to meetings.

SENIOR LUNCH

The Senior Lunch Committee plans and serves a festive and nourishing lunch on the second Wednesday of each month for 65-75 seniors. Each lunch concludes with a celebration of birthdays and an entertaining or informative program.

Lunch includes a hot dish, salad, and dessert. Recipes are sent to church members willing to prepare a portion. Committee members serve the guests, who may be church members or

neighbors. Tables are decorated with cheerful seasonal items or flowers. Guests wear nametags and enjoy conversation and brainteasers provided at the tables.

Programs have included musical performance-both vocal and instrumental, slide shows of travels, storytelling, games, crafts, and informational presentations.

Many members help with the lunch, not only by preparing the food but also by making phone calls, preparing nametags, greeting guests, setting the tables, serving, and cleaning up afterwards.

Senior Lunch is an important mission of Westminster, and brings joy to the workers as well as the guests.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Since 1999 Westminster has served as a major sponsor on the following six Habitat for Humanity family homes;

Pamela Moore & Chris Wilkie:

160 Stoneway Dr. NW (1999)

Armando & Delma Garcia:

2975 Evergreen Ave NE (2001)

Debra Nixon: Women Build at

12th Place SE (2004)

Janis Boatwright:

2660 Evergreen Ct NE (2004)

Maria Ramirez: South Salem Churches Build at

2645 Evergreen Ct NE (2004)

Javier and Maria Quevedo: Faith Build at

2655 Evergreen Ct. NE (2006)

Over the years, the church has volunteered hundreds of hours, working side-by side with the future Habitat homeowners of these and many additional homes. By December of 2006, the church and its members will have contributed over \$40,000 to support Habitat's mission, enough to build an entire Habitat home. Also, 19 children now live in homes constructed by members of the congregation.

Off the build site, Westminster members support Habitat in many important ways, as well. For instance, Bob Ohmart serves on the Board of Directors and Erin Chambers serves on the Faith Relations committee. Deanie and Peter Anderson and Pastor John Moody have volunteered whenever asked, and many members of the congregation support Habitat's mission through personal contributions.

Habitat for Humanity is a faith-based organization, one that Westminster Presbyterian has enabled to grow to a non-profit partnering with hard working families to complete eight homes per year in 2006 for the very first time. Special thanks to all who have helped families to realize their dream of a safe place to sleep every night.

TEA TIME FOR JESUS

On April 1999 a "neighborhood" tea with Bible Study began in the private, rural home of the Posekany's. Phyllis had learned of this joyful and educational gathering at a Mennonite Women's Retreat four years earlier and God laid it upon her heart to share it. Ladies met together with Bibles in hand, sharing tea, study, prayers of concern and joy as we asked "Come, Lord Jesus, among us."

In February of 2000 Tea With Jesus moved to Westminster Presbyterian Church to open the precious experience to a larger community. Melva Ludwig and Betty Hohbach took on the leadership shortly thereafter. Healings and answers to prayer have occurred during these years. Tea with Jesus continues the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the church. All are invited to join in study and prayer (enjoying tea is not a requirement)

RED CROSS

For over 30 years, the Red Cross has been holding blood drives at Westminster. At this time Pauline Mather took over from Vance Tribbett. In the mid 1970's the Red Cross served less than 70 hospitals and needed to collect 2,200 units each week. We needed more volunteers then because there were more responsibilities. Donor information was typed on large Red Cross typewriters. Volunteer nurses like Barbara Belson took donor histories. Bernice Waters and Jackie Hilfiker would assign blood packs and Bob McBee or John Hunt could be seen sealing the. Now computers and the Red Cross staff do these duties. The cookies can no longer be home-baked by volunteers. Margaret Norris used to call members to provide the treats. Some of the escorts were Nora Bennett, Jean Allen, Helen and Jack Titus. Doug Berwick was a faithful unloader and loader. Ginny Kovock, Sally Berg, Marie Glascock were part of the donor calling team.

Today the Red Cross serves over 80 hospitals and need to

collect 5,000 units each week. We use greeters like Bonnie Finlay and Lu Pope. Muriel McBee and Bev Hunt continue to escort. John Trigg volunteers in the canteen and T.C. Curlee drives the blood to Portland. Every one of the 3-4 drives held each year requires at least 18 volunteer. Westminster truly serves this urgent need in our community.

MISSION STUDY REPORT

In September 2006 more than 90 members of the congregation met to consider the continued and expanded mission of Westminster. With the leadership of John Mahon from the Presbytery the following questions were considered.

- What are we doing as a congregation? What is God calling us to do in the next phase of our ministry?

What are the need of our church community and our wider community? What is God calling us to do to meet those needs?

- What specifically do we need to do to strengthen our congregational and community ministry?

After several hours of discussion and thoughtful consideration the following direction became clear.

For the continued health and growth of our congregation developing a specific ministry aimed at church and community members under the age of 40 is crucial.

In order to accomplish this goal several actions need to be taken by the congregation.

1. Hire an Associate Pastor
2. Build a large multi-purpose facility that might also address the need for additional office space and more flexible space for education.
3. The implementations of these tasks will be responsibility of the Session committees of Personnel and Long Range Planning.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

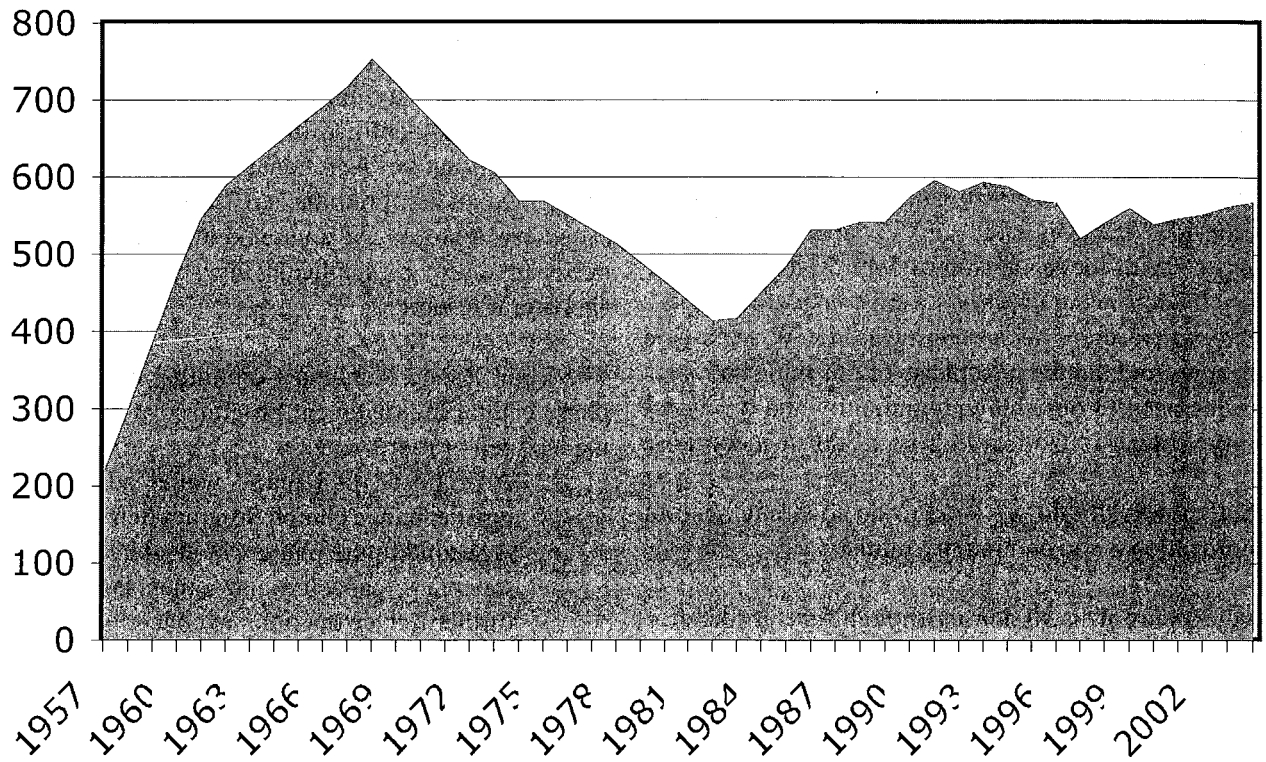
With its average 325 attendance at worship, Westminster is about to transition from a medium-sized to a large church. The Long Range Planning Committee was established in mid-2002 because of a growing concern in the church about the need for facility upgrades and expansion. Committees and staff have identified the need for an extensive facility expansion program. Additional office space, a multi-purpose space, expanded program areas, expanded narthex and sanctuary, a larger and upgraded kitchen, and other facility needs represent a significant investment that may exceed short-term resources.

The Long Range Planning Committee is proposing a two-phase capital improvement program that could extend over the next ten or more years:

- A proposed first phase would address needs that most enhance church program delivery.
- A second future phase would address overcrowding, sanctuary capacity and other issues that would further reduce operational concerns.

As Westminster makes the transition from a “Program” to a “Corporate” church, it has a number of ramifications. The role of the pastor moves from pastoring lay leaders to that of a planner and symbol, with greater dependence on other staff and lay leaders to support the congregation.

Total Membership



The large peak in the 1970 is believed to be due to delay in purging the rolls of inactive members.



Reptileman at Wednesday Night Dinner - 2005



Mad Science at Wednesday Night Dinner - 2006

Significant Dates In Westminster Presbyterian Church History

Fall 1953	News that a new congregation is to be founded in South Salem
1954	Boulder Knoll property purchased
1955	Ben Cave, Architect selected
February 1956	Building Fund established
April 1, 1956	Ground Breaking
May 1956	Men's Fellowship Breakfast starts
April 1956	Dwight Russell, Stated Supply/Pastor
September 15, 1956	First Provisional Session Meeting
November 25, 1956	First Service in new building
1957	Boy Scout Troop 108 formed
1957	Women of Westminster and Circles formed
January 13, 1957	Building Dedication Service
February 3, 1957	Charter Member Rolls closed
February 10, 1957	Formal organization of Congregation
March 10, 1957	Ordination and installation of Elders and Deacons
March 13, 1957	First Session meeting
February 1958	Bonnie Russell, Pastor's Daughter, dies in car accident
December 7, 1958	Westminster Chimes dedicated in Memorial to Bonnie Russell
July 1959	Pastor Dwight Russell, leaves
October 1959	Three-car garage moved and named Merrifield Lodge
November 1959	John Najarian, Pastor, starts
1960	Bounty II Clipper starts
May 11, 1960	Construction of Educational Wing begins
May 29, 1961	Catalani refugee family arrives
Early 1964	Wally Johnson Australian Intern begins
1965	Troop 108 has Court of Honor for their first Eagle Scout, Ron Petch
1966	\$50 Million Fund begins
1966	Migrant Ministry begins
1967	Mission Committee established
January 1967	Todd Martin, Assist./Co-pastor/Pastor arrives
1968	Ramos refugee family arrives
1969	Gus Envela refugee family arrives
April 1969	John Najarian, Pastor, leaves
October 1974	Todd Martin, Assist./Co-pastor/Pastor, leaves
January 1967	Todd Martin, Assist./Co-pastor/Pastor arrives
1968	Knit and Sew formed

December 1969	David Weed, Pastor, arrives
1970	Addition to Merrifield Lodge and roof structure replaced
1970	Folk Music starts
1970~	Relationship with Red Cross
June 1971	Angela Davis controversy
June 1971	Kasukabe Japan Church Relationship starts
1972	Name of manse changed to Harris Hall
Summer 1972	South Salem Co-operative Nursery School uses church
Summer 1972	Youth served at Cameron House, San Francisco
1973	Member Betty Manock dies in successful costal rescue
Summer 1974	Youth Serve at Menaul School in New Mexico
October 1974	David Weed, Pastor, leaves
1974	First contemporary services
1975	First Handbells purchased by Ruth Custer
1975	Relationship with Shalom Church, Jakarta, Indonesia
November 1975	Stain glass windows made (in Russell Hall)
1975	Helen McGauhey starts as Church School Coordinator
January 30, 1977	Twenty Year Celebration
April 1978	Denton Walker resigns as Clerk of Session serving since January 1962
October 22, 1978	Congregation committed to building a new sanctuary and pipe organ
1979	Senior Lunch starts
1979	Her refugee family arrives
April 1, 1979	Building Fund Drive begins
June 2, 1979	Keith Chrisman, Architect, directed to prepare plans for new addition
January 1980	Family Cluster Groups start
July 1980	Pastor Todd Martin leaves
September 1980	Jack Chan, Interim Pastor, arrives
March 15, 1981	Sanctuary Building Deferred
December 1981	Jack Chan, Interim Pastor, leaves
1982	Kerygma Bible study program
March 1982	Care Groups started
January 1982	Barry Heath, Pastor arrives
January 1984	Building Committee formed
Summer 1983	Huong refugee family arrives
Summer 1984	Stephens Ministry starts
September 1984	Steve Kelly, Intern, begins
Early 1985	Clown Ministry starts
April 1985	Building fund drive

April 1985	Ground breaking New Sanctuary
Summer 1985	Winola parking lot established
August 1985	Steve Kelly, Intern, leaves
August 5, 1985	Founding Pastor Dwight Russell dies
September 1985	Old Sanctuary named Russell Hall for Dwight Russell
Late 1985	Pastoral exchange with Our Savior's Lutheran Church
March 1986	Jack McNary, Associate Pastor, arrives
April 27, 1986	Helen McGauhey retires as Church School Coordinator
April 1987	Wally Johnson retires as Choir Director of 30 years
February 1, 1987	New sanctuary and organ dedicated
September 1987	Del Chinberg, Choir Director, starts
1989	Dan Miller, Music Director starts
1990	Alternative Gift Market begins
1991	Paul Evans, Parish Associate, starts
1991	Mike Behnke, Custodian, becomes full time employee
1991	Ground's sprinkler system installed
Spring 1991	Stowaway Clipper starts
1992	Linda McCreery, Music Director, starts
1992	Randy Hunt, Youth Ministry Coordinator, hired
1994	Jack McNary, Associate Pastor, leaves
1994	Don Caughey Interim Associate Pastor, arrives
1994	Barry Heath, Pastor, leaves
1994-1995	Charles Webster, Interim Pastor, arrives
1995	Christine Parker (Heyen), Youth Ministry Coordinator, starts
1995	John Moody, Pastor, Arrives
July 1995	Mary Johnson, Organist, retires after 38 years
1996	Andrew Todd Organist, starts
1996	Sunshine Choir starts
August 1996	School Supply Giving Tree starts
December 1996	Advent Walks begin
1996	Gail Moody, Director of Christian Education, hired
1996	Sunshine Choir begins
1996	Grand Piano purchased
1997	Muffin Project starts
1997	Relationship with Hogar Infanitul starts
1997	Parking lot paved
April 1997	Ground Breaking for large addition to Merrifield Lodge
October 1997	Voyager Clipper starts

1998	Tim Goodfellow, Youth Ministry Coordinator, starts
1998	Susan McDaniel, Organist, starts
1998	Youth Choir begins
1998	Men of Westminster starts
1998	First parent's night out
October 4, 1998	Dedication of addition to Merrifield Lodge renamed Bruce Marsh Scout Lodge
1999	Mary Ruth Helppie Organist, starts
1999	Pastor Norm Austin, Parish Associate, starts
1999	Professional landscape maintenance starts
1999	Relationship with Habitat for Humanity starts
April 1999	Tea Time For Jesus starts
2001	Westminster becomes involved with Ten Thousand Village Organization
July 2002	Long Rang Planning Committee reestablished
2004	Contemporary Service starts again
2005	Kathleen Knauss, Job Share Organist, starts
June 2005	Knit and Sew disbanded
March 2006	Relationship with Colonia Libertad migrant farm worker housing starts
July 2006	Parish Associate Norm Austin dies
September 2006	Mission Study



Tami Janssen cooking corn at Labor Day Corn Feed - 2006



John Moody eating corn at Labor Day Corn Feed - 2006



50th Anniversary Timeline Committee - 2006



50th Anniversary Banner Committee - 2006



Contemporary Service Singers - 2006



Reptileman at Wednesday night dinner - 2005

JOHN MOODY AT WORK OCTOBER 15, 2006

