

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY 2024



WPC WESTMINSTER NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE INCREDIBLE CHRISTIAN

The current effort of so many to harmonize Christianity with society and politics is the result of failure to understand Christianity.

A.W. Tozer wrote, "At the heart of the Christian system lies the cross of Christ with its divine paradox.

- The power of Christianity appears in its deep-seated dislike of (never in its agreement with) the ways of fallen men.
- The truth of the cross is revealed in its contradictions.
- The witness of the Church is most effective when she declares rather than explains. The gospel is addressed not to reason, but to have faith. What can be proved requires no faith to accept. Faith rests upon the character of God, not upon anything else."

Paul wrote that the preaching of the cross is foolishness to them that perish. To try to find a common ground between the message of the cross and man's fallen reason is to try the impossible. But let us bring the whole matter "down from the uplands of theory" and simply observe the true Christian as he puts into practice the teachings of Christ and His apostles.

Note the contradictions:

- The Christian believes that in Christ, he has died, yet he is more alive than before and he fully expects to live forever.
- The Christian walks on earth while seated in heaven and though born on earth, he finds that after his conversion he is not at home here.
- The Christian soon learns that if he would be victorious as a son of heaven among men, on earth he must not follow the common pattern of mankind, but rather the contrary.
- That he may be safe, the Christian puts himself in jeopardy; he loses his life to save it and is in danger of losing it, if he attempts to preserve it.
- The Christian is strongest when he is weakest and weakest when he is strong.
- Though poor, the Christian has the power to make others rich, but when he becomes rich his ability to enrich others vanishes.
- The Christian has most after he has given most away and has least when he possesses most.
- He may be and often is highest when he feels lowest and most sinless when he is most conscious of sin.

THE INCREDIBLE CHRISTIAN con't.

- The Christian is wisest when he knows that he knows not and knows least when he has acquired the greatest amount of knowledge.
- He sometimes does most by doing nothing and goes furthest when standing still.
- In heaviness, the Christian manages to rejoice and keeps his heart glad even in sorrow.
- He believes that he is saved now, nevertheless he expects to be saved later and looks forward joyfully to future salvation.
- The Christian fears God but is not afraid of Him. In God's presence, he feels overwhelmed and undone, yet there is nowhere he would rather be than in that presence.
- The Christian knows that he has been cleansed from his sin, yet he is painfully conscious that in his flesh dwells no good thing.
- He loves One whom he has never seen, and though himself poor and lowly, he talks familiarly with the One who is King of all kings and Lord of all lords.
- The Christian feels that he is, in his own right, less than nothing, yet he believes without question that he is the apple of God's eye and for him, the Eternal Son became flesh and died on the cross.
- The Christian cheerfully expects before long to enter that bright world above, but he is in no hurry to leave this world and is quite willing to await the summons of his heavenly Father.
- He is unable to understand why the critical unbeliever should condemn him for this; it all seems so natural and right in the circumstances that he sees nothing inconsistent about it.

The cross-carrying Christian, furthermore, is both a confirmed pessimist and an optimist, the like of which is to be found nowhere else on earth!

- When he looks at the cross he is a pessimist, for he knows that the same judgment that fell on the Lord of Glory condemns, in that one act, all nature and all the world of men.
- Yet he is calmly, restfully optimistic. If the cross condemns the world, the resurrection of Christ guarantees the ultimate triumph of good throughout the universe.

**Through Christ, all will be well at last and the Christian waits the consummation.
Incredible Christian!**

Andy

JULY BIRTHDAY LIST

3 Jim Fechner	12 Marilyn Sands	17 Jeanne Ecker
4 Mike Farris	13 Dick Wilson	28 Carolyn Waitt
5 Susanne Fuller	16 Joyce Orland	29 Gwen Morgan
6 Jeff Fechner	17 Joe Bailey	30 Joyce Trahan



DID YOU KNOW?

- We have an exercise class in the Family Life Center every Monday at 1 p.m. All are welcome!



- The Prayer Room is now available for everyone.
- August 25th is our church picnic. We will have it at church so watch for sign-up details.
- The college kids are with us until the end of August! What a blessing!
- Our church yard is in bloom!



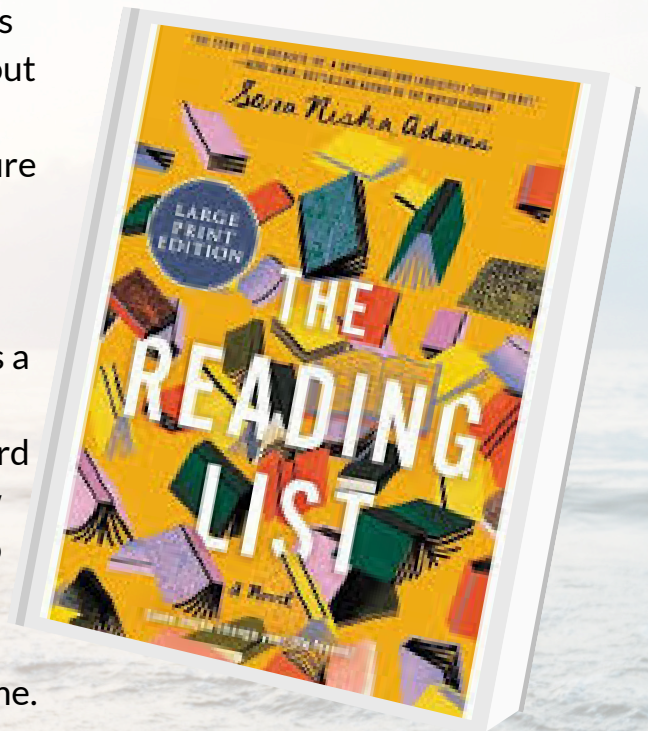
JULY WPC BOOK CLUB

WPC Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, July 16th, at 1:30 PM in the West Conference Room of the church. The book for discussion will be *The Reading List*, a novel by Sara Nisha Adams. You can pick up a copy of the book in the church office, so you can read it before the meeting. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

"Widower Mukesh lives a quiet life in Wembley, in West London after losing his beloved wife. He shops every Wednesday, goes to Temple, and worries about his granddaughter, Priya, who hides in her room reading while he spends his evenings watching nature documentaries.

Aleisha is a bright but anxious teenager working at the local library for the summer when she discovers a crumpled-up piece of paper in the back of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. It's a list of novels that she's never heard of before. Intrigued, and a little bored with her slow job at the checkout desk, she impulsively decides to read every book on the list, one after the other. As each story gives up its magic, the books transport Aleisha from the painful realities she's facing at home.

When Mukesh arrives at the library, desperate to forge a connection with his bookworm granddaughter, Aleisha passes along the reading list... hoping that it will be a lifeline for him too. Slowly, the shared books create a connection between two lonely souls, as fiction helps them escape their grief and everyday troubles and find joy again."
(Amazon.com)



STAMPS STAMPS STAMPS



We are still collecting stamps for mission projects. Here is a little update to help us remember how to trim the stamps, what stamps to save, a little info on where the stamps go and who or what they help!

The Stamps are sold to collectors, then the income from the sale of the stamps goes to support preparation, publishing, and distribution of a Spanish language curriculum for Sunday Schools. More than 50 lesson series have been published and are being used in churches in 40 different denominations in Spanish-speaking countries in Latin America, Spain and even in the USA.

Here are EASY STEPS TO FOLLOW:

Stamps: You can send NEW unused stamps or cancelled stamps. All designs are accepted---Flag, Limited Edition, Bulk rate, Non-profit, Love, Post card and Foreign stamps.

Saving the stamps: Please leave 1/4 to 1/3 inch border around the stamp of the background paper it was placed on, making sure all corner fringe and borders are not clipped. Even if the stamp gets damaged or trimmed to close, they can still use it. (Don't throw any stamps away, simply donate them!)

Metered postage: No metered mail postage is accepted, only actual stamps.

Organizing stamps: Simply place the stamps in an envelope or Ziploc bag for delivery. If you would like to sort your stamps as a group ahead of time, please place the commemorative stamps in one bag, regular issue in a separate bag, and foreign stamps in a third bag.

- A *commemorative stamp* is a postage stamp that is a 'special release' that year. It is usually issued to honor or commemorate a place, holiday, event, person, floral, or object.
- A *regular issue stamp* example is a flag stamp.

Foreign stamps: If you are collecting foreign stamps, please do not trim the stamps. The stamps are worth more with the cancellation still attached to the stamp.

**THE STAMP ENVELOPE HAS BEEN MOVED
TO THE MISSIONS BULLETIN BOARD ACROSS THE HALL FROM THE CHOIR ROOM!**

Beverly Gonzalez,
Missions Deacon

THANK YOU

Our heartfelt gratitude to our Westminster Family for your support during Ted's recent hospitalization and recuperation. Your prayers, cards, calls, visits, and words of encouragement have been a blessing and source of strength. We are thankful for His love that binds us together as a family.

Fondly,
Ted and Norrain Phelps



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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