



westminster PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Thanksgiving

by Baron Eliason

Psalm 147:7: "Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music to our God on the harp."

As the psalmist writes, there is much to be thankful for in our lives. The blessings of God upon us as a congregation are many. Please take a moment and offer your praises to God for things like:

- A growing prayer ministry;
- A weekly benevolence ministry that is the best I've ever seen or heard of in a church;
- The first semester of steady attendance (no fall off) on Wednesday nights since I've been here;
- A wonderful Belize team;
- Our newest staff members including Tyson Taylor, Joe Sarrat, Kerri Thompson, Linda Middleton, and Jeff Kuhlers;
- Another successful stocking project and a prolific sewing ministry;
- The conversion of our 34th Street property from storage to missional use;
- The development of the Loads of Love project;
- The development of the Texas Ramp project;
- The continuation of amazing worship leadership by Matt and Boyce, the praise band, choir, handbell ringers, and Don;
- For the work of Kristin, Leslie, Shawn, and Logan in providing a loving and fun place for our children and youth to grow up in their faith;
- For the work of JR in reaching out to the college kids of Lubbock and for the expansion of that ministry to South Plains College;
- For the work of our administrative staff who daily see to the ministry of keeping things rolling smoothly behind the scenes, managing everything from maintenance to money;

• For the many ways our buildings are used by the community at large such as the Raider Sisters for Christ, the Boy Scouts, Family Guidance and Outreach, and others;

• For the Preschool, its teachers and leaders, and the children (at record levels of enrollment) providing a Christian environment in which to prepare for elementary school;

• For the growing ministry of the Women of Westminster and the Primetimers;

• For our wonderful small groups and Sunday school classes and the leaders who put so much of themselves into those times of connection;

• For the elders, committee members, and volunteers who give of themselves so generously to develop and implement our ministries;

• For our many missionaries serving Christ all around the world;

• AND MAINLY, for the presence of God's Spirit in our midst — bringing us the Living Waters of Jesus Christ!

Nearly every one of these could be broken into countless other reasons to be thankful as a congregation. They are just a few of the things I thought of off the top of my head. What are some of the things you are thankful for at WPC? Take a moment and thank God for them now. Blessings, Baron

Single Service Sundays
 Service Time: 11:00am
 No Sunday School

November 27, 2011
 December 11, 2011
 December 25, 2011
 January 1, 2012

Worship Word

by Matt Spitsberg

In the Spotlight ...

Jeff Kuhlers,
Sound Technician



Long-time church member and volunteer, **Jeff Kuhlers**, was recently brought on staff at WPC to operate and manage our sanctuary's new digital soundboard. Having served as a volunteer sound operator for many years, including serving with Late Nite College and WPC's youth ministries in the same capacity, Jeff is the ideal candidate for this very big job.

Jeff was born in Kennett, Missouri, on March 27, 1979 to Terry and Diane Kuhlers. He soon made his way to Texas where Lubbock became his true hometown. While growing up in Lubbock, Jeff attended and graduated from Coronado High School. His post-secondary studies include a Bachelor's degree in Communication Studies from Texas Tech University where he is currently completing his Master's in the same subject area.

Jeff came to WPC in 1996 as a youth student, invited by a friend to attend a Disciple Now event. Following high school graduation, he immediately began serving as a leader for the WPC youth program, at the time under Director Matt Mitchell. He was also active in the Late Nite college ministry, offering his services as a sound technician under Director Treb Praytor. Since then, Jeff has been in the booth, assisting with Sunday morning worship and special events, always willing and able to offer his time and talents.

It is truly a privilege to have Jeff on staff. Swing by the sound booth next Sunday morning and meet one of WPC's finest!

Music Ministry

by Boyce Wyrick

The Advent Wreath at Westminster

The **Advent wreath** is an increasingly popular symbol to mark the beginning of the Church year in many churches as well as homes. Can you remember a time when Westminster did not use the Advent Wreath? It is a circular, evergreen wreath with five candles, four around the wreath and one in the center. The **circle of the wreath** reminds us of God

Himself, His eternity and endless mercy, which has neither a beginning nor an end. The **green of the wreath** speaks of the *hope* that we have in God and eternal life. The **candles** symbolize hope, peace, love and joy. You will want to remember this next fact for the upcoming quiz to be given during Epiphany! The **four outer candles** represent the four centuries of waiting between the prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ. Don't forget that!

The **colors of the candles** vary with different traditions, but there are usually three purple or blue candles, corresponding to the sanctuary colors of Advent, and one pink or rose candle. One of the purple candles is lighted each Sunday of Advent, a Scripture is read, and a prayer offered. The pink candle is usually lighted on the third Sunday of Advent.

Children's Ministry

by Leslie Roach

We just got back from an incredible retreat with our 1st - 5th graders! It was a joy to take 21 kids and 6 adults with us to the Plains Baptist Encampment in Floydada, Texas, for a weekend getaway we called the Deep and Wide Retreat. I can't even begin to give you an accurate account of what God did this weekend because it is too big to put into words, but I will try my best.

We introduced the kids to the early church and set expectations for the weekend by asking them to put others ahead of themselves. All the kids were asked to be kind to one another, include everyone, share their things with each other, and be helpful to everyone. It was amazing to see our kids live into these expectations and watch them in their relationships with each other. Each child walked away feeling loved and valued both as a child of God and as a friend to others. We also had a night of worship in which we setup stations inviting our kids to worship their Savior. WOW! Our kids were so enthralled with their God that they worshipped for an hour and half! That is amazing in this day and age to have kids involved and attentive to anything for an hour and half, much less attentive to worship! God is so big and worthy of our praise. I thank Him for this entire weekend and all He did in the hearts and lives of our kids!

A huge thank you goes out to Branum Noble, Gayle Gage, Tom Carter, and Sarah Carter for going with us this past weekend! It was such an honor to have each of you as leaders on the retreat! Thank you for being an example of God's unending love and for serving all of us so selflessly the entire weekend.

The **light of the candles** itself becomes an important symbol of the season. The light reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world that comes into the darkness of our lives to bring newness, life, and hope. It also reminds us that we are called to be a light to the world as we reflect the light of God's grace to others (Isa 42:6). The progression in the lighting of the candles symbolizes the various aspects of our waiting. As candles are lighted over the four week period, it also symbolizes the receding of darkness caused by fear and hopelessness. Finally, the light that has come into the world is plainly visible as the Christ candle which we light on Christmas Eve, and worshippers rejoice over the fact that the promise of long ago has been realized.

The **first candle**, traditionally the candle of **Expectation** or **Hope**, draws attention to the anticipation of the coming of the Messiah, which weaves its way like a golden thread through Old Testament history. The **remaining three candles** may be associated with different aspects of the Advent story, but at WPC, Lubbock, we call these, "the candles of Love, Joy, and Peace." The **center candle** is white and called the **Christ Candle**. It is traditionally lighted on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The **central location of the Christ Candle** reminds us that the incarnation is the heart of the season, giving light to the world.

We will be singing a carol written specifically for the lighting of the Advent candles during the four

Sundays of Advent entitled "Light a Candle in the Night." On each Sunday the lyrics we will sing will be slightly different to reflect the particular candle of the week – hope, love, joy, and peace. You will learn this new carol very easily and will take pleasure in singing it throughout the Advent season. I hope that you are looking forward to the Advent season and all of the activities at Westminster. The Music Ministry hopes that you will join us on December 11th for the Lessons and Carols as we celebrate in one joyous service the birth of Christ, the Lord.

Advent Events

December 4:

Westminster Christmas Dinner & Youth Musical For Unto Y'all, 6:00 pm

December 11:

Westminster Lesson and Carols, 11:00 am

December 24:

Christmas Eve Services, 6:00 & 11:00 pm

December 25:

Christmas Day Service 11:15am

Youth Ministry

by Shawn Mayo

Dear WPC,

I just came home from the National Youth Workers Convention, and I thought I'd share with you a few things that I learned. I'll try to keep it concise because there was so much addressed at the conference. Here are a few of the highlights:

Equip Students to do ministry. Our job as youth leaders is not to run everything, but to equip students to do ministry themselves. When teenagers have ownership within the body of Christ, they don't "graduate from their faith" when they leave high school.

Mission is not a trip. Mission is a constant and a lifestyle. When we live on mission, we aren't living a life of filling and pouring God's spirit; we're living out of an overflow of God's blessing.

Jesus did ministry a lot differently than we do. He wasn't afraid to shake things up and challenge how things had been done in the past. He loved the unloved, and He lived in a way that made others shake their heads.

This is just a fraction of what was discussed at the conference, but I was challenged in many ways. Thank you for supporting me as I attempt to become a better youth leader.

-Shawn Mayo

ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER

Featuring WPC Youth Musical, "For Unto Y'all"

Sunday, December 4th, 2011, 6pm

FMC

Catered by Ambrosia Catering

Adults: \$12.50

Children 11 and under: \$5.00

Reservation Options:

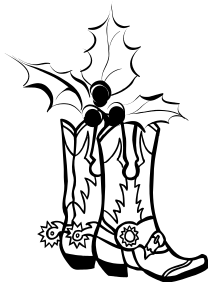
Call Church office (799-3621)

Email jan@wpclubbock.org

Sign-up in the Narthex on Nov. 27th

Register online at wpclubbock.org/christmasdinner

(payment is due before the day of the event)



PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Friday, December 9th

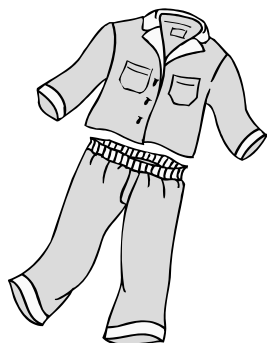
6-10:30pm

Ages: Birth-5th grade

Dinner served

Pajama Night!

\$8/child, \$16 max.



Preschool Ministry

by Larissa Jenkins

November -- a perfect time to express our thankfulness! The Preschool is so very thankful for all the support we receive from our church family — from extra stickers and cards to the well-wishes and prayers. We are grateful to be in such a loving environment. Because of your support, we are able to teach these precious children about God's love for them. We talk about God and Jesus on a daily basis, and it warms our hearts to watch the children grow in their spiritual journey. We ask that you pray for the staff, the children, and the families. Pray that we may hear God's desire for the Preschool and follow His will. From the Preschool family to your family - Happy Thanksgiving!

Adult Ministry

by Tyson Taylor

A Message To Fathers:

Today I am leaving the church early. I am doing this so that I can pick up my children from school, and we can eat ice cream. I think that the world would be a better place if more fathers were willing to take the time out of their day to do this. I know that the kids will be so excited to have this special afternoon and to eat ice cream. I don't like ice cream that much, and I am on a diet. I am doing this because I want to show them that they are important to me. I plan on asking them about their day at school, about their relationship with their friends, and at some point we will stop and thank God for our ice cream afternoon. As a dad I feel tremendous pressure to teach my children about the Lord. However, it's not rocket science. It's ice cream and prayer. It's bedtime and prayer. It's coming home from church and shutting the television off for 30 minutes for a meal and discussing the sermon.

The hard part is remembering, as a father, to lead. It's easy to get busy or to get my priorities confused. It's easy to stay late at work or to be too tired to take the time to tuck the kids in with a bed time prayer.

For some men, spiritual leadership is a practice that they never started with their family, and they don't know how. They feel awkward or fake or insecure to lead their families in prayer. Honestly, I felt that way, too, for a while. It was uncomfortable at first, but then it became a natural part of our lives. It became a sweet and special part of my day. Your kids need this, and I believe that deep down you wish you were the type of dad who did this. Men, it is time to step up and lead. Your kids are getting older every day, and your window to raise them the way you wish you could is closing. You should take some time with the kids, go get ice cream, and together with your kids give thanks for God's many blessings.

Be Bold,

Tyson Taylor

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up"

Sidelined Saints

We will be filling and delivering sacks of Christmas goodies to our Sidelined Saints on Friday, December 2nd!

Please come and help at 9am in Room 101. We accept all volunteers for making cookies/candy in addition to delivering. If you are unable to be with us that morning but would like to help deliver to a special someone, please call:

Ricki Feagan at 799-3621.



Announcements

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27—

SINGLE SERVICE SUNDAY—NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us in worship at 11am for the first Sunday of Advent.

ADVENT CONSPIRACY

Christmas can (still) change the world. Give presence. Consider a donation that will help Hope for Nica, Family Promise of Lubbock, the WPC Voucher Outreach Ministry, and Lubbock Family Guidance & Outreach. For more information about the Advent Conspiracy philosophy, go to www.adventconspiracy.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK

WPC's next host week is November 27—December 4 and volunteers are needed for all shifts. Shifts include 5-9pm (including providing dinner), 9pm—7am, and various 2-hour weekend shifts at Hope House. Please contact Becky Helmer (559-8028, becky@helmeronline.com) or Aveline Hewetson (789-3210, aveline.hewetson@ttuhsc.edu) if you or your small group are interested in volunteering with this rewarding ministry.

JOIN THE WOW GROUP AT THE LADY RAIDERS GAME ON JANUARY 28, 2012!

Support Coach Kristy Curry and the TTU women's basketball team. The game is Saturday, January 28 at 2:00pm at the United Spirit Arena. Tickets are \$10 each for a seat, popcorn, hot dog, and drink. We need a headcount by December 1 to reserve group seats, so if you are interested, contact Melinda Spurgeon at mksurgeon@gmail.com or 806-445-9292.

THE 34TH STREET MIRACLES CHRISTMAS PARADE IS DEC. 10



The Miracles Christmas Parade is set to step off on Saturday, December 10 at 6:00pm. The parade will feature lighted floats decorated for the holidays, performance groups and marching bands from local high schools. "A Winder Wonderland" is the theme for this year's parade. Family and friends are encouraged to build "family lighted floats" and enter the parade. The Miracles Christmas Parade is a free family-oriented event benefiting the United States Marines Toys for Tots and is expected to draw over 35,000 spectators again this year along the 2.4 mile parade route. The Miracles Christmas Parade will travel east from Coronado High School to 34th and Boston. Applications for entry are available at www.miraclesparade.com.

ANGEL TREE CHRISTMAS PROJECT—GIFTS ARE DUE DEC. 11

Help us share the joy of Christmas with children less fortunate. Through your generosity, 150 children chosen by the Salvation Army will be able to celebrate Christmas morning with a gift. The Angel Tree graces the foyer



Christmas Joy

*Please join the Women of Westminster
for a*

*Christmas Dessert & Coffee Open House
(come and go)*

Sunday, December 11, 2011, 2:30 – 4:30 pm
In the home of Marcy Lawless, 4509 9th Street

Donations for the Voucher/Hygiene Ministry will be gratefully accepted in the form of cash or check (made out to WPC/Hygiene Ministry) or bring items for the Hygiene bags (shampoo, toothpaste, etc)

Upcoming Chimes Article/Announcement Deadline

December 4, 2011

with the names and gift requests of hopeful children. Pick an ornament from the tree, buy the suggested gift, and bring the gift (unwrapped) to the church with the name tag ornament attached to the gift, by Sunday, December 11.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11—"LESSONS & CAROLS" WITH A SINGLE SERVICE AT 11AM & NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRIME TIMERS CHRISTMAS TOUR & PARTY

Join us on Thursday, December 15 in the evening for this annual event (to be held on Thursday this year)! Meet at the church at 5:45pm and we will depart to tour the Highland Oaks area (north of Woodrow Road and Slide Road) and enjoy great hospitality at the home of Mickey and Debbie Ramsey.

2011 CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Included in our special offerings for Christmas, and a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering will also be received. This offering is distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to support scholarships at Presbyterian-related racially ethnic schools and colleges.

USED CHILDREN'S BOOKS NEEDED

Used children's books for grades 1-4 are needed for the book-less children of Sierra Leone. This project is being sponsored by Teethsavers, International. Please bring your donations to the church. A collection bin is located in the foyer by the main doors. Books will be shipped overseas soon.

December 50+ Anniversaries

R.A. (Skeet) & Sarah Noret—10th (67 years)

Jay & Jinny Crofoot—23rd (65 years)

Dr. Ted & Jean Hartman—29th (57 years)

December Birthdays

Jerry Caldwell—4th

Helen Price—7th

J. Owen Gilbreath—8th

Jim Suter—10th

Henry Thomas—29th

New Members

Joe Sarratt joined Westminster on November 13, 2011, by Reaffirmation of Faith. He is a member of our custodial staff here at Westminster. His address is 6504 Quaker Ave. Apt. 404A and phone is 473-9633.



Directory Updates

Juanell Johnson

New address: 1717 Norfolk Ave. Rm. 3314S/79416

Christian Concerns Westminster Cares

Please phone Jan in the church office (799-3621) to notify WPC of birth, death, illness, or hospitalization. We care, and we want to know!
(Please remember that HIPAA regulations do not permit the hospitals to share patients' names with WPC staff.)

Church-wide Prayer Team "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." —Isaiah 56: 7. Sign up to pray for an hour on any Sunday from 8:00-11:00am in the prayer room. Anyone is welcome to join us or to come in and ask for us to pray for their needs. Contact: Debbie Hurt, 792-0014 or dlhurt@suddenlink.net, Bev Day, 794-0038, Leslie Roach, 799-3621, ext. 219, or sign up on the calendar outside the prayer room.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED: Kathryn O'Hair, Jack Shanklin, Drew Wyatt

SYMPATHY TO: Mark and Tamara Gilreath, in the death of Mark's father, Melvin Gilreath, on November 20 in Lubbock. Services were held November 23 at the National Cemetery in Abilene, TX.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Doug & Cindy Hogan, in the birth of a granddaughter, Denise Hogan, born November 5 in San Antonio. Parents are Jonathan & Krystal Hogan.

HEALTH & GENERAL CONCERNS

Marc Adams, David Biddle, Dee Brooks, Anne Bulls, Fay Carter, Walt Clark, Norma Couch, Egie Crozier, Lee Ann Daniel, Maureen Davis, Maxine Day, Eunice Dersch, Monica Dunlap, Mae Egbe, Barbara Ewalt, Todd Faison (Al and Sue Faison's son), Rob Farrer, Jake & Leah Fluitt, Eugenia Gray, Dana Hale, Reesa Hamilton, Jack Helms, Wallace Hess, Charles & Wilhelmina Hiemstra, Anne Huffman, Len Hutchison, Ann Jenson, Juanell Johnson, Amy Kidwell, Brandy Langston, Harold Laverty, Bertha Lemaster, Wilma Leslie (Memphis, TX), Don & Marion MacNair, Harvey & Micky McEachern, Helen McGarrett, Barret Noble, Margaret Pappas, Mabry Peel, Helen Price, Jack Rudd, Joyce Russell, Donna Smith, Betty Schmitz, Hannah Thomas, Treyton Tubbs (heart murmur is back), Betty Turner, Peggy Vannoy, and Helen Walker. Erik Herrera needs prayer for strength as he goes through therapy for Myasthenia Gravis and medical expenses.

FRIENDS & FAMILY

(We will list friends and extended family for a month. Following that time, please call the office if you wish for them to remain on the list.)

Scooter Clark (Bretza Mooty's mother) Declining health; Jeanne Cunningham (Mike & Alice Cunningham's son-in-law's mother) Double mastectomy; Sharon Daniel (Clayton Daniel's daughter-in-law) Mild heart attack; Holly Easley (Monica Dunlap's friend) Recent transplant at M.D. Anderson; Aime Fuambo (David Fuambo's wife) Safe delivery of baby; Sean & Jill Fogo & family (Cayce Noble's friends) Car accident resulting in injuries and death of Jill's mother; Rob Genje and family (Tom Carter's nephew) Recent death of mother, faith issues; the Bill Hellums family (Julann Curlee's friend's uncle & family) Grandson accidentally killed; Ethan & Cindy Holtman (Lee Bremer's brother-in-law and sister) Job searches; Taylor Johnson (Kathy Porr's friend's son) Recent loss of mother; Carli Layton (Samantha Owens' co-worker) On bed rest at 16 wks. of pregnancy; Louella Lee (Richmond Lee's grandmother) Declining health; Debbie Little (Audrey Key's friend) Chemo & radiation after cancer surgery; Jim McKee (Mary Zickefoose's brother) Undergoing chemo and radiation treatments; Shaun McKinney's family (Freddie Bryant's neighbors) Coping with his tragic death; Connor Mercer's family, coping with his tragic death; Eriq & Anna Neale (Ken & Sharon Romines's son & daughter-in-law); Endurance for Eriq's cancer treatments; Shelley Reid & family (Cayce Noble's friend) Prayers for strength after her daughter Anabel's death in ACU bus accident; Jennifer Roberts (Don and Chris Jones' granddaughter) Home after surgery at Dallas hospital; Doug Segulja (former Late Nite member) Recent death of his brother, Matthew; Tim & Lisa Tam (Word at Work Ministry).

SEMINARY STUDENTS

Emily Roberts, Dillon Ferguson, Jessi Chrisp, Max Hochenedel

MISSIONARIES

Katie Mathis (iGO Global) Middle East

Keith & Kelly Rodgers (Hope for Nicaragua), Nicaragua

Jack Rudd (Teethsavers) Teethsavers in Africa & Central America

Doran & Amy Schoenhals (Campus Crusade) Texas

Brandon & Jenny Scott (CAM International) Guatemala

Billy & Jess Streu (Operation Mobilization) Bosnia

Tim Tam (Amarillo office), Beth Garner, Kenny Logan, Pedro Perez (Word at Work Ministry) Belize

MILITARY PERSONNEL

AIR FORCE Jonathan Hogan (Doug Hogan's son) Texas, Adam Keith (Stan & Kathy Tucker's son) Italy, Zachary Laird (Ruth Huffaker's grandson) Arizona.

ARMY Keith Anderson (Beth Anderson Lee's son) Texas, David Hale (Becky Benson Hale's husband) Afghanistan, Rick Miller (Martha Daniel's nephew) Germany, Aaron Taylor (Jordan Sims's brother, Jenny Watson's nephew) Afghanistan, Zane Wilson (Lynnette Wilson's son) S. Carolina, Garrett Zuerker (Mike Zuerker's cousin), Afghanistan

MARINES Beau Babcock (Mike Zuerker's cousin) Afghanistan, Bryan Perry (John & Betty Schmitz's grandson-in-law) California, Paula Sepeda (Todd Faison's sister-in-law) California, Nick Sims (John & Debbie Sims's son) Rhode Island, Sean Vannoy (Peggy Vannoy's grandson) California

NAVY Jeff Benson (Becky Benson Hale's brother) Japan, Jay English (Jerry & Paulette English's grandson) Japan, Mark A. Gilreath (Tamara Gilreath's husband) Colorado, Jonathan Loper (Stan & Kathy Tucker's son-in-law) Washington, D.C.



westminster

PRESBYTERIAN

3321 33rd Street • Lubbock, Texas 79410
 (806) 799-3621 • FAX (806) 792-3059
 Weekday Preschool (806) 799-4588
www.wpclubbock.org



Church Staff

Baron Eliason.....Pastor
Tyson Taylor.....Associate Pastor
Larissa Jenkins.....Preschool/Daycare Director
Leslie Roach.....Children's Ministries Director
Kristin Montgomery.....Early Childhood Min. Coord.
Shawn Mayo.....Youth Director
JR Cochran.....College Ministry Director
Boyce Wyrick.....Music Director
Matt Spitsberg.....Worship Arts Director
Beverly Fleming.....Children's Choir Director
Don Smith.....Organist

Jeff Kuhlert.....Sound Technician
Bruce MacNair.....Church Administrator
Ricki Feagan.....Executive Assistant
Linda Middleton.....Part-Time Financial Secretary
Sharon Sturman.....Part-Time Financial Secretary
Jan Collier.....Church Administrative Assistant
Kerri Thompson.....Part-Time Media Coordinator
Freddie Bryant.....Custodian
Rosa Aleman.....Housekeeper
Joe Sarratt.....Part-Time Custodian
Robert Sanders.....Night Sexton

Worship Times

Sundays

9:00am.....Contemporary Worship
 10:00am.....Sunday School for Children
 Fellowship Time for Adults
 10:15am.....Sunday School for Adults
 11:00am.....Traditional Worship

Wednesdays

5:30pm.....Supper (with reservation)
 Family Ministry Center
 6:00pm.....Wednesday Nite Live

Return service requested.

3321 33rd Street • Lubbock, TX 79410
 806.799.3621 • wpclubbock.org

