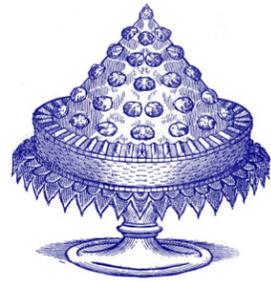


**Happy Birthday!**



**Will Hembree- August 12**  
**Bill Iler -August 15**  
**Janet North-August 15**  
**Richard Smith-August 17**  
**Katie Crossette- August 18**  
**Virginia Dodge- August 19**  
**Carol Smith- August 20**  
**Danny Edwards- August 20**  
**Doris Boyd- August 22**  
**Hans Guthrie- August 25**  
**Lynne Crossette- August 27**

**Serving Our Community**



**Cross-Lines Thrift Store Volunteer Days**  
Saturday August 4, September 8, and October 6 - a group from church plans to volunteer at the Thrift Store (628 S. Pyle ST, KCKS) from 9 a.m. to noon. If interested, please contact Jane Coleman, on the Outreach Committee, at (816) 361-3030. The Thrift Store helps low-income families buy needed items (furniture, dishes, clothing, and appliances) at minimal costs. If you have small items to donate and can't volunteer, we can take them with us.



**Ward Press**  
*Glorify God & Grow Disciples & Go Serve*

August 2012

**Reflections from Pastor Connie**

Dear Ward Parkway Presbyterian Family,

I write this letter on the last day of Vacation Bible School. Our sanctuary is decked out in an underwater theme, with blue ocean features, fish and nets. Our hallways are lined with beautiful fish, each a work of art made by our children and adult volunteers. I hear Priscilla Edwards and Jim Kurtz rehearsing music and hand motions in the sanctuary and the kitchen is full of cooks. Lynne Crossette, our VBS Director, is tending to details in the hallway and the children of workers are whizzing through my office and emptying my candy jar.

It has been an amazing week and I am so grateful. I am grateful that we are a congregation that loves sharing God's love with children. Hosting VBS is an "all hands on deck" event for us. It is a time when God's gifts to us—both human and material—are on display. We utilize our preschool rooms, we remember the fun of songs with hand motions, and we give our facility a workout! On days like today, I can see with my eyes the answers to many prayers. I see church members using their spiritual gifts—teaching, mercy, administration, hospitality, leadership, service and many more. I see children being taught about the Lord who loves them by adults who embody that love. I see our doors open wide in welcoming hospitality for all children who will come, and also to their parents. We have even called in our friends to help. Sean Stoy brings friends Dan and John to help with the cooking. We have two youth volunteers from South Broadland Presbyterian who come because they love Jesus, they love children, and they are friends of our church.

For the past few months, when Sarah Guthrie completes her children's message she has prayed with the children, "...And, Lord, please bring children to our church." I know that as she prays, you have been praying with her, because I know you to be a congregation that loves children.

Jesus calls us to minister to children and their families. It is always the role of the church to bring up children in the way they should go. I am convinced that as we as a congregation pray about this in the coming year, that the Lord will show us just how we are to reach out to families in our area. I would love to hear your ideas, so give me a call!

Yours in Christ's love,  
Connie

**Sunday Worship, 10:30am**  
**Sunday School, 9:30 am**

**Church Staff**

Connie Happell, Pastor

Tina Hill, Office Administrator

Joe Wilkinson,  
Organist & Director of  
Instrumental Music

Joseph Hill, Director of Vocal Music

Ruth Meyers-Melching, Accountant

Scott Curry, Custodian

**Pre-School 816-361-2201**

**Co-Directors**  
Kathy Montgomery  
Kim Manford

**Office Hours M-F 9am-1pm**  
**816.361.2200**  
**Email: [office@wppresbyterian.org](mailto:office@wppresbyterian.org)**

**Our Officers**

**Elders**

**Worship:** Steve Guthrie

**Christian Education:** Lynne Crossette

**Fellowship:** Nancy Lusk

**Mission and Stewardship:** Jim Durig

**Outreach:** Ashlea Wirken

**Personnel:** Jim Durig

**At Large:** Bob Liepsner, Diana Justus

**Operations:** Steve Nelson

**Clerk of Session:**

Karen Wiederaenders

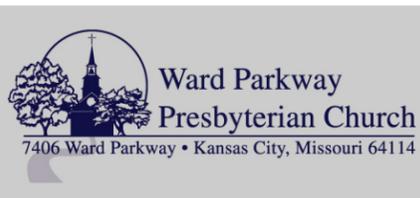
**Presbytery Commissioner &  
Communicator:** Dorothy Clarke

**Deacons**

Barbara Rohlfing, Jane Coleman,  
Bob Rohlfing, Rosemary McDaneld,  
Ann Butler & Janet North

**Trustees**

Bill Iler, James Lusk,  
Mike Lochmann-Treasurer



816.361.2200  
[www.wppresbyterian.org](http://www.wppresbyterian.org)  
Like us on:



## Joys and Concerns



**“Devote yourselves to prayer,  
being watchful and thankful”**

**Colossians 4:2**

Prayers for healing for **Pat Wiederaenders, Steve Nelson  
Evan North, Dorothy Clarke and Jennifer Almager and  
Family.**

Prayers for **Bryce Lochmann** as he spends a  
semester in Australia.

Prayers for those who are **home bound** and often not able to  
join us at church.

Prayers for God’s blessing on our **Confirmation Class.**

Prayers for God’s guidance for our **Session, Deacons and  
the Acts 16:5 Team.**

Prayers for our college bound young people:

**Barnett Rucker, Hans Guthrie, Thomas Lusk, Rachel  
Lusk, Alex Happell and Brian Happell.**

Prayers for our **preschool directors, teachers, children and  
parents** as all prepare for a new school year.

Prayers of thanksgiving for all who served in **Vacation Bible  
School and for all our children who attended and their  
families.**

Prayers of thanksgiving for **Craig Babb’s ministry in  
Nigeria and for Rhythm of Grace ministry.**

## A Chance to help Neighbors in Need

**For the months of August and September, the  
Deacons will collect non-perishable food,  
school supplies, household supplies and  
personal hygiene items for the benefit of  
Phoenix Family Housing and the Kansas City  
Urban Youth Center. Catie Liepsner Ebert  
works with these agencies that serve at-risk  
children and youth. Please place your  
donations in the barrel in the narthex.**



## Morning Devotional



*Dear Almighty Lord, God of Power and Resources,*

*You have richly blessed this country, our home –  
blessed it with abundant resources and majestic beauty.*

*You have provided for every need.  
Land gives space to grow food and build shelter,  
Hands cultivate and nurture,  
Sun, soil, and water nourish,  
Love, wonder, and beauty feed souls.  
How you have blessed us!*

*Resourceful Lord God, you have already thought of  
everything!  
Sometimes we forget that.  
Too often.*

*Forgive us, Lord. Please forgive us for our  
forgetfulness and our arrogance.  
Forgive us, when we give in to the temptation of whining,  
forgetting to recognize or value our blessings,  
forgetting the resourcefulness  
you’ve buried inside us.  
Remind us of the many saints and sinners  
who discovered their hidden power  
and left treasures behind for the rest of us.*

*When we observe tall chimneys  
and towers of industry,  
may we not look on with horror,  
but instead view with amazement and gratitude  
that which powered homes and businesses,  
built tools for work and for play,  
and developed products and services  
that made lives safer, healthier, and easier.  
How you have blessed us!  
Thank you!*

*All Powerful God, open channels in our imaginations  
and allow your creative spirit to flow through.  
You are the fuel we need to replenish vigor  
and illuminate new paths!  
Revive our belief that with you  
all things are possible.*

*Victoria Ferris © July 2008*



## Session Update † May

**Treasurer's Report.** We are behind on pledges. Mike Lochmann will remind people that they need to catch up on their pledges.

**Deacons.** A written report from the deacons was received with gratitude. Our Deacons care for the sick, provide for the grieving, send notes of love and concern and pray fervently for our congregation.

**Mission & Stewardship.** Jim reported that Craig Babb has been invited to train pastors in Nigeria this summer and needs \$3,000 in support. The consensus was that this would be a good use of the mission budget so we will financially support Craig's trip to Nigeria.

**Worship.** Steve Guthrie reported that the confirmation class has begun and they may be involved with the worship service. The Ash Wednesday service was well attended. The choir will not rehearse regularly over the summer but will still sing two Sundays a month. The monthly hymn sing may also return. The literature in the pew racks will be reviewed for content. More large print bulletins will be available. Communion was served to 58 people on March 4 and to 64 people on April 1.

**Fellowship.** Nancy Lusk reported that 9 people attended the tour of the Nerman Museum. The Knox Presbyterian Youth Choir will be performing on May 30. On June 10 we will have a Milestone Memory luncheon. People are encouraged to bring pictures of milestones in their lives. VBS will be the fellowship event for July.

**Operations.** The cooling tower has 30 rust holes in it and the freon has leaked out. It needs to be replaced.

**Pastor's Report:** Tina, our new office administrator started on May 7. We need to form a nominating committee so Connie asked for prayers. Our bylaws need to be modified. Ed Rucker has agreed to study this and make recommendations. The confirmation class will continue through the summer because of scheduling challenges. The preschool would like to have the hallways painted and will pay for it. Connie is considering having a summer study group meet during the day at lunchtime. Connie would like to have the parlor drapes professionally cleaned. The money will be taken out of the parlor funds. Connie will be on study leave the week of July 2. She may combine this with a visit to her parents. In home communion is being served to our shut-ins.

## Financial Report as of June 30, 2012

	Budgeted YTD	Actual YTD	Over (Under)
Current Pledges	\$97,500	\$90,850	\$(6,650)
Total Operating Income	\$109,350	\$105,626	\$(3,724)
Total Operating Expenses	\$109,297	\$109,697	\$(400)
Net Income (Loss)	53	\$(4,071)	\$(4,124)

Through June 30, 2012, WPPC has received pledge revenues of \$90,850, versus a YTD budget of \$97,500, resulting in an YTD shortfall of \$6,650. This amount is not adjusted for members that regularly make a large contribution in December, so we do not expect to end the year with a shortfall of \$6,650 (or a annualized shortfall of \$13,300).

Expenses through June 30, 2012, have been \$109,697, versus a budget of \$109,297, resulting in an YTD excess of \$400. Actual repair and maintenance expenses through June 30, 2012 have been \$15,466, representing 200% of the budgeted amount for the entire year. A repair bill of approximately \$7,600 for our air conditioners (including major repair to the cooling tower for the educational wing) is the main cause of this overage. Due to the weather, electric bills are higher than budget. Our insurance costs have materially increased as well.

So overall, through June 30, 2012, we are doing alright, and probably better than many peer congregations. We have limited ability to reduce expenses further, so additional members and revenue should be goal for the second half of 2012.