



Westminster Presbyterian CHURCH

— worship well —

Lenten Services

Palm Sunday, March 16

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

Palm Sunday Concert

3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary featuring
"Petite Messe Solennelle" by
Gioacchino Rossini; Choir,
soloists, and instrumentalists

Thursday, March 20

Maunder Thursday Worship
with Communion 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, March 21

Chapel open 12 Noon – 3:00 p.m. for
silent meditation

Good Friday Worship

7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 22

Easter Vigil Service, at 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 23

Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
special prelude
beginning 10:45 a.m.

the chronicle

february 21 2008 - volume 39, number 7

From the Pastor's Study

A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward

Worship Well

Shortly after I became Pastor of Westminster in late 2004, our governing body – the Session – began drafting our Mission Statement – an articulation of who we are, what we believe, and how we seek to live out our beliefs as a congregation. By 2005, we had adopted the Mission Statement, and then set out to design a logo to incorporate it visually. With this edition of the newsletter, we unveil the logo, which will appear in our bulletins, on our web site, and on all our church mailings.

The logo draws on colors from the stained glass window in our sanctuary and depicts our four areas of life – worship, education, fellowship, and mission – in a circle surrounding the seal of our denomination. At the bottom of our name lie these words: "worship well." They are the "tag line" or "motto" or "slogan" our Session has adopted to say in one half-sentence who we are as a congregation.

Hmm. "Worship well." What might that mean?

On one level, it says that worship is central to all we do as a congregation. In worship we gather as a community. From worship we go out and learn, serve, and nurture our relationships with others in fellowship. Worship marks us a community of faith rather than simply a community.

Worship well.

On another level, "worship well" defines what Christians do. Yes, we serve. Yes, we seek to understand and learn about God. Yes, we seek to support and nurture one another. But we do so because we worship a transcendent God who has been revealed to us in the person of Jesus Christ and who resides with us today through the Holy Spirit. Worship well.

"Worship well" also reminds us that when we worship, we are making an offering to God – an offering of our hearts and minds and wills. When we offer something to God, we offer our best, most honest, most true selves. We offer the best we have to offer. We not only worship, but we aspire to worship well.

Switching "parts of speech," "worship well" reminds us that when we present ourselves to God in worship, we also receive from God. In rural societies, including the one in which the Bible arose, the well is a place to which people go – often in difficult circumstances and across rugged terrain – to draw water necessary for life. Likewise, in our worship, we gather with one another to draw that sustenance of life Christ offers. Worship is a well that provides us with life, a well through which the source of life is made present to us.

As we live with and into this motto, I encourage you to meditate upon it and share any thoughts or meanings that come to you. It is our motto as a community. Like any art, some of its meanings are probably not apparent to us today, but will become apparent as we worship, serve others, learn, and care for one another at Westminster.

Larry



thank-you & more

Thank you,

Micah and I would like to thank the Westminster family for the support that they've shown us surrounding the birth of our baby girl, Charlotte. The Young Adults in particular have gone above and beyond, making a challenging situation much easier by randomly showing up at our door with home-cooked meals. We're very lucky to be part of such a wonderful church and look forward to introducing Charlotte to the congregation.

-Holly, Micah, and Charlotte King

To my W.P.C. family and friends,

Donna Cramer brought the beautiful arrangement to me Sunday. May we all feel the love and beauty of the Easter season – and may there be peace in the world.

Thank you all for sharing the flowers with me. My love to each of you.

Sincerely,
Helen Baughman

one great hour of sharing

"When was it that we saw you a stranger...?" - Matthew 25:38. This passage speaks to many people in need and our ability to pass them by. Jesus tells us that when we live out His charge to help our fellow travelers in life, we actually find present in those strangers the risen and living Jesus. Whatever we do for others, we also do for Him. One Great Hour of Sharing is a special offering taken on Easter Sunday, which helps with self-development in poor areas, helps alleviate hunger, and provides disaster relief. Hunger relief and disaster assistance meet immediate needs, and self-development helps people learn to meet their own needs for the long term. This winter, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been providing personal needs for people displaced during the terrible violence in Kenya, particularly in the area served by Elburgon Presbytery, where we have build a church and have a relationship. During this time of Lenten reflection, consider prayerfully what you can do to share resources with a world that is hurting. It is remarkable what your gift can do. Envelopes are in the pew racks, and the offering will be received Easter Sunday. Westminster has given generously in the past. The world is bandaged and hurting. Please share as generously as you are able.



westminster travelers

Wednesday, February 27. *Lunch at Hana Tokyo*, a Japanese steakhouse, depart the church at 11:00 a.m. \$1 plus lunch.

Thursday, February 28. *The Winslow Boy*, Aldersgate Methodist Church Community Players. Depart at 7:00 p.m. \$1 trip fee.

Thursday, March 6. *Lunch at Busboys and Poets*. Depart at 11:00 a.m. Enjoy an early lunch and afterwards spend an hour browsing around the new Shirlington: the library, Signature Theater, bakery and Harris Teeter Grocery. \$1 plus lunch.

Tuesday, March 18. *US Army Band Spring Recital*, Bruckner Hall, Ft. Myer. Depart at 6:15 p.m. \$1 trip fee.

Thursday, April 3. *Tour the newly renovated Lincoln Cottage at the Soldiers' Home*, summer White House for President

Lincoln. Depart at 9:30 a.m. Lunch destination to be determined. We need your firm reservation by March 10. Trip limited to 15 persons. \$14 plus lunch. Two dollar discount if you are a member of the National Historic Trust.

May 19 – 24. *White Star Tour to Upstate New York, the Thousand Islands & Ottawa, Canada*. Ride with our favorite bus driver, Bill Brown, to scenic destinations with caring, fun-loving companions! Ottawa at tulip time is not to be missed. Request a flyer describing this trip in greater detail by calling the church office. Cost: \$850 per person/double; \$1,070 per person/single. \$100 deposit due March 3. (Deposit is refundable if trip is cancelled due to insufficient numbers.) Optional trip cancellation insurance, available for an additional \$83 paid to Berkely Insurance, should be purchased within 14 days of the date of your deposit if you need to cover a pre-existing condition. Basic insurance costs \$63. Call Sandy Calhoun, 703-549-4766, ext. #122 for more information.

All Westminster Travelers programs are planned with senior adults in mind. However, we accept persons under age 60 when space is available. We welcome friends from outside the Westminster congregation. Reservations are made by calling the church office.

easter flowers



This year we are combining the contributions for Easter flowers and mission donation into one effort that will offer the opportunity to honor or memorialize loved ones with a dedication in the bulletin. With your donations we will purchase two special flower arrangements for our Easter service, and all funds not used for the flowers will be added to the Moi's Bridge orphanage/Kenyan relief fund. A dedication for each donation will be printed in the bulletin. This will give us the opportunity

to have beautiful flowers in the sanctuary at Easter, remember loved ones, and provide additional help to our beleaguered friends in Kenya. Sign-ups will be held at the coffee hours following each service on March 2, 9, and 16. You may also call the church office at 703-549-4766 or email ospatz@wpc-alex.org.

You Are Invited



to a Special

Worship Service

Palm Sunday Concert

March 16 at 3:00 p.m.

in the Sanctuary

"Memoirs of Pontius Pilate"

Music of "Petite Messe Solennelle"

By Gioacchino Rossini



flying solo (singles) upcoming events

I am pleased to begin my new position as Interim Director of Congregational Life and Singles Ministries! During my first meeting

with the Flying Solo steering committee in February, I realized very quickly that one of the great strengths of this group of singles at Westminster is the friendship and support that they provide for each other. This inspired me to choose the topic of friendship as the first roundtable discussion that I will share with the group (details below). I would like to invite all singles in their "prime years" (more or less 40 and above) to join us for one of these events. We look forward to meeting you! Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions for singles ministry at Westminster. You can reach me at 703-549-4766, ext. 121, or at nhallberens@wpc-alex.org.

Blessings!

Nancy Hall Berens

Sunday, February 24, 12:00, Haverkamp Room: Singles Roundtable Discussion, sponsored by Flying Solo. Join other singles in the church for lunch and stimulating discussion. We will be exploring the topic "The Gift of Friend-

ship" with discussion led by Nancy Hall Berens, Interim Director of Congregational Life and Singles Ministries. Lunch will be provided. We will also be making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program. All singles are welcome!

Tuesday, February 26, 7:30 p.m., Haverkamp Room: In lieu of our regular 4th Tuesday potluck in February, we will join other members and friends of Westminster and Agudas Achim congregations for "Continuing the Conversation" with Larry Hayward and Jack Moline.

Monday, March 10: Join us for an evening of food and fellowship at our monthly Dine-out. This month we will go to Hector's Place Ristorante (Village II Porto) at 3110 Mt. Vernon Avenue. If you want to carpool, meet in the church parking lot by 7:00 p.m. Otherwise, we'll meet at the restaurant at 7:15. Please contact Nancy Hall Berens at nhallberens@wpc-alex.org for more details.

Tuesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m., Johnson Parlor, is the date for our monthly Potluck in March. We will gather for a casual potluck dinner and for our monthly mission project (making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program). Please bring a salad, entrée or dessert to share.

children and family ministry



An Introduction: Families as Small Groups

For Parents, Grandparents, and Caretakers; Saturday, March 1, 5-7 p.m., Fellowship Hall; Child-care Provided

Many people in churches near and far have found small-group ministry to be important in their journeys of faith. For children, the family itself is the "small group" where faith formation begins. Our congregation will soon be engaging in a short workshop to delve into this concept where you will have an opportunity for enriching conversation and will leave with helpful resources to continue the journey in your own families. We'll explore how families make promises to each other and how family members nurture one another as a part of day-to-day living. We'll explore how to enhance the spiritual formation of our children through the simple rituals and routines we all experience at home. And in the process, we'll see how we can be partners with the Holy Spirit in growing in our life of faith.

If this sounds like a journey you wish to join, please plan to attend this special event! To register, email (Ospatz@wpc-alex.org) or call the office (703) 549-4766. Questions? Contact Casey FitzGerald!

Mornings for Moms: A New Ministry of Westminster!!!

Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in Creation Station. All moms are welcome to bring their young children each Wednesday morning for fellowship, service, and fun with kids! We've already had great turnouts and great fun getting to know each other and hope other moms will join in on the fun! Contact Casey FitzGerald for more information.

Summer Teachers Needed

Though it may seem early, I am beginning to think about our summer schedule. As I'll be on maternity leave the first part of the summer, I'm hoping to solidify our teaching schedule before I go on maternity leave in mid-April. If you are willing to help in the 1 and 2 year old or 3, 4 and pre-K class, please let me know at your earliest convenience. Thanks, Casey FitzGerald

Parents of Young Children Game Night, Saturday March 29, 5:00-7:30

Got children between 0 and 4? Bring them, yourselves and a game out for a fun night at Westminster. We'll provide the food and drinks, you provide the entertainment! We'll have sitters on hand to help with the children while the adults have fellowship. This is a great way to meet other folks from the church! RSVP to Casey FitzGerald by Thursday, March 27.

palm sunday brunch

All are welcome to the annual Palm Sunday Brunch March 16th, 9:15 a.m.; Fellowship Hall

If you would like to bring a dish to share, we welcome all egg dishes, breads, and fruit.

Questions, or to volunteer to help, please contact Patty Chamberlain, 703-370-3750 or chamberlain_patty@hotmail.com



new preschool director

Westminster Weekday Preschool's Board of Directors recently announced with pleasure the selection of Carolyn Burke as the new Director of the Preschool starting July 1, 2008.

Carolyn has been a teacher at Westminster for over 10 years and has also served as Curriculum Coordinator during most of that time. She has over 20 years educational experience, with several years of hands-on experience in administration and coordination. She has a degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Virginia.

During her time at Westminster she has taken an active role in building a high quality program through her ongoing commitment to the children and the preschool. She has been instrumental in the introduction of many new teaching techniques, concepts and styles across the entire Preschool. Her selection ensures the continued quality of the Preschool and she is the perfect person to lead us forward to new heights.

Please join the Preschool Board, staff and parents in welcoming Carolyn to her new position.

young adults ministry

First Sunday Brunches:



The first Sunday of each month, young adults from the congregation gather together following the 11 o'clock service, either in someone's home or in the church building for food and fellowship. Brunches are great opportunities to get to know other young adults. Next Brunch: March 2 at the home of Mike and Amanda Jaffe.

RSVP to Casey FitzGerald at cfitzgerald@wpc-alex.org

If you are interested in hosting a brunch this summer, please contact Casey FitzGerald!

Young Adults' Educational Opportunity:

Countering Pharaoh's Consumption-Production Society. Tuesdays, February 26-March 11, 7:30 Room 103/105

"It is a journey from slavery to covenant that we keep making over and over again... [because] Pharaoh has immense power always to draw us back into slavery."

- Walter Brueggemann

It's not too late to join in on this powerful study concerning the meaning of covenant and how we have lost and might regain it on our current society. The curriculum warns us to be advised: THIS PROGRAM MAY BE HAZ-

ARDOUS TO YOUR CHURCH, SOCIETY AND THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE, AND COULD POTENTIALLY HELP RESTORE THE MEANING OF COVENANT! Created by Old Testament scholar and retired professor from Columbia Theological Seminary, the Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann, this study is sure to be thought-provoking and faith inducing!

- February 26th: Session Three: Countering Caesar
- March 4th: Session Four: An Act of Imagination
- March 11th: On Not Doing God Any Favors

Young Adults Scavenger Hunt Adventure!

"The Murder at the National Gallery Scavenger Hunt" Saturday, June 28, 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.

A murdered curator has left behind a cryptic trail of clues connected with secrets in works of art. As your team gathers answers about the art, you begin to piece together a sordid tale about greed, lust, pride, revenge and treachery, all revolving around the museum's planned multimillion-dollar purchase of a Rembrandt. The murder victim knew too much—and now it's up to you to learn what he knew and discover what drove one of four suspects to commit murder. To find out, you'll have to crack a secret code left in the victim's appointment calendar. Can you figure out who dunnit? Be prepared for a challenging hunt. Price: \$22.50 per person. Please register with Casey FitzGerald by April 1 (before she goes on maternity leave).



got time? a retreat for young adults in national capital presbytery

April 18-20, 2008 (Friday evening through Sunday morning)
Camp Meadowkirk

Come away for a time of fellowship, relaxation, worship, and theological reflection, as young adults in their twenties and thirties from around the presbytery gather at Meadowkirk Retreat Center in Middleburg, Virginia. We'll stay in the newly-built cottages, explore how our faith challenges us to think about time, and take ample time to simply enjoy good Christian fellowship, the beauty of nature, and God's gift of time away.

Cost: Only \$25 for the entire weekend (meals included) due to generous support from the Presbytery. WPC also has scholarship money available to those who need it—please contact Casey FitzGerald for information.

Topic: The Stewardship of Time

Leader: Bruce Douglass, Associate Professor, Department of Government, Georgetown University, and Director of the Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington

People experience time differently in different cultures. In our culture, it tends to be regarded as a scarce resource to be utilized as each of us sees fit. Many of us are anxious to make sure that we "spend" the time available to us wisely, and feel pressured to get as much "done" as possible. Where does this attitude come from? And what are its implications? What does it mean to "spend" time well, and is this a good way to live our lives? This retreat is designed to provide the participants with an opportunity to consider these issues in the light of the Biblical idea of stewardship.

For more information, contact Casey FitzGerald
RSVP by March 31, 2008 by mailing your \$25 to
Reformed Institute

PO Box 1928
Alexandria, VA 22313-1928

(include name, email, and church affiliation, if applicable)



life goes on

We have all been reading stories of horrendous violence in Kenya as a result of the disputed December 27 2007 Presidential election. In another part of this issue the generous response of members of Westminster and other friends of the UO&A in providing emergency assistance to help Rev Chege deal with extraordinary costs resulting from the violence in the area surrounding its five acre campus has been reported..

As a result, life does go on at the UO&A. The refugees who had sought sanctuary there have now all been resettled to other safe areas. On January 14 the Academy opened its doors for the 2008 school year, unlike many of the public primary schools in the area. There are seven teachers providing instruction at the Academy for grades Early Childhood Development through Fifth Grade. Four of these seven teacher positions have been fully funded and pledges have been made to fund the other three. The children in residence are attending these classes, of course, as are some of the children from the neighboring area. Director Chege thinks more will come if the situation continues to cool. Five scholarships have been funded to permit local children whose guardians cannot afford the Academy's \$200 annual tuition and fees to attend. We need more if the Academy is to be the force for good it can be in the local community.

On January 15 Westminster and Meeting House applied to National Capital Presbytery (NCP) for a grant of \$10,000 to be matched by \$5,000 from each of them (for a total of \$20,000) to continue construction of the three story stone building that will house the Academy. This building was commenced with \$7,000 in funds provided by NCP and \$5,000 each by Westminster and Meeting House (total of \$17,000) last year. The total cost of the building is estimated to be \$70,000. There is reason to believe that NCP will grant at least some portion of the \$10,000 and Chege has confirmed that he will be able to continue construction with whatever funds are provided.

Finally, there is the question of the costs of operation of the Orphanage. As of this writing funding to support 30 of the 48 children in residence had been received or pledged for the year 2008 at the level before costs escalated as a result of scarcity created by the violence in Kenya. We urgently need to find support for the remaining 18 children in residence at a minimum of \$750 a year or \$62.50 a month. Please consider providing support for one of these children if you have not already done so.

new website design

Visit our website at www.wpc-alex.org and see the exciting new format and design. The design reflects the colors of the new WPC logo which appears in the heading of every page. We believe the pages are organized in a more user friendly way. Three buttons on the home page take you to the calendar, newsletter and sermon pages. The calendar is interactive. When your cursor crosses an item, basic details are revealed. If you click on an item, more details are revealed.

A special new feature is the members only page. Once you create a login name, you will be able to log in and access an online member directory. It will allow you to look up contact information for other church members, as well as to check on and update your own information. You will also be able to view specialized calendars, such as for Youth, Young Adults, Seniors, etc.

To create a user name, click on the Member button to access the member login page. The first time you visit the login page, you should enter your first name, last name and email address. Do not use a nickname. Each of these entries must match the information that is in the church database in order for you to be recognized. If your first name is James, you must enter James, not Jim. If your information is not recognized by the database, contact the church office to make sure we have your current email address.

We do ask your patience as some pages are still under construction. A huge thank you to Brian Laubscher for all his work on the new website design and its implementation.

women's book group

The February 25 selection is *Suite Française* by Irene Nemirovsky. The morning discussion will meet at 11:00 a.m. at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads. The evening group will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the church's Johnson Parlor. All women readers are invited. Call Clara Beth Van de Water (703-549-4766 X120) if you have questions.

Can't Wait to Get to Heaven by Fannie Flagg will be discussed on Monday, March 24.

an invitation from patrick

If you are looking for *THE* way to immerse yourself in the life of faith at Westminster, please consider becoming a youth advisor. Young or old, introverts or extroverts, lovers of chaos and order alike – advisors are adults who enjoy the energy, wisdom and laughter of our youth and want to share their lives with them. Advisors are friends and mentors whose shoulders youth can lean on to help create a welcoming home for them in the church. Advisors have hidden troves of energy, patience, creativity and love that compel them to teach card games at three o'clock in the morning, learn the dance moves to High School Musical, root for youth on the sidelines or in the concert halls, and miss a Sunday afternoon football game because they'd rather play ping pong or air hockey with their middle school and senior high friends.

Yes, being an advisor asks much of you. It gives you a lot more. It's like worship, education, fellowship and mission on steroids (without the Congressional scrutiny).

And, how many of YOU are part of the church because of the wonderful experiences and relationships you had in your youth group? We need people to give this gift to our youth. We need your help.

If this intrigues you, please give me a call or shoot me an email (phunnicuttt@wpc-alex.org), and we can find a time to talk about whether being an advisor is a good fit for you.

living green

For the wellness of our planet and in compliance with Alexandria City regulations, Westminster is instituting a new recycling program throughout the church. In the main offices and common areas you will notice large blue containers with the recycle logo on it. Please keep in mind the different items that can be recycled before you throw them away in the waste bins.



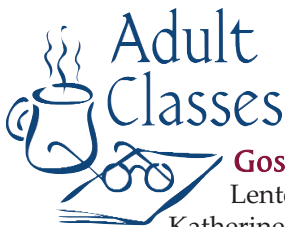
- Office paper
- Glass bottles and jars
- Aluminum and steel cans
- Plastic bottles and jugs (please rinse)
- Magazines, color paper, newspaper
- Flattened cardboard

Items that **cannot** be recycled are:

- Styrofoam (takeout containers, cups, plates)
- Aluminum foil and trays
- Plastic bags
- Plastic buckets and tubs
- Books

All recyclable items can be put in the same recycling container. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping our community become a safer, cleaner environment.

adult education programs



Classes meet Sundays from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. (except as noted). All adults are invited. No registration is needed.

I. Christ on Trial: How the Gospel Unsettles Our Judgment,

Lenten study series, the Rev. Dr. A.

Katherine Grieb, Virginia Theological Seminary, February 24 through March 9, Westminster Room.

Kathy Grieb, professor of New Testament theology at Virginia Seminary and one of Westminster's favorite teachers, will lead participants in reading and discussing Christ on Trial by Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury. Examine the trial and witness of Jesus and gain insights for facing life's trials and challenges. Books will be sold for \$15.

II. Jews, Christians, and Muslims: Expecting the Best from One Another

Dr. John Borelli, Georgetown University, February 24, Haverkamp Room.

In a recent exchange of letters, Muslim and Christian leaders have issued a call for interreligious dialogue based on love of God and love of neighbor. Dr. Borelli, special assistant to the president of Georgetown for interreligious initia-

tives, will talk about relations among Christians, Muslims, and Jews and the hope that these recent communications offer. Pastor Larry Hayward recommends Dr. Borelli highly.

III. Biomedical Ethics: Christian Ethics?

The Rev. Patricia Lyons, St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School, March 9 at 9:45 a.m. and March 16 at 10:00 a.m., Haverkamp Room.

Rev. Lyons will discuss sources of moral wisdom for Christian ethics and how they are used, specifically for issues of stem cell research, new technologies of birth, genetic engineering, and euthanasia. She teaches religion at St. Stephen's, holds a master's from Harvard University, and is finishing her doctorate at Virginia Seminary. *The March 16 class will start at 10:00 a.m., so that attendees can eat Palm Sunday brunch at 9:30 a.m., if desired.*

A special program for March 2 will be announced.

There will be no adult classes on Easter Sunday.



focus on missions

bag lunch program urgent request:

Sandwiches Needed: Our Bag Lunch program feeds lunch to hungry people at Hopkins House and we are low on sandwiches. Please help replenish our supply! If you haven't made sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program before, see the guidelines for the type of sandwich needed on the local missions section of the Westminster website: www.wpc-alex.org.

habitat for humanity

Westminster is involved in the new project (**Maple Ridge**, right next to the Westbrook Forest project that we worked on last year) starting up in June, and we will be getting the schedule of work days soon. It is a 9-condo structure, so it shouldn't take a year like the last one. If you are interesting in helping out, contact Chris Poole at pooleplace@hotmail.com.

Habitat for Humanity's **Cars for Homes Program** — Donate your car to Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia and receive a tax deduction! For more information call 877-277-4344 or visit www.carsforhomes.org

AACH name change contest:

As we enter a new year AACH has realized that it has outgrown its name. In our 21 years of service, we have been able to focus on homelessness in the Arlington and Alexandria communities. However, both clients and housing markets have changed. Our service area is much broader than the two communities. The contest is open to anyone familiar with AACH. Submissions to be made electronically at morourke@aachhomeless.org or mailed to Sullivan House Shelter (3103 9th rd. N. Arlington, VA 22201). Enter now until March 1st 2008. Winner will receive dinner for two at Shirlington's Carlyle Grand!!!

AACH client needs list:

Please contact Stefanie if you can meet any of these needs. She will then put you in contact with the Case Manager who requested them or items can be delivered to the Sullivan House (3103 9th Road North, Arlington, 22201) labeled "Stefanie Turner." If you have large scale donations (such as furniture), please contact Stefanie first. Thank you!

- zip lock bags of all sizes
- Kleenex
- cleaning supplies (new)
- towels (new)
- small bottles of non-alcoholic mouthwash (new)
- gift cards to Shoppers or other grocery, Target, Hair Cuttery, movie tickets, metro fare cards
- hand sanitizer
- Toiletries (new)
- children's vitamins
- washcloths (new)

ALIVE (alexandrians involved ecumenically)

We need volunteers for the following tasks. All inquiries should be directed to ALIVE!'s Volunteer Coordinator, Pam Goodell, 703-837-9300 ext 2 or volunteers@alive-inc.org.

- **The ALIVE! Child Development Center (CDC)** needs volunteers to take down, wash out, and replace simple light fixtures. This is a great job for a group of older teenagers looking to complete community service hours.
- The CDC is also looking for someone to help **drop off and/or pick up laundry** on a weekly basis. Drop off is Friday afternoons and pick up is Monday morning. If you have flexible working hours or are retired, please consider helping on one or both days.
- For health reasons, an elderly woman had to move from her condo at Watergate at Landmark into Goodwin House. She has a condo full of furniture, housewares, bedding etc. that she wants to donate to ALIVE! but she isn't capable of moving it herself - even the housewares. Our Furniture Program will deal with the furniture. We'd like a small volunteer team to help **pack up and move the donated house wares** to our House Wares room at Fairlington United Methodist Church.
- The ALIVE! CDC is in **need of a ladder**. If you have one that is in need of a good new home, please let us know.

adult/ intergenerational mission trips

The National/International Mission Committee has decided to support four adult/intergenerational mission trips for the year 2008. Listed below are the dates and the amounts participants will be asked to contribute. This information is provided to assist members of the congregation in planning which of Westminster's mission trips they would be interested in participating in. In each instance scholarship assistance will be available for anyone desiring to participate but prevented from doing so by financial constraints.

- April 12-19; Pascagoula Mississippi - \$400. This is a repeat of last year's wildly successful trip. Additional information about this trip is found elsewhere in this issue.
- June 22-27; The Shack Neighborhood House in W.Va. - \$300 to \$400. This is a nearby driving distance mission trip that is geared to families. The Meeting House has invited us to join them on this trip.
- July 19-26; Reynosa, Mexico - \$700. This is a return to a destination that we haven't visited for several years. The trip will be led by Tom Geiger who participated in Westminster's last trip to Reynosa.
- July 26-August 2; Spirit Lake Reservation, ND \$700. Another return to a location which Westminster has visited several times in recent years. There are a number of leaders who have participated in this trip in the past. More on this trip in a future issue.

Anyone interested in participating in one of these trips, or who thinks they might be should contact Henri Rush at 703-836-1935 for further information.

gulf coast mission trip april 12 – 19

Once again, a Westminster group will travel to Pascagoula, Mississippi, on April 12 to help residents of that area restore their hurricane-damaged homes, pending session approval. As we did last year, we look forward to installing some of the sheetrock that our church's generous donations helped to purchase at the Alternative Giving Bazaar. We will do that and other jobs needed as we work with the Rebuild Jackson County organization and St. John Episcopal Church's Sheetrock Ministry. The group will enjoy the warm hospitality of St. John's again – sleeping in their church school rooms and using their kitchen and fellowship hall for most of our meals.

Plans are to fly from Reagan National Airport via Memphis to either Gulfport, MS, or Mobile, AL, depending on the best air fares, and proceed from there to Pascagoula by rented vans on Saturday. We will worship with our friends at St. John's on Sunday and begin our work on Monday. Cost for the weeklong trip for participants will be \$400.

Yes, there is still lots of work to be done on the Gulf Coast since Katrina. The spring weather is glorious in south MS and the people are extremely grateful for our assistance. No skilled labor is necessary – they will match jobs to our abilities and experience.

Last year's mission group felt a deep satisfaction from being able to add our efforts to those of many other volunteers still working to rebuild after the hurricane. It was a wonderful experience. If you would like to join this year's mission trip or want more information, please attend an organizational meeting on Sunday, March 2, in the Haverkamp Room after the 11:00 worship service. Contact Nancy Todd at 703-465-1110 with questions.

convalescent equipment loaner closet

Westminster maintains a supply of convalescent equipment, such as walkers, wheelchairs, commode chairs, bath benches, and canes that are available for loan. If you or someone you know needs any equipment, stop by the church office to request access to the storage room, choose what you need and then sign out what you take and the length of time you expect to use it on the clipboard kept at the office. Due to a generous donation, we have canes to give away. You need not be a member of Westminster to borrow these items. This service has proven to be very helpful and a good way to recycle costly equipment. Help spread the word to other churches that they should start a convalescent equipment loan program. Call Sandy Calhoun for more information. 703-549-4766, ext.#122.



emergency relief for kenya

On January 31 we were able to bank wire \$19,576 to Stephen Chege, Director of the United Orphanage & Academy, in emergency funds collected to help defray additional costs incurred by the UO&A in connection with the recent violence which has swept across Kenya following the disputed Presidential election of December 27, 2007. More than 100 people sought refuge on the UO&A grounds during the height of the violence in the Eldoret area (December 29-January 7). Director Chege provided food and support for these refugees and ultimately transportation to other safe areas so that the Academy could open for the 2008 school year as it did on January 14. While the majority of these funds came from Westminster, funds were also contributed by the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, \$2,500; First Presbyterian Church of Marietta, Georgia, \$1,500; and Lewinsville Presbyterian Church of McLean, Virginia, \$1,000.

At the same time we sent \$5,222 (\$1,000 from Lewinsville) to National Capital Presbytery to be combined with checks from other NCP churches and sent to Elburgon Presbytery to help them provide comfort and security for the thousands of people in their area that have been victims of post election violence. Westminster and other churches in NCP have been working with churches in Elburgon Presbytery on a variety of projects since 1996. Unlike the situation around the UO&A which has stabilized for now the situation in the part of the Rift Valley served by the churches in Elburgon Presbytery has not. NCP will continue its efforts to raise funds to help the churches of Elburgon Presbytery provide relief to the refugees within their bounds. If you would like to participate in this continuing effort, you may write a check to Westminster and note the memo line for "Elburgon Presbytery Emergency Relief".

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has also become involved in trying through the Presbyterian Church of East Africa to provide assistance to churches seeking to serve pockets of internally displaced persons as a result of the violence. One of the areas to which PDA is providing relief in serving about 50,000 refugees is the church at Molo, which is within Elburgon Presbytery. If you would like to participate in the more wide spread relief efforts of PDA, you may do so by writing a check to Westminster and noting the memo line for "PDA Kenya Relief".

church staff

Larry HaywardPastor
Karen BlombergAssociate Pastor
Patrick HunnicuttAssociate Pastor
Casey FitzGeraldAssociate Pastor
Paul StetsenkoDirector of Music Ministries
Clara Beth Van de WaterDirector of Adult Education
Sandra CalhounDirector of Seniors' Ministries
Nancy Hall BerensInterim Dir. of Congregational
Life and Singles Ministries
Henri RushCoordinator of Nat'l/Internat'l Missions
VacantCoordinator for Local Missions
Art SauerCoordinator of Volunteer Ministries
Nancy BeaBusiness Administrator
Tara CainAdministrative Assistant
Oraly SpatzProgram Assistant
Larry JohnsonSexton
Marvin JohnsonSexton
Eddie WatkinsSexton

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

The Chronicle

A publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church
Contributors

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

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

Time Sensitive

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #9
ALEXANDRIA, VA

volunteer corner



Brother/Sister can you spare a few minutes? Well, OK, how about a couple of hours now and then. In all seriousness, a couple of hours is all that is needed for most volunteer activities at Westminster. We know that most people in our area lead very busy lives. We also know that members get more out of their membership if they get involved with our activities. That is why we make every effort to break down our volunteer service opportunities into manageable chunks. Most activities can be done on a one-time basis with the commitment of only an hour or two. Therefore, if you feel called to participate, lack of time should not be a problem. Of course, longer term commitments are certainly welcomed.

What would you like to do? Do you like to work with children? The Sunday School programs can always use another volunteer. Contact Casey Fitzgerald to find out more. If you'd prefer to work with youth, contact Patrick Hunnicutt. Want to help out with some of the day-to-day support activities, contact Nancy Bea. Or perhaps you'd like to assist in visiting members, contact Sandy Calhoun. There are literally dozens of ways to get involved. If you are not sure how to connect, just contact me at 703-549-4766 ext 126 or asauer@wpc-alex.org. I'll be glad to talk with you about ways you can be of service and hook you up with the appropriate person.

Service to the church is about more than giving. It is also about commitment to the goal of Westminster of "*Serving God faithfully in our community and throughout the world.*"

Yours in Christ,
Art Sauer
Coordinator of Volunteer Missions
asauer@wpc-alex.org