



# Westminster Presbyterian CHURCH

— worship well —

## Communion Preparation

Volunteers are invited to assist in preparing the elements for communion on the Saturday morning preceding each Sunday communion. Each month a team of 2-4 members slice bread and fill communion cups (with a special tool!), preparing the trays for both services. It takes about 2 hours, and an experienced hand is always working with volunteers. This is a magnificent way to assist Westminster's worship program and to make your own communion experience more meaningful. Please contact Anne Pickett at 703-960-5410 or [anne.pickett@verizon.net](mailto:anne.pickett@verizon.net) to learn more.



# the Chronicle

June 18, 2009 - volume 41, number 11

## *From the Pastor's Study* A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward **Proud Of You**

For the past several months, Nancy Hall Berens, our Director of Congregational Life and Singles Ministries, and I have been trying to publicize the invitation the Agudas Achim Congregation, the synagogue in our neighborhood with whom we have a longstanding relationship, had extended to us to participate in their Torah Fair. Never having attended a Torah Fair, and not quite sure what was involved, we both tried to communicate through newsletter and bulletin articles, the web page, worship announcements, and posters what a Torah Fair was, what would happen, and why it could be spiritually enriching to attend. But in all honesty, we didn't know the answers to these questions, so we just basically said: "Hey, we have a good relationship with Agudas Achim; they've invited us to something important to them; so let's go!"

When the Sunday came for the event, we had about a dozen people signed up, it was a busy day at Westminster, and weather was beautiful, and we both figured that there would probably only be a handful of Westminsterites attend.

Lo and behold you surprised us both!

About sixty people from Westminster made a pilgrimage over to Agudas Achim, where once again we were welcomed with open arms. We gathered in the sanctuary of the wonderfully comfortable seats – like old home week – and learned how important an event it is for a synagogue to commission its own Torah, how spiritual it is for each family or individual to wash your hands, sit in front of the scroll, say a prayer, hear the specially-trained rabbi add a blessing, and then hold your hand above the letter as he inscribes the letter in perfect form with a special quill and special ink. It was also moving to hear their account of how unusual, but important and therefore controversial it proved to be for their congregation to invite ours, to open this sacred ceremony to non-Jews, represented by us. Then, of course, we joined in a feast of grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, and soda!

I just want to say that I was proud of you, for turning out, for trying something that none of us really knew what we were getting into, and for trusting that joining together in things we don't always understand at the outset can lead to deep and lasting blessings. As Jacob once said: "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it!"

Larry

## Westminster Recognized

The Alexandria City Public Schools Partners in Education Program recently recognized Westminster Presbyterian Church for more than ten years of service through the Westminster-George Mason Tutoring Program. The award, given "in appreciation for extraordinary commitment to the students of George Mason Elementary School." was presented by ACPS Superintendent Dr. Morton Sherman and School Board Chair Yvonne Folkerts at a breakfast attended by Governor Tim Kaine, Mayor Bill Euille, city council and school board members, ACPS principals, volunteer coordinators, and representatives from organizations and businesses that support public schools in Alexandria.

## Sanctuary Flowers

November 29 is the only Sunday in 2009 for which no flower arrangements have been purchased for the sanctuary. Providing flowers is a meaningful way to honor or remember loved ones, and at the same, time, enhance the beauty of our worship service. You may purchase one arrangement for \$60 or two for \$120. Please contact Oraly Spatz in the church office ([ospatz@wpc-alex.org](mailto:ospatz@wpc-alex.org) or 703-549-4766) if you are interested.



## Thank-You & More

*Dear Westminster Friends,*

After 25 years of membership at Westminster, we are retiring to Hendersonville in western North Carolina. Westminster has been a very important part of our lives this whole time. Our son, Scott, was nine when we joined the church, and his participation in the youth groups, and especially the mission trips, played a very important part in helping shape who he is today. He was the church's first youth elder and he is active in his Presbyterian Church in Illinois. We thank you for your friendship, support, and tremendous sense of church community over these 25 years.

While we haven't yet seriously started looking for a new church home in Hendersonville, WPC leaves some very big shoes to fill in our lives. The consistent quality of preaching and music will be greatly missed. We wish you all well and thank you.

Fondly,

**Gary and Judy Cyphers**

*Dear WPC Members,*

The Denne family will be moving to Little Rock, Arkansas, at the end of June and we will be looking for a new church home there.

It is difficult to overstate how important Westminster has been to our lives here in Alexandria. We arrived almost 23 years ago with our closest family members living six hours away from Alexandria. We leave in 2009 with more than 800 in our Westminster family – friends we love and cherish.

From the births and baptisms of our daughters, Callie and Julia, to helping Westminster through the final phases of the Encore Capital Campaign, we have been enriched by its members and the opportunities afforded us to contribute to the life of the church. We're so grateful to have been a part of the Westminster family.

Thank you, Westminster, for being a wonderful church home for us. Our welcome mat will be out in Little Rock if any member ventures southwest.

**Eileen, Steve, Callie and Julia Denne**

*Thank you,*

One of the greatest strengths Westminster nurtures is friendship. That I can attest to. Having been ill since last December, I have continuously received wonderful encouraging messages via cards, telephone calls, beautiful flowers, and other gifts including several visits by Larry, Casey, Patrick, Eileen and Sandy, and church members bolstering my determination to get well. Do know I am on the mend, and plan on again becoming an active member of Westminster next fall. With all your help – I'll make it.

Faith always, and love –  
**Shirley Shelley**

Dear Westminster,

Glory to God in the Highest! The senior high youth and their advisors thank everyone for your generous donations to our medical kit project. Through your contributions of supplies and funds, and donations from local agencies, medical offices and friends, we have been able to procure: 1000+ shampoos, toothpastes, toothbrushes and soaps; over 2000 bandaids, 1700 antibiotic crèmes, and nearly 5000 alcohol wipes. We have met and exceeded our goal of 1000 medical kits, which we will distribute on Tuesday, June 30 during our trip to the Dominican Republic. We look forward to giving you a report!

**The senior high youth and their advisors**

Thank you,

Thank you for coming to my 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday party. We had delicious food, beautiful flowers and a large number of ladies from my circle.

- Kate W. Daniels

## Community Organizations Say “Thank You WPCI”

“Thank you so much for the efforts of Westminster Presbyterian Church at Mary Gaskins’ house. I hope your volunteers had a great and rewarding experience. Hope to see you again next year!”

With great appreciation.

**Katharine Medina,**

Executive Director, Rebuilding Together Alexandria”

“For the students of the ALIVE! Child Development Center – as well as their parents, the teachers, and the CDC Committee – I thank all those at Westminster Presbyterian Church who helped raise money to be used for the replacement of the CDC playground equipment. The children love the new playground equipment, and being able to play outside is so important to their development. I appreciate your other work in support of ALIVE! as well. There is so much to do to help those most in need in Alexandria – especially these days.”

**Ellen Brown,**

CDC Committee Chair

“Our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Carpenter’s Cook-off at the Birchmere on April 26 was a success. And it was a success because partners like you and your faith community promoted the cook-off, contributed to it and then attended the event. Nearly \$95,000 was raised, including a special appeal that will help send Carpenter’s kids to summer camp. We are very grateful to you for your support. Proceeds from our Carpenter’s Cook-off benefit our Transitional Services Program, which supports our families as they move back into community living ... Our cooperative success with the Cook-off is a powerful statement of compassion and generosity, especially given the economy right now ... Thank you again for your support of the Carpenter’s Cook-off.”

**Fran Becker,** Executive Director and  
**Jasmin Witcher,** Development Director, Carpenter’s Shelter



**Westminster  
Travelers**

**Thursday, July 9.** 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Lunch at Solomon's Island, MD followed by tour of Annmarie Garden Sculpture Park and Arts Center. \$5 plus lunch.

**Thursday, July 23.** 7:00 p.m. *Gypsy.* Little Theatre of Alexandria. \$1.

**Wednesday, August 5.** 7:00 p.m. US Airforce Jazz Concert by The Airmen of Note: Duke Ellington Tribute II. At the Air Force Memorial. Bring a folding chair. \$1.

**Thursday, September 10.** 7:00 p.m. *Foreigner.* Little Theatre of Alexandria. \$1.

*Trips are planned for Westminster senior adults but are open to others if space is available. Call the church office to reserve.*

## Office News

### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

Beginning Monday, June 15 through mid August, the church office will be open from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### STAFF CHANGE:

We are sorry to announce that Oraly Spatz will be leaving the office staff in August. She will be returning to college to complete her degree as a full time student. Oraly has been a valued member of our staff for the past two years and will be missed.

We will be looking to fill the Program Assistant position and welcome your help in spreading the word to folks you may know who are seeking employment. This is a full time position Monday through Friday which provides administrative support to a variety of program areas in the church as well as general office support. It requires someone with good people skills, competence with a variety of computer software including website maintenance, maturity and sensitivity in maintaining confidences. A college degree is not required but some college level education is preferred. This position is not open to members of Westminster. Interested parties may send resumes to Nancy Bea, Church Administrator at [Nbea@wpc-alex.org](mailto:Nbea@wpc-alex.org) or 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, VA 22302.

## Notes From the Stewardship Committee



The Stewardship Committee is proud to announce the new logo and theme for the 2010 Stewardship Campaign (with many thanks to Lois Butcher, campaign art director extraordinaire).

The idea originated with the hymn "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree" which the choir sang over the Winter. "Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree." The drawing of the tree itself is from the bulletin cover for Covenant Sunday, March 1st. The theme, "Every healthy tree bears good fruit," is

from Matthew 7:17. This was the product of our research in that venerable Bible-study source - Google. Did you know that there are more references to "trees" and "wood" in the Bible (525) than to any other living organism except humans?

The drawing of the tree in the logo is a wonderful symbol of how Stewardship works at Westminster. The roots pull nutrients from the soil (think financial support from the congregation) and carry them to the trunk where they are managed and processed for distribution to the branches (think "stewarded" by church leadership). The branches utilize the nutrients to produce leaves and fruit which benefit not only the tree itself but those who come to the tree for, among other things, shelter, nurture and spiritual fellowship. All the parts of the tree must work together.

You will be hearing more about the special opportunities to produce "good fruit" from continuation of the Envisioning Task Force process, long range financial planning, and the culmination of the Encore capital campaign. Stay tuned!



## Westminster to Participate in Bread for the World's "Offering of Letters to End Hunger" Campaign on July 12

The National/International Mission Committee is again leading efforts at Westminster to support a grassroots campaign organized by Bread for the World (BFW) to reform our nation's foreign aid assistance programs. These programs are the centerpiece of American initiatives to improve the lives of the world's poorest people by reducing poverty and promoting an end to hunger. These problems have worsened significantly over the last year as the impact of the world economic slowdown has become more severe. Volunteer and philanthropic organizations have not been able to fill the gaps. BFW estimates that more than 900 million people experience hunger every day.



A recently-introduced bill with bi-partisan support seeks to make foreign assistance more efficient and transparent. Representative Howard Berman (D-CA), chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Rep Mark Kirk (R-IL), are cosponsors of the "Foreign Assistance Reform Act of 2009", which currently has 28 cosponsors. Among several requirements, the legislation would require more rigorous monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of U.S. foreign aid assistance and focuses more on achievable goals.

Westminster is a Covenant Church of Bread for the World, providing an annual donation and assisting in efforts to fight hunger and poverty here and abroad. The event on July 12 after the morning service will include stamped and addressed envelopes for local members of the House and Senate, with additional information on the issues and on how to communicate your concerns most effectively.

Contact Sam Ulm at 703-751-6210 or Erik Johnston at 703-549-2021 for more information.



## Flying Solo (Singles) Ministry

If you have questions about any of these events or would like to know more about Singles Ministry at Westminster, please contact Nancy Hall Berens at 703-549-4766, ext. 121, or [nhallberens@wpc-alex.org](mailto:nhallberens@wpc-alex.org).

### Flying Solo Singles regular monthly events this summer:

**Tuesday, June 23, July 28 and August 25:** Our monthly Potlucks take place in the Johnson Parlor at 7:00 pm. On the fourth Tuesday of each month, we gather at church for a casual potluck dinner and a time of fellowship. Please bring a salad, entrée, or dessert to share. We encourage you to bring a can or two of food for ALIVE! to drop in the basket on the way into church. Some months we also make sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program depending on their need (materials provided for this).

**Monday, July 13:** Our Dine-Out in July will take us to Rabieng Thai located at 5892 Leesburg Pike in Bailey's Crossroads. We meet the second Monday of each month at a local restaurant for an evening of food and friendship. If you want to carpool, meet in the church parking lot by 7:00 pm. Otherwise, we'll meet at the restaurant at 7:15.

**Sunday, August 9:** Join us for Sunday Brunch at Clyde's located at 1700 N. Beauregard Street, Mark Center, Alexandria. We have an annual tradition of going out to Sunday Brunch in August instead of our monthly Monday Dine-Out (therefore, no Dine-Out on August 10). RSVPs are helpful but not required. Please let Nancy Hall Berens know by Friday, August 7 if you plan to attend ([nhallberens@wpc-alex.org](mailto:nhallberens@wpc-alex.org)) but go ahead and join us even if you decide to at the last minute!

### Special Event on Saturday, July 11

Join other Westminster singles for the USA/Alexandria Birthday Celebration with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra presenting their annual "Pops on the Waterfront" concert on Saturday, July 11. Flying Solo will be joining the festivities for this big birthday bash including the city's birthday cake and fireworks! Bring your own picnic or buy food at the event. Parking is limited, so plan on meeting at the church at 5:30 pm to carpool, or join us later down at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison Street, between Pendleton and Union Streets in Old Town. Entertainment starts at 6 p.m. including Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture with cannon followed by the grand finale fireworks at 9:30 pm. For more information, contact Nancy Harper at 703-360-7728 or [ngharp1@verizon.net](mailto:ngharp1@verizon.net).



## Mark Your Calendars for the Fall Singles Retreat

**October 2-4:** Save the first weekend in October for our annual fall Singles Retreat! This year we are planning a retreat in historic Colonial Williamsburg around the theme of religious life in the colonies. We will be staying at Williamsburg's Woodlands Hotel next to the Visitor Center. For our main program on Saturday morning, a historical interpreter from Williamsburg will lead us on a guided visit to some of the historic sites related to religious life during the colonial era. We will learn about religious requirements imposed upon colonial citizens as well as issues of religious tolerance and dissent which led to the eventual idea of the separation of church and state. Saturday afternoon will be free for you to explore Williamsburg and the surrounding area as you wish, then we will enjoy fellowship together at a group dinner of traditional colonial fare at the King's Arms Tavern with costumed servers. Our retreat will end with worship on Sunday morning. Cost of the retreat is \$175 based on double room occupancy and \$295 for a single. Some scholarships and partial scholarships are available. Retreat fee includes room for two nights, two breakfasts, Saturday night dinner at the tavern and entrance to historic Williamsburg. Registration form coming in the mail and on [www.wpc-alex.org/singles](http://www.wpc-alex.org/singles). Because of hotel arrangements, registration is due no later than Tuesday, August 18, 2009. Registration after that date may require a higher rate. It should be great fun and very interesting as well. Please contact Nancy Hall Berens ([nhallberens@wpc-alex.org](mailto:nhallberens@wpc-alex.org)) for any questions or more information.



## Young Adults' First Sunday Brunch!

Our next potluck brunch will be August 2nd in the Haverkamp Room following worship. Hope to see you there!

## Faith on Tap

Calling all young adults yearning for exciting faith-based discourse and perhaps a malty beverage or a fountain soda! Our next event will be held on Tuesday, July 21st at the Capitol City Brewing Company in Shirlington. Hope to see you there!

## Young Adult Education Coming Soon...

Dream, Think, Be, Do: Sundays from 9:45-10:45 a.m. starting in September! "DreamThinkBeDo is an engaging catalyst for conversation among young adults searching for what's next for followers of Jesus. It starts with the foundation of "Love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind ..." (Luke 10.27) Themes include: Faith as Journey, Stories of Creation, Reconciliation, Jesus, Risk, Thinking Theologically, Taking the Bible Seriously, Evil & Suffering, Rapture & Revelation ... and many, many more! This program will run throughout the year during the adult education hour. If you are a young adult and would like to become part of a leadership team for this series (it's not as daunting as it might sound), please contact me a.s.a.p. I'm looking forward to this extended young adult education experience with you!

— Casey FitzGerald



## Focus on Missions

### Local Mission—10 Months in Review

"There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be open-handed toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land." —Deuteronomy 15:11

At Westminster, we have built our congregation on four cornerstones: Worship, Fellowship, Education and Mission. A core element of our faith is to reflect God's love – to love one another, including the humble, hungry, disabled and hurt among us through our Mission efforts.

On the local level, WPC provides support for many organizations through volunteerism, in-kind donations, and financial contributions. For the past 10 months, we have highlighted our Local Mission efforts under the umbrella theme of CHES: Children, Hunger, Education, Shelter and Self-Sufficiency. Each of these areas aligns with the activities we support.

We were fortunate to be able to bring in guest speakers from several organizations to our worship services through Minute for Mission. Our visitors came from Guest House, Carpenter's Shelter, ALIVE and Rebuilding Together Alexandria. We presented special anniversary gifts to ALIVE for its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Carpenter's Shelter for its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We hosted a "birthday party" for ALIVE in fellowship hall, worked on home repairs for an elderly woman through Rebuilding Together Alexandria, fed approximately 400 hungry people in our local community through Meals on Wheels, our Bag Lunch program, ALIVE and Carpenter's Shelter, provided one-on-one support to 15 students as tutors at George Mason Elementary, helped build a home through Habitat for Humanity, and invited a dozen local organizations to tell their stories through our annual Alternative Giving Bazaar.

Each of these efforts—no matter how large or how small—is an example of putting our faith into action. Though the summer break lies before us, your Local Mission Committee will continue to support our weekly and monthly activities, and will introduce some new opportunities for service.

We welcome new volunteers—for a single day or a regular commitment. We welcome new committee members. And, we welcome new ideas as we plan for our fall CHES kick off.

For information on Local Mission programs contact **Rita Grazda:**  
rgrazda@aol.com

## Looking for a Vital Way to Serve at WPC?

Then please consider being a youth advisor. Youth advisors are young-hearted adults who want to share compassion, friendship and faith with our brothers and sisters who are emerging out of childhood and through adolescence. We laugh a lot, serve a lot, learn a lot, share a lot, and through our time together, we give a lot of raucous glory to God. Being an advisor requires no precise set of gifts, other than a willingness to show up on behalf of youth. And those who give, receive ten thousand-fold. If any part of you is intrigued, please contact Patrick (phunnicut@wpc-alex.org). We already have a great group of adult leaders, and we'd love to explore how your gifts might blossom in the presence of our youth.

Peace, Patrick

## Spirit Lake Mission Trip Involves You

Everyone in the congregation can be involved in our mission trip with the Bdecan Presbyterian Church on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation, North Dakota. A group of our members will be going there July 25-August 1 to support their members and help strengthen their worship, music, membership recruitment, and a host of other things with our presence and labor. We will be doing God's will to **Serve Others**. You too can participate. We are soliciting your involvement in thought, prayer, gifts, and donations.

The Indian Reservation is a flat, 405 square mile area in East Central North Dakota bordered by Devil's Lake on the north and the Sheyenne River on the south. It is windswept with harsh winter weather. Almost all of their 6,000 residents are struggling and living in poverty. Westminster has had a six year relationship with the Bdecan church, which has no assigned pastor and only three elders who keep the church operating and in fact have made it one of the most successful in the Dakota Presbytery. Three of our members visited the area last month with their parish pastor who serves four area churches including Bdecan, determined that their church is in desperate need of help - and **we can make a real difference in their lives**.

We are blessed to have almost 20 people signed up for this trip. Travel, meals, and hotel costs will reach about \$24,000 and the materials for projects about \$6,000. Many participants are contributing to the cost of the trip, and budgeted Mission funds will cover much of what is needed. We ask your help to make it possible for the them to all go and accomplish everything we have set out to do with some of the following needs:

|                       |                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Scholarships          | \$530 needed for living costs for each person while in N. D.                                           |
| Vacation Bible School | \$2,100 for food and materials for 60 children.                                                        |
| Wind Break Shelters   | \$250 for materials for each Wind Break door shelter built to help protect from blowing snow and dust. |

Additional funds received will be used for playground repairs (\$600); food pantry shelving (\$800); storage closets at the church (\$450); and Dakota Hymnals (\$15 each).

This is the largest intergenerational group we have had committed to going on a mission trip in a number of years. We are seeking your help to make this as productive and successful a trip as possible for our friends at Spirit Lake.

Please pray for the Bdecan church, our members who will be spending a week in North Dakota, and donate generously to Westminster as you are able, clearly indicating "Spirit Lake Mission Trip" on your check, so we can make this mission trip the beginning of a long-term relationship with Bdecan - like we have done so well for the Moi's Bridge Orphanage & Academy in Kenya.

Thanks be to God!  
National/International Missions Cmte

## We Honor Our Graduates:

In the May newsletter, we extended our congratulations to members of our church family who have completed a major phase of their academic lives. Since that time, a few new names have trickled in. So, please take a look at the revised list and be joyful for the strength, patience and endurance displayed by our wonderful young men and women. This month, we particularly celebrate our high school grads!

- **Robert Baldwin** graduating from the University of Virginia's School of Law  
Graduating from T.C. Williams:
- **Sarah Bryan**, will attend the University of Vermont
- **Marisa Cagnoli**, will attend James Madison University
- **Julia Denne**, will attend Longwood University
- **Megan Epperson**, will attend Clemson University
- **Grace Goodwin**, will attend Colgate University
- **Emily Jayne**, will attend University of Wisconsin
- **Patrick White**, will attend University of Virginia
- **JW Wilson**, will attend UNC-Wilmington

## Congregational Life

**SAVE THE DATE** for an all-church potluck dinner on Saturday, September 26 at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Watch for up-coming details!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** The Congregational Life committee is forming two new sub-committees to help with some of the weekly hands-on responsibilities that help the church provide fellowship events for the entire congregation. These two new groups are the Coffee Guild and the Kitchen Guild.

**THE COFFEE GUILD**, under the leadership of Nancy Hall Berens, will recruit hosts for Coffee Hour/Lemonade on the Lawn for each Sunday of the year (most of 2009 is already recruited!), maintain supplies for easy access and use by hosts, and occasionally fill in hosting when there are gaps in the schedule. We hope to get a group of at least 4-5 people including both those who regularly attend the 8:30 service and those who usually attend the 11:00 service.

**THE KITCHEN GUILD**, under the leadership of Nedra Trahant and Susan Kelly, will help keep supplies organized and kitchens straightened for use by all fellowship groups and activities in the church. Guild members will have oversight of the various kitchens in the church building and will monitor use of kitchen supplies and equipment.

## Adult Education

Contact Director of Adult Education Clara Beth Van de Water at 703-549-4766 ext. 120 or [cvandewater@wpc-alex.org](mailto:cvandewater@wpc-alex.org) for further information about the following new course.

Announcing "Adult Crossings: God's Journey With Us" A unique overview of the core stories of the Bible, taught by Dr. Larry Hayward. The course will be held on eleven Sunday afternoons, **September 13 – November 22** from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. in Room 103/105 on the first floor. The study guide costs \$15. Look for brochures in the literature racks or online at our church website

Come to an orientation session on **August 30, 11:15**, Haverkamp Room. Books will be available when you register at this session. Registration forms are in the brochures. Registration and checks to WPC should go to the attention of Clara Beth Van de Water, who has a mailbox in the church office.

Sunday morning classes begin September 13 from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Dr. Bruce Douglass of Georgetown University will teach "Why Not Be Reformed: The Reformed Tradition through the eyes of its Critics" for 4 weeks through October 4.

Dr. Patricia Lyons of St. Stephens St. Agnes Upper School will teach "Un-Dragoned Forever: The Life and Legacy of C.S. Lewis" during the same 4 weeks.

Please note that our church library has several books by C.S. Lewis.

Dr. Lyons particularly recommends "Mere Christianity" and "Surprised by Joy". She suggests watching the movie "Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" (2005). Our library has an earlier BBC version of "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" in the children's section which you can borrow to watch. We also have a wonderful BBC video version of "Shadowlands" about Lewis and his wife in our adult section.



### Saturdays in the Park July Schedule!!!

Families with young children are invited two Saturdays in July to come and play with us in the preschool playground. On July 11<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup> come play from 9:00-10:30 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts provided! Events cancelled if raining. If you have questions or are interested in hosting one of our events, please contact Casey FitzGerald.

### Mother's Study:

Wednesdays in July, 9:00-10:15 a.m.—Westminster Room

All moms are invited to join us in watching and discussing Rob Bell's NOOMA videos. Having spent two units talking about motherhood and faith, we will now move on to general discussion of faith, God and the Bible. Childcare will be provided for \$20. Please RSVP to Casey FitzGerald if you're interested in attending!

### Creation Station Sign-Ups Continue!

Want to see if teaching or shepherding is part of your call at Westminster? Sign up to help with our 2009-2010 year in Creation Station NOW! Serving as a teacher or shepherd are wonderful ways to develop your own language of faith while helping children learn about God and the Bible. You only need to commit to four weeks at a time. Topics include: How the Bible Came to Be, Jacob, Elijah, In the Manger, Jesus at the Synagogue, The Garden of Gethsemane, and more! Contact Casey FitzGerald if you are looking for ways to be involved with Creation Station or the younger education programs next year.

### Save the Date: Music & More Week!!!

**August 31-September 4, 2009**

Children K-5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to experience our unique summer program. This year, we will be working towards a performance of "Horton Hatches the Egg". This is an M & M Week not to be missed!!! Even as Horton proclaims: "I meant what I said and I said what I meant ... an elephant's faithful one hundred percent!"—so too we seek to understand what it means to be faithful! We hope you can make it for this very special week in the life of children's ministry. If you are an adult and would be willing to help during the week, please contact Casey FitzGerald!

## New Pictorial Directory

This fall Westminster members will have the opportunity to participate in a new pictorial directory, through Olan Mills, one of the most well-known and respected producers of church directories. More information will come soon, so now is the time to pencil in the dates:

- **August 7 & 8** (to catch college students before their departure)
- **October 14-17.**

There is no cost to have you or your family's photo included, and no cost to the church. Every participant/family will receive a free 8x10 photo. If you choose to order photos they will make a wonderful holiday gift! Contact Molly Roden with questions, [mjroden@aol.com](mailto:mjroden@aol.com).





news from  
**United Orphanage & Academy  
 in Moi's Bridge, Kenya**  
**February 8 – 22, 2010 Mission Trip to Kenya**

As those of you who attended the May 17 initial meeting know, planning for the February Mission Trip to Kenya is well underway. The trip will be approved by the National/International Mission Committee, which means that financial assistance will be available to help individuals that want to go but would otherwise not be able to afford the \$2,500 cost of the trip. This is subject, of course, to the availability of funds.

Our plan is to leave from Dulles International Airport on the evening of February 8 with a group from New York Avenue Presbyterian Church (NYAPC) and fly overnight to London, arriving the morning of February 9. We will spend the day of the ninth in London sightseeing or recuperating from the overnight flight and leave that evening for an overnight flight to Nairobi. Arriving in Nairobi the morning of February 10, we will check into the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA) Guest House, and spend the rest of February 10 and 11 in Nairobi sightseeing and taking care of administrative details such as exchanging money, purchasing bottled water, mosquito nets, etc. Sightseeing will include a cultural experience at the Bomas of Kenya, trips to a game park or a museum and hopefully a meeting with officials of the PCEA whose Head Office is next door to the Guest House.

Friday, February 12 we will leave by van for Njoro so as to be able to observe the operation of the NYAPC Orphan program on Saturday, February 13. Unlike the United Orphanage & Academy (UO&A), the NYAPC's Njoro program is a Saturday's only program. While in Njoro we will also visit various sites Westminster has supported, including a church which was heavily damaged during the ethnic clashes of last year.

After church Sunday, February 14 we will leave our NYAPC friends at Njoro and head by van for Moi's Bridge where we will stay Sunday through Friday, February 19 at the UO&A. While there we will participate in the dedication of the Academy building, which has been built with funds supplied by Westminster, Old Presbyterian Meeting House and National Capital Presbytery, observe classes at the Academy and local public schools, visit the local government clinic and perhaps, participate in some light improvement work at the Orphanage or Academy. On Friday February 19 we will rejoin our NYAPC friends at Njoro for a night before heading for Nairobi on Saturday, February 20.

En route to Nairobi we will visit the Nakuru Game Park which has one of the largest collections of Rhinos in Africa and also houses Jomo Kenyatta's (first President of Kenya) retreat house. We will have lunch at the Game Park and return to Nairobi that evening where we will stay at the Guest House. Sunday, February 21 we will attend church at either the Church of the Torch (a church dedicated to the missionaries from Scotland) or St Andrews (the principal Presbyterian Church in downtown Nairobi) and spend the rest of the day sightseeing and preparing to leave for home late that night (midnight). The midnight overnight plane arrives in London on the morning of February 22 and connects with a noon plane that arrives back at Dulles mid afternoon.

Cost of the trip will be \$2,500 which includes airfare, transportation and lodging within Kenya and all costs except miscellaneous personal expenses. As indicated, financial assistance will be available to the extent of the availability of funds. Participation will be limited to persons 18 years of age or older.

If you think you might be interested, contact Henri Rush for more information or to get your name on the list to receive an application at 703-836-1936 or rhcavusa@aol.com. Additional information will be provided to those who have already signed up or who sign up during the Summer. An organizational meeting will be held on September 27 following the 11:00 service.

## Women's Ministry News

**BOOK GROUPS:** All women are invited to read and discuss "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows on Monday, September 28, at 11:00 a.m. or 7:30 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor.

**WORK DAY:** Women are invited to make heart pillows and stuffed animals for Alexandria Hospital on Wednesday, September 2, at 9:30 a.m. in the Haverkamp Room.

**CIRCLES BOARD MEETING:** The Presbyterian Women Circles Board will meet on Wednesday, September 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westminster Room. Each circle is urged to send a chair or other representative.

**BIBLE STUDY:** The friendship circle bible study for 2009-2010 will be on the Old Testament book of Joshua, written from a unique perspective on the land of Palestine and its people then and now by a Palestinian Christian woman. Circles will begin this study in September.

**INVITATION:** Any woman interested in attending the September meeting of a fellowship circle is invited. The schedule will appear in the Westminster Update in September.

Contact Clara Beth Van de Water for details about the book group at 703-549-4766 ext.120 or cvandewater@wpc-alex.org; or PW moderator, Carol Ensley about circles at 571-225-5896 or carolanne.ensley@yahoo.com or workday coordinator Nancy McIver at 703-370-1445.

Contact Diane French at 703-683-4870 if you are interested in a card playing group.

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### The Chronicle

A publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church  
*Contributors*  
Members, Friends, & Staff of Westminster  
Dawn Campbell, Production Editor

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m

**Time Sensitive**

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## Volunteer Corner

Summer is an active time for volunteers, especially mission volunteers. This year there will be three summer mission trips – two youth trips and an intergenerational trip. The commitment of the congregation to hands-on mission work has indeed been reconfirmed.

There are also on-going needs around the church for volunteers. Foremost is care of plants around the exterior of the building. Once the rainy season ends, the hot weather will require frequent watering and there is a continuing need for weeding and maintaining flower beds. These are tasks that can be fitted to almost any schedule. If you are interested in serving, or just finding out more, contact Robin McFarland 703-751-1574 or Joe Kelly 703-751-2041.

I hope everyone has a restful summer and comes back ready for the active church program that starts in September.

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

