

From the Pastor's Study

A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 1

10:00 a.m. Gather at
Agudas Achim

10:30 a.m. Processional
back to Westminster

11:00 a.m. Worship in
Westminster Sanctuary
Come Home With...
Dr. Larry R. Hayward

Maundy Thursday, April 5

7:30 p.m. Worship in
Westminster Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 6

12:00 p.m. Worship in
Westminster Chapel

7:30 p.m. Worship in
Westminster Sanctuary

Easter Sunday April 8

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship
Easter and Raymond Carver
Dr. Larry R. Hayward

The day will soon come when we return to our facilities. We have been working for years and waiting for months for this day. It is almost here.

Palm Sunday, April 1, 2007

10:00 a.m. Meet at Agudas Achim for a farewell event for all ages with their congregation

10:30 a.m. Processional from Agudas Achim to Westminster

11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday worship at Westminster

We will likely not be able to use Fellowship Hall on that day, but we will have much to celebrate! Please join us.

There are no 8:30 a.m. service or educational activities that day. All events are listed above.

As we leave Agudas Achim, two lines from the Psalms come to mind:

"I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord,'" (Psalm 122:1) and "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).

These psalms, which I learned in the King James Version as a child, capture, I think, what we have experienced these past ten months: The sadness of leaving one home, the joy of entering another, the anticipation of return -- "Let us go..." -- and the unity we have experienced with our brothers and sisters at Agudas Achim.

"I was glad..."

Larry

One Great Hour of Sharing

During Lent, we focus on the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering and its challenges to our congregation. With so many uncertainties in our world today, it is more important than ever to call ourselves back to the core of Jesus' message for us - we are to serve Him by serving one another in love. There are three categories of needs funded by One Great Hour of Sharing: disaster relief, hunger, and self-development of people. Our gifts help both here in the United States and around the world to provide shelter, blankets, food, seeds and seedlings, farm animals, clean water wells, medical care, education costs, and much more. Please make it part of your Lenten discipline to read our bulletin inserts and information, and give thoughtful and prayerful consideration to how you can serve God by giving generously to serve your brothers and sisters who are suffering. This special offering will be received Easter Sunday.

**One
great hour
of sharing**

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

RETIREMENTS ANNOUNCED

Two of our longtime professional staff have shared with the Session their plans for retirement.

Sandy Calhoun, Director of Seniors' Ministry for 23 years, will retire June 30, 2008. Sandy has been a friend, pastoral visitor, counselor to seniors and their families, as well as organizer of Westminster Travelers' Trips both locally and across the country. Sandy will continue in this capacity for the next year and a half.

Joan Taylor Reid, Director of Children's Ministry for the past eight years, will retire June 30, 2007. Joan has been instrumental in leading Westminster to plan and implement CREATION STATION, a workshop rotation model. She recently married Herb Reid, and they plan to retire to South Carolina.

The Personnel Committee, chaired by Spencer Dickerson, will move forward to begin the process of finding successors for both of these important positions. As a church, we will have opportunities to express our gratitude for their service.

February 22, 2007

Dear Larry:

I have twice extended my projected retirement date as Director of Seniors' Ministries. Working within the vibrant community that is Westminster Presbyterian Church has been so very meaningful to me that I have been reluctant to leave. However, knowing that Presbyterians appreciate order and planning, and not wanting to be the dinner guest who doesn't know when to leave, I am setting a firm date of June 30, 2008 for my retirement.

I look forward to directing senior adult programs in the exciting year ahead in our renewed facility. I will be happy to work with members of the Personnel Committee as they develop a job description for my replacement. The people I have shared experiences with in the congregation and staff during the past twenty-three years have taught me much about the blessings of the Kingdom of God on earth. I particularly wish to commend the dedication of my volunteer co-director of The Travelers, Nancy Jane Wilke.

Peace and joy,

Sandy

Sandra B. Calhoun

March 1, 2007

Rev. Larry Hayward

Westminster Session and Staff

Dear Church friends,

Eight years ago this month I came to Alexandria to be your Director of Children's Ministries. These years here with you have been a time of intellectual, spiritual, professional, and emotional growth for me--including my recent marriage to Herbert M. Reid Sr. I felt I was called here to minister to your children and families, but I too have been ministered to, as I have served with the staff and many volunteers.

These past years have seen many changes in the children's programs at Westminster: the introduction of Children and Worship, the beginning (and hopefully soon) the completion of the physical portion of CREATION STATION—the programmatic portion having been successfully launched for three years, the Milestones of Faith Development program, soon-to-be dedicated baby nursery—among a few of them. You have an exciting time ahead of you with the return to the new facilities and an opportunity for further growth and new programmatic ideas.

It is now time for me to retire from Westminster, effective June 30, 2007, longer if the church needs me. I will work closely with the staff, the Christian Education Committee, and the Personnel Committee to maximize the next four months and see how best to spend the time to ease the transition.

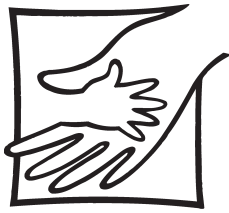
You will be in my prayers and thoughts for many years. It is not the end—only a transition to another phase of my life.

Sincerely,

Joan Taylor Reid

Joan Taylor Reid

Director of Children's Ministries



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

A BEEHIVE OF ACTIVITY

Rhonda O'Bannon of Old Presbyterian Meeting House and I spent three delightful days at the United Orphanage & Academy in the middle of February and found the place abuzz with activity. They are eagerly anticipating the arrival of electricity at the compound not only to support lighting but also the pumping of water from the newly completed well. Also they are in the process of transitioning the 28 girls to the recently completed wing. This will permit conversion of the space previously occupied by the girls to a large dining hall that will serve both the children at the residential facility and children from the community attending classes at the Academy. In addition, construction is almost complete on the first block of four classrooms for the Academy. This will give the pre-primary through 3rd grade classes, already in session, a permanent place to meet and free up the space they have been using in existing buildings.

While we were there we worked with Director Chege to complete a plan for further development of the UO&A during the period 2007 to 2012. Believe me, these plans are exciting. They contemplate the construction of classrooms for pre-primary through 12th grade classes, with room for vocational education classes and a computer lab. In addition, as the result of the addition of an acre of land to the four already owned, there will be room for playing fields as well as the gardens to grow food as they are currently doing.

Best of all, we celebrated Valentine's Day with the children. They made hearts from materials sent by a former intern (lace hearts and various stickers). A wonderful time was had by all. We talked about not restricting love for each other to a single day and decided it would be better to reflect that love in everything we say and do every day of the year.

 Notes From Associate Pastor
Karen Blomberg

CELEBRATION OF MOTHERS

A celebration of mothers is being created. The design team is comprised of those who have recently lost their mothers. However, this event is for all who wish to celebrate, remember, and honor their mothers, living or dead. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 12, 6:30 p.m. You will be hearing more about this event in the next Chronicle issue.

PROCESSION TO TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 1!

We are scheduled to be in our new sanctuary on Palm Sunday, April 1! As we processed from Westminster to Agudas Achim, we shall process back to our point of origin. There will be one service on April 1 at 11:00 a.m. We will meet at Agudas Achim at 10:00 for a time of celebration with Agudas Achim. At 10:30 we will begin our journey to Westminster. Come one, come all. The words of the Sufi poet Rumi say it so well:

Wonderer, worshipper, lover of leaving.

It doesn't matter.

Ours is not a caravan of despair.

Come, even if you have broken your vow a thousand times

Come, yet again, come, come.

Come, Come. Whether we actually walk or not on April 1, let us claim our place in Procession, grateful for our travels with our brothers and sisters at Agudas Achim.

Staff Vacancy

We are beginning the process of filling the **Program Assistant** position in the front office. This position has been vacant since we moved out of the building in June. Spread the word to any non-Westminster member who you think would be suitable and is interested. It is a fulltime position Monday through Friday which provides support to the clergy, program staff, and lay leadership of the church; coordinates session materials, monthly newsletter and produces weekly bulletin. Strong computer skills, interpersonal skills and flexibility are a must. Resumes and inquiries should be emailed to Nbea@wpc-alex.org; faxed Attn: Administrator to 703-548-1505, or mailed to the church office.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Invitation To Attend NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL MISSION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Reynosa Mission Trip Set For Oct 13-20

The National/International Mission Committee is abuzz with activity these days. Things are lively at the United Orphanage & Academy in Moi's Bridge, Kenya as they anticipate the arrival of electricity and construction of buildings for the Academy portion of the operation. The Committee is responsible for supervising Westminster's participation in activities at the UO&A. The Committee is also responsible for supporting construction of churches and a presbytery office building in Elburgon Presbytery in Kenya and scholarships for two seminary students at the Justo Mwale Seminary in Lusaka, Zambia. In addition, the Committee is supporting four mission work camps this year (three in this country and one in Reynosa, Mexico).

Anyone interested in becoming involved in any one of these activities, or who simply wants to find out more about Westminster's mission activities is cordially invited to attend Committee meetings. They are generally the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August, and last about an hour. For information contact Henri Rush at 703-836-1935.

Dates have now been set for the Reynosa mission trip for October 13-20. This trip will be led by Tom Geiger, who is proficient in Spanish and has participated in a prior mission trip to Reynosa, and is

conducted under the auspices of Faith Ministry. Westminster has sent a number of groups to Reynosa in the past, but not in recent years. We will be housed in the facilities of Faith Ministry and work under a trained supervisor to construct a house for a Mexican family. Cost for the trip is \$1,000 per person.

The setting of dates for this trip completes the cycle of four mission trips being sponsored by the National/International Mission Committee for 2007. The others are: March 10-17 Pascagoula, Mississippi; June 21-29 Morgantown, West Virginia; and July 28-August 4 Spirit Lake Sioux Indian Reservation, North Dakota.



ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

NEW ADULT CLASS ON PRESBYTERIAN ROOTS, ROLES, AND THE ENGLISH CIVIL WARS

Alan Capps, historian and editor of the *Journal of Homeland Security*, will teach a 4-week course about the relationship between Presbyterianism and the English civil wars. The course will be held on Sundays, April 15 through May 6, from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. in our renovated church building.

Alan, a Westminster member, says, "The 17th century in England was an era of intrigue, the double-cross, monarchs executed and monarchs restored, religious and political fervor, and the growth of colonies in the New World. This course will examine the pivotal role that Presbyterians and Presbyterianism played in the lead up to the English Civil Wars, during the wars, and in the restoration of the monarchy and its legacies in both Great Britain and the United States."

A former high school history teacher who has also taught military history to army officers, Alan is one of Westminster's favorite teachers. Anyone interested in history, politics, warfare, and our Presbyterian roots should not miss this class. All adults are cordially invited.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Elder James Hoben, a strong advocate for affordable housing in Alexandria and a former Westminster staff member, will talk about this topic on Sunday, April 22, from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. He looks forward to a good discussion. Look for details in the "Chronicle Update".

"FAITH IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE" CONTINUES

The Sunday morning discussion series on religion and politics continues on Sundays in March from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. at Agudas Achim Congregation. The leader is Eric Sapp of Common Good Strategies. All adults are invited to join us.

THE HEROES' WIFE AUTHOR TO BE FEATURED AT PW SPRING GATHERING ON APRIL 11

Presbyterian Women circles are hosting a spring gathering on Wednesday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m. back at Westminster. The speaker will be Dora Griffin Bell, author of *The Heroes' Wife*, a memoir about her marriages to two officers who were prisoners of war in Vietnam. It is especially timely during the current war in Iraq. Desserts will be served, and all women are invited.

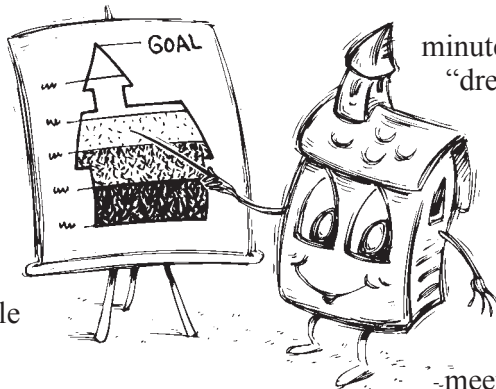
OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Capital Campaign Update

In case you haven't heard, Westminster is on the move again...but this time, it's back into our newly renovated church building! Thanks to the incredible work of so many, the generosity of our congregation, the vision of our leadership, and the skill and dedication of our contractor partners, we will be able to hold our first worship service one week earlier than we had planned.

On Palm Sunday, April 1, we will hold a short worship service with the Agudas Achim congregation from 10:00-10:30 a.m., and then walk back to Westminster to start the Palm Sunday worship service at 11:00 a.m. It promises to be a very special service.

Everyone needs to be aware, however, that although the building renovations are complete enough for us to begin using the building, there are a number of things that still need to be completed. Three, in particular, need the attention of the congregation. First is the organ. Renovation of the organ is underway offsite but the organ conservator will not begin the task of reinstalling the organ pipes until after all other work in the sanctuary is complete. The first pipes to be reinstalled will be those that are visible in the center. After the pipes are installed we can begin to use the instrument. Then the more difficult job of installing the completely rebuilt divisions in the new organ lofts will be done. All that will be visible for the first service will be the new cloth over the openings, the new access doors to the lofts and the console. Paul promises to keep us going with his incredible piano playing until the organ is restored and reinstalled. Second is the absence of pew cushions. Although it is just temporary, it is likely to be the most noticeable issue (especially after the Agudas Achim seating experience). Third, and perhaps most important, there may be a number of bugs in lights, audio, etc., as some of the non-building code items may not have been fully tested due to completion at the last



minute. Consider our first Sunday as a "dress rehearsal".

Elsewhere in the church, the Chapel and Cliff Johnson Parlor are almost finished. Furnishings for the parlor (carpets, furniture, and lights) are being replaced or reupholstered. However, they will not be ready until early April. Renovation of church

-meeting rooms is almost done and they should be set up by Easter. The new church offices are being finalized and ready for the staff to move in before Easter. The church office staff will begin moving in by mid-March, out of the 3rd floor in the Education Building and into their new spaces over the Chapel and a few into their old spaces near the rear entrance. Full operation of the church offices should be completed in early April. Education Building rooms should be fully renovated and usable after Easter given the amount of set-up in these rooms.

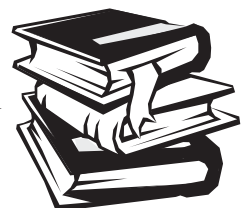
Choir members will be pleased to hear that although the sump pump has not been connected since the waterproofing of the choir room, there has been no moisture in any of the rooms ... despite the fact that there was about 4 feet of water a couple weeks ago outside the building next to the Choir room. The pump was run for a few minutes to lower the water level but everything was dry.

As a final comment, the congregation should be aware that our move back into the church will be very much like a move into a new house – it will take time to get used to the new spaces, to figure out how best to decorate and use them, and it will take time for the new building to feel like home.

Remember April 1. Help us by coming to worship in our new building. Join your friends at Westminster in a celebration of spring, Palm Sunday, and the fruits of our labors over the last six years.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUPS TO READ RASPUTIN'S DAUGHTER

Rasputin's Daughter by Robert Alexander is historical fiction based on the memoirs of the infamous Russian's older daughter, Maria. The evening discussion group will meet on Monday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. at Karen Thunberg's home. Call 703-836-6178 for directions. The morning group will meet on Monday, April 2, at 11:00 a.m. at Madeline Ramsey's home. Call 703-379-7458 if you need directions. All women are invited.



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

TREASURER'S REPORT TO SESSION 12/31/2006

PLEDGE INCOME

	2006	2005
YTD Pledge Income	\$1,022,382	\$930,713
YTD Pledge Budget	\$1,048,948	\$978,066

TOTAL INCOME

	2006	2005
YTD Income	\$1,267,588	\$1,150,393
Income Budgeted from Carryover		36,657
Total Income		1,187,050
YTD Income Budget	\$1,262,090	\$1,187,410

TOTAL EXPENSES

	2006	2005
YTD Expenses	\$1,216,873	\$1,184,210
YTD Expense Budget	\$1,262,090	\$1,187,410

NET INCOME (INCOME – EXPENSES)

	2006	2005
YTD Net Income	\$50,714	\$2,840
in excess of expenditures		

CASH, INVESTMENTS, DEFERRED REVENUE, INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

	Operating	Foundation	Capital Camp
Cash	\$166,580		\$299,586
Investments	\$239,447	\$956,579	\$595,108
Other Assets	\$88,548	\$48,160	\$7,091
Deferred Revenue	\$-75,446		
Note Payable - Boiler	\$-14,728	\$14,728	
Due To/From Foundation			
Due to Capital Campaign			
Other Liability			
Totals	\$404,401	\$1,019,467	\$901,785
Temporarily Restricted (in total above)	\$102,950		

The financial performance of Westminster Presbyterian Church was impressive in 2006.

Despite the challenge of moving out of our church building for more than half the year, the members of the Westminster congregation were vigilant and enthusiastic in their financial support. Almost 98% of pledged income was collected, allowing us to exceed \$1 million for the first time in the history of the church. The church received in pledges almost 10% more in pledge income than in 2005.

Special offerings and bequests demonstrated unprecedented congregational commitment to the work of the church.

Special offerings for church benevolences were \$107,000 while we received over \$1 million in special gifts and bequests which contributed substantially to the church renovation and created new opportunities for technology upgrades and church marketing.

Westminster Operating Budget finished 2006 with net income exceeding \$50,000.

Total operating income exceeded our budget while operating expenses were lower than expected due to staff vacancies and being out of the church building. This substantial surplus when combined with operating reserves from previous years (\$58,000) will help us launch our church programs and activities in the new church facility in 2007. While also retaining \$100,000 in reserves for emergencies and contingencies, Westminster's financial health is exceedingly strong.

**Thank you to the members
for your faithful support
of the program of this church.**

Young Adults Activities

Our next Young Adults' First Sunday Brunch will be held on April 1 at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Brian and Meg Laubscher. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for food and fellowship!

Young Adult Education Series: On April 22, Casey FitzGerald will begin a series on practicing our faith to be held during the education hour. Each session will focus on a different way of seeing our lives, a different way of "practicing" our faith, a different way of deepening our relationship with God and one another. If you are interested in participating, please email Casey at cfitzgerald@wpc-alex.org.



THANK-YOU'S & MORE

Dear Westminster Friends,

I want to express grateful and heartfelt thanks to all for the remembrances, cards, and phone calls, as I am getting the discomfort relieved from my back area.

With the help of a new procedure, I've made some progress. I'll be checking in with my doctor to see if I need more. Maggie and Larry have taken time to chat. I felt so uplifted and am in gratitude for their time. Sandy has been attentive and checked in with me. Thank you so much, Sandy.

Westminster, once again, has been so supportive. Thank you so much.

Peggy Grant



Exciting Times

Hey Youth! There's a lot going on for you right now.

Spring sports are in full swing. The weather's getting warmer, which makes it harder to study, but final papers and exams are closing in! And, it's not just school. Your life at church has a lot in store as well! Middle schoolers have an awesome retreat planned for March. On April 1, you will have your first fellowships in your new youth rooms, and you'll get to have a real say in how we furnish them! April 22 is Youth Sunday, when YOU get to say what happens at worship. Later in May, the middle schoolers will play Laser Tag, and the Senior Highs will have the first-ever Lock-IN in the new building on May 12! And the summer promises some great trips to some great youth gatherings in Virginia and North Carolina. So, while you're thinking about all the homework you don't feel like doing, check out our still-evolving youth page on the church web site for all the many things that you have to look forward to (<http://www.wpc-alex.org/life/youth.htm>). And, above all, grace and peace to you in Christ!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



The time is here! The time is now! If CREATION STATION is going to be completed in the next four months--we need your help.

Our final rotation for this year is Psalms and Songs. We still need teachers for art, games, and science as well as shepherds for kindergarteners. Call me for details.

The physical portion needs volunteers with mild carpentry skills to help put things back on the walls and in place as well as paint furniture, help with painting murals, and put up a wallpaper map. Lots of opportunities, both large and small, so call for details!

The following materials are needed and may be donated or purchased:

- 3 oriental-type rugs, preferably 8x10 or larger.
- Kitchen utensils and equipment (pots, pans, baking sheets)
- 20" square black table
- White demonstration table for the Garden of Eatin' (kitchen)
- A tall pulpit-like chair with arms
- Large square pillow forms for floor pillows
- Wall mirrors for costume room

Parents: **M&M Week** this summer will be June 18-22. This is Westminster's Music & More Week for those who have completed K-5th grade. It's a time for learning a musical, Bible study, computer lab, crafts, recreation and snacks--FUN!

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

A publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church
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**

By now you have heard the news – Westminster will move back to its newly renovated building on April 1!!

This is wonderful news but it won't happen without a lot of

effort by many volunteers. When the work of the professional builders stops we will still have a lot of work to do to put everything back in its place and make the church a vibrant working place again. That is where we will need the volunteers. We will need volunteers to help set up the Creation Station rooms – contact Joan Reid. We will need help re-shelving the books in the Library and moving materials back to the Archives – contact Cathy Hunter.

The Youth will need help setting up their awesome new space – contact Patrick Hunnicutt. The church office will need help in getting back into its assigned space – contact Nancy Bea. And I'm sure the various members of the church staff will appreciate a hand in moving back into their offices. Even if you can only spend an hour or two, your efforts will be appreciated. Mark your calendar for the last week of March to help with the big move-in.

Service Opportunities

Do you enjoy getting a bulletin every Sunday or a printed copy of the Chronicle once a month? Well, these things don't just fall out of the sky. Fortunately, we have two dedicated volunteers who take it upon themselves to print these documents. However, they occasionally need to attend to family matters, get sick, or even take

a vacation. When this happens, the already shorthanded church staff must put aside other matters and print the bulletins or Chronicle, thereby causing delays in other church business. If you can spare a couple of hours once a week (for the bulletin) or once a month (for the Chronicle) contact Tara Cain at 703-549-4766 ext. 111 or tcain@wpc-alex.org. The church has recently invested in some new equipment that has made these tasks much easier and the volunteers will be happy to show you the simple procedures to accomplish the jobs. You may only be needed a couple of times of year but your service will be greatly appreciated.

Coffee and donuts after the worship service is one of our most popular fellowship events. However, this too needs someone to "make it happen." For the past year, Larry Wynne has been "making it happen." However, Larry would like to devote himself to other activities and allow someone else to experience the joy from coordinating this activity. A coordinator is what we are looking for. Larry Johnson, our Sunday sexton, will set up the tables and brew the coffee. Various groups are volunteering to serve. What is needed is someone to be sure that the bases are covered each Sunday. If you would be interested in this position please contact me at asauer@wpc-alex.org.

There are also plenty of other service opportunities so be sure to watch the Chronicle and weekly "Chronicle Update" for these opportunities.

Yours in Christ,
Art Sauer, *Coordinator of Volunteer Activities*