



Westminster Presbyterian CHURCH

— worship well —

**“The most significant
mission project any
local church could ever
hope to
undertake.”**



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the Chronicle

September 16, 2010 - volume 43, number 2

From the Pastor’s Study A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward **A Special Sunday**

At the Christmas Offering in 2000, Westminster began a ministry, under the leadership of our member, Henri Rush, and Reverend Stephen Chege, a Presbyterian minister in Kenya, that led to the founding of the United Orphanage and Academy in Moi’s Bridge, Kenya.

Since that inception ten years ago, the orphanage has grown to over 55 children and the academy to over 200 additional students who receive elementary and secondary education. Our church has committed over \$400,000 on the academy and orphanage alone—in both construction and in support of orphans and teachers—as well as a comparable amount toward other projects in Africa.

It is one of the most significant mission projects any local church could ever hope to undertake.

This fall, from October 15 through 20, three leaders of this project—Reverend Stephen Chege, Reverend George Wepukhulu, and Reverend Stephen Githuki—will be visiting Westminster and other churches in our Presbytery. I will then accompany them to the meeting of the PCUSA Kenya Network in Atlanta.

We are devoting Sunday, October 17th to this ministry and want everyone to meet Reverend Stephen Chege, the minister who joined with Henri Rush in founding the orphanage and academy and who directs it to this day. Please plan to be part of Westminster that morning. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity for children, youth, and adults to experience first-hand our connection with our fellow Presbyterians in Kenya.

Hold this date: **Sunday, October 17**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service with reception in Parlor to follow
 - 9:30 a.m. Congregational Breakfast with activities for children, youth, and adults
 - 11:00 a.m. Worship Service with reception in Fellowship Hall to follow
- Reverend Chege will be the preacher at both services and we will have an array of activities for all ages at the breakfast to grow closer to this ministry. Please plan to join us.

—Larry



All-Church Breakfast **Sunday, October 17, 9:30 a.m.**

Celebrate Westminster’s ministry in Kenya and meet Reverend Stephen Chege. Learn about Moi’s Bridge Orphanage and Academy as you share good food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. **Enjoy fun activities for all ages!**



We recently welcomed these additions to the Westminster nursery:

- **Charlotte Rachael Burkholder**, born August 22, daughter of Richard Burkholder and Mary Beth Walker
- **Griffith Lee Dickinson**, born September 6, son of Josh Dickinson and Camden Richards
- **Zoltán Gabriel Ágoston**, born September 1, son of Gábor and Kay Ágoston

Please remember in prayer the families of the following Westminster members who have passed away recently:

- Affiliate member **Eloise Landkrohn Ray** died March 24, 2010
- Former member **Irby W. Fleming** died on August 18 in Augusta, GA. He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on December 2 at 3:00 p.m. He is survived by his wife, inactive member Betty Fleming.

Piano Recital by Valentina Lisitsa CANCELED

The Piano Recital by Valentina Lisitsa that was scheduled for Saturday evening, October 2, 2010 at 7:00 pm has unfortunately been canceled.

Hopefully, it will be rescheduled for a future date.



Member Involvement News

This article continues the series on “What it means to be a member of Westminster.” To become a member of Westminster a person must submit to an examination by the Session and answer four questions. These questions (and the correct answers) are:

1. **Q:** *Who is your Lord and Savior?*
A: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.
2. **Q:** *Do you trust in Him?*
A: I do.
3. **Q:** *Do you intend to be his disciple, to obey his word, and to show his love?*
A: I do.
4. **Q:** *Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and will you seek the fellowship of the church wherever you may be?*
A: I will!

The first three questions establish that the respondent is a Christian. Westminster is a Presbyterian church. Presbyterians are a Christian denomination. Therefore, it follows that every member of Westminster Presbyterian Church must be a Christian. To be a Christian one must believe in and trust in Christ and demonstrate this by obeying His word and showing His love. There are a myriad of theological issues that flow from this, such as, the trinity and the acceptance of the divinity of Jesus Christ. I'll let our pastors deal with these issues.

The fourth question is the one that truly defines what membership in a congregation really means. There are two parts to this question:

1. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and
2. Will you seek the fellowship of the church wherever you may be?

When individuals answer “I will!” to the first part of this question, they are saying that they will be more than a name on a membership roll or an occasional pew sitter on Sunday morning. They are saying that they will participate in the life of the church to the extent of their ability. They will contribute their time and talents and their financial resources “in every way” that they can. Obviously, some can give more than others. That is not the point. The point is that a member will actively participate in the activities of the church.

There are many ways to participate at Westminster. Some participate by regularly attending worship services, serving on committees, helping with some of the many other activities, or attending classes and church functions. Others, who can no longer physically attend services, participate through reading our publications or listening to sermons provided on tape or on-line. Still others continue to support the church financially even though they can no longer attend.

Now that summer is over and our full menu of activities is underway there are plenty of ways for every member to be involved. This issue of “The Chronicle” is chock full of opportunities for service and fellowship. In addition, we will be starting our annual stewardship campaign. Please pray diligently about the ways that you can be an involved member.

Yours in Christ,
Art Sauer

Membership Involvement Coordinator



Flying Solo (Singles) Ministry

Welcome back to a new program year at Westminster! Here's hoping that you had some time over the summer for rest and re-creation. As we get back into the fall routine, I want to invite all single adults over the age of 40 to join us for some fun Flying Solo Singles events. We have two regular events each month: Dine-Out on the second Monday of the month and Potluck dinner on the fourth Tuesday. Fall is also the time when we get away for a weekend retreat to reflect on our lives and on our relationship with God and with each other.

See below for information about the retreat and upcoming events. For more information about Flying Solo Singles visit our page on the church website: <http://www.wpc-alex.org/singles> or contact me at nhallberens@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 ext. 121.

Welcome home!
Nancy Hall Berens

Director of Congregational Life and Singles Ministries

Tuesday, September 28: Join us for our monthly Potluck in Johnson Parlor at 7:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share and a can of food for ALIVE! Each month we begin by making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program and then we enjoy dinner together.

Monday, October 11: Our monthly Dine-Out in October will be a chance to continue the camaraderie we developed on the retreat over the weekend, or for those who couldn't attend the retreat, a chance to find out what we did and discussed during our time away. Carpool from church at 7:00 p.m. or meet us about 7:15 at Joe Theismann's located at 1800 Diagonal Road, by King St metro in upper Old Town.

Fall Retreat

Friday – Sunday, October 8-10:

"Coming to the Shack: Finding God's Healing amidst the Pain and Evil of this World"



Retreat for Singles

Last chance to sign up for the fall retreat!
Registration deadline is Monday, September 20.

Jeff Hensley will lead us in a discussion of the best-selling novel *The Shack*. Bring your questions and your openness to new ways of experiencing God's reconciling love as we journey together to the Shack – the place of both hurt and healing.

Enjoy a fall getaway with church friends in the Blue Ridge at Graves' Mountain Lodge during their annual Apple Harvest Festival!

Westminster Travelers



- **Oct 5** 11:30 a.m. Lunch at Fish Market \$15.00
- **Oct 12** 1p.m. President Lincoln Cottage Tour \$13.00
- **Oct 26** 11:00 a.m. Supreme Council (Scottish Rite) \$5.00

Overnight Trips coming 2011:
Ocean City, Fallingwater, and Montreal/Quebec

Sign up for these trips through the church office. Contact Sharon Tarr, Director of Westminster Travelers, for more information at starr@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 extension 122.

Prayer Chain

Members of the Prayer Chain will meet on Monday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. in the Haverkamp Room. If you are interested in joining this prayer group or would like to know more about it, please contact Eileen Jinks, Pastoral Care Coordinator, at ejinks@wpc-alex.org or 703.549.4766 extension 132.

Job Hunters' Support Group.

This group, facilitated by Tanya Bodzin, a board-certified master career counselor, has been meeting weekly on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. since March at Agudas Achim Congregation. Open to all in need of such services, this is a free opportunity for professional adults to benefit from information, resources and support as they pursue their next job. For more information or if you wish to participate, contact Tanya Bodzin at coachanya@aol.com.

Sunday Afternoon Pastor's Classes

All adults are invited; no registration is needed.

“Proverbs: Sayings, Stories and Profound Religious Wisdom”

September 12- October 3, Room 103-105 from 4:30 – 5:50 p.m.

Dr. Larry R. Hayward

The Old Testament Book of Proverbs is a compendium of maxims and sayings that, in the words of one scholar, represent, “the moral experience and trained intelligence of genuinely religious” people.

But recent scholarship has shown that part of the profound religious wisdom behind the Book of Proverbs may lie in an overarching story and a careful arrangement of the parts. Join us as we explore this book together at Westminster.

“Reinhold Niebuhr: American Power in Theological Perspective”

Six – week afternoon series, October 17 – November 21, Room 103-105 from 4:30 - 5:50 p.m.

Dr. Larry R. Hayward

These sessions will discuss articles published by Reinhold Niebuhr in *The New Republic* during the 1950s and 1960s. The articles will be available online.



Adult Classes

Adult Education September 2010

Sunday Morning Adult Education Programs

Morning programs are held from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m., except as noted. All adults are invited with no registration required. Contact Director of Adult Education and Women's Ministries Clara Beth Van de Water for more information at cvandewater@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 ext. 120.

“Invitation to Genesis”

September 12 – November 21, except October 17, Westminster Room
Elders Kathy Harkness, M.A., and Connie Ring, J.D., DISCIPLE Bible Study Program Graduates, Experienced Leaders.

Return to the foundational stories of the Judeo-Christian tradition and Western civilization. Explore their meanings and continuing influence. This discussion class meets from 9:30 -10:45 a.m. Purchase of an \$11.00 guide in class is encouraged.

“Reinhold Niebuhr: American Power in the Theological Perspective”

Morning Series September 19 – October 10, Haverkamp Room, 9:45 -10:45 a.m.
Dr. R. Bruce Douglass, Professor of Political Science, Georgetown University; Director, Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington

20th century Pastor-Theologian Reinhold Niebuhr of Union Seminary, NY was, and is, arguably the most influential “public” theologian in American Protestantism. Look at the prominent themes and continuing influence of Niebuhr on the philosophy of diverse public figures including Kennan, King, Carter and Obama through these lectures. This series will be complemented by a Sunday evening class taught by Dr. Larry Hayward October 17 – November 21.

“Breakfast with Kenyan Church Leaders”

October 17, 9:30 – 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

See the Mission publicity in this issue for more details.

Topic to be Announced

October 24 – November 21, except November 7, Haverkamp Room, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Dr. Patricia Lyons, Teacher, Religion and Ethics, and Director of Service Learning, St. Stephens and St. Agnes School; author of a new book, *The Soul of Adolescence: In Their Own Words*.

Dr. Lyons, a dynamic teacher, highly appreciated at WPC, will soon announce her topic.

What is the World Coming to? : Recent Global Environment Catastrophes

November 7, Haverkamp Room, 9:45 -10:45 a.m.

Dr. Victor Zabielski, Professor, Geology, Northern Virginia Community College.

Look at the whys and wherefores of seemingly increasing environmental disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, storms, volcanoes, etc. What roles might humanity play in cause and response?

Women's Ministry



Women's Friendship and Bible Study Circles

We have 2 day-time and 4 evening circles, including one of mothers of young children. Circle details can be found under Presbyterian Women on the church web site or from a pink flyer in the literature rack in the education wing lobby. Contact moderator Carol Ensley, carolanne.ensley@yahoo.com.

Women's Work Day

All women are invited to help make stuffed animals and heart pillows for Alexandria Hospital patients on Wednesday, October 6 at 9:30 a.m. in the Haverkamp Room with Faye Woodrow.

Women's Fall Gathering on "Domestic Sex Trafficking of Children"

Tina Frundt, Founder and Executive Director of Courtney's House, a new safe haven in our area for American children who are victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking (taking them across state lines), will speak about "Domestic Child Sex Trafficking" on Wednesday, October 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Haverkamp Room. This talk is sponsored by our Presbyterian Women circles, who will serve dessert afterward.

We will learn about victims, victimizers, how the law tries to protect victims and ways we can help. Forcing children into prostitution and moving them across state lines so they are harder to track down is on the increase in our mobile society. Ms. Frundt, was a child victim herself and has appeared on the *Oprah Winfrey Show* and *CNN*. All friends and members are invited, no reservations needed.

Women's Retreat in April

– "Hearts on Fire: Our Journey of Faith"

All women are invited to reserve the weekend of April 8-10, 2011 for our annual retreat at the lovely Hallwood Retreat Center in Comus, MD, an hour from Alexandria.

Our leader will be Dr. Melissa Kirkpatrick, an educator with a Ph.D. in history, who taught for the Reformed Institute and served several churches in our area. Dr. Kirkpatrick has said, "Some have said modern life has become flat and passionless. Religious practice is considered boring and is often thought of as something that should be marketable, as though faith were the latest interchangeable gadget. But thinking about the Reformed motto, 'The church reformed, always being reformed', we can be confident that the heart of the Christian life is an affirmation of experiential faith in a God who loves us."



Women's Book Group

All women are invited to read *When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present* by journalist Gail Collins and discuss it on Monday, September 27 at 11:00 a.m. or 7:30 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor with Clara Beth Van de Water. On October 25, you are invited to discuss *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett, again at 11:00 a.m. or 7:30 p.m. in Johnson Parlor.

Focus on Missions



Westminster-George Mason Tutoring Program

The Westminster-George Mason Tutoring Program needs tutors and substitutes for the coming school year. Each tutor is assigned to work with one student at George Mason Elementary School once each week from October until May. Tutors help students study and complete their homework and other assigned projects. Students are selected for the program by their classroom teachers, who provide assignments and feedback for the tutors. Tutoring sessions are held Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2:35-3:35 in the school library. If you would like to serve as a tutor or substitute, please contact Elizabeth O'Brien at elizabethbobrien@aol.com or 703-684-3980.

Bread for the World's Annual "Offering of Letters"

On Sunday, September 12th, members of Westminster participated in Bread for the World's Annual "Offering of Letters" to Fight Hunger and Poverty in America. The focus this year is supporting and strengthening two key federal tax measures that have been around for decades but have not yet been re-authorized and are facing an uncertain future. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) was established in 1975 with strong bi-partisan support as a way to support low-income working families and help lift them out of poverty. The Child Tax Credit for federal taxes will also expire this year unless it is reauthorized by Congress. Bread for the World estimates that half a million children will drop below poverty levels without this benefit. Support is needed to make these two family-friendly measures permanent at their current levels of funding.

Writing a letter is easy, with the draft letters, information about the programs and stamped and addressed envelopes to our Senators and local Congressmen provided. If you were not able to write a letter on September 12, please email Sam Ulm at ASULM@aol.com or Erik Johnston at erikjohnston64@hotmail.com to have the letter writing materials emailed to you.

Westminster is a Covenant Church of Bread for the World, a Christian organization with a long history of bringing attention and help for the poor in our country and abroad.

Carpenter's Shelter Hosts Community Walk

Bring your friends and family and join us as we take steps to end family homelessness. As a precursor to the Walk for the Homeless on the National Mall in November, Carpenter's Shelter will be hosting a Community Mini Walk that is perfect for the toddler and stroller brigade.

When: Saturday, October 23, 2010 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Where: The walk will begin in the parking lot of DC Metro Church located at 1100 Fayette Street in Alexandria and will end at Carpenter's Shelter.

Registration: Complete and return a 2010 Miniwalk Registration Form (available on the Carpenter's Shelter website) along with payment to: Maureen Ford; Carpenter's Shelter; 930 North Henry Street; Alexandria, VA 22314

Registration fees for walkers are \$15 for youth (ages 25 and younger) and \$25 for adults. All registered walkers will receive a free Fannie Mae Help the Homeless T-shirt on the day of the event.

Contact: Maureen Ford, maureenford@carpentersshelter.org or call (703) 548-7500, ext. 226 for more information.

Young Adult's Fall Mission Trip to Appalachia!

You can still sign-up and join us for our first-ever Appalachia Service Project mission trip. Our group includes: Casey FitzGerald, Adrienne Griffin, Steven Holton, Erik Johnston, Rob Lalka, Heather Rehm, Janet Riksen, Cassie Schurz, John Stebe and Stephanie Wright.

Dates for the trip are September 30 through October 3, 2010. There's no building experience required, and the total cost is \$100 per person. For more information, please contact Janet Riksen at jriksen@wpc-alex.org

Saturday, October 23 –Energize Alexandria.

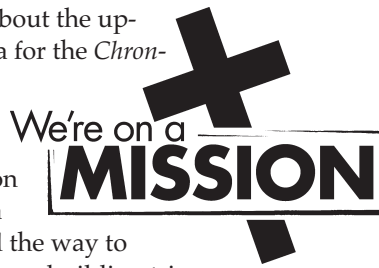
Help neighbors save money this winter by weatherizing their houses. Westminster will work on one house by adding inside storm windows (plastic), caulking, sealing electrical outlets and other light repairs. For more information, contact Eric Weiss at eric.weiss@winchendon.com.

Support Guest House in September!

Enjoy delicious tea and cookies, tour the house, and hear some of the amazing women of Guest House speak on Saturday, September 25 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Autumn Harvest Tea and Silent Auction at One East Luray Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301. Sponsorships (\$50-\$250) available in advance, or attend the event for \$20. Contact Kari Galloway at director@friendsofguesthouse.org

Young Adult's Fall Mission Trip to Appalachia

When the call went out for someone to write about the upcoming Young Adults Mission trip to Appalachia for the *Chronicle*, one suggestion was to write about why you were going on the trip. After I decided to adopt this theme, I started asking myself some questions. Why did I decide to sign up for this mission trip? Why did I agree to wake up very early on a Thursday morning, pile into a van, and travel all the way to Jonesville, Virginia? Why of all things did I choose a building trip when my last volunteer work day only served to expose my poor hammering skills?



Of course there were several things that motivated me to volunteer for this trip in the first place. One was that I wanted to get more involved in the life of this church, particularly with mission. I felt like in the past I had only supported mission in theory, or with financial contributions, and I wanted to translate my support into action. Another reason was the chance to get to know some other young adults better. And frankly, the idea of getting away from all the heat and humidity of this past summer appealed to me. After all, the Appalachia Service Project (ASP) web site promised we'd be staying in "a climate controlled ASP center with bunk beds and hearty meals."

Continuing to think about the reasons for the trip, I delved further into some of the materials on the ASP website. The organization we will be working with serves the people of Central Appalachia and has permanent work sites in Tennessee and West Virginia in addition to Jonesville. I read that poverty in Central Appalachia is more than double the national average, with nearly half of all annual household incomes totaling less than \$20,000. One in four people in that region live in poverty, which roughly translates to 105,000 children, 195,000 adults and 35,000 elderly. Just when all of those statistics started to overwhelm me, I read that ASP's stated goal is make houses warmer, safer, and drier for needy families. Warmer, safer, and drier—a simple goal to address a complex problem.

And that's when it hit me: when I was asking myself questions about this trip, I had forgotten the most important people, the family we were going to serve directly by simply working on their home. This family has an immediate need, which we will try our best to help meet. I don't know about you, but I have never lived anywhere that was not completely warm, safe, and dry. Just thinking about that makes me feel grateful for the things I have been given, and more able to heed the call to "[c]arry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." —Galatians 6:2. When I first thought about the reasons to go on this trip, I was asking a lot of questions with "I" in them. And I guess that's not all bad, because one of those questions is now "what can I do, with God's help, to carry some small part of one family's burden?"

To the congregation, thank you for your support thus far, and thank you for praying for us while we are away. Please pray first of all that our work will make some progress toward one family's home becoming warmer, safer, and drier. Please remember all the people of Appalachia who are in need of better housing. Please also pray for the mission team to have a safe and spiritually rewarding trip. As for my doubts about my construction abilities, I will try to remember that "if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have." —II Corinthians 8:12.

Finally, as you may have guessed by now, there is still room in our van for two more people. If you are interested in serving the Appalachian community and showing them God's love, we would love to have you join us September 30th through October 3rd. To sign up for the trip, please contact Janet Riksen as soon as possible at jriksen@wpc-alex.org.

Adrienne Griffin

Thank You

On Sunday, August 29 a delicious Mission Fellowship Breakfast was hosted by the Local Missions Committee and the National/International Missions Committee. Many thanks to all those who contributed to the delicious breakfast and volunteered their time; to those who support Westminster mission projects in our community and around the world; and to those who came to learn more about becoming involved in service.

Sandwiches Needed for Bag Lunch

Please make sandwiches on whole wheat bread with generous portions of meat and cheese (no condiments). Each sandwich must be bagged, and the outer bag should be labeled with the date and type of sandwich. Sandwiches can be left in the freezer in the kitchen off Fellowship Hall. Questions? Contact kathygstenzel@aol.com or 703-683-4516. Thank you!



Dads of Young Children

Fly Fishing Trip Saturday, October 2

Join Vince Crisler and other dads for a day of fishing! No experience necessary. Details to follow. If you know you are interested, email Vince at vince@hockingcounty.com .

Moms Book and Bible Study

The Friendship of Women: The Hidden Tradition of the Bible by Joan Chittister

Wednesdays, October 6-November 3
9:15-10:30 in the Westminster Room
Childcare provided!

Explore the many dimensions of friendship and the concept of Christian friendship with other moms of the church (and make some good friends while you're at it)! Led by Casey FitzGerald. From the book cover: "Friendship colors the very air we breathe; it is everywhere around us. It binds past and present and makes bearable the uncertainty of the future ... Drawing a highly inspiring message from [the lives of Biblical women], Joan Chittister invites us to seek and embrace friendship as it is embodied between women, between God the Creator and all of creation, and between all human beings." Cost of the book is \$14. Please RSVP to Casey FitzGerald cfitzgerald@wpc-alex.org .



Children and Family Ministry

Creation Station Begins (K-5th)

Sundays beginning September 19, 9:45-10:45

Join us for our first unit: CREATION! We will be focusing on Genesis 1 and 2 during September. Children 3rd grade and older should bring their Bibles.

We are still in need of faithful adults to serve as teachers and shepherds in Creation Station. Contact Kristina Hill (kristina.h.hill@gmail.com) if you are ready to answer the call!

Parent and Teacher Education

Genesis 3: The First Sin

Sunday, September 26, 9:45 a.m.

Room 301 (Creation Station)

Parents, shepherds and teachers are invited to join in on a Bible study focusing on the third chapter of Genesis—the story of the “fall.” Our children will be learning all about Genesis 3 in October ... let’s prepare for church and family discussions together! And, coming up next ... October 24 and 31 will feature the Joseph Narrative.

Third Grade Bible Presentation

Sunday, September 19

11 o’clock worship

All third graders will receive their new Bibles as a part of the worship service on September 19. We will meet in the library following Creation Station for the pinning on of flowers and to receive more information!

Young Families BBQ

Saturday, September 18

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Families are invited to join us in our annual fall barbeque at the church! Bring your children and a salad, side, or dessert to share. We will provide burgers and hot dogs! Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity for fun, fellowship and a big bouncing ark.

RSVPs appreciated! Please email LeAnne Perkowski (LPerkowski@wpc-alex.org) if you are able to attend!

Mornings for Moms

1st and 3rd Fridays, 10:30-12

Starts September 17!

Creation Station 303/305

Moms and kids are invited to join us twice a month in the church for fellowship and service. We will begin on September 17th by making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program. Bring your kids, a snack if you’d like, and be prepared to meet other moms in the church and make lasting friendships. Contact our Mornings for Moms coordinator, Marcy Crisler (marcy@hockingcounty.com) if you have questions to ask or ideas to share!



Attention Youth

Parents Make the Best Youth Ministers

Here's a youth ministry quiz question: Studies show that the primary impact on the religious life of youth is a) the hip, cool youth pastor hired by the church (I have the "hired by the church" part down, but the rest? Not so much); b) life-changing mission trips and retreats; or c) overnight lock-ins featuring relay races, scavenger hunts, and the impenetrable olfactory haze of adolescent sweat. Yep, you're right; it's the youth pastors – but not the ones hired by the church. It's the parents, the ones God has called to love, teach and nurture our youth with passion, not perfection. This can be an intimidating responsibility, but it does not have to be if we turn to one another for support and help.

In the Reformed faith, we affirm the Protestant belief in the priesthood of all believers, whereby each of us is called to specific tasks and roles in the church, but all share the common calling to be faithful and to help bring others to that faith. If you are a parent of a youth at Westminster, and would like to help think about how the church can best support the particular calling of parents as they fulfill their common call to have and share faith, please consider becoming a part of a loosely knit group of brainstormers we'll call the "Youth Parent-Ministers." The goal is not to add another round of regular meetings to overfilled schedules, but to pool ideas on how to seep faith into the fabric of our family life to the benefit of our precious youth.

If this kind of talk isn't your cup of tea, there are other areas where you can serve as youth ministers by supporting the programmatic needs of youth ministry at Westminster. Consider being a part of our Mission Fundraiser or Youth Trip teams as well. Each will be focused on particular events or trips, so the participation will be focused and productive, but not endless.

So, youth ministers, the hip and unhip, are you in? Contact me, and we'll see where we're led.

Thanks so much,
Patrick

Youth Fall Retreats!



Senior High (10/8-10) to Philadelphia!

Join us as we participate in an urban mission program sponsored by Broad Street Ministries and enjoy some of Patrick's favorite Philly treats!

Middle School Halloween Retreat (10/29-31) to Shrine Mont!

Enjoy a great time away, and come back in time for trick-and-treat.

(See separate mailings for more details, and contact Patrick to RSVP)



Brunch Schedule Changes

Though we usually have brunches on the first Sunday of each month, due to scheduling conflicts we will have our September brunch on Sunday, September 19 and our October brunch will be cancelled. Join us for great food and fellowship on the 19th!

Upcoming Young Adults' Faith on Tap

Tuesday, September 21, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 19, 7:30 p.m.
Capitol City Brewing Company,
Shirlington

the Chronicle

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

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

Church Staff

Larry HaywardPastor
Patrick HunnicuttAssociate Pastor
Casey FitzGeraldAssociate Pastor
Paul StetsenkoDirector of Music Ministries
Clara Beth Van de WaterDirector of Adult Education
and Women's Ministries
Sharon TarrDirector of Westminster Travelers
Nancy Hall BerensDir. of Congregational
Life and Singles Ministries
Jill EwellPastoral Care Assistant
Eileen JinksCoordinator of Pastoral Care
Janet RiksenCoordinator of Local & Nat'l Missions
Henri RushCoordinator of African Missions
Art SauerMembership Involvement Coordinator
Nancy BeaBusiness Administrator
Jim BuchananFacilities Manager
Carolyn CarmackFinancial Assistant
Tara CainExecutive Assistant
LeAnne PerkowskiProgram Assistant
Larry JohnsonSexton
Marvin JohnsonHead Sexton
Eddie WatkinsSexton

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

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Notes From the Stewardship Committee

Cheerful Giving

Next month kicks off our annual Stewardship Campaign, and this year's theme, "Cheerful Giving," focuses on Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, and his call for them to give cheerfully and willingly. As Paul wrote,

"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

This year's theme highlights the generous spirit in which members at Westminster give of their time, talents and treasure. Throughout this campaign, we will highlight what cheerful giving might mean for each of us. We will encourage you to give cheerfully by pledging a portion of your financial resources so that we may efficiently and responsibly plan for the Church's needs, both current and future. Pledges are critical not only to the worship, education, mission and fellowship needs of the church, but also to expanding in these areas, and offering more opportunities to meet the needs of our congregation and community.

Paul reminds us that,

"The one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

(2 Corinthians 9:6)

We all reap bountifully in calling Westminster home, and we encourage you to embrace the spiritual blessings reaped from making and fulfilling such an important commitment. Thank you for your cheerful giving.

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