



the Chronicle

May 19, 2011 - volume 43, number 10

Westminster
Presbyterian
CHURCH
worship well



Annual Summer Kick-Off Picnic

Sunday, June 12

11:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall and Monticello Blvd Lawn

Come celebrate the summer with our annual Church Picnic! Enjoy a picnic lunch after worship, fellowship with church friends, and fun activities for the kids. Dress casually for church that day!

We will be serving food in Fellowship Hall with seating options both indoors and outdoors. **All picnic food (hamburgers, hotdogs, side dishes, dessert) will be provided at no cost!**

Special feature this year: A Smoked BBQ Youth Fundraiser! To raise additional funds for their mission trip to Haiti the youth will be selling very special frozen BBQ to take home and enjoy at a later date. See all the details below.

If you have any questions or want to help out with the picnic, contact Pat Proserpi at 703-354-7268 or CL@wpc-alex.org.

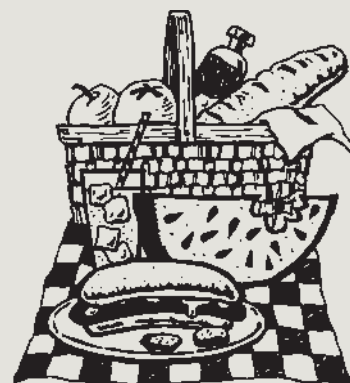


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A Tasty Solution to a Good Problem

First the tasty solution: A Smoked BBQ Youth Fundraiser on June 12 during the all-church picnic!

WPC member and youth advisor Darry Dupree has generously agreed to fire up his "for serious smokers only" slow-cooker (it's big, and Patrick christened it!) and prepare over 110 pounds of his mouth-watering pork BBQ. Our youth will package, freeze and sell the meat for you to enjoy at home along with his tasty sauce. This is no ordinary cut of meat – Larry Hayward hails Darry's BBQ as the "Best I've ever tasted" (and Larry's from Memphis, Tennessee, the home of pork BBQ!).

Here's the good problem: Because of higher than anticipated interest in the Senior High mission trip to Haiti, as well as increased airline costs, we find ourselves \$3500 short and in need of further support. So come to the picnic, enjoy the burgers and hot dogs, and purchase some wonderful BBQ to help our youth serve and grow in faith in Haiti. Packages will be sold for \$50/each (additional donations welcome / cash and checks accepted).





We rejoice in the marriages of:
Stephen Michael Lastelic to **Luisa Fernanda Torres**, May 14, in the Westminster Sanctuary.

Joseph Gillespie Stuntz to **Michelle Leah Lalonde**, May 14, in Middleburg, VA. Joe is the son of Reid and Linda Stuntz.

Please remember in prayer the family and friends of **George Franklin Ball**, who died April 19, 2011.

An Opportunity to Learn the Bible

DISCIPLE

- *Would you be willing to join me and others at Westminster reading nearly the entire Bible – Genesis to Revelation – and learning about its background, history and theology?*
- *Would you be willing to spend about a half-hour a day and an hour-and-a-half together in this endeavor?*
- *Would you be willing not only to learn about the Bible but be open to where such learning might lead your faith?*

If so, I invite you to consider enrolling in DISCIPLE, a program which I will offer for the third time at Westminster (the fourteenth time in my ministry!) this upcoming school year. This national program leads us to spend seventeen weeks on the Old Testament and seventeen on the New Testament. It leads us to read over 70% of the Bible. It leads us to know one another better. It leads us to grow in our faith as we can better serve God in the world in which God has placed us.

Over 120 people completed DISCIPLE when I offered it in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. Leading DISCIPLE is one of the most rewarding and enjoyable aspects of my ministry.

- Meeting times:** Every Thursday evening
7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
September 1, 2011—May 31, 2012
Except: November 24, December 22 and 29, April 5
Haverkamp Room
- Those eligible:** WPC members, visitors, friends
General public
People who have taken DISCIPLE before
- Commitment:** Thirty minutes of reading a day
Ability to attend 28 of 34 weekly sessions
- Cost:** \$30 for purchase of manual
\$30 for purchase of New Interpreter's Study Bible: NRSV
Scholarships and payment plans available
Manuals and Bibles will be distributed September 1
- Signup:** To indicate your intention to sign up, email Program Assistant, LeAnne Perkowski, lperkowski@wpc-alex.org
- Information:** Call or email me at lhayward@wpc-alex.org
You may also attend brief "information sessions" on DISCIPLE following worship on June 19, July 17, and August 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Haverkamp Room.

I hope you will consider joining me and others in DISCIPLE!

Larry

Member Involvement News



This month we will continue with our discussion of Westminster programs by looking at Education. Westminster is well known for its excellent education opportunities. These opportunities are available for all ages from children through adult.

The goals of Christian education for children are:

- Educate children in the Christian faith and life;
- Teach children to understand the Bible and the traditions of our faith;
- Show children how to relate this understanding to their lives.
- Welcome children into a loving, safe place as part of the church family.

These goals are achieved through a variety of means, such as:

- Sunday morning church school, which includes Children & Worship for children prekindergarten to first grade, Creation Station for elementary school-age children;
- the Milestones of Faith development classes;
- and M&M Week (“Music & More”), a musical camp held in the summer.

These programs are finishing up for this program year. However, many volunteers are needed for the upcoming program year which will start in September. You may volunteer to teach or to assist in a class. The programs are modular which means that you are not committed for more than a couple of weeks for any module. Volunteers are also welcomed to participate on a weekly basis, such as the first Sunday of each month. In order to accommodate this scheduling, many volunteers are needed. The Christian Education Committee is already signing up volunteers for next Fall. Look for announcements elsewhere in this newsletter and in the weekly bulletin inserts.

Our Adult Education programs are a signature hallmark of Westminster. Week after week we have superb programs featuring experts from around the area. These experts come from area seminaries and universities, as well as from within our congregation. Many of our adult educational offerings are similar to programs offered elsewhere at significant cost. At Westminster they are free.

In addition to Sunday morning educational opportunities, we frequently have evening and weekday programs. Our senior pastor, Larry Hayward, will be teaching another session of the popular DISCIPLE Bible study program starting in the Fall. If you haven’t taken this course, I highly recommend it. It is a great way to gain a fuller appreciation for the Bible and also to get to know your fellow parishioners.

Regardless of how you participate in our educational programs – as a volunteer or as a class participant, they are a vital part of the “Westminster Experience.”

Yours in Christ,
Art Sauer

Membership Involvement Coordinator

Westminster Travelers



Thursday, June 2: *Move over, Mrs. Markham*, Little Theater of Alexandria

We’ll meet at the theater for the show which starts at 8:00 p.m. Please arrive early to receive your ticket. To make a reservation, contact LeAnne Perkowski in the church office at 703-549-4766 or LPerkowski@wpc-alex.org. Open to non-church members if space is available.

For more information or to sign up for any Westminster Travelers event, please contact the church office.

Donations Needed

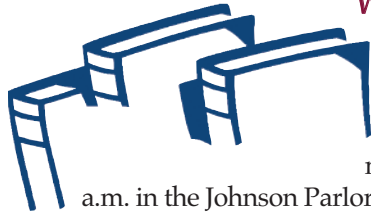


Participate in Our Youth Mission to Haiti

As part of our senior high trip to Haiti in July, our youth will be assisting a medical clinic that will serve the many people who lack access to doctors and health care. We would like to distribute packets of basic toiletries. Please consider collecting and donating travel size toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and shampoo. We also will collect pens, pencils and blank composition books (not spiral!) for students of the schools we are helping to build and support. You can drop these items off in the wicker basket under the youth bulletin board in fellowship hall. Thanks so much for your donations!

Women's Ministry

All women are invited to participate in fellowship, service and spiritual growth opportunities listed below. Contact Director of Adult Education and Women's Ministries Clara Beth Van de Water for further information at cvandewater@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 extension 120.



Women's Book Discussions

The next book is **The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks** by Rebecca Skloot.

The evening discussion will be Monday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor. The morning discussion will be Monday, June 6, at 11:00 a.m. in the Johnson Parlor. All women are welcome to join the discussions.

Women's Work Day

A morning to make heart pillows and stuffed toys for children at Alexandria Hospital will be held on Wednesday, June 1, at 9:30 a.m. in the Haverkamp Room. Contact Nancy McIver, (703) 370-1445 with questions; no RSVP is required.

Women's Friendship Circles

June Gatherings: Westminster has six circle meetings monthly. Circles will have social gatherings for June meetings, and all women are invited to visit! Information will appear in the Westminster Update in the worship bulletins.

The circle Bible study for 2011 – 2012 is on the Beautitudes of Jesus. Circles will begin the study in September, with meeting times to be announced.



Presbyterian Women's Board

The board will meet on Wednesday, June 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westminster Room. Welcome to Bonnie Nasr, who will begin serving as our new moderator, and thank you to Carol Ensley for serving as moderator for two years!



2012 Retreat for Women

A retreat for women will be held the weekend of March 16 – 18, at the nearby Hallwood Retreat Center.

The Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is looking for a few good members who have the gifts of heart, mind and spiritual wisdom to serve as Elders, Deacons, and Trustees, and on the Nominating Committee of our church. Officers are elected to three-year terms and Nominating Committee members serve for one year. We seek men and women of strong faith and conviction, joyful hearts, initiative, spiritual maturity, loving concern for others, and who are willing to take an active, informed leadership role in the life of our church so that their love of Christ, their wisdom, and their joy may be given in service to our congregation.

Members can recommend other members (or themselves) by submitting the form below and submitting it to Eric Weiss, Chair of the Nominating Committee, Nominating@wpc-alex.org, or by mailing in or dropping off the form

to the church office. Please submit your suggestions by June 1, 2011.

Officer Responsibilities

Elders

- oversee the spiritual life of the church
- make policy, personnel, and financial decisions
- serve as the congregational authority on all church matters
- provide leadership for worship, education, mission, congregational care, outreach and nurture
- exhibit sound spiritual character and judgment

Deacons

- provide leadership for congregational care, outreach, nurture, and hospitality
- provide outreach to homebound members, including visiting, serving extended communion and delivering flowers

- care for specific needs of the congregation, such as transportation assistance and provision of meals as needed
- exhibit sound spiritual character and judgment

Trustees

- serve as stewards of the church's resources
- exhibit sound spiritual character and judgment

Nominating Committee

- responsible for recommending a slate of nominees for church office
- well acquainted with the members of Westminster Presbyterian Church
- knowledgeable about WPC standards for church leaders
- possess spiritual maturity and discernment

My Recommendation

Please use one sheet for each recommendation. You may recommend yourself if you believe you qualify and have the desire to serve.

I am recommending for:

- Elder Deacon Trustee Nominating Committee

Please complete as much as you can:

Nominee _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (h) _____ (o) _____

E-mail _____

Occupation _____

Please give reasons for recommending this WPC member. You may wish to include: commitment to Christ and to the mission of this church, involvement in the life of WPC, maturity of Christian character, leadership abilities, special talents, gifts and experience that this person may possess.

Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless (AACH)

AACH is in need of the following items for their current clients. Please contact Beth Richardson at LocalMission@wpc-alex.org for more information about making a donation.

- Baby wipes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Women's professional clothing (12-16)
- Adult dresser
- Sofa
- Microwaves(2)
- Jelly
- Side tables and lamps
- Target gift cards



Focus on Missions

Local Missions

Packets for People We Meet on the Streets

120 packets containing resources for people in need whom we encounter on the street or sidewalk have been taken by our congregation to distribute as opportunities arise.

Thank you to those who have shared your experiences. Please continue to let us know of responses to this ministry from those in need on the streets of our community. Your comments are helpful in evaluating our efforts to extend help and expand this program.

Here are summaries of some of those responses:

- A man standing on the median at the juncture of Glebe and Mt. Vernon Ave. held a sign asking for help. He accepted the offered packet, looked at the contents and ran up to the window as this driver started to cross the intersection and said, "This is a real care package! Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!"
- An older man, holding a sign, "Need Help" stood between two lines of traffic. I was on the wrong side of the road to reach him but was able to go a few blocks to make a U turn and was able to hand him a packet as the light changed. My greeting was necessarily brief ... "Hope this will be of help. Good day to you." His response ... "Thank you, ma'am. It sure will be of help! God bless you."
- A man holding a sign with the words "God bless." Because of traffic, I only had a minute to communicate with him and his response was, "God is good ... God is good! Thank you. Thank you! This is a real gift."
- A fairly young guy sitting in the Food Court with 3 or 4 bags around him. I walked up to him and said hello. Our church is giving out these packets. It's just a small gesture, but I wondered if you would like one. He was most gracious and said "sure." After I walked away I could see him taking each item out and looking at it carefully. He even put something in there on his knee. It was very rewarding. I mentioned the church, because I think it is so important that the church is reaching beyond its walls. Also wanted to give the packet with respect for him and not just a handout. I look forward to more experiences like this.
- I gave two packets out at the Food Court at Ballston Mall. I think homeless people go there to get warm. The first person I saw was a fairly young guy working on a crossword puzzle surrounded by his bags. He gave a big smile and took the packet. I always show the phone numbers and the important resource information. He put the packet in one of his bags and we talked about how confident I thought he was doing the puzzle with a pen.

The second person was an older lady. Her eyes really lit up when she saw the McDonald coupons. She saw the tokens and said "those are very valuable." Bless her heart, she was honest enough to say she was diabetic and couldn't eat the Clif Bar and probably couldn't use the toothbrush. I told her just to share those. Oh, yes she said she would and I bet she will. When I came out of the gym later, I saw another man with his big pink roller suitcase (I have seen these before) looking very carefully at the phone list. I think the lady shared that with him.

Several people have asked for a list of the contents of the packets and plan to create their own packets to distribute. The first 120 packets prepared by Local Missions included the following:

- Quart-size zip lock bag
- Tooth brush and tooth paste
- McDonald's coupons
- Few hard candies
- Laminated resource cards (Arlington/ Alexandria)
- Two Dash tokens for Alexandria
- Protein bar
- Sanitary wipes
- Emory board

During the summer, Local Missions plans to assemble and distribute packets to WPC members. If you would like additional packets before that time or need more information, contact Carolyn Turner at LocalMission@wpc-alex.org.

Local Missions Sprung into Action!

April 30 and May 1 comprised a busy weekend for local missions at Westminster. Four different events took place: ALIVE! Last Saturday Food Distribution, Rebuilding Together National Rebuilding Day, the 9th Annual Carpenter's Shelter Cook-off and ALIVE! Child Development Center Walkathon. All events had great participation and gave members a chance to minister to their local community. Here is a recap of the weekend's events!

- **ALIVE's Last Saturday food distribution** serves seniors at the Ladrey Senior High Rise in Old Town Alexandria and others referred by the City. Service includes delivery to elderly clients in the building. It is scheduled at the end of the month when food stamps have run out. It is a gratifying monthly volunteer opportunity, including for youth: If you would like to volunteer please contact Louise Anderson at LocalMission@wpc-alex.org.
- A team of about 20 volunteers from Westminster participated in **Rebuilding Together's National Rebuilding Day**. This annual event provides home repairs and yard maintenance for low-income homeowners across the country. The team from Westminster replaced a fence, landscaped the front yard and performed minor indoor repairs for a local resident. Rebuilding Together helps local residents remain in their homes through this annual event and other events throughout the year.
- **ALIVE! Child Development Center (CDC)** held its annual Walkathon on Sunday, May 1. There were 120 walkers, as well as a mini-walk at Emmanuel Church on the Hill. Thanks to all Westminster members who supported the Walkathon, which raised \$30,000. The Walkathon is CDC's primary fundraising event. The CDC provides full day childcare and preschool for Alexandria's low-income working families.
- Many WPC members also supported and enjoyed the 9th Annual Carpenter's Shelter Cook-Off. As an extension of that event, Carpenter's Shelter is teaming up with **Celebrated Chefs**, an innovative new program which is helping them to raise funds all year long through the support of local restaurants. Geranio, Jackson 20 and Rustico are just a few of the local participating restaurants who are also featured **Carpenter's Cook-Off** restaurants.

You can provide support by joining in this free and easy opportunity. Simply enroll any of your existing Visa, MasterCard or AMEX cards with Celebrated Chefs secure site. Then, dine out at any of Celebrated Chefs participating restaurants and 5% of your bill will automatically be contributed to Carpenter's Shelter. To register, visit CelebratedChefs.com.

Each participant will receive a new cookbook each year with delicious recipes from all participating restaurants.

Summer Worship Schedule:

**Sunday, May 29 –
Sunday, September 4**
Worship at 10:00 a.m.
in the Sanctuary
No church school

Office Hours: The church office will be closed on Monday May 30 for the Memorial Day holiday. Summer office hours will be 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. beginning Monday, June 13.

USA Disasters:

In recent weeks, we have seen severe and devastating storms ravage the Midwestern, Southern, and Eastern United States. One Great Hour of Sharing and designated funds from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance are already at work in areas most affected by this string of disasters.

You can donate through this congregation, making the check out to Westminster, "DR000015-US Spring Storms" in the memo line, or at the denomination's website, www.pcusa.org/pda. Updates on the efforts of PC(USA) are also available at this website.



Focus on Missions

National Missions:

National Mission Committee Offers Fall Mission Trip Opportunities

The newly formed National Mission Committee is looking for committee members and mission trip participants who are interested in service and mission. It is a great time to be involved as we are seeking new ideas and opportunities for Westminster to become more engaged in mission activities within our greater region and the nation.

The committee meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Please join us. You don't have to commit to coming every week, but simply join our email list (NationalMission@wpc-alex.org) and come when you are able.

- **Intergenerational Apple Gleaning Day Trips to Winchester VA**

Dates TBD (Two Saturdays in September/October, 2011)

A morning of gleaning apples in beautiful Winchester, Virginia (1.5 hour drive). For those wishing to make a day of it, feel free to stay after lunch and enjoy the Shenandoah Valley.

Gleaning is the ancient practice of collecting leftover crops from farmers' fields after they have been commercially harvested and giving that fresh produce to people in need. We will pick apples and then bring them back to local shelters and food banks in Alexandria.

Perfect for all ages, especially young families looking to expose their children to the importance of mission.

The dates have not yet been determined, but will take place on two separate Saturdays in September or October of this year. Participants meet at the church around 8:00 a.m. and carpool to Winchester. We'll arrive by 9:30 a.m., get a briefing about the orchard and then have fun socializing and picking apples for up to 2 hours. We'll eat our packed lunches and be back on the road by 12:30 p.m.



- **Appalachian Service Project Trip** – October 20-23, 2011

Our return visit to help those in need in Appalachia.

Last fall, a group of nine young adults spent a fun and meaningful weekend in Jonesville, Virginia.

This year we're inviting adults of all ages to join together and return for a weekend. This will be an incredible opportunity both to serve and to connect with other members of Westminster.

Pack your bags, jump in a van and drive down together early Thursday morning and get back for dinner on Sunday night. Our group will stay in a climate-controlled ASP center with bunk beds and hearty meals. We'll be able to enjoy cooler temperatures and stunning scenery.

We'll lay shingles, replace linoleum and 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!

- **Harvest of Hope Intergenerational Weekend Gleaning Trip**

November 4-6, 2011

Harvest of Hope is the ecumenical study, worship, and service mission trip program of the Society of St. Andrew. Join us for a weekend of gleaning, education, and fun! Learn about hunger, some of its causes and find simple ways you can help end hunger in America. Participants will glean beets and turnips each morning, donating the produce to local food banks and soup kitchens.

This intergenerational event is open to anyone over 10 years of age, but children must be accompanied by a parent. This is a great opportunity for your whole family to experience a meaningful and well-organized mission trip where you'll get your hands dirty with gleaning, your spirit filled with worship and your mind revived with hope from educational opportunities about practical steps we can take to alleviate hunger.

This weekend event will take place in Shawsville, Virginia (4.5 hour drive away, near Roanoke). Participants will leave on the morning of Friday, November 4 and return on the evening of Sunday, November 6.

The registration fee is \$75 per person and includes lodging, all meals on site & snacks, educational materials and a t-shirt. Scholarship assistance is available and transportation to the event will be covered by the church.

For more information, please contact: Doug Anderson (National Mission Chair) or Erik Johnston (National Mission Committee Vice Chair) at NationalMission@wpc-alex.org



Twilight Canoe Tour

Friday, June 17, 6:30p.m.

Cost: \$25

Join your fellow young adults on this canoeing adventure at Jack's Boathouse in D.C. We will meet in the church parking lot at 5:45p.m. (or you can meet us at the boathouse at 6:30). This is an approximately 90-minute escorted paddling outing that offers a truly unique view of DC from the water. There is really nothing quite like watching the last glimmers of daylight fall on the monuments. And, in case you were concerned, the "twilight" tour has absolutely nothing to do with teen vampires. Please RSVP to Casey FitzGerald by June 5.

Faith on Tap

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

Capitol City Brewing Company (Shirlington)

Topic: Christian Faith in a Religiously Plural World

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 (phunnicut@wpc-alex.org) or LeAnne (lperkowsk@wpc-alex.org).

Children and Family Ministry



M&M Week 2011

Adam's Apple The Musical!

Mornings, June 27-July 1

Music & More is our summer musical day camp experience for children who are currently enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade. Having been in existence for 20 years, M&M Week is a popular activity for Westminster children.

Casey FitzGerald, Associate Pastor for Children & Families, and Paul Stetsenko, Director of Music Ministries, lead M & M week. Many volunteers and parents also teach and assist. Space is limited to 40 children. Priority will be given to church members, but friends are invited to sign up as space permits. Cost is \$40/child; \$30 for additional siblings.

Please register by May 30!



Saturdays in the Park

June 11 and July 9

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Westminster Preschool Playground

Young families are invited to join us for treats and playtime! Get to know your Westminster family while enjoying some outdoor fun. Cancelled in case of rain.

The Great Family Read: *A Wrinkle in Time*

Wednesday, July 13, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Haverkamp Room (Bring a dish to share!)

"You have to write the book that wants to be written. And if the book will be too difficult for grown-ups, then you write it for children." –Madeleine L'Engle

Adults and children are welcome to join Casey FitzGerald in an evening workshop on Madeleine L'Engle's amazing children's novel, *A Wrinkle in Time*. Books cost \$7, and are available for purchase in the church library. Please RSVP by July 10.





Flying Solo (Singles) Ministry Age 40 and above

Flying Solo welcomes single adults ages 40 and above to participate in a variety of opportunities for Christian fellowship, spiritual growth and service to others. For information on our group and up-coming events, visit

our page on the church website: <http://www.wpc-alex.org/singles> or contact Nancy Hall Berens at nhallberens@wpc-alex.org to learn more!

Tuesday, May 24: 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 (materials provided) 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.

Saturday, May 28: We will attend a ceremony sponsored by various Veterans Service Organizations to honor our nations' veterans at the historic Alexandria National Cemetery, the first national cemetery in the country, established immediately after the Civil War. The ceremony will include a changing of the flag, honor awards to local scouts, and an opportunity for everyone present to place flags on the graves. A picnic will be provided by the VSO (donations accepted but not required). Location: 1450 Wilkes Street. Due to limited parking we will carpool from Westminster at 9:30 a.m. for the 10:00 am ceremony. Wear comfortable footwear. This will be a great reminder of what Memorial Day is all about and a chance to explore an interesting historic corner of Alexandria!

Monday, June 13: Dine-Out will take us to Fireflies Restaurant located at 1501 Mt. Vernon Ave in Del Ray. We had such great patio dining at Thai Peppers in May that we will try for the patio again in June, this time at Fireflies. 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!

Tuesday, June 28: Enjoy another Potluck supper together!

Saturday, July 9: Celebrate Alexandria's Birthday! Hear the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra in concert concluding with Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" and fireworks! Location: Oronoco Bay Park in Old Town, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. (carpool from church at 5:30).

Flying Solo Fall Retreat will be October 14-16, 2011 at the Bishop Claggett Center in Buckeystown, MD. Our retreat leader will be Maggie Hayward who will be joining us for a weekend of "The Gospel According to the Coen Brothers." Come enjoy the fall and fellowship with church friends complete with beautiful views of Sugarloaf Mt. from our cottage deck! Registration materials coming soon.



The Men of Westminster Breakfast Meeting Friday, June 10, 2011

Phillip Hayes will be the featured speaker at our June 10, 2011 Breakfast Meeting. He will discuss what it is like as a Christian to work in the perceived "dirty" world of political communications and lobbying. All men are welcome.

Phillip is the owner of North Bridge Communications, a public relations and media relations firm located in Washington, D. C. He specializes in agriculture, energy, and trade issues and has managed campaigns for dozens of clients over a 15-year period, including the Environmental Protection Agency, Ford Motor Company, the Association of Oil Pipe Lines, the National Association of Wheat Growers, and the Newspaper Association of America. He is currently overseeing communications activities for the American Sugar Alliance.

Prior to establishment of North Bridge Communications, Phillip worked for the Senate Agricultural Committee, a Congressman on the House Appropriations Committee, and Hill & Knowlton, one of the largest public relations agencies in the world. He was also an associate partner for The Acker Partners, a midsize public affairs firm in Washington, D.C.

Phillip is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and holds degrees in journalism and history. He and his wife, Jennifer, became members of Westminster Presbyterian Church last August. They live in Alexandria with their three small children, Palmer, and two-year old twins Cooper and Carmella.



Thank you

To my church family at
Westminster,

Thank you for the many cards and phone calls you have sent me, wishing me well and offering up prayers for my recovery. I am truly grateful to belong to such a caring community of faith. We are blessed.

Sincerely,
Margaret Phillips

Establishment of Reserve Accounts

In October 2007 the Session established an Envisioning Task Force to plan for Westminster's mission and ministry following the successful completion of our major renovation project and Capital Campaign. One of the results of the Task Force was the goal of increased Mission involvement by Westminster, and thus a Mission Council was established to discern the form that increased involvement should take. (The reports of both these groups is available on the church website Session page) While this planning was in process, the Session voted to hold undesignated bequests so that they could be assigned according to the new goals that were being set.

This article will provide a brief update on the plan that the Westminster Session approved earlier this year for the use of those bequests as well as the income from two cell phone company leases which were signed in 2009, which together totaled approximately \$278,000. Also part of this process was the designation of approximately \$67,000 that the church will receive in 2011 and in future years so long as the three cell phone companies currently renting space in the steeple for their antennas continue to rent that space.

As of February 2011, the church had received since about mid-2009 but had not yet designated for use about \$203,000 in unrestricted bequests. While the church renovation was ongoing, unrestricted bequests generally were allocated to that purpose. But with the completion of the renovation and the payoff of the loans for that work, unrestricted bequests continued to be received by the church but were held and not designated for use.

For a number of years Sprint has leased space in the church steeple for its cell phone antennas, and the receipts from that lease have been rolled into the annual operating budget. In 2009, two new leases – with AT&T and T-Mobile – were signed and the church began to receive additional income. By February 2011, about \$75,000 had been accumulated from those two new contracts, but those receipts also had not yet been designated for use.

With the completion of Envisioning Task Force and Mission Council process, and the adoption of the report in 2010, the Session was ready to move forward with allocating these accumulated funds, as well as the cell phone funds the church will receive in the future from all three contracts.

The Administration & Finance Committee was tasked with receiving long-term financial plans from a number of Session committees, and preparing a recommendation for the Session on the designation and use of these funds, based on the long-range spending proposals. In late 2010 A&F prepared a proposed plan. The committee spending proposals and the A&F designation of funds proposal were presented to the Session, and at its January 2011 meeting the Session adopted the proposed plan.

In general, the plan had several main objectives: to accumulate funds in a reserve account to pay for significant future church capital and maintenance items (such as replacement of the roof, replacement of HVAC equipment, etc.) to hopefully avoid the need for another capital campaign to pay for predictable but deferred repair and maintenance work; to provide a significant amount of funds for mission projects; to provide funds for other needs that are important but for which it would be difficult to allocate funds from the annual operating budget (such as significant new landscape work); and to accumulate funds for some expanded church activities such as retreats and special music performances. In each case, the plan was intended not to replace or fund "core"

annual activities of the church – because the bequests obviously will not be continuing, and there can be no assurance that the cell phone contracts will continue indefinitely. But rather to use these funds to pay for certain expenses so that annual operating pledge income can be used and targeted in the most compelling and needed way, and for the uses that the church members would most want to see their pledges used.

The plan allocates the approximately \$278,000 in accumulated but previously-undesignated bequest and cell phone funds as follows:

- Westminster Capital & Maintenance Reserve Fund (to accumulate funds for major and non-routine repairs and replacements which are periodically necessary): \$40,000
- Moi's Bridge Orphanage and Academy Capital Projects (including a new third floor of the Academy building, a possible vocational training facility, and other work): \$50,000
- National/Local Mission Projects Fund (to fund non-recurring mission expenditures, as recommended by the National or Local Mission Committees and approved by the Session): \$82,000
- Westminster Landscape Project (funding for part of the landscape master plan work as approved by the Session): \$101,000
- Purchase 100 new padded chairs for Fellowship Hall: \$5,000.

The Session approved the following designations for the approximately \$67,000 in annual expected income from the three cell phone lease agreements:

- Capital & Maintenance Reserve Fund: \$30,000
- Organ Maintenance Fund (to provide for maintenance of the sanctuary organ): \$5,000
- Technology Reserve Fund (to fund replacement of church office equipment such as computers, printers, etc.): \$3,000
- Special Music Performance Fund (to fund biannual or other special music performances outside regular church worship services): \$3,000
- Member Response Team (to assist church members with special needs as identified): \$15,000
- Retreat Fund (to provide additional funds to underwrite church retreats): \$8,000
- Westminster Landscape Project: \$3,000 plus any annual escalations in payments by the cell phone companies under the terms of their contracts.

The Session will soon consider and approve specific criteria for the use of money in each of these funds. Depending on the amount of particular expenses, approval by the Foundation or by the Session will be necessary before funds can be withdrawn and used from any of the newly established funds.

Westminster is blessed by the generosity of its members who have remembered the church in their estate planning. The bequests received along with the income from the cell phone companies using space in our steeple allows us to be prepared for capital needs, to enable some special mission projects from Alexandria to Kenya, and to provide for a couple special program events. This allows us to dedicate our annual pledge giving to the mission outreach and program needs of our vibrant and growing congregation.

David Hill

Chair Administration & Finance Cmte



Meals Team Needs You

Do you like to cook? Are you a whiz at take-out meals? The Deacon-sponsored Meals Team is looking for you. The team springs into action when a member of the congregation could benefit from having a meal delivered to their home. Whether it's a family with a new baby, someone recovering from a hospitalization, or some other need, receiving a simple meal can be a tremendous blessing.

If you are interested in joining the team or would like additional information, please contact Susan Griffith at MealsTeam@wpc-alex.org.

the Chronicle

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Dawn Campbell, Production Editor

Summer Sunday worship 10:00 a.m.

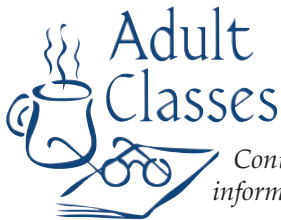
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Time Sensitive

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



Adult Classes

Adult Education

*Programs are held from 9:45-10:45 a.m. All adults are invited with no registration required.
Contact Director of Adult Education and Women's Ministries Clara Beth Van de Water for further
information at cvandewater@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 extension 120.*

The Conclusion to the Spring Adult Education Series:

Five Myths About China

May 22, Haverkamp Room

Dr. David Wilcox, Deputy Director, Division of Research and Statistics, Federal Reserve Board, and Dr. Paul Neureiter, Senior Director for International Trade, Pfizer Inc.

Learn more about the Chinese economy and the myths about China from David, who recently worked in that country, and Paul, who has lived in China and currently works on international trade issues with Asia.

Sunday morning adult education classes will recess for the summer as the church moves to one worship service at 10:00 a.m. Classes will resume on September 11, 2011.

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