

-worship well-



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Chronicle

February 22, 2018 - volume 48, number 7

From the Pastor's Study A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward Fender Benders

In this last six months, I have been involved in two "fender benders," one which I "initiated," so to speak; and one in which I was on the "receiving" end.

In neither was anyone injured. In the first one, I became distracted and ran into a young man who had stopped his car in front of me waiting to get onto I-395 at Shirlington; we got out and exchanged information; my car wasn't damaged; I asked if I could pay for his "out of pocket" so not to have it on my insurance record; he agreed; the cost was within range; I paid the bill at his body shop directly; and all was well.

In the other incident, my wife Maggie and I were coming out of the Kennedy Center parking garage when a dignified German man was watching the policeman direct traffic rather than paying attention to where his car was headed and struck the back driver's side door of our car. Again, no one was injured; he was quite apologetic; we exchanged insurance information; and within a few weeks my car was repaired. Again, all was well.

What strikes me about both these incidences is that either could have gone the other way. The man I rear-ended could have been upset that I had made him late for school, forced him to find a repair shop, and required him be without the use of his car for several days. The man who struck my car could have been angry with me, with the policeman, or with the reality of slow-moving traffic and merging lanes out of a parking garage in a major city.

Yet both exchanges were civil, humane, decent.

I don't know where this is leading me other than to say we have become so aware in our society of tension, incivility, and conflict that when exchanges with our fellow human beings are "decent" and "orderly," we are surprised. But the truth is: uncivil exchanges don't *have* to be a way of life for us. Our default "mode of discourse" with people with whom we have an unfortunate incident or a disagreement doesn't have to be discourse of escalating emotion and rhetoric. We *can* keep our cool.

My car actually looked better after I received it back from the shop than it did before I had driven it to the Kennedy Center. Fenders can be repaired; but incivility of any kind is harder to fix with a replacement door or new paint job. Uncivil exchanges are truly a response we can avoid, even if the other person becomes uncivil. Incivility is an avoidable accident; though, as in driving, we probably need to pay attention at all times to make sure we remain safe and sound. We don't have driverless cars yet.

-Larry



We welcome to the Westminster nursery:

- **Lincoln Cheng**, daughter of Megan & Rich Cheng.
- Ainsley Lord, daughter of Shelley & Hunter Lord, granddaughter of Libby & Steve Lord and greatgranddaughter of Jane & Connie Ring.

MAUNDY THURSDAY | MARCH 29

7:30 PM Worship in the Sanctuary

Worship with Communion Music with the Westminster String Quartet

Rev. Whitney Fauntleroy, preaching

GOOD FRIDAY | MARCH 30

7:30 PM Worship in the Sanctuary

Music with the Westminster Choir and Youth Ensemble Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt, preaching

EASTER SUNDAY | APRIL I

8:30 AM & II:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary

Special Music with the United States Army Concert Band Quintet Rev. Larry Hayward, preaching (No Adult, Youth, or Children Education Hour)



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, 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. \$10 for dinner.

Monday, April 16: "Tomb of Christ," an interactive exhibition at the National Geographic Museum

Be virtually transported to Jerusalem and discover the fascinating history of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in an immersive experience. This exhibition features a short 3D film with active 3D glasses and tells the history of the church and its recent renovation. The exhibition is not recommended for those susceptible to motion sickness or dizziness. Meet in the church parking lot at 9:45 AM. We'll have lunch at National Geographic after the exhibit and return home by 2 PM. Cost \$2 for bus plus lunch. Thanks to one of our church members, we have complimentary exhibit tickets for 13 people plus bus driver and leader.

Thursday, April 19: "Harvey" at Little Theatre of Alexandria

Imaginary friends can be whoever — or whatever — you want them to be, even a six and a half-foot tall rabbit. When Elwood starts introducing his imaginary rabbit friend, Harvey, to guests at a party, his sister can no longer tolerate his inebriated antics and worries about her family being exposed to this imaginary rabbit. However, after years of living with Elwood (and Harvey), she begins to start seeing Harvey herself! Show starts at 8:00 PM; arrive between 7:30–7:45 to receive your ticket.

Monday, May 21: "Cézanne Portraits" at the National Gallery of Art

Catch the new Cézanne exhibit before it leaves for London and Paris! This is the first exhibition devoted to the famed post-impressionist's portraits. Some of these works have never been exhibited in the United States. After the exhibit, we will eat lunch at one of the gallery cafés. Meet in the church parking lot at 9:45 AM. We'll return about 1:30 or 2:00 PM. Cost \$2 for bus plus lunch.



LENT TOGETHER | WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 21 & 28 AND MARCH 7 & 14

5–7:15 PM | Worship Stations in the Sanctuary

Join us to worship with our eyes, our ears, our hands, and our hearts. Our worship stations are created with all ages in mind. Come at any time, and stay as long as you like.

Worship stations will also continue on March 21.

6-6:45 PM | Simple Supper in Fellowship Hall

\$5/person age 5 and up | free for age 4 and under | family max \$20

7:15-8:30 PM | "Living Towards the End of Life" with Rev. Dan Duggan in the Chapel

Daniel R. Duggan, Director of Chaplaincy at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, will kick-off a series that focus us on living our lives to the fullest. Join an intergenerational conversation to examine beliefs in the different stages of life.

February 21 | *Mutuality & Servanthood* | What's the difference between a ministry of servanthood and mutuality? Just how does mutuality go beyond servanthood?

February 28 | *Men, Grief & Solitude* | Based on Rev. Duggan's book of the same title, we'll discuss the many ways men & women cope with loss and why it can be difficult to support one another.

March 7 | Head, Heart, & Wholeness in Spiritual Life & Community | his class examines wisdom and how the spiritual life of individuals and communities can be used in a loving way. How do we learn from the lens of our elders? How do we see wisdom and use what we know in a loving way?

March 14 | Using Biblical Journaling in Growing Our Faith & Spirituality | Explore the use of biblical journaling to examine and deepen our beliefs & spiritual life journeys.



SUNDAY, MARCH 4 | II AM in the Westminster Sanctuary

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

The Chichester Psalms is a choral setting of five Psalms by popular American composer and conductor Leonard Bernstein, commissioned in 1965 for the Southern Cathedrals Festival at Chichester Cathedral in Sussex, England. Organist Aaron Goen will accompany the combined choirs as will Rebecca Smith, harp, and Erica Montgomery, percussion. The choirs will also be offering the piece at Saint Andrew's in Burke, VA on Sunday, March II at 10:30 AM. Learn more about the Chichester Psalms at wpc-alex.org/lent2018.

SERMON SERIES | SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 18 & 25 AND MARCH | 1 & 18

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.



PALM SUNDAY | SUNDAY, MARCH 25

8:30 AM Worship in the Chapel

9:30 AM Congregational Potluck Breakfast in Fellowship Hall (*No Adult, Youth, or Children's Education Hour*)

Please bring your favorite breakfast dish to share (egg casseroles, quiches, fruit, muffins, etc.). No need to bring serving utensils. To help with the breakfast, contact Joy Cameron at CL@wpc-alex.org.

10:30 AM Donkey Processional for Children on the Front Lawn

II:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary



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

Whole Family Sunday | March 4 | 9:45-10:45 AM in Creation Station

All families with elementary school-aged children are encouraged to attend! Our theme for March is *Holy Week* and Easter.

Middle School: What's Next | April 8 | 9:45 – 10:45 AM in Creation Station.

Whitney will lead a discussion for rising 6th graders and their parents about the opportunities for middle schoolers. Come learn about the 9:45 Sunday School hour, Middle School Youth Group and Youth Mission trips.

Information Session for Parents of Rising Kindergartners | Sunday, May 20 | 9:45 AM in Room 303/305

Learn about all the exciting programs for your rising kindergarten child! We will inform you about Creation Station (Sunday School); Children and Worship (what the children do when they leave after the children's sermon) and children's choir.

Music & More Week | Mornings, June 25–29 | The Lost Boy

M&M Week is our summer musical day camp experience for children who are currently enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade. Led by Molly Roden and Patty Chamberlain, this is a special week filled with singing, drama, storytelling, arts and crafts, snacks, recreation, games, and more! Many volunteers and parents also teach and assist. Information and registration form at wpc-alex.org/families.

Family Retreat | May 12-13 | Raising a Faithful Child in a Social Media World

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. Bishop Claggett is about an hour and fifteen minute drive from Westminster. Information and registration form at wpc-alex.org/families. Registration ends March 30!



Flying Solo Singles Ministry

(50's and above)

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

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!

Tuesday, February 27 – 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, March 19 – Monthly Dine-Out (NOTE: Third Monday)

Come celebrate the Irish with us at The Celtic House Irish Pub & Restaurant, 2500 Columbia Pike, Arlington, in honor of St. Patrick's Day! Please note that this is a change from our usual Dine-Out week. Carpool from church at 7 PM or meet at the restaurant at 7:15.

Saturday, March 10 – Outing to the Sackler/ Freer Gallery

A return to the Sackler/Freer to see what's been done during recent renovations and to visit current exhibits, including the famed Peacock Room by Whistler in the Freer. We'll explore the galleries in the morning, then get lunch along the mall or on the way home. Carpool to metro from church at 9 AM or meet us at the main garden entrance of the Sackler at 10 AM (near Independence Ave). RSVP to Nancy HB by March 9 so we know whom to expect.

Monday, April 30 – Book Group: "The Year of Living Biblically" by A.J. Jacobs

This is a fun read about the author's attempt to live as closely to Biblical laws and customs as possible for one full year...in the middle of New York City! On the one hand, his account is funny and sometimes irreverent, but on the other hand, we witness the author's spiritual journey as he seeks to understand the relevance of faith in our modern world. His experiences during the year help us see the Bible with new eyes! There are two copies of the book in the church library to borrow.

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.

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



Last Call to Register for the Women's Retreat! Deadline February 28

Register at wpc-alex.org/presbyterian-women Women's Retreat on March 16-18 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!

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

The March selection is *The*

Last Painting of Sara de Vos, a novel by Dominic Smith. A Dutch Golden Age painting links lives and mysteries across generations: from the original painter, to the family that owns it, to a contemporary art historian who does the unthinkable. Discussions on Monday, March 26 at 11 AM and 7:30 PM in Johnson Parlor, led by Clara Beth Van de Water.

Women's Circles meet monthly for Bible study, friendship, and mission support. This year, we are studying the Letter to the Hebrews. Watch for meeting details in the weekly Update or visit the Presbyterian Women's page on the church website.

We are starting up a new women's circle!

Please join us on Monday, March 12 at 9:00 AM in the Johnson Parlor (we will be finished by about 10:30). We are gearing this new circle to women ages 20s–50s who have some daytime flexibility and who would like to engage in meaningful Bible study while also fostering fellowship among group members. This year's theme is "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews." At our first meeting, we will also choose a name for our new circle - which woman in the Bible should it be?!

PW Spring Gathering

Sunday, May 6 at 12:15 PM in Haverkamp Room Our speaker, Eileen Guenther, will be speaking on "Slave Life and the Power of Spirituals" with an emphasis on women's role in everyday life during slavery. Join us to learn about the role of singing and religion in the daily lives of the enslaved. Dr. Guenther is a church musician and a professor at Wesley Theological Seminary and has shared her knowledge and music with Westminster on several occasions.

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.

MEN OF WESTMINSTER

www.wpc-alex.org/menofw

Men's Breakfast
Friday, March 9, 7-8:30 AM in
Fellowship Hall
Lobe and Crosoth in the 21st Cont

Jobs and Growth in the 21st Century Depend on a Strongly Competitive Dollar with John Hansen

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

A careful analysis of rising trade deficits and the declining competitiveness of America's manufacturing over the past forty years shows that the U.S. dollar's serious overvaluation has probably been the most important cause of the swelling U.S. trade deficit. This overvaluation imposes an equivalent tax on all made-in-America goods that could otherwise compete successfully with imports from foreign countries such as China. It simultaneously gives a subsidy worth 20-25 percent of the selling price to producers in China and elsewhere, making it impossible for U.S. factories, farms, and workers to compete fairly.

The dollar's overvaluation is killing U.S. jobs, closing U.S. factories, and forcing millions of Americans into low-paying service jobs – or into outright unemployment. The overvalued dollar also reduces the incentives for business to invest in worker training, research and development, plant and equipment, automation, centers of excellence, and all the other measures that are so urgently needed to make American manufacturing internationally competitive again.

John R. Hansen is an international economics consultant, focusing on currency valuation, trade imbalances, and the global monetary system. He is the founder and chief editor of *Americans Backing a Competitive Dollar*, a blog on U.S. international trade and monetary policy. During his 30 years at the World Bank,

Church-wide Gathering | August 2-5 in Louisville, Kentucky

he held senior positions involving economic policy issues and was a macro economist leading studies of countries including Estonia, Belarus, Romania, India, Sudan, Guatemala, and the countries of the Central American Common Market. He is also the author of numerous publications and is an experienced public speaker on economic issues.

John holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Colorado, and was a Fulbright Scholar at the London School of Economics from 1964-1966. He and his wife Judy are former longtime members of Westminster, during which time they lived in Alexandria. They currently reside in Hendersonville, North Carolina.



2018 Men's Retreat
The Men of Westminster had a great time on their retreat at
Hallowood earlier this month!

Connecting with Presbyterian Women on the regional and national levels

Presbytery PW Spring Gathering | **April 28** | www.presbyterianwomenncp.org Synod Summer Gathering | **June 8-10** at Massanetta Springs | www.pwsynodmidatlantic.org

www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/build-community/churchwide-gathering

Watch for more details on these gatherings and plan now to attend what promises to be interesting, informative, and spiritually uplifting gatherings of Presbyterian Women from throughout the country and the world!

Upcoming Adult Education Sunday Morning Classes

March 4, 11 & 18

Together once again, Rabbi Jack Moline and Dr. Larry Hayward will use various Biblical texts and look with us on the "Context, Pretext, and Text" from both a Christian and Jewish perspective. With humor, intellect and wit, Jack and Larry bring many years of congregational leadership and exegetical wisdom to challenge our faith and understanding of Scripture.

April 8 & 15

Julie F. Wadler will share her perspective as a Caucasian mother married to an African-American man who adopted two beautiful daughters from Ethiopia. Julie will share stories and firsthand experience of raising children of color in Northern Virginia. Her presentation will be informal, poignant and educational about how our own biases inform and uninform us. Gain insights on how to talk to our own families about race.

Adult Faith Formation

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

Small Mental Health Group Gathering: All Welcomed Sunday, March 18 at 12:15 PM in the Johnson Parlor

We'll talk about the many issues that affect our families, our friends, our neighbors and our own selves and the complications associated with these various brain disorders. Whether you have overcome a mental health challenge and come to share some words of hope, or have an interest in policy making, you are welcomed to participate. This group meets periodically to plan programs for Westminster, to learn about mental health resources, and to offer support to one another. All are welcomed. Any questions, touch base with Amey Upton.

Lent Together: Lenten Series with Rev. Dan Duggan, Director of Chaplaincy, Goodwin House Bailey's, Wednesdays, February 21 & 28 and March 7 & 14 at 7:15 PM in the Chapel

Come learn about a new way of being in the world, leaning towards end of life while we live. Rev. Duggan will teach us about how to live more fully. Learn ways to cope with life's ups and downs. What wisdom can we glean from older generations? How might we use journaling as a way to deepen our faith? How do men grieve? How do we support one another? Hope to see you in the Chapel during Lent.

Author Talk with Dr. Jay Lombard

Monday, March 12 at 7 PM in Haverkamp Room

Hear from Dr. Jay Lombard, the author of "The Mind of God," which has been the book for this year's Congregational Book Read. His talk is open to anyone in the congregation, whether you have read his book, to hear about neuroscience, faith and the search for our souls. Dr. Lombard, a behavioral neurologist and cofounder of Genomind, will talk about his book, his treatment of complex and intractable cases that have overlapped the world between neurology and psychiatry, and his views on how faith and science complement one another.

Aids for Hearing

"Don't Miss a Single Sound" hearing pieces are available for those who attend programs and meetings in the Haverkamp Room! These hearing pieces are tied into the projector and microphone systems. The ear pieces work beautifully and are available at any time. Check with Amey Upton, Jim Buchanan, or any of the Adult Education Subcommittee for help in using these easy aids.

Dinner & Dessert Auction - Thank You!



The morning after the 2018 Dinner and Dessert Auction, one of the many generous members of Westminster said, "It's not about the pie." The night before I had witnessed members and friends of this church bid exorbitant prices for desserts and even left-over pasta. Admittedly, there is a part of me that thought I witnessed something ridiculous, and on one level it is. Is a cake or a pie ever really worth \$150?

However, the Westminster Youth Dinner and Dessert auction is not sweet opulence for its own sake. This is sweet opulence for the sake of the service and mission alongside our family in Christ, throughout the world. In a few months, when high school youth and a few trusted adults board a plane to Port-Au-Prince, Haiti and travel to the coast to work alongside the Community for Coalition for Haiti in Jacmel or when we extend our 3-day middle school conference to serve in Harrisonburg, VA, we are going to encounter the kingdom of God. We do not serve in mission because we possess some superior skill or special embodiment of Christ, but because God is working all over the world, in the hearts of the people of Jacmel, Haiti and in the hearts of those we will serve with even in our own state. The hope of engaging our youth in service as that they see God working all over the world as well as realizing that they have the power to work to alleviate some of the suffering in the world, whether it is through sorting food or teaching Vacation Bible School.

The youth, the youth committee and I are so grateful for the generosity of Westminster during the Dinner and Dessert Auction. Because of your generosity, we can offer our youth the opportunity to serve without it being cost prohibitive to our families. It is also great to know how much the church values our youth and mission. We look forward to sharing the stories and lessons from these trips with the congregation. Thank you! Thank you!

-Whitney



- Middle School Lock-In: February 23
- Confirmation Retreat: March 2-4
- Confirmation visit to Agudas Achim: March 9
- Youth Sunday: April 22

The Outsiders

Open to all fitness levels and ages, this group meets monthly in the fall and spring to explore the outdoors, fellowship with one another, and develop a deeper relationship with God through nature. Our spring schedule is below. Look for more details in the weekly Westminster Update, Egram, and Chronicle. To sign up for events or learn more about the group, please contact Kera Winburn at outsiders@wpc-alex.org.

Hiking at Roosevelt IslandSaturday, March 31, 10 AM to 12 PM

Hiking at Spotsylvania Battlefield & Whiskey Distillery Tour
Saturday, April 14, 8 AM to 5 PM

Exploring, Hiking, and Walking at Harper's Ferry, WVA
Saturday, May 19, 8 AM to 5 PM

WPC in Mission

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

Thank You from Just Neighbors

On behalf of all the staff, volunteers, and most of all, our clients, thank you to everyone who donated to Just Neighbors through December's Alternative Giving Bazaar. Your gift makes a difference and we are grateful for your support!

-Anne Ledyard

Westminster Community Grant 2018

Applications due on Friday, March 30

Contact Melissa Sellevaag at communitygrant@wpc-alex.org
For the seventh year, Westminster's Community Grant Program will
provide funds for local nonprofits who provide critical services in
Northern Virginia. The grants are designed to provide area charitable
organizations with one-time financial assistance for non-operational
expenses. This could include an element required to start a new project,
or an unanticipated expense that if fulfilled can bring an existing project
to a new level. Westminster focuses its local mission efforts around
Children, Hunger, Education, Shelter and Self-Sufficiency; all applying
organizations must demonstrate the project's support of services linked
to at least one of these areas. Over the last four years, we have provided
over \$130,000 to nearly 40 separate projects, using funding from our
local mission budget (your pledge dollars at work!) and through
donations given by individuals during December's Alternative Giving
Bazaar.

Applications for the 2018 Community Grant are due by 5 PM on Friday, March 30. Any application received after the deadline will not be considered. Download the application form at wpc-alex.org/communitygrant and help us to spread the word!

Many thanks to Chris Matthews for so ably chairing the committee in recent years, and for Melissa Sellevaag (our new Grant Committee chair/Local Missions Committee vice chair) and her Grant Committee team (Nathan Argust, Melinda Barrett, David Hoover, Elizabeth Martineau, Page Pusey and Cindy Smith) for the ministry they will perform in the coming weeks. We will honor the grant recipients during worship in late June.

Per Capita Assessment

The PC(U.S.A.) is a connectional church which means we work together on all levels of the Church organization to further the mission we all share. To help support this work, the larger church assesses each Presbyterian Church annually for each confirmed member listed on their rolls. The money goes to the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly to support the work of the church done at those levels. The programs supported include mission work and educational resources for the local churches. The Per Capita Assessment for 2018 is \$40 per member. Members are invited to contribute that cost over and above their pledge. If you have pledge envelopes, you will find a special envelope in your box for this purpose. Thank you for your support of this.

Your Foundation Dollars at Work

At the beginning of each year, the Westminster Foundation transfers Endowment revenue (from the previous year's interest and dividends) to the operating budget in support of Church program and mission areas. Transfers for 2018 are to National Missions (from the Cole Kendall School Endowment); to International Missions (from the International Missions Endowment); to Local Missions (from the Local Mission and Preschool Endowments); to Worship and Music (from the Allen Music, Fowler Youth Music, and Stubbs Concert Series Endowments); to Children's Education (from the Children's Ministry Endowment); to Youth Education (from the Wendt High School Mission and Westminster Youth Endowments); to Adult Education (from the Adult Lecture Series, Rasmussen Church and Society, and Trotter Religious Tolerance Endowments); and to Building and Grounds (from the Capital Improvements Endowment).

The Foundation is also a repository for non-endowed memorial gifts, other bequests, and one-time gifts. Throughout the year, we will update you when these gifts are used to support the Church's life and mission.



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

Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & II:00 a.m.

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



Member Involvement News

Westminster is always in need of volunteers. I'm sure that when I say we need volunteers, most members think of mission volunteers.

Certainly, we need volunteers for the Mission Committees and the

many local, national and, international missions we support. However, there are many volunteer jobs that are essential to the operation of the church. Foremost are the church school volunteers. The teachers, shepherds, and other leaders are essential to a well-functioning education program. Likewise, ushers for our Sunday services are always needed.

You might think that in a church with over a thousand members it would be easy to find volunteers, but it's not. There are a few dozen members who perform multiple tasks. They serve dinners at the Carpenter's Shelter, lunches for the Bag Lunch program, and deliver Meals on Wheels. They go on mission trips and usher on Sundays. They straighten up the Sanctuary before and after each service, and prepare the communion elements. But they can't do everything because often things overlap in time and let's face it: they have families, too. Westminster is **OUR** church and we need **EVERYONE** to be involved.

While we are on the subject of church volunteers, I would like to ask for someone to volunteer to be my assistant in maintaining the membership database. The main job is to enter the data from the friendship pads that we pass each Sunday into the computerized database. This information is needed to help our clergy staff to keep up with our members. In a church with over a thousand members where the average member attends worship about once a month (and some only once a year), it is impossible for the clergy to know what is going on with everyone. By tracking weekly attendance, we can see when someone is absent more than usual. This may mean they have a personal problem that the clergy can help with or simply that their life is getting busier, but tracking attendance provides an early warning system that a problem may be developing. If you are interested in helping me with this job, please contact me at asauer@wpc-alex.org.

I hope that everyone will prayerfully consider devoting a little more time to helping the church run more effectively.

Yours in Christ, **Art Sauer** Member Involvement Coordinator