



WESTMINSTER

**Historic Landmark Board Meeting Agenda
November 27, 2019
7:00 pm**

**Westminster City Hall,
Council Chambers
4800 West 92nd Avenue**

1. ROLL CALL
2. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – JUNE 26, 2019 (minutes attached, motion requested)
3. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Public hearing for certificate of historic appropriateness for Semper Farm Barn and Garage roof replacement project (memo, application, and resolution attached) (Rich Neumann and Matt Moritz)
 - b. Public hearing for historic landmark designation for Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary (Rich Neumann and Bob Briggs)
4. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS
 - a) Updates on historic properties (list attached)
 - b) Shoenberg Easement Inspection letter (attached)
5. OTHER BUSINESS
 - a) Conferences, education, other updates
 - b) The regular meetings of the HLB scheduled for calendar year 2020 are (additional dates may be added if necessary):
 - Wednesday, February 26, 2020
 - Wednesday, June 24, 2020
 - Wednesday, August 26, 2020
 - Wednesday, October 28, 2020
6. ADJOURNMENT

**Historic Landmark Board Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Historic Landmark Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Matthew Bell, Interim Board Chair.

1. **ROLL CALL**

Board members present at roll call: Matthew Bell, Kaaren Hardy, Linda Graybeal, Mary Oswell.

Excused absences: Tennille Wood, Gargi Duttgupta, James Browning

Parks, Recreation and Libraries staff members present: Rich Neumann – Marketing Supervisor, Kristen Koehler – Cultural Affairs Specialist

Also present was Westminster City Councillor Michele Haney who serves as City Council liaison to the Historic Landmark Board.

2. **CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES**

Linda Graybeal made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2019 meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Kaaren Hardy. The minutes were approved (4-0).

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Public hearing for certificate of historic appropriateness for Margaret O’Gorman House system upgrades project.
- Kristen Koehler provided a Powerpoint presentation regarding the Margaret O’Gorman House, located at 8198 Irving Street, Adams County, Westminster, Colorado, outlining the public notice requirements and criteria that the Board must consider in evaluating the project for a certificate of historic appropriateness.
 - Notice of public hearing was published in the Westminster Window on June 13, 2019, and the meeting packet was posted to the City website and in the lobby at City Hall. Noticing signage was placed at the property on June 17, 2019.
 - Staff recommended that the Board approve the certificate of historic appropriateness for the project based on a finding that the public hearing and public noticing requirements in Section 11-13-7, Westminster Municipal Code, have been met and that the Board has reviewed the criteria in Section 11-13-10 (H)(1-11), Westminster Municipal Code, in relation to the proposed project.
 - Board members discussed the original siding used on the house and the fact that the home is a Harris Kit House.
 - Matthew Bell called on the applicants, Laura and Joshua Kuehl, to present their case. Laura presented their requests. She said that upon inspection, a crack in the sewer line was found that is critical to repair. She said that there would be cleanouts installed on the north side of the house and that this would be the only visible change. The cleanouts would be covered by existing vegetation. The second request repair was due to a medical condition necessitating installation of air conditioning in

the house. The condenser would be installed next to the utility panel and would be covered by vegetation and should not be visible from the street.

- Matthew Bell opened the meeting up for questions from the Board.
- Kaaren Hardy asked about the orientation of the home and the location of the sewer line and the air conditioning unit. Linda Graybeal asked if the air conditioner would be screened. Mary Oswell asked if the foundation bowing problem would improve after the sewer line is addressed.
- The hearing was opened up for public comment. There was no public comment.
- The applicants were asked to provide any further comments. There were no comments to add.
- City staff was asked for any further comments. There were no comments from City staff.
- The public hearing was closed and a motion was requested for approval or denial of the proposal with findings of fact. Linda Graybeal moved that the Historic Landmark Board approve the certificate of historic appropriateness resolution, as outlined. Mary Oswell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS**

a) Updates on historic properties

- Mary Oswell thanked staff for the information on Wesley Chapel Cemetery and stated that she is looking forward to the work being done at that location.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

a) Conferences, education, other updates

- Linda Graybeal talked about the July events being hosted by the Westminster Historical Society.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

THE WESTMINSTER HISTORIC LANDMARK BOARD

Matthew Bell, Interim Board Chair



WESTMINSTER

Agenda Memorandum

Agenda Item – 3.a)

Historic Landmark Board Meeting
November 27, 2019

SUBJECT: Review and action for certificate of historic appropriateness for Semper Farm Barn and Garage roof replacement project.

Prepared By: Kristen Koehler, Cultural Affairs Specialist

Recommended Board Action: Review and approve the request for a certificate of historic appropriateness for the Semper Farm Barn and Garage roof replacement project, 9215 Pierce Street, Jefferson County, Westminster, Colorado.

Discussion and Description of Project: An application for certificate of historic appropriateness has been prepared by City staff for review and approval by the Historic Landmark Board for roof replacement work at Semper Farm. Roof replacement is necessary due to aging of the Barn and Garage roofs.

Public Hearing: Pursuant to the Westminster Municipal Code Section 11-13-10 (A), the Historic Landmark Board is responsible for reviewing alterations to structures that have been designated as local historic landmarks and for which a building permit is required. If the alterations are acceptable to the Historic Landmark Board, the Board may approve a certificate of historic appropriateness resolution. When application is made for a building permit for the alterations, the certificate of historic appropriateness will document to the City's Building Division that the alterations have been accepted by the Historic Landmark Board.

Public Notification: Westminster Municipal Code Sections 11-13-10 (F) and (G) require public notification with publication and posting for public hearings for certificates of historic appropriateness. Notice of the public hearing before the Historic Landmark Board was published in the Westminster Window on November 14, 2019. A noticing sign was posted at the property on November 14, 2019. The agenda for the meeting was posted in City Hall on November 18, 2019. The meeting packet was distributed to the HLB members and posted to the Board's webpage on November 18, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Koehler
Cultural Affairs Specialist – Parks, Recreation and Libraries

Attachments:

- Application for certificate of historic appropriateness and quotes
- Resolution No. 2019-04 – certificate of historic appropriateness for the Semper Farm Barn and Garage roof replacement project



WESTMINSTER

APPLICATION for CERTIFICATE OF HISTORIC APPROPRIATENESS

Semper Farm Barn and Garage 9215 Pierce Street, Jefferson County, Westminster, Colorado

1. Application Information Prepared by:
Kristen Koehler
Cultural Affairs Specialist
City of Westminster
4800 West 92nd Avenue
Westminster, CO 80031
2. Name of Landmark:
 - a. Historic Name: Semper Farm
 - b. Name of Current Owner: City of Westminster
 - c. Other Name by Which this Landmark May be Known: Allison Garden
3. Address of Landmark: 9215 Pierce Street, Westminster, Colorado
4. Legal Description of Property on Which Landmark is Located: SW/4 SW/4 SW/4 NW/4, Sec. 24, T. 2 S., R. 69 W., 6th P.M., City of Westminster, Jefferson County, Colorado.
5. UTM Coordinates: Zone 13 Easting 493920 Northing 4412510 on the 7.5 Minute USGS Quad Arvada, year 1965, Rev. 1994.
6. Property Owner Information:
Publicly Owned by City of Westminster
4800 West 92nd Avenue
Westminster, CO 80031
City Manager: Donald R. Tripp
7. Historic Use: Truck Farm/Orchard
8. Current Use: Vacant
9. Describe the Current Condition of Landmark: Stable
10. Landmark Information:
 - a. Year of Barn Construction: Estimated 1915 to 1925
 - b. Architect or Builder or Designer: Unknown
 - c. Description of Landmark: The City of Westminster purchased the property at 9215 Pierce in 1988. The property is known as the Semper Farm and also as the Semper/Allison Farm. The property was designated a local historic landmark by the Westminster City Council in January 2005. The four acre property includes five structures:

- The original one and a half story 1880's farmhouse built by Julia and Charles Semper with the 1961 Allison family's one story addition attached to the east side of the original Semper farmhouse;
- The barn that was built in the late Semper era or early Allison era 1915 to 1925;
- The detached double garage east of the farmhouse, built in 1961 in the Allison era;
- The privy or shed of unknown construction date, located east of the 1961 well house;
- The Allison era well house built in 1961.

The farmhouse exterior was rehabilitated in 2008. The well house was repaired in 2009 with all funding and labor organized by a local Eagle Scout. The garage, the shed and the barn have not been rehabilitated.

- d. Significance of Landmark: The Semper Farm is located at the crossroads of the historic Cherokee trail, the historic Niver (abandoned) and Farmers High Line irrigation canals, and historic railroad alignments. The Sempers may have chosen this location because of the promising irrigation and transportation opportunities in the late 19th Century.

The Sempers homesteaded 160 acres in 1880. The farmhouse was built by the Sempers in 1880-82 and they established a post office and grocery at their home. The nearby village of Semper grew up around the train depot and general store located south of the farm near the present alignment of 92nd Avenue. A schoolhouse was built in the 1890's west of the Semper Farm near the intersection of the railroad and the current alignment of 92nd Avenue.

The Semper Farm and associated small agricultural tracts platted by the Sempers are representative of the 19th century transformation of northern Jefferson County from large grazing tracts to small farms and orchards benefitted with irrigation canals. The 4-acre farm site with accessory buildings is one of the few remaining agricultural parcels within the City of Westminster.

11. Certificate of Historic Appropriateness Pursuant to the Westminster Municipal Code Section 11-13-10, subsections 1 through 11:

1) *The effect of the proposed change on the general architectural and/or historic character of the structure or district:*

- The proposed roof replacements will ensure the Barn and Garage are protected and will have little impact on the architectural and historic character of the structures.

2) *The architectural style, arrangement, textures and materials used on existing and proposed structures and their relation to other structures in the district, if applicable:*

- Quotes for shake and asphalt shingles have been obtained.

3) *The uniqueness of the structure and how it ties in with the history of the area:*

- No new structure; this project only includes repairs to the existing structure.

4) *The size of the structure, its setbacks, its site, location, and the appropriateness thereof, when compared to existing nearby structures and the site:*

- No new structure; this project only includes repairs to the existing structure.

5) *The effects of the proposed work in creating, changing, destroying or otherwise affecting the exterior architectural features of the structure upon which such work is done:*

- None. The visible materials used on the roof will be the same as the existing materials.

6) *The effect of the proposed work on the protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of the structure, area or district:*

- By replacing the aged roofs, the Barn and Garage will be protected from future damage.

7) *The condition of existing improvements and whether they are a hazard to the public health or safety:*

- The current roofs are aged and if left as is could result in further damage to the interior of the structures.

8) *The economic viability of maintaining the structure or area as is:*

- N/A

9) *Whether the property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment:*

- The current use of the structure will not change.

10) *Whether the historic character of a property is being retained and preserved:*

- The roof replacements will not alter the historic character of the exterior of the buildings and will result in the structures being protected for many years to come.

11) *Visual compatibility with designated historic structures located on the property, in terms of design, finish, material, scale, mass, and height.*

- The visible exterior materials used to replace the existing roofs will be the same as the materials currently on the structures.



Lifetime Construction

12415 Dumont Way, Suite 107
Littleton, CO 80125

WESTMINSTER_SHED-W

Shed Wood Shake

DESCRIPTION	QTY	REMOVE	REPLACE	TAX	O&P	TOTAL
1. Remove Wood shingles- #1 taper sawn- no felt- per ind. mat source	9.23 SQ	62.89	0.00	0.00	116.10	696.57
2. Wood shingles- #1 taper sawn- no felt- per ind. mat source	10.33 SQ	0.00	347.78	0.00	718.52	4,311.09
3. Roofing felt - 30 lb.	9.23 SQ	0.00	43.07	0.00	79.50	477.04
4. Ridge cap - wood shingles	31.00 LF	0.00	8.06	0.00	49.98	299.84
5. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	6.69 SQ	5.07	0.00	0.00	6.78	40.70
6. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	6.69 SQ	0.00	23.64	0.00	31.64	189.79
7. Drip edge	151.00 LF	0.00	2.65	0.00	80.04	480.19
8. Sheathing - OSB - 1/2"	923.00 SF	0.00	1.37	0.00	252.90	1,517.41

This line item is not included in the total. Since the house needed new decking, be prepared it may be necessary for new decking on the shed. If discovered after demo, it is required by current building codes.

Totals: Shed Wood Shake 0.00 1,082.56 6,495.22

Line Item Totals: WESTMINSTER_SHED-W 0.00 1,082.56 6,495.22

Coverage	Item Total	%	ACV Total	%
Dwelling	6,495.22	100.00%	6,495.22	100.00%
Dwelling - Code Upgrade	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Other Structures	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Contents	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Total	6,495.22	100.00%	6,495.22	100.00%



Lifetime Construction

12415 Dumont Way, Suite 107
Littleton, CO 80125

WESTMINSTER_SHED-S

Shed Shingle

DESCRIPTION	QTY	REMOVE	REPLACE	TAX	O&P	TOTAL
1. Remove 3 tab - 20 yr. - comp. shingle roofing - w/out felt	9.23 SQ	54.67	0.00	0.00	100.92	605.52
2. 3 tab - 25 yr. - comp. shingle roofing - w/out felt	10.33 SQ	0.00	246.32	0.00	508.90	3,053.39
3. Roofing felt - 15 lb.	6.69 SQ	0.00	37.34	0.00	49.96	299.76
4. Roofing felt - 15 lb. - double coverage/low slope	2.24 SQ	0.00	65.78	0.00	29.48	176.83
<i>This portion of the roof is a 2/12 pitch, which is required by current building code to be double felt.</i>						
5. Ridge cap - composition shingles	31.00 LF	0.00	4.92	0.00	30.50	183.02
6. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	6.69 SQ	5.07	0.00	0.00	6.78	40.70
<i>High roof charge only on the top portion of the roof.</i>						
7. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	6.69 SQ	0.00	23.64	0.00	31.64	189.79
8. Drip edge	151.00 LF	0.00	2.65	0.00	80.04	480.19
9. Sheathing - OSB - 1/2"	923.00 SF	0.00	1.37	0.00	252.90	1,517.41
<i>This line item is not included in the total. Since the house needed new decking, be prepared it may be necessary for new decking on the shed. If discovered after demo, it is required by current building codes.</i>						
Totals: Shed Shingle				0.00	838.22	5,029.20
Line Item Totals: WESTMINSTER_SHED-S				0.00	838.22	5,029.20

Coverage	Item Total	%	ACV Total	%
Dwelling	5,029.20	100.00%	5,029.20	100.00%
Dwelling - Code Upgrade	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Other Structures	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Contents	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Total	5,029.20	100.00%	5,029.20	100.00%



Lifetime Construction

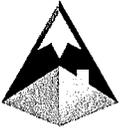
12415 Dumont Way, Suite 107
Littleton, CO 80125

WESTMINSTER_GARAGE-W

Garage Wood Shake

DESCRIPTION	QTY	REMOVE	REPLACE	TAX	O&P	TOTAL
1. Remove Wood shingles- #1 taper sawn- no felt- per ind. mat source	10.24 SQ	62.89	0.00	0.00	128.80	772.79
2. Wood shingles- #1 taper sawn- no felt- per ind. mat source	11.26 SQ	0.00	347.78	0.00	783.20	4,699.20
3. Roofing felt - 30 lb.	10.24 SQ	0.00	43.07	0.00	88.20	529.24
4. Ridge cap - wood shingles	33.00 LF	0.00	8.06	0.00	53.20	319.18
5. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	10.24 SQ	5.07	0.00	0.00	10.38	62.30
6. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	10.24 SQ	0.00	23.64	0.00	48.42	290.49
7. Remove Additional charge for steep roof - 7/12 to 9/12 slope	10.24 SQ	13.42	0.00	0.00	27.48	164.90
<i>Roof pitch is 8/12. Additional labor charge for shingle and felt removal on a steep roof (7/12 to 9/12 slope).</i>						
8. Additional charge for steep roof - 7/12 to 9/12 slope	10.24 SQ	0.00	53.52	0.00	109.60	657.64
9. Drip edge	129.00 LF	0.00	2.65	0.00	68.38	410.23
10. Sheathing - OSB - 1/2"	1,024.00 SF	0.00	1.37	0.00	280.58	1,683.46
<i>This line item is not included in the total. Since the house needed new decking, be prepared it may be necessary for new decking on the garage. If discovered after demo, it is required by current building codes.</i>						
Totals: Garage Wood Shake				0.00	1,317.66	7,905.97
Line Item Totals: WESTMINSTER_GARAGE-W				0.00	1,317.66	7,905.97

Coverage	Item Total	%	ACV Total	%
Dwelling	7,905.97	100.00%	7,905.97	100.00%
Dwelling - Code Upgrade	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Other Structures	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Contents	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Total	7,905.97	100.00%	7,905.97	100.00%



Lifetime Construction

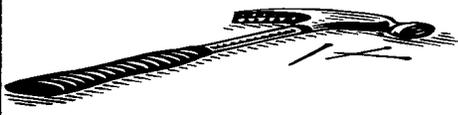
12415 Dumont Way, Suite 107
 Littleton, CO 80125

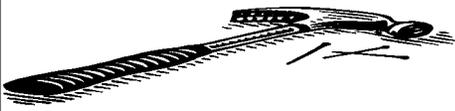
WESTMINSTER_GARAGE-S

Garage Shingle

DESCRIPTION	QTY	REMOVE	REPLACE	TAX	O&P	TOTAL
1. Remove 3 tab - 20 yr. - comp. shingle roofing - w/out felt	10.24 SQ	54.67	0.00	0.00	111.96	671.78
2. 3 tab - 25 yr. - comp. shingle roofing - w/out felt	11.33 SQ	0.00	246.32	0.00	558.16	3,348.97
3. Roofing felt - 15 lb.	10.24 SQ	0.00	37.34	0.00	76.48	458.84
4. Ridge cap - composition shingles	33.00 LF	0.00	4.92	0.00	32.48	194.84
5. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	10.24 SQ	5.07	0.00	0.00	10.38	62.30
6. Additional charge for high roof (2 stories or greater)	10.24 SQ	0.00	23.64	0.00	48.42	290.49
7. Remove Additional charge for steep roof - 7/12 to 9/12 slope	10.24 SQ	13.42	0.00	0.00	27.48	164.90
<i>Roof pitch is 8/12. Additional labor charge for shingle and felt removal on a steep roof (7/12 to 9/12 slope).</i>						
8. Additional charge for steep roof - 7/12 to 9/12 slope	10.24 SQ	0.00	53.52	0.00	109.60	657.64
9. Drip edge	129.00 LF	0.00	2.65	0.00	68.38	410.23
10. Sheathing - OSB - 1/2"	1,024.00 SF	0.00	1.37	0.00	280.58	1,683.46
<i>This line item is not included in the total. Since the house needed new decking, be prepared it may be necessary for new decking on the garage. If discovered after demo, it is required by current building codes.</i>						
Totals: Garage Shingle				0.00	1,043.34	6,259.99
Line Item Totals: WESTMINSTER_GARAGE-S				0.00	1,043.34	6,259.99

Coverage	Item Total	%	ACV Total	%
Dwelling	6,259.99	100.00%	6,259.99	100.00%
Dwelling - Code Upgrade	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Other Structures	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Contents	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Total	6,259.99	100.00%	6,259.99	100.00%

 AMERICAN Roofing & Restoration	Jeff Greaser Claims Specialist	Insurance Claim Specialist 5931 W 68th Ave Arvada Colo 80003 720-690-8575 P 720-228-3000 F		
	11/7/2019			
Customer Name:	Matt	NO		
Address:	9215 Pierce St			
City/State/Zip:	Westminster Colo. 80021			
Thank You!	720-298-7279			
GENERAL	UNIT	SQ	COST	TOTAL
Trash	1	EA	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ 350.00
GUTTER / FLAT ROOF	UNIT		COST	TOTAL
Gutter 134' ?		LF		\$ -
Spouts 60' ?		LF		\$ -
				\$ -
MAIN ROOF	UNIT		COST	TOTAL
Tear Off 2 Layers Barn Closest To House	11	SQ	\$60.00	\$ 660.00
Install New Asphalt Shingles	12	SQ	\$220.00	\$ 2,640.00
Install New Felt	11	LF	\$18.50	\$ 203.50
Install Drip Edge	130	EA	\$1.35	\$ 175.50
Pipe Jacks	0	EA	\$ 15.50	\$ -
Reflash Chimney	0	EA	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Ridge Shingles	34	LF	\$ 3.50	\$ 119.00
				\$ -
Tear Off 2 Layers Shed	7.5	SQ	\$ 60.00	\$ 450.00
Install New Asphalt Shingles	8.5	SQ	\$ 220.00	\$ 1,870.00
Install New Felt	7.5	SQ	\$ 18.50	\$ 138.75
Install Drip Edge	160	LF	\$ 1.35	\$ 216.00
Ridge Shingles	36	LF	\$ 3.50	\$ 126.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
Westminster Permit Estimated	1		\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00
MAIN ROOF TOTAL				\$ 6,823.75
ESTIMATE TOTALS				\$ 7,173.75
Contractor Requests A Deposit			\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Paint, Gutter, Hvac, Windows, Siding Ect. Are Items Also Available				\$ -
TOTAL DUE UPON COMPLETION				\$ 7,173.75

 AMERICAN Roofing & Restoration	Jeff Greaser Claims Specialist	Insurance Claim Specialist 5931 W 68th Ave Arvada Colo 80003 720-690-8575 P 720-228-3000 F		
	11/7/2019			
Customer Name:	Matt	NO		
Address:	9215 Pierce St			
City/State/Zip:	Westminster Colo. 80021			
Thank You!	720-298-7279			
GENERAL	UNIT	SQ	COST	TOTAL
Trash	1	EA	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ 350.00
GUTTER / FLAT ROOF	UNIT		COST	TOTAL
Gutter 134' ?		LF		\$ -
Spouts 60' ?		LF		\$ -
				\$ -
MAIN ROOF	UNIT		COST	TOTAL
Tear Off 2 Layers Barn Closest To House	11	SQ	\$60.00	\$ 660.00
Install New Wood Shake Shingles	12	SQ	\$215.00	\$ 2,580.00
Install New Felt	11	LF	\$18.50	\$ 203.50
Install Drip Edge	130	EA	\$1.35	\$ 175.50
Pipe Jacks	0	EA	\$ 15.50	\$ -
Reflash Chimney	0	EA	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Ridge Shingles	34	LF	\$ 12.50	\$ 425.00
				\$ -
Tear Off 2 Layers Shed	7.5	SQ	\$ 60.00	\$ 450.00
Install New Wood Shake Shingles	8.5	SQ	\$ 215.00	\$ 1,827.50
Install New Felt	7.5	SQ	\$ 18.50	\$ 138.75
Install Drip Edge	160	LF	\$ 1.35	\$ 216.00
Ridge Shingles	36	LF	\$ 12.50	\$ 450.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
Westminster Permit Estimated	1		\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00
MAIN ROOF TOTAL				\$ 7,351.25
ESTIMATE TOTALS				\$ 7,701.25
Contractor Requests A Deposit			\$ 5,500.00	\$ -
Paint, Gutter, Hvac, Windows, Siding Ect. Are Items Also Available				\$ -
TOTAL DUE UPON COMPLETION				\$ 7,701.25

**HISTORIC LANDMARK BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-04**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CERTIFICATE OF HISTORIC APPROPRIATENESS FOR
ROOF REPLACEMENT AT THE SEMPER FARM BARN AND GARAGE**

WHEREAS, the Charles and Julia Semper Farm, located at 9215 Pierce Street, Jefferson County, Westminster, Colorado was designated a local historic landmark in 2005, and;

WHEREAS, the Barn and Garage roofs are aged and have outlived their expected life, and;

WHEREAS, given the historic significance and landmark designation of the site, it is necessary to repair the structures and protect them from future damage, and;

WHEREAS, the Westminster Municipal Code Section 11-13-10 (A) requires a certificate of historic appropriateness be approved by the Historic Landmark Board for any work other than maintenance and repair, and for which a building permit is required, on a property subject to an historic designation, and;

WHEREAS, the roof replacements will not impact the historically significant features of the Barn and Garage, and;

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the criteria set forth in Westminster Municipal Code Section 11-13-10 (H) and has found compliance with Section 11-13-10 (H), subsections 1 through 11 as applicable, and;

WHEREAS, the Board is required to hold a noticed public hearing pursuant to Section 11-13-7 of the Westminster Municipal Code:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Historic Landmark Board of the City of Westminster resolves that a certificate of historic appropriateness be approved for the roof replacement project at the Semper Farm Barn and Garage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of November, 2019.

THE WESTMINSTER HISTORIC LANDMARK BOARD

Matthew Bell, Interim Board Chair



WESTMINSTER

Agenda Memorandum

Agenda Item – 3. b)

Historic Landmark Board Meeting
November 27, 2019

Subject: Review and action for local historic landmark designation for Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary.

Prepared By: Kristen Koehler, Cultural Affairs Specialist

Recommended Board Action:

- 1) Hold a public hearing on the application to designate the Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary, 3990 West 74th Avenue, as a local historic landmark.
- 2) Determine if the church sanctuary meets the criteria to be designated as a local historic landmark pursuant to Section 11-13-5 of the Westminster Municipal Code.
- 3) If so determined to meet the designation criteria, by Board resolution, recommend to Westminster City Council that the church sanctuary be designated as a local historic landmark pursuant to Section 11-13-5 of the Westminster Municipal Code, identify the particular features of the structure that should be preserved, and provide the legal description and location of the property.
- 4) Direct staff to schedule the nomination for a public hearing before the Westminster City Council for consideration of the application and the Board's recommendation.

Discussion: City Staff has caused the historical significance of the property to be documented and the owner has applied to this Board for a recommendation as to whether the property should be designated as a local historic landmark. Staff recommends that the particular features of the Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary that should be preserved include:

- a. The sanctuary, in its original condition.
- b. Window and entry way configurations.
- c. Steep, peaked roofline.
- d. Stained glass windows and exterior crosses.
- e. Raised brick planters.
- f. Red brick exterior.
- g. Brick pony walls.
- h. All other exterior original features when it was built in 1957

Noticing and Review Requirements: Notice of the November 27, 2019, public hearing was published in the Westminster Window on November 14, 2019. The property was posted with a public notice sign by City Staff on November 14, 2019.

Section 11-13-7(A)(3), W.M.C., requires the Director of Community Development to review an application in the following respects: (a) its relationship to the comprehensive plan; (b) the effect of the designation on the surrounding neighborhood; (c) the criteria set forth in this chapter; and (d) such other planning considerations as may be relevant to the proposed designation. The director shall provide written comments and recommendations regarding the proposed

designation to the board no less than seven days before the hearing. The application was transmitted to the Director on October 29, 2019. The Director has provided his comments to the application and are attached to this memorandum.

Section 11-13-6(B), W.M.C., requires that the application be sent to Westminster Historical Society for comment; this was done on October 29, 2019. Westminster Historical Society's comments are attached to this memorandum.

Compliance with Westminster Municipal Code:

The Westminster Municipal Code requires an application to include the following content:

- 1) Description of the characteristics of the proposed historic landmark that justify its designation pursuant to this chapter;
- 2) A description of the particular features that should be preserved; and
- 3) A legal description of the location and boundaries of the historic property.

In compliance with Westminster Municipal Code, the application provides the name, location, legal description, and owner of the proposed landmark. The application also provides the following information:

- 1) The building is at least 50 years old and represents a distinctive mid-century modern style particularly associated with the Westminster area,
- 2) Exemplifies cultural, political, economic, or social heritage of the community by being the first church organized in Westminster in 1892, and the only church in Westminster until 1949, and its association with Westminster University, and
- 3) Represents an association with notable persons in Westminster history, including members of the congregation that include six former Westminster mayors (Bean, Hoch, King, Nelson, Wilson, and Day).

Recommendations by the Historic Landmark Board:

The Board should consider the following issues:

- 1) Does this house meet the requirements for historical significance justifying its designation as a local historic landmark pursuant to Section 11-13-5, W.M.C.?
- 2) What features of the structure should be preserved in order to maintain its historical integrity?

The Board may recommend approval, modification and approval, or disapproval of the application and then must refer the application, with a copy of its report and recommendations, to the City Council. With the consent of the nominating party, the Board may continue the hearing from time to time as necessary to gather all relevant evidence to make its recommendation. If the landowner is not satisfied with the Board's recommendation to Council, the landowner may withdraw the application prior to the City Council's action on the proposed designation.

If the Board recommends designation as a local historic landmark, the application will be scheduled for public hearing before the City Council, who will consider a resolution for final designation of the property. This public hearing is currently set for January 13, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Koehler, Cultural Affairs Specialist – Parks, Recreation and Libraries

Attachments:

Local Historic Landmark Nomination Application
History of Westminster Presbyterian Church – *A Friendly Place to be Near God* publication
Westminster Historical Society Comments
Director of Community Development Comments
Proposed HLB Resolution



WESTMINSTER

Local Historic Landmark Designation Application

Please direct questions and completed applications to Kristen Koehler, Cultural Affairs Specialist, by email at kkoeehler@cityofwestminster.us.

1. **Name of proposed local historic landmark:** *Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary*
2. **Address or location:** *3990 W. 74th Ave., Adams County, Westminster. CO 80030*
3. **Legal description:** *Harris Park Blk 35 First Replat of a Part Lot 1*
4. **UTM coordinates:** *39 degrees 49' 51" N, 105 degrees 2' 23" W*
5. **Nominated by:** *Ron Hellbusch, President of the Corporation
(application completed by Bob Briggs)*
6. **Property owner:** *Westminster Presbyterian Church*
7. **I have been provided a copy of the City of Westminster Preservation Code (see appendix A -- Chapter 13 of Title 11 of the W.M.C.), which I have read in its entirety. I understand my obligations as the property owner of a local historic landmark, should my property receive such designation. (Yes or No) Yes**
8. **Reasons for local historic landmark designation pursuant to Section 11-13-5, Westminster Municipal Code (Please specify which criteria the property meets and describe how; see appendix B for criteria):**

The Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary meets the following criteria of Section 11-13-5 of the Westminster Municipal Code:

- (A) is at least 50 years old;*
(10) exemplifies cultural, political, economic, or social heritage of the community; and
(11) represents an association with a notable person or the work of a notable person.

The preservation and enhancement of a City of varied style, reflecting the distinct phases of history, cultural, social, economic, political and architectural.

The Westminster Presbyterian Church was organized on January 3, 1892. The first church in Westminster, the second institution to have the name Westminster, Westminster University was first. It was the only church in Westminster until 1949 when Holy Trinity Catholic Church opened. The church purchased the property that they are on in August 1922, opened their first sanctuary in 1925, opened second sanctuary in 1957, built an education wing in 1961, and offices in 1987.

Six Church members have served as Mayor: Gil Bean, Don Hoch, Paul King, Don Nelson, A. V. Wilson & Francis Day.

The Name 'Westminster' Presbytery Church. It has had the name Westminster longer – 19 years – then Westminster has had that name.

The name Westminster came about when England became Christian Country and started building their first church The Abbey in 900 AD. When the Church opened in 1200 AD it was known as The Westminster Abbey. The Abbey was on the west side of London in the ministry area – thus the name 'Westminster.'

In 1600 AD a conference was held at the Westminster Abbey and an confession of faith was created called the Westminster Confession of Faith. The Presbyterian Church adopted that confession of faith and the name Westminster.

The Presbyterians in the 1800's were creating universities and in the mid 1880's Denver Presbytery decided that Colorado ought to be home of a Westminster University. The cornerstone of Westminster University, located near 84th and Federal, was dedicated on June 6, 1892.

Because of the Financial Downturn in 1893, the first classes were held at the university in 1910. Westminster incorporated in 1911. In 1914 the Board of Trustees voted to make the university and all male institution, like Princeton University. World War I broke out in 1918 and the entire student body joined the military. Westminster University closed in 1919 and the property was sold to the Pillar of Fire in 1920. That decision led to the relocation to the current site because of its location to the city's downtown on 73rd Ave.

9. Description of features that should be preserved:

The structure that should be preserved includes the main sanctuary building, for which a groundbreaking took place during March 1957, and was dedicated on November 24, 1957. The exterior features of the sanctuary building that should be preserved are the stained glass windows, main entry, steep peaked roofline, raised brick planters, and brick pony wall.

Exterior features to be preserved:

The nave composes the majority of the interior of the structure to be preserved, and is located between the vestibule in the north part of the building, and the chancel area in the south part of the building. These interior spaces are not part of the building preservation, and could be expanded, eliminated, or reduced in size without a Certificate of Historic Appropriateness as long as the interior change does not affect the building's exterior features that are cited in this application for Landmark Designation.

• NORTH elevation:

- *First floor north wall plane (the church is one large vaulted space, but for explanation purposes the wall below the vault is referenced as "first floor")*
 - *Windowless wood painted entry doors centered in first floor wall; doors appear to have a veneer in random width vertical raised panels.*
 - *Painted windowless vertical wooden panels form the wall to the left and right of the entry doors;*

- *The painted windowless vertical wooden panels' horizontal widths are the same width as the stained glass panels above the first floor wall;*
- *A vertical batten defines the panel width on this first floor;*
- *A painted wooden panel sign approximately 3 by 6 ft. is mounted to the right of the main entry doors. The raised silver finish letters state "WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH" in a Calibri lettering style.*
- *Brick corner wall returns at west and east ends frame the first floor;*
- *Brick is a textured finish in a mid-tone red color.*
- *Upper section of north wall plane*
 - *Multi-colored stained glass wall;*
 - *Glass panels are vertically aligned;*
 - *Glass panel frames horizontal widths' are the same width as the painted windowless vertical wooden panels that compose the first floor wall at each side of the main entry doors;*
 - *Three painted wooden crosses are mounted to the stained glass wall at varying heights.*
- *Roof at north elevation is cantilevered approximately 6 ft. north from the main wall plane*
 - *Soffit is tongue and groove wood in a natural finish;*
 - *Soffit has painted wood rafters extending from the interior of the church;*
 - *Fascia board is painted wood.*
- *Raised entry*
 - *Raised brick wall frames concrete plaza/patio/assembly area and planters along the north elevation;*
 - *Raised brick wall extends approximately 8 ft. east and west of the main sanctuary foundation;*
 - *Raised brick wall base is approximately 12 ft. north beyond the building foundation;*
 - *Raised brick wall wraps to both east and west sides of sanctuary building*
 - *Center double width stairs (4 risers) provides access from 74th Avenue;*
- **WEST elevation**
 - *Asphalt shingle roof is the dominant architectural feature. The original roof was a wood shake shingle, but has been replaced with asphalt shingles because of durability, and fire safety improvements*
 - *At the north end of the roof the roof overhangs/cantilevers over the north wall by approximately 6 ft.;*
 - *At south end of the west roof plane there is no overhang at the south wall plane;*
 - *Adjacent, and parallel to the south wall plane there is a raised, narrow clear glass skylight that provides natural light to the chancel area of the church below;*
 - *Brick raised entry wall wraps to the west elevation from the north elevation and contains a handicap ramp to access the north plaza entry area, and a landscape planter bed;*
 - *The raised brick wall is approximately 28 ft. in length with approximately 12 ft. extending to the north from the building foundation, and approximately 14 ft. extending south parallel with the west elevation;*
 - *Brick chimney attached to the south elevation extends above the roofline;*
 - *West building wall*
 - *Aluminum frame basement window band lines the lower mid-section of the west building wall;*

- *Wall height from finish grade to soffit is approximately 10 ft. plus the approximately 3 ft. of the upper basement wall;*
 - *West wall has a narrow horizontal band of windows at the top of the exterior wall plane. The windows are not visible because the roof overhang extends below the sill of the windows;*
 - *A windowless metal man-door is located on the west wall plane, approximately 10 ft. from the south edge of the building;*
 - *Existing finish grade at the west wall is level, and there is no exposed concrete foundation visible;*
 - *Roof overhang at the west wall is approximately 3 ft.*
- **SOUTH elevation**
 - *Solid brick wall composes most of the wall plane;*
 - *There is no roof overhang on the south elevation;*
 - *Two identical brick chimneys are attached at equal spacing to the south wall. Each chimney is approximately 15 ft. inset from the edge of the adjacent wall, both east and west walls;*
 - *Aluminum frame basement window band lines the lower mid-section of the south building wall.*
 - *Electrical panels and other HVAC equipment are located near or on the south wall.*
 - **EAST elevation**
 - *Original 1957 structure was free standing with no other building attachments. Existing entry area and large classroom wing are now attached to the east wall of the building to be preserved, and those structures are not part of the Landmark Designation. These structures were added in 1960, and 1987 and are integrated with the 1957 structure. At a future date if those structures are altered significantly to expose the east wall, then this Landmark Designation may be revisited.*
 - *Roof overhang and wall are not easily visible at ground level.*

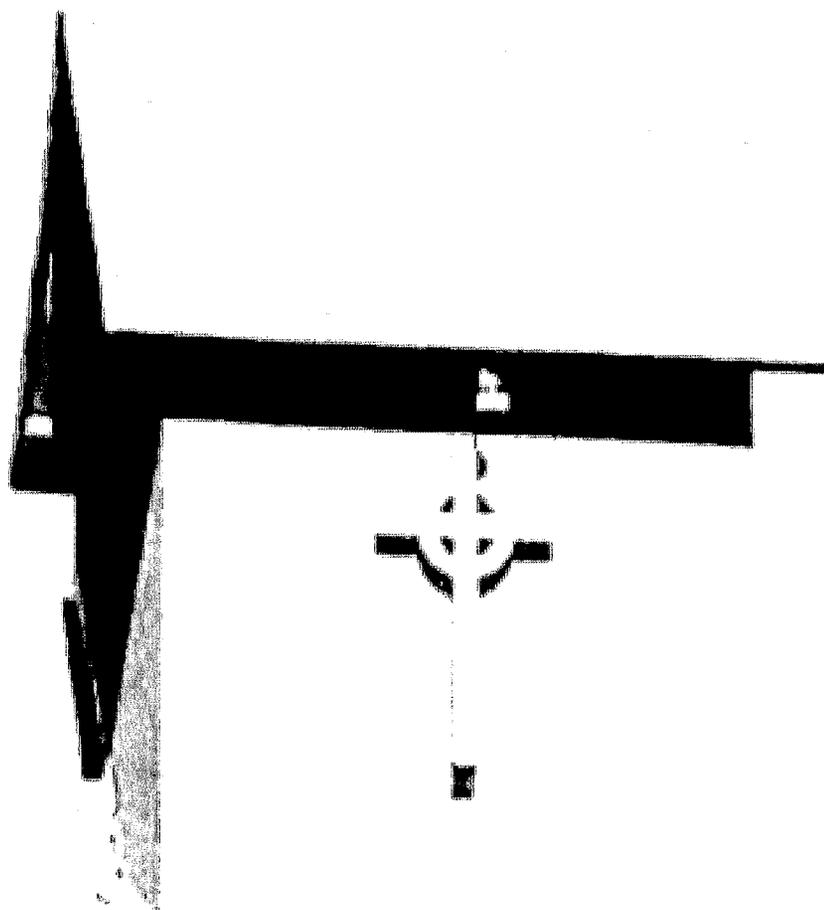
10. **History:** *See attached history.*

11. **Sources of historical information being submitted in this application:**

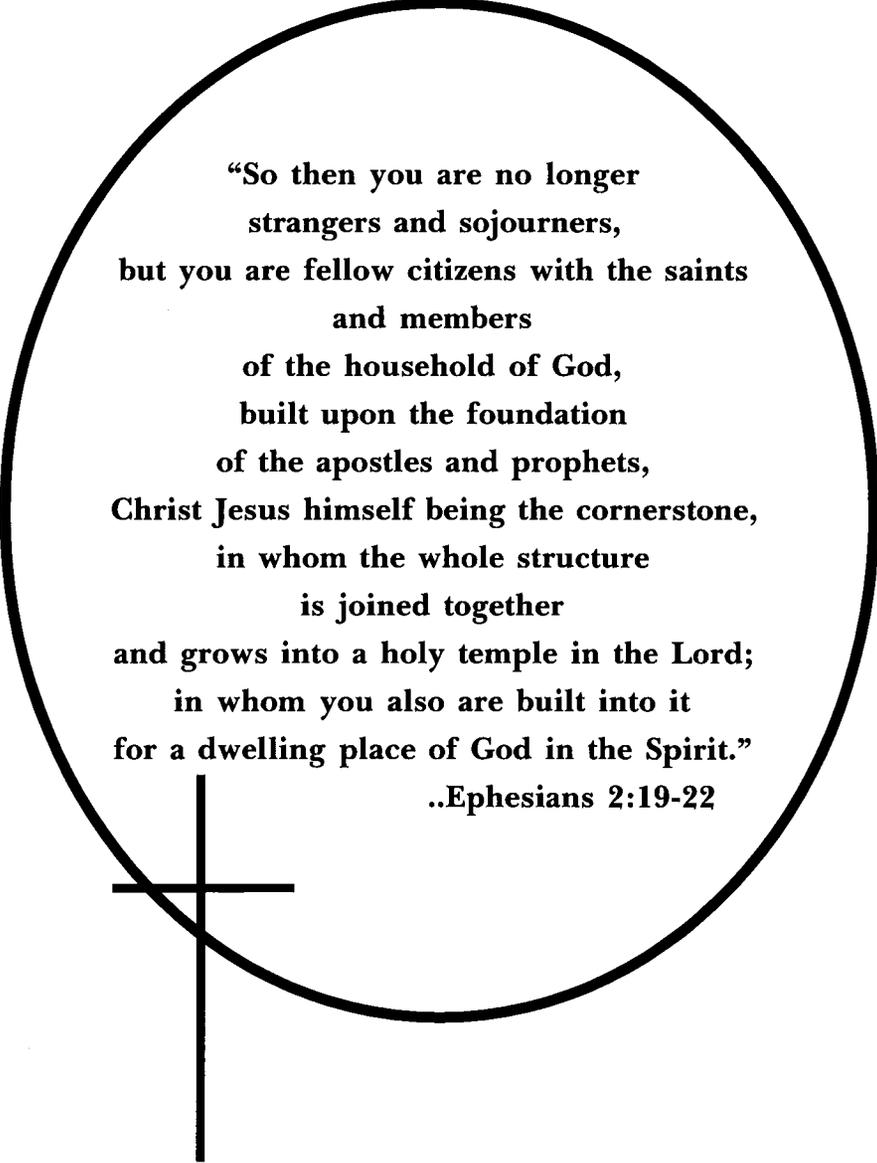
'A Friendly Place to be Near God,' a glimpse into the history of the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Westminster, Colorado compiled and organized by Elizabeth Price, 1892 to 2007.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Westminster, Colorado

*A Friendly Place
to be near God**



.....
1892 - 2007



**“So then you are no longer
strangers and sojourners,
but you are fellow citizens with the saints
and members
of the household of God,
built upon the foundation
of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,
in whom the whole structure
is joined together
and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
in whom you also are built into it
for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”
..Ephesians 2:19-22**

This 'Glimpse' into the history of the
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of
Westminster, Colorado

was made possible by contributions
from many of our members, both former and present.

A Friendly Place to be near God
(These words were on a church bumper sticker in 1980s.)

Compiled and organized by Elizabeth Price



*This publication is only a "GLIMPSE"
into the 115-year history of the
Westminster Presbyterian Church.*

3990 W. 74th Ave
Westminster, Colorado 80030
303-429-8508



1892-2007



**“The Pieces of the Past are the
Threads
that Bind Us Together”**

-Author Unknown



It is absolutely impossible to record every name, every fact, every detail, and every event in the 115-year history of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The purpose of this “history” is to give the reader a “glimpse” into the rich heritage of the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Westminster, Colorado.

*Elizabeth Price
53-year member*





Rev. John Piper

“Praise GOD from whom all Blessings flow ...”

From the Co-Pastors:

The famous Presbyterian missionary, the Rev. Sheldon Jackson, came to Colorado in 1870. As the superintendent of missions for the Rocky Mountain region, he was responsible for establishing many of the churches in our present synod.

He also had a vision for a new Presbyterian college, which he thought could be the “Princeton of the West.” Of course, it took many more years, but eventually Westminster University was founded in our fair city, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Along with the university, a congregation sprang up in 1892, called the University Presbyterian Church of Westminster. Though the university is no more, the congregation is still going strong after 115 years.

From those early mission roots, the congregation grew and flourished until it was able to call a full time pastor, the Rev. Lester Nickless, in 1953. The church outgrew its sanctuary, and with the Rev. Nickless’ leadership a beautiful, new sanctuary was constructed in 1957 -- **50 years ago this year.**

Through all the years, the people of the church have had a strong commitment to mission. Our Lord Jesus Christ taught us to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless and minister to the poor. Today, with the help of many friends and members, we support the FISH food pantry, the Have a Heart project, the Highland West and South Apartments, Growing Home (formerly the Interfaith Hospitality Network), the Carpenter’s Helpers (Habitat for Humanity), Zimbabwe Mission Partnership, and several missionaries.

As we look to the future, let us continue to worship and serve the Lord in this place, not just on Sundays, but also in our daily lives. May the ongoing Christian witness we provide to each other and to the world be an inspiration for those who follow us in the next 115 years.

Grace and Peace

The Revs. John and Annie Piper

Future Generation



**Shelton Edward Johnson,
son of Paul and Angie Johnson,
born May 22, 2007
visited by the Revs. John and Annie Piper**



**2005-CHEERS- John and Annie honored
for 10 years of service.**

DEDICATION

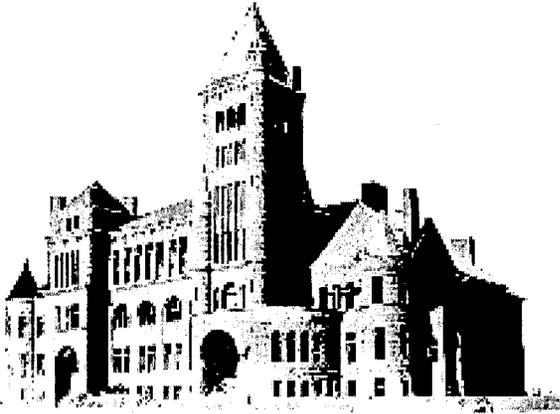
*This history is dedicated to our "Founding Saints"
and others, past and present,
who have been guided by God's Holy Spirit.*

*Through them the
Westminster Presbyterian Church congregation
has faithfully served this community for 115 years.*

*Through God's Grace,
May all of the present and future "Saints"
of this congregation, with gratitude in their hearts,
continue to dedicate themselves to the ministry
of this congregation, with its rich heritage,
that it may always be a supportive blessing
to the Westminster community.*

May the Grace of God be with us forever and forever!!!

This is Our Church
Celebrating - September 8-9, 2007
115 years as a congregation
50 years for our sanctuary



Princeton of the West:

Excerpts- "The Story of a College Ministry (1892-1992)"

By Andy James Lavender

"With the Civil War ended and connections to the transcontinental railroad steaming into Denver by 1870, the gateway to the West lay open and through it came many settlers. Among them was the Presbyterian Church, complete with its Zeal for Christian education and a vision of a college that would rival its sisters in the East. Thus, the "Princeton of the West" was conceived.

This area was in Arapahoe County, and in 1902 it became Adams County.

"A prominent New Yorker, Philanthropist Henry J. Mayham, was the first to visualize the concept of a university atop Crown Point, the highest point in what was then Arapahoe County. He purchased a portion of land there and convinced the Rev. T. H. Hopkins D. D., pastor of the Capitol Avenue Presbyterian Church of Denver, that it was the ideal site for a Presbyterian College.

"Hopkins organized a Board of Trustees and incorporated the Westminster University of Colorado, a popular name for Presbyterian institutions, named after the Westminster Confession.

"The University's main building was first designed by architect E. B. Gregory in 1891. His plans called for gray stone, from the Coal Creek area. However, Mayham asked his friend and fellow New Yorker, Stanford White, to redesign the building.

"White's final design held close to Gregory's original plan. The principal change being to substitute red sandstone from what is now the Red Rocks/Manitou area for the gray stone suggested by Gregory.

"By 1893 the building's structure was completed. It had a frontage of 160 feet, a depth of 80 feet, a height of three full stories and a striking tower of 175 feet. The building contained three floors, with parlors, classrooms and offices.

From the tower, a person can see over 12,000 square miles of colorful Colorado.

"...Westminster University was advanced as an institution to rival the finest academies in the East and in the dedication ceremony on June 6, 1892, the keynote speaker, the Rev. John S. McIntosh, the reputed chairman of the American Society for the Extension of University Teaching, suggested that Denver would surely become the strategic crossroads of all America.

"Yet it would be many years before the new Westminster Building would hold any classes. The financial panic of the 1893 Silver Crash, coupled with the competition presented by the Presbyterian College in Del Norte, Colorado, 'the college of the southwest', meant the postponement of all plans for the university.

"For several years the building would be left isolated on the open prairie; the promises of optimistic visionaries unfulfilled.

"The Denver Presbytery went so far as to state in 1898 that they regarded the future of the college as hopeless. They did not believe the institute would ever open, or that it could be reached in its present location by students. (A franchise for the Westminster Electric Railway had been granted previously, but nothing was ever realized, except to grade about a mile of the route.)

"Denver Presbytery said, in a communication with the Secretary of the Board of Aid for Colleges and Academies, that unless the grand sum of half a million dollars were given to the University's cause, any funds would be eaten up by the interest payments on the hopelessly large debt of the building.

"Yet not everyone was so pessimistic. Mayham had not been idle in the intervening years and had managed to elicit a donation of \$106,060 from Maxey Tabor (son of Horace Tabor); via the estate of his mother, Augusta. And funds had been raised in the East also, for the university's continued construction.

"For many years committees were formed and met to discuss the University's financial dilemmas

up until May 1906 when at a Synod meeting the matter was settled on whether to continue with the Westminster site by 57 votes to 42. The long awaited marriage of the Presbyterian church and the Westminster scheme was finally consummated, and the Westminster University Association conceived.

"A Rev. Joseph Weaver was selected as the institute's first president, and Rev. Robert F. Coyle, a former moderator of the General Assembly and then pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of Denver, became vice-president.

"James D. Husted, a Denver businessman, was made president of the Board of Trustees. His contracts with financiers in the East and his shrewd skills of arbitration were seen as a sound investment.

HUSTED HOUSE: 7890 Bradburn Blvd.

Westminster Historical Society's "A Walk through Westminster History-A Self Guided Tour-Bradburn Blvd."

"Built in 1904 for James D. Husted. Husted was the first president of the Board of Trustees of Westminster University. He was a prominent businessman in Denver in the cattle business and had been active in the movement to open the university...."

*Excerpts from October 2006 "Historically Speaking", Westminster Historical Society

"James D. Husted was selected as President of the Board of Trustees for Westminster University over the Reverend Joseph Weaver. James Husted was a Denver businessman who was described as being associated and acquainted with many capitalists and financiers who may make generous contributions to the university. In 1904, a very elegant home was built for him and his family. It had elegant woodwork, five fireplaces and servant's quarters and a porch that went across the front and along the entire South side of the home.

"In the 1920s long after the Husted family had moved on, many unusual stories began to be told about unusual noises and strange happenings in that large house at 7890 Bradburn Blvd."

"The question of title had been resolved quietly and the University was on schedule to open in September 1907.

"Degrees in classical, literary, philosophical and scientific fields were offered and a campus dormitory for students had been devised. Those students not living on the campus were expected to make use of the railway, which ran adjacent to the University's grounds.

"....Perhaps in the height of optimism, a resolution was hastily passed to secure a one million dollar endowment. This mammoth burden fell upon the shoulders of Husted, who had the unenviable task of attempting to sell the Westminster package to wealthy investors at home and back East.

"The chore was made more demanding when it became apparent that the Westminster University Building would not be ready to begin classes by September. For many years the building had been unoccupied and despite being kept in good condition, repairs were still required.

"Classes opened on September 14, 1907, at Central Presbyterian Church in Denver with 11 preparatory students and 22 college students.

"To help promote the University, the college officials formed the Westminster Realty Co., which subdivided part of the school's land to sell as home sites. The anticipation of making a tidy profit from the sale of land proved too alluring to some of the Trustees and rumors soon spread of the malpractice of some members, including the Chairman of the Board.

"On September 17, 1908, The Westminster University finally opened its doors on the hill, later known as Gregory Hill, to sixty students, and the occasion was marked by water being installed in the building for the first time. (Tuition to enter the University was \$50.00 per year.)

"The college was originally co-ed. The first graduates were women. They were Jennie Rudolph, Helen McKay Campbell and Mary Cramer Allen.

The picture of these women is on page 27 in "Westminster Now and Then" by Marion Smith.

"Many of the faculty and students became involved in the life of the church congregation.

"Westminster University closed its doors in 1917, after changing from co-educational to an all-male university. Male students were more interested in joining the military than continuing their education at Crown Point.

"Westminster University had finally met its Waterloo, and the doors were closed on this specific chapter of Presbyterian enterprise.

"On January 31, 1920, the Westminster College was purchased by the Pillar of Fire and 45 acres which included the main building, Kirkwood Hall and the President's House for a mere \$40,000."

The main Westminster University, Pillar of Fire building, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. More history of the college buildings is found in the Westminster Historical Society's "A Walk through Westminster History-A Self Guided Tour-Lowell Blvd."

This closed the Presbyterians' history with Westminster College. The campus, plus radio station KPOF, is now the Pillar of Fire Bellevue schools.

"The campus of the school was used quite frequently for meetings by the Ku Klux Klan during its hey-day in Denver, and residents recall seeing the torches of the group on the hill. There was a short time in the history of the hill when Klu Klux Klan met there..... "

pg 29, "Westminster Then and Now" by Marion Smith

The small farming community northwest of Denver, known first as DeSpain Junction, then Harris Park, was destined for a great university, or so it seemed.

"A Walk Through Westminster History-Self Guided Tour- Lowell Blvd"...Westminster Historical Society.

"There are stories that in the 1850's, the north/south corridor was a pathway which could have been used by Cheyenne and Arapaho Native Americans.

"Past Regis College going north the street became little more than a wagon trail into the village of DeSpain Junction.

"When news began circulating that a university was going to be built in this area, College became the logical name for the street. (You will see these white historical street signs posted on various streets in the South Westminster area.) In about 1897, College was renamed Lowell after the poet James Russell Lowell.

"Lowell would end at 80th Ave because of the steep grade of the hill at Crown Point where the University was located. To accommodate the students that came by tram from Denver to Westminster University, an electric car ran up Bradburn Blvd. and around the back of the hill."

SO begins the history of our congregation

Article written by Mrs. Janet Gillespie

November 5, 1957

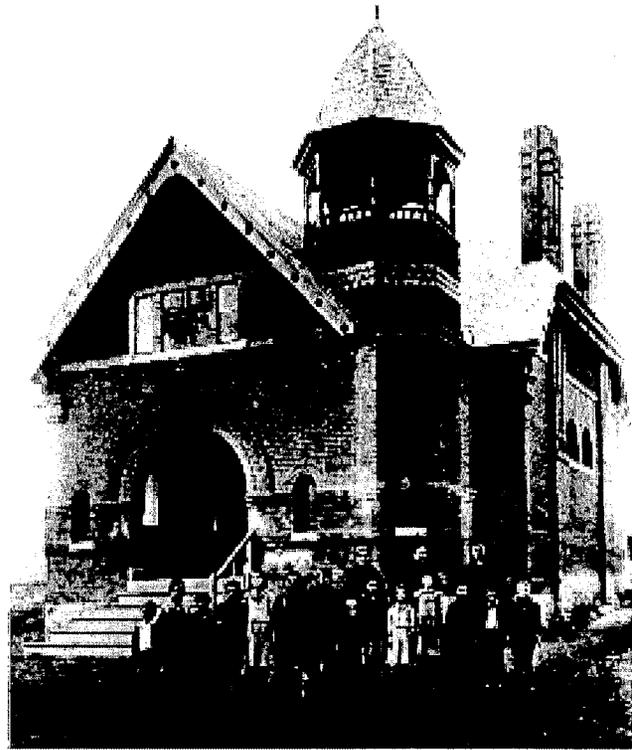
(note some discrepancies in dates.)

"Anticipating the building of Westminster University on Crown Point, the Rev. T. M. Hopkins, promoter of the Presbyterian University, encouraged the Harris Park Community to begin a Presbyterian Church.

"This marked the beginning of Westminster Presbyterian Church. The history of this church, the only one within the town until 1947, and the history of the town are synonymous, for each period of expansion in the town's development has been reflected in the church annals.

"On Sabbath January 3, 1892, Divine Services were begun in the Harris Park School by Rev. H. Beavis and continued without interruption each Sabbath until on August 14th, the Committee of Home Mission of the Presbytery of Denver organized this the 'University Presbyterian Church of Westminster'. The Rev. T. M. Hopkins D. D., the President of the Board of Trustees of Westminster

University preached the Sermon



Harris Park School

"So begins the history of the present Westminster Presbyterian Church. The first organization was so named because there was another Westminster church in Denver, and because the college building was being built at the time, and carved over the main entrance can still be seen the words 'Westminster University'.

"The name of the village was Harris Park, later known as Harris, a semi-rural community where everyone had an acreage, a cow probably and certainly a horse and buggy. The original church received into membership some twenty-six members.

The Edward Bruce Bowles family was a charter member of the University Presbyterian Church of Westminster in 1892. Mr. Bowles built the "Bowles House", now the Westminster Historical Society Museum, on W. 72nd Avenue. Louise Norberg and Glenn VanScoy were Bowles descendants.

"Preaching services were continued for seven years (until 1899) with many changes in the pulpit, and never an installed pastor. On February 18, 1902, the church was dissolved by Presbytery.

"In the meantime the Rev. W. S. Rudolph bought land and erected a house for his growing family at 7885 Quitman. His work was that of Chaplain of the

Colorado State Prison and later as Superintendent of the Children's Aid Society. He was concerned about the lack of regular church services in the community and began preaching evenings at the school house.

Congregation- Two Dates of Organization August 14, 1892 - April 20, 1903

The University Presbyterian Church of Harris, CO, was organized in 1892 when plans were underway for Westminster University. The church struggled along until February 18, 1902.

Due to difficulty in maintaining services and a Session, the Presbytery dissolved the Church on February 18, 1902.

However, fourteen months later on April 20, 1903, the University Presbyterian Church was reorganized, due to a "revival of interest" in making the college an actuality rather than a dream.

The reorganizing pastor, the Rev. W. S. Rudolph, wanted it understood that the newly organized congregation was not a reorganization as based on the following facts from the Session Minutes and Roll Books of the period:

** Congregation had the same name and meeting place.

** Pastor Rudolph had preached to the same people as a supply pastor since June of 1897.

** Same Session Minute Book and Roll Book were used.

** Eleven of the twenty-nine charter members were members of the earlier organization.

** The purpose for organizing a Presbyterian Church in this community was the same in both instances --to serve the forthcoming college and its community, as well as the small orchard community already here.

** According to Annual Reports to General Assembly, still in our files, we have been reporting 1892 as our Date of Organization.

RUDOLPH HOUSE: 7884 Quitman

"Historically Speaking", 1999.; Westminster Historical Society, 2007- The house is still occupied-

"Reverend Walter S. Rudolph received his degree of Doctor of Divinity from Union Theological seminary in New York in 1893 and married Hattie January 1, 1884.He became known to many in the pioneer mining towns as the 'Fighting Parson'.

"Reverend Rudolph, his wife and family arrived in Denver, Christmas Eve 1891. They purchased a five acre lot in Harris, Colorado, and construction of their home began shortly thereafter.

"The three story house was designed for boarding male students of Westminster University. The second floor had a central hallway with doors off each side like a hotel. The third floor had a gable studio with study rooms for students.

"Dr. Rudolph took credit for inducing Henry J. Mayham, former Denver resident and promoter of the famous Flatiron Blvd. on New York's Broadway, to give Westminster (College) to the Presbyterian Synod of Colorado.

"Shortly after his arrival in Harris, Rev. Rudolph helped to organize the first church. Organizational meetings were held in the parlor of the Edward Bowles residence and the first service was held January 3, 1892, in the Harris schoolhouse.

"It was Hattie who supervised the construction of the house and all of the activities on a five acre plot which could be utilized for the support of a family and the raising of their seven children.

"Rev. Rudolph was house chaplain in the eighteenth Colorado General Assembly and in the state senate two years later.

".....Rev. Rudolph resigned as a Presbyterian minister and became pastor of the Union Congregational church located at W 29th & King Street. Rev. Rudolph died April 6, 1936 and Hattie died Nov. 16, 1946."

"In 1898 Rev. Rudolph began regular morning services in the school house, reorganized the church calling it the 'University Presbyterian Church of Harris.' Ill health and 'the unruly, noisy character of a company of young people at the services' necessitated his giving up the work for a time.

"By the spring of 1903 the interest in the college revived, the Presbytery recognized Mr. Rudolph's organization and asked him if he would transfer from the Congregational Church to the Presbyterian and serve the church at Harris. This he did and continued without stipulated salary. In October 1903 the congregation acted to change the name to the 'University Presbyterian Church of Westminster', since the name of the town had then been changed and Presbytery enrolled the church.

The post office of Harris officially changed its name to Westminster in 1908. The city fathers officially changed the town's name to Westminster when they incorporated in 1911.

"It is interesting to note that about this time Miss Sarah Dakin, a member of the church, made a gift to the church of individual communion cups. They are still in use today. (1957)

"In 1909 the college really seemed to be progressing satisfactorily and Mr. Rudolph was asked if he would give up his church in Denver and give full time to the Westminster. He chose rather to keep the Denver church, now called the Grandview Congregational Church.

"Professor Horne, a Presbyterian minister and Dean of the College, was made moderator of the session and in March 1911, Rev. J. Mont Travis was installed as pastor.

"The following October, W. Byrd Wray was recommended to presbytery as a candidate for the ministry. Mr. Wray continued in the pastorate of various churches until his death at Akron, Colorado, a few years ago.

"On Thanksgiving Day 1911, the first service was held in the newly completed church north of W. 80th Ave and east of Bradburn - the site is now crossed by the Toll Road.

(Known as Boulder Turnpike-now U.S. Highway 36)



80th & Bradburn-Osceola Church

"Early in 1911, the women of the church organized a Missionary society with a constitution almost identical with that of our present Women's Association. It continued to be very active for a number of years.

"At a special meeting of presbytery held in Westminster church, Elder A. C. McClelland was ordained to the ministry of the church as an evangelist on Sept. 20, 1912.

"No mention is made of the resignation of the pastor but on April 2, 1910, the Session met at the call of the moderator Rev. W. J. Gregory and the clerk was asked to write to various ministers in Presbytery seeking those who would supply our pulpit in the interim.

"On October 10, 1914, Rev. C. H. Micks was asked to come as Stated supply for one year with the

hope that he would become pastor. He filled the pulpit and was most acceptable in every way, but Presbytery refused to enroll him because it did not consider him orthodox. He left in December 1914."

Another version of the church history:

"On June 30, 1892, the University Presbyterian church of Westminster was organized as the 'University Presbyterian Church of Westminster' by the Mission Committee of the Presbytery of Denver.

"The Rev. H. S. Beavis was called as the first minister of the twenty-six member congregation. This congregation continued until early 1899. The congregation, ever hopeful, continued meeting in homes or the schoolhouse until 1902 when the Presbytery dissolved the relationship.

"It was the first and only church for many years to serve the village of Harris Park, later incorporated as the town of Westminster in 1911.

"A local resident, the Rev. Walter S. Rudolph, often served as minister for the fledgling congregation. In 1903 when the opening of the University seemed imminent, the Rev. Rudolph interested Presbytery in establishing a 'new' Church for Westminster, however, it had much in common with the previous church, including the name.

"Rev. Rudolph resigned and the Rev. J. Mont Travis was called. Immediately a drive for a permanent church home began. Increased population on College Hill prompted the church group to move from the schoolhouse to a new church. A site was selected on Cornell Street, now 80th Avenue and Bradburn Blvd./Osceola, a location now taken by the Boulder Turnpike.

"The chapel was completed for Thanksgiving Services in 1911, and an official dedication followed, February 23, 1912. The Rev. Travis resigned a year later and a succession of interim and stated supply pastors followed until the coming of Rev. A. Wilbur Liggitt in 1915.

Congregational Meeting.....	March 31, 1916
Number of church members.....	80
Number enrolled in church school.....	67
General Fund expenditures.....	\$776.08
Balance in church treasury.....	\$46.51
Clerk of session.....	W.C. Gold
Minister - A. W. Liggitt	

"World War I brought discouragement both to Westminster (formerly known as Harris Park before the city incorporated in 1911) and to the church. Young men attending the college were called into service. The

college, after a valiant fight for existence, was forced to close in 1917. Its closing brought to an end tramway service from Denver and the population growth on the hill.

"The congregation began planning at once to relocate to the center of Westminster following the population trend. A site was purchased at the corner of 74th Avenue and Bradburn Boulevard in 1922, the same year the Rev. Liggitt resigned.

"The property was purchased from the Peter J. Oleson estate... 148'6" x 440' which was 1 1/2 acres. In a financial statement to the Church Extension Board, Dec. 10, 1924, \$100 had been paid to the architect and \$423 was on hand from the sale of the former church property (80th & Bradburn/Osceola). Subscriptions were \$3,041, the church building fellowship pledged \$3,500 and the Board of National Missions pledged \$1,000. (researched by Jerry Moore)

"Building Agreement entered February 20, 1925. between the trustees of the Westminster Community Church (Presbyterian) with contractor, A. H. McMillan.

"The contract did not include inside doors, trim, casework, electric fixtures, ceiling brackets, inside hardware, platform in assembly room, nor any interior paint or varnish.

Payments included: \$1,000.00 when floor joists are set in place; \$2,000.00 when roof is on; \$1,500.00 when all outside work is finished; Balance \$2,978.00 when job is completed. Total cost \$7,478.00.

"After the sale of the Chapel, the congregation met in the Grange Hall while the new building was being constructed under the guidance of Frank Day. Dedication was August 9, 1925."



74th & Bradburn Church

It was located in what is now the Church Park, west of the the present sanctuary.

The cedar trees on each side of the front entrance were given in memory of Mary Gregory (June 9, 1885-October 7, 1936). When the building was razed, the two cedar trees were preserved in the "Church Park" where

they still stand today.

1951- A basement was dug under the church sanctuary and was used for many church and community activities. The Lions Club held its regular meetings in the basement, and the women served many luncheons for the Club.

1981-- House Committee: The old sanctuary was removed and landscaping was done. \$8,400 was allotted for the project and numerous donations were received. Approximately \$3,000 was saved for other projects.

Feb. 12, 1981-Westminster Window,
Sally Wagner, reporter

"... The 57-year old structure, although no longer the church sanctuary, still housed Sunday School classrooms and accommodated a community agency until last fall when its safety could no longer be guaranteed. Restoration was financially unfeasible. The church now plans to landscape the site, according to the Rev. Ed Thwaites, pastor."

A choir had been formed for the chapel dedication service in 1912, and music became an integral part of church services.

After the church was built on 74th and Bradburn, Mrs. Lavina Lewis became choir director and organist in 1937 and served enthusiastically until her retirement in June 1960.

A new Hammond Spinnet Organ was purchased in 1951 and was the pride of the congregation.

Early 1950s-

The church served as a church home for residents of other church denominations not represented in the village of 500. Westminster suddenly zoomed to a 1,000 population.

After World War II, the congregation grew dramatically as suburbs were created out of land that had been cherry and apple orchards. The church building was expanded by digging out the basement in 1951.

The influx of postwar population in 1946 again brought change to the church that had survived small membership, non-resident pastorates and meager budgets. Each Sunday since that year has brought in new memberships, increased pledges and church school growth, with the development of the Valley Highway, (became I-25) the Boulder Turnpike (HW-36) and the resultant expanded subdivisions.

Having been renamed Westminster Community Church (Presbyterian) in 1919, the church became a true community center during the depression when the town struggled to survive. Local resident, the Rev.

William Gregory, father of Janet Gillespie, often filled the pulpit when stated supply ministers were unavailable.

There was a period of dissension within the congregation between 1930-1935. Healing began under the Rev. G. R. Edmundson, Westminster resident and Presbytery Executive. With the coming of the Rev. Paul M. Bourns, a graduate student at Denver University, the congregation was reunited.

"... Ray Hilligas was installed as pastor in the spring of 1939, but resigned in August of the same year. In October Rev. J. F. Shepherd supplied the pulpit until the end of August of the following year.

"In September 1940, the Rev. A. W. Liggitt had retired and agreed to return to minister to the congregation part time and remained until 1951. He chose to leave because of ill health. Rev. M. R. Murray who was starting a church in Lakewood came as a part time minister, until the congregation could find a pastor. He did much to build up the church, and led the church in the plans for securing a pastor. During his tenure, the church began using the 'New Curriculum', and the organ was purchased. The basement had been enlarged during Mr. Liggitt's last year with the church.

After much trial and error, the Committee to find a pastor was most successful and everyone rejoiced at the arrival of the Rev. Lester Nickless in June of 1953.

"It was at this time, in 1936, that Janet Gillespie was elected an Elder, the first woman elder in Presbyterian churches in Colorado.

For the first time in thirty years, the church brought in a full time resident minister, The Rev. Lester Nickless, called in 1953. A manse was in readiness for the Nickless family, Les, Elizabeth and son Bob, thanks to volunteer labor and local contractor Wilbur Haggstrom.

"The manse was dedicated on May 24, 1953.

The Dedication of the Manse:

Music was by Mary Shively - "Bless This House."

Those who made remarks were Pastor Rev. M. R. Murray; Contractor Wilbur Haggstrom; Past President of the Board of Trustees Carl Hawkinson; Present Vice President of Trustees Elmer Hoover; Representative of Board of Church Extension of Denver Presbytery, Henry D. Gregory, president; Representative of Board of National Missions of Denver Presbytery, Rev. Wesley L. Almy.

This was the culmination of months of work mostly by members and friends of the church with W. L. Haggstrom in charge.

Some familiar names among the 30-40 who

worked on the manse were Elmer Hoover, Carl Hawkinson, Frank Ayer, Don Hereford, Greenough Gregory, Hugh Gillespie, Guy and Helen Van Cleave, Herb McClellan, Ray and Jean Gray, Gale, Betty Jo and Ron Day, Bob and Louise Norberg.

Also on the long list of nearly 75 people who attended the dedication in 1953 were the following: Doris Day, Gil and Wyoma Bean, Mary Patrick, Iva Wilson and son Harry Wilson, Lloyd and Vera Ferguson, Richard Day, A.B. Withers, Lavina Lewis, Jennie Bashline, Marge Hereford, Reta Hawkinson, White and Geraldine Eckroth, Robert (Twink) McClellan, Linda Gunther, and Karen Perry.

The Rev. Lester Nickless and his family were able to move right into the new home when they arrived from Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

After living in the Manse for several years, the Nicklesses purchased a home on Turnpike Dr. They had opened their home to Sunday School classes, and a room for the nursery. The Rev. Jack King, associate pastor, and his family lived in the manse until they resigned. The Manse then became the church office, pastors' studies, the library and a place for storage. The senior highs met in the basement for several years. They painted and decorated the room with their own creative art.

Adult Bible classes met in the living room. These classes were taught by Lowell Rodgers and Bobbie Lowe.

This arrangement lasted from 1966-1987 until the new addition was completed.

The Manse was remodeled and became church rental property until it was sold.

Through Dick and Mary Shively, Les Nickless was highly recommended to the Pastor Finding Committee. Mary Shively was the sister of Rev. Roe Johnston, Les' brother-in-law.

The Rev. Lester Nickless **Served from 1953 - 1979**

Lester Nickless was a native of Chicago. He attended Coe College and received a Master's Degree in forestry from Yale University. From 1939-1950, 'Nick' and Elizabeth lived in Arkansas and Alabama, where he served as Head Forester for two lumber companies in charge of forest management.

He then attended McCormick Seminary and upon graduation in 1953 came to Westminster where the church grew steadily under his leadership. Coe College honored him with a doctor of Divinity degree in 1961. The Nicklesses have a son, Robert.

The Reverend Lester Nickless was installed at the Community Presbyterian Church on July 26, 1953, at 7:30 p.m.



Rev. Lester Nickless

The Bible used at his ordination and installation service was a gift from his parents, Dr. & Mrs. A.S. Nickless.

Some people participating in the installation service were Mrs. Lavina Lewis at the organ. The Rev. Dr. A. S. Nickless delivered the sermon, and Rev. Roe H. Johnston delivered the "Charge to the Pastor."

The Reverend A. S. Nickless D.D. was a lecturer in Pastoral Theology and Counseling at McCormick Theological Seminary and father of the pastor-elect.

The Reverend Roe H. Johnston was minister of Evergreen Village Presbyterian Church of Detroit and brother-in-law of the pastor-elect.

The congregation was facing the problem of increasing enrollments that would soon overflow two services and had already exceeded the Sunday School facilities.

Nickless receives honorary degree

Excerpts from article, Rocky Mountain News, Saturday, June 3, 1961

"The Rev. Lester Nickless, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, will receive an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sunday.

"...After 10 years as lumber man and forester in Southern states, Rev. Nickless decided to enter the ministry.

"... During his term as pastor, membership of the Westminster church has grown from 245 to 850. The mortgage was recently paid on the new sanctuary and a new educational unit will be under construction this summer.

"Rev. Mr. Nickless, 47, is active in civic groups such as the Adams County Mental Health Assn., the Tri-County Tuberculosis Assn., Rotary Club and Boy Scouts as well as in state and local church organizations.

"He is married to the former Elizabeth Jackson, also a Coe graduate, and they have a son, Robert, 13."

BUILDING A NEW SANCTUARY

The church building, dedicated in 1925, on 74th and Bradburn provided seating in reasonable comfort for 125.

In the late 1950s ... "By use of the basement, comfortable Sunday School capacity is about 200. Our attendance at present ranges up to 350 for Sunday School. In order to accommodate our present attendance at worship services, two church services are held each Sunday morning, one at 8:30 and the second at 11:00 o'clock.

"A number of the Sunday school classes were being held away from the church in nearby homes and in a school.

Primary Department moved its activities to the Orchard Court School. High school group of 23 met in the A.V. and Iva Wilson home, 1/2 block north of the church on Bradburn.

"In 1954 the membership authorized a study that took almost a year and from which plans were drawn to enlarge its capacity by a building program."

The following are excerpts from committee minutes as written by Janet Gillespie, clerk of Session and secretary of Building Committee, taken during the planning for the sanctuary.

Building Committee---April 22, 1954

Francis M. Day-Chairman

Janet G. Gillespie-Secretary

Gilbert Bean, J. R. McCormick, Harold Peterson
Appointed to screen architectural plans.

Gene Hagberg, Francis M. Day, Jack Smith
Appointed on finance committee-Frank Ayer,
Wilbur Haggstrom, Donald Hereford.

May 2, 1954-

The building Committee met with Mr. Block representing the Wells Organization to discuss the raising of funds for the proposed church building. Solicitation to be made by men of the church after training by Wells.

May 5, 1954-

Building committee met with Mr. Carver, architect. He could show slides of other churches. There should be preliminary drawings by the architect, his fee for preliminary drawings at the rate of \$4.50 an hour plus the engineering and blueprint expenses.

June 20, 1954-

A meeting of the Corporation of Westminster Presbyterian church was held...Mr. Frank Ayer, President of the Board of Trustees presiding.

Report by Mr. Eberhart that the church go into a building program, seconded by Mr. McClellan and motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. (Don) Hereford that the building committee be authorized to act as necessary: to employ an architect, enter in contracts, borrow money, enter into a financial campaign and appoint such additional committees as are necessary. Seconded by Mr. (Carl) Hawkinson and carried.

Motion was made by Mr. McClellan that the program of the building committee be explained and recommended to the congregation, that the Boards also recommend that the church enter in a building program, that the congregation approve the plans as presented by the building committee, that the committee be authorized to hire an architect, borrow money, enter into contracts, enter into a financial campaign and appoint such additional committees as are necessary. Seconded by G.W. Day, carried.

August 1, 1954-

The building committee met and Mr. (Jack) Smith made a motion that they accept the contract with architect Mr. (Hobart D.) Wagener of Boulder. Mrs. Gillespie was asked to get ideas from the women's groups.

Mr. (Don) Eberhart, S. S. Superintendent, was asked to get input from the church school teachers. Pastor Nickless will call meetings of three church boards to discuss plans with the architect.

In September the men of the church held a dinner for a similar discussion and to make plans for the financial canvass preferably to be put on during October.

October 24, 1954-

Building committee met. Motion made by Smith that as many of the building committee as possible

with Mr. Nickless and Mr. Wagener visit the following churches on Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 27, noting the general style of buildings as well as inside arrangement and report back to Building Committee:
- Lutheran Church, 5th & Stuart; Galilee Church at 32nd and Milwaukee; Chapel of Angels, West Colfax near Wadsworth; City Park Baptist and a church at 26th & Leyden.

October 31, 1954-

Motion by Mr. Peterson that we recommend the building of a new sanctuary to the rear of the present building and facing W. 74th Ave with the present building remaining as it is for future remodeling or dismantling, the new structure be of brick construction with steep roof and beamed ceiling. Motion second by Mr. McCormick and unanimously carried.

Mr. Bean made the motion that the Community Presbyterian Church enter into an agreement with the Wells Organization at a cost of \$2,500 plus expenses to direct the fund raising campaign for the building of the new church, the fee of \$2,500 to be paid in four equal installments of \$625 each. The campaign to begin about November 15, 1954 and continue for approximately 2 1/2 weeks. Motion seconded by Mr. Hagberg and carried.

Building Committee elected Mr. Gilbert Bean as treasurer for the length of the campaign by unanimous vote.

February 9, 1956-

Building committee met to discuss the finances and decision to meet with Mr. Wagener, architect, as soon as possible to bring costs up to date and then to advertise for bids that building operations may be started as soon as possible.

A revised preliminary estimate for new sanctuary for the Westminster Community Church was presented.

February 24, 1956-

First estimate was \$82,500 but after a major cost increase of \$6,400 over estimate of February 1955.

This estimate did not include the pulpit, lectern, pews, organ, communion table and other furniture.

May 19, 1956-

The building committee met. Motion was made by Mr. Smith that upon receipt of a total of \$40,000 in the building fund, we take definite steps to start construction of the new church. Seconded by Mr. Hagberg, and carried.

February 3, 1957-

A congregational meeting was held which approved the incorporation of Westminster Presbyterian Church and dissolved the Corporation of Westminster Community Church (Presbyterian).

Unicameral Board adopted in 1960...Board of

Trustees was combined with Session.

1956- A letter sent to the membership by the building committee.

The following are excerpts from the letter sent to the congregation by the Building Committee on June 30, 1956, Francis M. Day, chairman.

There's Good News Today and there may be Better News Tomorrow!

Dear Friends:

"Steel for the new church has been ordered! Formal order was placed with Denver Steel and Iron Works for 25,333 pounds of steel, anticipated delivery date to be about the end of this year or six months from date.

"Your Building Committee has decided, after discussing the matter with various church groups, that since steel delivery would from necessity require approximately six months, and since construction cannot be started or contracts awarded until steel is available, the order should be placed. We have set a target date for letting of a contract for the shell (basement, walls, roof) by the end of the year. We are advised by the architect, that the shell will cost in the neighborhood of **\$40,000.00**.

"Under this plan we will not need to borrow money at this time. If our pledges are paid up as per schedule, we will have \$40,000 on hand by December 31, 1956. It will take a minimum of six months to secure the laminated arches and complete this much construction. During that six month period if our pledges continue to come in according to schedule, we will accumulate another \$12,000, and during the following six month period an additional \$12,000, thus giving us \$24,000 during the last six months toward completion.

"It is felt that by being very frugal in purchasing of labor and material, using the services of our own people where ever and when ever possible, that we can go a long ways toward completion with borrowing funds, thus saving large interest expenditures and building costs....."

(The remainder of the letter dealt with keeping pledges up to date for the annual budget plus pledges for the building fund.)

By Francis M. Day
Chairman of Building Committee

November 16, 1956-

Building Committee met...Motion by Mr. Smith that we ask for bids on the shell and break ground on Jan 1, (1957).

Chairman Day reported that he met with Mr. John R. Hartley of the Church Extension Board at the North Denver Banks and arranged for a \$40,000

loan.

Mr. Smith made a motion to engage a general contractor to build the church shell as soon as bids are in. Bids to be advertised and to be opened February 11th, seconded by Mr. Hagberg.

Mr. Hereford reported that the steel is in Denver and will be delivered out here soon, arches to be ordered soon.

February 11, 1957-

Building Committee received and opened bids. The Al Jahn Construction Company, having the lowest bid of \$73,136.00.

Other notes from the Committee: "This figure could be reduced by alternate of \$2,164.00 plus steel costing \$3,450.00 and architect's fees \$4,595.00. Total costs will range between \$80,000.00 and \$82,000.00.

"Furnishings will come to something over \$10,000.

"We propose to use pledge collections during construction and prior to start of repayment of the \$40,000 construction loan, for purchasing pews, furniture, fixtures and equipment.

"Other assets of the church include: value of approximately two acres of land \$8,000.00; value of present church with basement \$22,000.00; furniture, fixtures, organ, kitchen equipment \$2,000.00. As an additional asset, the church owns the manse, a three bedroom frame home with basement, valued at \$12,500.00 on which there is a loan balance of about \$7,000.00."

Al Jahn Construction Company received the contract. The committee later discussed the contract and the other alternative proposals (sidewalks, tile or shake roof, insulation).

Motion by Mr. Ayer that we tentatively award the contract to the aforementioned construction company subject to settling on the type of roof to be used and the confirmation of a financial loan commitment with North Denver Bank.

February 20, 1957-

Discussion was held regarding the sidewalk along 74th Avenue. (The sidewalk on 74th Avenue to be five feet wide, with walk up to the church entrance to be eight feet wide. A motion made and carried that the sidewalks be left out of the contract.

Motion made and carried that shakes should be used for the roof.

February 24, 1957-

Excerpts from Letter to congregation dated February 21, 1957.

".....The groundbreaking will be immediately after the second worship service (about 12:00).

"So that this may be meaningful event for all concerned, there will be a time in the ceremonies for

church school children to participate in the ground breaking. So bring your children and the family shovel. There will also be some brief messages and the introduction of our architect and contractor.

"We hope that you can be with us Sunday as we unite in breaking ground for a church built to the Glory of God and the service of his people."

Faithfully Yours,

Les Nickless, Minister

Francis M. Day, Chairman, Building Committee



Groundbreaking
Rev. Lester Nickless and Francis Day

Broadcaster March 1957-

The groundbreaking dedication followed the second service, opening with prayer of thanks for the occasion.

"The affair had simplicity and dignity."

Brief remarks were made by officers of the church. Francis Day introduced the architect, Hobart Wagener, and building contractor, Mr. Al Jahn whose low bid was \$71,858.00, excluding steel costs and architect's fee.

Excerpts from article by Rev. Nickless in Broadcaster

"Then the shoveling began. The first spade full was shoveled by Lester Nickless as pastor and Francis Day as Building Committee chairman.

"The second shovelful was hoisted by Mrs. Hiram Gillespie, pioneer of the church. The next 50 spade fulls were heaved by the young fry of the church.

"...The shoveling project cannot be signed off without mention of Barbara Bean's great help with a teaspoon as her digging weapon."

The ceremony ended by the choir singing "The Church's One Foundation" followed by the benediction.

Those in the choir were Lil Gunther, Alice Rodgers, Dee Leva, Doris Day, Jennie Bashline, Janet Gillespie, Lavina Lewis, Doris Aldrich, Virginia Jester,

Bev Glasgow, Betty Smith, Jean Weinell, Dick Edwards, Wayne Smith, Dick Shively, Paul Clark, Ruth Clark, Le Smith, Mary Shively, Gale Day



Groundbreaking
Mrs. Hiram (Janet) Gillespie, Francis Day and James Campbell, grandson of Mrs. Gillespie

March 1, 1957-

Committee met at Halleck & Howard to look at pews and pulpit furniture and get prices.

Mr. Hereford made a motion to begin plans for cornerstone laying.

Mr. Bean told of a bargain in tile that he could take advantage of and was authorized to do so.

March 17, 1957-

Chairman Day informed us that there were violations of the existing building code now operating in Westminster. Mr. Day and the architect Mr. Wagener to meet with Board of Adjustment of Westminster and the building inspector as soon as possible.

A committee to take charge of the use of memorial funds was named - Dr. Robert Ansley, Lowell Rodgers, Jack and Ruth Smith.

April 5, 1957-

Kitchen committee reported -Mrs. Don Hereford, Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Haggstrom, Mrs. Gale Day.

Mr. Schindler presented samples of glass suitable for skylight screen at rear of sanctuary and facade of building.

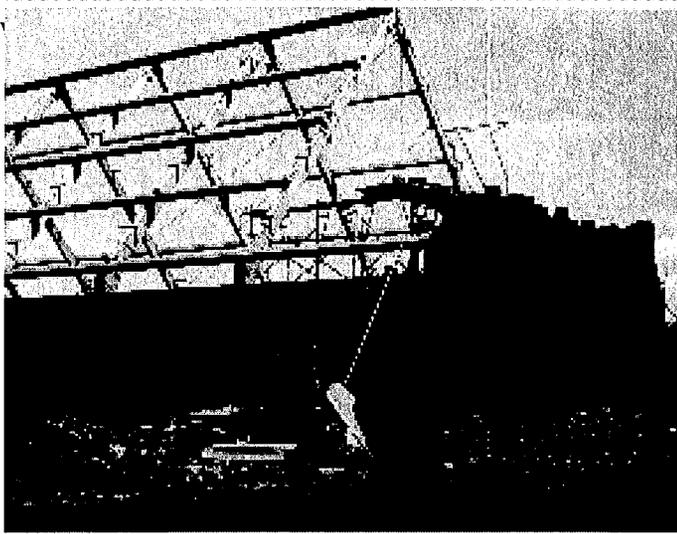
June 7, 1957-

Mr. Peterson suggested that we decide on the pews with the narrow base on the end.

Question on paving street 74th to Osceola...300 feet..cost \$800 to \$1,000.

Also the cornerstone box was to be 8"x 16"x 8"- the box to be 7" x 15" x 3".

Wayne Smith of Men's Council reported that they



Sanctuary under construction with arches

Cornerstone Dedication

September 15, 1957- Cornerstone dedication followed the second worship service. Contents included Sunday bulletin, constitution and by-laws of church, copy of 1956 annual report and 1957 budget; a Bible, list of teachers and officers of church school; anthem from the morning service, "We Dedicate This House, Lord, to Thee", history of our church, copy of church directory; and newspaper clippings of the ground breaking.

Members of the Session, Board of Trustees, and Building Committee mixed the cement; Robert (Twink) McClellan set in place the engraved marble stone furnished by the Men's Council.

Facts of interest about the sanctuary

- Seating capacity...360
- Dimension of sanctuary 100'x 45'
- Total cost of construction...\$83,000
- Cost of furnishings.... \$10,000
- Cost of street and sidewalk...\$2,000
- Church membership...500
- Member families served by church250

September 29, 1957-

Motion by Mr. Smith that Mr. Les Nickless communicate with Mr. Wagener asking that the artist be recommended to furnish us with some kind of a sketch and description of the material and approximate cost of the proposed cross for the chancel wall. Suggestion that the cost be no more than \$500.00 and that we seriously consider his offer.

Motion by Mr. Hereford that we authorize Hubert Rodgers to order 8 speakers for the sanctuary and 4 for the basement with 2 microphones and 30 watt amplifiers.

Motion by Mr. Smith that we order the "cinnamon" tile for the narthex.

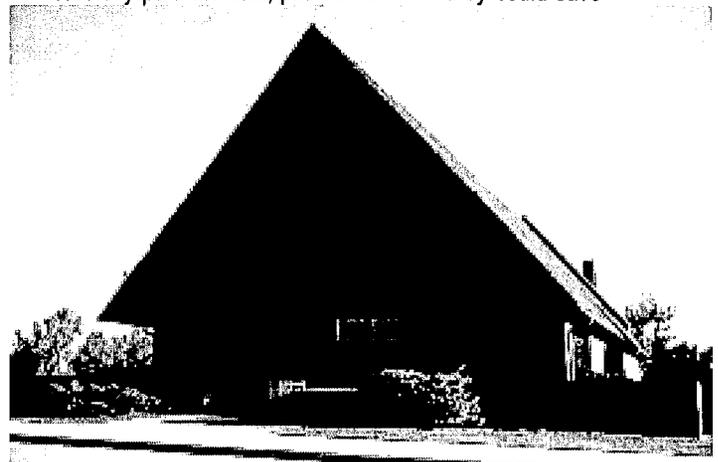
Motion by Mr. Ayer that we suggest to Mr. Wagener that we get (tile #s suggested) for sanctuary floor.

Motion by Mr. Hereford that we order pulbit



October 13, 1957-

At each Building committee meeting the members carefully paid the bills, planned on how they could save



Sanctuary dedicated Nov. 24, 1957

November 24, 1957-

"You are cordially invited to attend the Service of Dedication for The New Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Sunday, November 14, 1957, 3:30 p.m.

"You are cordially invited to be the guests of The Westminster Presbyterian Church at the Loyalty Dinner to be held at the New Church, Saturday

evening, November thirtieth, six-thirty p.m.”

R.S.V.P...Irene Wolford.

The Service of Dedication was conducted by the Presbytery of Denver, November 24, 1957.

Highlights of the service:

Mrs. Lavina Lewis, Mrs. Esther Bashaw and Mrs. Don Cawelti were the organists.

**Presentation of keys to President of Board of Trustees.

**Cherub, Angel and Carol choirs presented anthems.

**Presentation of keys to minister

**Chapel and Chancel Choirs sang the anthem.

**Mrs. Paul Glasgow sang “How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings” for the offertory.

Mrs. Mary Shively was scheduled as the soloist for the offertory but she became seriously ill with Asian flu and was unable to participate. She died on Nov. 28, 1957. Her services were held on Dec 1, 1957, in the new sanctuary.

Of note from Session Minutes-1959: A notable event in the history of the Presbyterian church in 1959 was the union of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America and the United Presbyterian Church of North America to form the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America

Associate Pastors

Membership of the Westminster United Presbyterian Church, the name adopted in 1957, peaked in 1967 at 1215 members. Dr. Lester Nickless was assisted by a series of assistant ministers until his retirement in 1978.

The Rev. John D. King

Assistant pastor- July 1, 1961- June 30, 1962

Associate pastor- July 1, 1962- Jan. 25, 1966

In 1961, the Rev. John D. King came as Assistant pastor.

His focus was on the education of adult membership from which came membership classes for adults and youth, evening study groups and a year-long study with the Mariners group. He accepted a call in 1965 as campus minister for the United Campus Christian Fellowship at Eastern Illinois University.

After Rev. King left, the **Rev. Holly Bartges** served with special emphasis in Christian Education.

Assistant pastor- May 1, 1966- Feb. 25, 1967

Associate pastor- Feb. 26, 1967- Aug. 1, 1968

She was very supportive of church youth activities, and was active on the Presbytery and Synod levels, and also served on District 50 Council for Christian Action.

When Rev. Bartges received a call to El Paso in late 1968, the **Rev. Richard George**, formerly a member of this church, came as part-time interim assistant with responsibility in Christian Education.

Richard George was ordained on September 18, 1966, in this church. Dr. Lester Nickless, the Rev. Holly Bartges and elders Orville McNatt and Jeanne Coffey participated in the service.

In June of 1969, **Rev. Dwight Nichol** was added to the staff as part-time assistant minister of visitation and evangelism.

Other Directors of Visitation were Mr. Robert Beason in 1973; and Arnold (his wife Annadene) Bloomquist served in 1984-1986.

Janet G. Gillespie Hall
Building an educational facility

1960- Annual report:

The planning committee, Gene Hagberg, chairman, proposed and recommended, that because of the ever more serious problem in the church school with regard to lack of space, particularly in the younger age groups, that construction should begin on a Christian Education structure south of the new sanctuary.

1961- The building committee reported that the completion date was set at approximately five months from October 8, 1961, which was the date of the ground breaking ceremony.

Other committee members were Ann Kirkpatrick, Paul Clark, Norman Martin, Joan Smith, Glenn VanScoy, Don Gipe and the ministers.

Plans for expanding educational facilities were started soon after the new sanctuary was completed, and the new wing, Janet Gillespie Hall, was dedicated



Ann Kirkpatrick, Paul Clark, Joan Smith,

Rev. Lester Nickless, Don Hereford, chairman

Janet G. Gillespie Hall

The Architect: Orrie Joel Holmen and Associates
The Builder: Harold L. Haugen, General contractor
Type of Construction:

- **To accommodate approximately 250 children
- **Dimensions- 190' x 34' with total floor area of 6,460 sq. ft.
- **Cost to date (Sept. 9, 1962)-\$83,205.31.
- **Present church school enrollment - 535

There were two worship services, with church



Mrs. Janet Gillespie, Don Hereford, Rev. Nickless and Ron Shannon

Rocky Mountain News
Oct. 8, 1961.

Ground Breaking for New Church Unit

“Ground was broken Sunday for the \$80,000 educational unit of the Westminster Presbyterian

Church, W. 74th Ave and Bradburn Blvd.

“The new unit will provide space for babies, toddlers and children 2 and 3 years of age and for the choirs. Handling the soil-turning chores are Mrs. Hiram Gillespie, left, clerk of the session, and Don Hereford, second from left, building committee chairman, with an assist from Ronnie Shannon, right.

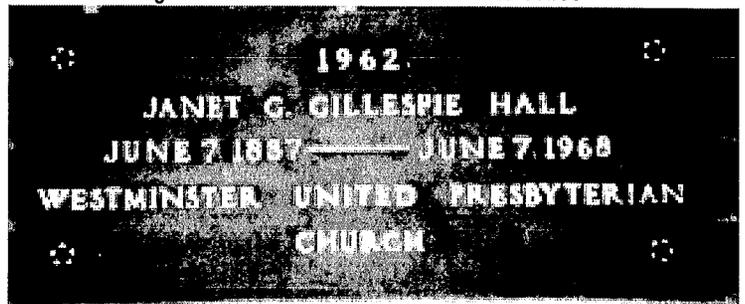


Gillespie Hall near completion

Sidewalks and curbs still needed to be poured and landscaping needed to be completed. The two stained glass windows, which were in the choir room, were removed when the new addition was added in 1987.

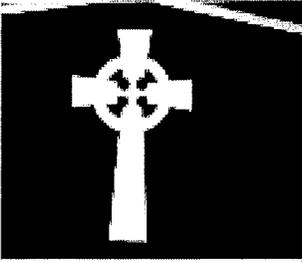
Note the open space to the right. This was the breezeway between the two buildings. This area in front became a nicely landscaped grassy area. The table and two benches now cemented into the 'patio' were originally cemented into the ground near the sidewalk areas in the landscaped grassy area.

During the summer months the social and coffee



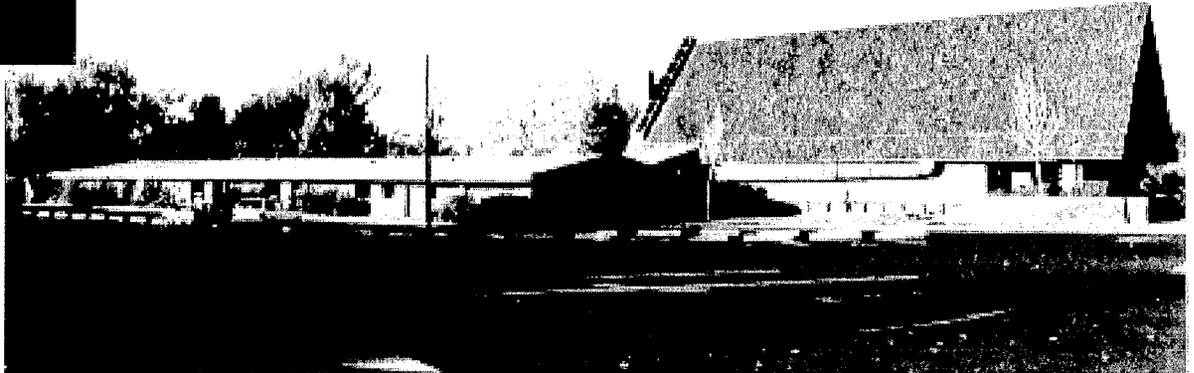
This sign was originally placed on the north side of Gillespie Hall.

When the “Building to Serve” unit - 'office/library/lounge addition'- was added in 1987, the sign was moved to the east side of Gillespie Hall under the east choir room windows, south of where the two buildings connect.



The celtic cross hung on the north side of Gillespie Hall for several years.

Don Hereford, building committee chairman, had the cross made and gave it to the church .



The church complex before the "Building to Serve" addition (office/library/lounge) was added in 1987.

The Rev. Holly Bartges

Assistant/Associate Minister - 1966-1969

It was during the tenure of Rev. Holly Bartges, as Associate Minister, that the drama ministry began.

"The Cup of Trembling" was presented by the senior highs. In 1978, a committee called RISK Evangelism suggested that the drama program be expanded.

The senior high melodramas soon became a tradition after this period.

The Rev. Harold (Hal) Davis

Assistant minister - Nov. 1, 1969 - Nov. 23, 1970

Associate minister - Nov. 24, 1970 - Jan. 31, 1982



Rev. Hal Davis

"As of November 1, 1969, the Rev. Harold Davis became the full time assistant pastor with

responsibility for Christian Education.

"Harold M. Davis was born in Kuling, China, the son of missionary parents. Following graduation from Park College, he served in the Navy during World War II and then received a Master's Degree in History from the University of Chicago.

"Hal attended McCormick Seminary and after his ordination, he served pastorates in Oregon, Washington and in Golden, Colorado, before joining the staff of the Westminster Church in 1969 as Minister of Education.



Kirby and Hal Davis speaking at a special occasion for The Rev. Lester and Elizabeth Nickless.

“He and his wife, Kirby, are the parents of Lawrence, Stephen, Kent and Rebecca.”

He and Lester Nickless spiritually guided the growing congregation through their loving and caring ministry of worship, and Christian education. Each was guided by a special “Guardian Angel” as they drove from one meeting or function to another.

Hal’s friendship with the youth of the church will long be remembered by all who experienced his “holy” guidance through many hours of selling wood, planning for work caravans, practicing for and presenting the melodramas.

Davises Take Their Talents To Arvada

(excerpts from article written by Sally Wagner, Staff Writer, Westminster Window, Feb. 11, 1982)

“The Westminster congregation affectionately roasted the Davises at a farewell frolic Sunday. There the roasters confirmed rampant rumors circulating about this venerable scholarly ‘puns talking’ preacher and his patient wife.

“Hal served as director of the senior high youth programs from 1969 to 1982. Hal initiated the annual summer work caravans. He escorted 20 to 30 youngsters to work sites where he supervised the youth as they built, painted and repaired church buildings, primarily in the Southwest.

“Under his guidance the youngsters financed their caravans by producing annual melodramas and selling firewood. In addition to summer and winter retreats in the mountains, Hal also drove a busload of youngsters to Spearfish, SD, every other year to see the Passion Play.

“Hal’s mastery of the art of friendly persuasion prompted a lot of ribbing, too, but thanks to that mastery, he persuaded many members to become Bethel study leaders, not the least of whom was Kirby.”

Presently (2007) the Davis’ address is
Rev. Harold & Kirby Davis
1420 Santo Domingo
Duarte, CA 91010

Pastoral Associates & C.E. Directors

1982- Bart Peterson, Arnold Bloomquist and Craig Kubias

1986-1988- Rev. Robert Alan Craig
Associate pastor- Nov. 30, 1986 - March 15, 1988

He and his wife, Debbie, served as youth coordinators during this time.

1990-1993- Pamela Parker Wolf served as Director of Christian Education.

1993-1995- Elder Elizabeth Price acted as Christian

Education Coordinator and church administrator through the interim period of pastoral change.

1995-1998- Rick and Sue Smith directed the youth activities until they resigned in 1998.

1998- Present (2007)- Rev. Annie Piper became Director of Christian Education in 1998, and was ordained as co-pastor in 2000,

1998-Present-(2007) -Beth Douma serves as Youth Director and plans activities, mission projects and trips to retreats and conferences for the youth, grades 6-12.

Financial reports-

Treasurers’ Reports.....Pastors’ Salaries:

(Do not include housing, car allowance & pension)

1953.. Pastor.....\$ 3,600.00

1954.. Pastor.....\$ 3,851.00

1962.. Pastor.....\$ 6,840.00

1974.. Pastor\$ 12,900.00

1986.. Pastor.....\$ 24,430.00

1996.. Pastor.....\$ 23,000.00

2006.. Pastor.....\$ 28,980.00

Annual report

Balance on hand Jan. 11, 1954.....\$ 105.27

Balance on hand Jan. 1955.....\$ 549.83

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1956.....\$ 910.01

Beginning in 1969, the pastors chose to take housing allowance and purchase their own homes rather than live in the manse. The manse became the church office, pastors’ offices, library etc. and later became rental property for several years which required church members to keep up with all of the repairs.

In a 1999 report, the land where the manse is located had to be redefined as a separate piece of property, and water and sewer lines changed so it could be put up for sale. *(The brick duplex and the small stucco house south of the manse were sold in 1988. The manse was sold later.)*

1998- Finance committee and House committee united to become Corporate Affairs, January 1998.

1969- Rev. Les Nickless reports

“The Westminster church leads Denver Presbytery in its giving to the General Mission of the church in ratio to its local budget. However, compared to the national average, the per capita giving of our church is rather poor. Only \$78.76 per member is the average contribution. The national average is \$108.20.

“Other suburban churches in similar suburbs vary from \$100.00 to \$130.00 per capita giving.

“Westminster is, according to government figures, one of the financially comfortable suburbs in the Denver area.”

This was Rev. Nickless' approach to strongly recommending that he expected strong “General Mission” giving in the annual budget.

The annual church budget continues to support mission through the church budget and through special offerings.

In 2006 - Kathy Benedict, church treasurer

“The amount of money that our church has given to the various mission causes through the generosity of our members for the entire year of 2006 amounted to \$25,596.26 and this is over and above the \$500.00 per month that is contributed to the administration of the Denver presbytery that is included in the budget.”

These various special offerings included Church World Service Blanket program, Habitat for Humanity, Have-A-Heart, Heifer International, FISH pantry, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Boy Scout Troop #324, Zimbabwe project, offering for children's programs, Sewing Circle, Building Bridges for Peace, Women's Bean Project and the Synod of Rocky Mountains and designated offerings of One Great Hour of Sharing, Joy Offering and Thank Offering.

Memorial Funds-

A Memorial fund, a continuing fund through which members can make gifts in memory of loved ones, was started with \$148.00 near the close of the year. In 1954 there was \$221.75 in the fund.

Soon after the 1957 dedication of the sanctuary, memorials and gifts were dedicated, many of which we still see and use today.

Special Gifts:

- 1957-** The Chancel Cross in memory of Midge Malmo
- 1957-** The Offering plates given by Mrs. Lavina Lewis, family and friends in memory of Leonard Lewis
- 1957-** The Chalice, given in memory of Jeanne and Joanne, daughters of Charles and Ethel Rullo
- 1957-** The pulpit and clergy chair given by Carl and Marguerite Hawkinson and Reta
- 1957-** The Organ Chimes given by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Day and family in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Day
- 1957-** The Baby Grand Piano (*now in the choir room*) for the Sanctuary given by Mr. Richard Shively, family and friends in memory of Mrs. Richard (Mary) Shively

Mary Shively was a talented musician. She taught music in the local school district. She wrote the “Little Wooden Shoe” song sung on birthdays in the

Primary department.

- 1958-** The Baptismal Font in memory of Daniel Arthur Norberg (1950-1958), son of Bob and Louise Norberg.

The Celtic cross on the baptismal font has its own story. The stone on top of the baptismal font came from the Isle of Iona in Scotland, a gift from the Norbergs. The original cross was stolen. A new one was made and donated by Bill Perry.

Take a minute to look at the carvings and symbols on the cross.

- 1958-** Communion Linen given by Ann Warner
Ann Warner was one of the early Westminster City Librarians when the library was located in a stucco city hall building on W. 73rd Ave where Fire Station #1 is located.
- 1958-** Communion ware given by the Mariner's organization
- 1958-** Drapes in Fellowship Hall given by the Women's Association
(*replaced during renovation of 1975*)
- 1957-** Pulpit Bible given by Dr. & Mrs. A. S. Nickless.

Shortly before Rev. Nickless retired in 1979, the pulpit Bible and one of his pulpit robes were stolen.

The Bible, later found, was badly damaged. The Session, with others, helped in the restoration of the Bible. This Bible is an historical treasure of the church.

- 1858-** Scholarship fund given by Dr. Robert Ansley, family and friends, in memory of Mrs. Robert (Elizabeth) Ansley
- 1959-** Wrought Iron outdoor sanctuary railings in memory of Carl Hawkinson.

Carl and his wife Marguerite were both community leaders. They both served on many city and church boards. Carl often dipped into his own pocket to see that church bills were paid.

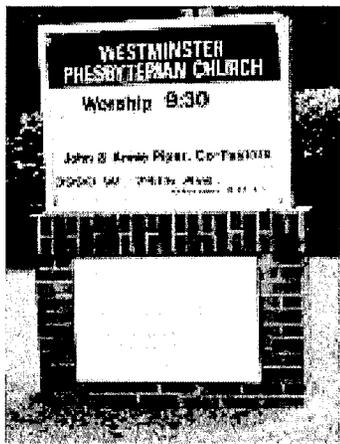
- 1960-1964-** The pulpit and lectern paraments given in memory of Dr. Alfred Nickless (1885-1960) by family and friends
- 1963-** Everett Spinet Piano in the sanctuary in memory of Mr. Francis M. Day (1903-1960)
- 1964-** Church Sign in front of the Sanctuary in memory of Arleene VanScoy (1919-1960)
Her husband, Glen VanScoy, was the post master at the local post office.
- ...Kitchenette in the choir room in memory of Barbara Jean Jester (1944-1961) by Jester family
- ...George Steck Piano in Fellowship Hall given in memory of Leland Rothe (1918-1961)
- ...Worship Centers for primary rooms in memory of Linda Kay Lewis (1958-1962), made by Garnet Price.

- 1971-** Set of Schulmerich hand bells with memorial funds: Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Liggitt, Robert E. Butler, Loretta Phelps, Harold & Winifred Francis, Harriet Sauerbrunn, Earl Richards, J. T. and Addie Clark.

1971- Shelving, window covering, drapes, new table and various material for new church library from Herbert McClellan, Blanche McClellan, William Doose, Dorothy Beasley funds
..... Organ in the chancel was purchased from the Greenough Gregory Memorial Fund.

(dedicated on June 11, 1995)

1990- The outdoor Don Hamblin/Gil Bean Memorial sign was cemented into place in 1990.



Don Hamblin, Gil Bean and Mel Moore were dedicated to keeping the church and its property looking well groomed. They served on many committees of the church - especially the House Committee. They became known as "Moore, Ham and Bean".

NOTE: Worship time indicates summer month schedule.

..... The Yamaha grand piano in the sanctuary was given by Lil Gunther.

1992- Dedication of Hymnals

The New Presbyterian Hymnals were made possible by gifts and memorials. Book plates in each hymnal indicate the donor's intention in giving the hymnal to the glory of God.

Pew Bibles were a gift from Don Hereford in memory of his wife, Marge. Garnet Price made and installed the Bible racks.

.....The beautiful pastoral banners and communion table tapestries given in memory of Charlotte (Gray) Unger by her mother Jean (Mason-Gray) Bissell

..... Other beautiful banners and communion table coverings, made by church members, are used during special seasons of the church year.

1992- The Special Funds Committee adopted a plan of action with guidance from Rod Sewell of the Presbyterian Foundation.

That plan was to establish Endowment Funds with education goals, Memorial Funds with family members to determine how individual memorial funds could be used and Special Gift Fund established in the name of a person or organization.

2000- Virginia Jester, Don and Barbara Critchfield and Harold Robson memorial funds were used for a number of enhancements to our

church at the request of family members to purchase new choir folders, new pew cushions, chancel lighting improvements and carpeting to update the sanctuary.

2002- The Zimblestern, a bell-like instrument that is part of our organ, was given by Dortha Abbott and Bob and Shirley Briggs in memory of Reuben Abbott.

2005- A portion of the Nickless Memorial Fund was used to purchase a sculpture from a Zimbabwean sculptor.

Memorial Funds-

Donations have been given to the Memorial Fund in memory of over 400 loved ones. (The Memorial scrolls hang in the library.) If some special item is needed, family members are contacted for permission to use the fund in memory of their loved one. Funds have been used to purchase music for the choir (Rodgers and Hauber Memorial Funds), bells for the Bell Choir, pew cushions in the sanctuary, new furniture for the lounge in 2007 (Nickless and Ranum Memorial Funds), and donations have been given to scholarship funds.

Endowment Funds

Greenough Gregory Fund

The session may borrow from this fund to further the mission of the church.

Lester and Elizabeth Nickless World Mission Endowment Fund

This fund will provide special funding opportunities for missions outside of Colorado. These missions may include but are not limited to sponsorship of missionaries, purchase of materials for mission programs and special programs.

Carl and Marguerite Hawkinson Local Mission Endowment Fund

This fund shall provide income for programs benefiting local mission inside the state of Colorado. Areas of interest shall include, but not be limited to homeless & hunger relief programs, mission trips and projects, education projects, historical projects, community building and relief programs.

Price Camp Scholarship Endowment fund

This fund shall provide income for scholarships for youth and adults of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Areas of interest shall include, but not be limited to camp scholarships at Highlands and other church camps, Ghost Ranch, Montreat, conferences.

Reta Frauenfelder Youth Endowment Fund

This fund will provide funding to assist the youth programs of the Westminster Presbyterian Church which may include but is not limited to mission trips, special guest speakers and Christian conference opportunities.

Other Memorial funds-

Capital Reserve Fund; Reserve for replacements Funds, Robe replacement fund, Scholarship Fund.

Special Gifts-

**Commemorative plate set, "The Promised Land." by the artist Yiannis Koutsis, telling the story of Moses, was given by Shirley McVicker and her Aunt.

**The charcoal painting of Greenough Gregory was done by a Taos artist, Merrifield, as a special tribute to Greenough, Oct. 28, 1973.

Norma Wheeler commissioned this memorial painting which hangs in the library of the church.

Ministerial Exchange

During the three summer months of 1975, a little of Scotland came to our church when Rev. Bob Whiteford, his wife, Joan, and fourteen year old son, Bill, came for a ministerial exchange, sending Dr. Nickless and Elizabeth to the Ferryhill South Church in Aberdeen, Scotland.

A picture of the Whiteford family - Rev. Bob, Joan, and sons John, Rob and Bill - is in the 1975-76 church directory.

The two ministers with their wives assumed the ministerial duties in each other's parishes and lived in each other's homes.

Bob and Joan Whiteford with their son, Bill, first arrived and soon were joined by their two older sons, John and Rob. John came for a short visit, but Rob, a veterinary student, worked with a Golden veterinary clinic for practical experience. Their daughter, Elizabeth, came to the U.S. several years later, when her husband had a ministerial exchange at Grace Presbyterian Church in Denver.

Since this was their first visit to the U.S. they were eager to know more about life in Westminster and the U.S. They entered into everything with enthusiasm. They made several sight seeing trips - Yellowstone National Park and to Las Vegas, NV. The Whitefords were curious to see the gambling places that they had read about and seen on TV.

They experienced the many differences from Scotland. They made statements like "driving on the right hand side of the road is another matter", "like the car is king", "supermarkets are tremendous". One comment from the Whitfords related to the "many different nationalitiesall kinds of people. ...and you're all Americans!!"

Our congregation will long remember this special time in our church appreciating the sermons preached in a rich Scottish accent.

...Rev. Nickless said, in *article Sept. 18, 1975 Sentinel*, "There were fewer organizations within the Aberdeen church."

And Rev. Whiteford said "there was a greater

laymans' role in church decision making which he said was also typically American."

Elizabeth told that Nick instituted the pastor's final greeting at the close of the worship service. When they first went there, they were told that the pastors just disappeared back to their office. The pastors had never greeted the worshipers after the service, but she said that it did become a custom in the Aberdeen church.

And Joan Whiteford tried to convince their congregation to have "pot luck" meals, for which our church is famous. As she told on a return visit, she never succeeded in convincing her congregation that it would work!

Sponsored to Ministry

At a special meeting of Presbytery held in Westminster Church, Elder A.C. McClelland was ordained to the ministry of the church as an evangelist on September 22, 1912.

Years later several of our young people, nurtured by our Christian Education program, came under the care of Presbytery and were later ordained.

The Rev. Richard George was ordained on September 18, 1966.

"The Rev. Richard George is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William George, former Westminster residents who live in Irving, Texas. George graduated in June from San Francisco Theological Seminary at San Anselmo, Calif. and has been under care of Denver Presbytery as a candidate for the gospel ministry. He is a graduate of Westminster High School and the University of Colorado."

Revs. Frank and Tura Hayes

The Rev. Frank Hayes was ordained on June 6, 1971, and The Rev. Mrs. Frank (Tura) Hayes was ordained on June 18, 1972, both in our church.

Frank requested the following church elders to participate in his ordination: Corum Coffey, Tom Clark, Don Hamblin, Mary Perry, the Rev. Harold Davis and the Rev. Lester Nickless.

The following church elders participated in the ordination service for Tura: Mary Perry, Robert Briggs, Judy Gipe, Geraldine Eckroth, the Rev. Harold Davis and the Rev. Lester Nickless.

Excerpts from press releases - 1971-1972

"...Mrs. Frank (Tura) Hayes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Corum Coffey of Westminster will be ordained on June 18, 1972, at the 9:30 a.m. service.

"Tura united with the Westminster United Presbyterian Church in 1956, along with her parents. Her husband, Frank Hayes and his parents Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hayes, united by transfer of membership from a church in Texas in 1960.

“Tura and Frank both attended Sterling College, Sterling, KS. Frank transferred and graduated from Oklahoma State University at Stillwater, OK.

“They participated in the youth program of the church as high school students. Both graduated from Westminster High School. They were married in June 1967, after graduating from college. In the fall of 1988, the couple enrolled at Louisville Presbyterian Theological seminary at Louisville, Kentucky. Frank graduated in June of 1971 and was ordained in Westminster United Presbyterian Church of Westminster. Tura graduated in June of this year.

“Tura Hayes received a call to serve as the assistant pastor of the United Presbyterian Church of Lebanon, Kentucky. Frank is pastor in Springfield, 12 miles away.”



The Revs. Tura and Frank Hayes - 1982

Tura (Coffey) Hayes was the first woman to be ordained in the Denver Presbytery. After serving churches in Kentucky for many years, the Revs. Frank and Tura Hayes, since 1997, have been serving the Presbyterian Church in Farmington, New Mexico. They plan to retire in September of 2007, but will continue to live in Farmington.

~~~~~  
**Barbara Williams** worked in Christian Education and obtained a D.C.E. Degree in 2001.

**Tim Evans**, active in the youth group in the 1970s, was a youth representative from Denver Presbytery to the General Assembly in 1970s. He entered the ministry of the Christian Church. After his marriage, he and his wife moved to Walker, MO, where he continues to serve a small congregation. They adopted and raised two abused biracial children.

~~~~~  
The Rev. Lester Nickless Retires

Les Nickless and his wife Elizabeth were honored at a special ceremony on Sunday, June 3, 1979. Rev. Nickless retired after serving the church for 26 years. A very special program was presented by church

members highlighting, with humorous and serious comments, the many different areas in the church and in the community in which Rev. Les Nickless made a “difference.” During the program, a 30-styrofoam-block tower was created with each block highlighting with appropriate wordage, the different areas in which he made a “difference.”

Bob Nickless said that those blocks are still in the Nickless cabin on “Holy Hill”. One in particular stands out which reads, “I lift up mine eyes to the hills from whence does my help come?.....”



**Rev. Lester Nickless and Elizabeth Nickless
June 3, 1979**

“Nickless and wife to retire after long service to parish, community.”

*Sally Wagner, staff writer-Westminster Window
Jan. 25, 1979)*

.....last paragraph

“In the Words of the true fisherman he is, the Rev. Nickless shepherded his flock through the tribulations of 26 years with the motto, ‘Oh, ye of little faith, hang on.’ And typically the tribulations ironed themselves out.”

~~~~~  
Sally Wagner also wrote a beautiful tribute to the Nicklesses, titled “**We’ll drink a cup of kindness yet..:**”

“When God made Nick, He lost the pattern. Who else but Les Nickless could thumb his nose at ‘clergy’ collars, boast proudly of his humility but never let his piety interfere with his fish stories.....”

Sally Wagner was a blind journalist. She, with her seeing eye dog, Andy, was a staff writer for many years for the Westminster Window until she moved to Kansas City where she died. She was a faithful member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, attended regularly and sat on the back row with Andy.

Sally wrote a biography titled, "How Do You Kiss a Blind Girl?" (Charles C. Thomas publisher, 1986)

Both articles are in the Nickless retirement folder in a historical notebook.

## The Nicklesses:

The growth of the congregation made a building program imperative - therefore the new sanctuary was dedicated in 1957.

Many new organizations were formed, a unified budget adopted, the church government changed to a larger Session and the Board of Deacons was started. Mission was always a high priority. In addition to general mission giving, refugees were sponsored and personal relationships started with foreign and national missionaries.

In 1967, the congregation thanked the Nicklesses for their dedication by sending them on a trip to the United Kingdom.

After his retirement, they moved to Pinewood Springs, CO, where he served the small church there. Later they moved to Longmont, where Les served as Minister of Visitation at Central Presbyterian Church.

In 1990, they officially retired to enjoy their Westminster home and to be closer to their son, Bob, and his family and their twin great-grandchildren. Every summer they spent from the "last snow in the spring to the first snowfall in the fall" in the Nickless cabin on "Holy Hill" near Estes Park. The cabin was purchased by Les' father when the family lived near Chicago. The family would come to Colorado each summer to enjoy the mountains and cooler weather.

There is a small book written about the history of "Holy Hill", telling the story of how it got its name and about the families who lived on "Holy Hill". This little story booklet is one of Bob Nickless' treasured possessions.

## Interim Pastor - Dr. Roe Johnston

Rev. Roe Johnston served as interim pastor from July 29, 1979 to 1980, while the pastoral nominating committee met and called the Rev. E. Edward Thwaites in August of 1980.

Rev. Roe Johnston also served as interim pastor from March 1994 to January 1995 before the Rev. John Piper was called.



Roe, with his wife, Helen, is thanked for his loving and spiritual ministry.

Helen was the sister of Rev. Lester Nickless.

Helen died a few years later.

## Pastoral Nominating Committee began June 5, 1979

Don Hereford, Chairman; Bob Briggs, Ann Christopher, Harold Coover, Betty Jo Day, Dean Hammond, John Maurer, Garnet Price, and Patricia Stephens. Dave Ginnow and Dennis Lopez replaced Charles Meyers and Scott Singleton. The committee read 171 dossiers.

## The Rev. E. Edward Thwaites Served from 1980 - 1993



Rev. E. Edward Thwaites- 1980

By Jerry Moore, Church historian, 1993

"The Rev. E. Edward Thwaites began his ministry at Westminster United Presbyterian Church in August 1980. Before his official duties began, however, tragedy struck a church family when Bert Karr was fatally shot at the Hawkinson-Karr summer

---

cabin at Wonderview in Coal Creek Canyon. Ed asked Elizabeth Price to accompany him and direct him so he could comfort the family. One of his first official duties then was to plan and conduct the memorial service.

“Ed brought years of experience to his calling in Westminster. He was at his former pastorate, then First Presbyterian Church of Leavenworth, KS, for 13 years. Before that, he served churches in Fayetteville, AR, and Joplin, MO.

“A native of Texas, Ed retains his soft Texas accent. He spent his boyhood years around Houston; then moved to an area north of Jacksonville, TX, where he graduated from high school and attended Tyler Junior College. He received his degree from Park College in Parkville, MO, and went on to Yale University Divinity School in New Haven, CT.

“Ed met his wife, Nancy, in Fayetteville, AR. They were surprised by a congregational celebration on their 25th Wedding Anniversary in 1985. The older son, Brian, continued his college education in Kansas and then went to Northwestern to become a Medical Doctor. He is married to Katie and has two children, Bradley and Jennifer.



**Ed - Nancy and sons Greg and Todd- 1986**

“Sons Greg and Todd attended Westminster High School and went on to graduate from Colorado colleges, Greg from CSU and Todd from CU. Greg continues his studies toward a Ph.D. in psychology and Todd has completed his Master’s Degree in physical therapy from the CU Health Sciences Center.

“Ed has a love affair with the Colorado Rocky Mountains, going back to his seminary years when he spent a summer at Mesa Verde participating in the National Parks Service Ministry Program. The family enjoyed mountain vacations for many years and soon purchased their dream home with a spectacular mountain view.

“Known for his ‘first person sermons’, Ed had a way of bringing music, liturgy and the sermon

together in each Sunday service. In more informal services, he often led the congregation in learning new music.

“Ed’s leadership has guided the ‘Building to Serve’ project. After several years of study on space needs after the razing of the original 74th and Bradburn building in 1981, the new office/general purpose addition was completed May 31, 1987. That debt is now close to being retired six years later. (2000)

“A year’s study in pastoral counseling at the Menninger Foundation at Topeka, KS, served Ed well as he counseled, visited and served the congregation as a very caring pastor.”

---

### **New Building Campaign**

The old sanctuary on Bradburn had been razed, the church office was in a small room in the manse and the pastors were using the bedrooms for their offices.

The living room became the library, meeting room and on Sundays it was the room for the adult Sunday school classes.

The senior high class, taught by Lou Garone, was held in the basement. Those senior highs will remember painting the walls and dividers with their own art work in that basement area.

The smaller children used rooms in Gillespie Hall.

---

Excerpts from “A Day of Dedication” bulletin, May 31, 1987

The **Long Range Planning Committee**, composed of Bill Christopher, Joan Smith, Norman Ranum, Garnet Price, Don Gipe, Mel Moore, Gale Day and Bob Briggs, reported to the session their recommendations that the congregation remain at the present location and take steps to expand the facilities.

That report was accepted by the Session on February 24, 1983.

A **Facilities Planning Committee** was formed to explore improvements and additions to our building.

---

### **“Building to Serve”**

A Building Committee was elected by the congregation on March 18, 1984.

Garnet Price, chairman; Elwood Bell, Bill Christopher, Vicky Greiner, Betty Kruger, Dennis Lopez, Bob Merrick, Jerry Monroe, Mel Moore, and Sue Singleton. Others were recruited to serve on the committee.

**The Goals** of the new “Building to Serve” addition were to provide:

- \*\* Multipurpose living room style meeting rooms
- \*\* Accessibility of all space to the handicapped
- \*\* Adequate office space

- \*\* Rooms for youth activities and drama ministries
- \*\* A visible sign of renewed commitment to service in the Westminster Community

Architects: Laura and Joel Cronenwett,  
Denver, Colorado  
General Contractors: Bertron Construction,  
Inc., Boulder, Colorado

Projected Project Cost...\$500,000.00

**Groundbreaking**  
for "Building to Serve" addition  
October 12, 1986

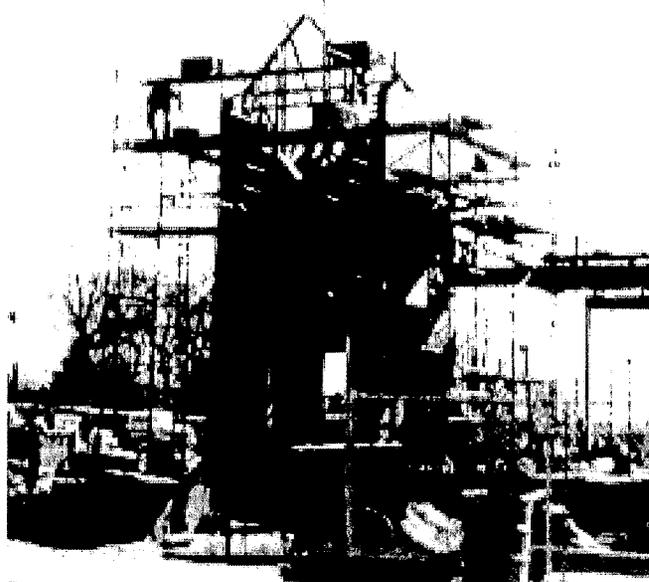


Participants-left to right



**Honorable Mayor George Hovorka**- Words of Encouragement; **Rev. Arnold Bloomquist**- Benediction; **Ron Hellbusch**-President of the Corporation, **Rev. Ed Thwaites**- prayer and remarks; **Garnet Price**, Building committee chairman, introduced the building committee; the architects, and the contractors, Michael Bertron and Gary Bintliff.

A large designated area was tied off with bright yellow ribbons. Ribbon streamers extended to the outer edges of the area. As Garnet Price lifted the shovel, members of the congregation joined together and pulled the extended ribbons to symbolically break ground.



Note of Interest: The Bell Tower was built before the rest of the building.

**Memorial gifts** were given in memory of the following persons toward constructing the "Building to Serve" addition:

- \*Matilda Gillespie Campbell
- \*Lloyd Ferguson
- \*May Hoover Clack
- \*Larry Goff
- \*Betty Joan Curtiss
- \*Raymond Gray Sr.
- \*Avis Hayden
- \*Paul S. Johnson
- \*William Kailus
- \*Velma Miller
- \*Barry Sullivan
- \*Warren Sullivan
- \*Ann Spence Warner

"It seems fitting to memorialize these persons in the Bell Tower, which forms the new main entrance to our church, making it a Memorial Bell Tower." from Dedication bulletin

**Service of Dedication and Pentecost Week Communion**  
May 31, 1987

A beautiful and meaningful service was held with special music and special speakers.

Special highlights from the bulletin for the Dedication service included:

Dolores Osborn was organist. Words of Greetings were from Garnet Price, chairman of the committee; Joel and Laura Cronenwett, Architects, and a Bertron Construction representative; Honorable George Hovorka, Mayor of Westminster; Dr. Hal Davis, from Presbytery of Denver and Dr. Lester Nickless, Pastor Emeritus; Meditation by Rev. Ed Thwaites; with the Chancel choir directed by Olivia Monroney.



Garnet Price cuts ribbon to the new addition.  
(Lavina Lewis and Iowa Faye Woodring in wheel chairs)

After the ribbon cutting and the tour, everyone was invited to a pot luck meal in Nickless Hall.

The Jubilation Bell ensemble directed by Ann Christopher assisted in the service.



Rev. Ed Thwaites and Dr. Hal Davis

## Memorial Gifts

\*\*Handcrafted wooden shelves for the church library were given in memory of Frances M. Morris, retired librarian from Ranum High School, by her family. Built and installed by Garnet Price and finished by Mel Moore.

\*\*A six foot Celtic Cross for the east face of the Bell Tower given in memory of Matilda Campbell by her family.

\*\*Furnishings for the living room were provided by the the S.S. Fellowship Mariners from the Mission Fairs.

\*\*A fund for a Bell and Chimes for the Bell Tower was started in memory of Fred Buerck and Wendell Erwin Dunn.

\*\*The Memorial Scrolls recognize all persons memorialized by gifts to the church over the years.

Yvonne Halburian of Saguache, CO, was the artist; Eva Woolley and Maudie Messick did the research; Scrolls were donated by Scott Singleton; Jim Barton, did the framing and Peg Thompson Strunk did the calligraphy.

These scrolls hang on the north wall of the library area.

### Other special gifts:

\*\*The WELCOME sign in the Bell Tower entry way was made and given by Ann Christopher.

\*\*The croched panel of the Lord's Prayer in the Bell tower entry way was made and given by Bobbie Lowe. It was beautifully matted and framed by Vicki and Jim Barton.

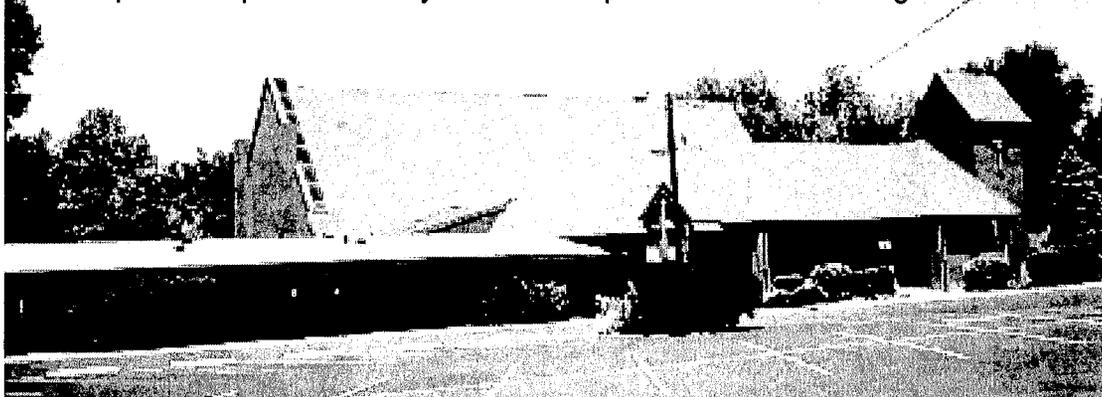
\*\*Pictures and mirrors given by the Gillespie/ Campbell family.

\*\* Pictures and wall hangings have been given to the church by missionaries and others with whom the church has mission relationships.

\*\* Bulletin boards and name tag rack were made and installed by Garnet Price.

\*\* Library shelves on the south wall, built later by Garnet Price and finished by Dick Petersen.

The complete campus: Sanctuary-1957...Gillespie Hall-1962..."Building to Serve"-1987



## A Century Of Service - 1892-1992

Four big celebration events were held during 1992 to celebrate the Centennial of our congregation.

On Sunday, January 5, 1992, the worship service was a celebration of the first worship service of the University Presbyterian Church in 1892.

Some of our church history was displayed at Bowles House Historical Museum, organized by the Westminster Historical Society.

Jerry Moore, librarian/historian, organized historical material and created displays in kiosks and bulletin boards throughout the church year.

On June 7, 1992, a celebration was held at the Pillar of Fire Church to rededicate the cornerstone.

A tour of the building was followed by a congregational picnic in the park.

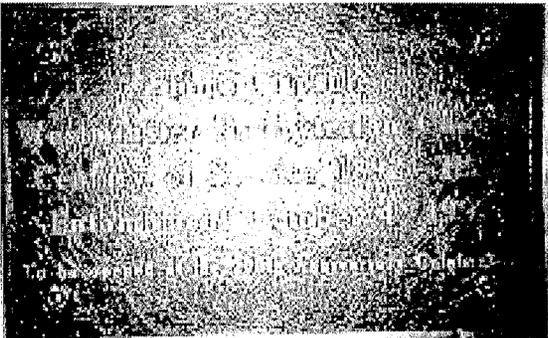
### Three day Celebration

On August 14 those who had served the congregation as a minister, staff, teacher, elder or deacon were honored at an ice cream social. Senate President Ted Strickland presented the church with a certificate honoring the first church in Westminster.

On August 15, a dinner was held to honor all past and present members. The program featured choirs from the 50s, and a melodrama, titled "Hallelujah! - A Wonderful Century of Service," was written and produced just for the occasion.

On Sunday, August 16, during the worship service an official dedication service of a "Century of Service" was held with representatives of the General Assembly, Synod of the Rocky Mountains and Denver Presbytery. The Moderators of all three levels of Presbyterian church government were invited. City, County and State officials were also invited.

Sunday, August 16, The Moderator of the 204th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Dr. John Fife, rededicated our congregation for another 100 years of Service. County commissioner Elaine Valente and Mayor Nancy Heil presented the congregation with certificates of recognition for its 100 Years of Service.



A Time Capsule was dedicated and placed in the

east wall of the sanctuary down the hall near the east sanctuary door. Items placed in the capsule were various articles from *Westminster Window*, a church directory, bulletins, Broadcasters, name tags, annual reports, resumes of pastors and activities of various church organizations. The capsule can be opened at the 200th anniversary of the church.

The committee members were Bob (chairman) and Shirley Briggs, Bob and Sharon Arnold, Wyoma Bean, George and Lil Gunther, Neil and Si Harkins, Kathryn Herman, Don Jacobs, Mel and Jerry Moore, Lowell and Alice Rodgers, John and Mary Shaw, Wayne Smith, Rev. Ed Thwaites and Bob and Audrey Welte.

The committee coordinated four events, published a church directory, developed a centennial plate with a drawing of the current facility, did T-shirts, developed bulletin covers and encouraged people to contribute to the Centennial Fund.

Gifts to the Centennial Fund were designated:

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Building To Serve... ..   | \$4,142.00 |
| To Purchase bell.....     | 900.00     |
| To purchase organ.....    | 1,125.00   |
| Capital items.....        | 150.00     |
| As Committee outlines.... | 1,135.00   |
| To purchase hymnals.....  | 78.00      |

A large blue notebook in the library, organized by Jerry Moore, includes many articles, many special documents and many pictures taken of members dressed stylishly in their best for the "Turn of Century" celebration.

### Rev. Ed Thwaites retires

**"Thwaites touched many during tenure"**



**Rev. Ed and Nancy Thwaites**

*Westminster Window*, Jan. 6, 1994, by Karen Brown  
 "...His tenure at the church has seen several notable events including the 1987 building project that added much needed space for the growing church.

“...Another major event was the 100-year Anniversary of the church founding, celebrated in 1992.

“... Although he will stay in Westminster, rules of the Presbyterian Church prevent him from coming back to take a part-time job with the church. He will be attending another church at least for a while to allow the new minister time to get settled in.”

The article tells that Rev. Thwaites was looking forward to leading 14 people, mostly members of the church, on a 10-day trip to the Holy Land the first week of January 1994. The trip included a stay in Jerusalem and a trip to the Sea of Galilee. He said he would see places that he had read about and preached about for 38 years. However, Nancy Thwaites, Ed's wife, became ill, and neither was able to make the trip.

Those from the church who did make the trip were Marge Ball, Pat Hinde, Wyoma Bean, Kathi Webster, Jerry and Mel Moore, Neil and Si Harkins and Debbie Smith as tour guide.

### **The Rev. Roe Johnston**

**Interim Pastor  
March 1994 to January 1995**

Rev. Johnston also served after the retirement of Rev. Les Nickless and before Rev. Ed Thwaites was called.

Roe was a friend to all. His sermons were “direct from the heart” without script.

He encouraged the “Communion Brunch” which still continues as a tradition one Sunday during the summer months.

Roe held pastorates in Detroit, Michigan, Indianapolis, San Francisco and at First Church in LaGrange, Illinois. Roe held a variety of positions in the church and in the community. In 1954, Roe was one of the founders of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



Again, the congregation thanked Rev. Roe Johnston as Interim Pastor for his love, friendship and his spiritual guidance for the love of God.

Rev. Dr. Roe Johnston died May 8, 2007.

## **Mission Study Report** **1993-1994**

**“Hope and a Future--the Next Hundred Years”  
Jeremiah 29:11**

A Mission Study committee had to be established as a prelude to the pastor search process which the Church began on January 1, 1994. The Study looked at all the activities that support the Congregation in fellowship, worship, service, outreach, evangelism, stewardship, financial resources, facilities and education.

The Study assessed these activities and developed a statement of goals for the future.

The Study provided the demographics of the Church community and the composition of the membership. Based on history, present status, and stated vision for intermediate and long range goals, the Study gave a composite snapshot of the Westminster Presbyterian Church which will be used by the Pastor Nominating committee as they seek candidates.

Members of the Mission Study Committee were Sandee Bredenberg, Julie Graham, Ron Hellbusch, Neil Harkins, Jan Kulhanek, Bob Nickless, Betty Orten, Robbie Price, Lowell Rodgers, Terrie Sievwright; alternates, John Maurer and Bill Christopher, and Joan Smith, chairperson.

**The complete 20-page Mission Study Report  
is on file in the church office.**

### **Information from the report**

#### **Corporate Affairs**

(A Committee of the Session)

The Corporate Affairs Committee consists of the corporate officers of the Westminster Presbyterian Church Corporation; and is mainly responsible to the Session for the business details of the operation of the Church and the corporation.

The officers include the President, Vice-President, Clerk of Session and Treasurer, all of whom shall be members of the Session with the exception of the Clerk and the Treasurer who may or may not be members of the Session.

The Clerk of Session keeps minutes of all congregational and all Session meetings. The minutes are filed and reviewed each year by a committee of the Denver Presbytery.

The treasurer keeps records of the church finances, presents monthly reports at Corporate Affairs and at Session meetings, and submits a year-end financial report for the church's Annual Report.

---

**The House Committee**, with volunteer time and talents, is responsible for the buildings and the grounds. The Mission Study committee in 1994 listed many items that needed to be fixed or repaired. Many of the items on that list have now been taken care of. Other improvements that followed this report include installing the bathrooms downstairs; completely replacing the parking lot; painting the rooms in the "new addition"; installing a new sound system; laying new carpet in Gillespie hallway; and remodeling the choir room. In July 2007, a new beautiful floor was laid in Nickless Hall.

**The Personnel Committee** has rewritten job descriptions for each staff member. The Personnel Committee, chaired by the President of the Corporation, is composed of the chairperson from each of the Session committees. The committee conducts a staff review each year.

**The Stewardship Committee** conducts an annual stewardship program. Since the 1950s, the church has had vigorous stewardship programs with every member canvasses, dinners, and speakers. Most recently, the members are reached through mailings and "Moments for Mission."

The Corporate Affairs committee works out, with input from each of the session committees, a balanced budget for the coming year.

The congregation's commitment to pledge and faithfully pay their pledges is always remarkable!!

---

### **Pastor Nominating Committee** **Elected April 10, 1994**

Wayne Smith, Barbara Day, Donna Marvel, Sandee Bredenberg, Colleen Mazzucca, Sue Walker, Cal Brown, Bob Nickless and Neil Harkins; alternates Garnet Price and Kay Bell.

Rev. John Piper, chosen by the Pastor Nominating Committee, was presented to the congregation at a special congregational meeting on Sunday, October 30, 1994. He received a unanimous vote to be installed as our new pastor.

John reported as our pastor on January 16, 1995.

---

### **The Rev. John Piper** **1995 - Presently serving (2007)**

*The following was written to introduce John, Annie, Lizza and Mark to the congregation.*

John's life began as one of four sons on a farm near Parsons, Kansas. His parents were both elders in the Presbyterian Church and apparently raised him properly since he and his brothers were the fourth generation of Pipers in that church. His early

education was in or near Parsons, then it was off to Kansas University to become a Jayhawker. He earned his bachelor of arts degree and did some graduate work in sociology.

The opportunity for some adventure presented itself so he was off to Dakar, Senegal, in Africa as a Rotary Fellow for International Understanding. He gained a considerable amount of knowledge and understanding of a totally different culture from that experience.

He earned a degree in law from Northwestern University. Then it was back to Kansas where he worked for the U.S. District Court as a law clerk and then for a law firm in Kansas City.

As he worked with so many people with problems, he became more aware of how morally and spiritually starved the world is. Through his Presbyterian upbringing and the influence of a pastor near Kansas City, he began to feel the magnetism of the ministry.

He enrolled in Princeton Theological Seminary and after three years graduated in 1978 with a Master of Divinity degree with Christian Education specialty. After graduation, he was called as Associate Pastor to the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe, New Mexico. His major responsibilities in Santa Fe were in Christian Education-initiation-organization-development.

After five years in Santa Fe, John received a call to be pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Madison, Wisconsin. Being head of a staff of three full time and six part time employees brought new and different challenges and responsibilities.

Annie is an easterner, having grown up in a house that overlooked the Delaware River in Salem, New Jersey. She taught English and drama in a New Jersey high school for three years and then went on for more education. She received a masters degree in journalism from American University in Washington D.C. Her first journalism job was with a newspaper in Santa Fe; hence - her meeting John. She has written a religion column for one of the Madison newspapers, and in June she graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. She has been accepted into the Ph.D. program at University of Denver and Iliff Seminary, an avenue she will pursue shortly.

A lot of recreation in the Piper family centers around their children Mark (10) and Elizabeth 'Lizza' (8). John is an accomplished pianist and singer and enjoys sharing in song with his family. Mark likes to play the piano, and Elizabeth enjoys her electronic keyboard. Much of their time is spent as boosters at their kids' soccer games. In school Mark enjoys mathematics and computers, and Elizabeth enjoys reading and drama.

*The Congregation and Friends of the Westminster Presbyterian Church are cordially invited to join in the celebration of the Installation of our new Pastor, The Rev. John C. Piper on Sunday, the Twenty-sixth of March, Nineteen hundred and ninety-five at four o'clock in the afternoon.*

*Reception immediately following service*

**Installation Service for Rev. John Piper**

**Participants:**

- Presbytery of Denver Committee on Ministry**  
**The Rev. Julie Christensen**, First Wyoming Presbyterian Church, Torrington, WY. - classmate of John at Princeton Theological Seminary  
**Elder Deborah Douglas**, First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, NM.- long time friend of John and Annie's  
**Elder Gail Duree**, Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church, Denver, long time family friend  
**The Rev. Larry Grimm**, First Presbyterian Church of Lakewood, CO. - parents knew each other  
**The Rev. Lance Grothe**, Strasburg Presbyterian Church, Strasburg, CO. - another friend from Seminary.  
**The Rev. Gilbert McKenzie**, Peoples Presbyterian church - Vice Moderator of the Denver Presbytery.  
**The Rev. Lester Nickless**, Pastor Emeritus of Westminster Presbyterian Church  
**Annie Piper**, John's partner in life who is a candidate for ministry under the care of the John Knox Presbytery.  
**Elder Wayne Smith** - chairperson of Pastor Nominating Committee.



**Rev. John Piper in his church study.**

John Piper's ministry is characterized by steady, loving leadership administered with a ready laugh and often with a song! He is known for his musical contributions to the worship services – his singing in the choir and his tenor solos, which he often accompanies on piano; his inspired piano playing (who can ever forget his rendition of the jazzy version of "Amazing Grace"?); and the rousing piano-organ duets he and organist Carol Miles play to accompany the singing of hymns.

John brings strong worship leadership, preaching and teaching, and loving pastoral care, as well as a lifelong love of the Presbyterian church to his ministry.

Having traveled the world, he is passionately committed to mission. He was instrumental in helping expand this church's mission to include the Interfaith Hospitality Network, Have A Heart, and the Zimbabwe Mission Partnership.

In addition to faithfully serving this congregation, John is active in the Presbytery of Denver, serving on and chairing various committees and taking on tasks for the Committee on Ministry.

Frequently John is asked to move to the piano and accompany the singing at Presbytery meetings! John's even disposition and deep faith enrich his ministry, and his lawyer's eye for administration ensures that the business of the church is done "decently and in order," the Presbyterian way!



**The three Pastors and Interim Pastor from 1953 - 1995**

|              |             |                 |                |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|
| John Piper   | Ed Thwaites | Lester Nickless | Roe Johnson    |
| 1995-present | 1980-1993   | 1953-1979       | Interim pastor |

---

## **The Rev. Annie Piper**

**2000 - present (2007)**

Annie grew up in Salem, New Jersey. Her parents, the late Alan and Cora Anne Skinner, had a house right on the Delaware River. Her Dad commuted to work across the river in Wilmington, Delaware, where he was a real estate attorney for the DuPont Corporation.

After graduating from Salem High School, Annie enrolled at Douglass College, part of Rutgers University. She received her B.A. there and then taught high school English for three years before going to Washington, D.C. to earn her M.A. in journalism from American University..

Annie took a job as a city hall reporter with the *New Mexican*, a newspaper in Santa Fe. She became a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe and served as a Deacon and as a sponsor of the youth group. It was there at the church that she met and married John Piper, who was the Associate Pastor.

Annie and John moved to Madison, Wisconsin, where John served as Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Their children, Mark and Lizza, were born in Madison. Annie commuted to Chicago to attend McCormick Theological Seminary. She received her Master of Divinity degree in 1994, graduating with straight As! While at seminary, she worked closely with Professor Don Wardlaw and won prizes for her preaching and scripture reading.

Annie and John and family moved to Colorado when John became pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1995. Annie took some courses in communications at Denver University and served as adjunct faculty at the Iliff School of Theology, helping to teach the beginning preaching course.

In 1998 Annie accepted the position of Director of Christian Education. She was under the care of our Session and of the Presbytery of Denver as a candidate "certified ready for ministry."

In 2000, the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry, subject to the vote of the congregation and the Presbytery, approved the call of Annie and John Piper to be co-pastors of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The congregation voted to call the Pipers as co-pastors and to ordain Annie.

---

**Service of Ordination to the Ministry of Word  
and Sacrament of Annie Piper  
and**

**Installation of John and Annie Piper as  
co-pastors of Westminster Presbyterian Church  
on October 8, 2000**

---

## **Participants**

**The Rev. John Piper**-The Welcome/ prayers of people and Lord's prayer

**The Rev. Russ Kane**- Moderator of Denver Presbytery, convened the Presbytery; delivered the "Acts of Ordination." and led the congregation in "Declaration of Installation."

**Gail Duree**- elder, Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church

**The Rev. Barbara Boyd and The Rev. Tom Boyd** gave the sermon.

**Ben Kapnik** read Scripture - Reading 1 in Hebrew.

**Mark Piper** read Scripture 1 - in English.

**Eric James and Lizza Piper** read Scripture Reading 2.

**Deborah Smith Douglas**- the "Charge to the Pastors"

**The Rev. Jack Hicks** of Madison, Wisconsin- the "Charge to Congregation"

**Elder Lou Garone** represented the Session of the Church

---

The flowers, arranged by Ann Christopher, were given by Annie and John Piper in loving memory of Annie's parents, Alan and Cora Anne Skinner.

---



**The Pipers: John, Lizza, Annie, Mark**

Her stole, red with colorful art designs, was presented to her by her friend, Deborah Douglas, of Santa Fe, NM.

---

Annie's ministry, a part-time co-pastorate position, spans a great variety of responsibilities within the life of the church. She is primarily in charge of Christian Education. The congregation is blessed with the creativity she brings to the youth programs, to the worship services, to church meetings and to leading retreats and workshops ....all to the Glory of God.

---

In 2005, the congregation honored the Pipers, both John and Annie, for their love and friendship, their inspirational sermons and music and for their dedicated caring ministry in the name of our loving God.

It was John's tenth year and Annie's fifth year of serving our congregation as pastors.

# Ministry Flourishes

“The history of this church, the only one within the town until 1947, and the history of the town are synonymous, for each period of expansion in the town’s development has been reflected in the church annals.” These were the words of Janet Gillespie in 1957.

The vital ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church has evolved throughout the church’s history to meet changing circumstances and changing needs. In keeping with local and national trends, this congregation’s ranks swelled in the 1950s and 60s during the Baby Boom Era, a time when south Westminster saw a huge surge in population.

That era challenged the congregation to provide adequate meeting space in the building, a sufficiently large sanctuary to serve the growing church community, and vital Christian Education programming for the membership. The congregation continues to enjoy the lovely building with its newer additions, and always has cared deeply about maintaining the church facility as a place of nurture for church members and outreach to the community.

Our membership numbers first were affected as other churches were built in the neighborhood, and --as has happened with congregations across the denomination, including many within the Denver Presbytery (and with congregations of other denominations in the church’s neighborhood as well) -- membership numbers declined from the highs of the 1950s and 60s. Unlike many national and local churches, however, Westminster Presbyterian Church is fortunate to enjoy stable membership numbers that have remained constant over the last decade.

A changing neighborhood and recent growth to the north and west in the city of Westminster may have altered the area’s demographics, but they have not dampened the enthusiasm for ministry this congregation exhibits. The lively Christian Education program builds upon the traditions of communicating strong Christian values and encouraging Christian witness that were established in the church’s early years.

Vital mission programs have evolved and developed to address needs of the church’s changing neighborhood. For example, the local school district, District 50, recently has closed several schools due to declining enrollment, and currently provides free lunches to 70 percent of its students. This district is a strong focus of the Westminster Presbyterian Church outreach. The church’s Have A Heart program provides clothing and school supplies and necessities to families in need from School District 50. The food bank operated in the church serves many of these families as well.

Members are dedicated to serving the community in these and other ways, and the church continues its strong programs of national and international mission as well. Every program – from music, to worship, to education, to mission – reflects the congregation’s desire to address current needs and engage in ministry in the present day. The rich traditions and heritage of this church inform and inspire all current programs and are a source of deep pride and encouragement for the congregation today.

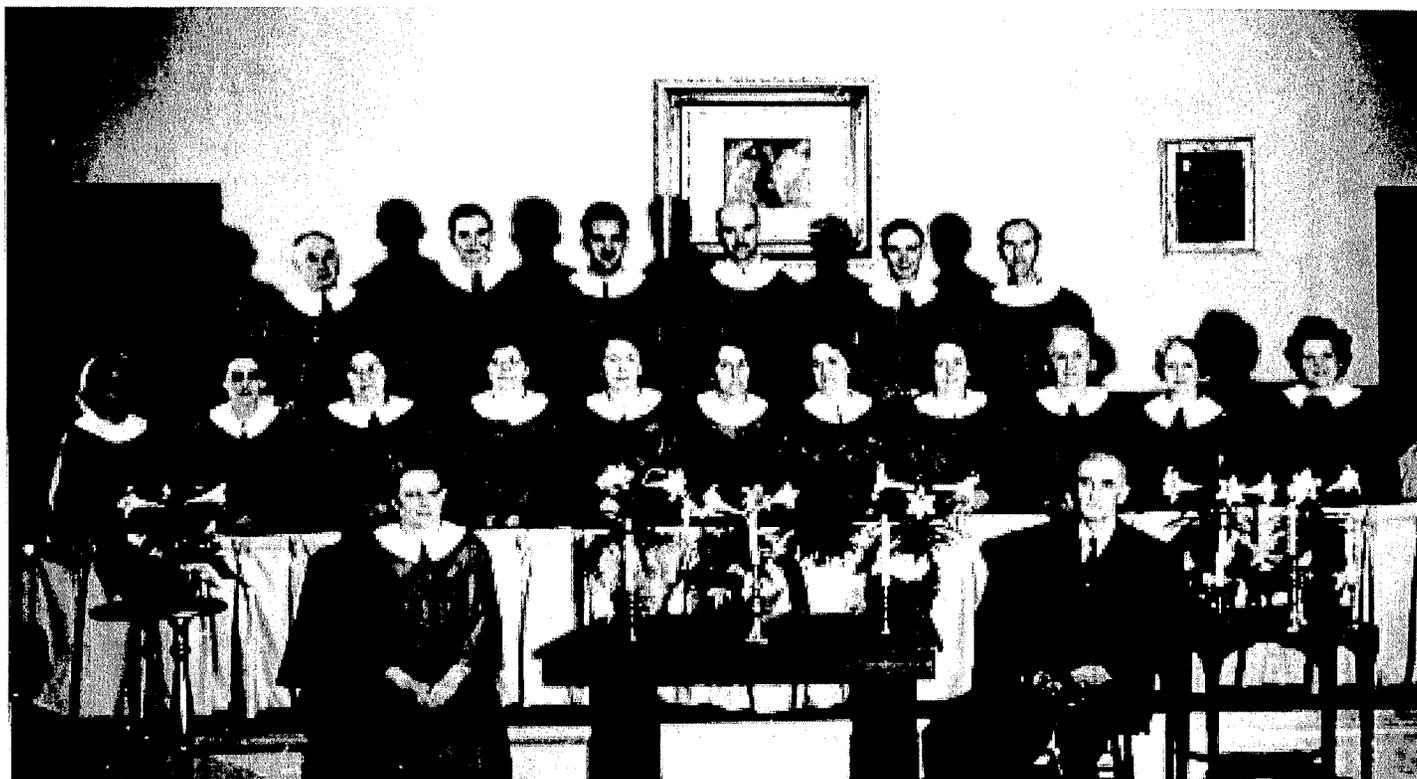


Symbol....Dove/Bible - Cross/Pulpit - Flame/Spirit

---

# MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Since long before the time of King David, the singing of psalms and the playing of instruments have played an important part in the worship services of the church. As a means of expressing praise and devotion to God, feelings of sorrow and of joy, it is most eloquent and beautiful." -from a choir festival bulletin



## Westminster Community Church Choir - Easter 1941

Front: Lavina Lewis, choir director; A. Wilbur Liggitt, Minister

Front row: Jennie Bashline, Nell Chiles, Nellie Krater, Zola Brown, Mrs. Borglund, Mrs. Seaton, Laura Shipman, Janet Gillespie, Ruth Holtz, Mrs. Chase, Dewey Spencer

Back row: M.A. (Doc) Shipman, Duane Shipman, Ernie Spencer, Lynn Morefield, Earl Richards, Hiram Gillespie

---

### The Joy of Music is more Joyful when shared.

As early as 1892, when the first Westminster Presbyterian Church was organized, music was a part of the worship. The first church choir was started in 1912 when the church building was at 80th and Bradburn on a spot now crossed by the Turnpike.

Mrs. Frank Day, Mr. Francis Day's mother, played the piano and Mrs. Hiram (Janet) Gillespie, was one of those first singers.

After the move to the church at 74th and Bradburn, there were many times when the number in the choir dwindled to only a few. Music was often provided by a quartet of Rev. and Mrs. Liggitt, Doris Day and Francis Day.

Pianists were Mrs. Goddard and Mrs. Day. Then in the fall of 1936, Mrs. Lavina Lewis came as director-accompanist. For nineteen years (in 1955) Mrs. Lewis served faithfully and regularly as organist and as director for the adult choir. The choir program steadily grew.

#### **Choir Directors in 1955**

#### **CHERUB CHOIR... 18- 4 & 5 year olds**

Mrs. C. Edwin (Frances) Campbell, director

Mrs. Paul (Beverly) Glasgow, accompanist

#### **ANGEL CHOIR... 30 - 2nd-3rd graders**

Mrs. Paul Bartlett, director

Mrs. Paul Wright, accompanist

#### **CAROL CHOIR... 22 - 4th, 5th, 6th graders**

Mrs. Karl (Betty) Smith, director

Kathy Edwards, accompanist

---

**CHAPEL CHOIR... 19 - 7th -12th graders**

Mrs. Paul (Beverly) Glasgow, director

Mrs. Esther Bashaw, organist

**CHANCEL CHOIR... 18 adults**

Mrs. Wayne (Joan) Smith, director

Mrs. Lavina Lewis, organist

---

Beverly Glasgow reported that there were 40 singers in the worship services each Sunday.

---

When it became necessary to have two church services, an intermediate choir was organized in October 1953 by Mrs. Lewis to serve in the early worship service. In February 1954, to relieve Mrs. Lewis of the preparation for two services, Mrs. Beverly Glasgow and Miss Arloa Shipman took over as director and organist respectively. Mrs. Frances Campbell assisted as organist.

In September of 1954, Mrs. Esther Bashaw was the regular organist at the early service.

In January 1955, Mrs. Joan Smith took over direction of the Chancel Choir assisted by Mrs. Betty Smith.

In 1955, the membership in two active choirs numbered over sixty. In the fall of 1956, the two choirs proudly wore their new robes, "dedicated in the service of fine music and to the glory of God."

Of special interest was the formation of a men's quartet in 1955, composed of Richard Shively, Dick Edwards, William Malmo and Gale Day.

---

**New Allen C-4 Electronic Organ**

In 1961, an organ committee was formed, composed of Marilyn Cawelti, chairman; Beverly Glasgow, Dolores Osborn, Welcome Miller, Lavina Lewis, Dick Lindholm and Dick Shively. The committee recommended a purchase of an Allen C-4 Electronic organ at a cost of \$8,865.

Marilyn Cawelti was organist for the Chapel Choir and played for the first service after the Allen organ was installed.

Paul Clark made necessary alterations, and connected and installed the organ and the sound equipment.

The chimes were given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Day by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Day and family.

---

**In 1969, there were seven volunteer choirs.**

Chancel choir for adults; Chapel Choir for junior and senior high youth; Angel Choir for 2nd-3rd grade boys and girls; Melody Choir for 1st grade boys and girls; Carol Choir for 4th-5th-6th grade girls; Crusader Choir for 4th--5th-6th grade boys and Cherub Choir for 5 year olds.

---

By the 1960s, Beverly Glasgow, Betty Smith, Barbara Eanes (for boys in upper grades), Joan Smith, Barbara Day, and Frances Campbell were directing the choirs.

These choirs participated regularly in both worship services, in festivals, in vesper services at Highland West and at nursing homes.



**Choir in 1966**

Marilyn Cawelti, Dick Shively, Gale Day, Art Bunn  
Beverly Glasgow, Joan Smith, Betty Smith, Virginia Jester  
(There were more members in the choir.)

---

**In 1975....directors and accompanists**

Cherub Choir-

by Dar Welborn with René Bennett

Melody Choir-

by Beverly Ginnow with Becky Davis

Carol Choir-

by Dorothy Dunn with Laurie Gipe

Chapel and Chancel Choir-

by Ralph Williams with Dolores Osborn

Junior Bell Choir - Peg Dougherty

Angelus Bell Choir - Ann Christopher

Angelus Concert Bell Choir - Peg Dougherty

Westminster Bells - Lil Gunther

---

**Pianists and Organists-**

Ethel Goddard

Esther Bashaw - 1956

Lavina Lewis - 1935-1960

Arloa Shipman Bingham

Frances Campbell

Marilyn Cawelti -1960s

Peg Dougherty

Edythe Schrack

Dolores Osborn - 1961-1989

Carol Miles....1990 to Present (2007)

---

## Gale Day honored - 60 years of service "Music is his Passion"

Gale Day was honored on May 6, 2007, for his nearly 60 years of lending his sterling tenor voice to the Chancel Choir. He said he actually joined the choir in 1943, but took off about four years when he was in the service and while they were building their home on Circle Drive.

Gale tells that when Rev. Les Nickless officiated at funerals or memorials, and special solo music was needed, Les would ask him. Gale thinks he and Les did at least 100 of these services together.

Gale has also sung at weddings and at Easter Sunrise services sponsored by local churches. He also cut a 78 rpm record singing many of his favorite hymns and songs, accompanied by Dolores Osborn (in 1970s).



**Gale Day**

Gale and his brother Rich, who also has a long record of singing in the choir, inherited their mother's love of music.

Their mother, Doris (Spangler) Day, sang in the church choir for 30 years. Grandmother Arletta Day played the piano in the church in the early 1900s.

That love of music continues as family members are still active in the church music programs.

Rich's wife Barbara (Bean) Day is a long time member, adding her soprano voice to the choir, to solos, or in groups for special choir numbers.

Christy (Day) Garone, daughter of Rich and Barbara Day, also sings in the choir

along with her husband, Lou Garone. Christy plays in the bell choir, and plays the flute for special choir numbers. Christy has also directed junior bell choirs.

Christy and Lou Garone's daughter Alex Garone played in the junior bell choir. Their son, Michael Garone, serves as a trumpeter for choir music for special religious services, and has played in the bell choir, and occasionally sings in the choir.

The music department has certainly flourished throughout the history of the congregation.

Beverly Glasgow and Joan Smith, both listed as directors of children, youth and adult choirs in the early 1950s, are still members of the Chancel Choir.

Other long time members are Audrey Welte, Jan Kulhanek, Sue Singleton, Barbara Scanlon, Marge Innes, Dean Hammond, Wayne Smith, Gary Jasper and Doris Coe.

Those remembered, but now deceased, are Edythe Schrack, Virginia Jester, Les Hauber and Lil Gunther.

For special services, instruments have been added to the choir music-- Ann Christopher, flute; Christy (Day) Garone, flute; Luke Lindholm, violin; Kathy Balog, oboe; Tenny Lindholm, guitar; Marilyn Davidson, recorder; Michael Garone, trumpet.

During the summer months when the choir is on vacation, member and guest musicians bring special music to the worship services.

Some special treats during the summer months have been John Piper at the piano singing some his favorites, Pam (Smith) Geiss contributing beautiful solo music and Luke Lindholm on the violin. In summer of 2007, the congregation was treated to beautiful violin music played by the two daughters of Steve and Greta Maurer and granddaughters of John and Pauline Maurer, and a very special violin duet by Luke Lindholm and Alex Garone.

### Special music

Judy Jester

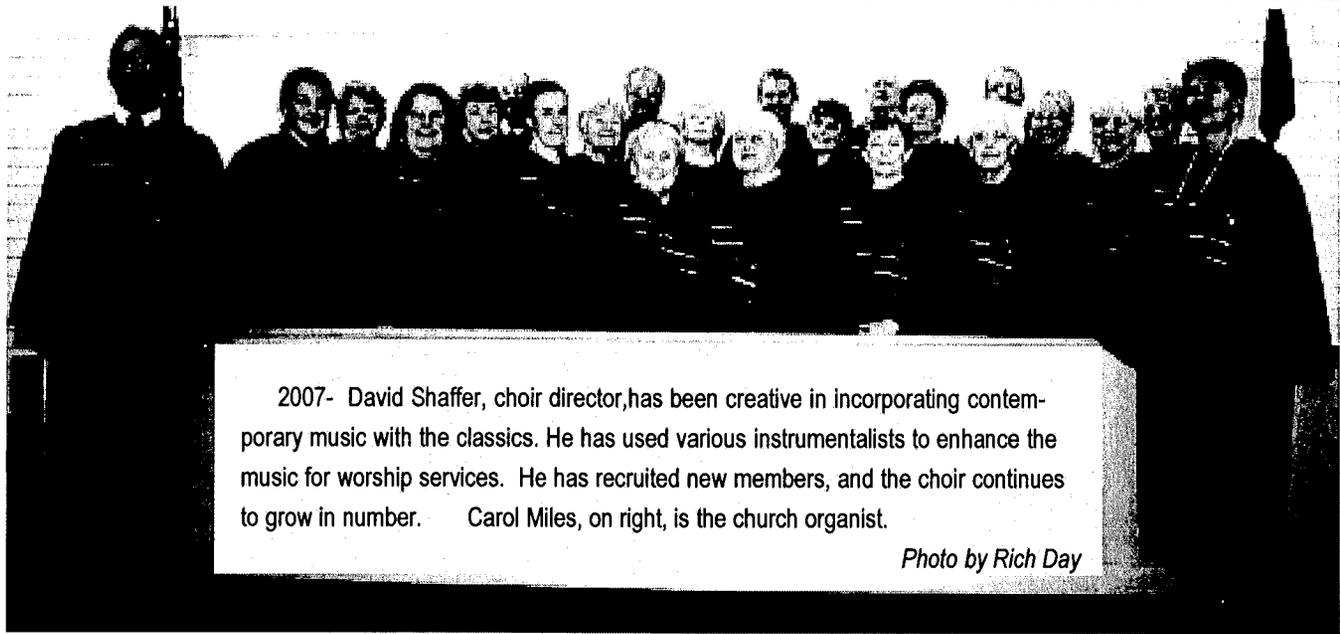
&

Christy Garone  
on flute



Through the years, the Chancel Choir has had many choir directors. Some have been college music students who needed experience. Others have gone on to other jobs or to advancements in their music careers.

In recent years, the Chancel Choir has performed under the direction of Chris Quinn, Robb Butler, Eric Graber, Laurie Bates, Jim Stanley, Eric Peters and presently, David Shaffer.



2007- David Shaffer, choir director, has been creative in incorporating contemporary music with the classics. He has used various instrumentalists to enhance the music for worship services. He has recruited new members, and the choir continues to grow in number. Carol Miles, on right, is the church organist.

*Photo by Rich Day*

## Hand Bell Choirs

The first set of hand bells was a three-octave set of Schulmerich hand bells, purchased with Memorial Funds in 1971.

By using memorial funds, the church has purchased five octaves of hand bells and four octaves of hand chimes.

The bell choirs continue to add beautiful music to enhance the ministry of music in the church.

**1996-** From Mary Petersen memorial funds more hand bells were purchased to complete the set.

**2007-** New hand bell cases were purchased from the Thelma Withers memorial fund.

In the spring of 1972, the Bells of Westminster, a women's daytime group, was directed by Kathy Balog.

A senior high bell choir was organized in September 1971, under the direction of Peg Dougherty, who had prior hand bell ringing experience. The Rev. Lester Nickless gave the junior high group its name, the Angelus Bell Choir. The senior high group became the Angelus Concert Bell Choir and was directed by Peg Dougherty.

**1976-** The Concert Bells toured southern Colorado and gave concerts along the way in churches.

**1978-** Angelus Concert Bells participated in a Bell Choir Festival in Albuquerque, NM., on June 15.

That year the ringers were Gayla Smith, Laurie Cruz, Lori Whitcomb, Stephanie Rose, Kerry Gardner, Jeanne Gardner, Marsha Webb, Jeff Ulrich, Lisa Price and Kathy Dunn.

Other ringers were Leah Christopher, Janet Scanlon, Tracie Kruger and GiGi Nielsen.



*Picture taken in Marriott Hotel, Tucson, AZ- 1979*

**...Top stairs down:** Steve Coe, Jenifer Gardner, Martha Miller, Lisa Price, Peg Dougherty **...Back Row:** Becky Davis, Janice Kruger, Christy Day, Jeanne Gardner.....**Front row:** Brian Perry, Kerry Gardner, Deanne Hammond; **In front:** Laurie Gipe

The bell choir members sold fire wood to support their many tours. Hal Davis picked up the wood from an area in southern Colorado. Many of the youth helped with this project.

During the summers in the 1980s, the Angelus Concert Bells went on tours and attended bell choir festivals.

On one such tour into Kansas, they performed in several towns and cities where the choir members had relatives.

Howard Dougherty always gave his support. On such trips, he drove one van and Lil Gunther and Peg shared in driving the other van.

The choir will long remember the fried chicken and corn-on-the cob served at meals by host churches.

Several adults returned from that Kansas trip suffering from "chigger bites"!!!!



**JUBILATION BELL CHOIR - 5 of the 10 members  
Sue Singleton, Christy Garone, Cynthia Ziegler,  
Marilyn Davidson, Jan Kulhanek**

In 1986 the **Jubilation Bell Choir** was formed for women who worked outside the home during the day. They practiced in the evenings.

Other hand bell choirs were formed for special occasions. The Christmas Bell Choir welcomed all bell alumni to ring for services; the Generation Gap joined family members from various choirs to come and play together.

Throughout the year, the Jubilation Bell Choir rings in worship services, for special church observances such as Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter, Advent and Christmas, Music Sunday, and some ringers join the Chancel Choir for special music.

The Jubilation Bell Choir has participated in the Colorado "Ring in the Rockies" Handbell Festival and the Area XI Festival, which are on alternate years.

Ann Christopher, who directed the Jubilation Bell Choir from 1986 to 2007, says that it is a learning and rewarding experience for the bell choir members to join massed choirs such as these.

In the 1990s, ACBC (Angelus Concert Bell Choir) was directed by Jan Lemmon; Bells of Westminster was directed by Kathy Balog.

Lil Gunther and Judy Jester both directed bell choirs at this church.

In 1997 through 2000, Christy Garone directed two bell choirs for youth, the Angelus Bells and Dolce Bells. Twelve ringers participated in one of the bell choir festivals.

Presently, 2007, the members of the Jubilation Bell Choir are Barbara Day (the only original member), Barbara Scanlon, Sue Singleton, GiGi Nielsen, Marge Innes, Jan Kulhanek, Christy Garone, Marilyn Davidson, Judy Jester, and Cynthia Ziegler, with Lisa Jones as director.

## Worship

The Session held a retreat in spring of 2006 and concentrated on priorities for our church.

Worship was, of course, one priority. Several study sessions were scheduled in the fall of 2006 during the 9:15 a.m. adult study hour with the congregation invited to help examine our worship practices. The responses from these sessions were considered by the Christian Life Committee and the pastors and slight changes were made in the worship service. The responses also helped set a direction for the future.

A few things in the worship service were changed to make it more contemporary and still keep with the Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship*. New praise hymnals were purchased and are now being used in the worship service, in addition to *The Presbyterian Hymnal*.

## New Sound System

A more effective sound system was installed in 2004. Charlie Brown, member/sound technician, recommended the system which he installed in the sanctuary and in the basement. Now even those who have difficulty with hearing are able to hear every word from the pastors, every note from the choir and music from the organ or piano. The mixed sounds enhance the spiritual message of the whole service.

Charlie Brown built the console for the equipment and taught others to run the sound board before his death in 2006.

A CD burner was recently purchased in his memory.

---

# MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"Be united in faith and brotherhood, grow into the likeness of Christ, be faithful in every good work and increase in the knowledge of God." ..*paraphrased from a statement made by Rev. Les Nickless*

---

## Adult Education

### Tuesday evening Adult Study

John Maurer has kept records of everyone who has ever participated in his adult study classes. He now reports that all of the 'test scores' have been tabulated and filed, and he is proud to report that all students passed with honors.

**1971-72-** The Rev. Hal Davis taught members to be leaders to lead the Bethel Bible Series.

**1973-74-** The four Bethel Bible classes met on a Tuesday evening with approximately 120 people attending the the seven week series.

The Bethel Series teachers were:

Elizabeth Nickless and Jeanne Coffey  
Jim Wheeler and Harold Miller  
Kirby Davis and Sandy Mason  
John and Pauline Maurer

~~~~~  
Hal Davis once said, " If any one had told me a year ago that I'd have 120 adults in a Bible study, I'd have said they were crazy."

~~~~~  
**1975-76-** There were two Bethel classes with approximately 15 students in each.

John & Pauline Maurer taught one of the classes.

**1990-93-** The Kergyma Series was taught by the Pam Wolf and John Maurer.

**1993-** The Book of Acts/Hebrews

**1994-** The Letter to the Romans/The Gospel of Mark

**1995-** The Letter to the Ephesians/The Parables

**1996-** The Miracles of Jesus/The Sermon on the Mount

**1997-** The Ministry of Jesus Christ/John I

**1998-** Word Alive/Bible People

**1999-** Bible People/Bible Discovery

**2000-** Bible Discovery/Acts of the Apostles

**2001-** Romans-Philippians/Colossians-Jude

**2002-** 1st & 2nd Peter, Jude/Revelations

**2003-** Revelations/Genesis

**2004-** The Psalms/Interpretation

Classes 1993-2004 were taught by John Maurer.

**2005-** James/Job by John Piper and Pat Bredenberg

**2006-** Living the Questions by Pat Bredenberg and John Maurer

**2007-** Great Figures of the New Testament by Pat Bredenberg and Sam Mazzucca

### Sunday morning Adult Study

**1972-** Gospel according to John - led by Jeanne Coffey and Bob Beason

**1979-** study led by Jack Savage and the Aleshires

**1992-** "Foundational Curriculum"- Faith, Bible and Mission led by Elwood Bell and Charles Blackburn

**1992-2000-** Elwood Bell faithfully taught the Sunday morning Bible study class and offered his students his wealth of knowledge.

**1992-** Coffee and Conversation - led by Betty Orten and Terrie Sievewright

**2000-** Betty Orten and Anne Conklin provided leadership for a "Parenting group."

**1995-present (2007)-** The 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum involves presentations, video series, and discussions of historical, religious, educational and thought provoking topics led by the Rev. John Piper.

### Church school for children and youth

**In 1954-** Senior high adult sponsor was Mrs. Jack (Ruth) Smith; George and Lil Gunther were junior high fellowship sponsors.

**1954-** Classes met during both 9:00 and 10:30 worship services. Pre-school, primary and junior departments met both hours. The senior highs, 9-10th grade class and the 11-12th grade class met at 10:30; Adult class met at 9:00.

Crib and toddler nurseries were provided during both church services.

~~~~~  
The junior and senior high fellowships met weekly on Sunday evenings for a program of study, discussions, worship and a variety of activities, including fun and food.

A Youth Council was formed. Youth were elected as officers and with the adult advisors planned activities for both the senior and junior high groups.

~~~~~  
For a few years there was one church school session which ran concurrently with the worship service.

**1975-** Bob and Shirley Briggs led a senior high Bethel Bible class.

**1987-** Church school and adult classes were held before worship.

**1990s-present-(2007)** Church school classes for children, for middle/senior high schoolers and for adults are scheduled at 9:15 a.m before worship.

---

Bibles are presented to all fourth graders in the fall. No classes are held during the summer months as worship is scheduled for 9:30 a.m.

---

### **Senior High Melodrama**

Hal Davis was the advisor for the church's senior high group during the 1970s and led many successful Work Caravans to the San Luis Valley and to California.

The highlight for the senior high youth group was practicing and presenting the annual senior high melodrama/variety show for the enjoyment of the congregation and guests to help raise funds for their annual work caravans during the summer months.

Many of the youth will long remember the many hours of working on service projects, the many hours of organizing and practicing for their famous melodramas and preparing and going on their many work caravans.

During Hal Davis' 12 years as pastor with emphasis on Christian Education, the youth group grew and flourished.

---

### **Senior High Fellowship Camps and Mission Trips**

The youth fellowship groups have always been active groups within the church - participating in worship, entertaining children at special places such as Home of Neighborly Service, helping with dinners, caroling and going to retreats. In 1958 the group sold plates with a picture of the new sanctuary with a history on the back. They hoped to use the funds to furnish our fellowship room.

**1956-** Janet Butler, Kathleen Eberhart, Reta Hawkinson and Linda Herman went to a work camp at Insmont near Bailey, CO.

**1957-** Senior Fellowship was sponsored by Corum and Jeanne Coffey and Bob and Bonnie Decker. Some of the youth were Barbara Ayer, Damon Flanders, Linda Gunther, Charlotte Gray.

**1960-** Mission Caravan- A group of young people and leaders visited San Luis Hospital, San Luis, CO.; stayed at church camp in Taos Canyon, NM.; visited Embudo Hospital; Menaul School in Albuquerque; Ganada Presbyterian Mission, and Towaoc Presbyterian Mission, Towaoc, CO.

Those who enjoyed this opportunity were Damon Flanders, Tura Coffey, Barbara Prokopy, Jim and Steve Hagberg, Selma DeLand, George Haag, Bob Grieninger, Steve Hamblin, and their advisors, Mrs. Corum (Jeanne) Coffey, Mrs. Karl (Betty) Smith and Pastor Lester Nickless.

**1961-** Junior and senior high retreat was at Camp

Insmont, near Bailey, CO. The senior high class attended the Passion Play in Spearfish, SD.

Tom Clark was the senior high Sunday school teacher. Tom and Beverly Clark served as sponsors many times when groups traveled to South Dakota to see the Passion Play.

**1963-** Several young people attended the Presbytery Leadership workshop in April in Estes Park.

Work camp and Mission was painting and cleanup at Holman Oracon, Mora Valley, NM.

**1966-** The Rev. Holly Bartges worked with the senior highs to present the stewardship play, "Many Are Called- But Few Get Up".

**1967-** The senior highs attended the Passion Play in Spearfish, SD. Thirteen senior highs (those from our church included Dorothy Brandon, and Janelle Jester) and six from Advent Lutheran Church and three adult sponsors traveled to Chamisal, NM, where they did cement work for a porch and outdoor cleanup for the church. Maude Harris organized the work camp; Earlene Sullivan was "construction foreman" with Helen Pitchford as advisor.

**1968-** There were two work camps to Taos Canyon to work in Rev. Medina's office.

**1971-** Senior high fellowship - 35 youth, 9-12 graders - took a three day mission trip through New Mexico. This was the year the youth embarked on a firewood sales project designed to enable the low-income people of the Penasco Valley to help themselves.

**1973-** The youth traveled to San Pablo, CO, in the San Luis Valley, and helped build a rabbit hutch project to enable low-paid workers to supplement their incomes. They also went to Spearfish, SD, to see the Passion play. Dennis and Paulette Lopez were advisors.

**1974-** Work Camp to San Luis Valley-remodeled old building into recreation hall

**1975-** Work camp to Center, CO, in San Luis Valley-worked on Head Start building

**1976-** Work camp to Antonito, CO, San Luis Valley-worked on alcoholic rehabilitation center

**1977-** Work camp to Menaul School in Albuquerque, NM, - did carpentry, refinishing, painting, etc. to help prepare Menaul school for the arrival of students

**1978-** Twenty-four youth and adults traveled to Downey, CA. They stayed in the First Presbyterian Church of Downey, and did carpentry, refinishing, painting and general manual labor at Bell Garden Community Center, Los Angeles, CA.

**1981-** The Fellowship group did trail construction and erosion control at the Mountain Center.

---

**1982-** Work mission to Alamosa, San Luis Valley-  
did repairs and solar heating work

**1983-** Work mission to Leadville Presbyterian  
Church-painting and repairs

**1985-** Work camp to Encampment, WY- camp repair  
and ditch digging

**1986- Yakutat, AK.**

One of the most ambitious was the work/mission trip to Yakutat, Alaska, in 1986. Larry and Vicki Greiner were the sponsors. With help from lots of parents and with Reta Frauenfelder spearheading the fund raisers, money was raised to help meet expenses for many of the youth.

\*\*Excerpts from Vicki Greiner's article in 1986 church annual report:

"Fourteen youth and eight adults took part in this week long work/mission trip. They were Steve Brown, Mike Smith, Joe Mays, James Whitcomb, Bret Karr, Aaron Brown, Jason Lopez, Jim Smith, Jennifer Melville, Dana Steininger, Kirsten Davidson, Blaine Halldorson, Eric Lund, Eric Karr, Ted and Reta Frauenfelder, Garnet and Elizabeth Price, Dennis Lopez, Curtis Lund and Larry and Vicky Greiner, the youth advisors.

"Little did the group know that much about where they were going - to Yakutat, Alaska. They knew it was 2,500 miles away on the coast and that there were people there who needed help.

"The air flight took the group from Denver to Seattle to Juneau and then to Yakutat where the plane landed on a converted military air strip in the middle of a peninsula that could only be reached by air or water. Oh, they found wonderful, warm and friendly people eager to share their lives with the group.

"The youth put shingles on the Presbyterian Mission Church, helped finish the basement in the manse, (*added screens to sanctuary to keep the "BIG" mosquitoes from coming in*) went on fishing trips and attended several "potlatch" events with the Tlingit Indians.

"They helped with Vacation Bible School, but the group still found time for trips to the beach, fishing, the Indian Culture Camp, trips to the school for basketball and swimming, trips to the glacier, walks along the shore and to the harbor, and for the more adventurous, there was a float trip down the Situk River."

---

**1992-** Melodramas continued under the leadership of Dar Welborn.

**1993-1997-** Rick and Sue Smith served as Youth Directors. A youth activity that became a tradition for many years was painting the windows in Gillespie Hall for the Christmas season.

**1998-present-(2007)** Beth Douma serves as

part time youth director. She schedules social and service projects and promotes camps, retreats, and conferences for the youth in grades 6-12.

The group of 8-15 middle and high school youth meet weekly. A variety of activities and service projects are scheduled. These include collecting food for FISH (on Souper Sunday and in neighborhood "scavenger hunts"), cooking a meal for the IHN families when the church hosts them, and helping with the Have-A-Heart project.

Members of the group regularly attend Presbytery sponsored retreats at Highlands Camp.

**2004-** Beth Douma, as advisor, Jeremy Scanlon and Mary Lou Conklin joined others from the the Denver Presbytery in attending Triennium at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN, a once in a life time experience.

**2006-** Five senior highs attended Presbyterian Montreat West Conference in Ft. Collins, CO. They were Jamie Meier, Katie Thompson, Kendall Conklin, Daniel Mazzucca and Lynn Smith, with Beth Douma as advisor.

Katie Thompson was selected in 2006 to serve on the 2008 Montreat planning team. Katie attended two team-planning sessions at Montreat Conference Center in North Carolina.

**2007-** Jené Meier and Pat Hendricks became part of the planning "team" with Beth Douma. Various activities are scheduled by and with the youth.

**July 2007-Triennium - at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN.**

Katie Thompson, Lynn Smith, Danelle Ellington, Kendall Conklin, Daniel Mazzucca and Beth Douma, as advisor, attended the Triennium.

Some 5,000 young people attend the Triennium conference held every three years. Young people represent their Presbyterian churches in the U.S. and some attend from foreign countries.

---

Our church generously helps to financially support youth attending the various camps, retreats and conferences.

---

Youth also serve a one-year term as a youth elder, help in the nursery, serve as lay readers, greeters and ushers, help in Vacation Bible School participate in the choir, and many have been ringers in youth bell choirs.

---

### **Vacation Bible School**

This church has a long record of sponsoring Vacation Church/Bible school program during the summer. Program have been held in two two-week sessions; one two-week session and for many years it has been a one-week session.

**June 6, 1937-** Quote from Sunday bulletin... "Our Vacation Church School is progressing nicely under the direction of Mrs. Richard McClellan and assisted by various departmental superintendents. The enrollment of the school reached sixty. Boys and girls from five to fifteen years of age attended. On Children's Day, the children will show the results of their learning experiences in worship, Bible study, handicraft and character education."

**1950-1953-** Mrs. Alma (Dale) Dargitz was coordinator for VCS for several years. She encouraged the teachers to attend "teacher training" workshops sponsored by the Presbytery.

**1955-** Vacation Church School was held for four weeks directed by Matilda Campbell.

**Two two-week sessions:**

**First two-week session**

Kindergarten ---8 teachers-60 children

Juniors--- 3 teachers - 20 children

**Second two-week session**

Primary--- 5 teachers - 60 children

Junior high--- 3 teachers -12 youth

**1958-1959-** Matilda Campbell- 190 attendance

**1960s-**Welcome Miller - 270 eager young people

**1961-** Edythe Schrack and Elizabeth Price

**1962-** Elizabeth Price- An average attendance of 200 with about 60 helpers each day.

**1964-1965-** June Miller

**1965-** "Of education value to many of our church school and Vacation Church School teachers was the Westminster Area Laboratory School held at the Presbyterian church and co-sponsored by four churches of the community - Presbyterian, Methodist, St. Martha's Episcopal and United Church of Christ."

Children attended different grade levels in different churches where skilled teachers from the Presbytery helped teach the classes with volunteers from the churches. Frances Campbell who was identified as a "Professional" traveled to churches and led teacher workshops for the primary level.

**1969-** Edythe Schrack was a co-director. Eighty-seven boys and girls, ages 3-12, participated in a two-week study. Forty-six were from church families and 41 were from non-member families. There were 43 teachers and helpers.

**1973-** Frances Campbell directed VBS.

**1977-78-** VBS was held in conjunction with United Methodist church- directors Donna Monzingo and Paulette Lopez

**1982-1983-1984-** VBS was held the last 45-60 minutes of the worship service, directed by Janelle Jojola and Donna Prokaski.

**In 1985** VBS returned to a summer program -with Paulette Lopez; later Phyllis Mortimer, Ethyl Hall.

**1992-1993-** directed by Robbie Price - Theme- "Remembering Our Families of Long Ago and Now" for the Centennial year.

The children created quilt blocks which were made into a quilt to celebrate the Centennial year. That quilt still hangs on the high wall in the front stairway that goes to the basement.

**1994-**directed by Robbie Price and Colleen Mazzucca Theme- The Marketplace 29 A.D.

Tents were set up in the grassy area for each of the grade levels. Special storytellers were Marge Ball, Pam Wolf and Roe Johnston, and the drama group was led by Julie Graham.

All who participated in the program will remember making bricks from straw and mud, supervised by Neil Harkins. The children designed small pieces of unleavened bread with the help of Si Harkins and Barb Tyrer. After it was baked, it was used for the communion service on the following Sunday.

The children made special tools in the carpentry shop; made musical instruments; learned how to make rope; made kites, and practiced being scribes. All of these 'little shops' could be found in a Marketplace 29 A.D.

**1995-** VBS was led by Trudy Tufford with clowning help from Mark Smith. The theme was "Live, Love, Laugh."

**1996-1997-** Rick and Sue Smith

**1998-** The Marketplace 29 A.D.

Similar activities were scheduled as in 1994.

**1998-2007** For nine years, the program has been coordinated by a team- Rev. Annie Piper, Jean Ashley and Elizabeth Price. Rev. Annie Piper is the "Storyteller."

Annie introduces the Bible scripture for that day with the children playing the parts of the characters in the story.

The children also learn the songs relating to the theme of the week with special choreography.

The Revs. John and Annie close the daily program with more MUSIC.

Average attendance has been around 50, which includes the teenage helpers and many community children.

In 1999 the committee felt that by working with other churches nearby that more ecumenical relationships could be created in the community. Press releases to local newspapers invite children of the community.

The pastors share in the story time. The teachers and teen helpers from both churches share in teaching; snacks are donated by each church and the mission project is jointly shared.

Each yearly curriculum with upbeat titles comes with a daily Bible scripture for story time; music on tape, large posters with words to the music, class activities, snack ideas, and recreation activities, all relate to the theme for the week.

Each family unit is given a tape of the music to take home

at the end of the week.

The programs for 2005-2006-2007 were co-ordinated by Rev. Annie Piper and Lilianna Stahlberg (Youth Director; and Christian Educator at Advent Lutheran Church, 80th & Meade.)

**1999-** co-sponsored with St. Martha's Episcopal Church The theme- "Jungle Journey- Exploring God's Promises"

**2000-2001-** co-sponsored with St. Martha's Episcopal and Westminster United Methodist. Theme (2000)- "Club Can Do- Kids called to Care"; (2001) "Way to go: Good Neighbor Tours"

**2002-2003-** co-sponsored with Westminster United Methodist Church. The theme (2002) "God's Great Gallery"; (2003) "Lighthouse Kids; Shining God's Light"

**2004-** Westminster Methodist Church hosted the program. Theme- "Hero Quest: Powered by Faith"

**2005-** Co-sponsored with Advent Lutheran Church. Theme- "Ask- Seek-Knock- Circle G Ranch"

**2006-** Advent Lutheran church hosted the program. Theme- "Adventure of the Treasure Seekers: Exploring God's Promises"

**2007-** Our church hosted the program - co-sponsored with Advent Lutheran Church. Theme- "Lift Off - Soaring To New Heights with God"



**First day of VBS.** John at the piano and Annie greeting the children. Children are not quite sure what they will be learning! At the end of the week everyone is thoroughly involved in storytime, music and in choreography.

### Story Time with the Children

Story time with the children probably became part of the worship service when church school was scheduled before worship, and there were no children's programs during the worship hour.

In order for children to have worship experience,

children come to worship with their parents and, after "Story Time," are dismissed before the sermon to go to the CAP (Children's Activity Program).

Those who work in the nursery and work with the children in the CAP program have special activities planned for the hour.

Phyllis Mortimore was one of the first volunteers to do the "Story Time." People also remember Rev. Ed Thwaites giving a "time with the children" during worship.

Kay Bell, for nearly ten years, has led the children in a lively "Story Time with the Children." Lori Smith alternated with Kay for a few years. In 2002 Jeanne Coffey was also one of the team.

Presently 2007, "Time with the Children" is a team with Rev. Annie Piper and Kay Bell. The "Story Time" relates to the scripture and sermon.

### Ministry of Acolytes

**1990-present-(2007)** The acolyte program became part of the worship service, started in 1992 under the direction of Robbie Price.

For 10 years, Virginia Shockley has coordinated and encouraged the children to participate in the acolyte program.

Presently there is no grade level designated for those who would like to serve as acolytes. Some of the older acolytes train the younger children. Bonnie Kramer keeps the robes cleaned and pressed.

Virginia Shockley was honored during the May 20, 2007, worship service on her retirement after more than 15 years of teaching in the Sunday church school and in Vacation Bible School.

She will continue to organize the Acolyte program.

### Youth Sunday....Confirmation Classes



**Youth Sunday**  
**Alex Garone and Jami Ellington**

---

Each year the youth design and lead the worship service on Youth Sunday.

Confirmation classes are offered to youth in 6th through 12th grade who wish to become church members. A special series of classes are scheduled and led by the pastors.

---

### **Baccalaureate Breakfast**

It was a tradition for many years to honor the high school graduates and their parents at a Baccalaureate breakfast.

The seniors participated in the worship service and even prepared their part of the sermon. There was always a special speaker at the breakfasts.

The breakfast has evolved into a potluck meal for graduates who are active in the church programs. All high school graduates are welcome to participate in the "Graduation Sunday" worship service. A reception is held following the worship service.

---

### **Highlands**

#### **Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center Allenspark, CO**

Beginning with the encouragement of the Rev. Lester Nickless, many youth through the years have attended summer camping programs or gone on weekend retreats at Highlands Camp. He also encouraged adults to serve as counselors.

Rev. Nickless served as director of a one-week junior summer camp program for 26 years. He loved to hike and he loved the mountains. During that one week program, he always led the young campers on a "hike" to the top of Oouzel Falls which begins at the Wild Basin trailhead.

Highlands Camp offers a great variety of more than 20 camping opportunities during the summer months for young people, beginning with day camps or 3-day camps for the first time campers.

For the last 10-12 years, between 8-12 of our youth have attended a summer camp program. Even some ladies have attended the Keenage Camp for seniors.

During the school year, the youth group attends overnight retreats at Highlands.

The church budgets for scholarships to help our youth attend summer camping programs. The normal scholarship is 25% of the total cost of the summer program chosen by the youth.

---

### **Drama Ministry**

**1987-88-89-** After Hal Davis retired, Dar Welborn became the drama director. She directed the senior high melodrama and variety shows; produced

summer productions with church and community people; directed the children's Christmas pageant and produced with the choirs special dramas for special religious holidays.

Drama ministry continues under the leadership of Sue Singleton. Mini-dramas are presented for specially designated services.

---

### **Library**

A growing library of religious and related books were located in the "Old Building" in 1969 and later the collection was moved to the "living room" area in the former Manse which became the church office before the 1987 addition was built.

The following have served as librarians.

**1958-** Beverly Andrews was the first librarian

**1960-** Alice Organ and Jeanne Coffey

**1971-1978-** Jerry Moore

(In 1977, there were 2,000 volumes in the library)

**1978-** Lil Gunther

**1979-** Diane Garone

**1980-1996-** Jerry Moore

After the 1987 addition was completed, the collection was moved from the manse to the present library, beginning with the shelves on the east wall.

Jerry Moore organized and catalogued the many books that were given to the library when the shelves were added to the "new library."

The lower shelves on the south wall were soon added, and in 2001 more shelves were added to the south wall.

Librarians order books upon request. Members of the church also donate books to the collection. There is a large collection of videos on the south shelves.

Special art work is also on display.

**1997-2007-** Lisa Jones and GiGi Nielsen share the responsibility as librarians.

Librarians have encouraged people to take advantage of the church library as it has a wealth of reading entertainment and vast number of collections for biblical research.

---

### **Book Club**

GiGi Nielsen and Lisa Jones are the coordinators for the book group which has been in existence for more than 10 years.

Books are chosen for discussion. Those in the group read the book and then a group discussion is held at the home of GiGi Nielsen and Lisa Jones.

Many of the books that have been read and discussed in the book group are on the south shelves in the church library and marked "Book Group Books."

---

## Historian

Jerry Moore served as the church historian for over 15 years, through 1999. She was actively involved in researching, documenting and displaying "the Church history" during the Centennial celebration in 1992. She began the custom of creating yearly notebooks of church events.

There are five filing cabinets of historical church records in the basement storage room.

Gail George, the present historian, with her husband Don take pictures of special events. She has continued creating a new notebook for each year.

These notebooks contain newspaper clippings, new member photos, special "In Memoriam" pages, and documents of many special events during the years. These notebooks, located in the library, are available for browsing.

---

## Adult Fellowship - Service - Mission

### Presbyterian Women (P.W.)

Two women's groups had a long and faithful history in the church. The Women's Missionary Society met for Bible Study and supported the work of the Presbytery Missions, and the Women's Christian Service League, also known as the Ladies Aid Society, raised funds for community and church projects.

On January 1, 1955, these two groups joined to form the Women's Association and organized the "Circle" structure which is still in place today.

In 1956, when Sue Berry was president, the Women's Association became a part of the National Presbyterian Women's Organization.

There were four circles, - Mary Norton Circle, Mary Prentice Circle, Anna Hasting Circle and Nancy Murray Circle. There were about 83 active members.

---

### **"EMPOWERED WITH A PURPOSE:**

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom." ...from P.W. membership book

---

Presbyterian Women serves an important function for women in the church by providing an opportunity for growth in faith, fellowship, support and outreach for mission. Study, mission and retreats provide opportunities for growth in their faith.

In the beginning, the women held their retreats at the Nickless cabin in Estes Park.

**1960-**"Second Mile Giving" was created. This giving is the The Least Coin, Birthday offering and Thank Offering. The "First Mile Giving" is to the general budget of the church.

**1967-** Several Presbyterian churches were invited to a Valentine coffee. More than 20 churches

were represented with about 150 women present.

**1967-** Alice Organ attended the National Presbyterian Women's National Meeting at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, in June.

**1968-** Circles included Nancy Ramer Circle; Nancy Murray Circle; Marjorie Rasmussen Circle and Mary Norton Circle, all of which met in members' homes.

**1969-1970** Barbie Nichol Sewing Circle was formed. Marjorie Rasmussen Circle was renamed the Helen Medina Circle.

The Women's Association became the United Presbyterian Women by the adoption of a new constitution.

**1971-** Helen Marshall and Welcome Miller attended the Area P.W. Event at Temple Buell College.

**1972-** Virginia Harter, Helen Marshall and Barbara Scanlon attended the regional event at Temple Buell College.

**1974-** Nancy Ramer spoke at the December meeting.

**1979-** Peggy Lough, Sue Singleton and Welcome Miller attended the United Presbyterian Women meeting at Purdue University.

**1980-** Welcome Miller and Pat Stephens attended Synodical in Glenwood Springs. March retreat was at the Ponderosa Conference Center. Nancy Ramer spoke at a retreat at Jerry Moore's home.

Brian Perry for several years made deliveries of boxes of sewing circle items to San Luis Valley Christian Community Services in Alamosa.

**1981-** Two circles took names of other current missionaries. The Helen Medina Circle became the Alice Green Circle; Barby Nichol Sewing Circle took the name of Loida Burgess Grady.

(Rev. Floyd Grady and his wife, Loida, had served since 1964 in the southernmost state of Brazil.)

**1982-** Two circles were renamed in order to continue with the custom of using the names of current missionaries. Loida Burgess Grady Circle took the name of Marian Wade Sewing Circle; Alice Green Circle became the Julia Hudson Circle.

---

**1983-** Ecumenical luncheon - 126 people served with 31 churches represented. Retreat held at Glen Isle Resort.

The Ecumenical luncheon continues to be a special event each year. Invitations are sent to local churches and other Presbyterian churches. A brunch, a bake and craft sale and a special program are the scheduled activities for the event.

**1984-** Summer retreat held in July at the Mountain Center. Jo Parrott gave a presentation on her experiences as a missionary to Egypt and a slide show on the area along the Nile River.

**1985-** Rev. Edward Thwaites and his wife, Nancy, Mary Shaw and Wyoma Bean attended the Presbyterian conference at Purdue University.

**1985-** Marian Wade Circle was renamed Arlene Patrick as her husband Jesse was pastor of Kayenta Presbyterian Church in Kayenta, Arizona.

**1988-** Harmony Circle was formed. Nancy Murray Circle became Elaine Baker Circle. Nancy Ramer Circle became Helen Kristiansen Circle.

Alice Green Circle renamed Julia Hudson Circle.

**1989-** Kay Jasper and Mary Shaw attended Synod retreat in Billings, Montana

**1991-** Helen Kristiansen Circle was renamed Jody Chrasteck Circle.

**1992-** July retreat in Wasatch, Utah. Lil Gunther, Rose Ann Ginnow and Kay Jasper attended.

**1993-1994-** Jody Chrasteck Circle renamed John Hyson Circle. Julia Hudson and Elaine Baker Circles combined to become Baker-Hudson Circle. The Arlene Patrick Circle was renamed to honor Bessie Bolton who was an original and faithful moderator of Presbyterian Women for years.

**1994-** Pauline Maurer attended the Churchwide P.W. Gathering at University of Iowa, at Ames, IA.

**1996-** Retreat held in August--Pam Wolf and Annie Piper portrayed "Martha and Mary." At the Ecumenical Luncheon, Valdene Ranum did a presentation on the Olympic Torch.

**1997-** Geraldine Eckroth, Si Harkins, and Pauline Maurer attended the P.W. Churchwide gathering in Louisville, KY.

**1999-** Retreat at Christian Prayer Retreat House in Idaho Springs

**2000-** Gloria Van Meter attended P.W. Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, KY.

**2001-** Retreat at Loretta Spirituality Center - Topic- "The Beatitudes." led by Sister May Ken

**2002-** Retreat at Christian Prayer Retreat House- Theme- "Vacation with the Lord"

**2003-** Retreat at Highlands Camp - Theme- "Who was Mary Magdalene?"

**2003-** Julie Graham and Gloria Van Meter attended P.W. Churchwide gathering in Louisville, KY.

**2004-** Retreat at Christian Prayer Retreat House- Theme- "In the Potter's Hands" led by Rev. Victoria Isaacs

**2005-2006 -** The retreats were held at Rod and Donna McKee's condo located on the west side of St. Mary's Glacier. Rev. Annie Piper led each program by using the theme from the Horizon Study book for the coming year,

**2006-** Bonnie Britton attended P.W. Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, KY.

P.W. has helped with birthday teas at Highland West and has always been responsible for wedding receptions. For more than 20 years, beginning in 1980, P.W. has served a brunch in December for the Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

The P.W. women serve luncheons for various church events. The P.W. has hosted P.W. Presbytery gatherings and served meals when the church hosts Denver Presbytery meetings.

Besides the "First, Second and Third Mile Giving," the P.W. members have accepted other mission challenges. In 2006, the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery collected toiletry items to send to the women in Zimbabwe. Again in 2007, P.W. donated to "Buy a Brick, Build a Church", a P.W. Gathering Project.

**2007-** About 75 women are members of the three active circles and the sewing circle.

**BAKER-HUDSON CIRCLE-** Elaine Baker works at the Corrymeela Center in Belfast, Ireland. Julia Hudson, now retired, worked for many years at the John Hyson School.

**HARMONY CIRCLE,** organized in September 1988, is an unique group that constitutes good fellowship, lively discussion, sensitivity and support for one another.

**JOHN HYSON CIRCLE,** John Hyson was the only elementary (K-6th grade) Presbyterian mission school left in New Mexico. It educated children for 101 years. The school is now closed.

**BESSIE BOLTON SEWING CIRCLE:**

The sewing circles have consistently made complete layettes, blankets, afghans, lap robes and quilts for local nonprofit groups such as Children's Hospital, Clear Creek Care Center, Elm Haven Nursing Home, Florence Crittenton Center, and San Marino Nursing Home. Members have made hundreds of book bags and over the chair bags for the "Right-to-Read Program" sponsored by the local Grange.

Presbyterian Women, as a group, supports other mission projects, called the "Third Mile Giving." Donations are made to World Wide Mission, Church Women United, Home of Neighborly Service,

---

Interfaith Hospitality Network (Growing Home), Menaul School in New Mexico, Catholic Charities, the Thank Offering, birthday offering, Least Coin, Hunger Fund.

Special mission projects - San Luis Valley Christian Community Services in Alamosa-- local community groups such as "Have-A-Heart", FISH pantry, Access Housing, and Denver Inner City Parish.

They saved aluminum cans, Campbell soup labels and postage stamps for various mission programs.

Within the church, the women supply snacks for Vacation Bible School and contribute to the church's camp scholarship fund.

---

The last few years, our P.W. has always had a large member representation at the quarterly Presbyterian P.W. Gatherings.

The Circles study from the Horizon Bible Study series and use the "Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study" at their monthly meetings.

The Coordinating Team of officers and a representative from each circle meet once a month.

---

#### **IN MEMORIAM.....Elizabeth Nickless**

Elizabeth was truly a "minister" for women.

Soon after the Nickless' arrival in 1953, she started several Presbyterian Women Circle groups all of which supported Presbyterian local and foreign missionaries and their work.

The 1957 church directory lists the following circles and the chairmen. Mary Norton Circle, Mrs. White Eckroth as chairman; Mary Prentice Circle, Mrs. Max Vest as chairman; Annie Hastings Circle, Mrs. Claude Shriver as chairman; Nancy Murray Circle, Mrs. Jack Smith as chairman.

Through the years the names of the circles have changed, but in most cases they still carry the names of missionaries and a school - Baker, Hudson and John Hyson.

Her name was never listed among the officers of the Women's Association. She was truly a leader who encouraged others to be involved. This exemplified her unique and genuine Christian service.

In the early 1970s, she was the first woman in the Westminster Presbyterian Women to receive an honorary Life Membership. She was again honored with the Honorary Life Membership on her 80th birthday in Nov. 20, 1994 .

The life membership is presented for outstanding service and leadership in the church.

For many years, Elizabeth was a member of the Baker-Hudson Circle, which she attended regularly until a few months before her death in 2006.

The message in her opening devotions was always God-centered with a biblical scripture relating to a special thought from an article or a book sent by a special friend .

She was a perfect example of Christian service, serving

quietly as a God-loving person.

Her Christian values of love, friendship, and serving the Lord through mission have become the legacy of the Presbyterian Women of this church.

---

#### **Life Memberships**

The following women have received "Life Memberships" for outstanding service and leadership within the church.

(No dates) Kirby Davis & Elizabeth Nickless

(No date) Welcome Miller;

Denver Presbytery-Mary Shaw;

1979-Geraldine & White Eckroth; 1989-Margaret

Ayer; 1990-Marguerite Hawkinson; 1991-

Elizabeth Hamblin; 1992-Wyoma Bean; 1994-

Margaret Taylor; 1994-Elizabeth Nickless; 1995-

Geraldine Moore; 1996-Pauline Maurer; 1997-

Louise Brandon; 1998- Virginia Shockley; 1999-

Joan Nelson; 1999-Jeanne Coffey; 2000-Si

Harkins; 2001-Thelma Withers; 2003-Alice

Bollinger; 2005-Gloria Van Meter; 2006-Julie

Graham; 2007-Kay Bell.

#### **Light of Christ Award**

2003-Kay Bell

2005- Si Harkins

2006-Geraldine Eckroth.

---

#### **Men's Council**

On April 19, 1956, the charter was presented to President Frank Ayer by Dr. Wilson Byers, making the Council part of the national organization.

In March of 1956, Greenough Gregory, Jack Smith and Arnold Sabin attended the National Council of Presbyterian Men in Chicago. In 1956, the Men's Council organized Cub Pack and Scout Troop 324.

Projects for 1956 included the Easter sunrise breakfast, dinner and entertainment for the Mother-Daughter Banquet, and doing repair work around the church.

#### **1971-United Presbyterian Men**

The men served several breakfasts and luncheons. Eight men, including Rev. Hal Davis, attended the Annual Fall Conference Synod of Colorado-Utah at Glen Eyrie at Colorado Springs.

#### **Nut sales-**

On behalf of the Westminster Presbyterian Men's Group, Bob and Shirley Briggs have conducted nut sales during the Christmas season for about 20 years. Proceeds from these sales have funded a variety of projects around the church:

\*Mariner Mission Projects

\*Computer for church office

\*Donation to organ fund

- \*Assistance to the Flagstone patio
- \*Gold door room bathrooms
- \*Sanctuary ceiling fans
- \*Donation (3 years) to Lester and Elizabeth Nickless Fireplace at Highlands Camp

Fundraisers were held to fund the cost of the Lester and Elizabeth Nickless fireplace in the new conference center, built in 2000, at Highlands Camp.

- \*Donation of \$400 to IHN
- \*Donation to IHN (\$450) to go toward the purchase of new beds for the homeless project
- \*Rejuvenating the flagstone patio area

**1996-** March -Men's Retreat at Highlands Camp

**2002-** Retreat at Christian Prayer Retreat House in Idaho Springs

Known now as the **Men's Group**, the men meet for Bible study, led by Rev. John Piper, once a month on a Saturday morning at a local restaurant. They conduct a work day at the church and do general maintenance and clean up projects and take on service projects.

### S. S. Fellowship Mariners

Another vital organization came into being in 1956. The Celtic Cross Mariner Ship, created from a couples' Church School class taught by Elma and Dale Dargitz.

Hal and Betty Edwards were instrumental in forming the organization and Gale and Betty Jo Day were the first Skippers. It was chartered with the National Mariners Organization and crewed by nineteen charter couples.

This couples' group was organized and associated with the National Mariners through the Mariners of Denver Presbytery and the Synod of Colo-Utah.

In September 1961, a sister ship, the S. S. Iona, set sail. The two merged in 1967, taking the name S. S. Fellowship Mariners.

Mariners usually gathered once a month for a supper and a program. Throughout the many years of its service to the church, it encouraged Christian faith and practice in every home; it offered fellowship within the church for couples of similar interests, helped develop leadership for church members, and acted as a service organization for the upbuilding of the church.

Its basic premises are summed up in the charge from national Mariners - "Christ our Pilot; the Bible our Compass; the Church our Anchor."

The Mariners took on many church projects as "Cargo" each year as needed. This included church

work days, decorating the sanctuary for Advent and sponsoring very successful Mission Fairs. One year they painted the fellowship hall and took on the church nursery which included furnishings and redecorating. Alice Lund painted the "angel" characters on the walls in the nursery and pre-school room.,

**1964-1967-** They painted and repaired Ponderosa Cabin at Camp Insmont, near Bailey, CO. They did repair work and painting in the classrooms of the old church building.

**1969-** Bob and Shirley Briggs were elected as Denver Presbytery Skippers and represented the Westminster church at the National Cruise in Storm Lake, Iowa.

**1980- Mission Fair-** a donation of \$1,000 for the Denver Inner City Parish Building Renovation fund.

**1982- Mission Fair-** 25% of profits went to Corona Child Enrichment Center, located at 8th and Downing in Denver.

**1984- Mission Fair-** 25% of profits went to a commercial dishwasher for the Mountain Center, an educational center for Denver Presbytery.

**1986- Mission Fair-** According to a report written by Harold and Louise Robson, Skippers, "The Mission Fair was surely the high point of the year - resulting in a profit of \$4,425.60 of which \$1,106.40 went to the Mental Health Center. The balance went toward the completion of Nickless Hall rest rooms, paint for the hall and \$1,600.00 went to purchase the dishwasher."

More of this money was used to help furnish the conference room in the new addition.

**1988- Mission Fair-** 25% of profits was donated to Westminster Meals on Wheels and North Assistance Center.

During the next several years the remaining proceeds were used to remodel the kitchen and to renovate the fellowship hall which included having the ceiling sprayed, adding new drapes and redecorating the walls. Other projects included completely remodeling three restrooms and purchasing all of the new furniture, including conference chairs, lounge chairs and tables and lights in the new fellowship room.

**1991-** S.S. Fellowship Mariners dry docked.

**.....--Present-2007-** A "Westy Mariner" group meets socially about every two months at the church for a pot luck supper.

Programs relating to church mission projects, to community, city and state issues are scheduled.

Bob and Shirley Briggs keep the group organized.

---

# A CHURCH IN MISSION - Local & Worldwide

"Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?" And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.".. Matthew 31:37- 40

---

*Quoting The Rev. Les Nickless in 1969-*

## **"This is Our Church"**

"We, as a church, continually seek a way to be of real service not only to our own membership but to the community." These are a few examples of our projects in this direction.

## **Relocation of Refugees**

Since 1956 the church has assisted in the relocation of over 50 refugees from the countries of Cuba, Holland, Germany, Indonesia, Afghanistan and Cambodia.

When sponsoring refugees, the church is responsible for supporting the families, providing them with temporary housing, often supplying clothes and household furnishings, learning to understand their languages and culture, and helping them financially to pay their expenses until they get their footing in America.

In 1955, the Board of Deacons began negotiations to bring Mrs. Elfrieda Hieke and her son to Westminster from Germany where they were living as displaced persons. They arrived in July 1957, and found work after one week in the Redstone Lodge, near Carbondale.

In 1949, after Indonesia gained its independence from the Netherlands and became an independent country, the new government took office and started their drive to push the Dutch inhabitants back to Holland.

Arriving June 10, 1960, Mr. and Mrs. Gustaaf A. Veenendaal, a Dutch refugee couple, arrived from Indonesia. They stayed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith until they located a job and temporary housing.

Mr. Veenendall had his own accounting office for eleven years in Macassar, on the island of Celebes in Indonesia and before that he worked for Shell Oil Co.

Mrs. Veenendaal ran a gift shop in Amsterdam before they left for America.

The Aart Quak family of six, also Indonesian /Dutch nationals, was another refugee family the church sponsored.

---

In July 1960, Ferdinand Ledebouer (35) came to Westminster under the sponsorship of the church.

Fred was a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. VanScoy.

Fred was born in Senarang on the island of Java. Fred attended technical school in Bandung and was a draftsman in concrete construction.

Even though Mr. Ledebouer was Dutch, he had never seen the Netherlands until he moved there in 1956, for he was born and raised in Indonesia. The Indonesian government was continuing to push out the Dutch inhabitants.

~~~~~

In October 1962, the church sponsored a Cuban family - The Pombos - Rodrigo (45), Christine (40), their daughter Victoria (7), and a teenage son. Rodrigo, a former captain in Cuba's merchant marines, knew carpentry, electrical work, auto mechanics and bookkeeping. They arrived on Oct. 25, 1962, on the second charter flight from Cuba with 73 other refugees. Many professional people were included in the arrivals. The group included a former director of an agricultural and technological school, the former director of the Havana School of Commerce, clerks, bookkeepers and accountants.

In all, some 200 Cuban refugees, coming through the Social Service Department of the Denver area Council of Churches, were sponsored by 31 churches in the Denver area.

~~~~~

Soon after the political genocide in Cambodia in 1975, the church sponsored a family of 12 from Cambodia, who arrived August 29, 1975.

Alice Rodgers and her committee had everything in readiness and the Cambodians adjusted quickly.

The family consisted of Seng Bun Chea, head of household, his wife, Chhy Nay Ung, and their children Chhevy (6) (*now Monica*); Moly (5) (*now Molly*); Ponnarith (3) (*now Victor*); Channy (2) (*now Jenny*); and Sokharath (1) (*now Rosette*). The group also included Seng's sisters Pech (20) and Chantrea (18) and brother Kun (14). Two young men accompanied the family - Kry Ky, a distant relative, and Yoeung Bun. These two men found jobs and soon became self-sufficient.

Several people of the church helped this family get established in their new country. According to Suzette (*formerly Chantrea*), Alice Rodgers was known as the "vegetable lady" as she brought them vegetables.

---

Others who helped in various ways were Alice Muller who was fluent in French, the language that some of the group spoke; Garnet and Elizabeth Price; Sue Singleton, the pastors Nickless and Davis and neighbors, Marion and George Smith, Carol and Bobbie Lowe and others.

By 1978-1979, the family had become completely self-sufficient. Seng and his wife Chhy both had jobs and the children were going to school and the younger ones were receiving language help in the school district.

---

Chantrea took a nursing training class at the Career Enrichment Park (CEP). Chantrea tells about walking to the Career Enrichment Park from their home on Grove Street. On her way to school on 73rd & Lowell and on her way home, she would stop and visit with May Clack who lived at 76th & Lowell. May would always be watching for her and have a special snack and drink ready to serve.

---

**March 19, 1978-** The Chea family united with our church.  
**1981-** Chantrea became a US Citizen. Seng and the adults all have become US citizens.

**2007-** Suzette (formerly Chantrea) Sok reports that she is working for Lockheed Martin as a Computer Support Sr. specialist. Simon works for Sun Systems as an engineering tech. They have two children. Randy received his BA degree, 2006, in communication and sociology and is working on his masters in humanities/social sciences at CU Denver. Pauline is majoring in music, business and marketing at CU Denver.

Chantrea and Simon Sok were married in our church on May 24, 1981. They live in Thornton, CO.

Suzette and sister, Pech, have revisited their home country of Cambodia and were able to find and visit with some family members.

Seng (changed his name to Donald), his wife Chhy and the family moved to Houston, TX, in 1982. They have 12 grandchildren. Seng retired in 2005 after a successful career as parking garage supervisor at Houston International Airport.

The sister Pech Chea lives in Houston and works in the Aline Junior High School as a cook in the cafeteria.

The brother, Kun, lives in Houston and has four daughters and one son.

---

The Chea family was anxious to have other members of their family join them from a Thai refugee camp. The church sponsored Chhy's sister, Seantho Ung, her daughter Kesar, and Seantho's sister, Heng, husband Laieng Chee and their daughter Pandey.

Part of the group did not arrive as planned, as there was an unscheduled stop in San Francisco where Bunrith and Hong's little daughter, Loretta, was born. Bunrith and Hong have three girls and a boy. They operated Carol Lee Donuts in Westminster and

Daylight Donuts in Lafayette for several years.

The church sponsored a third group of Cambodians who were related to Kruey Ky, the Vongrith family, his ex-wife and two children and her family, a group of 12. The parents, Chenda and Savonne, had never worked. The two sisters, Sopeek and Chamneang (Tiffany), had eight children. Their children were through high school and married.

Blanche Jackson worked with the Vongrith family.

In 1989, the church co-sponsored a Hmong couple but they moved to Wisconsin soon after arriving in Westminster.

---

A few years later, the church helped co-sponsor with other churches through Ecumenical Refugee Services, Anab Adar Omar and her children from Somalia. Jo Parrott worked with them

Another refugee family came from Afghanistan and Ethyl Hall worked with them.

---

### **Board of Deacons**

**Blood Bank:** The Board of Deacons, in the 1960s, maintained an up-to-date file of members of the congregation willing and able to donate blood.

**Emergency Loan Fund:** The Deacons maintained a rotating loan fund in the 1960s which was made available to member and non-member families as an emergency loan aid on a no-interest basis.

**Convalescent Equipment:** The Deacons keep a supply of convalescent equipment which is available on a loan basis.

---

Many individuals and organizations in the church help the Board of Deacons carry out their many activities.

Their duties include:

**\*\*Scheduling ushers; \*\*Scheduling greeters; \*\*Collecting, inventorying, maintaining and distributing hospital equipment; \*\*Preparing elements for communion and serving Communion on Maundy Thursday; \*\*Visiting and delivering flowers to shut-ins and those in hospitals; \*\*Arranging and preparing and serving receptions and meals for families at the time of death of a loved one; \*\*Sponsoring fellowship coffees after Sunday worship services; \*\*Providing transportation for those in special need; \*\*Sending cards of sympathy, thinking of you, get well and birthday wishes.**

---

### **Christian Outreach - Mission & Peace**

The congregation continues to support the growing needs of our local mission as well as supporting other special offerings through the years.

Alternative Christmas Giving- Each year the

---

committee chooses one or two special non-profit organizations to which people can make donations.

Some of these groups have been The Heifer Project, FISH, Home of Neighborly Service, Habitat for Humanity, Women's Bean Project, Have a Heart, Zimbabwe Mission Project and SERRV.

This committee is responsible for recommending to Session how Communion Offerings will be designated. Besides Joy Offering, One Great Hour of Sharing, and the Thank Offering suggested by Presbyterian Church USA, Synod of Rocky Mountains, the committee makes suggestions for other offering beneficiaries.

**In 2006**, Communion offerings were designated to Church World Service Blanket program, Habitat for Humanity, Have A Heart, Heifer International FISH pantry, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Highlands Presbyterian Camp, Boy Scout Troop 324, Zimbabwe Mission Partnership, Offerings for Children/Youth programs, Building Bridges for Peace, and the Women's Bean Project.

The total giving in 2006 to the various missions, including those designated by the Church, was \$25,596.26.

---

### **Scouting - Troop & Pack #324**

**1956-** Scouting and Cubbing became a part of the church activities. Our church is the sponsoring agency for Boy Scout Troop 324 and Cub Pack 324, which meet regularly in various rooms in the church.

There have been 18 Scoutmasters, many of whom were members of the church.

Through these fifty years, 85 Scouts have received the rank of Eagle Scout.

Eagle Scout projects at the church include:

**1979-** 74th & Bradburn church sign was John Gould's Eagle Scout project.

.....Sewing circle cupboards on south wall of Gold Door Room was Eric Karr's Eagle Scout project.

**1996-** Patio area south of the building was Justin Price's Eagle Scout project. The total cost was \$2,000 paid for by donations and by Westminster Mariner's nut sales.

Trees along the east/south side of the parking lot were donated by Scout families.

---

In March of 1957, Cub Pack #424 was formed with the overflow boys from Pack #324. By the end of the year 1957, 47 boys were registered in this new pack, according to Orville McNatt, Institutional Representative, Pack #424. This Pack dissolved and boys were

eventually all registered in Pack #324, which has continued as a strong, active Pack. The Pack and the Troop are two of the longest surviving and most active units in the Valley District.

**2003-** The church is also the chartering institution for a scouting unit for older boys called "Sea Scouting."

**2007-** Ron Hellbusch serves as the Institutional Representative for our church which is the chartering organization. The Troop, the Pack and the "Sea" scouts hold their meetings, training sessions and banquets at the church.

---

Troop and Pack #324 celebrated 50 years under the church's sponsorship with a celebration service at the church in September of 2006. Plaques with names of all Scoutmasters and all Eagle Scouts hang on the wall in the hall near the choir room.

---

### **Highland West & Highland South Apartments**

**1960-** A special congregational meeting was held on December 15 to consider cooperating with other churches in the building of a home for senior citizens.

#### **HIGHLAND WEST APARTMENTS**

**A Home for Senior Citizens;  
West 38th Avenue and Kendall,  
Wheat Ridge, Colorado  
Ground Breaking ceremony  
December 15, 1963. 2:30 p.m.**

"Highland West was built and operated by THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN ASSOCIATION, INC., sponsored by the Highland Park United Presbyterian Church, the Westminster Presbyterian Church and the Wheatridge Presbyterian Church."

**1963-** Our representatives to the United Presbyterian Association, the sponsoring group, were Ruth Smith, Dr. Bob Ansley and Wayne Smith. Don Cawelti served as legal advisor.

Several locations were studied for a location to build an apartment complex for senior citizens. Several sites were pursued by the committee but were turned down by City Councils. The chosen site should be close to churches, shopping facilities, transportation and recreation.

---

*Local newspaper?...Westminster, Colo., Dec. 26, 1963*

*(cutline under the picture of the building)*

#### **WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

"The Reverends Lester Nickless and John D. King, pastors are participating with sponsorship of this twelve-story building to be named "Highland West Apartments."

"Designed especially for senior citizens, 62 years

---

and older, it is being built in Wheatridge. The 121 unit structure, located on West 38th Avenue at Kendall is being sponsored along with two other United Presbyterian churches, Highland Park United Presbyterian Church (The Highland Park church soon withdrew as a sponsoring church) and Wheatridge Presbyterian Church.

“Wayne W. Smith, Westminster, is president of the non-profit corporation sponsoring the project which has been chartered under the name The United Presbyterian Association Inc. Schaffer & Associates are developing Highland West. Donald G. Schaffer, president of Schaffer & Associates, who spent his entire time for the last several years in the development of apartment buildings for senior citizens from coast to coast, said development time will be approximately one year.

“The luxury-type apartment building, designed by the architectural firm of Ramsey and Reeves, will feature three types of apartments, buffet, and one or two bedroom units. Rentals will range from \$65.00 to \$114.00, (remember this was in 1963) depending on type and location of apartment desired.

“Other features include a community lounge, recreation and hobby rooms, plus a panoramic view of the Rockies from the roof garden and glassed in solarium.

“All floors will be served by two elevators and automatic washers and dryers will be located on each floor.

“Construction began with recent ground breaking and is being supervised by Peter H. Benedict, vice-president of Lembke Construction Company.

“The Association earlier planned to construct the building in Westminster near 76th and Irving, but a request for rezoning to permit the high-rise structure was turned down by City Council after a lengthy hearing.”

Total cost as stated in 1963 was near \$1,553,000.00. Those who served on the Board of Directors from our church were Wayne Smith, Gil Bean and Dr. Robert Ansley.

---

The facility had been granted a property tax exemption by the Colorado State Tax Commission under their interpretation of a “charitable institution.”

When Jefferson County assessed the property for \$29,864 of property taxes, the Corporation challenged this by taking the issue to District Court and eventually to the State Court who upheld the District Court ruling stating that the “non profit status cannot be equated with charitableness.” This left a large bill of back taxes needing to be paid to Jefferson County.

After exploring many options, the financial situation was stabilized by the end of 1968 when all of the

apartments were rented.

Another financial crisis was meeting the shortfall of \$90,000 in construction costs. One of the options they explored was selling the surplus property to Presbytery for \$45,000 and borrowing money from the two churches to meet these costs.

Presbytery later deeded the land back to Highland South, Inc. for the construction of low-income housing in 1981.

---

**Dedication of Highland West**  
**Sunday, January 17, 1965:**  
**6340 W. 38th Ave.**

**Highland  
West  
Apartments**



**Highland South Apartments  
dedicated in 1981  
(HUD-low income housing)**

---

The Board of Directors is made up of five members from each church plus one member-at-large, who serves as legal counsel.

The two sponsoring churches divide the responsibilities of conducting a number of activities throughout the year. Vesper services are conducted

twice each month. Much of the music comes from our church, although outside groups do come in. The Deacons take turns at giving birthday parties for residents. Those parties are given quarterly, and our Deacons alternate with the Deacons from Wheatridge Church. Easter sunrise services are conducted each year in the Penthouse and our Deacons serve a Continental breakfast following the service.

Each year in early June, the Board of Directors gives a pie party for the tenants of Highland West and for Highland South later in the year. This is a fun time and gives the Board a chance to become better acquainted with the tenants, and they with the Board.

A trust fund has been set up in the name of Highland West Foundation with the proceeds being offered as rent assistance to those in need. These funds are administered confidentially by a separate committee.

The Board of Directors consists of five members from each of the two churches. In the 1990s a section was added to the by-laws that Board members will be term-limited.



**Betty Smith was honored on her retirement from the Highland West/South Board after serving 30 years.**

**She served from April 18, 1966 to March 11, 1996.**

~~~~~

Betty was honored in May 2007 for her many, many years of service as Wedding Coordinator at our church.

Church members who served on the Board of Directors from our church in 1986 were Betty Smith, Jerry Monroe, Melvin Moore, Wayne Smith and Garnet Price, chairman.

Other Board members from our church have been Wendell Gardner, Jean Gray-Bissell, Pete Lindsay, Ethel Snortland, Richard Day, Elizabeth Nickless, Howard Dougherty, Melvin Moore, Josephine Parrott, Ronald Hellbusch, Robert Durham, Don Critchfield, Sandy Mason, Doris Aldrich, Lou Garone, Audrey Welte, and Sue Singleton.

2007- The present Board members from our church are Kurt Ammon, Anne Conklin, Vicki Esposito,

Irma Hellbusch, Dan Smith, Lou Garone (11th member) and Paul Glasgow as legal advisor.

Peace Pole

**Commitment to Peacemaking
Originally dedicated October 6, 1991**

The idea for the Peace Pole came from the Mission and Peace Committee. Pauline Maurer, Pam Wolf, The Rev. Ed Thwaites, Ethyl Hall, and Neil Harkins participated in the dedication of the Peace Pole in 1991.

Re-dedication Oct. 24, 1993

≈≈≈

Each person wrote a commitment to peace on a white dove.

The "May Peace Prevail on Earth" on the pole is written in Russian, Arabic, Philippino, and English.



"Responding to God's covenant, we the people of Westminster Presbyterian Church now recommit ourselves to peacemaking.

"Each time we walk near this pole, may we feel a wave of peace. Each time we see this pole, may we think a peaceful thought about a person who lacks peace. Each time we think of this pole, may we imagine a peaceful world....Amen"

Growing Home

**(formerly known as
Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN))**

Our church is a member of a network of several denominations of churches in the North Denver/ Westminster/Arvada area.

The purpose is to provide shelter, affordable housing, meals and comprehensive assistance to families who are experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of becoming homeless and increase community involvement in direct services and advocacy.

The Children's Program focuses on helping participants learn, grow and benefit from tutoring, educational and recreational field trips, community service projects, health classes and parenting classes.

Our church is one of several churches who house and supply meals to homeless families for one week at a time on a rotating schedule.

Growing Home Inc. has purchased an apartment unit near 72nd and Newton which will be used as affordable/transitional housing.

The office for "Growing Home" is at 3489 W. 72nd Ave #112, in Westminster.

Martha Bering, member of Christian Outreach - Mission and Peace committee, coordinates the activities for Growing Home and for FISH.

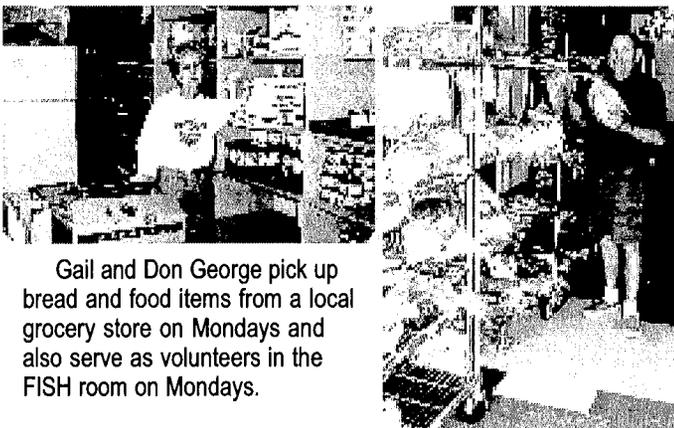
Westminster FISH Inc.

Our church is a member of *Westminster Fish, Inc.* (An expression of Christian Faith). The three member churches with food banks are Westminster United Methodist Church, St. Mark's Catholic Church and our church. The purpose of FISH is to provide emergency food supplies to needy people.

Those from our church who serve on the FISH of Westminster Board are Martha Bering, Eva Brown, Bob Welte and Val Ranum. These people help coordinate the volunteers, help pick up food and serve as volunteers in our FISH food pantry room.

Our FISH pantry is in Gillespie Hall. Non perishable food items are stored on shelves, and perishable items are kept in several refrigerators in the room.

Church members, local businesses, schools, Scouts, clubs and organizations in the city all make donations to the pantries.



Gail and Don George pick up bread and food items from a local grocery store on Mondays and also serve as volunteers in the FISH room on Mondays.

Two or three volunteers open the FISH pantry daily M-F between 3:00 and 3:30 pm. They fill boxes, keep records and give out food to those in need that particular day.

During the year of 2006, the three FISH of Westminster, Inc. Food Banks served 6,910 families.

People must live within an area I-25 to Sheridan and from 52nd Ave to 144th Ave. to receive food from the pantries.

Have-A-Heart

Have-A-Heart was organized in 1996 by Smith World Travel, Adams County School District 50 and the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Joan Smith, at that time a District 50 school board member, became aware of the number of students in District 50 identified as needy by the Federal Guidelines for free or reduced price lunch. In 2005, 67% of the students in District 50 met these federal guidelines. In 2007 that number rose to 70%. In 2004, 2,225 families were served and that number continues to increase.

"The mission of Have-A-Heart continues to be to provide food, clothing, school supplies and personal hygiene items to the children of District 50 so they may achieve their academic potential," writes Joan Smith.

Debbie Smith serves as the contact person for Have-a-Heart. She keeps records and organizes the volunteers when needed. Dozens of volunteers from the church provide many hours of service to sort and hang clothes, pick up surplus items from grocery stores, and many volunteers help on two Saturdays each month when food and clothing are distributed.

Have-A-Heart, FISH and Growing Home (Interfaith Hospitality Network, IHN) work together in providing clothes, school supplies, and food to families as needed.

Many community organizations also contribute to Have-A-Heart.

Zimbabwe Mission Partnership

Ralph and Roberta Pippitt of the New Hope Presbyterian Church in Castle Rock have made several trips to Zimbabwe and have worked with the people near Murewa since 1995.

The Pippitts were instrumental in helping build three schools and establish the Heather Chimhoga Orphan Care Center. The center provides food, medical care, school supplies and school uniforms for more than 1,000 orphans daily, many coming to the center from their homes for these services.

The Pippitts contacted Presbyterian churches in the Denver Presbytery, and the Zimbabwe Mission Partnership was formed with nine churches, our church being one of the nine, as contributing members.

The Yellowstone Presbytery in Montana has joined the partnership as an associate member.

In 2004, our church was privileged to host the Rev. Wilbert Sayamani, who gave a powerful Christian witness to what was happening in that very poor and divided country.

Since 1995 several 40 sq-ft. containers filled with rice/beans, clothing, school supplies, hygiene kits, and computers have been sent directly to Murewa. Three more 40 sq-ft. containers were ready to be sent in June 2007.

Doris Aldrich, the only original Board member still serving on the Zimbabwe Mission Partnership, has been the driving force in our congregation to recruit supplies and help collect items for the containers. She continues to keep in contact with the two Presbyterian ministers, one being The Rev. Wilbert Sayamani in Murewa, so she can keep posted on the economic and social conditions in Zimbabwe.

The BROADCASTER The church's newsletter

With so many organizations and activities, it was decided to start a church newsletter, so the Broadcaster was created. The first issue appeared in March 1956 with Mildred Melville as editor.

There is no mention of how the name was chosen, but the purpose was to 'broadcast' church news with a message from the minister.

An editorial board of Mildred Melville, editor, Janie King, Betty Jo Day, Lowell Rodgers and Lester Nickless was in charge of the Broadcaster production.

Since then, it has been the responsibility of the church secretary to organize each issue with articles submitted by individuals, organizations and the pastors.

In its 52 years, it has been published monthly except for the month of July.

More than 350 copies are sent each month to members, friends of the church, other churches and to many former members who still wish to keep current with the news of the church.

In recent years our church has developed a website-www.westypres.org- to assist in distributing information about church activities.

Lori Smith was our first Webmaster. Rich Day is the current (2007) Webmaster.

Bicentennial Celebration of the Presbyterian Church - May 21, 1989

Our church played an active role in this celebration which was held in Denver. Our church furnished a banner, framework for huge banner displays, arranged for transportation and furnished the bread and wine for communion.

Those who participated included Bret Karr who carried the banner. Shirley McVicker and Ted Frauenfelder were among the elders who served communion. Others served as ushers.

General Assembly - 2003 - Denver

This was the 215th General Assembly: The theme was "A House of Prayer for All People." Members sang in the joint choir and assisted with various aspect of the meeting.

May Hoover Clack Cookbook

In Memoriam

May Hoover Clack

Sept. 11, 1932 - June 9, 1985

Friend, Counselor, Source of Inspiration to countless persons in the Westminster Presbyterian Church and in the Community of Westminster

"Confined to a wheelchair and a portable respirator by polio since 1949, she carried on her ministry with people, for her Lord and for her Church, with a "spirit of power and of love and of self-control." Through her positive faith and heart-felt advice, many persons were lifted out of self-pity.

"Less than two months before her death, May had agreed with her Lord that she would undertake to organize and publish a cookbook to benefit the 'Building to Serve' campaign of the Westminster Presbyterian Church - a project in which she believed deeply and which she supported with her prayers. She had every confidence that with the Lord's help, she and her friends could sell 2,000 cookbooks. We, her church family, have taken up the cause as was May's prayer." To the Glory of God!

That cookbook, titled "From May's Kitchen," was compiled and completed for publication by the members and friends of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Some members of the church may still have a copy of the cookbook, but none is available at the church.

Church Park

Dedicated on January 27, 2002

The park committee was composed of Betty Jo Day, Kathy Benedict, June Miller, Don Scanlon, Lou and Christy Garone, Vickie Esposito, Dick Petersen, Si

Harkins, Julie Graham and Paul Glasgow.

The city gave the church \$10,000 from a Neighborhood Grant. The city also helped clean up the area. Adams County open space gave \$5,000.

Many members of the church purchased a brick(s) with a 'name' inscribed. These bricks are laid along the walk to the gazebo area. Steel benches were installed on the circular concrete pad near the two "memorial trees" in the middle of the park.

This was the location of the church that became too expensive to maintain and was razed in 1981.

After the morning worship on January 27, the congregation moved to the park. Elder Ron Hellbusch addressed the issues of development of the new park, thanked the committee that made it happen and described the cooperation by the City of Westminster and the County of Adams.

Rhythm Wharf

In early 1966, concerned parents in the District 50 area met to discuss the lack of local entertainment for teenagers. A teen canteen seemed a good solution.

Five churches participated jointly - Advent Lutheran, United Church of Christ, Westminster Methodist, Valley Lutheran and Westminster Presbyterian - in the operation of the Rhythm Wharf. A teen dance was held every Friday evening in Fellowship Hall (*Nickless Hall*) for the youth of the area.

John Shaw was instrumental in organizing the Rhythm Wharf and served as its first manager. Two hundred teenagers each paid fifty cents admission for opening night, May 20, 1966, to dance to Mercury Recording artists.

Adults from sponsoring churches were chaperones and groups rotated in selling refreshments. A paid off-duty policeman patrolled the parking lot. Conduct and dress were strictly monitored.

Those who served on the Board from our church were Harold Hemmingson, Norma Wheeler, Tura Hayes, Toby Pitchford, Betty Hemmingson, Casey King with John Shaw as manager.

Others who served on the Board were Jack Higginbotham and Sandy Low.

Rhythm Wharf disbanded at the end of 1969 due to lack of funds and decline in attendance, and, perhaps, also "to ear drum fatigue of adult sponsors"!

Missionaries

Personal Interest Partners-

The church has a long history of supporting missionaries. Even before the 1980s, the church had

relationships through "personal interest" and correspondence with several missionary families.

Jerry and Mel Moore have visited the Ramers in India. The church still receives news from Doug and Elaine Baker in Ireland.

A few of these missionaries have visited our church and have spoken about their work in the mission field.

Records show that the church has supported, through various programs and individuals, the following missionaries, during the years listed:

1962/63-1964/65-1967/68-1973-1981/82-1984/85

The Rev. and Mrs. Richard Norton
Limorino Center,
Hyogo Ken, Japan

In the 1980s, the Rev. Richard Norton was Dean of Studies and taught various courses at Tsurukawa Gakuin Seminary in Japan. Mrs. Norton taught at the Seminary and at the Japan Oral School for the Deaf.

1965/96 ...1968/69-1970

Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rasmussen
c/o American Mission,
Box 1111
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

In 1964, the church sent a gift of \$1,700 to Dr. and Mrs. Rasmussen for the purchase of necessary equipment for an Ethiopian mission hospital.

1963/64-1965-1967/68. 1969/70

The Rev and Mrs. Jose Medina,
Taos, New Mexico

1967/68, 1969/70 - 1981/82

The Rev and Mrs. Robert Ramer
Sangli Industrial School
Sangli, Maharastra, India.

The Rev. Robert Ramer was Principal of Sangli Industrial School and assisted the Miraj Medical Center with maintenance and building concerns. Nancy (R.N.), his wife, was a public health nurse and worked at Wanless Hospital and worked with the village women.

Bob is deceased and Nancy lives in Minnesota near one of her children.

1973- Rev. & Mrs. Joe Keesecker
P.O. Box 291
La Jara, CO

Rev. Keesecker was Director of San Luis Valley Christian Community Services in Colorado. His mission included a variety of community programs and developmental efforts including medical services, youth recreation, economic development and a community center.

1980-1981

Mr. William and Jean Basinger

He was stationed at Severance Medical Center at Yonsei University in Korea. He worked in the development of comprehensive rehabilitation services and Jean (R.N.) assisted her husband.

1981/82- 1984/85

Rev. and Mrs. John Wade

San Luis Valley Christian Community Center
Alamosa, CO

1991-1992

Jim and Arlene Rockwood (spoke at the church in 1996)
Missionaries in Philippines

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Nichol

Mettu Hospital
Mettu, Ethiopia

Ann Mayo

in University ministry in Seoul, South Korea

Alice Winters. (spoke at the church in 1990s)
Colombia, South America

The Rev. Doug & Elaine Baker

5 Ormiston Park
Belfast BT 43Jt
Northern Ireland

2007-The Bakers are still serving in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Dorcas Club

The Dorcas club is an organization for widows and single women from other local church denominations.

Dorcas was a biblical woman who lived in Joppa and was called Tabitha (Dorcas was her Greek name).

The group meets the second Saturday of each month at the church for lunch.

Facts of Interest

1960- A Parish plan was established. Parish leaders made calls on church families within their zone. There were 36 Parish leaders.

2000- The sanctuary was painted, pews were rearranged, carpeting and tile were replaced and new pew cushions were added with donations from Memorial funds.

2000- 2001- Rental property which included the manse and small stucco were sold.

2000-2007- One of the local Head Start groups rented one of the rooms in Gillespie Hall.

2000- present (2007)- B'nai Torah, a Jewish congregation, contracts to use Nickless Hall for

their worship services, and other rooms for their study groups.

1980- New Sign Dedication

1979-1980 This sign at 74th and Bradburn was designed by John Gould, as a special project toward achieving the coveted Scout Award of Eagle in Troop #324. Don Hereford, Ed Nolan and Steve Maurer dug the post holes for the church sign.

Garnet Price obtained the lumber, cut the pieces, and housed it while it was under construction. Don Gipe did the skilled work of routing. And Don Hereford and Ed Nolan labored in the frozen ground to set the posts.



left to right: Don Gipe, Dr. Roe Johnson, Garnet Price, John Gould, Don Hereford, Leo Bryant, Rev. Hal Davis.

After several years, the boards became weathered and warped and the finish was peeling. It needed a lot of repair work.

The church purchased a new sign, had it crafted and installed as pictured below.



74th & Bradburn Sign

Our "Founding" Saints

October 26, 1938

(from Gillespie/Campbell collection)

FINAL RITES HELD FOR REV. GREGORY, VETERAN TEACHER

Presbyterian Clergyman, formerly on faculty
of Westminster College

"Funeral services for the Rev. William J. Gregory, 78, Presbyterian clergyman and former instructor at Westminster College, were held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, at his home at Westminster. Burial was in Fairmount cemetery.

"The Rev. Mr. Gregory died Friday, October 21, 1938, at his home after a long illness.

"The clergyman was born in Philadelphia. His parents were leaders in Presbyterian work. His father, Henry Duval Gregory, was vice president of Girard college and his mother, Mary Jones Gregory, helped found the Women's Missionary society of the

Presbyterian church.

"After graduation from the University of Pennsylvania in 1881, the Rev. Mr. Gregory was associated for several years with the United Gas Improvement Company. He was pastor of the Presbyterian church at Nichols, N.Y., shortly after his graduation from the Auburn Theological Seminary in 1893.

"Twenty-nine years ago the clergyman came to Westminster college to teach Bible and English. He remained with the college until it closed and then was pastor of the church there. Later he was pastor of the church at Goodrich, Colo., until his retirement several years ago.

"He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Susanna Gregory, three sons, Henry Duval Gregory of Denver, Hugh McNair Gregory of Dansville, N.Y. and Caspar Gregory of Scipioville, N.Y.; a daughter, Mrs. Hiram Gillespie of Westminster and eleven grandchildren."

Excerpts From.. "A Walk Through Westminster History - a self guided tour - LOWELL BLVD." Published by Westminster Historical Society; available for purchase at College Hill Library and at the Westminster Historical Society, Bowles House Museum, 3934 W. 72nd Ave.

8140 Lowell Blvd.-

"The Rev. William Gregory, a Presbyterian minister, who came to Westminster University to teach Hebrew and theological courses, built the house in 1910. The dormer on the second floor was added a few years after the house was built for his daughter Mary who had Rheumatoid Arthritis and spent much of her time in her room.

"Professor Gregory's study was on the second

floor and the sitting room was on the third floor.

"His granddaughter, Matilda Campbell and her family later occupied the house until her death in 1986. (See her story- page 60)

August 31, 1995-Westminster Window

"...The house and the grounds now fall under the rules of the National Historic Preservation Trust, who received the property when it was donated by former owner William Gillespie. That trust won't let the owners of the property make any major changes that will change the nature of the house.

"...This has been a challenge to the new owners, Michael and Cindy Jeffries who both have restored several older houses in Westminster."

GREGORY HILL-

Gregory Hill is the stretch of road from 80th & Lowell to the top of the hill. The hill itself roughly covers the area on 80th Ave. from Federal, west past Gregory Hill School to Lowell Blvd., and north to Shaw Blvd.

It is said that the hill was formed during the Ice Age. When the ice receded, the hill was created and it was very steep. There are small pockets of very fine sand within the hill.

The hill was the highest point in the area. A person could see in every direction for miles, and it is reported that it was a perfect site for a look-out point for the Arapaho. There are stories of finding Indian arrowheads on the hill.

In 1889 at the base of the hill, a two room school was built and was referred to as Upper School. In 1891, the news-papers announced that the "Princeton of the West" was going to be built on Crown Point. This was the name given the area on

which the University would be built. The wagons carrying the stone for the university came along the east side of the hill and the tracks were still visible in the 1960s. One of the long-range plans of the university called for an observatory which was to be located in the area of LaPlace Ct. today.

The electric car known as the Westminster College Car operated from 1909-1913, transporting students from the depot in town to the University. The route, originally called Rigg Road, went around the back of the hill now known as Bradburn Drive. Gregory Hill got its name when Professor William Jones Gregory came to teach English, Literature and Bible at Westminster University and built his home at the top of the hill in 1911. Over the years it became known as Gregory Hill partly because of Professor Gregory's importance to the community and partly because his beautiful home was the only one that could be seen at the crest of the hill.

**1959 HAWKINSON DIES FOLLOWING FIRE
AT HOME AND BUILDING**

**FINAL RITES ARE TODAY
FOR CARL HAWKINSON**

“Funeral services for Carl Hawkinson, 60, 3947 W. 73rd Avenue, will be held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, April 2, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church with Rev. Lester Nickless in charge. Music will be furnished by the church choir. Friends are informed that the casket will be brought to the church at 9:30 a.m. from the Moore Mortuary, 17th and Clarkson. Interment is to be made at Crown Hill cemetery, with Masonic graveside services in charge of the Westminster Lodge.

“Carl V. Hawkinson was born August 18, 1898 at Plattsmouth, Nebr., the son of Nelson and Hanna Hawkinson. The family lived in Lincoln, St. Paul and other cities in Nebraska before moving to Otis, Colo., in 1915. It was while living there that he met and married Marguerite Irwin of Akron in 1931. She is the daughter of Mrs. John Fry of 7299 Newton, Westminster.

“Mr. and Mrs. Hawkinson came to Westminster in 1933 (the town had a population of 500), and for years they were engaged in the grocery business at 3949 W. 73rd Ave.

“They are parents of one daughter, Reta, now a student at Colorado State College at Greeley. Most of the time since coming here they had resided at the location on 73rd which was destroyed by fire Sunday night.

“Mr. Hawkinson became ill at the scene of the fire. He was given emergency treatment and taken to St. Anthony’s hospital where he succumbed to a heart attack at 10:10 p.m. March 29, Easter Sunday evening. (Long story about the fire is in church archives.)

A final note on Mr. Hawkinson’s illness. An autopsy revealed that he had had a previous heart attack, and that the extra exertion and excitement was enough to cause a fatal heart attack. It had been thought by some that he might have inhaled smoke into his lungs while trying to get things out of the residence.

“He was an active member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, where he had served on the Session, the Board of Deacons, the Board of Trustees and as an usher. He was a member of Westminster Lodge No. 176, A. F. & A. M., and also the El Jebel Shrine and the Consistory.

“Mr. Hawkinson was a charter member of the Westminster Lions Club; for many years he was an active volunteer fireman (1935-1952) and he served as city treasurer for 12 years.

“In 1954 they rented the building to Francis M. Day and Carl worked with Francis operating an auto

and driver’s license office. Carl would give the driving tests.

“Besides his wife, Marguerite, and daughter, Reta, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Ann Rogers of Denver and Westminster, and Hilda Hawkinson of Prophetstown, Ill. One brother, Fred Hawkinson, died about four years ago at Akron.

“The family requested no flowers and any memorials for Mr. Hawkinson are to go the Westminster Presbyterian Church memorial fund.”

**Marguerite Hawkinson
(1907 - 2003)**



Marguerite Hawkinson

(Picture and write-up for her funeral service, written by her grandson, Bret Karr.)

“Marguerite Lila Irwin Hawkinson was born January 20, 1907, on a farm near Corning, Iowa, to Iva Belle (Richard) Irwin Fry and Robert Elmer Irwin. (Scottish and Irish descent whose ancestry entered the United States through Nova Scotia). The Irwin family moved to a farm in Washington County, 6 miles from Akron, Colorado, when Marguerite was 9 years old, because of her father’s health. He moved all the livestock, furniture etc. by railroad and then the mother and children came out later. Marguerite’s brothers and sisters are Everett (who died at 18 months), Cecil (deceased), Nell who lives in Vancouver, Washington, Dean (deceased), and Violet (deceased).

“Marguerite attended two different country grade schools and high school in Akron. She received her teaching certificate from Greeley, called Colorado State Teachers College, when she was 19 years old. In 1925 she started teaching 16 miles south of Akron

for two years. That school building has been moved into Akron and is now a museum. She then taught two years southeast of Akron and one year 15 miles south of Otis, Colorado. (That particular school was called the "Hurry Back School.")

"Romance flared its head in 1930 when she met Carol Hawkinson. They were married June 14, 1931. Marguerite says that if any young couple was getting married and would like to know how to utilize apples and orange crates into furniture, she would be happy to give instructions.

"She then taught two years north of Otis. There was a terrible blizzard in 1932 and it was at that time they decided to put a telephone in the school so they could keep in touch during bad weather. During this blizzard there were several children lost in southeastern Colorado. She taught one year south of Platner which is between Akron and Otis. They had a house about a block from the school and Carl's father, Nels, lived with them.

"In 1932 banks closed and times were pretty tough. Carl lost his job (being in the grocery business with his brother in Otis). Marguerite and Carl moved to Westminster in 1933, bringing Carl's father with them. They purchased from a Mr. Bruchez the Red and White Grocery Store where Marguerite resided until 1998. They did have a house south of 73rd on Newton Street, near where the apartments are now located. They had the store from May 1933 and sold it in 1954. Reta Renee, their only child, was born October 29, 1939.

"Francis M. Day rented the building and they worked together operating an auto and driver's license office.

"There was a fire at the store in March of 1959, at which time Carl had a heart attack during the fire and passed away at the hospital.

"In 1960 Marguerite began substitute teaching in District 50 and went full time in 1961 at Fairview Elementary as a second grade teacher. After 10 years at Fairview, Marguerite retired in 1971.

"Marguerite and Carl were very involved in keeping the volunteer fire department going. The original unit was a two wheeled cart that needed to be hitched onto a car to get to the fire. It was housed in a garage at 75th and Bradburn. (The garage is still standing there.) Carl would sound the alarm and then Marguerite would call men to tell them where the fire was. Because of such a dire need for equipment Carl started dances at the Grange Hall and at the high school to raise money. They loved to dance.

"Marguerite enjoyed her music and would never miss Lawrence Welk on TV each week if she could help it.

"Westminster Presbyterian Church has always

been the focus of the Hawkinson family. During the 'early' days of the church (old building), a basement was dug, mostly by hand, and then machinery was brought in to finish the job. Besides serving as Trustee, Deacons, Elders, Circle chairperson, Bible Studies, and sewing (Marguerite crocheted and did many craft items which she donated to raise money for church and community projects), they served on virtually every committee in the church. The only place that Marguerite did not serve was in the choir.

"She was involved with her circle, the sewing circle and Dorcas. She has received the Presbyterian Women's Lifetime Membership Pin and certificate.

"In the community Marguerite was involved with Job's Daughters, Friends of the Library, PTA, Boy Scouts, helped establish the Bowles Museum, received a Police award for meritorious volunteer service, the Mary Ciancio Award (Mental Health) and numerous other recognitions.

"She attended AARP and the Westminster Lions (now dissolved) but would never miss her Retired Teacher's meetings and luncheons or Sunday morning worship service.

"If anyone wanted to find out a particular piece of Westminster history, they would call Marguerite! If she didn't know it right off hand, you can be assured she would know where to send you to find out or who to talk to.

"Besides her daughter Reta Renee Karr-Frauenfelder who passed away December 16, 1991, she is also survived by two grandsons, Bret Karr and his wife Lori (*both deceased, Oct. 10, 2003*) and Eric Karr and his wife Barbara and great-grandchildren - Augustus Stanley Taylor; Reta Jane Kathryn and Christina Faith Frances of Gunnison, Colorado."

Westminster Journal--November 17, 1960

Francis M. Day, Area Leader, Died Nov. 14th, After Illness

"Francis Marion Day, nearly a life-long Westminster resident, died Monday Nov. 14th in St. Luke's hospital, following a recent illness. He was hospitalized for pneumonia, complicated by a heart disease, when he suffered a stroke on Nov. 12th.

"Born April 1, 1903, in Aurora, Nebr., Day had moved to Westminster with his parents when he was three years old and attended grade school here. Graduating from North Denver High School in 1921, he attended classes at the University of Denver.

"In 1923, he was married to Doris Spangler in a ceremony performed in the large white house at 81st and Lowell Blvd. Active in community affairs, Mr. Day had served as mayor of Westminster from 1947

to 1957, except for one (two-year) term. Prior to being mayor, he was a council member from 1945 to 1947 and town clerk from 1932 to 1937.



Francis M. Day

“At the time of his death, he was president of the District 50 school board, having served on the board for 20 years. He was also president of the Adams County Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce.

“A past president of the Westminster Sanitation District, Day had helped to form the district 12 years ago, heading it for 11 years.

“His interests in the area led to his acceptance of membership in the Westminster Charter Convention which drew up the city’s home rule charter. In past years, he had headed the District 50 Rescue Unit fund drives and was active in United Fund campaigns.

“Besides serving as president of the local school board, Day had formerly served as president of the Colorado Association of School Boards. In this capacity, he had attended the White House Conferences. Honoring his interest in education, the Francis M. Day Elementary School (71st & Pecos) was named for him.

“His other activities included membership in the Masonic Lodge, Rocky Mountain Consistory No. 2, El Jebel Shrine, and past president of the Westminster Lions Club.

“Active in church work, he was Elder in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, which his parents had helped to build, and was chairman of the church’s building committee when the new church (*our present sanctuary*) was constructed.

“Day had operated a real estate and insurance business in Westminster for eight years. During the first several years, he also headed the Westminster license bureau branch, having been influential in

bringing the branch to this area.

“Prior to starting his local business, he had owned Consolidated Printing Press in Denver, which was later bought by the Peerless Printing Co.

“Memorial services will be held Sunday, Nov. 20th (1960) 3 p.m. in the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Instead of flowers, friends are asked by Day’s family to donate gifts to the church’s Memorial Fund.

“Surviving Mr. Day are his wife, two sons, Gale W. 8295 Circle Dr., Richard A., 7238 Newton; three daughters, Mrs. Lillian Brink, Aurora; Mrs. Barbara Snyder, 7985 Green Ct., and Carol Day; and eleven grandchildren. Other survivors include two nieces, Mrs. C. Edwin (*Frances*) Campbell, Arvada, and Mrs. John Perkins, Golden; and one nephew, Clayton Day, Arvada.”

The Day family has a long tradition in the church

Frank Day and Arletta Rowe were married in 1903. Arletta attended Doane College in Crete, NE, and after their marriage, they moved to Denver and later to Westminster in 1910.

In 1911, Frank W. and Arletta Day and their son, Ralph, joined University Church. Francis (F.M.) joined the next year. Arletta played the piano for the church and Frank served on the building committee for the building of a new church at 80th & Bradburn, on land that had been given to the congregation by Mr. Begoles.

Frank was a teacher and superintendent of the Sunday school. Arletta served as treasurer for the Westminster Community Church in 1925 and was a member of the Missionary Society.

When the congregation voted to move to 74th & Bradburn, the new church was built directly across from the Day home, with Frank Day overseeing the building.

Francis M. Day served as an elder and was the chairman of the Building Committee for the new sanctuary in 1956. His wife, Doris (Spangler) sang in the church choir for 30 years.

The five children of Francis and Doris grew up in the congregation. Gale and Rich both remain active and both inherited their mother’s love of music.

Gale and Betty Jo (White) Day were the first Mariner Skippers. Betty Jo Day was the first church secretary, serving from 1952 to 1964. She probably holds the record for serving the most years as Clerk of Session.

The Day line continues with Patricia (Day) Bentley, daughter of Gale and Betty Jo. Patricia (Patty) and Dennis Bentley’s daughters are Jenifer, Krista and Melinda Bentley. Jenifer (Bentley) and husband Chris Eddlemon have two children.

The Day line continues with Christy (Day) Garone, daughter of Rich and Barbara Day. Christy and Lou Garone’s children are Alex and Michael.



Mrs. Hiram (Janet) Gillespie speaking at the ground breaking ceremony for the Sanctuary in 1956.



Janet Gillespie speaking at the dedication of Gillespie Hall in 1962

JANET GILLESPIE Meet Your Neighbor

by Denamae Fox

(year after Professor Gillespie's death in 1957.)

"Janet Gillespie from her home on top of Gregory Hill overlooking Westminster has watched the town creep closer and closer, until the nearest of the newer homes is almost within rock throwin' distance.

"We can't claim her for a native Coloradan, for she comes from the east. She was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1887, and came west when she was 23 (to get a man, so she teased). Whether this was her purpose or not, it's what she actually did do.

"Hiram Gillespie, professor of Greek and Latin at the co-educational Presbyterian college, now known as the Pillar of Fire Church, married Janet Gregory the next year, 1911. The rest of her family moved into the new home her father William Gregory built. It is the big three story red brick residence which sits right at the top of the hill on Lowell Blvd.

"Professor and Mrs. Gillespie did quite a bit of traveling during the next few years. He taught in Grinnell, Iowa, for a while, back in Westminster, then in Greenville, Pennsylvania. During this time six children were born to the Gillespies, four of whom are now living. Matilda, better known as "Tillie", now lives in the house her Grandfather Gregory built, with husband, Jack Campbell, and their four children.

"William Gregory Gillespie, who is now a Colonel in the Air Force, was recently chosen along with 200 others and assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon. He and his wife and three children reside in Arlington, Virginia.

"Joseph Gillespie is a radio announcer for KNBC in San Francisco living in nearby Menlo Park, Calif, with his wife and two children.

"The youngest boy, Hugh Gillespie, is living with Mrs. Gillespie.

"After Greenville, PA., The Gillespies came back to Westminster in 1914 and had the home built in which she now resides at 8191 Knox Ct.

"...Mrs. Gillespie taught at the Baker school while her husband filled in with temporary jobs for a time but finally found he would have to return to Iowa in order to obtain anything worthwhile. However, she could not accompany him this time; her mother, father and sister were invalids and Janet remained here to care for them. For twelve years they lived apart, he coming home for holidays to be with his family. At the end of this time he retired and returned to Colorado to stay. By then their children had all managed to get through college and had jobs of their own.

"Professor Gillespie died last year on June 11, 1957, at the age of 83, but Mrs. Gillespie and Hugh still live in their house overlooking Westminster, Denver and the whole range of Rocky Mountains.

"She is active in the Presbyterian Church, teaches the adult Sunday School class, is Clerk of session (Secretary of the governing body of the church); is a member of the Women's Association, sings in the choir, was a member of the Building Committee and is a member of the League of Women Voters."

"I will Lay Me down in Peace"

Psalms IV:8

**Mrs. Janet Gillespie
(1887 - 1968)**

"Memorial services for Mrs. Janet Gillespie, member of a long time Westminster family and widely known in the United Presbyterian Church throughout the Denver area, will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

"Mrs. Gillespie died Friday on her 81st birthday, following a long illness. There will be no burial service as Mrs. Gillespie donated her body to the Colorado University Medical School.

"Born in Buffalo, N.Y., on June 7, 1887, Mrs. Gillespie attended school in New York State and taught there before coming to Colorado in 1910 with her family.

"Her father, William Jones Gregory, was a Presbyterian minister and taught at Westminster College, now Bellevue College, at W 83rd Ave. and Federal.

"The hill on which the college sits is known as Gregory Hill.

"On Aug. 15, 1911, Mrs. Gillespie was married to Hiram Gillespie, a teacher at Westminster College. They lived in Pennsylvania and Iowa before returning to Westminster in 1926. Mr. Gillespie died in 1957.

"She was the first woman elder in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, ordained by her father in 1935, and the first ordained woman elder in the Denver Presbytery.

"She served as clerk of session (*local congregation*) for many years and was elected a commissioner to the General Assembly of the church in St. Louis in 1941. She has been president of the Presbyterian Society and the Denver Presbyterial.

"The educational wing of the Westminster church is named the Janet Gillespie Hall in her honor.

"She also was active in civic affairs as a member of the League of Women Voters, the PTA and as a volunteer in many fund drives and other causes.

"Mrs. Gillespie was a member of the Westminster Mothers' Chorus and the Lamont Singers of Lamont School of Music.

"Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Matilda Campbell of Westminster; three sons, William G. of Annandale, VA; Joseph of Menlo Park, Calif., and Hugh of Westminster; 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

"Memorial gifts may be sent to the Westminster Presbyterian Church Seminary Student Fund or the Cerebral Palsy Society."

MEMORIAL SERVICE

June 13, 1968

"In Loving tribute to Janet Gregory Gillespie, and in loving memory of her life this service is dedicated. Born June 7, 1887, into the home of the Rev. Mr. William J. Gregory and his wife, Susanna; ordained as an elder in this church in April 1936, she departed this life to the Church Triumphant on June 7, 1968, at the age of 81 years."

Of note: Those participating in the service were Mr. Gale Day, "An Appreciation"; Dr. Lester Nickless, Meditation; Mrs. Karl (Betty) Smith sang "Come Unto Him."

**Greenough Gregory
(1890 - 1972)**

(excerpts from article in May/June 1973 newsletter published in PMC - Presbyterian Medical Center)

**"Greenough Gregory
was a Giant of a Man"**



Greenough Gregory

"You Are Love", picture of Greenough Gregory, hangs in the church library.

"The death of Presbyterian's (*refers to the Medical Center*) beloved and devoted Greenough Gregory severed one the last strands with the hospital's beginning 47 years ago.

"Greenough was born in Leipzig, Germany, February 20, 1890. His parents, both Americans, reverse migrated to Germany in order that the senior Gregory, Casper Rene, could assist in the editing and proofreading of the Tischendorf Papers (in their day as important as the Dead Sea Scrolls in ours). Later he accepted a teaching position at the University of

Leipzig and became a naturalized citizen.

"Though the details of Greenough's early years in Germany are sketchy, it is known that he studied for a time at the University of Leipzig. While there he became seriously ill and the suspicion of tuberculosis resulted in his being sent to Colorado in 1913.

"He made his home with an uncle, the Rev. William J. Gregory, a professor of Greek at Westminster College (now Bellevue College) and an ordained Presbyterian minister.

"After regaining his health, Greenough entered the University of Colorado Medical School in 1921. Unfortunately, his perfectionist nature made it impossible for him to work competitively and he was forced to withdraw. He did continue working as an assistant in the Department of Bacteriology at the Medical School for three years.

"Coming from a family of theologians on both sides (his Mother's father was the renowned author of Thayer's **Greek Lexicon**), Greenough's interest and involvement with the church were to be expected. He joined the Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1917 and it was that body which recommended him to Presbyterian Hospital....The church and the hospital were to become the mainstays and focus of Gregory's life.

"...Gregory disregarded time clocks and worked late into the nights, often trotting, literally, to the post office well after midnight to deliver the mail.

"Although small in stature, his characteristic trot distinguished him so that he was recognized throughout Denver. On more than one occasion, having missed the bus, Gregory would walk-run the 10 miles to Westminster to church.

"...Fluent in German, French and Greek, Gregory often followed the reading of the Scripture lesson in his own Greek Bible. For a number of years, he taught men's Bible Class at the Westminster Church and always asked to be on the Stewardship Calling Committee. ...In 1940 he was unanimously elected an elder of the church, serving in that capacity until 1952.

"...During his later years, Gregory neglected his health to such an extent that "Murph" (Mrs. Katherine Murphy, supervising receptionist of Diagnostic X-ray) and Dr. Robert Starr had to conspire to get him hospitalized periodically to see that he would get enough sleep and food to restore his strength.

"...Exceedingly generous and concerned about the welfare of others, Gregory not only tithed regularly but according to Rev. Lester Nickless, he 'was always among the first and most liberal of givers when any needy cause came along'. His 'above and beyond' giving to special offerings at the church ran into the many hundreds of dollars each year.

"Shortly before his death, Gregory confessed to a friend that his bitterest disappointment in life was that he had never, to his knowledge, persuaded anyone 'to be saved.' His friends saw it differently: Gregory was a giant of a man in terms of spiritual qualities - his steadfastness, faithfulness and loyalty were far more effective than any words."

Matilda (Gillespie) Campbell (1912 - 1986)



Photo courtesy of Westminster Historical Society

Matilda "Til" [Gillespie] Campbell

Photo taken at DeSpain Dedication, September 22, 1986
President of the Westminster Historical Society -1975-1987

"Matilda Campbell, a native Westminster resident, died Dec. 23 in the same home where she was born 74 years ago at 8140 Lowell Blvd. (*Another article states she was born in Iowa.*)

"There was a memorial service for Campbell, president of the Westminster Historical Society, on Monday at Westminster Presbyterian Church. She died of a sudden heart attack.

"Campbell was very active at the Westminster Presbyterian Church during her days as a busy mother and homemaker. She later attended the Colorado Women's College and a Denver business college, where she also taught in the 1930s.

"Later in her career, Campbell became interested in education and also took courses at the University of Colorado. She then worked at the Montview Home for Girls and at the state boys' home as a substitute teacher.

"Campbell also worked as a tutor at the Career Enrichment Park in Adams County School District 50

during the 1970s and 1980s.

"More than 10 years ago, Campbell's major interest became the history of Westminster; she was president of the historical society this past year.

"Campbell gave programs at local elementary schools using small, historical artifacts from her own and other residents' collections. This included antiques, dishes and clothing.

"Campbell's father, Hiram Gillespie, was one of the first professors at Westminster College, now known as Bellevue College, 3455 W. 83rd Ave. Her mother, Janet Gregory Gillespie, was also well-known in the community.

"Gregory Hill Elementary School was named after the Gregory family.

"Survivors are her husband, Jack; three sons, James, 39, of Thornton; Charles, 27, of Westminster; Dave, 34 of Fort Collins; a daughter, Adele, 36, of Pueblo and nine grandchildren - Dianna, Christopher, Annette, Janet, John, James, Suzanne, Bonnie Jane and Kathleen.

"Campbell is also survived by one brother, Bill Gillespie of Virginia.

"The family has requested that donations be made to the Westminster Historical Society, Box 492, Westminster, Colo. 80030."

~~~~~

Til, as she was known to her many friends, joined the Community Presbyterian Church on Nov. 15, 1925.

The cross on the east side of the Bell Tower was donated in her memory by her family.

A large file with articles written by Matilda Campbell and more on her life are filed in the church's archival cabinets in the storage room in the church basement. One article of particular interest is titled, "Growing up with Westminster."

~~~~~  
Mrs. Lavina Lewis
(1903 - 1995)



Celebrating her retirement in 1960 after serving over 25 years as the church pianist/organist.

Westminster Window, 1-12-1995

"Long time Westminster resident and retired District 50 teacher, Lavina Lewis died Jan. 5, 1995. She was 91.

"A memorial service was Tuesday at Westminster Presbyterian Church, followed by burial in Ft. Logan National Cemetery.

"Mrs. Lewis was born July 27, 1903, in Iowa and moved to Colorado with her family in 1920s. A school teacher, she taught in a one-room school in Last Chance.

"In 1936, she married Leonard D. Lewis and the couple moved to Westminster. Mrs. Lewis was hired by District 50 and taught at Utah Junction, Berkeley Gardens and Baker elementary schools.

"In addition to academic instruction, Mrs. Lewis also taught shop and woodworking and coached several champion track teams. She retired in 1968.

She was considered one of the most 'colorful' teachers in School District #50.

"She was a long-time organist for the Westminster Presbyterian Church, where she was a member.

"Active in the Westminster community, Mrs. Lewis was a member of Retired Teachers Association and Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

"Her husband preceded her in death.

"In addition to her many friends, she is survived by two sisters, Myra Anderson and Gladys Hood, and one nephew.

"Memorial donations may be made to the organ fund at Westminster Presbyterian Church."

Lavina celebrated her 90th birthday at the Commons Senior complex with many of her friends, former students and principals attending.

Even though she was confined to a wheelchair, she continued, with help from friends, to attend meetings and worship as long as her health permitted.



Excerpts from "WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER-1870-1950" published by the Westminster Historical Society.

Margaret Foster Ayer (1905-1991) While teaching shorthand at Success Business School, she met Frank Ayer and they were married in 1933. They moved to Westminster in 1947 and lived at 7436 Orchard Ct. They had one daughter, **Barbara (Ayer) Tyrer**. Margaret and Frank were both very active in the Westminster Presbyterian Church and served on many church boards. Margaret served as Superintendent of the Sunday School and was an ordained Deacon, and was active in the Women's Association.

Jennie Bashline (1893-1990) She married Harry Bashline in 1914. The family moved to Westminster in 1935, first renting a house from the Bowles family and later buying a home at 77th & Bradburn. She joined the Community Church in 1935 and served as treasurer in the 1940s. She was a charter member of the Barby Nichol Sewing Circle and was a trustee at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. She sang in the church choir.

Bowles Family:

Mahalia Elizabeth Longan (1851-1926) &

Edward Bruce Bowles- They had nine children.

Picture of the family is on page 17 of "**Westminster Then & Now**" written by Marion Smith. The Bowles home was at 3924 W. 72nd (now the Bowles House, Westminster Historical Society Museum). Their home was opened on Sunday mornings for services of the Community Church when it was first organized in 1892. He was a charter member of the University Presbyterian Church.

Louise (Bowles) Norberg (1923-2002) Louise's father was Jess Bowles, one of the nine children of Edward and Mahalia Bowles. Louise and her husband Bob were very active in many of the church programs and activities with their children, Nancy, Rick and Randy. Louise and Bob served as Skippers in the S.S. Fellowship Mariners. They opened their home on Bradburn for youth group gatherings. The Norbergs owned two cabins in Coal Creek Canyon near Pinecliffe. The youth groups enjoyed many overnights - many on New Year's Eve - at the larger cabin. The Norbergs often hosted the Mariner group with a day of visiting, playing horseshoe, fishing and eating.

Marietta Bowles Patrick (1889-1985) She and her husband lived on Bradburn and were members of the Church. They had no children.

Maria Bowles VanScoy (1886-1964) She was a member of the Church. Her son Glen VanScoy was Postmaster of Westminster in 1950s-1960s when the post office was located on corner of 73rd & Bradburn. Glen served on church Boards.

May Hoover Clack (1932-1985) May contracted polio in 1949 when she was 19 years old and spent two years of her life in an iron lung at Colorado General Hospital. She was confined to a wheelchair and depended on a respirator. She graduated from Westminster High School in 1951. Since she wanted to come back to Westminster, her nurse, Anne Moring, had to find a special facility which could accommodate the nurse and May's iron lung. Anne contacted Evert Drumright who had rental property. Drumright did better: he donated land for a home to be built at 7660 Lowell Blvd. Drumright deeded the property to the City of Westminster with the stipulation that she could live there the rest of her life, which she did.

The idea of building the house spread quickly through the city. Through donations the house was completed on Christmas Eve 1951, and Mr. Drumright carried the joyful May across the threshold of her new home.

In September of 1953, May married her high school sweetheart, Rudy Clack.

Despite being confined to a wheelchair and a portable artificial lung and respirator, May was an organizer, counselor and driving force behind many community projects.

She was able to make telephone calls for her projects. She

did a lot of calling for the church. One special project was organizing a "Prayer tree" for the Westminster Presbyterian Church. A person could always hear the respirator in the background when she called.

Just before her death, her desire was to help publish and sell a "cook book" with recipes from church members, to help fund the "Building to Serve" project. Her death occurred before the cook book was completed, but her many friends in the church completed the project in her memory.

She was a winner of the Westminster Chamber of Commerce award. She was also full-time bookkeeper for her husband's upholstery business.

Doris (Spangler) Day- (1902-1982) Doris was born in Superior, CO. She married Francis M. Day on June 2, 1923, at the home of Rev. W. J. Gregory.

Doris raised five children - Lillian (Day) Brink, **Gale Day**, Barbara (Day) Snyder, **Richard Day**, Carol (Day) Ranum.

She was active in the Westminster Presbyterian Church where she sang in the choir and in the Mother's Chorus directed by Lavina Lewis.

She worked with her husband in the insurance office doing paper work. She later married Ed Whytal.

Reta Hawkinson Karr Frauenfelder (1939-1991)

She married Bert Karr in 1965. After he died in 1980 she married Ted Frauenfelder in 1985. Reta grew up in the Hawkinson home on W. 73rd Ave. Reta was active in the Westminster Presbyterian Church where she worked with youth groups, was a scouting coordinator, was financial secretary and a Sunday school teacher. She also sponsored senior high work camps. She was a member of the sewing circle and a coordinator of the couples' group. She was also very active in many community organizations. Her two sons are Bret (now deceased) and Eric. Complete article in "WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER" by the Westminster Historical Society.

Ethel Maude Scott Goddard (1891-1938) She married Alfred Goddard in 1916. They lived at 73rd & Lowell. She was the first organist in the Westminster Community Church. She also sang in the choir.

Margaret O'Gorman - Frank Day built her home at 82nd and Irving in 1909, with an indoor bathroom, as a boarding house for the "University" students. Margaret served as Treasurer and Assistant Superintendent of Sunday School at Westminster Community Church in 1925.

Lillie Mae Wright Gunther (1918-1994) She married George Gunther in 1940. She and George were both active in the Westminster Presbyterian Church. She started a junior choir in 1953. She was a member of the adult hand bell choir and was instrumental in organizing the youth bell ensemble. She was active in the women's Association. She assisted with the church's prayer chain. Both George and Lil were ordained elders, and Lil was an ordained Deacon.

They had three daughters-Linda (Gunther) Nielsen; **Rose Ann (Gunther) Ginnow** and **Mary (Gunther) St. Onge**. Among the grandchildren is current church member **GiGi Nielsen**.

Mary Gregory (1885-1936) Mary developed rheumatoid arthritis in her teens and was confined to a wheel chair. Her father, Professor Gregory, would push her wheelchair from their home on 81st & Lowell to the Westminster Community Church at 80th & Bradburn Blvd. She was a columnist for the Brighton

Blade and Arvada enterprise as well as for church periodicals. She visited KOA (radio station) in the early days to see how studio programs were produced. She did some writing for KOA and some say she was called the Queen of KOA. (*portions were taken from "Growing Up in Westminster" by Matilda Campbell.*)

Esther Bashaw (no dates) Esther taught math and other classes at Westminster High School in the 1950s. Esther played the organ for the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Marge Dalton Hereford (1917-1978) She married Don Hereford in 1940 and moved to Westminster in 1942. In 1951 she was instrumental in starting the school lunch program in School District 50. Her husband, Don Hereford, served on many church committees and was chairman of the building committee for Janet Gillespie Hall.

Veta (Vada) Bullard Hoover (1899-1995) Veta (Vada) taught school in a one room school east of Brighton. She had to carry water to her school from the Hoover farm every day. She married Elmer Hoover in 1922, and in 1939, they moved to 7319 Orchard Ct. in Westminster. She was a substitute teacher for school District 50. Both she and her husband Elmer served on several church boards at the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Margaret Haskins Mason (1901-1994) She married Marion W. Mason in 1920. In 1955 they moved to Westminster and purchased the J. F. Balkenbush Dry Goods Store located between 74th & 75th on Lowell Blvd. The store was sold in 1962. She was active in Westminster Presbyterian Church and was instrumental in the formation of the first sewing circle for mission. Her daughter, **Jean (Mason Gray) Bissell** joined the church in 1950. Jean's daughter, **Charlotte (Gray) Unger** was an active member until her death. **Charlotte and Norman Unger's** daughter, **Gina (Unger)** and Lionel Skinner are the parents of **April Skinner**.

Minnie Ellen Matthews McClelland (No dates) She, married to a Rev. Alexander McClelland, lived at 7809 Bradburn Blvd. She was superintendent of Sunday School at the Community Church in 1925.

Fernn Francis McCormick (1910-1997) She married Ivel McCormick in 1931. They lived at 76th & Lowell. She was active in Westminster Presbyterian Church, and active in the sewing group.

Bernice L. Pierce Richards (1906-1996) She married Earl Richards in 1931. They moved to 7400 Orchard Ct. in Westminster in 1933. She was active in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, as a Sunday School superintendent, camp cook, elder, Deacon and leader of the Dorcas group. Her daughter, **Joyce (Richards) Miller, joined the church in 1941.** Joyce and Harley Miller had children Scott (deceased), Sandra (deceased) and Sherri.

Jennie Stark Rudolph (1884-1961) She was in the first graduating class of Westminster University, and in 1904 she began her teaching career. After teaching in schools in Nebraska and Colorado, she retired from teaching English at Denver South High School in 1949.

Laura Martin Shipman (1894-1972) After her marriage to Monerable (Doc) Shipman in 1911, she moved to Westminster in 1919. She built their home at 76th & Newton where she lived until her death. Laura joined the Westminster Presbyterian Church in about 1930 and sang in the choir.

Iva Wilson (1900-1990) She married A. V. Wilson in 1923.

They built their home at 7450 Bradburn Blvd. Every month she joined Church Women United to sew layettes which Tri-county Health Department gave to new mothers. She also was active in the sewing circles at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. She helped launch the Westminster Meals on Wheels. They opened their house to Sunday school classes when every room in the church facilities was overcrowded.

Ann Spence Warner (1892-1986) Ann was hired in 1951 by Mayor Francis Day and the City Council to run the newly established Westminster City Library located on W. 73rd Ave., where she served for seven years. She was also an author and wrote stories for children's magazines and also published several books. Patrons who visited the city library on 73rd Ave., located in the Westminster city hall where the fire station is located, will certainly remember her as "unorthodox by professional librarians." She was a long time member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church. (*excerpts from Westminster Journal article, Dec. 26, 1963, by Marion Smith, and from WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER, Westminster Historical Society*)

Rev. Lester Nickless (1914 - 2005)

The Denver Post

by Virginia Culver, Denver Post staff writer

"Lester Nickless wasn't one of those 'holier than thou' ministers, said his son, Bob Nickless.

"Bob said his father 'was a good egg and a fun guy' who taught him to hike and fish.

"Lester Nickless, who hated retirement, died Feb. 19, 2005, at age 90.

"Even after retiring as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1979, he served on the staff of Central Presbyterian in Longmont and as chaplain for the Longmont Police Department. He also helped establish a new church in Pinewood Springs.

"Ministry wasn't his first career. After earning a master's degree in forestry from Yale University, he spent 11 years as head forester for two large lumber companies in the South.

"Then he enrolled in McCormick Theological seminary in Chicago and spent his entire ministry at the Westminster church.

"While there, he was a member of a group that founded the first mental health center in Adams County. He served with the Adams County Housing Authority for several years, on the city of Westminster Personnel Committee and on the board of the Tri-County Tuberculosis Association.

"He also directed Junior Camp and taught horseback riding at Highlands Camp.

'Les was a true pioneering spirit, helping build Westminster and the church,' said the Rev. John Piper, current co-pastor of Westminster Presbyterian.

"When he moved here, the town was a few thousand; now it is more than 100,000."

"Nickless and his wife, Elizabeth, did an exchange of pulpits with a minister in Aberdeen, Scotland.

"A skilled mountain climber, Nickless climbed many of the Colorado's highest peaks, including Longs Peak, which he climbed 100 times. His wife went once.

'To be a Nickless, you have to go up Longs Peak. I was glad when it was over,' Elizabeth Nickless said.

"Bob Nickless and his wife, Kerry, climbed with his father in 1990. 'I couldn't walk for a week after that,' Bob Nickless said with a laugh.

"Lester Nickless was born March 26, 1914, in Chicago and earned his undergraduate degree at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"He met Elizabeth Jackson in French class, and they were married July 20, 1940.

"He worked in forestry in Arkansas and Alabama before getting his divinity degree.

"Nickless loved the offer from Westminster Church because he already loved Colorado, having spent his boyhood summers here.

"In addition to his wife, son and daughter-in-law, he is survived by two grandchildren, two step grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and his sister, Margaret Hage of Leawood, KS."

He directed Junior Camp at Highlands for 26 years.

He especially enjoyed activities at his beloved Cliff Crest on "Holy Hill" near Estes Park. He loved the family gatherings there every summer.

Later, after their move back to Westminster, they again attended worship regularly and Rev. Nickless was honored by being named *Pastor Emeritus*. The fellowship hall below the sanctuary was named in his honor- Nickless Hall.

In 1967, the congregation thanked the Nicklesses for their dedication, by sending them on a trip to the United Kingdom.



Rev. Nickless honored in 1993, celebrating the 40th year of his ordination.

Elizabeth Nickless (1914 - 2006)

Westminster Window, Evie Hemphill, reporter, April 2006

"Longtime Westminster resident Elizabeth Nickless, widow of Lester Nickless, died Wednesday, April 19.

"Mrs. Nickless will be most remembered for her loving, caring spirit and her active involvement in the community and the Westminster Presbyterian Church, said friends and family.

"Born July 31, 1914, in Delhi, New York, Elizabeth Jackson attended Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, graduating with honors in 1937 and teaching high school in Illinois for three years.

"She married Lester Nickless in 1940, and the couple moved to Arkansas where Mr. Nickless was head forester for a large lumber company.

"In 1953, after Mr. Nickless attended seminary to become a minister, the family moved to Westminster in answer to a call from Westminster Presbyterian Church. The church grew rapidly under the Nicklesses' leadership of 26 years.

'One key to the growth of membership in the church was their friendliness,' said longtime friend and church member Elizabeth Price. 'They both reached out into the community.'

"Mrs. Nickless had a heart for missions, starting several Presbyterian Women Circle groups and corresponding throughout her life with many of the missionaries the church supported. She also ministered alongside her husband, Price said.

'She supported her husband pastor - she also ministered quietly in her own selfless and loving way,' Price said.

"The Nicklesses' son, Robert Nickless, described them as caring people and also 'really down-to-earth.'

"The couple received the Fred Valente Humanitarian Award in 1977 for their work together in the community.

'Most people just can't say enough,' Robert Nickless said, 'They lived a long full life.'

"When Mrs. Nickless was diagnosed with cancer last month, it was the first time she had been admitted to a hospital since 1948, Robert Nickless said.

"Mrs. Nickless was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Les and her brother Tom. She is survived by her son Robert (Kerry), sister-in-law Margaret Hage, brother-in-law Roe Johnston, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

"A funeral service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, May 6, (2006), at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3990 W. 74th Ave., Westminster. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Westminster Presbyterian Church."

MEMBERSHIPS

Early memberships of interest in the history of the Church

~~~~~

**Hiram Gillespie**

Joined Oct. 10, 1914  
Ordained as an Elder May 18, 1917

~~~

Janet Gillespie

Joined March 24, 1911
Ordained as an Elder April 12, 1936
Served as Clerk of Session for at least 16 years

~~~

**Mrs. Anna Rogers**

(sister of Carl Hawkinson)  
Joined date unknown  
Ordained as an Elder March 28, 1937  
Served on Board of Deacons

~~~

Francis Day

Joined April 9, 1912
Ordained as an Elder in 1953

~~~

**Greenough Gregory**

Joined July 11, 1917  
Ordained as an Elder in 1940s

~~~

Doris Day

Joined Jan. 18, 1920

~~~

**Matilda (Gillespie) Campbell**

Joined Nov. 13, 1925

~~~

Carl & Marguerite Hawkinson

Joined Oct. 4, 1942
Carl was ordained as an Elder.
Carl served as President of Board of Trustees.
Carl served on Board of Deacons.
Marguerite was ordained as an Elder.

~~~

**Lavina Lewis**

Joined Jan. 21, 1940

~~~

Elmer Hoover

Joined 1940
Elmer served on the Board of Trustees.
Ordained as an Elder
Served on Board of Deacons

~~~

**Bernice Richards**

Joined March 29, 1941  
Served on Board of Deacons

~~~

Duane Shipman

Joined April 11, 1941

~~~

**Vada Hoover**

Joined April 11, 1941

~~~

Ruby Bryant

Joined April 9, 1942

~~~

**Mary Williams**

Joined June 14, 1942

~~~

Ernest and Betty Welborn

Joined March 30, 1945

~~~

**Zola Jurgens**

Joined Jan. 6, 1946

~~~

Frank & Margaret Ayer

Joined March 1951
Frank was ordained as an Elder.
Frank served on Board of Trustees.
Margaret served on Board of Deacons.



2007 - 50 plus years of membership

The date indicates the year the person joined the church.



1937.....Frances Campbell

1941.....Joyce (Richards) Miller

1947.....Gale Day

1948.....Betty Jo Day

Written by Gale Day

Way back, must have been in the early '50s, when our little "church was on Bradburn, we were building the manse. Many of us were building our own houses and knew something about home construction. We all worked on the manse as time permitted. We didn't have a permanent pastor at the time and were having candidates come on Sundays to preach.

On one Sunday we had a pretty good young preacher and when the sermon was over he wanted to pitch in and help with the construction of the manse. I have no idea about lunch but someone in the congregation probably invited him to eat lunch. Then he was on the job with the rest of us volunteers and much "hay was bailed" that Sunday afternoon.

This young man made quite a hit with the young crowd doing the building. The next Sunday there was a growing desire among the young, inexperienced folks to call him as our pastor.

They wanted to have a congregational meeting to vote on it. Hiram Gillespie, husband of Janet Gillespie, who was a college professor that taught Greek and always carried a Greek Bible to worship services, rose in righteous indignation to point out that it takes two notices for a congregational meeting, so it was announced that the following Sunday would have to be the soonest we could do it.

In the meantime, Mary Shively, wife of Dick Shively, brought the name of Lester Nickless to our attention. Mary's brother, the Rev. Roe Johnston, was married to Les' sister, is how the connection came about. Mary came on with such enthusiasm, we decided to look into this Lester guy before making our final choice. We ended up hiring him but he lasted only about 26 years.

1950.....Rich Day

1954.....Barbara (Bean) Day

Written by Rich Day

We have many, many memories of the last 50 years in our church. Les Nickless married us in 1957 which started the 50 years off with a bang for us. We wanted to be married in the new sanctuary but it was not completed in time so Les tied a secure knot in a chapel in Denver. (We just celebrated our 50th anniversary—he must have done a good job.) My sister Carol was the first to be married in the new sanctuary. There are memories of the old (yellow) church, the construction of the

current sanctuary and the construction of Gillespie Hall and the office addition as well as finishing of the basement. It seems as though most of our memories, however, are of the ministers and people of our church throughout the last 50 years.

We remember the John Kings, of course, the Les Nicklesses, the Ed Thwaites, Hal Davises and Pam Wolf. There were, of course, others that were part time, associates, youth directors etc. We will not tell of most of these memories because it would take volumes. I would like to tell the story of going fishing with Les Nickless in Lac La Range in Canada.

In the 1970's my brother Gale and I flew two single engine airplanes to go fishing in Canada on four or five occasions. We used the excuse that we took subcontractors with us as a benefit for doing a good job for us while we were building houses—the truth, though, is that we wanted to go fishing and to fly the airplanes.

On one or two of these trips we invited Les to go along with us. On the first night we sat around in the cabin playing cards until the sun was to set, then with a long nights sleep we could get up early for a long day of fishing. What we didn't realize, though, was that we were so far north that the sun didn't set unit midnight or so. We didn't get much sleep, but had a great time playing cards and fishing. One of my fondest memories of Les Nickless is the picture of him standing on the bow of our little fishing boat singing camp fire songs while fishing. A man with less faith would have fallen in. We have many memories of things done with the Thwaites and Davis families as well. Let's not forget the Pipers. John and Annie have created great memories for a lot of those 50 years and they are still doing it.

Three or four years ago we visited Hal and Kirby Davis at their home in southern California and really enjoyed our visit. They were doing well, although we were devastated to find that Kirby had been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. We, just the other day, received letter from Kirby saying they are doing well. She said Hal is 86 and doesn't look or act like it. He is playing parts in a local theater group and Kirby who was always a great speller is coaching the local spelling team. They were our next door neighbors for most of the time they served at our church—and great neighbors they were.

Wow! Where did those 50 years go. We are so fortunate to have our memories!!

1950.....Bob Jurgens

Bob Jurgens was ordained as an Elder on Feb. 17, 1952, and served one year.

1951.....Bob Norberg

1952.....Jean (Mason) Gray-Bissell

Written by Jean Gray-Bissell

The Ray Gray Family

Our family became members of the Community Presbyterian Church on April 11, 1952. Ray and I joined by reaffirmation and Charlotte by immersion at a Baptist Church by Rev. Martin R. Murray Jr., our interim pastor. In the fall of 1952, the congregation started to build a manse to be ready for our first full time minister-the Nickless family who came in 1953. Our main expense was paying Wilbur Haggstrom \$5500 for concrete. Ray Gray did the electrical, and with our last \$93.20, I bought the fixtures at a discount. I also remember Mac McCormick getting the bright red kitchen cabinets donated!

In the late 50s, Charlotte and Ray Jr. both became communicant members of our church and Charlotte and I taught Sunday School for several years. Charlotte and Ray both participated in Baccalaureate services when they graduated in 1959 and 1963.

In July 8, 1962, Charlotte married Norm L. Unger in a beautiful ceremony performed by Dr. Lester Nickless. Norm then joined the church.

On April 21, 1963, Gina Rae Unger was born. She was baptized in our church and in later years completed her Confirmation class. N. Lee Unger was born February 1965 in Honolulu, Hawaii, and was baptized in the Presbyterian Church there, acting for Dr. Lester Nickless of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

On December 18, 1968, our son Ray Gray Jr., having returned from duty in Vietnam, married Joann Blaz.

Early in 1970s, my mother Margaret Mason, joined the church. She was active in starting the sewing circle. She was a skilled seamstress and continued sewing until her eye sight failed.

Hal Davis organized a two-year study called the "Bethel Series." The instruction was to cover both testaments of the Bible. At the end of the two year study, we were asked to teach a class on our own, which was certainly a challenge. George Gunther and I, as co-leaders, taught a class in 1973. It was a very enjoyable challenge.

During our first years of study, we invited other churches in the area to participate in an evening meal with us to discuss the series. It was fun making preparations. We used greenery to signify "being in touch with nature" for our first lessons, and later made Hebrew letters.

On Jan 25, 1976, I was ordained as a ruling elder. I served on the Finance Committee of Corporate Affairs.

I was a member of the Bell Choir for about five years and have many fond memories with that group. They are a dedicated group of Christian women.

In 1979, I was appointed to the Board of Directors at Highland West to complete Elizabeth Nickless' term and I served until 1986. During this time I also served on the Highland West Foundation Board for over 10 years. During this time we applied for a permit to build Highland South on the remaining 15 acres of land we owned next to Highland West. The City of Wheat Ridge refused the permit for another high rise so we were limited to three three-story buildings.

Jerry Monroe was our Chairman and he deserves 90% of the credit for the completion of the project. He was also responsible for a \$90,000 donation to the Highland West Building from the

Contractor. Claire Traylor was able to help us obtain HUD financing through Phil Winn, head of appropriations. Twelve of the apartments are handicap accessible. A small portion of ground was left so it was donated to the City of Wheatridge for a park that would serve our senior residents as well.

Later in 1980s, once again I was asked to serve as a ruling elder for a short term on Corporate Affairs and was elected Treasurer.

On Jan 17, 1985, our first great grandson made his appearance, Nicholas Alexander Morgan, was born to Gina and Rick Morgan. That addition to our family made "five generations" as members of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Ray C. Gray Sr. left us for his heavenly home on Nov. 8, 1987. His service was held at our church with the Rev. Lester Nickless and the Rev. Ed Thwaites officiating.

On Jan 17, 1990, I married a long time friend, Ray Bissell. All of our families attended from far and wide. Rev. Ed Thwaites officiated. On March 17, 2001, my husband of 11 years passed. His memorial was at our church with the Rev. Ed Thwaites and the Rev. John Piper officiating.

Mother, Margaret Mason, passed away on Nov. 10, 1994. The Rev. Dr. Roe Johnson and the Rev. Lester Nickless officiated at her memorial.

Our hearts were broken when on May 17, 1998, our beautiful daughter, wife, mother and grandmother passed on after a nine month fight with pancreatic cancer. She had so many friends who visited and cared for her. I especially remember Rev. Lester Nickless stopping in to visit her on her daily walk. He was so much comfort to her. Her memorial was held at our church with Rev. John Piper officiating with a guest minister chaplain from Children's Hospital.

John and Annie Piper have been such a blessing to our church and community. Their love and leadership have been showered on this congregation.

The church has enriched my life to the fullest and I am so grateful for these 50 years of fellowship and memories. It is my church home and God has blessed me with so much love.

1952..... Rose Ann (Gunther) Ginnow

1952..... Wanda (Martin) Jones

Written by Wanda Jones

When the Martin family moved to Westminster in 1944, we lived in three different houses before calling 7595 Bradburn "home", but boy, did it take a lot of work cleaning and fixing up etc. before that move!

~~~~~  
(From "Women of Westminster" by Westminster Historical Society. Her parents were Thelma Louise (Oxford) and Roland Martin. Thelma was part Cherokee and attended grade school on a Cherokee Indian Reservation near Stillwater, OK. The Martins had seven children, one of which was killed in World War II.)

~~~~~  
I started walking to church to attend Sunday School at the "Community Presbyterian Church of Westminster" at 74th Bradburn.

For me, one fond memory was that I got to pull the big long rope to ring the bell in front of the old yellow church, telling all that Sunday School was about to begin. I loved that old yellow church!

My sister Ella (Martin) Dale and I attended Sunday School together. Our Sunday School teacher was Mrs. (Laura) Shipman. Rev. Liggitt was the pastor, and when he presented Ella with a Bible for having perfect Sunday School attendance for a year, she was so very thrilled. We both sang in the choir for a short period of time. Lavina Lewis was our organist and choir director.

In 1952, William and I joined Westminster Presbyterian Church by letter of transfer. I have been attending church for approximately 63 years, but as a member for 55 years.

There are also fond memories of the young boys singing in the youth choirs.

Our youngest son, Larry Jones, was married to Becky by exchange pastor, the Rev. Bob Whiteford, in 1975.

I am thrilled that my grandson was recently baptized making it a four generation family at Westminster Presbyterian Church -- Thelma Martin; Wanda (Martin) Jones; Connie (Jones) Underwood and Evan Underwood.

1952.....Vi Ranum

The following was remembered by Vida Ranum.

Pombos from Cuba

This couple left their grocery store in Cuba and fled here with their son and daughter. They were sponsored by the Westminster Presbyterian Church. The church found the family jobs and education. They resided at the Arrow Motel (owned by Norm and Vi Ranum) for four weeks and were subsidized by the church.

Frances Campbell

She had 15-20 three year olds in class and also had them sing in church. They were called the cherubs. She was superintendent of the church school and also directed Vacation Bible School. She gave the children's story. She was one of the most inspiring teachers for the little ones. Her daughter, Bonnie, helped her on many occasions.

1952.....Barbara (Ayer) Tyrer

Written by Barbara Tyrer

Fifty years plus with so many memories. Valdene Ranum, Sharon Arnold and I were talking about all the things that have happened around the church since we came here in the late 40s.

It was a different era. The church was our social life and we loved being at church. We went to youth fellowship, sang in the choir and enjoyed life in a small town.

The one thing we remember was our Sunday School class. It was held in the bay window area of the old (74th & Bradburn) church, and we had Mr. Dick Lindholm as our teacher. He had been a prisoner of war and told many stories about being held. He told us they would walk them miles to some place or other, and they were so hungry they would stop and pick the dandelion greens and eat them along the way. He told that it was his faith that got him through this.

We were thinking of all the times our faith has led us through difficult times and how we remember Mr. Lindholm eating those

greens and keeping his faith.

We were not good all the time. Some of us would skip Sunday School as we got older and go for a ride in Charlotte (Gray) Unger's parent's convertible until our moms found out.

We all still to this day love our church.

1953.....Sharon (Williams) Arnold

written by Sharon Arnold

The past year we have realized more than ever how important our church family is. Your love, support and prayers have helped make me a cancer survivor. Our church is not only an extended family but a part of the community. Members continue to share their time and talents with many outreach community programs.

I have many fond memories of the many dedicated teachers like Frances Campbell, Geraldine and White Eckroth and Elizabeth Price who taught a senior high (maybe all girls) class.

Many years ago, Marion Smith asked us to host a foreign exchange student. That became the 1st of over 80 students we have hosted in our home through various student exchange programs. These young people were from many countries but most came from Japan. We continue to keep in close contact with more than half of these exchange students. We even traveled to Japan one year to visit with an exchange student's parents and were able to visit with 25 of our former exchange students.

Many of these exchange students were active in the youth group at the church.

We helped with the plays and melodramas directed by Dar Welborn. The Rev. Lester Nickless married us in 1960; Betty Smith was the wedding coordinator; Gale Day the soloist. and Lavina Lewis was the organist. Our daughters- Sharlyn, Kara and Krista- were all baptized in the church. The Rev. John Piper married Krista and Mike, and the Rev Ed Thwaites married Kara and Ron in 1986. Rev. Nickless and Rev. Piper both officiated at beautiful memorial services for our parents.

Bob and daughter Kara both are ordained elders and have served on the church Session.

How blest we are to have the dedicated leadership of John and Annie and our secretary, Barbara Tyrer, as we work toward the next century of service.

1953.....Geraldine Eckroth

Written by Geraldine Eckroth

Soon after White and I moved from Pennsylvania to this area, we were welcomed at the Westminster Presbyterian Church on July 6, 1947. One Sunday only 12 people and the minister, Rev. Liggett, and Rose Edwards, the pianist, were in attendance. (I always remember that Rose wore a rose in her hair.) Janet Gillespie sang a solo. Janet later explained the low attendance by telling that during the summer months, families take their families and guests to the mountains.

When school began everyone returned. We had a choir and men's and ladies' Sunday School classes with good attendance. There was one class of 22 young ladies.

We first lived in the unincorporated area of Federal Blvd. We made several moves before buying our home at 48th and Federal Blvd. Even though at times we lived several miles from the church

in Westminster, we often made many trips each week to help with church activities. We often picked up Greenough Gregory at Presbyterian Medical Center and took him to church and back home. One Sunday Greenough was invited to dinner at the Gillespie's home at 81st and Lowell. He asked White to stop at the corner of 80th and Lowell and let him out because he didn't think the car would make it up that hill!

In 1959 as Mariner Skippers, White and I were responsible for infant and toddler care. Mothers were teaching classes or singing in the choir and couldn't help. We finally made a full time commitment and a toddler class was organized. Session hired a sitter for babies and eventually they were moved to a nursery room in the new educational building.

A toddlers' big day came when John and Peggy Lough outlined a Noah's Ark scene on three walls of the old building with life-size animals. Mothers came with brushes and paint, toddlers with lunch boxes and snacks, and a hired baby sitter. Mothers were served a hot lunch. The project was completed and enjoyed until the old church building was demolished.

White and I were always thankful to the parents who trusted us with their precious children. We stopped teaching in September 1984.

I remember when the Electric Organ was purchased. The first time Lavina Lewis saw it, she said loud and clear, "That beautiful instrument needs a cover." Veryl Goedert and I took care of that with help from Betty Jo Day who helped with the measuring. Veryl brought her portable sewing machine and sat it on the communion table, (see page 31) and we made the cover that lasted, by adding a few patches at the end to cover the keyboard, until the organ was sold.

I remember the good old days when the men served a Mother's Day dinner and put on a program. Don Hereford and Gale Day portrayed a surgery scene on a table, using a carpenter saw behind a white sheet with a bright light behind to show a silhouette of it all. Wilbur Haggstrom as Miss Bermuda danced in a grass skirt made of strands of hemp rope, with bermuda onions tied on it. Hal Edwards was Miss Polly Percolator and White was Miss Redi Kilowatt!

I also remember the service in which Dr. Ansley and White were ordained as elders. When the two rose from kneeling for the ordination, they both stood and wiped the dust off the knees of their pants. The old sanctuary had wooden floors which were hard to keep clean and dusted.

Thanks be to God for the wonderful pastors and interim pastor and strong leadership in the congregation who have kept us dedicated to Mission.

1954.....Ruth Clark

1954.....Wayne & Joan Smith

Written by Joan Smith

For me, many memories of this church are connected to the seven choirs:

*** Dar Welborn making smoke from dry ice to be part of the drama for the Chancel Choir's "Elijah" presentation,

*** pink capelets with big bows made by Frances Campbell for the Cherub Choir,

*** Chancel Choir's "Song of Christmas" by Fred Waring presented on Channel 7 TV as arranged for by Ralph Miller who worked there,

*** joining the Massed Choir under the direction of Cliff Barrows at Billy Graham crusades,

*** coffee hours, with food, after Chancel Choir practices twice each month,

*** singing in the Westminster Mall at Christmas,

*** string orchestras composed of our own kids,

*** Beverly Glasgow and me attending two Richard Hoffland Christiansen Choral Workshops and Sally McNatt baby sitting the herd of kids for us,

*** all Westminster church choirs participating in festivals--"The Messiah," - Thanksgiving services, and more,

*** broadcasting our church service on radio,

*** Chancel Choir always presented a Christmas and Lenten oratorio or cantata,

*** STAR performer for the choirs was the Rev. Lester Nickless playing "Springtime in the Rockies" (his only selection) on piano.

1954.....Paul & Beverly Glasgow

Written by Paul Glasgow

Beverly and I joined the church in January of 1954, approximately six months after moving to Westminster. Since that time while participating in the life of the church several events stand out as being important to us.

First: All four of our children were baptized here.

Second: The building of our present sanctuary and the demolition of the old church symbolized the church's willingness to meet the needs and minister to the expanding growth of the community.

Reviewing the list of the committee involved in the planning and construction brought back fond memories of all those friends who have passed on but were so important to our present status.

Third: The planning and construction of the two additions that make up our present facility.

Last but not least, and is not an event, has been the quality and dedication of our pastors, beginning with The Nicklesses up to and including the present The Pipers.

Also the dedication of our members in serving the church in whatever capacity they were asked to participate in - whether as Deacon, Elder, Choir member, youth leaders, serving on committees and taking on special tasks.

1954- Glenn & Florine Ross

1954.....Elizabeth Price

Written by Elizabeth Price

In 1952, soon after Garnet and I were married, we bought a lot on Meade Street in Westminster where we built our house, which became our home. Our neighbors were the Hellbusch and Hustad families.

I often did my grocery shopping at Hawkinson's Red and White Grocery Store on 73rd Ave. It was near the post office where we had to pick up our mail, as there was no home mail delivery at that time.

One day at the grocery store, Marguerite Hawkinson introduced me to the Rev. Murray and suggested that I would be a good helper in Bible School ...Well - so the rest became history!!!!

I continue to promote youth participation in Vacation Bible School and in summer camp programs at Highlands Camp and Conference Center. Both programs give children and youth a week of Christian experience, a time to have fun and a time to grow in the love of God.

One day, during my first Bible School teaching experience, a man wearing an old "woody" leather looking jacket came wandering through the building. Little did I know at that time that he was the person the congregation had recently chosen to be their new permanent pastor-- The Rev. Lester Nickless.

It did not take him long to "recruit" new members. The church membership grew and grew!!

All five of our children were baptized in this church; all joined the church; all were married in this church, and eight of the grandchildren were baptized in the church. The Rev. Annie Piper performed the marriage of our granddaughter Aimee Price and Luke Guildner on June 22, 2002, in the church.

Our children all attended church school, Bible School and some even participated in the children's choirs. During the Hal Davis era, the three youngest were involved the youth group.

With the older children involved in a community youth singing group and the others actively involved in activities at the church - youth fellowship, bell choir practices, backpacking trips, youth work caravans, Highlands Camp, (plus Scouts, Campfire and school), we supported them as they "came and went" with their many activities.

Of course, we attended all of the Melodramas and many bell choir festivals.

We were available to help the youth group with what they might need. Hal Davis with his "friendly persuasion" technique often asked if we knew where he could find and borrow an extra vehicle for the caravans. He already knew we had that extra station wagon in the backyard!!!!

One Memorial weekend, the youth group had gone camping near Granby. During the night, there was a heavy snowfall, which nearly caved in their tents. The group hiked out through the deep snow and was taken to a church in Granby where they stayed the night. We got a call asking if we could come to Granby and help take some of the youth home.

Another time, we received a telephone call alerting us that a group of the kids was lost near the Davis cabin and couldn't be found!! I don't remember how they were found, but we didn't have to go help find them!

Garnet was an ordained elder and served faithfully until his death in 2003. Several of the family members are ordained elders or deacons.

As an ordained elder, I have served on Session under all of the pastors. Oh, how I remember those many late, late Session meetings in the 1970s in Fellowship Hall with cigarette smoke filing the basement room!!! Thank goodness that has changed!!!!

Garnet and I were active in Mariners and did serve as Skippers one year. At one particular Mission Fair, Ed Thwaites and Don Hamblin wore top hats and dark suits and greeted the people who came. Silent auctions were organized, and items and services were donated for a live auction. John Singleton was the auctioneer. A fun evening was had by all, plus a lot of money was

raised !! As I remember someone even bid on an airplane ride!

There were many social activities that we all enjoyed as well.

Another great memory was going on the Work Caravan trip to Yakutat, AK, with the youth group. Vicki Greiner had asked Garnet to go because they needed someone skilled in supervising the remodeling and finishing of the basement of the Manse and the roofing of the Presbyterian Mission church.

Our family has been truly blessed, through all of these 50 plus years, with many long-lasting memories, by the fellowship of a caring church family and by the loving and dedicated ministry of ALL of the pastors.

Even though the children are married, and have children and live near and far, they all still consider this to be their "family church."

As I looked through the historical material, I read about and saw pictures of so many of our dear friends who have departed, and then I think about the many contributions each made for the Glory of God at this church. Thanks be to God!

1954- Wyoma Bean

Written by Wyoma Bean

The Bean family came to Westminster in 1953 and joined the church in 1954.

We were all quite active in the church for all these many years serving on various boards and committees.

I taught Sunday School for many years and was active in Presbyterian Women. At one time there were seven different choirs in our church. Frances Campbell and I had the Melody choir of third, fourth and fifth graders. Gil served on the Session many times and we were active in Mariners. Gil and Don Hamblin and Mel Moore did a lot of work around the church and became known as "Moore, Ham and Beans."

There are many widows in our church and a few of us usually got to lunch after worship. We go to the Village Inn most of the time, and we ask the manager if we can have a round table so we can visit. Now we are known as the "Ladies of the Round Table."

The church has always been very special to our whole family.

1954.....Ron Hellbusch

1955.....Lowell Rodgers

1955.....Irene Peltz

1955.....Betty Smith

1956.....Jeanne Coffey

1957.....Ethel Rullo

This list of 50 plus memberships includes only those who are members in 2007.

Officers- Elders and Deacons elected by the Congregation

Presidents of The Corporation

1957...Gene Hagberg
 1958...William McGuire
 1959...Frank Ayer
 1960...Dr. Harley Stephens
 1961...Leland Rothe
 1962...Wayne Smith
 1963...Richard Lindholm,
 1964...Leon Hayes
 1965...William Wooley
 1966...Robert Merrick
 1967...Ken Wilson
 1967...Joan Smith
 1968...Gilbert Bean
 1969...Hilary Osborn
 1970...Wayne Smith
 1971...Harold Miller
 1972-1973...Gil Bean
 1974...Beverly Glasgow
 1975...Garnet Price
 1976-1977...
 William Christopher
 1978-1979...Garnet Price
 1980-1981...
 C.G.(Jerry) Monroe
 1982-1983...Ray Perriman
 1984...Byron Richard
 1985...Robert Briggs, Jr.
 1986-1987-1988-1989...
 Ronald Hellbusch
 1990-1991...Tom Fiocca
 1992...Betty Jo Day
 1993...Richard Petersen
 1994-1995... Louis Garone
 1996-1997-1998...
 ...Robert Briggs, Jr.
 1999-2000...Louis Garone
 2001-2002-2003
 ...Ronald Hellbusch
 2004...John Maurer
 2005-2006... Louis Garone
 2007...Julie Graham

Clerks of Session

1946-1947--Janet Gillespie
 1956-1962--Janet Gillespie.
 1962-- Lois Conrad
 1964-1969--Don Hamblin
 1967-1969--Betty Jo Day
 1972-- Betty Smith
 1973-- Hilary Osborn
 1976-1979--Betty Jo Day
 1980-1981-1982
 --Shirley Briggs
 1983-1984-1985-
 --Bobbie Lowe
 1986- Alice Lund
 1986- Paulette Lopez
 1987- Alice Lund
 1988-1992- Betty Jo Day
 1993- 1995- Richard Day
 1996- Betty Jo Day
 1997- Lou Garone
 1998- 2000- Julie Ammon
 2001- 2003- Richard Day
 2004- 2005- Lou Garone
 2005-2007- Doris Aldrich

THE SESSION

(The governing body of
the church)

~~~~~  
 (The number in each class  
may vary because people were  
elected to fill  
unexpired term(s).  
 ~~~~~

In 1943-44

Janet Gillespie
 Elmer Hoover
 Greenough Gregory
 Mrs. Anna Rogers

In 1946

Mrs. Anna Rogers
 Greenough Gregory
 George Jurgens
 Janet Gillespie - Clerk
 Elmer Hoover
 Carl Hawkinson

In 1947

Elmer Hoover
 Mrs. Anna L. Rogers
 George J. Jurgens
 Greenough Gregory
 Carl Hawkinson
 C.C. Pickering
 Mrs. Hiram Gillespie, Clerk

In 1950

Carl Hawkinson
 Jennie Bashline
 Robert Butler
 Mr. Langford

In 1952

Gale Day
 Herbert McClellan
 Charles Phillips
 Kenneth Bouton
 Janet Gillespie
 Robert Jurgens

In 1953

I. R. McCormick
 Don Eberhart

Class of 1956

Richard Shively
 F. M. Day
 Don Hereford
 I. R. McCormick

Class of 1957

Roy Lyman
 Wilbur Haggstrom
 George Gunther

Class of 1958

Gale Day
 Carl Hawkinson
 Janet Gillespie

Class of 1959

Dr. Bob Ansley
 White Eckroth
 Don Eberhart
 Wyoma Bean

Class of 1960

Gene Hagberg
 Don Hereford
 Dick Shively
 Ruth Smith
 Dick Lindholm

Class of 1961

George Gunther
 Wyoma Bean
 Orville McNatt
 Tom Lewis
 Earl Wolford

Class of 1962

Corum Coffey
 Wilbur Haggstrom
 Harold Edwards
 Janet Gillespie
 Lowell Rodgers
 Leland Rothe
 Norm Ranum
 Welcome Miller
 Russell Orten
 Wayne Smith

Class of 1963

Dr. Robert Ansley
 Frank Ayer
 Paul Clark
 Lois Conrad
 Melvin Shannon
 White Eckroth
 Corum Coffey
 Harold Coover
 Robert Merrick

Class of 1964

Gilbert Bean
 Gene Hagberg
 Leon Hayes
 Don Hereford
 Richard Lindholm
 Karl Smith
 Glenn VanScoy

Class of 1965

George Gunther
 Don Hamblin
 Dr. Don Hoch
 Norman Ranum
 Arnold Sabin
 John Shaw
 William Woolley

Class of 1966

Jeanne Coffey
 Orville McNatt
 Robert Merrick
 Ralph Miller
 Charles Reece
 Nadine Rothe

Melvin Shannon
Karl Smith
Class of 1967

Paul Clark
Robert Norberg
Frank Ayer
Warren Hickerson

Joan Smith
Earl Wolford
Russell Orten

Class of 1968

Art Brandon
Richard Edwards
Charles Miller
Thomas Clark
Don Hereford
Kenneth Wilson
Gil Bean

Alice Bollinger
William Moak

Class of 1969

Geraldine Eckroth
Virginia Jester
Hilary Osborn
Betty Jo Day
Paul Glasgow
Paul Hustad
Monte Varah
Mary Perry

Class of 1970

Warner Ball
Loren Blaser
Bob Briggs
Roy Henderson
Wendell Gardner
Don Gipe
Gene Hagberg
Mary Perry

Class of 1971

George Gunther
Paul King
Gerald Le Cocq
Roy Lyman
Harold Miller
Joe O'Connell
Elizabeth Price
Betty Smith
Donald Smith
Wayne Smith
Sue Williamson

Class of 1972

Vern Bostrom
Paul Clark
Don George

Norman Graves
Jess Limon
Pete Lindsay
Melvin Moore
Betty Smith
Gene Nielsen

Class of 1973

Vickie Hagberg
Dave Ginnow
Don Hereford

Roy Lyman
Hilary Osborne
John Singleton
Norma Wheeler
Bill Morris
Gene Nielsen
Don Scanlon
Bill Morris

Tom Clark

Class of 1974

Gil Bean
Nora Gallagher
Judy Gipe
Beverly Glasgow
Don Hereford
Duane Kuhn
Charles Miller

Class of 1975

Robert Coe
Richard Day
Robert Fry
Wilkie Miller
Gene Nielsen
Garnet Price
Deborah Smith
Tom Clark

Class of 1976

Reta Karr
Arnold Smith
James Sanbourne
Maude McClellan
Ran Shelley
Marguerite Hawkinson
Ed Holmberg

Class of 1977

Hilary Osborne
Bill Christopher
Sue Singleton
Dar Welborn
Dave Ginnow
Beverly Ginnow
Jeanne Coffey
Bob Nickless

Class of 1978

Ron Barker
Wendell Gardner
Donald Gipe
Jean Gray
John Maurer
Robert Nickless
Louise Norberg
Edythe Schrack

Class of 1979

Ronald Barker
Joyce Blaser
Howard Dougherty
Don Hereford
June Miller
Garnet Price
George Smith

Class of 1980

Fred Anderson
Shirley Briggs
Harold Coover
Roland Lovejoy
Edward Nolan
Glenn Ross
Norma Wheeler
Sally McNatt

Class of 1981

Jean Brown
Lou Garone
Dean Hammond
Robert Merrick
Jerry Monroe
John Singleton
Pat Stephens

Class of 1982

Gordon Aleshire
Letha Greiner
Barbara Scanlon
Jerry Seale
Orville McNatt
John E. Smith
Steve Maurer
Marjorie Lovejoy
Kara Arnold
Vicky Capps-Greiner

Class of 1983

Ann Christopher
Don Hereford
Charles Miller
Gene Nielsen
Terry Price
Wayne Smith
Bob Welte

Class of 1984

Lil Gunther
Bobbie Lowe
Randy Norberg
Ray Perriman
Donna Prokaski
Byron Richard
Edythe Schrack
Lloyd Myers

Class of 1985

Bob Briggs, Jr.
Donald Gipe
Linda Henderson
Warren Anderson
Paulette Lopez
John Maurer
Brian Olson

Class of 1986

Janet Barker
Ron Hellbusch
David Ginnow
Janelle Jojola
Alice Lund
Steve Melville
Elizabeth Price
Scott Singleton
Lee Burnett

Class of 1987

Richard Day
Larry Greiner
Deanne Hammond
Ed Morris
Warren Anderson
Max McVicker
Jerry Seale
Marion Smith
Wayne Smith
Beverly Ginnow

Class of 1988

Letha Greiner
Ronald Hellbusch
Marge Innes
Donald Jacobs
James Lemmon
Clarence Mason
Mary Shaw
Wyoma Bean

Class of 1989

Kay Bell
Betty Jo Day
Ted Frauenfelder
Ronald Hellbusch
Janis Kulhanek
Pauline Maurer

Virginia Shockley
Preston Groote

Class of 1990

Jean Gray
Lil Gunther
Neil Harkins
Virginia Jester
Shirley McVicker
Terry Price
Richard Petersen
Harold Schaal
Jerry Monroe
Wyoma Bean
Bev Ginnow

Class of 1991

Tom Fiocca
Warren Anderson
Janet Morlan
Phyllis Mortimore
Harold Robson
Lisa Price
John Shaw
Jack Tuttle
Jan Kulhanek

Class of 1992

Robert Arnold
Bill Christopher
Betty Jo Day
Rose Ann Ginnow
Betty Orten
Jonathan Purk
Edythe Schrack
Judy Hellbusch

Class of 1993

Donald Jacobs
Jan Kulhanek
Sandy Mason
Rick Norberg
Sue Singleton
Kathi Webster
Bob Welte

Class of 1994

Richard Day
Vicki Esposito
Judy George
Richard Petersen
Joan Smith
Gary Stone
Barbara Tyrer
Bill Christopher

Class of 1995

Cal Brown
Sue Browning
Lou Garone

Gary Glissman
Jonathan Purk
Colleen Mazzucca
Betty Orten
Edythe Schrack
Dana Steininger
Wyoma Bean
Bob Briggs

Class of 1996

Kurt Ammon
Betty Jo Day
Paul Bredenberg
Ronald Hellbusch
Tenny Lindholm
John Maurer
Elizabeth Price
Robbie Price

Class of 1997

Kay Bell
Robert Briggs
Si Harkins
George Gunther
Peter Judd
Joyce Morian
Georgene (GiGi) Nielsen
Wayne Smith
George Gunther
Clarence Mason

Class of 1998

Sue Walker
David Grewe
Richard Petersen
Sue Singleton
Doris Aldrich
Robert Nickless
Marcia Graves
Barbara Day

Class of 1999

Calvin Brown
Alan Cole
Julie Graham
Bret Karr
Colleen Mazzucca
John Shaw
Virginia Shockley

Class of 2000

Julie Ammon
Louis J. Garone
Irma Hellbusch
Clarence Mason
Betty Orten
Kathi Webster
Audrey Welte
Bill Christopher

~~~~~  
Changes in By-laws Oct. 25,  
1998, to reduce number of  
ruling elders from 21 to 15 (5 in  
each class), each serving 3-year  
terms; becoming effective Jan. 1,  
1999.

~~~~~  
Class of 2001

Vicki Esposito
Paul Glasgow
David Jaynes
Lisa Jones
Eva Woolley
Joan Smith
Trudy Tufford

Class of 2002

Jon Purk
Larry Ewoldt
Ethel Rullo
Sandy Bredenberg
Aimee Horst
Jan Kulhanek

Class of 2003

Irma Hellbusch
Richard Day
Gloria Van Meter
Ron Hellbusch
Kathy Benedict

Class of 2004

Doris Aldrich
Martha Bering
Sandy Horst
John Maurer
Janet Scanlon
Jeremy Scanlon
(Youth Elder)

Class of 2005

Cynthia Zeigler
Lori Smith
Bobbie Lowe
Carol Skidmore
Keith Conklin
Elizabeth Price
Michael Garone
(Youth Elder)

Class of 2006

Bob Nickless
Lou Garone
Bob van Meter
Doris Coe
Joan Smith
Amanda Silver
(Youth Elder)

Class of 2007

Kathy Benedict
Barbara Scanlon
Beverly Redeiss
Dan Smith
Kurt Ammon
Jim Redeiss
Mary Lou Conklin
(Youth Elder)

Class of 2008.

Julie Graham
John Henderson
Pam Merrill
Valdene Ranum
Elizabeth Price
Class of 2009
Pat Bredenberg
Judy Jester
Ron Hellbusch
Gloria Van Meter
Colleen Mazzucca
Katie Thompson
(Youth Elder)

~~~~~  
**Board of Trustees**

**1946-1947**

Carl Hawkinson-President  
Mrs. Maria B. VanScoy  
F.S. McMillen  
Sam Henderson  
James Langford  
Elmer K. Hoover  
Mrs. H. E. Bashline  
Robert E. Butler

**1954**

Frank Ayer, Chairman  
Elmer Hoover,  
Vice-chairman  
Betty Jo Day, secretary  
Mary Shively, Treasurer  
Gene Hagberg,  
\*Chairman of grounds  
Jack Smith  
Genevive Plandel  
Herbert McClellan  
\*Chairman of church  
inside  
Lloyd Ferguson  
\*Chairman of church  
outside

**Class of 1956**

Gene Hagberg  
Jack Smith  
Herbert McClellan

---

**Class of 1957**

Bill McGuire  
Earl Wolford  
Gil Bean  
Bill Malmo

**Class of 1958**

Beverly Glasgow  
Arlene VanScoy  
Richard Edwards

**Class of 1959**

Florine Ross  
Frank Ayer  
Paul Clark

**Class of 1960**

Louise Norberg  
Ralph Miller  
Dr. Harley Stephens  
Leland Rothe

**Class of 1961**

Bob Decker  
Hilary Osborn  
Norman Ranum

**Class of 1962**

Harold Coover  
Lowell Rodgers  
Arlene VanScoy

---

**Board of Deacons-**

The Deacons held their first meeting on January 25, 1954, with Margaret Ayer as Secretary. \$226.07 were disbursed for camps/conferences, pension funds, flowers and postage to send clothes to Korea.

---

**1955-Board of Deacons**

Richard Berry  
James Hoop  
Harold Peterson  
Anna Rogers  
Doris Day

**Class of 1956**

Corrine Hustad  
Margaret Ayer  
Elmer Hoover  
Claude Shriver

**Class of 1957**

Corrine Hustad  
Orville McNatt  
Richard Berry  
Tom Lewis

**Class of 1958**

Lowell Rodgers

Janie King  
Wayne Smith  
Frank McCormick

**Class of 1959**

Paul Goedert  
Bob Jurgens  
Welcome Miller  
Harold Edwards

**Class of 1960**

Elmer VanScoy  
Jim Kirkpatrick  
Geraldine Eckroth  
Bob Norberg

**Class of 1961**

Leo Cunningham  
Wendell Dunn  
Don Hamblin  
Alice Rodgers

**Class of 1962**

William Greiner  
Jo Merrick  
Russell McConnell  
Bill Grant  
Dale Turner

**Class of 1963**

Don Gipe  
Vida Ranum  
Thomas Schrack  
Irene Wolford

**Class of 1964**

Art Brandon  
Beverly Clark  
Charles Miller  
Monte Varah

**Class of 1965**

Virginia Jester  
Mary Perry  
James Rose  
Arthur S. Roberts  
Marjory Ball

**Class of 1966**

Roy Henderson  
Lowell Rodgers  
James Kirkpatrick  
Charles Miller  
Janie King

Alyce Newland  
Don Wagner

**Class of 1967**

Mae Heikens  
Robert Roberts  
Thomas Schrack  
John Thaxton  
Wendell Gardner

Art Roberts  
Marjory Ball

**Class of 1968**

Art Roberts  
Edith Spain  
Thomas Joy  
Mary Shaw  
Eleanor Johnson

**Class of 1969**

Don Scanlon  
Richard Day  
Ernest Eichmeyer  
Eleanor Johnson  
Mary Ellen Shannon

**Class of 1970**

Bill Fox  
Sherry Roberts  
Joe Kruger  
Don Scanlon  
Harold Hemmingson

**Class of 1971**

Margaret Ayer  
Wyoma Bean  
Beverly Clark  
Leonard Dillingham  
Ernest Eichmeyer  
Mae Heikens  
George Smith

**Class of 1972**

Sharon Arnold  
Jack Higginbotham  
Frances Campbell  
Lottie Evanoika  
Mae Heikens  
Bill Pitcher  
Jack Savage

**Class of 1973**

Reg Findlay  
Virginia Harter  
Curtis Lund  
Bill Young  
Bill Pitcher

**Class of 1974**

Don Ebel  
Warren Hickerson  
Welcome Miller  
Mark Perry

**Class of 1975**

Marcia Adkins  
Bob Ginnow  
Lil Gunther  
Mary Smith  
Ted Shockley

**Class of 1976**

Tom Clark  
Janet Lemon  
Tom McFall  
Don Scanlon

**Class of 1977**

Alice Rodgers  
Bernice Richards  
Howard Dougherty  
Don Scanlon  
Deborah Durham

**Class of 1978**

Vicki Barton  
Sally McNatt  
Dennis Lopez  
Robert Monzingo  
John Smith

**Class of 1979**

Mae Heikens  
Jenifer Gardner  
Nell Nielsen  
Dennis Lopez  
Andy Roebke

**Class of 1980**

Barbara Day  
Russell Miller  
Don Scanlon  
Chuck Meyers  
Carole Steininger  
Jerome Davidson

**Class of 1981**

Ann Chambers  
Alice Graves  
Diane Halley  
Bernice Richards  
Curtis Lund

**Class of 1982**

Doris Coe  
Larry McIntosh  
Ralph Miller  
Dorothy Roberts

**Class of 1983**

Irene Ellersick  
Larry Greiner  
Jerry Murphy  
Barbara Tyrer

**Class of 1984**

Eva Brown  
Wally McDonald  
Harold Thomas  
Callie Miller  
Vic Owen  
Betty Kruger  
Peg Thompson

---

---

**Class of 1985**

Joan Curtiss  
Christy Price  
Mary Shaw  
Harold Coover  
Wyoma Bean  
Vaughn House  
Lee Burnett

**Class of 1986**

June Miller  
Don Scanlon  
Pat Whitcomb

**Class of 1987**

Bob & Sharon Arnold  
Judy Jester  
Bret Karr  
Joe & Betty Kruger  
Peg Thompson

**Class of 1988**

LaVerne Hetherington  
Lowell & Phyllis Lewis  
Joe & Ann Nalley  
Harold & Louise Robson  
Thelma Willie  
Charles & June Miller

**Class of 1989**

Doris Aldrich  
John & Chris Floryancic  
Jerry Meier  
Don & Joan Nelson  
Eva Woolley  
Sam & Colleen Mazzucca

**Class of 1990**

Linda Martin  
Sandy Mason  
Susan Singleton  
Kathi Webster  
Twyla Woolley  
Joan Nelson

**Class of 1991**

Linda Crawford  
Barbara Day  
Ruth Garman  
Florence Tyler  
Gary & Eileen Glissmann  
Irene Gomez  
Jerry Meier

**Class of 1992**

Doris Aldrich  
Robert Durham  
Steve Innes  
Sam & Colleen Mazzucca  
Elwood & Kay Bell

**Class of 1993**

Neil & Si Harkins  
Betty Kruger  
Rachel Monroe  
Marshall & Sue Walker  
John Wolf

**Class of 1994**

Linda Crawford  
Robert Durham  
Kevin & Tracey Davisson  
Max & Shirley McVicker  
Terry Mortimore

**Class of 1995**

Boyd & Pat Fickes  
Matt & Julie Graham  
Harold & Betty Hemmingson  
Nancy Schooley  
Trudy Tufford  
Elwood & Kay Bell

**Class of 1996**

Boyd & Pat Fickes  
Larry & Beverly Fuqua  
Richard & Donna Marvel  
Barbara Scanlon  
Bob and Audrey Welte

**Class of 1997**

Martha Bering  
Bonnie Britton  
Bob & Kathy Jones  
Scott Paradine  
Mary Petersen  
Louise & Harold Robson  
Pat Hinde

**Class of 1998**

Ray & Bea Harkins  
Pat Hinde  
Lowell & Alice Rodgers  
Jim & Beverly Rediess  
Paul & Beverly Glasgow  
Steve & Marge Innes

**Class of 1999**

Keith & Anne Conklin  
Louise Hooper  
Jan Kulhanek  
Jerry & Mel Moore  
Mary Payne

---

---

Changes in By-laws Oct. 25,  
1998, will reduce the number of  
Deacons from 15 to 9 (3 in each  
class), each serving 3- year  
terms; becoming effective Jan. 1,  
1999.

---

---

**Class of 2000**

Sue Browning  
John Maurer  
Marti Usher  
Bob & Gloria Van Meter  
Bob & Dorothy Durham

**Class of 2001**

Doris Coe  
Bob Welte  
Cynthia Ziegler

**Class of 2002**

Jean Ashley  
Jo Parrott  
Richard Petersen  
Robert Van Meter

**Class of 2003**

Bea Harkins  
Michael & Julie Pagan  
Don & Anne Rhoda

**Class of 2004**

Kay Bell  
Pam Merrill  
Wayne Smith

**Class of 2005**

Michael & Louise Contereas  
Doreen Wegner  
Elwyn & Francine Taylor

**Class of 2006**

Eulie Bing  
Patricia Hendricks  
Pauline Maurer

**Class of 2007**

Dan & Cindy Branaman  
Marilyn Naico  
Barbara Day

**Class of 2008**

Bob & Carol Kentfield  
Mark & Jene Meier  
Joyce Russell

**Class of 2009**

Tom Alexander  
Becky Patton  
Bonnie Kramer  
Eulie Bing

---

---

---

---

**Church Secretaries****1955-1965**

Betty Jo Day

---

**1965-1975**

Lois Conrad

---

**1975-1999**

Eva Woolley

---

**1999-present-2007**

Barbara Tyrer

---

---

---

## Credits, Sources and Acknowledgments:

Many people have written articles about the history of the Westminster Presbyterian Church for special events in its history: Janet Gillespie, Rev. Lester Nickless, Mildred Melville, Francis Day, Matilda Campbell, Rich Day, and Jerry Moore. A beautiful slide presentation of the church history was created and presented by Alice Lund at the kick-off campaign for the "Building to Serve" addition.

A brief history has been published in many of our previous pictorial directories.

Jerry Moore, former librarian/historian, spent many weeks collecting and organizing the historical material and creating displays of the church history during the Centennial Celebration in 1992. Those displays represented a small amount of the historical material stored in several file cabinets in the basement of this church.

Notebooks, marked by the year 1992-2007 and a few notebooks of previous years organized by Jerry Moore, are located in the library. They contain stories, pictures, "In Memoriam" pages and special events during that marked year, and are always available for viewing.

### *SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED THROUGH THE YEARS.*

*\*\*Donated records from Gillespie/Campbell collections*

*\*\*Donated material from Rev. Les Nickless collections*

*\*\*Members and friends of the church*

*\*\*Pictures - color slides taken in 1950s-1960; pictures taken by church members through the years. Lori Smith faithfully took pictures and displayed them after special events. Don and Gail George, the present historian photographers, take pictures of the various events and activities and continue to create beautiful yearly history notebooks.*

~~~~~

OTHER SOURCES:

***Excerpts from previous church histories written by church members*

***Excerpts from publications published by the Westminster Historical Society*

***Excerpts from "The Story of a College Ministry" by Andy James Lavender*

***Excerpts from news clippings from local and area newspapers*

***Facts from church's annual reports and church directories*

***Excerpts from articles written by church members*

***Information from church records regarding pastors, refugees and special events in the history of the church.*

~~~~~

A very grateful and special thanks to Rev. Annie Piper who proofread, made suggestions, helped revise articles with appropriate word usage and served as my editing "Angel."

Much appreciation and thanks to Paul, Angie, Sandy and Annette at the Publishing House for their patience, their advice and their guidance in the production of this book.

-Elizabeth Price

~~~~~

We would like to thank Elizabeth Price for dedicating herself to the writing and publication of this anniversary book for Westminster Presbyterian Church. Her enthusiasm for the task, attention to detail, delight in finding historical information, and love for this church shine through every word she has written. Many, many thanks, Elizabeth!

The church also extends its gratitude to Paul and Angie Johnson for publishing this volume at the Publishing House, the family publishing business.

We are very grateful for their generosity. -John and Annie Piper

Koehler, Kristen

From: ROBERT GRAYBEAL <r-graybeal@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 2:59 PM
To: Koehler, Kristen
Subject: RE: Transmitting Westminster Presbyterian Church Local Landmark Designation Application to Westminster Historical Society for Comment

I would add to the history that not only is it the oldest church in Westminster but it was instrumental in bringing the university of Westminster to this town thereby creating the community we know today as Westminster. Also the church building is built on the site of the first settlers in Westminster - the DeSpains who came in 1870. A cottonwood tree planted by the DeSpains is still thriving on the current site as well. Linda Graybeal

On November 13, 2019 at 3:07 PM "Koehler, Kristen" <kkoehler@CityofWestminster.us> wrote:

Dear Westminster Historical Society:

This is a reminder that the deadline to submit comments regarding the Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary local historic landmark application is today. The meeting packet will be finalized on 11/18/2019 and all comments must be submitted to me by Thursday, November 14 at the very latest to be included in the packet that the HLB members will receive. If I do not receive WHS's comments by the end of the day on 11/14, I will assume that no comments are being made by the WHS regarding this particular application.

Thank you!

Kristen

From: Koehler, Kristen
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2019 2:00 PM
To: 'westminstercohistory@gmail.com' <westminstercohistory@gmail.com>
Cc: 'ROBERT GRAYBEAL' <r-graybeal@comcast.net>
Subject: Transmitting Westminster Presbyterian Church Local Landmark Designation Application to Westminster Historical Society for Comment

Dear Westminster Historical Society:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW OF CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

W.M.C. 11-13-7(A)3a

Relationship to the Comprehensive Plan

- (Attachment 1) Map shows 3990 West 74th Avenue with Public/Quasi-Public land use designation;
- (Attachment 2) Comprehensive Plan description of the Public/Quasi-Public designation;
- The Public/Quasi-Public designation is “intended for uses related to general community services, such as places of worship, ...”
- The church use is consistent with the existing designation in the Westminster Comprehensive Plan.

W.M.C. 11-13-7(A)3b

Effect of Designation on the Surrounding Neighborhood

- The designation will preserve a structure that has been a part of the surrounding neighborhood for 62 years. A church was established at this site in 1922, and church use has been in continuous use since that time.
- The designation will not have negative effects on the surrounding neighborhood. Parking, access, landscaping, and use will not change.

W.M.C. 11-13-7(A)3c requires review of the criteria set forth in Chapter 11-13-5(A) **SEE BELOW**

11-13-5(A): CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION: The board will consider the following criteria in reviewing nominations of properties for designation:

(A) Properties receiving historic designations shall be at least fifty (50) years old except as otherwise provided herein and possess architectural, social, or geographical/environmental importance by meeting one or more of the following:

1. Exemplifies specific elements of an architectural style or period;
 - The modified A-frame roof was a popular architectural style in the 1950's;
 - Exaggerated roof overhangs, and a simply adorned exterior are characteristics of this style;
 - Simple colored glass panels were a common style for church design in the 1950's.
 - Brick or other masonry were a common exterior building material for church buildings in the 1950's in Colorado.
2. Is an example of the work of an architect or builder who is recognized for expertise nationally, statewide, regionally, or locally;
 - The architect of record is Hobart D. Wagener of Boulder, Colorado.
 - Records indicate that Wagener was active as an architect in Colorado in the 1950's through the 1980's.
 - From 1953 to 1985 Wagener had an architectural practice in Boulder, Colorado. He worked with community leaders and homeowners to design and build over 200 public and commercial buildings and homes in Boulder and throughout Colorado. His projects included St. John's Episcopal Chapel, First Methodist Sanctuary, Boulder Country Club, Presbyterian Manor Apartments, Fairview High School, Fruehauf Garden Center, the First National Bank, and

Midland Savings Banks. He designed the University of Colorado Kittredge Dormitories and Williams Village. As a partner in Architectural Associates of Colorado, he collaborated in the design of the University of Colorado Engineering Sciences Complex. Williams Village was recognized in 1995 as the outstanding building in Colorado built in the past 25 years.

3. Demonstrates superior craftsmanship or high artistic value;
 - The church structure is well crafted. There are few visible signs of settling, or deterioration of the masonry structure.
4. Represents an innovation in construction, materials or design;
 - Does not apply.
5. Represents a style particularly associated with the Westminster area;
 - The church is of a style that is associated with churches in the 1950's. Other churches constructed in the northern Denver metro area had prominent single gabled roof structures, and side walls of brick.
6. Represents a built environment of a group of people in an era of history;
 - Does not apply.
7. Represents a pattern or grouping of elements representing at least one of the above criteria;
 - The church fulfills/represents criteria 1, 2, 3, and 5 of the above criteria.
8. Has undergone significant historic remodel;
 - The church has not undergone significant historic remodel;
9. Is the site of historic event that had an effect upon society;
 - The site does not have a singular historic event that has effected society, but the accumulation of the church's numerous members' prominent role in the early development of Westminster had a significant impact on the development of the City. The involvement of church members in the larger Westminster community continues into the 21st Century.
10. Exemplifies cultural, political, economic or social heritage of the community;
 - The Presbyterian church has played a prominent role in the early settlement of Westminster, and this prominence continued through the time the church was built in 1957, subsequent expansions, and continues through to today.
 - Six members of this Presbyterian congregation have served as Mayor of the City of Westminster, and other members have served as members of the Westminster City Council.
 - Presbyterian church members have allowed the church and related buildings to be available for numerous community efforts, and have supported sub-groups as needed. Examples of inclusivity of the larger community are the Head Start programs, meals and occasional shelter for homeless, and a shared use with a Jewish congregation.
11. Represents an association with a notable person or the work of a notable person;
 - Does not apply.
12. Represents a typical example/association with a particular ethnic group;

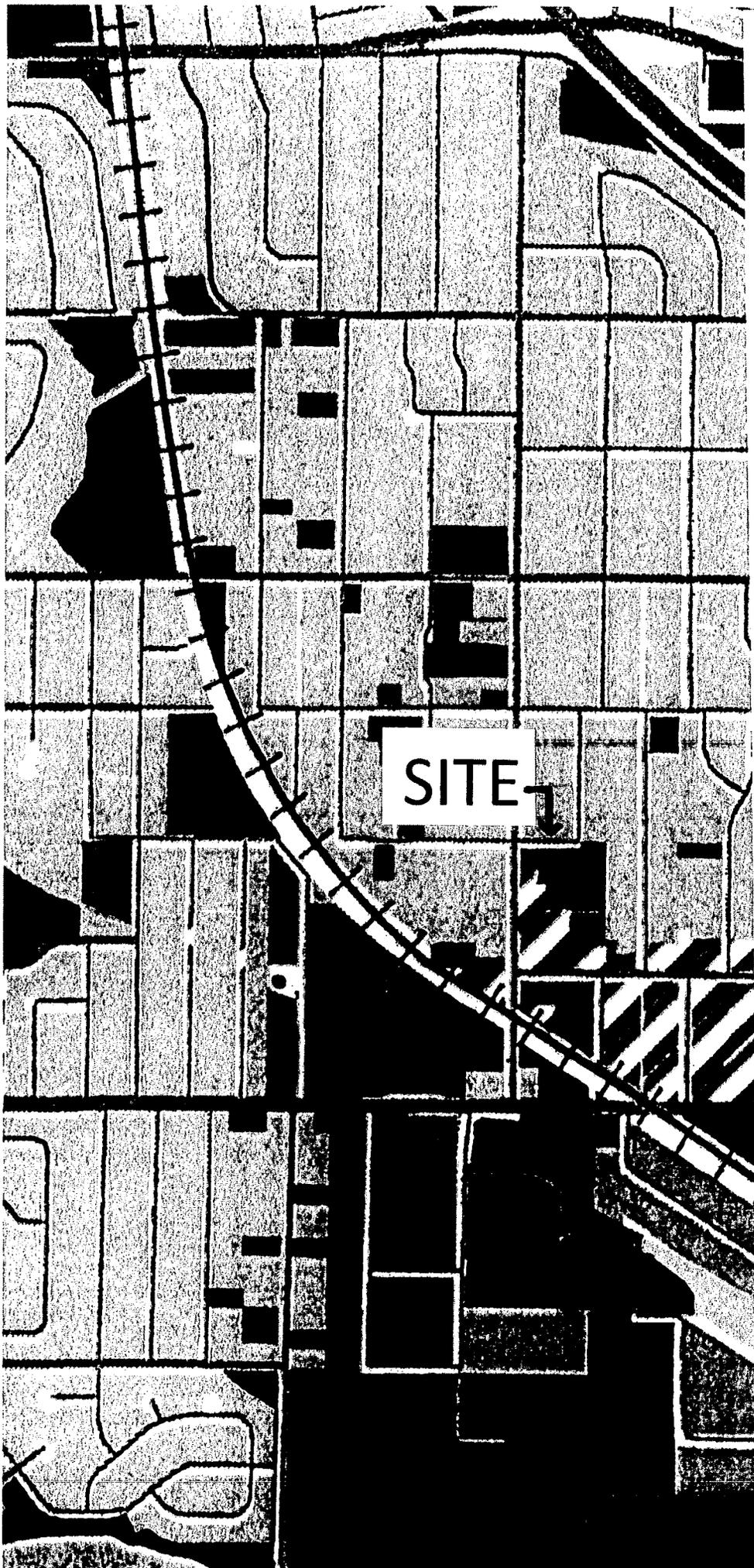
- Does not apply.
13. Represents a unique example of an event in Westminster's history;
- Does not apply.
14. Enhances sense of identity of the community;
- The Presbyterian church and the strong leadership and community involvement of its members for over 120 years enhances the sense of identity of the community. The original Westminster University was a Presbyterian affiliation, the name of the City is with this association, and this legacy continues today.
15. Is an established and familiar natural setting or visual feature of the community.
- The church location is a long established visual feature of the community. A Presbyterian church has been at this location since 1925.
 - The expansion/additions of the church have been to the east and have not diminished the church's visibility to Bradburn Boulevard at the west of the church, or reduced its presence on 74th Avenue. The church remains a strong visual feature of the Westminster community.

W.M.C. 11-13-7(A)3d

Other Planning Considerations as may be Relevant to the Proposed Designation

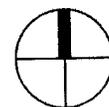
- All Planning considerations are noted above.

Figure 2-2: Land Use Diagram



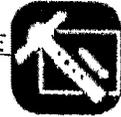
Legend

-  Residential R-1
-  Residential R-2.5
-  Residential R-3.5
-  Residential R-5
-  Residential R-8
-  Residential R-18
-  Residential R-36
-  Traditional Mixed Use Neighbo
-  Mixed Use
-  Mixed Use Center
-  Retail Commercial
-  Service Commercial
-  Office
-  Office/R&D Low Intensity
-  Office/R&D High Intensity
-  Flex/Light Industrial
-  Public/Quasi-Public
-  Public Parks
-  City Owned Open Space
-  Golf Courses
-  Private Parks/Open Space
-  Major Creek Corridor on Non-
-  City Limits
-  Water

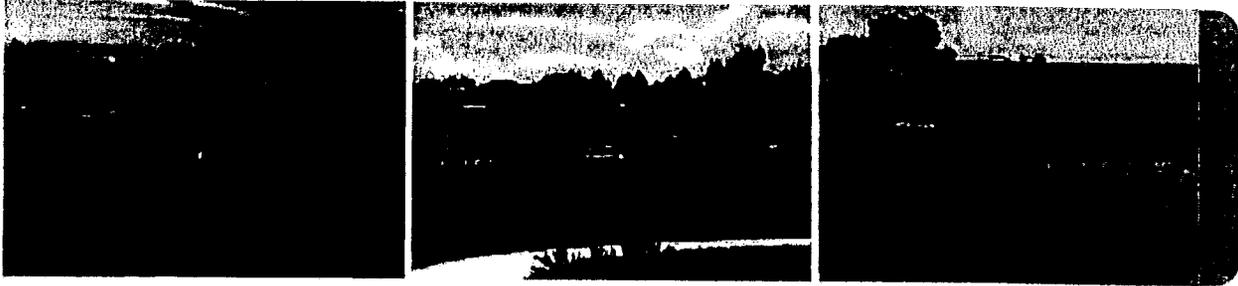


NORTH

LAND USE



Golf Courses



This designation applies to both public and private golf courses, including three public courses and two private courses. Public golf courses provide additional open space, natural habitat and trail connections that connect to the greater parks and open space network in the city.

Public/Quasi Public



This designation is intended for uses related to general community services, such as public safety facilities, schools and institutions of higher learning, places of worship, community centers, hospitals, municipal facilities and cemeteries. Future public and quasi-public uses such as private schools and recreation facilities, although not shown specifically on the Land Use Diagram, are generally allowed in residential areas subject to City review and approval. Places of assembly are also allowed in non-residential use categories subject to City review.

Major Creek Corridor on Non-Public Land

These areas are flood corridors within the 100-year floodplain located on private land. Flood corridor areas should remain undeveloped to protect property from flood damage, and to preserve the riparian habitat and wildlife associated with the area. Filling in of flood plains is generally prohibited except where flooding is caused by sheet flow. Where filling or channelization may be allowed, it must be a natural appearing design.

**HISTORIC LANDMARK BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-05**

WHEREAS, the Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary is historically significant because:

1. The building is at least 50 years old and represents a distinctive mid-century modern style particularly associated with the Westminster area,
2. Exemplifies cultural, political, economic, or social heritage of the community by being the first church organized in Westminster in 1892, and the only church in Westminster until 1949, and its association with Westminster University, and
3. Represents an association with notable persons in Westminster history, including members of the congregation that include six former Westminster mayors (Bean, Hoch, King, Nelson, Wilson, and Day); and

WHEREAS, the City Staff has caused the historical significance of the property to be documented and the owner has applied to this Board for a recommendation as to whether the property should be designated as a local historic landmark,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Historic Landmark Board of the City of Westminster resolves that:

1. The Board recommends to the Westminster City Council that the Westminster Presbyterian Church Sanctuary be designated as a local historic landmark pursuant to Section 11-13-5 of the Westminster Municipal Code.
2. The particular features that should be preserved include:
 - a. The sanctuary, in its original condition.
 - b. Window and entry way configurations.
 - c. Steep, peaked roofline.
 - d. Stained glass windows and exterior crosses.
 - e. Raised brick planters.
 - f. Red brick exterior.
 - g. Brick pony walls.
 - h. All other exterior original features when it was built in 1957.

3. Legal description and location of the property:

Address: 3990 West 74th Avenue, Adams County, Westminster, Colorado 80030
Legal description: Harris Park Blk 35 First Replat of Part A Lot 1
UTM coordinates: 39 degrees 49' 51" N, 105 degrees 2' 23" W

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of November, 2019.

THE WESTMINSTER HISTORIC LANDMARK BOARD

Matthew Bell, Interim Board Chair

Agenda Item 4. a) Updates on Historic Properties

CITY-OWNED DESIGNATED HISTORIC PROPERTIES

a) Bowles House at 3924 West 72nd Avenue

1. The old shops building near the Bowles House has been removed and the historic viewshed on 72nd has been restored. The Open Space division will reseed the site and a playground will be constructed in the future. (3-23-18)
2. Shoenberg farm equipment relocated from adjacent City property adjacent to, and west of the Bowles House to the Bowles House lot. Signage reinstalled, irrigation heads relocated, and bark mulched area for display prepared. (10-17)
3. Repairs to damage of landscape and irrigation complete. (9-1-15)
4. Gutter installation in September. (9-1-15)
5. Soffit repair complete. (7-15-15)
6. Plans for soffit repair and gutter installation received. (12-11-14)
7. Contract commencement for soffit repair and gutter replacement. (12-2-14)
8. Notification of award of grant for Bowles House soffit repair and gutter replacement. (6-3-14)
9. Certificate of Historic Appropriateness for soffit repair and gutter replacement to be reviewed at a public hearing on 6-3-14. (5-29-14)
10. Grant application for Bowles soffit and gutter repair reviewed by HLB 3-4-14. Resolution for support reviewed by HLB. Grant application due April 1, 2014. (3-4-14)
11. New fence and arch gate and landscape wall repair at north side of parking lot complete. (5-21-13)
12. East Porch and wall crack repair complete. (5-1-12)
13. North porch repairs complete, includes repointing east chimney. (5-1-12)
14. Landscaping trimmed and groomed. (9-4-12)
15. Soffit deterioration repair complete. (12-4-12)

b) Semper/Allison Farm at 6785 West 92nd Avenue

1. Quotes being gathered for roof replacement on barn and garage. Certificate of Historic Appropriateness hearing November 27, 2019. (11-15-19)
2. Windows repaired. (6-14-19)
3. Broken windows due to vandalism at Semper Farm Residence. Repairs completed. (5-14-2019)
4. Roof replacement project on Semper Farm Residence completed. (4-29-2019)
5. Certificate of Historic Appropriateness approved for roof replacement on Semper Farm residence. (2-27-2019)
6. Discussion to add a trellis/arch to the garden plot area of the farm. Parks and Open Space Division has put the trellis/arch on hold until there is a better idea of the direction for the Semper Farm. (10-29-15)
7. Discussion of security issues and need for review. (8-19-15)
8. Semper/Allison 3-car stall garage public hearing review for Certificate of Historic Appropriateness for proposed demolition. (1-6-15)
9. Semper signs installed and site groomed in July – August, 2014. (12-2-14)
10. The Semper signs are complete and will be installed the second week of June. Parks has been great in working to get a trail in place. Presently, they have mowed them in

- and will spray to kill the grass, and then by early fall they are looking to have a volunteer open space project to finish the trail with crusher fines. (6-3-14)
11. Proposed informational panels reviewed by the HLB on 3-4-14. (5-29-14)
 12. Notice that grant for barn rehab not awarded. (9-3-13)
 13. Grant application submitted to the State Historic Fund April 1, 2013. Funding is sought for the repair and stabilization of the Semper/Allison barn. HLB reviewed proposal 3-5-13. Notice of grant award by August 1, 2013. (5-21-13)
 14. Grant application submitted November 15, 2012 to add informational signage at the Semper Farm. Grant awarded, and contract negotiations and sign review in process. (3-4-14)
 15. The non-profit Rocky Mountain Land Library is interested in the Semper farmhouse as a site for their collection. Meeting held on August 27, 2012. Decision of land library later in 2012. Decision delayed to early 2013. (3-5-13)
 16. The Semper Farm Master Plan continues to evolve. Staff met to review next steps. (3-5-13)
 17. In 2009 there was damage to the stucco and roof shingles on the restored 1960 well pump house and flagstone patio damage adjacent to the 1880's well. Repairs have not been completed. (8-7-12)

c) Shoenberg Farm at 7231 Sheridan Boulevard

1. Concrete Silo
 - i. Rehab work on the concrete silo is complete. (5-1-12)
2. Wood silo
 - i. Rehabilitation complete. (7-15-18)
 - ii. Roof repair, repainting, wood repairs/replacement, and tree at foundation removed. (2-26-18)
 - iii. Certificate of Historic Appropriateness hearing. (10-3-17)
 - iv. No change in status. (5-1-12)
3. Farmhouse
 - i. Agreement with City Engineering Staff and SHF to mothball the structure. (10-4-17)
 - ii. No change in status. (5-1-12)
4. Barn
 - i. Easement inspection performed for entire Shoenberg Farm property. (10-9-19)
 - ii. Easement inspection performed for entire Shoenberg Farm property. (7-31-18)
 - iii. In November Westminster Historic Society and Fire Department volunteers moved numerous boxes and artifacts of Shoenberg history into the barn. (12-1-15)
 - iv. The City has prepared a draft landscape and parking plan for the area west of the barn. The City has commissioned basic cost estimates for installing utilities, bathrooms and minor interior finish for potential office or restaurant use. The estimates and the landscape plan will be used to market the site to potential users. (8-7-12)
5. Pumphouse/Generator building
 - i. Quotes being gathered for replacement of broken window. (11-13-19)
 - ii. Rehab complete; new foundation poured, roof repaired, door replaced. (7-15-18)
 - iii. Certificate of Historic Appropriateness hearing. (10-3-17)
 - iv. No change in status. (5-1-12)
6. Garage

- i. City Engineering Staff and SHF agree to mothball the structure. (10-4-17)
 - ii. Apartment north door on the upper level has been repaired and secured. (5-21-13)
7. Milk House
- i. Quotes being gathered for replacement of broken window. (11-13-19)
 - ii. Rehabilitation complete. (5-2-17)
 - iii. Stabilization of south wall necessary. Foundation stabilization costs have exceeded budget. Request to City Council in August to allocate funds for extra costs for milk house improvements. (8-2-16)
 - iv. Rehabilitation underway: foundation stabilization in progress; roof replacement in progress; window rehabilitation in progress. (6-7-16)
 - v. Contracts for foundation stabilization to be approved by City Council 4-16, and work to begin end of April, 2016. Two contracts for foundation work will total \$232,673. Construction fence has been installed. (4-5-16)
 - vi. Project manager has scheduled concrete work in Spring of 2016. SHF staff agreed to extend contract due to difficulty of finding sub-contractors willing to do small projects. (8-27-15)
 - vii. Bids received in June, 2014 rejected as too high. Bid proposal reissued in August and no bids received. SHF will allow Staff to act as contractor and coordinate sub-contracts to complete the rehabilitation. Contract extended to June 2015. (12-2-14)
 - viii. Bids are due in mid-June, contract negotiations the following month, construction anticipated to begin in August, 2014. (6-3-14)
 - ix. Notice on February 3, 2014 that grant for window and roof repair not awarded. (3-4-14)
 - x. A grant application was submitted to the State Historic Fund October 1, 2013. Funding is sought for window repair and roof repair. HLB reviewed the proposal 3-5-13. Grant notification by February 1, 2014 (12-3-13)
 - xi. Notice on June 1, 2013 that grant for window and roof repair not awarded. (9-3-13)
 - xii. A grant application was submitted to the State Historic Fund April 1, 2013. Funding is sought for window repair and roof repair. HLB reviewed the proposal 3-5-13. Grant notification by June 1, 2013 (5-21-13)
 - xiii. A grant application was submitted to the State Historic Fund on April 1, 2012 to seek funding for partial rehabilitation of the Milk House. On August 20, 2012 the City learned that a partial grant was awarded. Contract with the State Historic Fund is in place. Rehabilitation anticipated to start in Summer, 2014. Request for bids to be issued April, 2014. (3-4-14)
 - xiv. Windows boarded on the Milk House, the farmhouse, and the pumphouse/generator building. (12-4-12)
8. Quonset demolished by Tepper family. (12-3-13)
9. Truck repair shop and milk processing plant demolished by Tepper family. Land is still owned by the original landowner, the Tepper family. Land is now vacant. (8-2-16)
- d) Church's Stage Stop Well at 10395 Wadsworth Boulevard
- 1. Recognized as a Jefferson County historic landmark on October 22, 2015. (12-1-15)
 - 2. Review by City's Historic Landmark Board of nomination as a Jefferson County Historic Landmark. (9-1-15)
 - 3. The HLB nominated this site as a Jefferson County historic landmark at their 6-4-13 meeting. (9-3-13).

4. A historic plaque was installed at the site in April, 2012. (5-1-12)
- e) Westminster's First Town Hall at 3924 West 72nd Avenue
1. New roof completed. (10-3-17)
 2. Temporary roof repair due to animal damage. (5-2-17)
 3. Roof repairs in September 2014 and May 2015 due to raccoon damage. (9-1-15)
 4. No change in status. (8-7-12)
- f) Marion Barn at SWC 120th & Pecos Street
1. HLB recommended designation as a local historic landmark on December 4, 2012. City Council designated as a local historic landmark on January 14, 2013. (3-5-13)
- g) Wesley Chapel Cemetery at NEC 120th Avenue and Huron Street
1. Construction of the brick pillars has begun. Foundations are complete. Following the column completion, the fencing contractor will install gates and iron style decorative fencing. The second phase of work will be to construct the small gravel parking area and gravel footpath to the cemetery entrance on the north side. Along with this will be tree plantings along Huron and 122nd. A schedule for this work has not been determined, and the City is looking to self-perform this second phase work in spring 2020. (10-28-19).
 2. Fence and column work is out for bid; bid results expected late June. Construction to start around September, 2019. (6-17-19)
 3. Archaeologist selected for monitoring of cemetery site while ground disturbing work is taking place. (4-16-2019)
 4. Annual Wesley Chapel Cemetery Association Board meeting held. The Association reviewed the conceptual design for improvements to the cemetery (4-6-2019).
 5. 2019 CIP funding in the amount of \$200,000 adopted by City Council for improvements to Wesley Chapel Cemetery. (10-8-18)
 6. Certificate of historic appropriateness approved by the Historic Landmark Board for improvements to the site. Funding is being sought for improvements through the 2019/20 budget process. (6-5-18)
 7. Annual Wesley Chapel Cemetery Association Board meeting held. (4-14-18)
 8. Additional family information for one of the plots has been received and added to the other documentation of persons buried there. (5-21-13)
 9. The Cemetery Board annual meeting was held April, 2013. (5-21-13)
 10. A brochure has been completed. (5-1-12)
 11. Documentation of the individuals buried in the cemetery is complete. (5-1-12)
- h) Lower Church Lake Barn and Silo at 10850 Wadsworth Boulevard
1. No change in status. (8-7-12)
- i) Rodeo Market at 3915 West 73rd Avenue
1. The building is being used for various temporary purposes. (9-5-18)
- j) Metzger Farm at 12080 Lowell Boulevard (jointly owned with City and County of Broomfield)
1. Historic signage in fabrication. All other site projects completed. Open Space is working with the academy school across the street to re-establish the historic Victory garden on site as a collaborative project that will bring k-12 students to the farm.

- Agreement is anticipated to be completed in January 2020, with work on the garden in the spring.
2. Contract in place for historical interpretive signage, expected to be installed in September, 2019. Interviews with the Metzger family will take place in June, 2019. Building completion is expected by July, 2019. (6-17-19)
 3. A contractor has been selected for phase two of the project which includes stabilization, siding repair, and new roofs for all of the remaining structures. All structures and interpretive signs are planned for completion by late spring of 2019. The Broomfield-Westminster Open Space Foundation is working on details for having a person live in the caretaker's house. (11-19-18)
 4. City Council approved an IGA between Westminster, the City and County of Broomfield, and the Broomfield-Westminster Open Space Foundation for the use of grant funds to complete the restoration of the property. (1-22-18)
 5. Section 106 Determination of Effect for drainage and trail section at the southeast part of the Farm site. Comments due January 29, 2015. (12-30-15)
 6. Section 106 review for Nissen Channel Improvements. City letter of support on 10-22-14. (12-2-14)
 7. Listed by the US Department of the Interior, National Park Services on the National Register of Historic Places on March 20th, 2013. (5-21-13)
 8. Nomination reviewed and supported by the HLB on 9-4-12. (3-5-13)

NON-CITY-OWNED DESIGNATED HISTORIC PROPERTIES

- k) Harris Park School at 7200 Lowell Boulevard (designated landmark)
1. Open house for Westminster History Research Center held 12-3-13. (12-3-13)
 2. Adams County School District 50 has discussed funding a "Westminster History Research Center" to be located in this building. School Board member Marilyn Flachman is main contact for this. (3-5-13)
- l) Union High School at 3455 West 72nd Avenue (designated landmark)
1. The building is owned by Adams County School District 50. (12-3-13)
- m) Westminster Grange Hall at 3935 West 73rd Avenue
1. The building continues to be used for Grange events. (5-1-12)
- n) Penguin Building at 7265 -7269 Lowell Boulevard
1. Discussion of status of attached garage inconclusive. (5-2-17)
 2. Buildings adjacent demolished in November, 2015. (12-1-15)
 3. Discussion of structural concerns with City Development Review Committee.(10-3-14)
 4. HLB discussion of repairs to Lowell Street façade, and addition of awnings. (8-7-12)
- o) Red & White Grocery at 3947-3949 West 73rd Avenue
1. HLB discussion of 73rd Avenue façade. (8-7-12)
- p) Savory Savory Mushroom Farm Water Tower at 110th & Federal Boulevard – at the east side of Federal
1. City discussion with Savory Farms HOA of access to base of site. (8-7-12)

- q) Margaret O’Gorman House at 8198 Irving Street
 - 1. COHA approved by HLB for sewer line repair and HVAC installation. (6-26-19)
 - 2. Home is under contract, expected to close June 28, 2019. (6-19-19)
 - 3. Current homeowner planning to list for sale. (3-25-19)
 - 4. Foundation stabilization work completed. (10-1-18)
 - 5. Certificate of historic appropriateness approved for foundation stabilization. (8-22-18)
- r) Gregory House Residence at 8140 Lowell Boulevard
 - 1. No change in status. (9-3-13)
- s) Merton and Mary Williams Residence at 7335 Wilson Court
 - 1. No change in status. (9-3-13)
- t) Perry House Residence at 4199 West 76th Avenue
 - 1. No change in status. (9-3-13)
- u) Henry House Residence at 7319 Orchard Court
 - 1. No change in status. (9-3-13)

HISTORIC PROPERTIES NOT IN THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER

- v) Mandalay School – (Not a designated historic property)
 - 1. Needs assessment complete and approved November, 2015. (12-1-15)
 - 2. Site visit by City Staff and contract of city’s General Services with SLATERPAULL to perform a building needs assessment. (7-15)
 - 3. Charlie Mc Kay, the owner of the Mandalay School at the southeast corner of Wadsworth Boulevard and 103rd Avenue has initiated discussion with the City to donate the land and the building to the City. (5-29-14)
 - 4. The City Manager has authorized staff to proceed with discussions for the acquisition.
 - 5. If the City accepts the property there are several actions needed that include:
 - i. Annexation into the City of Westminster
 - ii. Designation of a land use for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)
 - iii. Approval of a Preliminary Development Plan (PDP) that shows the zoning
 - iv. Approval of an Official Development Plan (ODP) that shows the site plan and the building elevations
 - v. Designation of the site as a local historic landmark
- w) Pillar of Fire (Westminster University) at 3450 West 83rd Avenue
 - 1. No change in status. (12-4-12)

Item 4.b)

October 9, 2019

Kristen Koehler
Cultural Affairs Specialist
City of Westminster | Parks, Recreation and Libraries
4800 West 92nd Avenue, Westminster, CO 80031

COLORADO
HISTORICAL
FOUNDATION

RE: Shoenberg Farm - CHF Easement Inspection

Dear Kristen,

Thank you for taking time out of your day to meet me for a property inspection of the historic Shoenberg Farm. This visit was in accordance with the stipulations of the Deed of Easement held by the Colorado Historical Foundation. The deed of easement carefully outlines our mutual obligations and responsibilities with respect to the property. One of the responsibilities of the Foundation is a periodic inspection to assure that it is being properly maintained and preserved.

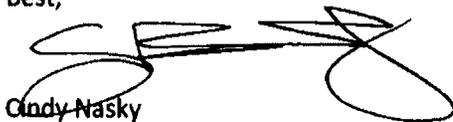
Additionally, this inspection allows the Foundation to visually track changes at the building site as well as facilitating open and ongoing communication with the building owners. During my inspection, we discussed a number of issues in detail to include:

- Shared concern that the property is not being used and sits vacant – an empty building is a deteriorating building and a drain to the City budget/maintenance schedule.
- Shared hope that the Economic Development team within the city will find a buyer for the property. As I mentioned, our legal team is amenable to dividing the property into two parcels (street divided) if that would help to sell and activate the site.
- While the property is under-utilized, it is important that it be 'mothballed' or secured against the elements. Two issues observed during the visit included hail damage and broken windows on the pumphouse. The pigeons had already begun to make themselves comfortable.

Please know that we at the Foundation appreciate your care and upkeep of the property and feel free to consult with us at any time to brainstorm projects and ideas.

Please be reminded that should a potential building project arise, the Foundation must review and approve any changes to the exterior of the property. Also, if there were a change in contact information, we would appreciate your letting the Foundation know so that we can keep our records current. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Historical Foundation by phone (303.894.2503) or by e-mail (cindy@cohf.org).

Best,



Cindy Nasky
Director, Preservation Programs

303.894.2503 • COHF.ORG

Preservation Loans • Fund Stewardship • Project Support Services • Historic Preservation Easements

OFFICE Grant Humphreys Mansion | 770 N. Pennsylvania St. | Denver, CO 80203 MAILING ADDRESS PO Box 40910 | Denver, CO 80204