



Westminster Presbyterian CHURCH

worship well



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the Chronicle

January 18, 2018 - volume 48, number 6

From the Pastor's Study A Message From Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt "SHHHH...don't tell anyone, but I'm doing the work of the Lord!"

In this space, I want to celebrate the ministry and service of the many in this church who give their time and energy without much recognition. Jesus appears to hold in very high regard those who perform religious service without being seen by others, saying to them, "the Father who sees in secret will reward you" (see *Matthew 6:3-4 & 17-18*). Indeed, we have many at WPC doing the right hand of God's work in our midst, often without the left hand knowing what they are doing.

One such group is the Compassion Guild. I will not name names, because they asked that I not do so, but they are the faithful servants who host memorial services and receptions for the families of the deceased. They kindly and unobtrusively provide a space of welcome by ushering and attending to a host of details, including what goes on serving trays and in punch bowls, and where to put tissue boxes, flowers, pictures and drinking water. Compassion Guild members stand always at the ready...when a memorial is scheduled, they do not ask to reschedule because of a family vacation or a long-scheduled doctor's appointment. They make it happen. They are the last to leave a memorial, waiting patiently until the last family member or guest leaves the space, long after the pastor has left the building! All of this they do so that grieving families can focus their attention on each other and the memory of their loved ones.

What a gift the Compassion Guild is to this church and our community, and what a gift are all of you who in large and small ways serve without fanfare. May the God who sees in secret reward you in abundance.

-Patrick



Dinner & Dessert Auction

Dinner & Dessert Auction on
Saturday, February 10

Mark your calendar to support this summer's High School Mission Trip! We'll be soliciting dessert donations, so pull out your recipes and plan to attend this fun social event.



Please remember in prayer the family and friends of **Jon Hurt**, who died December 18, 2017.



Westminster Roadsters (Boomers and Beyond)

www.wpc-alex.org/roadsters

Nancy Hall Berens, Director | nhallberens@wpc-alex.org
Please register for events with Nancy or with the church office.

Monday, January 22: Lunch at Lena's

Enjoy authentic Neapolitan pizza and Italian specialties at Lena's, located in Yates Corner on Braddock Road. Meet at church at 12:30 PM to take the bus. Cost \$2 plus lunch.

Friday, February 16: Lunch & Learn

In honor of African American History Month, and as a follow-up to the Dessert & Dialogue program last fall, we will watch the PBS documentary "*John Lewis: Get in the Way*" about this civil rights hero, congressman, and human rights champion. The film illustrates and expands on Congressman Lewis' personal statement at Dessert & Dialogue including television footage of his involvement in important events during the civil rights movement. \$10 for lunch. 12 PM in Haverkamp Room.

Thursday, February 22: "The Audience" at Little Theatre of Alexandria

From the writer of the critically acclaimed Netflix drama, *The Crown*, playwright Peter Morgan takes you behind the scenes of Buckingham Palace. For the past 60 years, Queen Elizabeth has met with each of her 12 prime ministers in private, weekly meetings at Buckingham Palace. From Churchill to Margaret Thatcher, Morgan imagines what these meetings would be like as they span decades of the Queen's reign. Show starts at 8:00 PM; arrive between 7:30–7:45 to receive your ticket.

Monday, March 12: Roadsters Dinner followed by Author Talk

The Roadsters group will gather in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM for dinner before going up to Haverkamp Room to hear Dr. Jay Lombard speak to the congregation at 7:30 PM about the book featured in this year's Congregational Book Read, *The Mind of God: Neuroscience, Faith, and a Search for the Soul*. A behavioral neurologist and cofounder of Genomind, Dr. Lombard treats complex & intractable cases that overlap in the world between neurology & psychiatry.



Music at Westminster

Benjamin Hutchens, Interim Director of Music Ministries |
bhutchens@wpc-alex.org
wpc-alex.org/music-ministry

Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*

Sunday, March 4 at 11 AM in the Westminster Sanctuary

Westminster Choir & St. Andrew's Episcopal Adult Choir with organ, harp, and percussion

In March, the Westminster Choir will join the Adult choir from Saint Andrew's in Burke for two performances of Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. I hope you will mark your calendars and invite your friends to hear this amazing work! We will offer the same music at Saint Andrew's in Burke, VA on Sunday, March 11 at 10:30 AM. Organist Aaron Goen will accompany the combined choirs as will Rebecca Smith, harp, and Erica Montgomery, percussion. During Lent, the sermons at Westminster will use the Psalms set by Bernstein as their textural reference. All of your pastors and staff are looking forward to sharing a meaningful season of Lent together. Learn more about the *Chichester Psalms* at wpc-alex.org/lent2018.

Music Opportunities for Adults

For more details about any of our music ministries, please reach out to Ben Hutchens. New musicians are always welcome!

- Handbell Choirs
 - Westminster Ringers - Thursdays @ 6:30 PM
 - Celtic Cross Ringers - Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM
- Vocal Choir
 - Westminster Choir - Thursday @ 7:30 PM, Sundays @ 10 AM
- Instrumentalists
 - Do you play a musical instrument? If so, please take a few minutes and let yourself be known! Submit your response at wpc-alex.org/music-ministry

Basses Needed

While all voice parts are most welcome, our adult choir is in need of a few more bass voices. If you, or someone you know, is a singer we would love to have you. If your voice is a little out of shape, coaching is available too! Please contact Ben Hutchens.

Music Opportunities for Youth and Children

Our choirs for children and youth support, supplement and encourage their faith journey. Even if it is only for a few months between sports seasons – COME! We have a great time! Invite a school or church friend to come too!

Grades K-2 - Genesis Choir - Wednesday - 5:15 – 5:45 PM

Grades 3-5 - Covenant Choir - Wednesday - 5:50 - 6:20 PM

Pizza Dinner for all! 5:15-6:15PM (small fee)

Grades 6-12 - Youth Ensemble - Sunday – 6 – 7 PM

Your Foundation Dollars at Work

In December, the Westminster Foundation Board and Session approved use of funds for musicians for Festival Sunday (fourth Sunday of Advent) from the Phyllis Gorrell Music Fund. One of the creche pieces for the ceramic set in the library was repaired with funds from the Foundation Worship Accessories fund.

These and other designated funds in the Westminster Foundation support all Church program and mission areas, making a big difference every day in the Church's life and mission.

Westminster Loves the Children

Do you enjoy being with children? Would you like to help the children of Westminster to grow in faith and learn more about our community? The children (and parents) would love your help. We are interested in recruiting new teachers, assistants and helpers for our Sunday School. Do you have a passion for cooking? A joy for drama? An interest in science? An interest in storytelling? Would you like to rock babies, hold toddlers, play with preschoolers?

Contact Patty Chamberlain, Director of Children's Ministry, at pchamberlain@wpc-alex.org to learn more. All volunteers must be 18 years of age and older and have to have a background check completed.



Children and Families

www.wpc-alex.org/families

Patty Chamberlain, Director of Children's Ministry |

pchamberlain@wpc-alex.org

Molly Roden, Director of Children's Music |

mroden@wpc-alex.org

No Whole Family Creation Station in February— Attend Adult Formation Class!

We encourage parents to attend the Adult Formation class with Dr. Frank Wade on *The Dynamics of Marriage* or *Shared Living* on February 4 & 11 in Westminster Room. Returning from his popular class last fall, Dr. Wade will talk about what actually happens in marriage, about the ingredients of living in loving relationships, and offer us some family life lessons & learnings on how we might live differently. Creation Station will continue for the children; our lesson for the month is on the story of Ruth.

Family Retreat: *Raising a Faithful Child in a Social Media World* May 12-13, 2018 at the Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD

Families with children age 0–5th grade are invited to experience this wonderful retreat opportunity! Our retreats are great for kids and grown-ups of all ages. Take this time away to reconnect with your own family—and the families that make up the church we call home!

On our retreat, we'll explore the positive and negative aspects of social media, how it influences our children (and us) and how to effectively use social media to help grow our faith. Our retreat leaders are Westminster's own Vince Crisler, Sara DeWitt, Elizabeth Hoover, and Megan Pollock. Combined, they bring varied and rich backgrounds in the internet, social media, education and safety.

The Claggett Center is situated on 268 acres with a working farm and fantastic views of Sugarloaf Mountain and the Monocacy River Valley. It's a place where inspiration abounds—you can take the time to hike a trail, enjoy your meals on the patio, or relax in a porch rocker and watch the sunrise. The Center is about an hour and fifteen minute drive from Westminster. Information and registration form will be at www.wpc-alex.org/families. Registration ends March 30!

Music & More Week! | June 25–29, 2018 | *The Lost Boy*

M&M Week is our summer musical day camp experience for children who are currently enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade. Save the date for this week filled with Singing, Drama, Storytelling, Arts and Crafts, Snacks, Recreation, Games, and More! Registration will begin soon!

Schedule:

Monday-Thursday: 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Friday: 12:00 PM Performance, followed by a bag lunch!



Flying Solo Singles Ministry (50's and above)

wpc-alex.org/flying-solo
Nancy Hall Berens, Director |
nhallberens@wpc-alex.org

Tuesday, January 23 – Monthly Potluck

7 PM in Johnson Parlor

Join in our monthly service project of making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program then enjoy potluck dinner together. Please bring a simple dish to share.

Monday, January 29 – Book Group

7 PM at the home of Cindy Smith

We will discuss *“The Red Tent”* by Anita Diamant. Dinah, daughter of Old Testament patriarch Jacob, narrates this novel which depicts what life must have been like for women during biblical times.

Sunday, February 4 – Super Chili Bowl Party!

5:30 PM at the home of Nancy Harper

Nancy Harper has invited us once again to her home for our annual chili and football party! We will need one or two folks in addition to Nancy to prepare chili (she can lend you her recipe) and then other folks to bring appetizers, sides, salads, cornbread, desserts and drinks (no red wine, please). RSVP directly to Nancy Harper to let her know what you'd like to bring. Look for Nancy's address and contact info by email or see her at Fellowship Hour after church. Enjoy fellowship, friendship, and football!

Monday, February 12 – Monthly Dine-Out

Take a culinary “trip” to Italy with Flying Solo friends at Savio's Italian Restaurant, 516 S. Van Dorn St. in Alexandria. Carpool from church at 7 PM or meet at the restaurant at 7:15.

Sunday, February 25 – Roundtable: Coffee Klatch with Matt Viser

12:15 PM in the Haverkamp Room; a light brunch will be served.

Matt Viser, Deputy Washington Bureau Chief for the Boston Globe, is a self-proclaimed coffee “guru” and will share with us his special insights into the world of coffee and his special way of preparing his perfect cup of coffee! A well-known political correspondent, Matt used to also have a coffee column at *the Globe*. From beans to brewing, come learn how a true coffee connoisseur creates that special morning treat. Whether you're a coffee drinker or not, come enjoy the fellowship of Flying Solo friends and listen to a fun and engaging speaker tell about his unique coffee routine and, if you like, have a taste of his special brew!

Mark your calendars now for our annual Fall Retreat!

October 5-7, 2018 (Columbus Day Weekend)

This year, we will welcome Patrick Hunnicutt as our retreat leader and we will be going to a new location – Loyola on the Potomac, a Jesuit Retreat House on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River in Southern Maryland.

Security Camera Notice

You may notice small cameras now located in some of the church entryways and on the exterior of the building. For added security we have installed a video monitoring system that will assist us in maintaining a safe environment for our church community.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

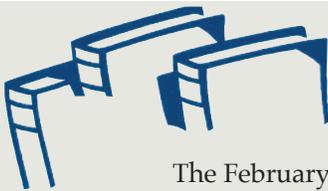
wpc-alex.org/presbyterian-women

Nancy Hall Berens, Director | nhallberens@wpc-alex.org

Janet Harris, Moderator and Alison Griffin, Vice Moderator | PW@wpc-alex.org

Women's Circles

Time for a New Year's resolution! Visit one of our Women's Circles for monthly Bible study, fellowship, and mission outreach. Visit more than one to see which is right for you! Watch for meeting details in the weekly Update or visit the Presbyterian Women's page on the church website.



Book Groups meet to discuss interesting and thought-provoking book selections each month.

The February selection is *The Country Girls* by Edna O' Brien. This now-beloved classic novel was banned and burned in Ireland in 1960. The Irish state and church subjugated women, and this young women's fictional story challenged their society's norms and repression. Discussions on Monday, February 26 at 11 AM and 7:30 PM in Johnson Parlor, led by Clara Beth Van de Water.

Pillow Ministry meets monthly on first Wednesdays at 9:30 AM in Haverkamp Room to make pillows and stuffed animals for heart patients and children at Alexandria Hospital.

Shanghai Card Group gathers once a month on third Mondays at 7:30 PM in Haverkamp Room for some friendly competition and fellowship.

PW Prayer Breakfast w/the National Capital Presbytery

"Journey to Justice: Listening, Praying, Responding"
Saturday, January 27 | 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Christ Presbyterian Church in Fairfax (near Fair Oaks Mall)

Invite a friend to accompany you for a morning of concentrated prayer and reflection on women's justice issues: food & nutrition, human trafficking, abuse & violence. Hear personal stories and have prayer time for women suffering in similar situations. The keynote speaker is Therese Taylor-Stinson, a spiritual director and author and former Moderator of the National Capital Presbytery. Worship will be led by the Rev. Lucy Dergarabedian, and will include a Remembrance Ceremony for sisters who passed into Life Eternal during 2017. Offering divided between 3 food banks in VA, DC, MD. All are welcome to learn and pray with us! Register by January 20. \$15 fee payable at the door. RSVP to Nancy Hall Berens or Janet Harris at PW@wpc-alex.org.

Women's Retreat

March 16-18, 2018

Women's Retreat at Hallowood Retreat Center led by the Rev Lucy Dergarabedian on the topic *"Enjoying the Journey."* This year's retreat will focus on the power of resurrection through the challenges we face in our daily lives. At some point, we have all faced difficulties or obstacles to overcome. We will explore how our faith and friendships help us to transform our broken experiences into positive action. Come be surrounded by the love and support of other Westminster women as we find strength to confront what we have gone through and to move toward healing and wholeness.

Originally from Beirut, Lebanon, where she was a student of Ben and Carol Weir, Lucy is an ordained Presbyterian minister. She served in the U.S. Army as a chaplain, worked with the Wounded Warrior Project at Ft. Belvoir, and is now enjoying a new challenge of learning sign language!



Men of Westminster

www.wpc-alex.org/menofw



Men's Breakfast

Friday, February 9, 7-8:30 AM in Fellowship Hall

Outlook for the 2018 Midterm Elections

with Dan Judy

RSVP to Dudley Schadeberg at mow@wpc-alex.org

Since the mid-20th century, national politics settled down to a familiar pattern of Republicans and Democrats alternately trading off the Presidency of the United States every eight years; that pattern, with a couple of notable exceptions, continues to this day. Until the 1990s, the Republicans for the most part, were the minority party in the U. S. Senate and the House of Representatives, and they knew their place – they were always going to be the junior partners in the legislative branch. Democrats maintained their majorities with the help of a significant block of office holders representing southern and border states. Both political parties were more ideologically diverse, and a great amount of governance was accomplished in a bipartisan manner.

During the last three decades, however, partisan politics have continued to become more contentious, with both of the two major parties becoming increasingly more ideological in nature. Now, each election and special election seems to have become

Armageddon, and the party out of power has been united in its resolve not to cooperate with the majority party in passing any significant legislation.

With the election of Donald Trump in November 2016, there has been constant turmoil in both major political parties, and a level of resistance has arisen among the Establishment, the mass media, and some sections of society in general. Dan Judy, Vice President of North Star Opinion Research, a national public opinion and public affairs research firm in Alexandria, will share his expertise and opinions about the current political environment, and provide a look ahead to the 2018 national midterm elections next fall.

Dan often offers commentary on polling and the political issues of the day, and his analysis has appeared on network television stations across the country, BBC World TV and radio, NPR's Morning Edition, the Wall Street Journal, the Boston Globe, The Hill, and the National Journal. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a degree in political science and history. He is a member of the American Association of Political Consultants and the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Dan was born and raised in Roswell, Georgia, and is a passionate fan of the Georgia Bulldogs, Atlanta Braves, and Atlanta Falcons. He and his wife are members of Westminster, and have a two-year old daughter, Rosie. Dan has served as an elder and chairman of the Stewardship Committee. They live in Alexandria.



2018 Men's Retreat

February 2-4 at Hallowood Retreat and Conference Center

Reformational Reckoning with the End
Jon D. Wood, George Washington University

There are only a few days left to sign up for the retreat! Registration will close on Monday, January 22. Register at

wpc-alex.org/men-of-westminster or contact Dudley Schadeberg.

We are fortunate to have Jon D. Wood as our leader. He will explore with us some of the ways in which the Reformed tradition provides a rich legacy of engaging the world with an urgent conviction that Jesus alone is the

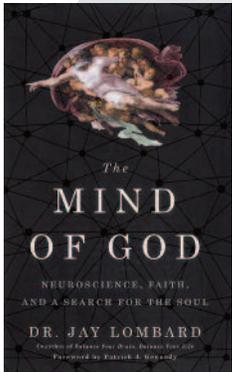
point, the period, the exclamation of a redemptive story. The retreat will again take place at the popular Hallowood Retreat and Conference Center, located at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain near Comus, Maryland. Come join us for a weekend of spiritual renewal and Christian fellowship.

Jon has served with the Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington since 2013 as a member of the Company of Teachers, lecturing and teaching seminars on religious topics. He received his Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, and also holds a Ph.D. in Church History from Princeton. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Religion at George Washington University, where he teaches the history of Christianity and world religions.

2018 Congregation-Wide Book Read

"The Mind of God: Neuroscience, Faith, and a Search for the Soul" by Dr. Jay Lombard

Register online at wpc-alex.org/bookread2018



Join the congregation to read or listen (it's a 5-hour audio book!) to this inspiring, insightful and provocative book. A cutting-edge researcher, Dr. Lombard provides

provocative case studies about the relationship between reality, reason, and faith. He explores God's existence and what the meaning of life is in today's modern world: Are we free? Do good and evil exist? His exploration of the mystery of human consciousness and of faith will lead you on an exploration of the nature of faith, of belief and of hope.

In February, you'll be assigned to a one time discussion group, to be held either in a members' home or at the church, to talk about the book. On **Monday, March 12**, join Dr. Lombard for a lively talk and Q&A about the awesome conundrums of the metaphysical, science and faith! 7:30 PM in Haverkamp Room.

Adult Faith Formation

www.wpc-alex.org/adult

Amey Upton, Director | auputon@wpc-alex.org

Towards Fuller Faith and Service

Sunday mornings | 9:45–10:45 AM in Haverkamp & Westminster Rooms



Where did fall go? Let's look back to look forward!

- Our September "kick-off" asked us to think about WPC and how it might lead us to fuller faith and service. "As one studies the Bible," said Larry Hayward, "it becomes more a part of us; shapes our understanding of the world, ourselves, and those we love."
- Doris Fuller challenged us to think about mental illness and the need to destigmatize the disease. "One in four people have a mental illness and 5.5 million adults in the U.S. are bipolar," she said. "Almost four million people go untreated. It's the responsibility of each of us to bring mental illness to the forefront; to cultivate compassion and raise awareness. Since more people are likely to go to a pastor than a psychologist, the church is ever so important in its role to educate; to advocate." What can WPC do in service to deepen our faith and love for those who suffer?
- "Opening ourselves to new learning moves us towards fuller faith and service," said Sally Satel, as she spoke about the many challenges of addiction.
- Cynthia Farrell Johnson shared spiritual portraits as an example of integrating her faith into artistry.
- Tony Tambasco reminded us of "the priesthood of all believers; that we're called to go out and be Christ's presence in the world."
- Dr. Bruce Douglass helped us mark the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation as he asked us to think about the legacy of the Reformation and how it impacts the world we live in. As Presbyterians, we are "reformed; always reforming."
- Nancy Collins, missionary from Malawi/Zambia/Kenya, gave a firsthand report on just how important WPC's financial contributions make in the world.

So what's ahead?

- Visit www.wpc-alex.org/faith-and-service to see upcoming programs and classes. Would you like to strengthen your marriage or educate yourself on the dynamics of living through the decade? Delve into Islam & Protestantism? Learn about navigating the legal and financial questions of aging parents? Or discover how and why health crises effect your faith? Come Sunday mornings to Christian Formation programs to gain new perspectives. How might you better talk to children of color? Gain some new advice on healthy eating. Pick up some manners and tips on having those difficult conversations with those of various political persuasions. These and other Sunday classes are available to you as you move this year towards even fuller faith and service. May it be so!

Reformed Institute Annual Convocation

Unexpected Yet Not Un-predestined? The Surprising Growth of Calvinism as a Global Religious Phenomenon in the Late 20th Century with Dr. Paul C. H. Lim, Vanderbilt University

Saturday, January 27 at National Presbyterian in DC

Breakfast 9 AM; Presentation & Response 9:30 AM–12 PM

In recent decades, Christianity has undergone rapid growth in much of the Southern hemisphere. What has been the role of Reformed Protestants in that development, and what does it portend for the future of the Reformed movement? No charge for this event; registration helpful but not required. More info at reformedinstitute.org.



Lenten Series with the Rev. Dan Duggan

Wednesdays, February 21 & 28 and March 7 & 14 | 7:15 PM in the Chapel

Daniel R. Duggan, Director of Chaplaincy at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, will kick-off a series on Wednesday nights during Lent that focus us on living our lives to the fullest. Living life, no matter the decade, is challenging! Join an intergenerational conversation to examine beliefs in the different stages of life, and to look at some of the differences in life experiences of male vs. female. How can we learn from the lens of our elders? How do we cope with loss as it arrives? Why is it difficult, at times, to support one another? What's a ministry of mutuality? How can we better befriend each other in today's tumultuous world? What better time in our nation to reflect on wisdom and how to use it in a loving way. Dr. Duggan will use James Hillman's *The Force of Character* as a resource to delineate the three tasks of aging: lasting, leaving, and left. Make this series your 2018 Lenten practice. Participating might just move you "towards fuller faith & service." To request childcare, contact Amey Upton or Patty Chamberlain by Wednesday, February 14.

Job Openings

wpc-alex.org/jobs

Church Business Administrator

We are seeking a successor to Nancy Bea, who is taking a well-earned retirement beginning May 1. The Business Administrator administers the business and financial aspects of Westminster, oversees management of the facility and supervises church staff. We are looking for a consummate professional with at least 5-7 years of financial and managerial experience. Compensation commensurate with experience and skills. If you know someone for whom this might be a good fit, the full job listing and application information is available at wpc-alex.org/jobs.

Director of Seniors' Pastoral Care

With Eileen Jinks' retirement last December, the newly established search committee (James Hoben, Patrick Hunnicutt, Nancy Todd and Faye Woodrow) has begun its search for the candidate that will fill our new Director of Seniors' Pastoral Care position. This part-time position administers an intentional pastoral care program for seniors in the congregation in coordination with the Associate for Mission and Pastoral Care: providing regular visitation and outreach to seniors, connecting them with residential, medical and transportation resources, and coordinating the ongoing functions of our Deacons. In January, the committee has been disseminating the job description with various groups and web sites where potential applicants might be found. Applications are coming in, and once we have a critical mass, we will meet with the candidates and discern who is called to serve our great community of seniors. If you know of potential applicants, please send them to wpc-alex.org/jobs for the full job description.

WPC in Mission

wpc-alex.org/serve

Contact: Patrick Hunnicutt | phunnicutt@wpc-alex.org



Ambassadors in Mission



Meet WPC member Janet Hawkins, who now serves in a dual role that wonderfully deepens our long-running relationship with Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA). Recently, SSA appointed Janet as a Senior Ambassador to help them reach those seniors who may not be aware of the programs and services they offer. After her appointment, we thought it an excellent idea (and she thankfully agreed) that Janet also serve as WPC's mission liaison to SSA, connecting our members to volunteer opportunities with SSA and engaging SSA as our cherished mission partner. If you see Janet, be sure to ask her about Senior Services! Below are some SSA-related volunteer opportunities and service programs that may be of interest to you (contact localmission@wpc-alex.org if interested or curious).

- **Meals on Wheels** – WPC's Jenny Graves coordinates our delivery on the third Tuesday of every month. If that day does not work, volunteers are needed year round.
- **Groceries to Go** – SSA is looking for volunteers to help deliver groceries to home bound seniors. Each volunteer is matched with a senior. The volunteer calls the senior to get a grocery list, then purchases the groceries and delivers. Payment is coordinated by SSA.
- **Monthly speaker program** – Free to the public, these events address a range of issues of interest to seniors. The next event in February will address employment and volunteer opportunities for seniors (go to <http://seniorservicesalex.org/> for more info). In June, Westminster will host a program entitled "Getting Ready for Summer."
- **Silver Service Card** - Anyone 60 or older living or working in Alexandria is eligible to receive discounts at various businesses. Let us know if you would like a card.

Bdecan Presbyterian Scholarships Fall 2017

Cankdeska Cikana (Littlehoop) Community College on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation awarded seven more Bdecan Presbyterian scholarships in the fall of 2017. You have made 19 scholarships possible in just three semesters! Here are the latest recipients:



Kyle hopes to receive his certificate in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning/refrigeration this spring. This scholarship will help with transportation costs, which are a common challenge on the reservation. Kyle is a member of a family with a long history in Bdecan Presbyterian Church.

"As for my career goals I'm going to look for a job in the HVAC/R industry and work my way up and hopefully one day I can run my own HVAC/R business here on the reservation."



Lakeisha plans to finish her associate's degree in social work this May and has already begun online coursework for her bachelor's degree in social work from the University of North Dakota. She hopes to earn her license and work for Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services.

"I've always had such a strong passion to become a Child Protective Services (CPS) worker since I was in the 7th grade. With this scholarship, I will receive a contribution to one of two college bills I have."



Joe is working toward an associate's degree in May 2019 and looking ahead to a bachelor's degree from Mayville State University. His goal is to open his own business in carpentry, heating and cooling, and home remodeling, and he articulated a clear path to that goal.

"Since I have enrolled at Cankdeska Cicana I have learned a lot from my instructors and course material. It has increased my self-esteem and was the best decision I made for myself."



Since receiving a scholarship in fall 2016, Alison has given birth to her second child, continued to work outside the home, and earned the credits necessary to finish the Office Technology Program this spring. She then hopes to continue toward an associate's degree in business administration.

"With the help of the scholarship, I would be able to work more towards getting all my credits I need and not have to put in so much hours at work. It would help in so many ways."



Stanley, who first received a scholarship in fall 2016, continues to work toward his goal of building homes.

"I hope to get into the construction field and build housing for the reservation. I would like to be a positive influence on the younger generation."



Amanda has just finished her third semester at CCCC with the help of her third Bdecan scholarship. The mother of an eight-year-old son, she works full-time at Spirit Lake Health Center and attends classes in the evenings. Amanda is on track to earn her associate's degree in business administration in May 2019.

"I strive to do the best I can every day and if it can't be done I will continue to make up for it."



Jefferey is another three-time scholarship recipient.

"I was surprised to be accepted into the voices of our ancestors program. Which is meant to preserve the Dakota language. I am glad that I was not the only one who thought that the language should be preserved. There are many more like minded people not only here in our community but other Dakota communities as well."

the Chronicle

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Contributors: Members, Friends, & Staff of Westminster
Dawn Campbell, Production Editor
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

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- Whitney FauntleroyAssociate Pastor
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- Patty ChamberlainDirector of Children's Ministries
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- Molly RodenInterim Director of Children's Music
- Art SauerMembership Involvement Coordinator
- Amey UptonDirector of Adult Education
- Nancy BeaBusiness Administrator
- Jim BuchananFacilities Manager
- Cindy McCeneyFinancial Assistant
- Tara CainExecutive Assistant
- Jessica ThurnesProgram Assistant
- Larry JohnsonSexton
- Ed JohnsonSexton
- Marvin JohnsonHead Sexton

Church Office: 703-549-4766 • Fax 703-548-1505

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Time Sensitive

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

Member Involvement News



Did you enjoy the blast of freezing air we had at the beginning of the month? Didn't think so. But at least you now know what our friends on the Spirit Lake Reservation in North Dakota have to put up with all winter, starting in early December

and running through March. The snow starts in late September and it doesn't get above freezing until late March. The actual daytime high temperature can remain below zero for weeks and wind chills are often in the double digits below zero. Then, in March, as the snow melts, the floods start. Added to this is the fact that the lake (Devil's Lake) has no outlet and as the snow melt flows in the water level rises and a few more houses have to be surrendered to the Lake. The reservation residents are very poor (the average family income is less than \$25,000 a year, compared to around \$90,000 for an Alexandria family). So you can see that they must struggle to survive in this harsh climate.

For the past 15 or so years, Westminster has funded summer mission trips to the reservation, and for the past five years we have been supporting a youth worker to strengthen their local Presbyterian church. Your pledge dollars help to make their life more bearable. Simply letting them know that someone outside the reservation cares about them is a tremendous help. This is only one of the many mission programs that Westminster supports.

In addition to your pledge dollars, our mission programs depend

on your time and talent. This is especially true for our local missions. The monthly dinners at Carpenter's Shelter require 25-30 volunteers a month, we need another dozen for the Meals on Wheels deliveries, and the Bag Lunch program also needs volunteers as well as sandwiches. Please contact localmission@wpc-alex.org if you can help out with any of these programs.

One event that needs lots of volunteers for a one-day effort is the annual Rebuilding Together Alexandria Fix-up Day at the end of April. This one-day event can use people of all skill levels to repair and improve the home of an Alexandria resident (senior or low income). Jobs range from yard clean-up to painting and minor household repairs (such as installing knobs on cabinets or railings on stairs). Keep an eye out for more information on this project.

I could go on and on, but I hope you get the point: **WESTMINSTER NEEDS YOU!!** It's not enough to simply come to church once in a while and toss something in the offering plate. We need every member to serve in some way. There are opportunities in all aspects of church life: education, worship, and fellowship, as well as missions. If you don't know where to start in your service, contact me at asauer@wpc-alex.org and I'll be glad to help you sort through the myriad of opportunities. A new year is a great time to start a new adventure.

May God be with you,

Art Sauer
Member Involvement Coordinator