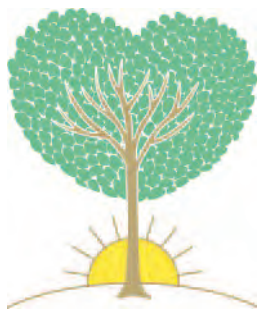




Westminster
Presbyterian
CHURCH
worship well



Wisdom is found in many places!

Table of Contents

Adult Ed	11
Attention Youth	9
Children and Families	8
Flying Solo	3
Life Events	2
Member Involvement	2
Men of Westminster	10
Missions	6
Music Ministries	12
Spotlight on Seniors	4
Westminster Travelers	3
Women's Ministry	10
Young Adults	8

the Chronicle

September 22, 2011 - volume 44, number 2

From the Pastor's Study A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward
Aphorisms and Proverbs

I appreciated the response to the summer sermons I gave on Proverbs, and thought I would "close it out" with some aphorisms published last year by American poet James Richardson. These are from his poem, entitled "Vectors 2.3: Fifty Aphorisms and Ten-Second Essays," available in the *The Best American Poetry 2010* (New York: Scribner Poetry, 2010).

- Loving yourself is about as likely as tickling yourself.
- Office supplies stores are the Cathedrals of Work in General. They forgive, they console, they promise a new start. These supplies have done work like yours a million times. Maybe when you get home it will already be finished.
- When it gets ahead of itself, the wave breaks.
- Listen hardest to the one you hope is not telling the truth.
- What keeps us deceived is the hope we are not.

Wisdom is found in many places!

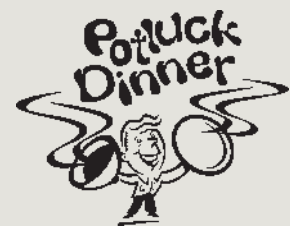
Larry

**All-Church Potluck
with Youth Mission Trip Presentation**
Sunday, October 2
12 Noon in Fellowship Hall.

A-M last names bring a main or side dish.
N-Z last names bring a salad or dessert.
(bring your dish to Fellowship Hall before worship)

Beverages and bread will be provided.

Enjoy the fellowship of church friends and hear all about the youth summer mission trips!





We rejoice in the marriage of:

- **Sarah Chambers** and **Shane Steenberge**, on September 17 in the Westminster Sanctuary

We welcome to the Westminster nursery:

- **Madison Paige Gilmore**, daughter of Helen and Geoff Gilmore
- **Ella Grace Burnaman**, daughter of Jenn and Stew Burnaman, sister to Campbell.
- **Abigail Eve Harris**, daughter of David & Vanessa Harris, sister to Devin. David Harris is the son of George & Janet Harris.



Member Involvement News

September is the month when the church jumps back into the full schedule of two Sunday services, educational programs for all age groups, and a myriad of other activities. It is also the time when we begin to prepare for the next year by conducting the annual stewardship campaign (more on that next month). This month I want to focus on the International Mission activities which are supported by our Stewardship campaign.

The flagship program of our international mission activities is the United Orphanage & Academy in Moi's Bridge, Kenya. Westminster has long supported churches and seminaries throughout Africa. However, in 2001 we took this support to a new level with the founding of the United Orphanage & Academy (UOA). A Kenyan, the Rev. Steven Chege, dreamed of the reconciliation of children from various ethnic backgrounds through an orphanage and school. WPC member Henri Rush enlisted the aid of the WPC congregation to begin fulfilling Rev. Chege's dream. Since 2001 we have built dormitories, toilet facilities, a dining hall, kitchen, office and storage space, dug a well, provided for construction to enable connection to the electric grid, and purchased a 14 passenger van using budgeted funds and contributions from individual members of the congregation and others.

Currently, the 50 children in residence at the Orphanage and the more than 100 who attend the Academy are dependent on your generosity. We support scholarships for orphans and other vulnerable children in the neighborhood whose guardians cannot afford the costs of lunches and supplies to send them to the Academy and we support a teacher for each class.

In addition, we continue to support churches and seminaries in Africa including the Justo Mwale Theological University College in Zambia. At Justo Mwale we provide support for a Presbyterian missionary and a divinity student. Christianity is a vibrant force in Africa and our support is needed to maintain the momentum by training religious workers.

The International Missions Committee also supports international aid efforts through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program and organizations such as Heifer International. Our Mission Coordinator, Janet Riksen, can fill you in on these programs and other mission activities. She may be reached at (703) 549-4766 or at Jriksen@wpc-alex.org. She would also be interested in helping you become involved in our mission programs as a volunteer on a mission trip, committee member or, as a helper at one of our mission support activities such as the Alternative Gift Fair (coming up at the beginning of December) or a mission dinner.

Whatever you can do to support these essential programs of our church is appreciated.

Yours in Christ,
H. Arthur Sauer
Member Involvement Coordinator



Flying Solo (Singles) Ministry

Flying Solo Singles welcomes single adults ages 40 and above to participate in fellowship, service and educational opportunities. For information please contact: Nancy Hall Berens, Director of Congregational Life and Singles Ministry at

nhallberens@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 ext. 121. Visit our page on the church website: <http://www.wpc-alex.org/singles> to learn more!

Singles Fall Activities

2nd Monday Dine-Outs

October 10: Rustico (827 Slaters Lane, Alexandria)

November 14: Yves' Bistro (235 Swamp Fox Rd., Alexandria)

Carpool at 7:00 p.m. or meet there at 7:15.

4th Tuesday Potlucks

September 27

October 25

November 22

7:00 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor

Please bring a dish to share!



Fall Retreat

October 14-16

"Everybody's Lookin' For Answers" with Maggie Hayward.

Last chance to sign up at www.wpc-alex.org/singles!

Fall Roundtable Lunch & Discussion

Sunday, November 13

12:15 pm in Haverkamp Room. Lunch provided.

"R.I.P.: Resting In Paris"

Join us for a "trip" to Paris to visit famous cemeteries in a slideshow by Nancy Hall Berens.

Learn about the graves of celebrated artists, musicians, writers and other historical figures. We'll discover what these monuments tell us about the lives of well-known "permanent Parisians."



Westminster Travelers



The next production at The Little Theatre of Alexandria is "Noises Off" on **Thursday, November 3**. Please arrive early to get your ticket. Play starts at 8:00 p.m. Reserve your seat by calling the church office at 703-549-4766.

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

Online Member Directory

Are you looking for contact information for a fellow Westminster member? Check out the password protected Member Directory on our church website (www.wpc-alex.org). Click the blue Member button at the top of the home page and sign in, or set up a user account with the email address you have on file with the church office. Questions? Contact the church office.



Spotlight on Seniors

In visiting many of our senior members, the deacons have been struck by the richness of their life stories. As a way to share them with the wider congregation, the deacons, along with Pastoral Care Coordinator Eileen Jinks, will be interviewing seniors and sharing their stories through this ongoing series in the Chronicle. If you are a senior who would like to be featured, please contact Eileen Jinks at ejinks@wpc-alex.org or 703.549.4766 x. 132.

Boyhood memories. “Mother played the piano. In fact, we had a player piano. She would play hymns and popular music. Christmas was always a big celebration. Mother would have one of the men cut down a tree and she had a lot of decorations to put on it. Mother was also a grand cook. She made a dessert which was called Gypsy. I don’t know how it got that name. It started off with a boiled custard, which was served over cake. We had a big orchard – peaches, pears, and apples. We lived off the fat of the land.”

Family and religion. “One of my earliest memories is Mother and Dad dickering with each other. He was a Baptist; she was a Methodist. And he wanted her to join the Baptist church, and she said, ‘No, I’m not going to be dipped in public.’ So Dad joined the Methodist church. Those are the memories that I carry out of my childhood. Religion was always a frequent subject of discussion.”

Fateful seat on the bus. “One Saturday I came out of the office and there was a bus loading. I got a seat on it. Coming down the street came two girls and they got on. There was a vacant seat by me, and I caught the eye of one of the girls and indicated there was a seat next to me and she occupied it. That was Margaret. We were married in 1939.

Eventually we bought a house on Valley Drive and raised three sons: Lowrie III, Richard and Robert.”

Joining WPC. [The Rev. Cliff Johnson was pastor when Lowrie joined Westminster in 1950.] “One connection I had with the church was that I attended the University of South Carolina with Cliff Johnson’s future wife, Allie. I knew Allie when she was 18 years old. We had not been in touch since that time. Cliff and I enjoyed hunting together.”

An Interview with Lowrie Beacham, Jr.

Lowrie Beacham spoke with Deacon Sam Ulm and Eileen Jinks for this interview. Lowrie will celebrate his 100th birthday on October 27.

Early life in South Carolina. “In 1917, a friend of my mother’s asked if she and my father would like to come and take over the farm they were managing. So we moved from Atlanta to the farm near the city of Laurens. We lived in the big plantation house. The 300 acres were divided up, not formally but by assignment, to about a half-a-dozen black families and they raised cotton; they were sharecroppers. I played with, swam with and fought with the boys about my age living on the plantation.”

The country school. “I started school in a two-room country school in Laurens County, about 2 miles away from where we lived. On Mondays I would get a ride from one of the schoolteachers, but the other days of the week, I would walk the 2 miles to the school, get a ride on horseback or Dad would take me in the automobile – an Overland touring car. My favorite subject in school? I liked recess.”

College and first job. “I enrolled in the University of South Carolina and majored in chemistry; graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1931. The Depression was on, but my father managed to get me a job in one of the textile mills there, 20 cents an hour, 12 hours a day, 7 in the morning until 7 at night, with an hour for lunch. I had taken the civil service examination; 2,000 people took it and I ranked No. 19. Nevertheless, in the Depression days, it took time to get a job. They finally got down to 19 and I got a civil service job. That’s how I got into the government.”

The telegram. “One Saturday morning, a Western Union boy rolled up with a telegram for me. It was from the Food and Drug Administration. I had been in communication with FDA about a job as a chemist and this telegram said: ‘Will you accept a job as a seafood inspector? And does your wife have a job in the seafood industry?’ I wired back: ‘I will accept the job and I have no wife.’ Back came a telegram from Washington: ‘Report Room 225, Customs House, New Orleans, 9 a.m., Monday.’ This is Saturday, and New Orleans is 500 miles away. At that time, I had acquired a Ford coupe. So I borrowed \$20 from Dad, filled the tank of the car, and in a couple of hours I was on my way to New Orleans.”

New Orleans. “The shrimp industry was having trouble with the FDA, because some of them on occasion went ahead and packaged shrimp past their prime. And the FDA was seizing those goods and destroying them under court order. So the better element among the shrimp industry had gone to FDA and arranged to institute an inspection service in their plants similar to what was already in existence in the meat industry. And that began my career. After about a year, I received instructions to come to Washington. So I packed up my other shirt and drove up. I worked with the FDA 30 years.”



Chinese Christian Leaders to Attend WPC Worship on October 2

Ever wondered about the history of Christianity of China? Here's your chance to see a unique exhibit describing the history of the re-emergence and the growth of Christianity in China. Washington, DC was chosen as one of four cities to host an exhibit organized by the China Christian Council, the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China and Wesley Theological Seminary.

The exhibit opens September 28 through October 2 at Wesley at Mt. Vernon Square, 908 Massachusetts Ave, NW. The exhibit is a testimony of the Chinese Christians' daily and spiritual lives and it allows bridging of connections between Christians of China and the United States.

And speaking of bridging of connections, Westminster is particularly blessed that a group of Chinese leaders, who were instrumental in bringing this exhibit to the United States from China, will be joining us for worship on Sunday, October 2 at 11:00 am and will stay for our congregational meal after the service to meet us, to hear our youth report on their recent summer Mission Trip to Haiti, and to join us in Christian fellowship.

I hope you'll help us warmly welcome these Chinese Christian leaders, that we're so fortunate to have visit with us, on World Communion Sunday!

More information is available at www.wesleyseminary.edu/chinesebibleministryexhibition. Any questions, feel free to call Amey Upton, Member of the Advisory Committee for the Bible Ministry Committee.

SUNDAY VESPERS

5:00 p.m.

Vespers at Westminster goes into the very heart of spiritual life - a personal prayer and the message of the Internal Gospel. It is an internal and private—often wordless—prayer that we commune directly and most intensely with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the triune God.

The Fathers of the ancient church taught that we rise up to God on the two wings of prayer - external and internal, communal and private. We need both, or else we will spiritually flop around like a wounded bird.

Vesper worship services are mystical, symbolic, and corporate yet at the same time private. They embrace every part of what it means to be human - soul, mind and body, including all five senses. It is in worship that we grow in our union with God.

Children's Music at Westminster

Wednesday evenings

For grades K – 2:

5:15 – 5:45 p.m.

Carol Choir, Children's Choir Room 106

5:45 – 6:15 p.m.

New This Year! Music Fun (introducing musical skills through instruments, chimes and games), Room 103

For grades 3 – 5:

5:15 – 5:45 p.m.

Beginner Bells, Room 103

5:45 – 6:15 p.m.

Alleluia Choir, Children's Choir Room 106



Bag Lunch Soup

The Bag Lunch program, providing lunches for the homeless and working poor in Alexandria, will begin soup service on October 15. If you'd like to join WPC's soup makers, please contact Louise Anderson. No experience necessary.

Street People Project

During this year, more than 180 care packets have been distributed and the local mission committee would like to hear back from the congregation about your experiences. Your feedback is important to us. To share your thoughts please contact Carolyn Turner at LocalMission@wpc-alex.org or Janet Riksen, Director of Missions, at JRiksen@wpc-alex.org.

Also needed are travel size toiletries for future care packets. We can put to good use your unused travel-sized soaps and shampoos. A donation basket for toiletries will be next to the ALIVE! food donation baskets in the education wing lobby.

Gleaning apples with National Missions

More than 40 people ranging in age from under 1 to 90 years spent Saturday morning, September 17, gleaning apples at Marker-Miller Orchards in Winchester, Virginia. We collected fresh apples and then brought them back to local shelters and food banks in Alexandria. It was a fun and productive morning of work, service and fellowship.



Focus on Missions

Report from Kenya

"In 2009, on a trip to Kenya, I first visited the United Orphanage and Academy at Moi's Bridge, and chatted with the teachers. Two young women, both high school graduates, inquired about university scholarships. They had little prospects, so I offered to support them. Susan Wanjiro, then 24, enrolled in the Business School at Moi University in Eldoret. Mercy Akoth, then 21, enrolled in the School of Education at the University of Nairobi. They completed two years this summer. Both joined the Christian Union on campus and they make evangelizing trips during school breaks. Susan currently chairs the Union at her campus with some 400 active members.

This July I took my daughter and granddaughter and a friend to Kenya for a safari trip and to meet the two university students. We toured each university and I met with administrators. Afterward we drove to Kitale to visit the students' homes and share a meal with their families, one Kikuyu, the other Luo.

On our way we stopped at the United Orphanage and Rev. Stephen Chege gave us a tour of the facilities. He proudly showed us the improvements made with the support of Westminster Church. The third floor of the academic building is nearing completion, and there will be a system to catch rainwater off the roof. In July only the resident orphans were present in their red uniforms.

Finally, we stopped at the Remas Educational Centre near Kitale, an orphanage and academy just getting started. Evans Shikuku, one of the administrators, taught at the United Orphanage in 2009. They currently have 8 children in residence with another 50 attending the academy.

We enjoyed a successful trip. Kenya has great needs, and much potential. Those we met are deeply committed and energetic in developing their country. An important part of that is the Christian impulse emanating from Moi's Bridge."

Edmund P. Willis, PhD

Harvest of Hope Intergenerational Weekend Gleaning Trip November 4-6, 2011



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. This intergenerational event is open to anyone over 10 years of age, but children must be accompanied by a parent.

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.

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.

Please register by Sunday, October 16. For more information about our mission trip opportunities, please contact: Doug Anderson (National Mission Chair) or Erik Johnston (National Mission Committee Vice Chair) at NationalMission@wpc-alex.org.

October Mission Trip to Appalachia

18 Westminster members will travel to Jonesville, Virginia to participate with the Appalachia Service Project on October 20-23.

Adrienne Griffith recently spoke to the congregation, sharing her reflections about her trip last year:

"In a recent meeting of my book club, part of the discussion involved whether certain details in the memoir we had just read were untrue, or at least embellished. The book was *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls, and some at the meeting doubted whether she could have remembered incidents from her early childhood quite that vividly. Or if in fact the living conditions at the homes she lived in as a girl could have been quite that squalid. You may know that the author spent several years living in West Virginia, in Appalachia, where her house did not have indoor plumbing or reliable electricity.

I said I couldn't say for sure whether every place in *The Glass Castle* was accurately portrayed, but I did vouch for the credibility of descriptions of Appalachia – they reminded me, I said, of a trip I took to the western part of Virginia last fall. I didn't really say anything further on this point at the meeting. But on further reflection, I think maybe before taking that trip, I would have been skeptical that the Appalachia portrayed by Walls existed in the 1970s, or that similar conditions persisted in 2010.

Unfortunately, they do persist, in a region where one in four people lives below the federal poverty level and nearly half of families have a household income of 20K or less. I've also seen statistics that say over 60,000 homes in the region are substandard, with over 20,000 lacking adequate plumbing.

I think that acknowledging the reality of 21st century Appalachia is part of the church's mission – we recognize that things are not all right, or as they should be. We don't want our neighbors to live this way -- and then we want to do something in response. Poverty and housing insecurity are huge problems though, and thankfully we have organizations like the Appalachian Service Project to help us respond. Families apply to ASP with specific request for assistance and repairs, and the organization coordinates groups of volunteers to work on specific homes. Last year, the group from Westminster worked at two different homes in Jonesville, VA. The group I was in worked with a family of four – two grandparents and their two grandsons. Helping tear down the unusable porch at the back of their home, and then rebuilding a new porch for them tested our physical strength and persistence, but we were so happy to help give them a safer way to enter their home.

But beyond the repair work, by far the best part of the trip was actually getting to know the place we visited, and the people we met there. Appalachia may be an area of great poverty, but it is also one of great beauty, and great friendship. We met a grandfather who had worked in the coal mines all of his life and had recently taken in his two grandchildren. We met a grandmother who was battling cancer (and who I've since heard is doing well). And probably most of all, we met two young boys who were so eager to help us work, and to show us their home. Just as seeing Jonesville made Appalachia more real to me, meeting the family we worked with made helping neighbors more real, and made me want to do even more."



August Mission Breakfast

Many thanks to the more than 70 people who came out on Sunday, August 28 (the weekend of the hurricane) to enjoy a delicious breakfast with those who support local, national and international missions programs throughout the year.

If you were unable to join the breakfast, but helped out in the past year in any way the chairs and vice-chairs of the Local, National and International Mission Committees would like to thank you for your service and support.

At the breakfast, Kathy Stenzel was honored for going above and beyond the call of duty through her contributions to local missions. While we recognize Kathy, we also know that the mission work of the church requires many helping hands and we are grateful for all those who have volunteered and helped to make a difference in our neighborhood, nation, and world.

Senior Services of Alexandria

Senior Services of Alexandria has been providing programs and services for seniors in Alexandria for over forty years. Its mission is "to foster independence and self-sufficiency, enabling seniors within the City of Alexandria to age with dignity". Westminster congregants probably know SSA best through two of the service programs which it administers: Meals on Wheels and Senior Taxi.

SSA has taken the first steps towards the implementation of a new Senior Resource Center. Seniors who call SSA will find a one-stop source of information about services, activities and resources for the +55 population in Alexandria. It provides seniors, their families and caregivers with comprehensive, dependable information and guidance on the services they need. For more information contact SSA at (703) 836-4414 x13 or resourcecenter@seniorservicesalex.org.



Faith on Tap

Tuesday, October 18, 7:30 p.m.
Sexuality

Tuesday, November 8, 7:30 p.m.
(NOTE DATE CHANGE!!!) Spiritual
But Not Religious

Tuesday, December 13, 7:30 p.m.
The Quest for a Relevant Church

Young Adults

Christmas Event

Sunday, December 4, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
The FitzGerald's
A light supper, a movie viewing,
discussion and dessert!

"What Would Jesus Buy?" follows Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping Gospel Choir as they go on a cross-country mission to save Christmas from the Shopocalypse: the end of mankind from consumerism, over-consumption and the fires of eternal debt! From producer Morgan Spurlock (*Super Size Me*) and director Rob Van Alkemade comes a serious docu-comedy about the commercialization of the holidays."

On that night we will also be collecting gifts for residents of the Ladrey building—a Young Adults' Christmas tradition.

Children and Family Ministry



Parent and Teacher Education: The Plagues

Sunday, October 16, 9:45 a.m.

Creation Station

Parents, shepherds, and teachers are invited to join in on a Bible study focusing on Exodus and the story of the plagues. Our children will be learning all about this story from Exodus in November ... let's prepare for church and family discussions together! Led by Casey FitzGerald and Sarah Hoffman.

Mornings for Moms

EVERY FRIDAY beginning in OCTOBER!

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Creation Station 303/305

Moms and kids are invited to join us each Friday in Creation Station for fellowship and service. We have decided to reinstate WEEKLY Mornings for Moms. Casey FitzGerald will be in attendance most weeks. We will sometimes do nothing but play, other times have discussion topics. We will also have mission activities throughout the year. Stop by for some or all of the time. (There is a new toy station dedicated solely to Mornings for Moms which we are excited about!)

Spark Story Bible Sale

In response to interest expressed by parents to have a Spark Story Bible to use with their children at home, we have purchased 25 copies which will be available for purchase for \$16 (at cost) at the All-Church Potluck Brunch on October 2 following the 11 o'clock service. These are the Bibles we use for our preschoolers as well as our younger elementary school children.

Nursery Donation Wanted!

We are looking for a glider that is in very good condition! If you have one you're ready to give up—please email Casey FitzGerald.

Future Dates to Save

Christmas Pageant and Dinner December 11, 5:00 p.m.

Family Retreat May 19-20

M&M Week June 25-29

Attention Youth



Middle School

"Hallowed-ween" Retreat

Shrine Mont (Orkney Springs, VA)

7:00 p.m. Friday, October 28- mid-afternoon, Sunday, October 30

Join us for our 2nd annual October retreat to Shrine Mont (www.shrinemont.org) to enjoy the fun of the Halloween season and give glory to God's name! Start brainstorming costume ideas now—they're required for our mission project and Saturday party!

Cost: \$90 (checks payable to Westminster Presbyterian Church (memo line: MS Retreat 2011)) Turn in a registration slip (in the church lobby) and your check to sign up.



More information about Youth activities at Westminster is available on our website, www.wpc-alex.org/youth or by contacting Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt.

Youth Retreat

Senior High Lock in

Friday, September 30 at 8:00 p.m. – Saturday, October 1 at 8:00 a.m.



We'll have some good laughs, our favorite games (sardines, pew racing), a short fast (ending at midnight), and loving God (oh oh oh).

We hope you can join us!

Please RSVP to Patrick Hunnicutt (Phunnicutt@wpc-alex.org) by Sunday, September 25.

Weekday Small Groups

Casey FitzGerald is hoping to begin two weekday small groups (open to anyone in the congregation) later this fall. Participation in a small group is a wonderful way to connect with those in your church community, deepen your faith experience, and develop your ability to articulate that which you believe. If you might be interested in participating in an 8-12 week small group experience, please email Casey at cfitzgerald@wpc-alex.org.

Job Opportunities at Westminster

We are still looking for just the right person for our **Program Assistant** position. This is a full time position which provides support to the worship staff and several of our program areas. If you know someone who might be interested, please have them contact Business Administrator Nancy Bea. Westminster members are not eligible for this position. Resumes may be emailed to Nbea@wpc-alex.org or faxed to 703-548-1505.

We are still seeking applicants for the new position of **Assistant Director of Children's Music Ministries** to expand our children's Christian music education. If you know a Music Educator who might be interested in this wonderful ministry, contact Marilyn Eckert at Personnel@wpc-alex.org.

Men's Bible Study

New: An opportunity to read and discuss books of the Bible in a small group setting, starting with Ephesians, "the Queen of the Epistles." Meet weekly on Wednesday morning from 7:00—8:00 a.m. in the Westminster Room. For details see Ed Willis. (This does not replace the Men of Westminster monthly meeting.)

Men of Westminster 2nd Friday Breakfast October 14, 7:00 – 8:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Author Rick Liblong will discuss his new book, published this spring, *Answering The Call to Duty*, about Michigan's small town soldiers in the Civil War.

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 Group

All women are invited to read *Sacred Hearts* by Sarah Dunant and discuss it on Monday, October 24 at 11:00 a.m. or 7:30 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor. No registration needed. Contact discussion leader Clara Beth Van de Water for more information at cvandewater@wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766 ext. 120.

Women's Circles

Six friendship circles meet monthly at various times to study the Beatitudes and share fellowship, and you are invited to come to one! See the website under Presbyterian Women or a flyer in the rack in the education wing lobby or contact moderator Bonnie Nasr at PW@wpc-alex.org.



Women's Work Day

All women are invited to come to the Haverkamp Room at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 5 to make stuffed toys and heart patient pillows for Alexandria Hospital. No RSVP needed. Contact Nancy McIver for more details if desired.

Women's Fall Gathering on "Everyday Spirituality: Stories Told in Autumn"

All women are invited to a gathering with Bonnie Davis, Spiritual Nurture Coordinator, National Capital Presbytery, on Wednesday, October 5, at 7:30 p.m., Haverkamp Room. Bonnie, a Wesley Seminary graduate, will share stories of everyday spirituality for the fall season. Dessert will be prepared by Presbyterian Women circles. No RSVP necessary.



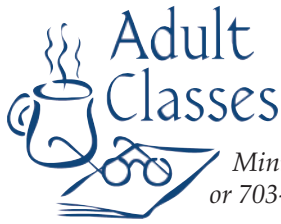
Women's Retreat

Women are invited to the lovely Hallowed Retreat Center an hour from Alexandria for a "Celtic" weekend on March 16-18, 2012. The leaders will be Nancy Hall Berens and Clara Beth Van de Water.

Women's Shanghai Card Group

The Women's Shanghai Card Group, consisting of 30 women, meets in the Haverkamp Room the first Monday of each month from 7:15 p.m. until about 9:30 p.m. Any woman who loves playing cards, friendly competition, and fellowship is invited to attend. Come once and try it – come any month you are free. No experience is necessary – it is easy to learn and we have players who will love to teach you. A light snack is provided. In order for us to know how many tables and how much food to provide each month, please email or call Diane French a few days in advance if you plan to attend.

Adult Education



Programs are held from 9:45-10:45 a.m., except as noted.
All adults are cordially invited; no registration required.
Contact Director of Adult Education and Women's
Ministries Clara Beth Van de Water cvandewater@wpc-alex.org
or 703-549-4766 extension 120.

"Introduction to Romans"

October 2-November 20, Westminster Room

Elders Kathy Harkness, M.A., and Connie Ring, J.D., DISCIPLE graduates,
Experienced Group Bible Study Leaders

Learn about and discuss the foundational document of ALL Christian theology - Paul's letter, including the relationships between God and Christ and Christians and Jews, as well as later theologians' interpretations - through reading, video, presentation, and discussion. Please note this class begins earlier than the others, at 9:30, and participants may purchase a \$12.00 study guide at the class.

"Facing Tomorrow's Challenges – Today"

October 9, Haverkamp Room

Rear Admiral Margaret Kibben, Deputy Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Armed Services; PC(USA) minister

Hear about our armed services' commitment to our country and willingness to sacrifice, even through ten years of war, and the critical need to care for them and their families.

"Christianity in China: Reflections on the Missions and Challenges of the Church in a Communist Society"

October 16-30, Haverkamp Room

The Rev. Dr. John Yieh, PC(USA), Professor of New Testament, Virginia Theological Seminary

China is now a major global power with one fifth of the world's population, where living under communism presents particular challenges for Christians, including the background of missions, development of Chinese-style Christianity, and the gospel and politics.

Adult Sunday School Class



"Responding to Cataclysms: Examples from Earth's Past"

November 6, Haverkamp Room

Dr. Victor Zabielski, Geology Department Chair, Northern Virginia Community College

The geologic record shows ancient cataclysms and climate changes, but climate has been relatively stable for 10,000 years. Most scientists believe we are beginning a new phase of climate change. What can we learn from the past to help us with the future of our planet?

"Making Sense of Evolution: Darwin, God, and the Drama of Life"

November 13, Haverkamp Room

Dr. John Haught, Senior Fellow, Science and Religion, Woodstock Theological Center, Georgetown University

Can so-called "evolutionary naturalism" explain the drama of life, or is there a place for theology and religion? Hear Haught discuss this subject of his recent book (copies available to purchase).

"Church Going Is Not a Spectator Sport"

November 20, Haverkamp Room

WPC Foundation Board Members
Learn how our church is enriched by the legacy of the community of saints that preceded and surrounds us.

the Chronicle

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

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

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

Music Ministry for Seniors/Homebound Visits Begin in October!



The August "Chronicle" announced the new Music Ministry for Seniors/Homebound. The initial meeting on this new ministry was held after Church on September 11. The first visits will begin in October.

Come and be part of these visits, starting on Sunday, October 16 and Monday, October 17. Participants will meet after Church in the Choir Room (Room 112) on Sunday, October 16 (about 15 minutes after the conclusion of the 11:00 AM Service). There will be a short social/ food time, so bring a sandwich or snack – cheese and crackers will be provided, followed by a short rehearsal of hymns to be sung, and then one or two visits to seniors/homebound members. On Monday, there will be a short rehearsal in the Choir Room, and then one visit. Time of the visit for Monday, October 17 (whether afternoon or morning) will be announced in the "Update" with the Bulletin on Sunday, October 16. All are welcome to participate!

If you are interested in being part of this great opportunity sharing the gift of sacred music through this exciting new Music Ministry, or for further information please contact Carolyn Carmack by email: ccarmack@wpc-alex.org, or by phone at the Church: 703-549-4766, Ext. 115. Also, if you know you will participate in October, please email or call Carolyn during the week prior to the visits.

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