

# The Chimes



# *A Letter From The Pastor*

Dr. Richard L. Baker, Jr.

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel: The Great O Antiphons



Most of us have favorite Christmas songs or carols, whether secular or sacred, silly or serious. One of mine—on the serious and sacred side—is “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” For as long as I can remember, I’ve been drawn to the haunting melody—a melody that, to me, combines the longing of Advent with the mystery and joy of Christmas. Which is not to say that I always understood the words. Growing up, singing this hymn at Christmas Eve services, I’m pretty sure I did not know what “Emmanuel” meant, much less “Dayspring,” “Key of David,” or “Desire of Nations.” And yet each of these is an important way of understanding Jesus.

The hymn itself goes back as far as the sixth century to the “Great Antiphons,” or “O Antiphons.” Antiphons in general are verses repeated after a line of a psalm or Biblical poem to emphasize a particular thought. Thus “God’s steadfast love endures forever” serves as an antiphon—a kind of refrain, really—in many of the Psalms. The “O Antiphons” were used similarly during Advent: each “O Antiphon” takes a Biblical title, usually from the Old Testament, that in one way or another refers to Jesus as the Messiah, and prefaces it with the exclamation “O.” It is then repeated for emphasis.

So in Latin:

O Sapientia (Wisdom)  
O Adonai (Lord)  
O Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse)  
O Clovis David (Key of David)

O Oriens (Dayspring),  
O Rex Gentium (Desire of Nations),  
O Emmanuel (God with Us)

In English: O Come, O Come, Wisdom . . . O Come, O Come Lord . . . O Come, O Come Emmanuel . . . thus, in seven different but interrelated ways these “O Antiphons” each tell us something about Jesus, and voice the ultimate petition of Scripture—“Come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).

Collectively, they also express Jesus’ answer to that petition: take the first letter of each word or phrase in reverse order and it forms the Latin phrase ERO CRAS which means “I am coming soon.”

Advent is of a time of waiting and preparation—for Christmas and for Jesus, of course. But it’s not just a reenacted or pretend waiting for Jesus to come in the manger (although that has its place). More than that, Advent is our waiting for Jesus to come into our world and into our lives—both here and now and and once and for all bringing God’s reign of peace. Hence we pray, “Come, Lord Jesus—O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”—in longing, mystery, and joy.

This Advent I’ll be preaching on the O Antiphons on Sunday mornings. Come join us.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard".

### **On Our Cover**

Children and youth singing the combined carol at the end of the 2014 Advent Christmas Program

# *Advent/Christmas Calendar*

## **First Sunday in Advent**

Sunday, November 29, 10:00 a.m.  
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

## **Mission Arts and Crafts Sale**

Sundays, December 6 and 13, 9:15-10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m., and before and after the Carol Sing on Friday, December 18.

Wonderful treasures galore—come and see! Your purchase will help support needy artisans from around the world.

## **Church Advent/Christmas Dinner, Choral Program, and Play**

Sunday, December 6, 5:00 p.m.

An evening of food and fellowship for all ages. Following the potluck, a short play will be presented by the children and youth (grades K-8), and music will be performed by all of the children and youth choirs.

## **Service of Lessons and Carols**

Sunday, December 13, 10:00 a.m.

A traditional service of Christmas scripture, music, and prayers. Music will be sung by the children and youth choirs, Westminster Choir, and the Westminster Ringers.

## **Cookie Walk**

Sunday, December 13, after worship

Purchase a delicious variety of home-baked cookies, and support the mission ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Women.

## **Noonday Carol Sing and Lunch**

Friday, December 18

12:00 Noon - Handbell Prelude, Westminster Ringers

12:10-12:40 p.m. – Carol Sing

A fun and festive community event with carol singing by all and music by the choirs of Xenia High School. A quick lunch for \$6 will be served following the Carol Sing. Invite your friends!

## **Christmas Eve**

### **Christmas in the Stable**

Wednesday, December 24, 4:00 p.m.

This service is designed as a family service, but all are invited. Children are encouraged to come to the worship service dressed as their favorite character from the Christmas story. Children's choirs will sing.

### **Christmas in the Cathedral,**

Wednesday, December 24, 10:00 p.m.

Prelude, 9:20 p.m.

This beautiful candlelight service is the culmination of the Advent season.

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT RIVERSCAPE

BY LAURIE BRUBAKER DAVIS

On the stunningly beautiful October 11 Sunday, God blessed us with a perfect afternoon for our first "Collaborative Blessing of the Animals" service at Riverscape. Dr. Rod Kennedy of First Baptist Church, The Reverend Bob Swanson of First Lutheran, and I, shared the leadership for this event. Our very own Youth Band started us off with two songs, followed by brief scriptures and meditation and prayers, while about fifty folks and their eager dogs and cats looked on. The Dayton Police brought two of their K-9 Unit dogs to also receive a blessing. It was a beautiful sight to behold the shared community and love between humans and our animals with whom we share our homes, our lives, and our earth. Plans are already underway for a similar event next October. Special thanks goes to our "Blessing of the Animals" Steering Committee: Linda Mione, Linda Hargis, Sonnie Kasch, and Bob Swanson.



## FROM THE GARDEN

BY ANN BARR

It was an interesting growing season this year that provided bountiful produce after a slow start. The fresh vegetables and plants that are made available each week are grown specifically to support an important local mission, our local Food Bank. Your generous contributions totaled \$1,578.86, and will help to feed God's flock beyond our walls. It takes a community to raise this garden, so special thanks to those who spent many hours preparing, planting, and picking, notably Barb Davis, Brent Manley, Doug Barletto, Milt Ross, and Dan Slanker. Also, thanks to those who donated vegetables, herbs, baked goods, houseplants, and perennials. It is not too early to think about next year and adding a row or two to your garden to help us add to the selection of fresh things we can offer to keep this long-running mission project "growing."



## A GREAT DAY OF GOLF AND FELLOWSHIP

BY SHARON NORTON

What a difference 24 hours makes! That's what every golfer exclaimed on Sunday, October 4, at the annual Presbyterian Golf Outing. Just a day earlier it was dreary and windy with temperatures in the 40s. But the clouds parted, the sun shined, and temperatures rose into the 70s the next day for the 32 golfers, representing Westminster Presbyterian, Sugar Creek Presbyterian, and Covenant Presbyterian churches. The event was held at Pipestone Golf Course in Miamisburg where golfers competed in an 18-hole, shotgun scramble format outing. A good time was had by all, and everyone went home with a prize.

Missed this year's outing? No worries! Plans are already underway for next year's outing!



## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

BY HALEY INGRAM

It has been two months since I left Westminster Presbyterian Church, and Dayton. In those two months, I have been challenged more than I could have ever imaged. The challenges of moving to a new city, living with strangers, and starting a new job were difficult to foresee. However, now that I am here in New Orleans, my picture is quite different. I live in a city with a vibrant culture that has long struggled with systemic issues of homelessness, political corruption, and failing infrastructures – all of which were exacerbated by Hurricane Katrina. Numerous individuals continue to be affected by post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of the storm. I live with seven friends where we create laughter, meals, and support as we strive to live in intentional community. I work for a church that has weathered the storm, regained strength, and is developing a passion for mission. I am the coordinator of Lakeview Agape Mission Project (LAMP) at Lakeview Presbyterian Church. This entails planning and supervising volunteer groups as they engage in mission, experiencing both the challenges and culture of New Orleans. I also connect church members with mission opportunities through local agencies. During my short time here, I have made some good friends and met some wonderful people. It is surprising the number of ongoing challenges that the city and individuals face even ten years after the storm.

I am deeply grateful for the financial support I have received from Westminster Presbyterian Church and individual members. I ask for your continued prayer support for me and for my fellow Young Adult Volunteers, here in New Orleans and around the world.



Haley Ingram is serving as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in New Orleans, Louisiana.

## DEPLOYED TO UMPQUA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OREGON

BY SALLY DYER

I first heard about the shooting at Umpqua Community College (UCC) in Roseburg, Oregon, during the afternoon news on Thursday, October 1, 2015. It was only a few hours later that I got the phone call from The Reverend Bruce Wismer, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) National Response Team person in charge of deploying teams to Human-Caused Disasters. It was early the next day when Bruce had a team ready to go to Roseburg – that being my team lead, The Reverend Jim Kirk, from Naples, Florida, and myself. It was very strange to watch the news reports on television that day and evening, knowing I was headed west to this tragedy and small town early the next morning.

I arrived in Roseburg, a tight-knit community of 23,000 people, Saturday afternoon October 3 – just 2 days after the shooting which killed nine students and injured eight. The only memorial we saw was at the entrance to the road that led to the campus – and it grew as each day passed. There were signs and marquees everywhere in Roseburg and surrounding communities saying “Pray for Roseburg” and “UCC Strong.” Later on Saturday we traveled north to Oakland, Oregon, and visited with the pastor of the small, 25-member Oakland Community Presbyterian Church. One of the members works at the community college and that member’s son, Joel, is a student there, but fortunately stayed home to do his laundry that fateful morning.

Sunday morning I went to worship at Oakland Community PC, while Jim attended the First Presbyterian Church of Roseburg, a congregation with about 12 members who either teach or work at the college – many of who were on campus that morning. The tragic events of October 1 affected a number of these churches’ members who know either the victims or survivors and their families.

During the next two days, Jim and I met with various people involved in the response to Roseburg, including the Red Cross mental health response team, chaplains with the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team, and many others. One morning we represented the pastoral care portion of a shift at a mental health walk-in center.

The thing I learned most from this, my first human-caused disaster deployment for PDA, is the value of the ministry of presence. On Sunday at worship, it became clear how much it meant to the members of both churches that we were there, to stand beside them and to listen to their stories. Once again I was reminded that one of the most important things we on the National Response Team can do is to simply be present. The ministry of presence - something we all can do, wherever God may lead us.



# The Capital Campaign



# *A Letter From Business Administrator*

Craig Showalter

“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

*Lamentations 3:24-26*

I am frequently asked about when the Te Deum window is coming back. That’s a good question. We are planning for its return by the end of summer 2016. But it was not so long ago that I was frequently asked about why we were taking the Te Deum window out.

Today as I write this, the answer for taking the window out has taken on a broader list of reasons than I could have ever imagined. Sure, it started out with a simple concern for the safety of the window itself. A long period of extremely hot days in the summer of 2012 paid a price on the soft lead came that holds the thousands of small pieces of glass together. No one wanted to watch the deterioration of a notable work of art, nor be the cause of it through any neglect to act. But then, it also meant we were watching out for the safety of the choir members that sit beneath it, so that they wouldn’t be hit by anything that might fall from the window.

By agreeing to repair the window, our congregation also stepped up to the financial challenge of fixing other things around the property. It’s a good thing, too, because the old plumbing sprung a leak just in time to remind us how overdue we were to replace it. The elevator got renovated just short of the State elevator inspector telling us we were going to need to modify it because of new code requirements. The new flat roofs above the Sanctuary are being completed right before the limit of our insurance company’s tolerance for accepting more claims about rain damage to our Sanctuary. So, in a way, these have now become more reasons for why the window had to come out. The window had to start us on the longer list of things that needed our attention.

Taking the window out also caused us to look at the wall in which it was sitting. The engineer knew it wasn’t strong enough. But it took the team of masons who were at the task of strengthening it to inadvertently learn how profoundly weakly the wall was constructed. All agree we are lucky to have taken the window out now and begun this work on the wall, or else the choir members might have found themselves with more than just falling pieces of glass to worry about.

Yes, these are all now part of the longer list of reasons why we took the window out. We did not fully know all these reasons at the time. But after the fact, we can see how it makes so much sense.

These do not comprise the full list. We know there is still more electrical work, Sanctuary wall repairs, and the purchase of a new bus. There are also the financial reserves to see us forward to the next list of needs that will rise before us, for the building, but also for human needs that we have yet to address with our Mission Readiness Fund.

Yet, I have one more reason for why the window needed to come out. I think it has turned out to be the best reason. We needed to be reminded how strong we are as a congregation. We needed to be reminded that even while we were in the midst of a search for a new Head of Staff, we have the ability to accomplish great things together.





# CAPTIAL CAMPAING PROJECTS

BY CRAIG SHOWALTER

## TE DEUM WINDOW RESTORATION

The project of strengthening the wall around the Te Deum window continues in preparation of the fully restored window's return next summer. The more the masonry crew works on the wall, the more we realize how necessary it is to do this repair.

The wall is more vulnerable than we imagined. The original construction used a curious mix of seemingly random collections of bricks, left unexplainable gaps between the courses, and employed an unsound brick-laying configuration on the interior face of the wall. This last feature was not discovered until a section of the wall actually popped open when the crew was pouring in new grout.

We are glad this is all being discovered and remedied while the window is not sitting in this wall. It does mean, however, that the timeline for this project has been extended. There are no projections for a completion date, as the crew needs to reassess each step as they go. Cold weather will soon be a limiting factor, as will be the time demands for moving the scaffolding when we need to use the full Choir Loft.

As the coring process produces the necessary holes for the reinforcement of the wall, it also cuts out nice tubular sections of brick and limestone. The sand-lime brick was produced locally in a factory just north of Dayton, using a process similar to pressure cooking. (More about this product, and the local factory, can be found here: <https://goo.gl/5Epuxd>) As these tubular corings become available, they are being set outside the main Church Office so people may help themselves to a souvenir.



## ELEVATOR RENOVATION

The elevator renovation is at last complete. The work began Monday, July 20, as planned, but took more than twice the six weeks we thought it would. Delays included waiting for the shipment of replacements for defective parts, unanticipated additional work required by the nature of the age of our elevator, and deaths in the families of both of the elevator installers. Finally, the elevator was in service for Friday, October 16.

The alternate special worship service conducted Sunday mornings in the Chapel went well. It was so well received that a few members continue to enjoy the peaceful environment and clear sound system even now that the elevator is available.

A special dedication and celebration of the new elevator was held on Sunday, November 1.



## UPPER ROOF REPLACEMENT

The work of replacing the roofs above the Sanctuary aisles continues. The roof on the Perry Street side (pulpit side of the church) is almost complete. The roof on the Wilkinson Street side is about one-third done.



## PLUMBING REPAIRS

All the galvanized domestic water lines throughout the building have been taken out of service and replaced with all new copper lines. In the process, we found four weak spots in the galvanized pipes that we did not know were actively leaking and poised to break open. The project included installing a new water heater and upgrading the Bride's Room with a new carpet and new wooden cabinets. A drinking fountain will be install outside the handicapped restroom.



## WESTMINSTER NOTE CARDS

As their project to help with the Capital Campaign, the Highlander Presby Group is selling Te Deum window note cards. There are two packet options. One packet contains six cards of the full Te Deum window. The other packet contains six cards with three different images from the window: two of the full window, two of a set of designs from the window, and two of the top medallion of Christ.

The packets contain matching envelopes, and sell for \$10 each. Check your Sunday bulletin for more information.



Updates on the progress of the Capital Campaign Projects may be found on the church website:  
[www.westminsterdayton.org/capital\\_campaign.html](http://www.westminsterdayton.org/capital_campaign.html).



Calvin and Cherub Choirs begin lifting their voices in song on September 13, 2015.



Postcards from Convocation Sunday as our CrossRoads Children (grades 1-6) began their first unit, "Ruth and Naomi," in their year-long study titled, "Fueling Friendship with Faith."

## DEACONS SPONSOR HEALTH EVENTS

BY SUE HAMILTON

On Sunday, September 27, the Board of Deacons hosted a Flu-Shot Clinic sponsored by Rite-Aid Pharmacy. Twenty-four Westminster members received a flu-shot – double the number from last year! On October 18, a Medicine Drop-off was held. Officer George, with the help of Deacons Eric Weibel and Kathryn Lake, received medications before and after worship. The board is grateful for the congregation's response.



## DONE IN A DAY

BY DAVID LEACH

On Saturday, September 26, the Local Mission Ministry Team had 36 volunteers for our Done in a Day session. All volunteers met at the church at 8:15 a.m. for coffee, donut holes, discussion among each group, and devotional readings from Nancy Hodgkins. At 9:00 a.m., each team headed out for the four worksites: the Dayton International Peace Museum, the Dayton Urban Ministries Center, the YWCA, and Linda Vista. Our fifth team, the volunteers working in our kitchen, stayed at the church to prepare lunches for all.

The Peace Museum had eight volunteers. Their work involved cleaning, dusting, washing windows and glass cases, gardening, and cleaning out the soon to be retired "Peace Mobile." All volunteers learned a great deal about the building and the Peace Museum itself in the process, and all were most thankful that such an institution exists here in Dayton.

The Urban Ministries Center had seven volunteers who also worked both inside and out at the structure located at the very West end of Otterbein Avenue. The gardening effort – cleaning out weeds and briars and planting 'mums – brought the exterior a fresh, clean look, and the cleaning of the small kitchen area made it a much more usable space. Team members were thankful that this youth-oriented center remains a viable program in the College Hill district.

Linda Vista had nine volunteers doing gardening, cleaning, and painting. The work outside included raking, weeding, pruning, and general clean up. The central indoor work involved painting the cinder block basement area with a waterproofing "Drylok" paint. Team members were thankful that this facility exists for women and their families in transition – though not so thankful for the paint fumes!

There was a team of six volunteers at Dayton's YWCA. They worked on cleaning all of the first story windows, inside and out. The team felt good about sprucing up this downtown facility, and noted how helpful the staff workers were throughout their work experience.

We all returned to the church by 12:15 p.m. to enjoy a wonderful lunch prepared by the kitchen team. All volunteers ate with their team members in Fellowship Hall and gave informal reports on the activities and accomplishments at the various agencies. Each team felt strongly that their sites should remain as future Done in a Day projects.

SAVE THE DATE! The Spring Done in a Day will be Saturday, May 7, 2016.



## E.J. BROWN PARTNERSHIP BEGINS A NEW YEAR

BY SALLY DYER

On November 4 and 5, the smiling faces and happy voices of our young friends from Edwin Joel Brown School were in Fellowship Hall once again. The students returning from last year are very excited to be coming back to WPC. We have been excited to welcome new students and their families to the program as well.

In preparation for the beginning of tutoring, we inventoried and tidied up all of the learning materials and resources that have been used for more than 16 years. Ten Chaminade Julianne high school juniors chose our tutoring program as the place to complete their community service project. Trainings with the CJ students, and a wonderful and informative training given by Holly Elkins-Lopez of Project READ for all of the returning tutors was held in October. Additionally, several of us have gone to the school for additional training on the reading and math software that the school is using with the students this year. We are utilizing our wonderful computer lab each week as we help students complete their online reading assignments.

We are very excited about the request from the school to collect coats (both new and gently used and cleaned), mittens, gloves, and hats for the students this winter. Watch for further information in the Sunday bulletins about WARM Gifts from the Heart. All donations will be collected on Sunday, December 13, before and after the Service of Lessons and Carols.

Finally, we always need more volunteers, both here at church for the tutoring program or at the school to help out in the computer lab or to listen to children read. The tutoring program especially needs more tutors on Thursdays. Please contact Sally Dyer ([sally@westminsterdayton.org](mailto:sally@westminsterdayton.org) or 937-623-7953) if you'd like more information or want to volunteer.



## SUNSHINE CIRCLE

BY JOAN SWANSON

Sunshine Circle is an active part of Westminster Presbyterian Women (WPW). This group meets in West Parlor at 9:30 a.m. on the second Monday of each month. Programs for each year are varied and include discussions of movies and books, and a Bible study. The April meeting is frequently a visit to one of the charities we support. Sunshine Circle participates in all WPW activities, including the annual Cookie Walk, Gatherings, and the pecan sale. The welcome mat is out for any woman who would like to be part of a warm and caring group, women who work together, pray together, and enjoy good fellowship!



# WESTMINSTER CAMPING GROUP

BY JULIE DRUMHELLER

Our 2015 Westminster Camping season ended with a trip to Natural Springs Resort in New Paris, Ohio. Besides an outing to Richmond, Indiana, for the Chocolate Tour, we greeted about 200 children as they went trick or treating around the campsites. The season began in April and ended in October. If you love the outdoors as we do, plan to join us in 2016 for one or more of the seven trips we are planning. Many of the campgrounds have small cabins that can be rented if tent camping is not your preference. Also, many sites have motels nearby where you can sleep but spend the days enjoying the outdoors and the evenings around a campfire with the Westminster campers.



Fall New Members: Elizabeth Wourms, Lisa Righter, Sarah LeDonne, Anthony LeDonne, John Powell, Shannon Powell. Not pictured: Bob and Isabel Cline.

# Among Our People

## Births

Elias George Kight	September 14, 2015
Son of Sara and Thomas Kight	
Louise Toshiko Koenig	September 15
Daughter Laura Pippinger and Erich Koenig	
Idris Marley Dowell	September 15, 2015
Son of Kathryn Dowell and Jeffrey Secret	
Bonnie Elizabeth Shugart	September 16, 2015
Daughter of Beth and John Shugart	

## Baptisms

Jackson William Taylor	September 6, 2015
Son of Chris and Janelle Taylor	
Brenna Marie Taylor	September
Daughter of Chris and Janelle Taylor	
Idris Marley Dowell	October 18, 2015
Son of Kathryn Dowell and Jeffrey Secret	

## Weddings

Matthey and Claire Murry	August 29, 2015
Tawny Smith and Joshua Parsons	September 12, 2015
Bob Locke and Paul Smith	October 17, 2015
Sheila Mundy and Joe Hookey	November 4, 2015
Melanie DeNardo and Michael Mullaney	November 14, 2015

## Deaths

Joyce Privette Carr	September 11, 2015
William Russell Scutt	October 12, 2015
Robert Thomas	November 16, 2015

---

## JUST FRIENDS

BY JERRY SNYDER

On October 16, twenty-two people enjoyed a trip to Burton's Bamboo Garden in Morrow, Ohio. After stopping for an enjoyable lunch we arrived at the garden and were guided throughout by the owner. We learned about different types of bamboo, viewed 22 ancient Chinese hand carved statues, and also enjoyed seeing some exotic birds. It was quite an interesting visit for all.

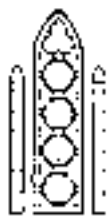


# Looking Ahead...

Heritage Sunday, January 31, 10:00 a.m.

Ash Wednesday Service, February 10, 12:10 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting, February 28, 11:00 a.m.



Westminster Presbyterian Church  
125 N. Wilkinson St.  
Dayton, Ohio 45402  
[www.westminsterdayton.org](http://www.westminsterdayton.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Distribution Date:* Friday, November 18, 2015