



# Westminster Presbyterian CHURCH

— worship well —

## SAVE THE DATE!

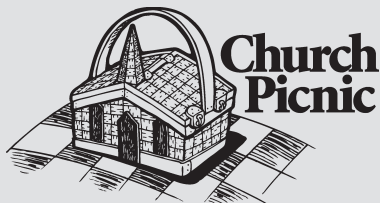
### Annual Summer Kick-Off Picnic

Sunday, June 13th  
11:00 am

Fellowship Hall and  
Monticello Blvd Lawn

Come celebrate the summer with our annual church picnic! Enjoy a picnic lunch after worship, share summer plans with friends, and have a relaxing meal at church (all food will be provided – see related article if you can help with this). We will be serving food in Fellowship Hall with seating options both indoors and outdoors this year. Families are invited to go out back to play on the playground with church friends after eating.

If you have any questions, contact Pat Prosperi at 703-354-7268 or prosper9999@aol.com.



# the Chronicle

April 22, 2010 - volume 42, number 9

## *From the Pastor's Study* A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward **An Unfortunate Incident**

Last week, Maggie and I had a day off and spent it in Old Town, near where we live, enjoying the sunshine, the outdoors and the leisure. We had an early dinner at a sidewalk café. Just as the waiter brought our food, I looked to my right and saw the beginnings of an altercation on the street. A well dressed Middle Eastern man had gotten out of a black Mercedes, and an aging "biker" had gotten off his motorcycle. They were nearly face-to-face, exchanging words. From the position of their vehicles, it was obvious they each sought the same parking place on the street. They had either arrived at the same time, or one (I know not who) had cut the other off.

After a few words, the biker asked, in a loud voice: "Where are you from?" Before the man could answer, he added: "Well, go back there." The Middle Eastern man got in his car, drove off, and parked up the street. The biker continued with his friends to sit on their bikes on the street, playing with their little dog, named "Killer," for at least as long as our dinner lasted.

It is one of the few times I have been embarrassed – no, downright ashamed – of the words and actions of one of my fellow citizens I have seen up close.

The Middle Eastern man may have been as much "from" America as the biker, but even if not, he was, by all appearances, a well established resident. Wherever the Middle Eastern man was born, he was in our country, apparently making many contributions.

There is bigotry loose in our land, sniffing like a hunting dog for causes to erupt. There is anger afoot, and an odd combination of both entitlement and threat, that tears our social fabric and resists the better nature of who we are as a nation. The sense of threat people feel must come from some deep wound or deeply-felt grievance, perhaps legitimate; but somehow, lashing out at someone who is "from" somewhere else only wounds and dehumanizes further.

I hope we get beyond these times in our country, these hatreds which are not new but which sometimes return with a fury as fierce as cancer out of remission. I hope the faith in which I have been raised and which I am privileged to share with you Sunday after Sunday is one factor that leads us to recognize that we are all "from" God.

– Larry



I would like to say thank you to Marbeth Paulsen, Molly Roden and Susan Griffith for your visits and the food you brought me after my recent hospitalization.

**Kate Daniels**

*Dear Westminster friends,*

We are so grateful and thankful to each of you, who we know to be our brothers and sisters in Christ, for all of your sustaining prayers. We have and do feel the power of your prayers as they sustain us and nurture us and heal us. Nancy, we believe, would not be with us today without those prayers. And, thank you for all of the ways in which many of you have extended your kindness and support in these many months when Nancy has been so ill.

Sincerely,  
**Nancy and Ward Lasley**

## Encore Campaign Update

As we near the end of our Encore Capital Campaign, I want to thank all those who have supported the Campaign through pledges and contributions. It is heartening to see the commitment that our members have to supporting this project as we enjoy our renovated space.

The three-year Encore Campaign ends on June 1, 2010. We have come a long way in the past 6 years in conceiving, planning, developing, and paying for this beautiful renovation. And now we are close to paying off all of our debt for this \$6.2 million project. The commercial bank loan has been completely paid off, and we are confident that as people continue to honor the pledges they have made we will pay off the remaining loan from the Westminster Foundation.

If you are not able to honor your pledge by June 1, we will welcome your contributions throughout the year. We want to ensure everyone has the opportunity to demonstrate their support and appreciation for this beautiful renovation to bring our church up to the 21st century. As we close out this campaign and the renovation project, we are looking to the future to build on our outstanding ministries and programs.

We have much to be thankful for and to celebrate.

**Terry Grindstaff**  
Church Treasurer

## ALIVE! Furniture Delivery in May.

Make a Saturday in May a great day for a low-income family in Alexandria. Westminster has been supporting Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically ("ALIVE!") since 1969. ALIVE! mission is to address short- and long-term needs for those less fortunate in the community. Volunteers for the ALIVE! furniture delivery program pick up donations of small housewares and furniture and deliver them to low-income families in the city of Alexandria.

Each time I've volunteered, at least one delivery is to a household (often with children) with few or no possessions. We arrive at an empty apartment, and leave a home with a bed or two, a sofa, a dining table and chairs, and pots and pans. Each time I've volunteered, I'm given that gift.

ALIVE!'s supporting congregations each support two weekends of furniture delivery each year.

We need volunteers for Westminster's deliveries Saturday May 1st and Saturday May 15th between 8:00 am and approximately 12:30 pm. Physical strength is welcome, but not required. This is a great opportunity for teenagers to volunteer! Please contact Louise Anderson at 703-820-3568, [louiseanderson@erols.com](mailto:louiseanderson@erols.com).

Please contact ALIVE! at 703-837-9300 if you have donations of furniture (mattresses, beds, tables, chairs, chests, lamps) or housewares (pots and pans, towels, sheets, dishes, silverware, and blankets).

**Louise Anderson**



## Flying Solo (Singles) Ministry

*Flying Solo is a group for single adults in their prime years (more or less 40 and above) belonging to the life and ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Please contact Nancy Hall Berens at [nhallberens@wpc-alex.org](mailto:nhallberens@wpc-alex.org) to learn more!*

**Sunday, May 2: Roundtable Lunch and Discussion.** “Beyond Sunday: Living Out Our Spirituality in Everyday Life.” A life of discipleship means living out our Christian values throughout the week ... at work, at play, everywhere we go. But that’s often easier said than done in most work environments and many social and personal situations as well. Join Flying Solo Singles for a lively discussion led by Nancy Hall Berens. Lunch will be provided. No RSVP necessary. Come to the Westminster Room after the 11:00 worship service.

**Monday, May 10: Our monthly Dine-Out** in May will take us to Columbia Firehouse located at 109 South St. Asaph Street in Old Town. Meet at church at 7:00 p.m. if you’d like to carpool, otherwise meet us at the restaurant about 7:15. Come join other singles from Westminster to enjoy good food and fellowship!

**Saturday, May 22:** Join us, rain or shine, in beautiful Virginia wine country for the **Jazz Festival at Chrysalis Vineyards** near Middleburg, VA. Enjoy lush rolling countryside, breath-taking views, exciting jazz music, delicious wines and a whole host of interesting food vendors and artisan booths. Meet at church at 9:15 a.m. to carpool. RSVP to [nhallberens@wpc-alex.org](mailto:nhallberens@wpc-alex.org) by May 18 for \$15 advance tickets (\$20 at the door). Mail check (made to WPC, note Flying Solo) to church or give to Nancy. Includes a 45-minute wine-tasting and talk on the history of the vineyard and its wines at 11:00 a.m. Bring money for lunch and any other purchases you may make at the festival. Please let Nancy know if you are willing to serve as a designated driver for this event.

**Tuesday, May 25:** Join Flying Solo Singles for our **monthly Potluck** at 7:00 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor. We will begin by making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program then enjoy a potluck dinner together. Please bring a dish to share and a can of food for the ALIVE! basket in the education wing entrance.

### Looking ahead:

**October 8-10:** The **fall Flying Solo Singles Retreat** will be Friday October 8 – Sunday October 10, 2010 at Graves Mountain Lodge near Sperryville, Virginia. Jeff Hensley will be leading the group in a thought-provoking discussion of some of the theological issues represented in the best-selling book *The Shack* such as evil, suffering, sin, prayer and the complicatedness of one’s relationship to God. More information and registration details coming soon!



## Westminster Life Events

We recently welcomed these additions to the Westminster nursery:

- **William John Oliver Ozanus**, born March 9, to Michelle and Kris Ozanus
- **Sara Katherine Kopp**, born March 24, to Laura and Paul Kopp
- **Matthew Rhyan Hance**, born March 28 to Kate and Rhyan Hance
- **Megan Jean FitzGerald** born April 19 to Jim and Casey FitzGerald.

Please remember in prayer the family of **Micheline Brunet Williams** who died March 31, 2010.

## Women's Ministry News



### Book Groups

All women are invited to read *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave and discuss it on Monday, April 26, at 11:00 a.m. or 7:30 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor.

The book for May 24 discussion is the classic *The Bridge Over San Luis Rey*, by Thornton Wilder, Pulitzer Prize winner.

### 2011 Women's Retreat

The date is April 8-10, 2011. Put it on your calendar!

### Friendship Circles



We have seven friendship circles that meet monthly for fellowship, Bible study, and service.

There is a pink sheet with details about each circle and who to contact in the literature rack in the education wing lobby; and information online on the church website under Fellowship, Presbyterian Women. You are welcome to visit any circle, and join if you wish.

## Adult Education Programs



### Adult Classes

#### New and Ongoing Sunday Morning Classes

Sunday classes meet from 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. All adults are invited. Contact Director of Adult Education and Women's Ministries Clara Beth Van de Water at 703-549-4766 extension 120 or [cvandewater@wpc-alex.org](mailto:cvandewater@wpc-alex.org) if you want more details. No registration is needed.

### Spring Adult Classes

A class on the "Pivotal Turning Points in the History of Christianity" is being held on Sunday mornings 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. through May 16. The teacher is theologian Dr. Tony Tambasco of Georgetown University, who taught this course at the Smithsonian. It meets in Haverkamp Room.

Elder Paul Neuriter, an expert on China through his work there, will present "A Short Introduction to China's Government" on Sunday, May 23, from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Haverkamp Room. Paul will review and discuss China's current government, both its attitudes and future decisions it may make, as well as impacts on the United States.

### Church Library Has New Books on Adolescence and Young Adulthood

- *Girl Talk: God Talk* is a book especially for the parents and grandparents of growing girls by Dr. Joyce Mercer, professor at Virginia Seminary, who spoke recently to our Presbyterian Women on her book, and was very well received.
- *The Soul of the Adolescent* by Dr. Christian Smith, a sociologist who spoke at the Reformed Institute, is considered the current premier book on teenagers. His recent book on young adults in their twenties, *Souls in Transition*, has been added to the library, and is helpful for anyone seeking to understand this generation.

### Seeking Adult Education Ideas

If you have ideas or suggestions for topics, teachers, or speakers for adult education, email Clara Beth Van de Water at [cvandewater@wpc-alex.org](mailto:cvandewater@wpc-alex.org), or call 703-549-4766 extension 120, and leave a message.

## Notes From the Stewardship Committee



### First Quarter Stewardship Reflection

Last year's stewardship campaign theme from Matthew 7:17, "Every healthy tree bears good fruit," is once again applied to your gracious giving. Thank you for your generosity—your pledge dollars have allowed the church to budget for important expenses this first quarter.

No one could have imagined the impact of the historic snowstorm that kept many of us shut in for days. The snow may have been an inconvenience, but Westminster spent approximately \$10,000 on snow removal to allow our congregation and the community members who use the church to continue activities with as little disruption as possible.

Your pledges have also allowed Westminster to continue supporting missions that impact local, national and international communities. To name a few, funds spent this quarter included:

Carpenter's Shelter,	\$1,875
Alexandrians InVolved Ecumenically (ALIVE),	\$3,500
Meals on Wheels,	\$750
Bread for the World,	\$2,000
PCUSA Mission Projects,	\$4,000

Your pledges helped make unique educational opportunities available. Your pledges helped keep the lights on and the building maintained. Your pledges helped enhance the worship services. First quarter expenses supported by pledge giving included:

Adult education instructors,	\$1,000
Bibles for 3rd and 4th graders,	\$502
Utilities (gas, electric, water, phone),	\$16,973
Preschool Scholarships,	\$642
Palm Sunday and Easter musicians,	\$5,525

The list goes on, but the bottom line is THANK YOU for your generous giving. Each and every pledge allows Westminster to provide important services to the congregation and the community. Westminster is truly blessed with health and good fruit.

**Mary Olsen**  
Stewardship Committee Chair

## Concert for Haiti

Westminster's Concert for Haiti on March 20th raised more than \$4,000 for the Hospital Bienfaisance de Pignon.

Approximately 200 people from our community enjoyed a wonderful evening of Irish music and dancing provided by the Irish Breakfast Band and Boyle School of Irish Dance. Dr. John Klousia and the Community Coalition for Haiti provided information and stunning photographs from their recent work on behalf of those still in need of hope and healing following the earthquake.

Grateful thanks to our many volunteers who generously gave time, talent and donations for the delicious refreshments and fun decorations.

## Moi's Bridge Leadership During Henri Rush's Recovery

As Henri Rush recovers from a stroke, it is a relief to know that there is a strong, well-developed Steering Committee in place for the United Orphanage and Academy in Moi's Bridge, Kenya. Henri was instrumental in putting this Steering Committee in place a few years ago. It meets regularly, reviews expenses and contributions, and identifies long range needs and develops plans for the orphanage and academy. It has members of Westminster as well as three other churches who have become heavily involved in the effort: Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Old Town, Lewinsville Presbyterian Church in McLean, and First Presbyterian Church of Marietta, Georgia.

Ken Niemann from Westminster is coordinating the Steering Committee during Henri's recovery. Additional Westminster members are James and Sheila Hoben, Craig Lewis, and Candace Rush. From OPMH are Rhonda O'Bannon, Judith Dahmann, and Kem Toole. From Marietta is John Wells, and from Lewinsville is Alan Stevens.

Henri continues to receive positive feedback from the participants of the February 2010 trip to Kenya. Pictures from the trip will be posted on the National/International Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall soon.

Thanks to all who are keeping this ministry vital.

**Larry Hayward and Candace Rush**



### Faith on Tap!

7:30 p.m. Capitol City Brewing Company, Shirlington  
3rd Tuesdays

### Coming up:

May 18th: Associate Pastor Patrick Hunnicutt hosts  
June 15th: Tyler and Michelle Brummond host  
July 20th: Casey is BACK!

### First Sunday Potluck Brunches

Bring a dish to share and come up to the Haverkamp Room to socialize with other young adults!

Sunday, May 2nd (after 11 o'clock service)—hosted by Mary Olsen!

Sunday, June 6th (after 10 o'clock service)—hosted by Andy and Oraly Spatz!

### Fall Mission Trip to Appalachia!

September 30 through October 3, 2010

Join Casey FitzGerald and your fellow young adults for our first ever away-from-home mission trip! Pack your bags, jump in a van and drive down together early Thursday morning and get back for dinner on Sunday night. This will be an incredible opportunity both to serve and to connect with other young adults.

Our group will stay in a climate-controlled Appalachia Service Project center with bunk beds and hearty meals. And we'll be able to enjoy cooler temperatures and stunning scenery.

We'll lay shingles, replace linoleum, build handicapped ramps. If you have construction experience, you'll be matched with jobs that suit your skills. Even if you have no building experience, the staff will show you the ropes—helping you develop skills you didn't even know you had!

For more information (or if you want to be a part of organizing this trip) please contact Janet Riksen at [jriksen@wpc-alex.org](mailto:jriksen@wpc-alex.org).

## Children and Family Ministry



### M&M Week 2010

"The Three Hermits"

August 23-27

Music and More Week is the summer music day camp experience for children kindergarten through fifth grade. Our schedule this year is Monday through Thursday, 9:30-12 and Friday, from 9:00 to 12:00 noon.

This year the children will work toward a performance of "The Three Hermits" --Paul Stetsenko and Tandy Martin's operatic interpretation of a traditional folk story originally retold by Leo Tolstoy. This is a powerful story about truth, faith, and prayer. We will be learning about faithfulness to God through song, drama, art and computers.

Registration now open. Brochures/registration forms are available at the church. Online registration will open soon!

### Saturdays in the Park

Come and spend the morning with other young families in the church. All families with young children (0-pre-K) are welcome to join us for light refreshments and fun in the preschool playground from 9-11a.m. on the following dates:

May 15th

June 19th

July 17th

In cases of rain, park time will be cancelled. Please check your email for news of possible rescheduled dates should we be rained out. Contact Lauren Sigler, Christian Education Chair, with any questions at [laurensigler@hotmail.com](mailto:laurensigler@hotmail.com).

### Summer Schedule

Our Sunday school summer schedule begins Memorial Day weekend—May 30th—when we switch to our 10 a.m. services. There will be no more Creation Station or Children & Worship. Children ages 0-pre-K will continue to have childcare available during worship. Most families of these children have been assigned to help out during the summer—be sure to check your mail!

## Time for Youth Sunday!

All members of the congregation are encouraged to come to this year's Youth Sunday services, May 9 at 8:30 or 11:00. We have been busy selecting a theme and developing the elements of the service in a way that both honors our ways of "worshipping well" and opening the service to youthful expression. We will share communion together, and our preachers are really wonderful as well. So come, bring your love of God and of our youth, and let us hear what they have to say.

Blessings,  
Patrick

## Calling all Graduates!

If you or a loved one are soon to graduate from high school, college or graduate school, we'd love to know and share the good news about their graduation (from where), and future plans. Please contact Patrick ([phunnicutt@wpc-alex.org](mailto:phunnicutt@wpc-alex.org)) or LeAnne ([lperkowski@wpc-alex.org](mailto:lperkowski@wpc-alex.org))

# the Chronicle

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

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

## Church Staff

Larry Hayward .....Pastor  
Patrick Hunnicutt .....Associate Pastor  
Casey FitzGerald .....Associate Pastor  
Paul Stetsenko .....Director of Music Ministries  
Clara Beth Van de Water .....Director of Adult Education  
and Women's Ministries  
Sharon Tarr .....Director of Westminster Travelers  
Nancy Hall Berens .....Dir. of Congregational  
Life and Singles Ministries  
Jill Ewell .....Pastoral Care Assistant  
Eileen Jinks .....Coordinator of Pastoral Care  
Janet Riksen .....Coordinator of Local & Nat'l Missions  
Henri Rush .....Coordinator of African Missions  
Art Sauer .....Membership Involvement Coordinator  
Nancy Bea .....Business Administrator  
Jim Buchanan .....Facilities Manager  
Carolyn Carmack .....Financial Assistant  
Tara Cain .....Executive Assistant  
LeAnne Perkowski .....Program Assistant  
Larry Johnson .....Sexton  
Marvin Johnson .....Head Sexton  
Eddie Watkins .....Sexton

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

## Time Sensitive

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22302



## Volunteer Corner

Easter is over. Easter is the high point of the liturgical year. It is the foundation of our faith. If Christ

had not died for our sins and been resurrected there would be no basis for Christianity. But, it doesn't end there. When we accept Christ as our Lord and savior (as we all do when joining the church) we also agree to be faithful witnesses and servants.

One of the hallmarks of Westminster is the activism of its members. Ours is not a political activism (though many of our members are politically active). Ours is an activism born of our faith and understanding that it is through our works that we demonstrate our faith. Christ teaches us to help the poor and the afflicted. Thus, we actively provide food for the poor and homeless. We work to help solve the problem of affordable housing. We visit the sick and help those in need. We also freely give of our time

and talents to make Westminster a welcoming and nurturing congregation through volunteering in the Sunday school, serving on our various committees, and in countless other activities that sustain the life of the church.

Each of us gives as we can, remembering that "to those whom much is given, much is expected." If you are not as involved as you would like, contact me or a member of the staff to find other opportunities for service. Every effort is appreciated. The old adage "many hands make light work" is certainly true as even an hour's work will ease the load for others. You will also find a great reward for yourself in the satisfaction of joining with others to complete a task.

Yours in Christ  
**Art Sauer**  
*Coordinator of Volunteer Missions*

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