

From the Pastor's Study

A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward

Things Are Getting Exciting

Soon we will move back in. By Easter. As we have been saying. The date of the first service will still depend on exactly when the contractors finish and when the city gives us all the necessary inspection clearances, but we expect it to be by Easter. Possibly before.

The building will not be fully "finished" by the time we move back. The organ rebuilding work cannot begin until the contractor is finished, to protect the organ from dust. The pipes will not be installed, so the area above the chancel may look a bit like a Biblical place we all want to avoid, but we'll have several more months of Paul's wonderful piano accompaniment during worship. We also won't have all the furnishings in.....

BUT, have you ever closed on a new house, put sleeping bags on the dining room floor, and slept there the first night before any of your furniture arrived? That's what it will be like coming back. But it will be, above all, BACK!

Things are getting exciting.

Larry

MEN'S RETREAT NEWS

The Men's Retreat for 36 of us concluded on Sunday, Feb. 4. We were blessed that Patrick Hunnicutt was able to lead the retreat with a program titled "*The Great Cloud of Witnesses: Recalling Ours, Being Theirs.*" The men recalled those who have had an important impact on and witnessed for their lives. We critically discussed, with reactions from all sides, the book, *Letters to a Young Doubter* by William Sloan Coffin. We thought about, wrote about, heard about, and reacted to the idea of being a witness to one another or others.

The weekend at Hallowood was a wonderful blend of fellowship, spiritual renewal, and meaningful dialogue. We sat around the fire, we sang, we prayed, we walked, we played, we slept some, we talked, and we ate (quite well, I might add). We recommend this for the Men of Westminster again next year on Super Bowl weekend (Feb 1 - 3, 2008).



February 21, 2007; 7:00 p.m. at Agudas Achim

Where Do the Alleluías Go?

Rev. Karen A. Blomberg

"...then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life..." Genesis 2:7



THANK-YOU'S & MORE

Dear Westminster Members and Staff,

Thank you very much for the concerns, cards, and support you've shown me through Paul's long hospital stay and passing. Many thanks to Rev. Hayward and Rev. Hunnicutt for their kindness to me, Keith (our son) and his family during this difficult time. God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Shirley Perry and Family

Thank you,

I want to greatly thank those many members of the congregation who kindly and thoughtfully sent Christmas greetings to me and also birthday greetings for my 93rd birthday.

Walter Wendt

Dear Larry:

With deep regret I must submit my resignation as of May 1, 2007. John and I will be moving to North Carolina in June, continuing with the construction of our retirement home in the mountains outside of Asheville/Hendersonville.

To serve as the volunteer Coordinator of Local Missions has been an extraordinary opportunity, and one that I have thoroughly enjoyed. I have also been very gratified by the enthusiastic response of the staff, Session, Local Missions Committee, and members to Westminster's local mission work. Together we have continued our commitment of funds and volunteers to sixteen non-profit organizations and activities in Alexandria. In addition, we have added to the Westminster local mission portfolio by: working as a sponsor with Rebuilding Together Alexandria; renewing our commitment to Guest House; and assisting in the construction of a condominium with Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia. Lastly, the new Member Response Team, a group of dedicated and caring members, has successfully assisted a number of Westminster individuals and families, and will continue to do so in 2007.

Thank you; my work has indeed been a blessing for me personally, for Westminster and for Alexandria, our home for 36 wonderful years.

Sincerely,
Judy Hansen

In Appreciation of Jane Stilmar

As the Session approved a new church operating budget in January, it was done with some regret and enormous appreciation for the long time services of Jane Stilmar, who stepped down as Treasurer at the end of 2006. Jane served as Assistant Treasurer for six years, and then Treasurer for the past four years.

As a volunteer, Jane has given countless hours of her personal and professional life to Westminster, and she leaves this position with the church in excellent financial health. During these ten years, Jane has managed increasingly complicated financial statements, yet one of her most memorable achievements was her ability to analyze and report data in concise and meaningful ways.

Although Jane will still be around to share her insight and perspective on all things financial, she and her husband Ben are going to share some time together, uncrowded by the constant demands of her church duties.

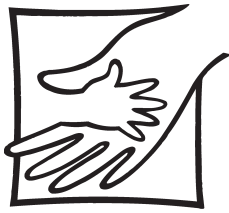
On behalf of the congregation and the session, I want to thank Jane for her generous gift of service to Westminster over the past ten years.

Lanny Griffith
Chair, Administration & Finance Committee



Westminster
Travelers

- U.S. Army Concert Band with UNC Greensboro
- Wind Ensemble on **Friday, March 1** at 6:45 p.m.
- Kenmore Auditorium, Arlington, VA. \$1 trip fee.
- Tour of National Weather Service
- Washington/Baltimore Forecasting Station (NOAA)
- in Sterling, VA on **Tuesday, March 6** at 9:15 a.m.
- Lunch at a local restaurant. Registration cut-off is
- February 19 due to security regulations. Photos
- ID's required for admittance. \$1 plus lunch.
- Performance of "Hay Fever," by Aldersgate
- Church Community Players on **Thursday, March**
- **15**; departure at 7:00 p.m. \$1 trip fee.
- Motorcoach trip to Abingdon, Staunton, and
- Charlottesville from **May 1 - 4**. \$625 per
- person/double room; \$900 single. Enjoy the history
- and culture of Virginia and leave the driving to our
- famous Bill Brown. Flyers available from the
- church office or from Sandy Calhoun.



News from
United Orphanage & Academy
In Moi's Bridge, Kenya

AGAPE LOVE ON VALENTINE'S DAY

As I write this article I am on my way to Kenya where, among other things, I will spend the 13th, 14th, and 15th with the children of the United Orphanage & Academy. What a way to spend Valentines Day. As a result of the agape love of the people at Westminster I will be able to tell the children that they will all be provided for in the year ahead. As of this date I have received payments or pledges to support all 42 of the children (28 girls and 14 boys) currently in residence at the orphanage.

This does not mean that we do not continue to have needs at the Orphanage. So, if you were contemplating providing support for the Orphanage please do not refrain from doing so. The most immediate and urgent need is for a 14-passenger van to transport the children for required medical attention. At present such transportation consists of using Rev Chege's car to transport two or three at a time. We estimate that purchase of a serviceable secondhand van will cost \$15,000. Also, we hope to buy supplies and make improvements that will improve the children's quality of life. The \$750 per child that 42 of you have so generously agreed to provide only covers the bare necessities for each child. We hope to provide additional nurturing for the children beyond what the existing staff can do, perhaps by adding additional staff.

I will also be able to tell them that the salaries for four teachers have been underwritten and that through the generosity primarily of two members of Westminster we will be able to start construction of one classroom block of three classrooms. When finished, that will give three classes presently being provided by the Academy a permanent location to meet rather than moving from place to place, as they do now. However, this is truly only the beginning of the development of the Academy. Ultimately we hope to provide classes through high school and vocational training, not only for children but also for other members of the community. We also hope to build a library and develop an arts and crafts center. Your continuing contributions to these efforts will greatly benefit not only the orphans we are providing care for, but also the whole community. And in the process they will serve to integrate the children into the greater community of the Moi's Bridge area.



Notes From Associate Pastor
Karen Blomberg

AUTHENTICITY CLASSES BEGIN

Twenty-five brave Westminster practitioners have begun the latest Foundations of Authenticity courses which are part of *The Authenticity Series* © authored by Karen Blomberg and Dava Money. Additionally, there are nine practitioners who are now in the second course, Authentic Compassion. We are learning how to notice our speaking, our actions, our movements, and how to separate ourselves from the drama and trauma of situations we cannot control. Each class begins and ends with a ritual "bell prayer" which is a call to silence and intention-setting. Every class includes a teaching portion, opportunities for conversation, practice, and more noticing. The next Foundations of Authenticity will be offered in the fall. There will be information available on the Westminster website at www.wpc-alex.org. As you consider your involvement in this transformational program, I hope you will email or call me. Invite a holy shift into your life...and see what happens.

SPRING AHEAD

Daylight Savings Time begins early this year at 2:00 a.m. on **Sunday, March 11**. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night, March 10.



Volunteer Tutors Needed

Thirty children at George Mason Elementary School are currently receiving one-on-one tutoring as part of the Westminster-George Mason Tutoring Program. Members of Westminster Presbyterian Church and the community are helping these children strengthen their academic skills and giving them confidence that is making a positive difference in their lives. As the end of the school year approaches, more students have been identified by their teachers as needing just the kind of help this program offers. We need more tutors so we can extend these benefits to the children on the waiting list. Tutoring requires one hour each week on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons from 2:35-3:35. Please contact Elizabeth O'Brien at 703-684-3980 or elizabethbobrien@aol.com if you would like to help.

MISSION MINUTE

Adult and Intergenerational Mission Trips For 2007

The National/International Mission Committee decided (pending the approval of the Session) to support 4 adult and intergenerational mission trips for the year 2007. Listed below are the dates and the amounts that we will ask participants to contribute to the cost of the trip. In each instance please bear in mind that scholarship assistance is available for anyone desiring to participate in the trip.

March 10-17	Pascagoula, Mississippi	\$400
June 21-29	Morgantown, West VA	\$400
July 28-August 4	Spirit Lake Reservation, N. Dakota	\$700
October (dates TBD)	Reynosa, Mexico	\$1,000

Additional information concerning the Pascagoula and Spirit Lake mission trips appears on this page as well. The Pascagoula trip will be co-led by Nancy Todd and Patrick Hunnicutt. The West VA trip is with the Old Presbyterian Meeting House. The Spirit Lake Indian Reservation trip will be led by Linda Harkness, Chris Lockard and Frank Fraser. The Reynosa trip will be led by Tom Geiger. Additional information concerning the West VA and Reynosa trips will be forthcoming in future issues. The above is provided simply to assist you in planning which, if any, of Westminster's mission trips for 2007 you would be interested in participating in.

Mission Trip to Spirit Lake, North Dakota

The National International Missions Committee would like to inform the congregation of our upcoming Mission Trip to Spirit Lake, North Dakota. With session approval we will depart Reagan National Airport on July 28, returning on August 4. The tasks of our mission will be to provide a summer camp for 45-70 children each day, and to offer repair services to the homes of families who are in need of such help. The weekend we will arrive is the annual Pow Wow at Ft. Totten. This is a wonderful event highlighting various Native American traditions, providing the opportunity to open our hearts to a rich and colorful culture. Your cost would be \$650 – 700, which includes airfare, rental vans, food and lodging. All who have been to North Dakota have been blessed and deeply moved by the children and life on a Native American Reservation. Please prayerfully consider this mission in your summer plans. Email Linda Harkness at tastefulaffairs@aol.com for more info.



Find Out More About Katrina Mission Trip

Think clean up is nearly complete along the Gulf Coast since Hurricane Katrina? Think again. Westminster is organizing a mission trip to Pascagoula, MS March 10-17 to help in the ongoing effort to clean up and rebuild after this devastating hurricane. We'll fly to Gulfport, MS and travel by rented van to Pascagoula. At the direction of St. John's Episcopal Church, we will work in the community to help in whatever ways we can. Sleeping accommodations and an ample kitchen for cooking is provided by St. John's. Cost for the trip is \$400. Westminster members have a chance to really make a difference in an area that desperately needs any help we can provide. Contact Patrick Hunnicutt or Nancy Todd (toddhouse@comcast.net or 703-465-1110) if you would like further information.

THE MISSISSIPPI MISSION

The people of Mississippi need you. Eighteen months after Katrina, 95% of the work remains to be done in Louisiana!! We were stunned. Please go to Mississippi.

Sheila and I just returned from a weeklong post-Katrina reconstruction trip in Louisiana, organized by the Alexandria chapter of Rebuilding Together. About 25 of us went to New Iberia, LA (3 hours west of New Orleans) to work on 4 homes. We worked hard, achieved an immense amount and learned even more about needs, good people, and ourselves. We had excellent equal-opportunity site bosses. In a week, Sheila (a brilliant lady but not a construction worker) was skilled at painting, power-stapling insulation, cutting plywood, and power-nailing exterior siding. Twenty-five of us lived in a Methodist Community Hall that we found fun. Men and women slept in the same room on 2x4 bunk beds, with separate bathrooms but only two shared showers for all. A 3-minute shower and 3 Advil are like a 15-minute shower. We had a kitchen and ate on a great center room table. We were so tired that we slept soundly. Mississippi will be different but I'll bet your experience will be special. You might think that you don't know about sheetrocking (it's not a dance), but it's easy to learn. Everyone one was self-selected to be great—caring of the poor and you. If you're thinking of going, please go. As you care for the "least", you'll grow.

Jim and Sheila Hoben



REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA

Handy with a hammer or paintbrush? Then please join the fun and energetic Westminster team on Saturday, April 28 to be part of Rebuilding Together Alexandria (what was known as Christmas in April). We, along with other faith and business groups, will be helping to preserve and revitalize the homes of low-income elderly, disabled or families with children. Though we do not yet have the details on the home Westminster will be repairing, we will likely be painting, doing yard work, repairing broken doors and leaking roofs, adding weather stripping and doing other light repair work. We welcome all, but particularly those of you who are handy around the house. Please contact our House Captain Eric Weiss at 703-960-0978 or eric.weiss@winchendon.com.

GALS: READY TO DONATE YOUR SUITS AND WORK ATTIRE?

To respond to repeated inquiries as to where we gals can donate our suits and work attire, I would recommend Suited for Change (SFC) in D.C. One of its main initiatives is the collection of professional attire used to dress women for their re-entry into the work force. The items are organized and displayed in the SFC boutique located at the SFC office, and personal shoppers help women to select the perfect outfit for their interview and workdays. Size 16 or larger are particularly needed. Tax-deductible donations of professional clothing and accessories are accepted by appointment only; please contact Joyce Thomas at 202-293-0351 ext. 7 or joyce@suitedforchange.org. And if the Generations Closet on Mt. Vernon Avenue in Alexandria reopens, I will let you know.

Thanks,

Judy Hansen, *Coordinator of Local Missions.*

Celebrate the Journey Stewardship Campaign Successful

Last October Westminster began its Stewardship Campaign for 2007. We called the campaign "Celebrate the Journey" because Westminster has traveled out of its building and because we are all on a journey together as we strive as a church to serve God more and more faithfully. In addition, we are on our own individual spiritual journeys to deepen our faith and our commitment to God.

In my recent reading I came across the phrase, "we are our choices." At first glance it's a rather simplistic phrase but when you think about it, "we are our choices" makes you evaluate what you're doing every day. I know I sometimes cruise along with the status quo when I really could be making better choices with how I spend my time, money, and emotional energy. As members of Westminster we have made the choice to join a church community. Being active in worship, supporting each other in our spiritual journeys, volunteering for Westminster's programs, and making financial commitments to support these programs are choices that we must make every day.

The Stewardship Committee is happy to report that our congregation has chosen to make a wonderful financial commitment for 2007. Our official total (more pledges were received after the 2007 budget was posted) is 397 pledges of \$1,093,704. This is a higher number of pledges and more money for our operating budget than ever before given to Westminster. Thank you for supporting your church.

I would like to thank the members of the Stewardship Committee for their thoughtfulness and hard work: Frank Fraser (Vice Chair), Lois Butcher, Susan Cloud, Martha Gangi, Tom Gangi, Nancy Pitcher, Chuck Ramsey, Molly Roden, Art Sauer, Amey Upton, and Cecily Woodrow. The Stewardship Committee would like to thank Larry Hayward for his leadership, Nancy Bea, Tara Cain, and Vicki Carlson. In addition, we very much appreciate the kind assistance of Nancy Hall Berens, Carl Behnke, Steve Cloud, Eileen Denne, Gail Donley, Darry Dupree, Jennifer and Jim Larrison, Keith MacKay, Jane Stilmar, and Melynda Wilcox. See you on the journey!

Priscilla Goodwin,
Chair of Stewardship Committee



Sanctuary Flowers

Honor or remember a loved one by donating an arrangement (or two) to be used for our worship services on Sundays. We still have dates for which we have only one arrangement, including February 21 and 25, April 15 and 22, and May 6 and 13. We also need two arrangements for Maundy Thursday. Arrangements are \$50 each; to sign up, contact Tara at tcain@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 x111.

FAITH IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

“*Faith in the Public Square*” will be our adult education topic for the four Sundays in March from 9:45-10:45 a.m. On March 4, the class will meet in the library of George Mason Elementary School. All adults are invited.

The teacher is Eric Sapp of Common Good Strategies, an organization that helps frame issues for voters in a religious context. He is an elder at Heritage Presbyterian Church in Alexandria and received a Master of Divinity and a Master of Public Policy from Duke University. Eric is a friend of Pastor Larry Hayward and worked with Elder Paul Van de Water and others to prepare a report on economic security for older adults for the 2006 General Assembly.

On March 4, Sapp will lead participants in considering “What is the Proper Place of Religion in the Public Square?” On succeeding Sundays he will help participants discuss specific political issues that have a strong faith component. These include abortion and gay marriage, environmental stewardship, poverty and hunger, health insurance, and budget and taxes.

AUTHOR OF *THE HEROES’ WIFE* TO SPEAK AT SPRING GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN ON APRIL 11

The Heroes’ Wife is the story of Dora Smith Griffin Bell, who has been married to two heroes of the Vietnam War. Both husbands were POWs. The first died in captivity, and she married the second after the war.

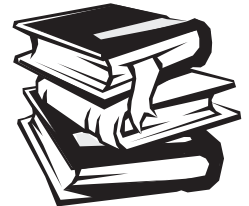
Dora Bell will talk about her story and book, which is widely available in paperback. She has worked as a journalist and TV talk show host. Her story gives us a sense of what it is like to be a warrior’s spouse, waiting at home. It is especially timely because of the current war in Iraq. Dora Bell is a friend of one of our women’s Circle Chairs, Elder Faye Woodrow.

All women are invited, whether or not you belong to a Circle. The talk will be held Wednesday evening, April 11, at 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN’S BOOK GROUP NEWS

The February selection is *The Painted Drum* by Louise Erdrich. Discussions will be held Monday, February 26, at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Clara Beth Van de Water’s home near the church. Call 703-548-8868 if you need directions. All women are invited.

The March pick is *Rasputin’s Daughter* by Robert Alexander. Discussions will be held on Monday, March 26.



YOUNG ADULTS

Not getting the Young adults mailings or emails? Please email Casey FitzGerald with your information at cfitzgerald@wpc-alex.org!

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Listed below are the current chair and vice chair of the session committees. Contact these folks with questions or suggestions for their program areas.

- Administration and FinanceLanny Griffith, ChairDavid Hill, Vice-Chair
- Congregational LifeNancy Hall Berens, ChairKatie Donley, Vice-Chair
- Building and GroundsStephen Moss, ChairRobin McFarland, Vice-Chair
- Christian EducationEileen Denne, ChairElizabeth O’Brien, Vice-Chair
- CommunicationsBrian Laubscher, ChairJudy Curtis, Vice-Chair
- National/International MissionPaul Neureiter, ChairLinc Cummings, Vice-Chair
- Local MissionChristopher Ptomey, ChairLouise Anderson, Vice-Chair
- New Member/AssimilationBetsy Preston, ChairCathy Smyles, Vice-Chair
- NominatingCarol Skiba, ChairDon Fowler, Vice-Chair
- PersonnelSpencer Dickerson, ChairCarol Skiba, Vice-Chair
- StewardshipPriscilla Goodwin, ChairFrank Fraser, Vice-Chair
- Worship and MusicDavid Roden, ChairAnne Pickett, Vice-Chair

An Inter-Faith Evening with RABBI MOSHE COTEL

Performing

Chronicles: A Religious Life at the Classical Piano

Thursday, March 8th, 2007, 8:00 p.m.

Agudas Achim Congregation

2908 Valley Drive

Alexandria, VA 22302

Pre-paid tickets: \$15, at door, \$18

Make checks payable to Kol Ami

Write in Memo "Chronicles Concert"

Send checks to:

Kol Ami; P.O. Box 1801, Annandale, VA 22003



*Congregations Agudas Achim, Beth El, Etz Hayim, Kol Ami
and Westminster Presbyterian Church*

Proudly present

Rabbi Moshe Cotel, composer/pianist, presents a unique mix of classical piano and personal stories. Cotel recounts his private journey from the life of a virtuoso musician to that of a spiritual leader. This program has much to teach us about a life well-lived, music and spirituality, joy and love, art and Torah.

New officers were ordained and installed on January 28, 2007.

Listed below are the current members of the session and deaconate.

SESSION

Larry Hayward, Moderator
Paul Van de Water, Clerk
Carolyn Fraser, Vice Clerk

Cathy Smyles
Katie Donley
David Hill
Paul Neureiter
Brian Laubscher

Deacon Class of 2009

Bill Eckert
Karin Edgell
Tamfu Fomuso
Catherine Linton
Wendy Lockard
Mary Mbu
Carri Stoltz
Barbara Watts
Barbara Wyman

Fred Woods
Lisa Zickar

Class of 2009

Judy Curtis
Eileen Denne
Don Fowler
Frank Fraser
Priscilla Goodwin
Christopher Ptomey
Elizabeth O'Brien
Stephen Moss

Elder Class of 2007

Nancy Hall Berens
Louise Anderson
Linc Cummings
Spencer Dickerson
Lanny Griffith
Karen Olson
Anne Pickett
Betsy Preston

Deacon Class of 2007

Michael Barnhardt
Joyce Dain-Porteous
Marti Klein
Elizabeth Martineau
Ken Niemann
Molly North
Ron Shoemaker
Jim Silverwood
Joy Wilson
Larry Wynne

Class of 2008

Robin McFarland
David Roden
Carol Skiba

Youth Elders

Gopi Pitcher
Meredith Mitchell

Deacon Class of 2008

Roger Clarke
Donna Cramer
Linda Harkness
Maria Kaneer
Laura Kopp
Martha Girard
Liz Moore

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Enhancing Worship and Remembering Loved Ones through Music **FIORI MUSICALI***



Dares in Squares

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come into his presence with singing. *Psalms 100*

Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise from the end of the earth. *Isaiah 41:10*

Fiori Musicali is an opportunity to honor or remember a loved one with a contribution to the music at Westminster.

All music performed at Westminster is selected to support and enhance the worship experience. *Fiori Musicali* is an opportunity to augment this further with options such as

- special performances by guest or Westminster musicians
- featured preludes, postludes, or anthems
- purchase of musical scores to be used during a worship service or on special occasions

The bulletin of the worship service selected would include recognition of your contribution and the name of the person being honored.

Financial contributions to *Fiori Musicali* depend on the type and complexity of the musical offering. A minimum contribution of \$150 is suggested.

For more information, please contact Dr. Paul Stetsenko, Westminster Director of Music Ministries (pstetsenko@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766). All selections must conform to the musical and theological integrity required for a Westminster worship service.

**Fiori Musicali* has a double meaning: “musical flowers” and “musical offerings”. This alludes to the collections of printed music by Frescobaldi.

Middle School Retreat! Want to know about the fun spirit of unconditional love? We dare you to come to our spring retreat! From March 23-25, we're going to Shrinemont, an awesome camp in Orkney Springs, VA. We'll have our usual outdoor fun, some great food, and we have a special musical guest joining us for the weekend. Details are coming, but the most important thing is that YOU are coming (and that you let Patrick know)!

Youth Sunday is April 22! Hopefully, this will be our first youth-led worship in the new sanctuary. We dare you to start preparing! Senior Highs will meet to select their theme and assign roles during youth fellowship on Sunday, March 4 (host location needed) from 7-8:30 p.m. Middle Schoolers will prepare during normal Youth Café time (Sundays at 9:45 a.m.). We'll rehearse on Sunday, April 15.

“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 2:5). How might this change your experience of this very day? You're dared to try to find out ...

CHURCH WEBSITE — WWW.WPC-ALEX.ORG

Looking for copies of the sermons, Chronicle, Adult education schedule, church officer names, or a copy of last Sunday's Chronicle Update??? Interested in seeing pictures of the renovation work being done, or reading a daily journal of the work being done??? It's all available on Westminster's website. Check it out! And let us know if you would like to receive the monthly Chronicle electronically instead of waiting for the U.S. Postal Service to deliver it. Email Tara at tcain@wpc-alex.org and read your Chronicle the day after it is printed.





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 21 and lasts forty days, excluding Sundays. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week. Plan a family Holy Week walk with these simple activities and let your children become involved in the making and preparations for each. It begins with Palm Sunday and ends at the empty tomb on Easter. Days are suggested to spread the walk throughout the week but may be adapted to your family schedule.

Palm Sunday (Monday): Save the palms you received at church and talk about where palms come from, the different kinds of palms there are, and how they added to the celebration in Luke 19:28-40. Read the scripture together and have everyone recite together "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Last Supper (Tuesday): Have your children mash grapes and squeeze the juice out through cheesecloth. If you wish, make "bread in a bag" (e-mail me at jsutter@wpc-alex.org for the recipe we used in Creation Station) or get some bread and talk about the remembrance that Jesus gave us through these elements in Luke 22:14-23 as you taste the grape juice and bread. Close with "Do this in remembrance of me."

Garden of Gethsemane (Wednesday): Find a quiet garden setting, courtyard, or just outside your door. Read or retell the story from Luke 22:39-46. Conclude with "Father, not my will, but yours be done."

Trial (Thursday): Using the reading from Luke 22:66 to 23:12, enact as a play with a narrator, two or three people as elders and scribes, Pilate, and Jesus. Write the Scripture out in the form of a play and have the characters read their parts. End the reading with all shouting: "Crucify him!"

Good Friday (Friday): Make a simple cross and drape it in black. If possible, find a twig with thorns and place it on the cross to remind you of the crown of

thorns. Read Luke 23:26-49 and close by singing together, "Were You There?"

Empty Tomb (Saturday): Take an empty cardboard box, put some rolled-up scraps of white cloth inside the cardboard tomb, and close the box. Take a flashlight, open the box and shine the light into the box so the cloths can be seen. Read Luke 24:1-12 and close with "Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"

Come then on Easter Sunday and celebrate the risen Christ with your Westminster family!

Creation Station



NOTE: CREATION STATION and Preschool classes will NOT meet on February 18 due to the unavailability of the space at Agudas Achim.

CREATION STATION boys and girls will join with Agudas Achim children on March 4 at 9:45 a.m. at Agudas Achim to celebrate together their holiday of Purim. This Sunday begins a rotation on Jewish Feasts and Festivals so we will experience first-hand this special festival.

Opportunities still exist for Rotation 7, Psalms and Songs (April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20), when we will be back in our new facilities. Join us in the excitement and teach in the workshops on art, music, and science. TEACHERS and SHEPHERDS are needed!

Opportunities still exist for finishing the physical portion of CREATION STATION: sewing, painting murals, installing wall decorations, and putting up wallpaper.

CALL Joan Taylor Reid at 703-751-0044 to learn the details.



Calling all Westminster Families with Children!

Beat those mid-winter blues! Join us for an afternoon of BOWLING on Saturday, February 24 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at U.S. Bowling located at 100 South Pickett Street in Alexandria. RSVP to Robin Simpson at 703-349-5591 or robinotr1@yahoo.com, or Nancy Hall Berens at 703-671-0575 or hallberens@erols.com. You only need to tell us how many in your family will actually be bowling. Unlimited number of spectators welcome! This is a fun activity for the whole family—come to bowl or just to watch and chat. Visitors and new members are especially invited to come meet other families at Westminster!

CHURCH STAFF

Larry Hayward	Pastor
Karen Blomberg	Associate Pastor
Patrick Hunnicutt	Associate Pastor
Paul Stetsenko	Director of Music Ministries
Joan Taylor Reid	Director of Children's Ministries
Clara Beth Van de Water	Director of Adult Education
Sandra Calhoun	Director of Seniors' Ministries
Casey FitzGerald	Dir. of Young Adults and Singles Ministries
Henri Rush	Coordinator of Nat'l/Internat'l Missions
Judy Hansen	Coordinator for Local Missions
Art Sauer	Coordinator of Volunteer Ministries
Nancy Bea	Business Administrator
Tara Cain	Administrative Assistant
Larry Johnson	Sexton
Marvin Johnson	Sexton
Eddie Watkins	Sexton

Church Office: 703-549-4766 • Fax 703-548-1505
WebSite: <http://www.wpc-alex.org/>
CARE Line: 703-684-2934



The Chronicle

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Contributors
Members, Friends, & Staff of Westminster
Dawn Campbell, *Production Editor*

Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m

Time Sensitive

Volunteer CORNER

The Christmas/New Year holiday season is over and we are back to work. Even though we are not yet back to our own building there is a lot going on. We still have to produce

Sunday bulletins every week and a monthly Chronicle. The church staff is still working in temporary quarters and is one paid staff member short. All of this means that there is a great need for office volunteers – especially for the printing jobs. If you can provide 2-3 hours on Thursday as a substitute bulletin printer or 2-3 hours once a month as a back-up to our Chronicle printer please contact me at asauer@wpc-alex.org or Tara Cain at tcain@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766. The recently purchased folding machine has immensely reduced the workload and time required for these jobs.

Soon (exactly when is still not definite) we will be moving back into our completely renovated building. A lot of things were removed and placed in temporary storage during the renovation. These things will have to be moved back in and put in the right places before we can really use the facilities. The storage company will deliver the boxes to Westminster, but we will be responsible for unpacking them. This will take a lot of volunteer effort. More information about timing and needs will be available as we get closer to completion. However, if you can spare even an hour to help

your efforts will be appreciated. Stay tuned for instructions!

The Local Missions Committee also has a great need for volunteers. Specifics on their most pressing projects are included elsewhere in this newsletter. I just want to highlight a few of them. For those of you who like to hit things (like nails), coming up on the last weekend of April is Rebuilding Together Alexandria – a one-day blitz to repair homes of elderly and poor Alexandrians. Also, Westminster is a sponsor of a Habitat for Humanity project and needs to field a team to work on this project. Many of you have expressed an interest in this type of volunteer activity. Please watch for notices on when Westminster will be called on to provide work teams and put the time on your schedule.

In addition, the National and International Mission Committee is planning several mission trips in the coming months. Having been on a few of these trips over the years I can tell you from personal experience that they are well worth the time and effort. Please be alert to notices about these trips and make the time to go on at least one. Nancy Todd is already working on getting a team to go to Mississippi in March to help in the continuing effort to rebuild after hurricane Katrina.

Please prayerfully consider your ability to contribute your time and talents and give as you can to our many opportunities for service.

Yours in Christ,

Art Sauer; *Coordinator of Volunteer Activities*