

GRACENOTES



BUILDING ANEW FOR 2010

Conference Chair, Lynne Williams wrote about the 2010 Conference in the Fall PAM Newsletter-

Dear PAM "Westminsterites:"

I am writing to let you know the status of the 2010 Westminster Conference on Worship and Music. We have the Board's support but we need YOU to make it work.

My Planning Committee (Craig Dobbins, Debbie Jenks, Steve Skinner, Karl Zinsmeister) has been working diligently for you! We have a wonderful roster of faculty and staff and a rich subject – "A Psalm for All Seasons: Stewardship of the Earth, Lament, Peace, Thanksgiving and Praise."

We have Hal Hopson as our Routley Lecturer on Congregational Song, Jennifer Lord as our Preacher/Presider, John Schwandt as Organist, Philip Shultz as our Adult Choir and Children's Choir Director, Robin Lind as Youth Choir Director, Janet Van Valey as Handbell Director and Anne Wilson and Debbie Holden-Holloway as seminar leaders (because it just wouldn't be Westminster without them!).

As you can imagine, we have had to trim the budget a bit. We will begin as usual on Sunday, July 11th with registration, moving in, dinner, carillon concert and short evening vesper service. We will end with a festival worship service on Friday morning, giving you time to travel home. Therefore, we will have four (4) full days for the conference.

In trying to conserve resources, we will not be doing a Chamber Choir – but before you 'lament' – we will try to work an auditioned chamber choir into our Thursday evening event. Philip Shultz will conduct both Adult and Children's Choirs (accompanied by Gary Garletts). Kathy Miller will accompany the Youth Choir and Bob Miller will be the 'official' Worship Assistant. We are in the process of organizing the Children/Youth Program. Musik Innovations will once again have their music store on site.

We are counting on you to register early and have incentives to inspire you to do so. There will be an early registration fee, 'on time' registration fee and 'late' fee. So it will be to your advantage to set aside your pennies now and commit to this week.

You know how we sorely missed our week of communing and sharing. Please, please plan now to attend this conference. Find peace in old friendships and thanksgiving for new ones.

We need to make July 11-16, 2010 a week of singing God's praise, reinforcing our own faith and commitment to our church positions and taking the richness of the Bible's hymnal home to our congregations!

The brochure will be online and in your mailbox before the end of the year. Check the web site and make sure you are on PAM's e-mail list! See you in New Wilmington in July!

Peace,

Lynne Williams

Conference Director
Westminster 2010



A Psalm for All Seasons

Stewardship of the Earth - Lament -

Peace - Thanksgiving - Praise



Things are rolling along for 2010!

On Monday, November 16, Lynn Williams and Craig Dobbins of the Planning Committee, along with Alan Barthel, Liturgist and John Schwandt, Conference Organist met to plan worship for the conference. It was a day where much was accomplished. Music and texts will be taken from the Book of Psalms.



We need your help!

It has been a year and a half since the 2008 Westminster Conference, possibly some people might have forgotten about the Conference. There are also people who may not know about the Conference. This year, it is even more important that we spread the word about the conference.

- If you did not know, there is a [Facebook Group Page](#) for the Conference. Look for:

PAM Westminster Conference on Worship and Music

- Are you a member of an AGO chapter, Chorister's Guild group or any other group?
- For those of you who aren't Presbyterian, Lutherans, etc., what connections in your area or denomination?

- If you are Presbyterian, we would like to make contact with the Presbyteries particularly those in the Synods that are closest to the Conference. If you are not sure what those Synods and Presbyteries are you can find out by going to the PC(USA) web site: <http://www.pcusa.org/links/> and use the map there to see what these would be.
- Do you have connections in your Presbytery? Contact your Presbyteries' Stated Clerks office and ask how you could spread the word about the conference. Some things to ask about are:
 - Presbytery Meetings: Is there an information table where commissioners pick up meeting related papers and other informational materials You can find out how many copies might be needed and how to have the material placed at the meeting.
 - The Presbytery's web site. Is there a place for announcements of upcoming events, either Presbytery sponsored, local or larger church events. Check with the Presbytery office on how to place information.
 - Some Presbyteries use a regular (weekly or other) E-mail "blast" type newsletter. Sometimes, a link can be set up with your local web site for connecting with the PAM Web site.

Lynne Williams has prepared a one page (8.5x11 B&W) flyer with information about the conference, how to go to the PAM web site for more information and eventually how to register. If you want to get fancy, Lynne also has a two color version (same size, B&W with green)) that looks even better. As soon as I get it scanned I'll make it available to you.

My Presbytery, Philadelphia, has a weekly e-mail newsletter. I will be putting together an announcement. If you are able to do this in your area, or even surrounding area, let me know and I would be happy to forward it to you.

For this to work, it will take your initiative and leg work. Lynne and I will be happy to provide what ever help we can with materials. Our biggest dilemma is that we do not have a budget for major promotion and printing lots of flyers. Please consider how we can most effectively and cost efficiently spread the word. It would be greatly appreciated if you could take on the costs of printing and help us keep the Conference in the black.

So we can work smarter, please let us know what you can do and where you can do it. If there are several of you in a particular area, perhaps you can come up with a plan together. In particular, Michigan and Pittsburgh come to mind. In Pittsburgh, even though there are two members of the planning committee within the presbytery, how about taking on this to help them out? Keep us posted!



To contact Lynne Williams: gpwleu@verizon.net

Note, this is a new e-mail address for her, if you have another one please use this one now.

To contact Bob Miller: robm35@earthlink.net



The future of the conference is very much in the hands of those who attend. With out you, your friends and colleagues, we would not have a conference. I heard from many of you this summer how much you missed the Westminster Conference, not only missing our friends, but also the excellent program. I have found Westminster to be a special family, the family of those who come year after year and also those who pass through just once. This year is an important time to extend the gift of hospitality to some one new, invite a colleague, perhaps your pastor. You can tell your pastor that he or she could actually participate in worship, not as a leader, but as someone who can give their full attention to worshipping without having to "make it happen"

PLEASE CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT WESTMINSTER!

With grace and peace,

Bob Miller

again, feel free to pass this on!



TO DO LIST

- contact my Presbytery
- place information at my Presbytery meeting
- place information in my Presbyteries newsletter or e-mail communications
- get the Westminster Conference listed on the Coming Events section of my Presbyteries web site
- share conference information with my local AGO chapter, it's newsletter, at a meeting, or on their web site
- share conference information with my local Chorister's Guild group
- organize a group of youth to experience the conference (a group of adults, too?)
- invite my pastor
- find someone who might benefit from the Westminster experience and invite them and take them under my wing for the week.
- get the one page flyer, copy it and pass it out
- Let Lynne Williams or Bob Miller know how I can help spread the word