



# The Westminster Window

## Westminster Wheels

### February Birthdays

- 03 Mary Bain
- 05 June Gamble
- 06 Nancy Diamond
- 19 Von Lee
- 23 Rick McAdams
- 24 Jon Nevins
- 24 Peggy Lewis
- 28 Dee Lansdell

As we start a new year I thought I would take the opportunity to highlight the church van. The perceived value of just about anything seems to drop in direct relation to the amount of attention it gets. We seldom, if ever, think about the church van unless we happen to see it coming or going on a Sunday morning. While this is a vital part of the mission of the van, it is only a part of its role in the church. The van also runs to all night activities of the church and of the Shoals Cluster.

Since Westminster has had the van it has been used for many things. Westminster Wheels helps to deliver the Salvation Army Teens gifts from the church to the distribution point; it has made out of town trips with church groups to Tennessee, Mississippi, Birmingham and lately to Germantown TN; it has gone to WICP carrying singers, it is available and has been used for transportation of any church member or their families as needed, and it was a part of the Christmas parade float. You probably already knew all or most of this and I have probably forgotten some things to include.

Now for something you may not know or possibly have forgotten. Westminster Wheels has done, and is continuing to do, all these things with no funding out of the Westminster Church budget... That's right, zero dollars for the van comes out of our budget. The purchase, maintenance, fuel, insurance etc. all comes from the Van Fund. The fund seems to stay pretty level as expenses and donations are about equal. This could be considered as a good thing, except for one thing. Eventually all equipment wears out and has to be replaced. That is not a concern at this time, only something to be planned for.

With all this in mind let me suggest that as we go through the year and as the occasion arises to make memorial or honorarium donations, consider the van fund.

Dear Church Family,

Thanks to everyone who has taken the time to bring me empty egg cartons to church. The empty egg cartons cost anywhere from 40 to 60 cents apiece, depending on where they are purchased. When you bring your empty egg cartons to church a needy family gets a dozen of very fresh eggs from the Help Center. As long as my "Chicken Girls" keep laying I will continue to need more egg cartons. They can be left in the mail room where we pick up our newsletters, etc.

I am so grateful for your help.

Thanks so much,  
*June Howard*



## Bake Sale



Episcopal Church Women are sponsoring a bake sale, in addition to homemade soup and chili, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 11, 2012 at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Darby Drive Florence. Board members are also furnishing items for the sale. Proceeds will benefit WICP, Westminster Interfaith Caring Place, Florence.

Items available: **Breads, cheese straws, cakes, pies, cookies and muffins, cornbread, and candy** - some items will be in smaller portions for those who do not want a big item.

**Assorted soups and chili in pints and quarts will be ready.**

This is a great opportunity to purchase some delicious foods for Valentine's Day and the cold weather. Get there early for the best selections!



## The Help Center Update

### The Data

From Aug- Sept 2011 (3rd Quarter) Help Center served 1,605 client guests

942 families were provided sacks of food (2,422 persons) (limit: once every 60 days)

174 persons were provided prescription assistance (maximum \$100 year)

764 families received clothing (limit: once every 30 days)

304 families received utility assistance through funds provided through Project Help (to provide as much assistance as possible, the Help Center allows \$100 maximum per year)

### Volunteers

Five hundred sixty five! Don't let this number fool you into thinking there are enough volunteers! In reality, this number reflects our faithful volunteers who come once a week or more and spend 3 to 4 hours with program assistance (interviewing new client guests, sacking groceries, sacking clothes, for example.) on a recent October Wednesday, there were 18 volunteers. At least 14 of these come every Wednesday. Counting 14 faithful persons times 4 Wednesday=56 volunteers!

**WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO PROVIDE PROGRAM ASSISTANCE TO OUR CLIENT GUESTS!**

Contact Louise Tanner (256-436-1121) to schedule a time to learn how you can be involved!

### How You Can Help Now

The linen closet is empty. We are in dire need of towels, queen and king size sheets, and blankets.

Check the donation box for Project HELP on your Florence Utility bill or simply fill out the authorization form on the next page and return it to the Utility Department.

**PROJECT HELP** is a program facilitate by the Florence Utility Department and implemented by the Help Center to raise money to provide warmth and light for those on low fixed incomes, some whom are elderly or disabled. In 2012, the Florence Utility Department collected a total of \$42,579.00 that helped 1,490 customers in need!

## Shoals Scholar Dollars

The Rotary International clubs in Lauderdale and Colbert counties visited other communities similar to our own and learned what they had done to enhance the skills of their local work force to attract future business to their area. In the process they discovered correlations between education and job skills and decreases in crime and drug related activities. It was determined that the greatest contribution our community could make was to provide those young people, who saw no future beyond high school because of lack of family resources and commitment to higher education. a chance to better their lives.

But there should be no “free lunch” but a very achievable set of goals that any driven student could reach particularly with counseling, a tool our high school teachers could use to provide hope as well as a challenge. It was determined that the hope would be a guaranteed two year tuition scholarship to the Shoals Community College. The requirements would be:

- 1) 95% Attendance
  - 2) Solid C+ Average
- American Citizen  
A Clean Record

To make this happen the Shoals Community needs to raise \$800,000 per year. There are about 150,000 people in the Shoals area. If each resident contributes just \$5 we would be close to this goal. It is still an elephant size undertaking, but if we show broad base support from many individuals it is believed that larger companies and other sources of funding will help make this happen.

The Shoals area is unique in that we have less unemployment, a better real-estate market and more company expansion prospects than many other areas of our state and country. Our school system has taken control of its future by seeking other sources of funding and direct community financial support refusing to just depend on state prorations and federal funding. Taking responsibility for our own community's future sets the shoals apart and provides us a sense of pride.

The Westminster Presbyterian Church Session studied this Scholarship Foundation and determined that it could well change our community's future. As a result we will hold a pot luck supper on February 15 to hear more details and find out its status. The executive director, Dr. Randy Pettus, who can be reached at the Shoals Chamber of Commerce will speak to us. On Sunday February 19th we will receive an offering to show our support for Shoals Scholar Dollars. Also if you have not delivered your valentines yet please bring them to the supper.

To Westminster Church:

Words are hard to find to adequately express my appreciation for the acts of kindness shown to me during the time of John's illness and death.

I shall always remember you for the Christian love shown through your prayers and visits during this difficult time.

Thank you for the delicious food prepared and served to the family on the day of the funeral.

May the Lord bless each of you for your understanding and compassion.

In Christian love,

**Jean Blair**

## ART SHOW

The Shoals Artists Guild is sponsoring a show featuring two of its members - Arzetta Mimbs and Carol Howdyshell. The show is at the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts in the Artists Guild's upstairs show room. It will run from February 1 - April 15. Please go by if you have a chance.

The KDC is open Monday -Friday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.



FINANCIAL REPORT		
December 2011		
	Current <u>Month</u>	Year <u>to Date</u>
General Fund Income	\$281,798	\$249,741
General Fund Expense	<u>19,194</u>	<u>253,314</u>
Difference	\$9,604	-\$3,573
Capital Maint. Fund Income	\$2,925	\$28,843
Capital Maint. Fund Expense	1,000	6,914

---

# Kyndall's Kreations

## February: Love Month

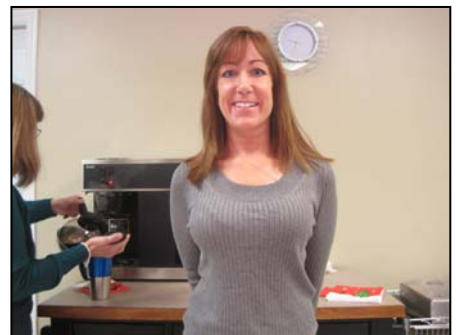


What's up?! This month as we all know is February! And that means it's almost Valentine's Day. I took a few pictures of people around the church and asked them what one thing that they "loved" was. Here is what they said:

### I love my Friends



Kyndall



Kim Eckl says she loves her family



John Offutt says he loves Lacy (sorry Paula)



Bob Howard says he loves candy (aren't you a diabetic?)

## COUPLE OF THE MONTH



Don & Arzetta Mimbs

Don and Arzetta have a pretty cool marriage. Here's how it goes... Don and Arzetta started going out in Lake Wales, Florida, when Arzetta's sister was dating Don's brother. Their families went to the same church and Arzetta went to their home one Sunday for a meal and saw a picture of Don wearing his Navy uniform. Back then phone calls were too expensive and e-mail didn't exist so a two- year correspondence began. In the meantime, Barbara and Byron got married and Arzetta and Donald met once briefly, and kept up the correspondence, then Don got a 30- day leave and they dated the entire thirty days. The engagement followed, and of course, back to those letters - they still have all of them!!! Nine months later, Don got another leave, and they were married on May 22, 1959. Since sisters married brothers, their family has always been very close, and their children double first cousins. They have had some pretty fascinating experiences since they have lived in Japan and traveled a lot while Don was in the Navy. "God has taken care of us through good times and the bad." Says Arzetta.

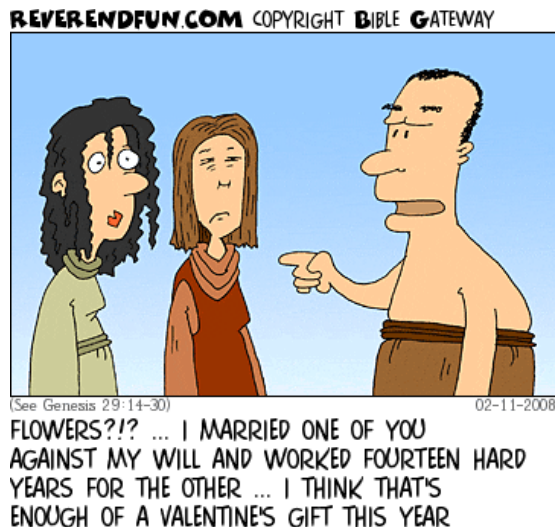
Arzetta and Don Mimbs have been married for over 52 1/2 years. Lets hope they have many more!

**And now abide faith,  
hope, love, these  
three; but the  
greatest of these is  
love  
I Corinthians 13:13**

**Here** are some of the new additions to the library:

1. Rick Warren's Bible Study Methods
2. Compact Where to Find it in the Bible: The Ultimate A to Z Resource
3. What the Bible is all About: Bible Handbook
4. Zondevan NIV Bible Verse Finder Concordia
5. Learn The Bible in 24 Hours
6. Chronological Guide to the Bible: Explore God's World in Historical Order
7. The Parables of Jesus
8. Zondervan Handbook of Christian Beliefs
9. The Jesus of the Bible
10. All the Apostles of the Bible
11. In the Presence of God: 366 Devotions
12. Fun & Active Devotions for Kids
13. All the Doctrines of the Bible
14. All the Prayers of the Bible
15. The Bib Book of Bible Crafts

Come see for yourself!



**If you have something you want to see put into the Window just email it to the editor at: [mag\\_pye7@yahoo.com](mailto:mag_pye7@yahoo.com).**

