



Westminster
Presbyterian Church

— worship well —

YOU CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

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the Chronicle

August 23, 2018 - volume 49, number 1

From the Pastor's Study A Message From Rev. Whitney Fautleroy

A few weeks ago, I attended my first tennis class through Arlington Parks and Recreation. It was a confirmation that I most likely will never be as good at tennis as Serena Williams.

When I moved to Alexandria about a year and a half ago, I told myself I wanted to try something new every season. I've had varying degrees of success, but what this decision has helped me with is that you are never "too something" to try a thing. You are never too old, too young, too tall, too short, too out of shape, too clumsy, too poor, too rich, too whatever to try something new. Life will always tempt us in to getting tricked by our schedules, habits, and even our assumptions and insecurities that there is something that hinders us from doing new or different things.

I didn't go to tennis thinking about youth ministry or a Chronicle article, but in some ways they relate. Developmentally, our youth are on the cusp of being tricked by life concerning what they can and cannot do. The pressures of adolescence can be difficult and squelch some of the energy they once had to do something different or to go against the grain. However, programmatically there are lots of new opportunities for youth in our youth ministry—which depends on adults for its success. If you'd like to help out with the youth in a short-term, one-off capacity, the following opportunities are for you:

Come Teach an #Adulting Class! | Many Sundays, 7–8 PM

Do you know how to change a tire? Write a resume? Sew a button? Do you have great culinary chops? These are just some of the things we will be learning throughout the year. I'd love to plug in adults at Westminster to get to know our youth and to share with our youth some of what they know. Please contact me if you'd like to help out.

Be a Confirmation Mentor

Confirmation is a time for youth who are in eighth grade to explore their faith. Each confirmand is required to have a mentor. A mentor is a non-family member of the congregation who agrees to journey with a young person during their time in Confirmation. We hope the relationships formed will be mutually beneficial. If you are interested in being a Confirmation mentor, please contact me or come to an interest meeting following the October 14th worship service.

Peace,

Whitney



We welcome to the Westminster nursery:

- **Eliza May Horrell**, daughter of Chad & Abby Horrell, little sister of Daniel.

We rejoice in the marriage of:

- **Caitlin Runyan and Max Hoblitzell** on June 23, Cape Cod, MA. Caitlin is the daughter of John Runyan and Ruth Kane.

Your Foundation Dollars at Work

In June, the Westminster Foundation grew with a gift from William Simms given in memory of his wife Patricia. In July, the Westminster Foundation Board and Session approved use of funds from the Simms Memorial Fund to develop architectural drawings for the Fellowship Hall entrance reconfiguration.

The Westminster Foundation also approved the transfer of funds from memorial gifts for Nancy Pera to the Operating Budget to purchase children's books for the Westminster Library.

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.

To Everything There is a Season

For many years, Westminster members have tutored children at George Mason Elementary School as part of a program that we initially founded and that later became a part of the PTA's After School Programs. Westminster has also supported the program financially with funds that provided stipends to its two coordinators.

This spring, we were invited by the school principal and PTA president to talk about the program and how best to serve the needs of students. There was a shared sense that the tutoring has truly helped students in their academic and personal growth, and that volunteers have experienced their own growth as they sat with and delighted in the students. We also agreed that the changing needs of the school, as well as the availability of alternative local programs accompanying students in a sustained and resourced way, we might want to rethink how best our church can support and serve our young friends and neighboring school.

As a result of those conversations, the Local Mission Committee, with the input and concurrence of George Mason, will transition our congregation's financial support to Community Lodgings. Community Lodgings, on which two WPC members serve on the board, provides transitional housing, affordable housing and youth education programs to families in Arlandria. Every day after school, an ACPS bus brings around 50 George Mason students to their youth education program, where students receive a hot meal and then participate with bilingual staff in a structured curriculum, including journal writing, homework, and reading four days a week. On Fridays, students listen to speakers, garden, and engage in clubs and other special activities. Unlike the tutoring program, Community Lodgings' youth education program operates year-round. There is a significant wait list for students to participate in the Community Lodgings program.

We recently toured Community Lodgings and found it very worthy of WPC support, both financially and with volunteers. Our funding will help Community Lodgings to move more students off its wait list, and there will be ample opportunities for us to provide hands-on support alongside the students. Additionally, George Mason staff hope to find ways to include WPC members in the life of the school, perhaps as "buddies" who sit with and encourage students during school events and lunches.

We thank all of you who served as tutors, and for Betty Mills, who has coordinated the program and enabled us to serve. Stay tuned as we explore and publicize ways to serve in this important space, and please contact localmission@wpc.org to know more about how to volunteer with Community Lodgings and the students at George Mason.



Flying Solo Singles Ministry (50's and above)

Nancy Hall Berens, Director
nhallberens@wpc-alex.org
703-549-4766 ext. 121
www.wpc-alex.org/singles.

Fourth Tuesday Potlucks

August 28, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Johnson Parlor

Join us for our monthly service project of making sandwiches for the Bag Lunch program (materials provided), then enjoy dinner together. Please bring a dish to share for dinner.

Second Monday Dine-Out

September 10 – Lebanese Taverna, 1101 S. Joyce St. in Pentagon Row. At our monthly Dine-Out we will kick off the new program year with a taste of the Mediterranean and fellowship with church friends. Carpool from church at 7:00 p.m. or meet there at 7:15 p.m.

Christ-Centered Chair Yoga

Mondays, August 27, September 3, October 1, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Haverkamp Room

Westminster member Kay Sidahmed will continue developing our new practice of Chair Yoga. It is gentle and accessible to most levels of ability. Kay's approach to yoga is Christ-centered and includes prayer, scripture, and meditative breathing and poses. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early, wear comfortable clothing, bring water, and silence cell phones. There is no charge to participants for the yoga sessions. Come give it a try, and stretch your body and soul in new ways!

Annual Fall Retreat

October 5-7, 2018 (Columbus Day Weekend)

"Primed to See and Do: Visions of God for the People of God" with the Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt.

Throughout Scripture, God equips and directs the faithful through vivid dreams, bold visions, and encounters with earthly elements that express the will of heaven. Together, we will probe some of these moments and recall times when God seems to have had something to say or reveal to us in miraculous or mundane ways. We will also explore how to open ourselves to the dreams, visions and everyday encounters through which God may yet prepare us for new vistas of faith and life. Come ready to recollect and reorient yourself to the movement of the Spirit in your life. Deadline to register is Tuesday, September 4. Please note: earlier registration deadline than usual. You can register and pay online.

October Book Group

Monday, October 15, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Cindy Smith

This fall we will read and discuss *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. Inspired by a true story, *People of the Book* is a novel about the famed Sarajevo Haggadah, a precious Jewish prayer book rescued from Serb shelling during the Bosnian war. Priceless and beautiful, the Haggadah is one of the earliest Jewish books ever to be illuminated with images. In this story, we join the search for its mysterious past and its journey through centuries of exile through the preservation process by a rare book expert.



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.

Thursday, September 6 |

"August: Osage County" at Little Theatre of Alexandria

When the family patriarch vanishes, the Weston's return to rural Oklahoma to care for their afflicted, manipulative mother, Violet. Armed with prescription drugs and paranoid mood swings, Violet reigns over the home as family secrets unfold. This powerful family drama by Tracy Letts won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize and the Tony Award for Best New Play. Show starts right at 8:00 PM; arrive between 7:30–7:45 to receive your ticket.

Monday, September 17 | Lunch & Learn: "A Musical Journey Through the Church Year"

12 PM in Haverkamp Room. \$10 for lunch.

WPC Director of Music Ministries, Ben Hutchens, will be our special guest. Ben will give us a preview of upcoming music for the new program year. Come find out what's in store musically for worship and special events as a new church year gets started. This is a great chance to get to know Ben a little better, too!

Mark your calendars

October 11: "Dracula" at Little Theatre of Alexandria

October 15: Outing to Air & Space Museum

Thursday Morning Study Group

September 27–November 15,
9:30–11:30 AM in Haverkamp Room

Explore the DVD series: "After the New Testament: The Writings of the Apostolic Fathers," narrated by Dr. Bart Ehrman, Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Illuminate the history of the early church in the second and third centuries and the foundation of today's Christianity. The Study Group is open to anyone who is interested and able to attend. There is no cost for the class. Contact Art Sauer at asauer@wpc-alex.org for more information.

Reading and Learning the Old Testament led by Rev. Larry Hayward

September 9, 2018 – April 14, 2019
with holiday break | Sundays, 4-6 PM

A guided reading of the Old Testament, exploring texts in detail and reflecting on how they impact our faith and life at a weekly lecture & discussion. Info and registration at wpc-alex.org/adult. Cost: \$20, plus a Bible.

Adult Faith Formation

www.wpc-alex.org/adult

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

On sabbatical through December 31, 2018.

For questions please contact Kristen Bishop at ce@wpc-alex.org.



Embrace the ways God is challenging you and strengthening you. Branch beyond the same-old, same-old. Use the transformations and changes in your life to further strengthen your faith in God and spread God's love.

On Sunday, September 9, we'll kick-off **Embracing Transformation**, our 2018-19 Adult Formation theme, with a study taught by Dr. Katherine Grieb from the Virginia Theological Seminary. Dr. Grieb will discuss how the disciples and apostles embraced their own transformations through their interactions with Jesus and how that not only upended their lives but also brought joy and new appreciation of God's providential care for them. This will set the stage for the Sunday morning classes throughout the year. How we can embrace the transformations within ourselves, within the church, and within the world at large? What can we learn from those in the past who have gone through similar transformations in their lives? Through embracing our transformations, we can serve God more fully and learn more about our faith and ourselves.

Westminster pastors and staff Patrick Hunnicutt, Whitney Fauntleroy, Patty Chamberlain, Larry Hayward, and Benjamin Hutchens will discuss the exciting things going on in the different realms of our church and the new things coming down the pipeline for us in the future. During Advent, Dr. James Muyskens will teach us about how we are to understand the teachings of advent in our current culture and scientific understanding and how to understand faith in this Post-Truth era.

For the full schedule, visit wpc-alex.org/embracing-transformation.



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 Creation Station: Martha and Mary

Sunday, September 9 | 9:45 – 10:45 AM on the 3rd floor

Come explore Creation Station, our Sunday school for elementary-aged children. Each month we explore new Biblical stories and themes. Whole Family Sundays—the first Sunday of each month—give families the opportunity to learn and grow TOGETHER. Moms, Dads, Grandparents, siblings (of any age), and more are invited to learn God's story together. The intergenerational Sundays will prepare families for learning and understanding the Biblical story that will be focused on for the rest of the month (when the K-5th graders have their own education time). Take this opportunity to sign up for teaching and shepherding!

Children & Families Annual BBQ!

Saturday, September 15 | 4:30 – 7:00 PM in the church parking lot

Families are invited to join us in our annual fall barbeque at the church! Bring your children and a salad or side to share. We will provide burgers, hot dogs and dessert. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship. Rain date is September 16.



Children's Choir: Grades Pre-K–5 | Wednesdays beginning September 12

We are excited for the kick off of our choir season! Our kids learn vocal and choral skills through singing songs that teach faith concepts and the story of God's people. Our young singers bring their music to Sunday worship approximately twice a month, fostering their development as worship leaders. More info and registration at wpc-alex.org/music.

Family Mornings

Parents and guardians of prekindergarten children are invited to a time of informal play and fellowship with their children. It's a great time to socialize with other parents! Meet on Thursday mornings from 10-11:30 AM in Room 302.

Milestones of Faith

Patty and the Pastors will lead these special programs for learning about different aspects of faith.

Kindergarteners and Parents:

Worship Beginnings. September 16, 9:45-10:45 AM, Sanctuary

1st Graders and Parents:

Baptism. October 14, during the 11:00 service, Chapel

2nd Graders and Parents:

Getting Ready for Communion. September 23, 9:45-10:45 AM, Sanctuary
Helping with Communion, October 7, 11:00 service, Sanctuary

3rd Graders and Parents:

Bible Presentation. January 27, 10:45 AM in the Library & Sanctuary (All children wishing to receive a Bible MUST pre-register with Patty!)

Reading the Bible. February 10, 9:45-10:45 AM in Creation Station (Bring Bibles!)

4th Graders:

The Apostles Creed. Date to be determined, 9:45 AM.

5th Graders:

What Does It Mean to be a Youth. Date to be determined, 9:45 AM.

A New Configuration of Our Music Ministries Staff

During the past program year I have been pleased to work alongside Molly Roden as the *Interim Director of Children's Music*. In addition to her bright disposition, excellent musical skills, and passion for Christian Formation through music, Molly has deep institutional knowledge of Westminster and of the lived experience of raising a family here in Alexandria. In short, her presence on the staff was essential to the success of our music program. This fall, Molly will move into a more permanent volunteer staff position as *Associate for Children's Music*. In this role, she will continue working alongside me with the children on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Cambria Van de Vaarst came on board in February as Westminster's first *Music Intern*. Cambria arrived with a solid musical foundation and has blossomed as an organist and conductor. In the fall, she will be entering the Graduate School at the University of Maryland where she will pursue a Master of Music degree in Harp Performance. I am delighted to announce that she will continue working at Westminster as the *Assistant Director of Music Ministries*. We are in the process of identifying another student - undergraduate or graduate, including recent graduates - to fill the now open position of *Music Intern*.

The expanded Music Ministries Staff will allow for continued excellence and growth in all areas. I am grateful to Katherine Gunter and the Personnel Committee for embracing my vision and help me to make these two positions work.

-Ben Hutchens,
Director of Music Ministries

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

wpc-alex.org/presbyterian-women

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

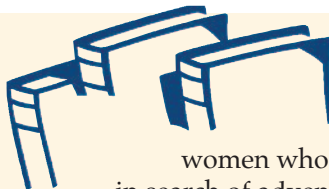
Janet Harris, Moderator and Alison Griffin, Vice Moderator | PW@wpc-alex.org

What Is a Circle?

Come find out at a short, informal Information Session after worship on September 2 (11:15 AM) or September 9 (12:15 PM) in the Johnson Parlor. Drop by to learn what a women's circle is and does. Meet some other women, and take a peek at the new Bible Study book which we will be using in the upcoming program year: "God's Promise: I Am With You." You can also look for us at Lemonade on the Lawn this summer and fall as each circle takes turns hosting fellowship after worship. We look forward to greeting you!

Women's Circles Bible Study for 2018-19: "God's Promise: I Am With You"

Westminster has seven women's "circles" which meet monthly for Bible study, fellowship, and mission support from September through June. In September we will be starting our new Bible study called "God's Promise: I Am With You." From Genesis to the Gospels, God promises to be with us no matter where we are or what we are going through. Come explore how God spoke to those in Biblical times and speaks to us even today, assuring us that God will never leave us. Look for the schedule of circle meetings in the Westminster Update each month, or check out our webpage. Feel free to try out more than one circle before choosing which one is right for you!



Book Groups meet to discuss interesting and thought-provoking book selections each month. The September selection is *East of The Sun* by Julia Gregson. It is a historical novel about

women who sailed to British India from England in the 1920s in search of adventure and husbands. As a little girl, the author met retired women who had been part of this so-called "fishing fleet." The book won several awards in Britain. Discussions on Monday, September 24 at 11 AM and 7:30 PM in Johnson Parlor, led by Clara Beth Van de Water.

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

Pillow Ministry meets the first Wednesday of the month to make pillows and stuffed animals for heart patients and children at Alexandria Hospital. 9:30 AM in Haverkamp Room.

Planning Ahead

National Capital Presbytery PW Fall Gathering | Saturday, September 29

Westminster PW Fall Gathering | Wednesday, November 7

Women's Retreat at Hallwood Retreat Center | March 22-24, 2019

Music at Westminster

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

Friends,

What a treat it is to begin my second year Director of Music Ministries! The past year has been nothing short of fantastic and I can promise our year ahead will be inspiring. Our fall kick-off Sunday is September 9. Brass quintet, handbells, adult and children's choirs will begin the year with a bang!

In addition to our traditional offerings on Sundays, the Music Ministry is starting a community outreach called Westminster Presents. In past years, the adult choir has offered several major works on Sunday mornings. We will continue that tradition and add a second performance on the Friday evening before each. In addition to these "double headers," we will have a few Friday events to showcase the substantial gifts of our own musicians and provide a space for guest musicians. One of those will be live organ accompaniment as we watch the silent movie *The Phantom of the Opera*! Our hope is that the audience on Fridays will include a host of familiar Westminster faces and also provide an opportunity for those outside our congregation a chance to enjoy our hospitality, beautiful sanctuary, and, of course, the music we create.

More details can be found on our website - westminsterpresents.com. Please take a moment to visit the website and "like" our Facebook page too - www.facebook.com/WestminsterPresents!

If you are interested in singing or ringing, please send me an email. Non-singing helpers are also needed! Ushers and greeters for Friday concerts, music office assistance, and, of course, we need everyone's help in sharing our worship services and concerts with friends and family.

Grace & Peace,
Benjamin Hutchens

Music Opportunities for Children and Youth

Children's choirs (grades pre-k through 5th) start up on Wednesday, September 12. We have a new offering for Pre-Kindergarteners this year! Details of our rehearsal schedule can be found on the registration link at wpc-alex.org/music. Fifth graders can choose to participate on Wednesday afternoon, Sunday afternoon, or both!

Youth Choir (grades 5-9) will begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 16 at 12:15 PM.

Please register your youth at wpc-alex.org/music. Fifth graders can choose to participate on Wednesday afternoon, Sunday afternoon, or both!

High school (grades 10-12) musicians are welcome to join in the Celtic Cross Ringers or Westminster Choir. Please email Ben for more details!

Music Internship

In addition to the professional music staff, Westminster provides a Music Internship for advanced undergraduate or graduate students. This internship provides training for the next generation of church music leaders.

Music Opportunities for Adults

Westminster values fine music. We are committed to providing an educational opportunity for all who desire to become better musicians. Our ensembles are open to anyone. Through participation in rehearsals, performances, and services, musical skills are refined and faith is shaped.

Westminster Choir

primary service and concert choir
Thursdays • 7:30-9pm
Sunday • 9:45am - rehearsal,
11am - service

Chamber Choir

drawn from the Westminster
Choir
rehearsals as needed

Monticello Chamber Orchestra

professional musicians join
advanced musicians from our church
rehearsals as needed

Westminster Ringers

advanced 5-octave bell choir
Thursdays • 6:30-7:30pm

Celtic Cross Ringers

intermediate 3-octave bell choir
Wednesdays • 6:30-7:30pm

Monticello String Quartet

resident string quartet
rehearsals as needed

Update from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

The APNC continues to move along at an expected pace. Meeting weekly, our main objective this summer has been to complete the Ministry Information Form (MIF), which provides background to candidates on the church, its ministries and the Associate Pastor for Christian Formation position. The Session approved the MIF at a special called meeting on August 5. The Presbytery approved it shortly thereafter and sent it on to the Presbyterian Church (USA) denomination office for processing and posting. Once the position is officially posted, we will circulate to the larger Westminster community. In a few weeks, we expect to receive our first PIFs (Personal Information Forms) from interested candidates. We are most grateful for staff, parents, and Christian Formation leaders who participated in formal interviews with the APNC as we created the MIF. Your valuable time and input allowed us to create a thoughtful, thorough and inclusive representation of Westminster. In addition, we are thankful to the Session for holding a special August meeting to ensure we keep this important process moving along. As always, please send any suggestions or questions to APNC@wpc-alex.org or reach out directly to a member of the APNC. We welcome hearing from you! Finally, as an APNC we especially request your support and prayers to help us discern God's will in this important call.

Men of Westminster

wpc-alex.org/men-of-westminster



Men's Breakfast

Friday, September 14, 7-8:30 AM in Fellowship Hall

The Impact of WW I's Enduring Legacy on Americans, Home and Abroad

with Patrick G. Eddington

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



**Meet
for
Breakfast**

Patrick G. Eddington will be the featured speaker at our September 14 Breakfast Meeting. His topic will be *The Impact of WW I's Enduring Legacy on Americans, Home and Abroad*. Veterans Day this year will mark the 100th anniversary of the armistice that ended the "War to End All Wars". Patrick will focus on the events that occurred between August 1914 and March 1933 in Europe, and how the terms and effects of the Versailles Treaty after the war sowed the seeds of a future war – World War II.

Patrick Eddington is a policy analyst in the Homeland Security and Civil Liberties section of the Cato Institute, a Washington, D.C. think tank, as well as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Georgetown University's Center for Security Studies. He has served in the U.S. Army Reserve and the National Guard; as a military imagery analyst at the CIA's National Photographic Interpretation Center; and as communications director and later senior policy advisor to former Congressman Rush Holt (D-NJ).

Originally from Springfield, Missouri, Eddington holds a B.A. in International Affairs from Missouri State University and a M.A. in National Security Studies from Georgetown University. His opinion pieces have appeared in a number of publications, including the Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Washington Times, and the Army Times. He has appeared on Fox News, MSNBC, SkyNews, and CNN. He is currently working on a book on the aftermath of World War I.

**ALL-CHURCH
CAMPFIRE**



**Save the Date:
October 13**

The New Westminster Progressive

Ready for a new journey? This year's WPC campfire is getting a bit of an upgrade as we're planning a new "journey" through WPC and even to nearby member's homes that will highlight all that our church does in missions, programming, worship, and education.

This new church-wide event will feature music, activities for children, food and tasty desserts, and of course, a campfire. Mark your calendars now for October 13. More details to come.

Westminster 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. RSVP for events with Kera Winburn at outsiders@wpc-alex.org.

Hiking at Burke Lake Park

Saturday, September 15, 8–1 AM

Meet at the beginning of the Lake Trail. Dress for the weather and bring sunscreen, bug spray, and water. No charge for Fairfax County residents and \$10 per car for non-county residents. RSVP required to Kera Winburn.

Taize Service in the Blomberg Courtyard

Saturday, October 20, 4:30–5:30 PM

Join us for this joint service with Ben as we experience worship in a different and musical way.

Hiking at Sky Meadows and Cider Tasting

Saturday, November 3, 8 AM–3:30 PM

After hiking at Sky Meadows State Park, we'll picnic and taste cider at Cobbler Mountain Cider. Pack a lunch and bring water, sunscreen, hat, and bug spray. Meet at the church to leave on the bus by 8 AM. Cider tasting is \$10.00 per person. RSVP required to Kera Winburn.

Announcing Evangeline Taylor, our new Director of Seniors Pastoral Care

Serving in our part-time position focusing on pastoral care for our senior members, Evangeline (pronounced like "mandolin") was ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA) in 2000 following a 23-year career as a vocal soloist with the US Navy Band and the US Army Band. She has served several churches in the Washington, DC area as senior pastor, and most recently completed nine years as Associate Pastor for Congregational Care at National Presbyterian Church. Evangeline and her husband, Jeff, who is the Music Director at Heritage Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, have two daughters and three grandchildren. She will begin working with us the week of August 13.

-Patrick Hunnicutt, Associate Pastor for Mission & Pastoral Care



Join Tables for 8!

Formed in 1995, Tables for 8 has just completed our 23rd year! Come join us for year 24 and 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! Please contact Janet Harris with any questions. Bon Appetit!

Sign Up

In person on Sundays in September at Lemonade on the Lawn

Anytime by emailing Janet Harris at tablesfor8@wpc-alex.org

Deadline to sign up is Sunday, September 23

Tables for 8 Kick-Off Meeting

Saturday, September 29

6:30 PM in the Haverkamp Room

Meet your Tables for 8 group! Please bring a dish to share that can serve eight people. It is helpful to know if you cannot attend that first meeting; someone will contact you about your group if you cannot be there.



National Mission Update

wpc-alex.org/national



July Trip to Spirit Lake

From July 12-16, six members of our Westminster family traveled to Spirit Lake Reservation in North Dakota to visit the Bdecan Presbyterian Church. There, we lent a hand to the Vacation Bible School program being led by a group from the First Presbyterian Church in Rochester, Minnesota. We played basketball, painted, ran, read, sang, and spent time with the warm, energetic, and welcoming kids and families that comprise the church community. We also visited the Candeska Cikana Community College, a tribal college on the reservation, that our congregation supports with scholarship funds. We toured the grounds and learned more about the opportunities the school provides for its hard-working students, many of whom are single, working mothers.

The centerpiece of our trip was a celebration of Joe Obermeyer's five-year anniversary with the Bdecan church and the opening of a new storage unit that will house much-needed clothing items for the reservation. Joe leads worship at Bdecan and has breathed new life into the church, its programs, and its outreach to the reservation. He has especially focused on developing

programs for children and youth, including Vacation Bible School and after-school gatherings. To say "thank you" to Joe for all that he does, we presented Joe with a stole adorned by Sue Aland's hand-made symbol of the Dakota tribe.

Lastly, we wrapped up our trip by attending a Sunday worship service at the Bdecan church in which Patrick preached and we sang songs in the tribal language, Dakota. It was an enlightening trip for all involved and a meaningful opportunity to connect with the people at Bdecan Presbyterian Church and Candeska Cikana Community College.





July Corn Gleaning

On Saturday, July 28, a ten-person-strong contingent from Westminster helped glean over 4,600 pounds of corn at Chandler Farm. The corn went to the Healthy Harvest Food Bank, which supports families in Virginia's Northern Neck region. It was a rewarding morning of hard work and fellowship to help provide fresh, healthy produce to families in need.



Appalachia Service Project Trip to West Virginia (November 1-4, 2018)

Adults of all ages and skill levels are invited to serve with Appalachia Service Project (ASP) help make homes warmer, safer, and drier. If you have questions or would like to register for this trip, please contact the National Mission Committee at nationalmission@wpc-alex.org.

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 Fauntleroy Associate Pastor
Ben Hutchens Director of Music Ministries
Patty Chamberlain Director of Children's Ministries
Nancy Hall Berens Dir. of Congregational Life
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Evangeline Taylor Director of Seniors Pastoral Care
Amey Upton Director of Adult Education
Cambria Van de Vaarst Assistant Director of
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Lavinia Davis-Laux Director of Finance and Administration
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Cindy McCeney Financial Assistant
Tara Cain Executive Assistant
Jessica Thurnes Program Assistant
Larry Johnson Sexton
Marvin Johnson Head Sexton

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

Member Involvement News



Summer is almost over, and that means the start of a new church activity schedule. We will need lots of volunteers to maintain the plethora of ongoing programs and new activities. If you haven't

volunteered before, this is a chance to get in on the beginning. If you have volunteered before, WELCOME BACK! *The Chronicle* and the *Westminster Update*, in the weekly bulletin, will be crammed full of great opportunities to serve the church and the community. Take your pick remembering that while anybody can do it, no one will do it if someone doesn't step forward. Might as well be you.

I will highlight just a few activities. Sign-up for Tables for 8 will begin in September. This is a great way to get to know other members in an informal setting (not to mention the great food). Patty Chamberlain is always looking for volunteers to help with the Children's Sunday School and Creation Station. You don't have to be a parent to help with this. Neither do you have to be a teacher—classroom shepherds are also needed. Parents, grandparents, and people who just like children can serve. If you are musically inclined, I'm sure Ben Hutchens will be able

to work you into the music program. Finally, ushers are always needed. Mike Luhman will be glad to find a place for you.

The end of summer also means that Stewardship season is nearly upon us. This is a vital activity in the life of the church. Without the financial support of the congregation, it would be impossible to carry out the other activities. When we talk of finances there are always some who question why such a large portion of our budget goes to personnel. The answer is that we use what we budget needs call an "object of expenditure" budget that tracks where the money is spent and not what it is used for. Our money goes nearly equally to four categories: worship, mission, education and fellowship. Unfortunately, a programmatic budget is too complex for us to administer on a regular basis. Our staff is necessary to maintain the high level of quality that we enjoy in the programs at Westminster. Members simply don't have the time to devote to organizing these activities that a paid staff member does.

I hope that everyone will find some way to participate in the life of the church in the coming year.

Yours in Christ,

Art Sauer
Coordinator for Member Involvement