



# Westminster Presbyterian CHURCH

worship well



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# the Chronicle

June 22, 2017 - volume 47, number 11

### *From the Pastor's Study*

*A Message From Casey Fitzgerald*  
**What's in a Name?**

*Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand. (Isaiah 64:8)*

This spring, along with the changes made to our staffing structure, I received a new title: Associate Pastor for Christian Formation. The use of "formation" rather than "education" was intentional—the first step in a move to broaden vocabulary beyond education, better aligning it with our mission of shaping the faith lives of all who seek to follow Christ at Westminster.

While most of us are accustomed to hearing "Christian Education" or "Sunday School," the language of "formation" is newer to many. Here is one way to understand the differences between the terms:

*"Christian Education* is understood and perceived as having to do with traditional classroom models of teaching and learning for the purpose of gaining 'head' knowledge.

*Spiritual Formation* is understood and perceived as having to do with practices of devotion and a focus on the inner work of the soul for the purpose of attaining 'heart' wisdom.

*Faith Formation* is understood and perceived as an engaged process of learning and practice integrated throughout all aspects of congregational and daily life. This definition allows for the combining of 'head' and 'heart' knowledge into a more holistic understanding and embodiment, rather than creating a dichotomy between these two areas."

(Excerpted from *Foundations, Findings, and Futures: Christian Faith Formation and Education in the United Church of Christ* (2012))

"Formation" gives a sense of the molding of the whole self—not just through classes which impart knowledge about God, but through experiences which invite us into deeper knowledge of God and relationship with God and our community. "Formation" calls to mind the prophet Isaiah's imagery of God as the potter, who shapes us throughout our lives. "Formation" reminds us that we are a people always seeking to be re-formed by God.

We do not strive to fundamentally change the strong programming we currently offer, which in many ways is already aimed at formation, but to continue to expand and enrich it to include an even more balanced set of classes and experiences aimed at furthering the growth of our faith lives.

What a blessing it is to be formed alongside all of you. I look forward with gratitude to what lies ahead.

*Grace and peace,*

*Casey*



We welcome to the Westminster nursery:

- **Hugh Rice**, son of Meg and Drew Rice, born in Bristol, Tennessee.

We rejoice in the marriage of:

- **Meg Upton & Matthew Summit** in Beverly, Massachusetts. Meg is the daughter of Amey & Fred Upton.

Please remember in prayer the family and friends of:

- **Ruth McBryde Hill, who died on Tuesday, June 13. She was the sister of Duffie Gray.**

## Personnel Committee News

At the end of the summer, we will regretfully say goodbye to Carolyn Carmack as she leaves her position as Financial Assistant after more than 12 years. Carolyn has served Westminster and its congregation in a variety of ways over many years. She served several years as Liturgical Coordinator until last summer, making sure the sanctuary was properly set for worship services, and has also served our music ministries over the years as a member of the choir and more recently as director of the Celtic Cross Ringers. Carolyn served the business side of the church as the Financial Assistant keeping the financial records in good order, writing checks and producing myriad reports to assist the Administration & Finance Committee and the Session in making decisions. We will miss her both personally and professionally. When you see Carolyn, thank her for all she has done to support this congregation and its mission.



A Tables for 8 group enjoys a celebratory dinner.

## Join Tables for 8!

Welcome to a new year of Tables for 8! Join us to make some new Westminster friends. For those not familiar with this group, Tables for 8 (sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee) organizes groups of adults (singles or couples, members or visitors) to meet in homes every 4 to 6 weeks to dine and to enjoy fellowship together. The host or hostess prepares the main dish, while other members of the group contribute appetizers, side dishes, and desserts to complete the meal. It's a fun and interesting way to get to know other Westminster people in a casual setting.

Each group (of about eight people) creates their own schedule after the kick-off meeting in September. We try to create each group with a mixture of singles and couples and with varied age groups, depending on the signup in a given year. We hope to see many new and returning participants in our 23rd year! Please contact Janet Harris with any questions.

## Sign Up

In person on Sundays in September at Lemonade on the Lawn  
 Anytime by emailing Janet Harris at [tablesfor8@wpc-alex.org](mailto:tablesfor8@wpc-alex.org)  
 Deadline to sign up is Sunday, September 24

## Tables for 8 Kick-Off Meeting

**Saturday, September 30**

6:30 PM in the Haverkamp Room

Meet your Tables for 8 group! Please bring a dish to share that can serve eight people.

## Well Done, Faithful Servants!



Six years ago, Carolyn and Jack Turner launched a new mission ministry at WPC for the neighbors we meet on the way to work, or at the intersection in the car, or in our walk from the Metro. Initially called "Street People Packets," these now-named "Packets for People in Need" provide notions for personal care, a power bar, McDonald's card, and informational cards listing resources for social service assistance, food, housing, and job training. Under their leadership, the program has created and distributed approximately 1200 packets in Alexandria, Arlington, and the District of Columbia.

Carolyn and Jack are stepping down from this project as of the end of May. As you see them around the church, thank them for their initiative and willingness to help us love our neighbors. Please also offer prayers of support for those who have taken on the mantle of leadership for this program, including Anne Ledyard, Rich Turner, Gale Grindstaff and Pat Prosperi.

The next distributions of packets will occur in the fall (likely November). Westminster members have been so helpful in this ministry by bringing shampoo, lotion, soap and other notions they have gotten from hotels where they have stayed when traveling. These items save us the expense of buying them to include in our packets. Thank you and please keep up the good work! You can place these gifts in the basket to the left as you enter the church from the parking lot.

## Your Foundation Dollars at Work

Did you know the Westminster Foundation is making a big difference each and every day in the life and mission of the Church? For example, a bequest from the Harriet Grant estate was used to establish endowed funds for Children's and Youth Ministries. The Retreat Reserve Funds provide scholarships and subsidies for the Women's and Family Retreats so that anyone who wants to attend can do so. Funds from the Phyllis Gorrell and Pauline Storey Banks Music Funds were used for the 2017 Palm Sunday performance of "St. John of Damascus." The Foundation also provided funds for a used car for the United Orphanage and Academy at Moi's Bridge, and for three new computers for church staff to better serve our congregation.

There are designated funds in the Westminster Foundation that support every program and mission area of our church life. Ask a member of the Foundation Board for more information when you see them! They'll be wearing a green name tag.



The Retreat Reserve Fund helped members attend the 2017 Family Retreat.

## Westminster Roadsters (Boomers and Beyond)



[www.wpc-alex.org/roadsters](http://www.wpc-alex.org/roadsters)  
 Patty Chamberlain, Director |  
[pchamberlain@wpc-alex.org](mailto:pchamberlain@wpc-alex.org)  
 Contact Patty to register for the below events:

### Monday, July 17

#### Trip to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

We will travel to Richmond to visit the VMFA. The Museum has an extensive collection of art including a spectacular collection of Faberge eggs (the largest collection outside of Russia). We will eat lunch at the Museum as well. Cost: \$5 plus lunch (at the Museum most of the exhibits are free; some special exhibits do have a small charge). Meet in the church parking lot at 9 AM.

### Thursday, July 20

#### LTA's *Legally Blonde*

Based on the well-loved movie, this musical follows Elle Woods as she unexpectedly gets into Harvard Law School. Show starts at 8 PM; arrive between 7:30-7:45 to receive your ticket.

### Sunday, August 13

#### Lunch and Learn: High School Mission Trip to Alaska

Our high schoolers will talk about their experience on their mission trip this June to Alaska. Lunch: \$10.



## Congrats to our Grads!

As a community of faith, we honor and celebrate transitions. We celebrate those who have worked hard and are now rewarded by a diploma and all the rights and privileges pertaining therein! Blessings to our grads on all of your future endeavors. May God continue to be a lamp to your feet and a light to your path!

### High School

- **Jennifer Abrahamson**, daughter of Kris Abrahamson (Fairfax High School)
- **Anne-Marie Berens**, daughter of Nancy Hall Berens & Tom Berens (T.C. Williams High School)
- **David Fabish**, grandson of Jean Fabish (West Springfield High School)
- **Duncan Mackay**, son of Keith & Vaughn Mackay (Deerfield Academy)
- **Chris Neureiter**, son of Paul & Suzanne Neureiter (Commonwealth Academy)
- **Michael Paladino**, son of Bonnie & Chris Paladino (Annandale High School)
- **Allison Ribble**, daughter of Laura Ribble (Hayfield Secondary School)
- **Andrew Ring**, son of Rusty & Lori Ring and grandson of Connie & Jane Ring (West Potomac High School)
- **Colin Ring**, son of Rusty & Lori Ring and grandson of Connie & Jane Ring (West Potomac High School)

- **Julia Ruffino**, daughter of Barb & Lou Ruffino (T.C. Williams High School)
- **Andrea Scroggs**, daughter of Steve & Patricia Scroggs (T.C. Williams High School)
- **Kayla Shelley**, daughter of Donna & Gordon Shelley (T.C. Williams High School)
- **Jillian Stone**, daughter of Kristin & Richard Stone (T.C. Williams High School)

### Undergraduate/Graduate

- **Caroline Chamberlain** (Bachelor of Arts, University of Virginia)
- **John Eckert** (Bachelor of Business Administration, College of William and Mary)
- **Reisa Hines** (Bachelor of Arts, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth)
- **Quinn Ramsey** (Master of Applied Statistics, Pennsylvania State University)
- **Peter Roden** (Master of Arts in Education, George Mason University)



Murray, Pam, Patty, and Lindsay



The WWP Staff celebrated Pam Beard's 30th anniversary with a karaoke party at their last staff meeting of the year.

## Westminster Weekday Preschool Staff Celebrations

As the school year ends, Westminster Weekday Preschool would like to share celebrations for four of its staff members. **Pam Beard** is celebrating her 30th Anniversary with the 5-day 4s class. **Patty Chamberlain** is celebrating her 15th Anniversary at the preschool, and **Lindsay Ahart** her 10th Anniversary at the preschool. The preschool recognizes its teachers with Longevity Awards as they reach each five-year anniversary. We are happy and thrilled to recognize our teachers who are part of our WWP School Family.

The preschool is also honoring 4-day 4s teacher's assistant **Murray Richey** upon her retirement this month. Murray was treated with a surprise party on the playground after school with preschool families where she received gifts and enjoyed cake with all. We will miss Murray after her eight years as part of our family and look forward to the days she returns to substitute in the future.



## Flying Solo (Singles) Ministry

[www.wpc-alex.org/singles](http://www.wpc-alex.org/singles)

Nancy Hall Berens, Director | [nhallberens@wpc-alex.org](mailto:nhallberens@wpc-alex.org)

### Summer Dine-Outs

#### July 10 | Haute Dogs & Fries

610 Montgomery St. in Old Town Alexandria. Have a fun summer meal of gourmet hot dogs, then go for a summer evening stroll around Old Town after dinner. Carpool from church at 7 PM or meet there at 7:30.

#### August 13 | Sunday Brunch at Clyde's

1700 N. Beauregard Street, Alexandria. An annual tradition instead of the Monday Dine-Out in August. RSVP is helpful but not required. Carpool at 11:15 AM after church or meet there at 11:30.

### Summer Outings

#### Tuesday, July 4 | Fourth of July Fireworks!

Join Flying Solo friends to watch Fourth of July fireworks at Long Bridge Park in Crystal City. Meet at 7:30 PM in the park. Bring a chair/blanket and food, or buy food there at a food truck. Take Metro or park in nearby garage for free that night. RSVP to Nancy Hall Berens to get a head count and for exact meeting location.

#### Saturday, August 26 | Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

Enjoy a day at Nats Park cheering on the home team as the Nationals play the New York Mets. Meet at church at 3 PM to carpool to the Metro. Game starts at 4:05. RSVP to Art Sauer at [asauer@wpc-alex.org](mailto:asauer@wpc-alex.org) by August 1 to reserve a ticket. Cost is \$35 per ticket (unless we get at least 13 people, then the cost may go down).

### Summer Potlucks

#### Tuesdays, June 27, July 25, and August 22

Help out at our monthly service project by making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program then stay for a simple potluck supper. Please bring a dish to share. 7 PM in the Johnson Parlor.

### Summer Book Group

#### Monday, July 31 | 7:00 PM at the home of Robin Benson

For this summer and next, we will read and discuss "Friedman's Fables" by Rabbi Edwin H. Friedman. This year we will read the first half of the fables (p. 1-94) and then do the rest next summer. Rabbi Friedman, with a unique insight into human nature and a keen sense of humor, has created fables which help us better understand ourselves and others. Learn how new ideas and imagination can help us overcome barriers in ourselves and in our relationships. Please bring a little something to nibble on or sip during our discussion. Watch email for Robin's address.

### Annual Fall Retreat

#### October 6-8, 2017

Flying Solo's annual Fall Retreat will be at Hallwood Retreat Center. Nestled at the foot of Sugarloaf Mountain in rural Maryland, Hallwood offers an ideal location to get away with church friends for a weekend of reflection, discussion, worship, and fellowship.



## Children and Family Ministry

www.wpc-alex.org/families  
Patty Chamberlain, Director of  
Children's Ministry |  
pchamberlain@wpc-alex.org

### Saturday in the Park

**For parents and children under 5**  
July 8, 9-10:30 AM on the  
Preschool playground  
Join other families with young  
children for donuts, coffee, and FUN.  
This is a great opportunity to meet  
other parents of young children!

### Family Mornings: Summer Playdates!

**For parents and children 5 and under**  
We'll be taking a break from our  
weekly morning meetings at the  
church in favor of some special  
summer park playdates in Alexandria,  
Arlington, and Fairfax. We are looking  
at meeting on Fridays July 14, July 28,  
August 4, and August 18. More detail  
about times and locations coming  
soon. Contact Patty if you're  
interested and want to give input!

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

www.wpc-alex.org/presbywomen  
Nancy Hall Berens | nhallberens@wpc-alex.org  
Moderator, Janet Harris | PW@wpc-alex.org

### Opportunities for fellowship, study, and service with other women at Westminster:

#### Pillow Ministry

We would like to recognize **Nancy McIver** for her many years of service in coordinating the Pillow Ministry project where a group of dedicated women meet monthly to sew and stuff pillows and animals for heart patients and children at Alexandria Hospital. At our June Coordinating Team meeting, Westminster's Presbyterian Women awarded Nancy an Honorary Life Membership which supports the mission and ministry of Presbyterian Women throughout our country and the whole world. Another fitting tribute to Nancy's years of service would be to have some new folks join our monthly "sewing and stuffing" day! We meet the first Wednesday morning of the month in the Haverkamp Room. Hope to see you there!

#### Shanghai

Monday, July 17, 7:15-9 PM in Haverkamp Room  
Any woman who loves playing cards, friendly competition, and fellowship is invited to attend.

#### Women's Circles

Many hearts full of thanks go out to **Bea Hurt** for two years of service as PW Moderator. Bea and Janet made a great team, and we really appreciate Bea's gentle and caring leadership over the years as moderator and vice moderator.

Although Circles are taking a break for summer, we always welcome new women to our church and would like you to know about opportunities for small group study and fellowship with the wonderful women of Westminster! Look for us at Lemonade on the Lawn this summer, or contact our new Presbyterian Women (PW) Moderator Janet Harris or staff liaison for women's ministries Nancy Hall Berens. Visit the Presbyterian Women's page on the church website to learn more about circles and other women's activities at Westminster.

Circles start up again in September, and our new 2017-18 Bible study "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews" promises to be a very interesting study of a less well-known book of the Bible. We will explore not only the Biblical community in the Letter to the Hebrews, but also our own communities – of faith, of family, and of friends.

#### Book Groups

The book groups take a break for the summer! Our September selection is *From Sand and Ash* by Amy Harmon, a historical novel of faith and love between a Catholic priest and his Jewish childhood girlfriend, whom he hides in a convent during WWII. Groups will meet on Monday, September 25 at 11:00 AM and 7:30 PM in Johnson Parlor.



## Adult Faith Formation

www.wpc-alex.org/adult  
Amey Upton, Director | aupton@wpc-alex.org

### Introducing *Toward Fuller Faith & Service!*

Yes, this is our brand-new theme for Adult Faith Formation, beginning Fall 2017. It's to challenge us to praise God more fully and serve neighbor more vibrantly.

Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward will kick-off our Adult Faith Formation Programs on Sunday, September 10. An exciting and talented lineup of top-notch teachers is planned for this year's series, including missionaries, healthcare professionals, marriage counselors, and civil rights legends. In this era of flux and change, the theme is meant to guide us toward praising and serving God more fully and serving our neighbors and neighborhoods. We'll host a wide variety of professionals whose stories speak to fuller faith and service.

I encourage you to come to the Haverkamp Room on Sunday mornings, even if you've never come before. Take the opportunity to identify and examine your own cultural and individual biases that so often limit the Gospel. Come recognize new possibilities for your faith and find links to your own life from events across Christian history. Explore openly and freely questions about the meaning of your life, your work, and your service in the world.

It's my hope these classes will help us to incarnate Christ's presence as we go about our lives. I hope our teachers will provide you with learning for transformation and offer familiarity with the Christian faith that might lead us to further incarnate hospitality in a hostile world.

### New Sunday Morning Small Group Bible Study

Beginning on October 1 and continuing for eight weeks, a team of WPC members will lead a new small Bible study during the Sunday morning Formation hour. Using a series called "The Present Word," the study will focus on covenants with God: signs of God's covenant, being called into covenant with God, and an everlasting covenant. Class size is limited to 25 people. Sign up at [wpc-alex.org/adult](http://wpc-alex.org/adult). Please contact me with questions.

### Third Annual Dessert & Dialogue

Save Monday, October 23 for our Third Annual Dessert & Dialogue, to be held from 7-9 PM in Fellowship Hall. More details to come!

### Thank You

Finally, I want to thank you for the tremendous support of all the programs held this past year. I appreciate the gratitude and the attendance of classes held during our "Navigating the Seas of Change" series. Little did I realize the seas of change would turn so turbulent during the year, yet as the spirit moves, so did the teachers we hosted. They imparted wisdom and faith to help us learn from the past, reflect on the present, and gave us hope for the uncertainties of the future.

My goal as your Director of Adult Education is to continue to build community as we, together, learn more about our own faith and our service to God.

—Amey

## Men of Westminster

www.wpc-alex.org/menofw  
Contact Dudley Schadeberg at  
mow@wpc-alex.org

### Men's Breakfasts Taking a Break for the Summer

There will be no Men's Breakfast this summer in July and August. The breakfasts will resume on Friday, September 15. Thomas W. Young, a commercial airline pilot and author of six novels with military themes, will speak about contemporary trends in the commercial airline industry and the pilot shortage.

### Seeking a Financial Assistant

We will be searching for a new Financial Assistant for the church office and ask your help in spreading the word. This position is part-time averaging 18-20 hours per week. Hours are flexible. We are looking for someone from outside our congregation with a degree in accounting or business and good people skills, who would be able to start in early August. Interested applicants should send a resume to Nancy Bea, Business Administrator, at [nbea@wpc-alex.org](mailto:nbea@wpc-alex.org).



# the Chronicle

A publication of Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Contributors: Members, Friends, & Staff of Westminster  
Dawn Campbell, Production Editor  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

## Church Staff

Larry Hayward .....Pastor  
Patrick Hunnicutt .....Associate Pastor  
Casey FitzGerald .....Associate Pastor  
Whitney Fauntleroy .....Associate Pastor  
Patty Chamberlain .....Director of Children's Activities  
& Senior Activities  
Nancy Hall Berens .....Dir. of Congregational  
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Eileen Jinks .....Pastoral Care Coordinator  
Molly Roden .....Interim Director of Children's Music  
Art Sauer .....Membership Involvement Coordinator  
Amey Upton .....Director of Adult Education  
Nancy Bea .....Business Administrator  
Jim Buchanan .....Facilities Manager  
Carolyn Carmack .....Financial Assistant  
Tara Cain .....Executive Assistant  
Jessica Thurnes .....Program Assistant  
Larry Johnson .....Sexton  
Ed Johnson .....Sexton  
Marvin Johnson .....Head Sexton

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## Member Involvement News



Summer is here! The weather is the usual hazy, hot, and humid, and many of our regular volunteers are on vacation. This means that others need to step up to fill the void. Carpenter's Shelter dinners are served the first Monday of every month; be sure to check the sign-up sheet in the Education wing foyer for opportunities to serve. Sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program will be needed as will volunteers to serve. This is a great opportunity for a parent to team up with a high school or college-aged child to

participate in service to a local mission.

There are also opportunities to help around the church. There is a constant need for ushers during the summer. This is an easy task, but it does require that you attend church on the Sunday you serve. The childcare is always in need of volunteer teachers. If you have a desire to help out in any way, just drop me a line at [asauer@wpc-alex.org](mailto:asauer@wpc-alex.org) and I'm sure I can find a place where you can help.

A BIG shout out of praise is due to **Ruth Kane** for stepping up to be the Coordinator of our Carpenter's Shelter volunteers. Please show Ruth your appreciation by volunteering to help serve the dinners. Likewise, a tremendous acknowledgment of appreciation is due to **Marti Klein** for her many years of dedicated service as Coordinator of Carpenter's Shelter volunteers. Without people like these two and their many faithful helpers, we would not be able to be the beacon of Christ in the community that we are.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer and look forward to meeting everyone in their volunteer capacity over the summer and into the fall.

Yours in Christ,  
**Art Sauer**

*Membership Involvement Coordinator*