



Westminster Presbyterian CHURCH

worship well



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the Chronicle

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From the Pastor's Study A Message From Rev. Dr. Larry Hayward **The Bird Feeder**

This past summer in our home, we “planted” a bird feeder in our yard, bought seed, and attracted birds—but then also squirrels into the attic. So we shut the feeder down, had the squirrels removed, fixed the damage to the attic, and then “went on strike,” refusing to refill the bird feeder for over a month, punishing the poor birds for the actions of a few squirrels, who had long since met their Maker. After several weeks, including a long vacation, we missed the birds, so we bought more birdseed, refilled the feeder, and watched, like Jonah watching to see what God would do with Nineveh.

One by one the birds returned. A few at first. Then a few more. And so far, no squirrels! (Maybe word has gotten out that our attic is now impenetrable and not worth the effort.) After a few more days, we were back to refilling the feeder every day or so, as the interest grew and more birds flocked to our feeder. (It must be like when a new restaurant opens in town: everyone wants to try it out!)

There is a parable in this, of course: We didn't see hungry birds and offer food; rather, we offered food, and hungry birds returned.

In many ways, this is what Westminster is like. We don't show up on our property demanding “church” leading us to reach into our sacks and pull seeds out; rather put seed out, and pretty soon, a trickle of people come, then more, and soon, a good number.

It has always been a joy to watch birds at our feeder; and whenever we see squirrels, we try to “shew” them away. It is a joy every Sunday to see people come to Westminster – members and visitors, young and old, people steeped in faith and people “spiritual but not religious.” All of us are hungry; we just don't always know it. It is wonderful when we find our way to food. It is wonderful when we are blessed to offer it.

Larry



We welcome to the Westminster nursery:

- **Sofia Elisabeth Hayes**, daughter of Sarah and Michael Hayes.
- **Parker Lee Smoot**, son of Meredith and Kyle Smoot

Please remember in prayer the family and friends of:

- **Romayne Lees**, who died on August 30 in Harrisonburg, VA.

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) Trip

Travel to Rainelle, WV, from Thursday, October 19–Sunday, October 22 to participate in ASP's new Greenbrier Flood Recovery project, helping to build new homes in the area ravaged by the June 2016 floods. Please contact nationalmission@wpc-alex.org with questions and/or interest. The second and final information session for the trip will be held on Sunday, October 1 at 12:15 PM in Johnson Parlor.



Westminster Roadsters (Boomers and Beyond)

www.wpc-alex.org/roadsters

Patty Chamberlain, Director | pchamberlain@wpc-alex.org
Contact Patty to register for the below events:

Monday, October 16

Lunch and Learn: One Year Later, Where Are We Now

Our very popular three panelists (Matt Viser, Deputy Washington Bureau Chief for the Boston Globe, John McArdle, Producer and Host at C-Span, and Dan Judy, Vice President at North Star Research) from last year are returning to do a panel discussion on where we are now as a country one year after the election. They will present their insights, take questions and try to assess where we are now. Cost: \$10 for lunch. 12:00 PM in the Haverkamp Room.

Thursday, October 19

Little Theatre of Alexandria's *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*

Winner of the 2013 Tony Award for Best Play, this story follows middle-aged siblings, Vanya and Sonia, who live together in present day Bucks County, Pennsylvania in the only home they have ever known. Without warning, their sister, Masha, who happens to be a movie star, stops in for a visit with her much younger boyfriend, Spike. Hilarity ensues as this kooky clan works out their differences about potentially selling the family home. Show starts at 8 PM; arrive between 7:30-7:45 to receive your ticket.

Monday, November 20

Tour of Woodlawn Plantation and Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House and Lunch.

We will travel down to Woodlawn Plantation to take a tour of the two homes. Each home tour is approximately 30 – 40 minutes long. There is a 15 minute walk in between the two houses. After our tour we will travel to the Riverbend Bistro for lunch. Cost: \$20 plus lunch. Time of departure is to be determined, but it will be around 9:30 AM.

Blessing of the Animals Service on Sunday, October 1

3:30–4 PM in the Blomberg Courtyard (rain or shine!)

Bring your beloved friends for a short service of blessing as we give thanks for the gift of Creation and renew our commitment to be stewards of that gift. All manner of pets are welcome, but please be mindful of your pet's ability to be in a crowd with other animals.





Music at Westminster

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

Friends,

What a treat it is to serve as your Interim Director of Music! I look forward to our year together. Westminster has quite a good reputation for fine music in worship. We will certainly be continuing in the fine tradition. If you fancy yourself a singer, I do hope you will reach out to me. I would love to see all of the chairs in our choir loft filled with singers! Being a newcomer myself, I can assure you that the choir is filled with warm and friendly people. New faces are always welcome. At present, we could truly use some more bass voices.

Of course, the music ministry at Westminster includes a fantastic two adult handbell choirs - Westminster Ringers & Celtic Cross Ringers. The Westminster Ringers is fully staffed with ringers, however we always love to add names to our substitute list. Due to insufficient numbers, the Celtic Cross Ringers is taking a break. We are using this time to recruit some new members! While previous experience is helpful, I would be delighted to teach anyone willing to learn. Ringing is a great way to join with others in making a musical offering in worship, and, of course, it's a great way to make new friends.

In addition to our weekly music offerings at the 11 AM Sunday service, there are some Sundays to which I would like to call your attention. While any Sunday is a good one to invite friends and families, the ones listed below will feature expanded musical offerings and therefore appeal to folks for whom music connects them to the divine.

Reformation Sunday | Sunday, October 29 at 11 AM

We will mark the 500th anniversary of the reformation by offering Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata "Ein Feste Burg." This is a piece for string orchestra, three oboes, organ, and choir. The congregation will join their voices with those of the choir and orchestra as we sing "A Mighty Fortress" together.

Remembrance Sunday | November 12 at 11 AM

On this Sunday, we remember the fallen. Several choral anthems, accompanied by harp, will be offered to mark this important day as we remember those who are at rest; where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but light everlasting.

Advent Lessons and Carols | Sunday, December 10 at 11 AM

Brass and string quartets will join our choirs of adults, youth, children and bells to tell again the story of the prophets of Israel and how they foretold that God would visit and redeem the waiting people.

I look forward to meeting each of you personally as we seek to serve the Lord at Westminster.

Grace & Peace,
Benjamin Hutchens

Update from the Music Director Search Committee

Friends,

I hope that by now, you've had a chance to meet our Interim Director of Music, Dr. Ben Hutchens, or at least hear the talents he has brought to our sanctuary since the beginning of September. It will be wonderful to have him with us this year.

During that time, the Music Director Search Committee will be working to find the right candidate to lead our music programs on a permanent basis. The committee members are: David Aland, Lauren Beyea, Louise Buchanan, David Gunter, Larry Hayward, Dudley Schadeberg, Jenny Ware, Melynda Wilcox, and Jason Zeibel.

To start this process, we plan to lead conversations to develop our vision of the future of music at Westminster in worship, fellowship, Christian education, and even mission. We want those conversations to include as many of you as possible in order to get perspectives from choristers, instrumentalists, parents, and congregants. Please be on the lookout for opportunities to join us at scheduled meetings, to share your thoughts in person with members of the committee, or to send us an e-mail at MDSearch@wpc-alex.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Peace,
David Gunter

Your Foundation Dollars at Work

The Westminster Foundation recently received memorial gifts for Ruth Hill and for the Phyllis Gorrell Music fund. The Foundation used memorial gifts for Mary Hupper to purchase adult education books for the library, and funds from the Retreat Reserve Fund to subsidize the cost of the May family retreat. 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.



Children and Young Families

www.wpc-alex.org/families

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

Towards Fuller Faith and Service: Principles for Shared Life

Sundays, October 1, 8, and 15 | 9:45–10:45 AM in Room 303 (Creation Station wing)

In the Book of Genesis, marriage is God's first gift to human beings. The premise being that life can be better when people are together. Dr. Francis Wade advocates living life in company and will talk about marriage and the work it takes to be in a loving relationship. Realizing the potential of marriage is a great and intimate endeavor.

October 1 | *The Fine Print: What Happens in Marriage?*

October 8 | *Being Different: Disagreeing Successfully*

October 15 | *Families: Being More Than Two*

Moms Book Study (Morning and Evening Options!)

Join Casey FitzGerald in reading and discussing Jerusalem Jackson Greer's book, *At Home in this Life: Finding Peace at the Crossroads of Unraveled Dreams and Beautiful Surprises*. Please order books in advance of class! RSVP to Casey FitzGerald if you're interested at cfitzgerald@wpc-alex.org.

Wednesday Mornings

October 4, 11, 18 | 10-11:30 a.m. in Room 303/305 (Childcare provided)

Read Part 1 in advance of class.

or

Thursday evenings

October 5, 12 | 7:30-9 PM in Room 303/305 (No childcare)

Read parts 1 & 2 in advance of class.

Family Mornings

Parents and guardians of prekindergarten children are invited to a time of informal play and fellowship with other parents! Meet on Wednesday mornings from 10-11:30 AM in Room 302. For further information contact Becca Bagley, beccabagley@gmail.com.

Milestones of Faith

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

1st Graders and Parents: *Baptism*. October 22, 9:45-10:45 AM on the 3rd floor

3rd Graders and Parents: *Bible Presentation*. February 11, 10:45 AM in the Library & Sanctuary (All children wishing to receive a Bible MUST pre-register with Patty!)

Reading the Bible. January 28, 9:45-10:45 AM in the Map Room (Bring Bibles!)

4th Graders: *The Apostles Creed*. April 15, 9:45 AM.

5th Graders: *Serving in Worship*. February 25, 9:45 AM.



Flying Solo (Singles) Ministry

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

Saturday, September 23 – Flying Solo Outing

Check out the Library of Congress! Join Flying Solo to visit the beautiful Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress on Saturday, September 23. Meet at church at 9:00 AM to carpool to the metro. We will aim for the 10:30 AM building tour and then visit special and ongoing exhibits, including an exhibit marking the 100th anniversary of the U.S. entering WW1.

Tuesday, September 26 – Monthly Potluck

7:00 PM 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 simple dish to share for the potluck.

Fall Retreat: “The Next Adventure: Aging Well, Aging Wisely, Aging Wonderfully”

October 6-8, 2017 at Hallowood Retreat Center, Comus, MD.

Our leader Greg Finch will help us discover spiritual resources to wisely consider our next life adventure as we flourish across our lifespan. Registration is closed, but if you’re still interested, contact Nancy Hall Berens to see if any spots are open.

Monday, October 9 – Monthly Dine-Out

Come to a Columbus Day Dine-Out at Hard Times Cafe, 1404 King St, in upper Old Town. Enjoy some chili ... any way you like it! Carpool from church at 7:PM or meet at the restaurant at 7:15 PM.

Monday, October 30 – Book Group

7:00 PM at the home of Cindy Smith (address coming by email)

“*The Islamic Jesus: How the King of the Jews Became a Prophet of the Muslims*” by Mustafa Akyol.

Published in February of this year, “*The Islamic Jesus*” explores the bridge which connects Jews and Christians to the followers of Mohammad. Known as one of the most beloved prophets in Islam, Jesus plays an important role in all three Abrahamic faiths. Learn how these three faith traditions intersect, what they share in common, and how the Islamic understanding of Jesus is connected to both Judaism and Christianity.

A Time for Rest and Renewal

I am deeply grateful to Westminster and the PC(USA) for carving out time for sabbatical for pastors. I am looking forward to this dedicated time to rest, reflect, and renew. My sabbatical begins October 24, and I will return January 23—ready to engage with what is next for the church! (I chose these dates based on a desire to stay through the start of program year in support of new Christian Formation staff and structure. I will return in time for major program time, and with a few weeks preparation time for Lent/Eastertide.)

To use the words of the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Program description, I hope to use this time for “intentional exploration and reflection, for regaining the enthusiasm and creativity for ministry, for discovering what will make [my] heart sing.” While I’m away, I’ll be reading, writing, and creating. So far my to-read list includes: *Sabbath as Resistance* by Walter Brueggemann, *Sacred Pause* by Rachel G. Hackenberg, *Faithful Families* by Traci Smith, and *When Moses Meets Aaron* by Susan Beaumont. My writing will be directed by the Celebrations of Life writing guide. I hope to continue my work with storytelling and improv, and add either watercolor or pottery to the mix, as I desire to engage with some non-verbal creating. Thank you for this gift of time to rest and renew.

-Casey

Third Annual Dessert & Dialogue: Faith and Public Service

A Conversation w/ Representative

John Lewis & Representative Fred Upton

Moderated by Charlie Cook

Monday, October 23

7:00–7:30 PM | Refreshments & Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

7:45–9:00 PM | Remarks & Moderated Dialogue in the Sanctuary



John Lewis, U.S. Representative & Civil Rights Activist, is one of the “Big Six” leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. He was a Freedom Rider, spoke at the 1963 March on Washington, and led the walk that became known as “Bloody Sunday.” John has continued to fight for people’s rights since joining Congress in 1987 and received the Medal of Freedom in 2011.



Fred Upton, U.S. Representative, joined Congress in 1987, and became friends with John through their joint work on the Faith & Politics Institute. John and Fred have known one another over thirty years and have been able to respect their differences and yet learn from each other through humility and respect.

Charlie Cook is Editor & Publisher of the *Cook Political Report*, which the New York Times called “a newsletter that both parties regard as authoritative” and CBS News’ Bob Schieffer called “the Bible of the political community.”

How have these two public servants tried to understand the views and values of people who don’t share their party affiliation? How has their faith informed their public service? How has their work been driven by their belief in something greater than themselves? You are encouraged to bring family, friends, neighbors and coworkers to this event! Transportation is available; please contact Jessica Thurnes at jthurnes@wpc-alex.org if you are interested.

Towards Fuller Faith & Service

Sunday Morning Adult Education Classes (9:45-10:45 AM)



Our Kick-Off Sunday for “Towards Fuller Faith & Service” was a great success thanks to Dr. Larry Hayward, who gave an in depth portrait of Westminster’s place in the bigger mural of Christianity. We asked, “where does Westminster fit into the Christianity of the future?” and “how might it relate to our desire for fuller faith and service?”

“Westminster strives to provide scripture, theology, and traditions thoughtfully, in conjunction with classical and contemporary thought in the humanities, hard sciences, and social sciences,” said Larry. He “challenges us to a better understanding of ourselves, our world, and God” by welcoming “differing viewpoints as each decides, in any given situation, how to act or advocate based on one’s faith and experience and faith.”

Larry invited us to have discussions with people with whom you disagree. What better place to be challenged than with those who we share a common baptism. Join the spirit of volunteerism here at Westminster. And as you leave our sanctuary and go into the world hopefully renewed, may the phrase you heard or a verse from a hymn sung illumine your work in the world. You can listen to Larry’s full remarks at wpc-alex.org/adult.

Losing a Loved One: How Faith & Service Might Merge

Dr. Amy Dyer, Virginia Theological Seminary
October 1, 8, & 15

Dr. Dyer is the James Maxwell Professor of Christian Education & Pastoral Theology. She lost her spouse suddenly and will offer insights from her journey of loss. What experiences might you go through adjusting to life without the person you loved? She will look at physical, emotional and spiritual ways we can help ourselves and others heal from a painful loss of someone close. She will address how we can come to fuller faith and service as we work to serve one another and ourselves.

Sunday Morning Small Group Bible Study

October 1–November 26, 9:45 a.m. in Westminster Room

Join us for *The Present Word: Covenant With God*, an 8-week class designed to deepen our faith through small group discussion. Facilitators Emily Oehler, Susan Cloud, and Steve & Eileen Denne will keep the conversation moving. There is an excellent book to guide us through the topics. Participants can drop in and out. Sign up at wpc-alex.org/adult.

Men of Westminster

www.wpc-alex.org/menofw | RSVP to Dudley Schadeberg at mow@wpc-alex.org

Men's Breakfast

Friday, October 13, 7-8:30 AM in Fellowship Hall
What's Ahead for Westminster?
with Pastor Larry Hayward



Our very own Rev. Larry Hayward will give us a look into what the future may hold for the Westminster congregation. He will follow up the Adult Education lecture that he gave on September 10, which asked the question "Where does Westminster Fit Within Christianity Today?" Considering the changes in our

popular culture, how have such changes impacted Christianity, and how might we move toward fuller faith and service to God in such a context? A question and answer period will follow.

Larry has been pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church since 2004. In addition to his many pastoral responsibilities, he strongly believes in encouraging knowledge and understanding of the scriptures. Over the years Larry has taught year-long courses on the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the Bible.

Since Larry's arrival, Westminster has made great strides: Our membership has increased; the pastoral staff and office staff have expanded; local and international mission spending has increased; the church's physical plant has been upgraded by renovating the sanctuary and modernizing the building systems; and the Blomberg Courtyard has been created.

Mark this date and join us for an invigorating talk, along with a hot breakfast.

2018 Men's Retreat

February 2-4 at Hallowood Retreat and Conference Center
Reformational Reckoning with the End
Jon D. Wood, George Washington University



Christians assert that Jesus reveals the sense of all creation. He is the decisive point – the beginning, and crucially, the end. Protestantism became a movement at all only because Reformers set an urgent agenda to extol Jesus' decisiveness from amidst the heaps of trailing phrases and outrageous failings.

Does any of this sound relevant five hundred years later? Jon 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.

We are fortunate to have Jon D. Wood as our leader. He has served with the Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington since 2013 as a member of the Company of Teachers, lecturing and leading 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.

It is not too soon to mark your calendar to reserve this weekend. The retreat will again take place at the popular Hallowood Retreat and Conference Center, located at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain near Comus, Maryland. Sign up will begin in early November.



Adult Faith Formation

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

You might have noticed people walking around church wearing large blue and maroon buttons which say: "ADULT ED: Discover, Question, Transform." These are people who have participated in our WPC Adult Education programs and they are delighted to talk with you about our many programs. Be sure to stop and chat with someone when you see them wearing one of these buttons!



Westminster Youth

We are off to a great start with youth programs! October brings some fun events for both middle and high school youth. The middle school youth are invited to go to King's Dominion on Saturday, October 14 and the following Friday, high school youth are invited to attend a lock-in on October 20. We have a speaker coming on October 1 to introduce us to the Montreat Youth Conferences and our first Breakfast and Bible for High Schoolers on October 22, that same night parents and youth can hear about summer trips and opportunities.

All 6th-12th graders are invited to continue to strengthen and expand their musicianship and singing skills. Help shape the direction and repertoire as we build/rebuild music for Youth at Westminster. Contact Molly Roden at mroden@wpc-alex.org. **FIRST Rehearsal October 1.**

Rehearsals: Sundays, 6-7 PM
(between Youth Fellowships)

Location: Choir Room 112

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

Opportunities for Women at Westminster

We are pleased that Alison Griffin will be our new Presbyterian Women Vice Moderator working with Moderator Janet Harris. For questions or more information about any of the opportunities described below, please contact Janet and Alison!

Women's Circles

Small groups of women meet monthly for Bible study, mission outreach, and fellowship with one another. Our Bible study this year is called "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews" where we will focus on the importance of community, both in the Bible and in our own lives.

This year we are starting up a **New Daytime Circle** open to all women but geared in particular to mothers of elementary and younger children. We hope to attract women in their 20's, 30's, 40's, and 50's who have some daytime flexibility in their schedule but who have not been able to attend any of our current circles. Melynda Wilcox will serve as co-chair for the new circle. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Nancy Hall Berens. We would also like to announce that **Mary Circle**, which started as an evening circle for young moms some years ago, now has an expanded membership that includes women with and without children.

Each of the circles now has their own email address that you may use to find out more about each group! Also check our page on the church website for meeting times and descriptions of circles and other activities below.

- **Elizabeth Circle**

Second Tuesdays, 10:00 AM in Johnson Parlor

Contact chairs Bobbie Whittier and Alison Griffin at elizabethcircle@wpc-alex.org

- **Hannah Circle**

Third Tuesdays, 7:30 PM in Johnson Parlor

Contact chair Elizabeth Martineau at hannahcircle@wpc-alex.org

- **Mary Circle**

First Tuesdays, 7:30 PM in members' homes

Contact chairs Kirstin O'Connor, Adrienne Griffin, and Meredith Smoot at marycircle@wpc-alex.org

- **Rachel Circle**

Second Tuesdays, 7:30 PM in Johnson Parlor

Contact chair Janet Harris at rachelcircle@wpc-alex.org

- **Ruth Circle**

Second Wednesdays, 10:00 AM in Johnson Parlor

Contact chairs Sheila Weiss and Terry Wilson at ruthcircle@wpc-alex.org

- **Sarah Circle**

Second Tuesdays, 7:30 PM in Haverkamp Room

Contact chairs Anne Gross and Donna Stenlund at sarahcircle@wpc-alex.org

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

October | Read the classic "Big House" novel "The Rising Tide" by Molly Keane (first written under the pseudonym J.M. Farrell). It is a "comedy of manners" about an Anglo-Irish family, their Gothic country house, and their way of life and social relationships in the early 20th century. Discussions will be led by Clara Beth Van de Water in the Johnson Parlor on Monday, October 23 at 11:00 AM and Monday, October 30 at 7:30 PM.

Pillow Ministry meets monthly to make pillows and stuffed animals for heart patients and children at Alexandria Hospital. We recently received a letter from the hospital:

Dear Nancy and the wonderful Westminster Presbyterian Church Ladies!!

We don't say it as much as we should, for sure, but we are very grateful to you ladies for your continued commitment to Alexandria Hospital patients – especially Heart Patients, Women's Services and our children. Thank you...thank you...thank you!

Chris, Volunteer Manager

Shanghai Card Group gathers once a month for some friendly competition and fellowship. Learn and play this card game on the third Monday of every month at 7:15 PM in Haverkamp Room.

Fall and Spring Gatherings include special speakers on a variety of topics ranging from spiritual to social justice issues.

Make Your Voice Heard! Presbyterian Women National Capital Presbytery Fall Gathering

Saturday, September 30 | 9 AM–12:30 PM at Gaithersburg PC
Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, Director of PC(USA) Office of Public Witness, will share his thoughts on Christian witness. Workshops include Leaders Shall Lead! And Volunteer Mission to Haiti. Worship w/ Communion & Compassion/Peace/Justice Offering. Registration (\$15), light refreshments beginning at 8:30. Reservations: www.presbyterianwomennpc.org; carpool info: pw@wpc-alex.org.

Women's Retreat at Hallwood Retreat Center

March 16-18, 2018

Led by the Rev Lucy Dergarabedian on the topic "Enjoying the Journey." Watch for more details in the October Chronicle.

Congregational Life

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

Another "Chili" Night! | All-Church Campfire and Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, October 14, 5:00-7:30 PM

We're back for more! Show off your best chili skills at our Chili Cook-Off or just come to taste! Enjoy friends and fellowship around the campfire, designed for all ages. Chairs and tables on the pavement will be available as well as space for blankets on the lawn and hay bales. Bring old clothes to make your own scarecrow! Modest fee for dinner. No charge for chili chefs! To enter your chili in the cook-off, email Steve Lastelic at CL@wpc-alex.org by October 11.

Outsiders Events

Sign up with Kera Winburn at
outsiders@wpc-alex.org

Hiking in Shenandoah National Park | Saturday, October 21, 8 AM–5 PM

<https://www.nps.gov/shen/fox-hollow.htm>

Join us for a hike on Fox Farm - Snead Farm Loop in Shenandoah National Park. Pack a lunch and bring water. Bring snacks, sunscreen, hat, and bug spray as appropriate. Meet at the church to leave on the bus by 8 AM. Entrance fee is \$10.00 per person without a National Parks pass. If you are interested in a more strenuous hike, please let Kera know when you register.

Hiking & Walking in Harper's Ferry, WV | Saturday, November 4, 8 AM–5 PM

Join us for walking around Harper's Ferry, walking on the C&O canal, or hiking to the Overlook. Pack a lunch or sample local fare at one of the restaurants. Plan to bring water. Bring sunscreen, hat, and bug spray as appropriate. Meet at the church to leave on the bus by 8 AM. Entrance fee is \$5.00 per person without a National Parks pass. RSVP required to Kera Winburn.

Elder and Deacon Nominees

At the request of the Nominating Committee the Session has called for a Congregational Meeting on October 29, 2017, immediately following the 11:00 service, for the purpose of approving the nominees for the Session and Board of Deacons Classes of 2021. In accordance with church procedures the Committee solicited recommendations from the congregation through the Chronicle and Update. Candidates were contacted by a committee member to discuss and determine his or her interest in serving as a church officer. The members of the 2017 Nominating Committee are Amber Lempke, Mara Winn, Madeline Ramsey, Frank Fraser, Brian Folkerts, Vice Chair – Mary Filicetti, and Chair – Bill Keeth. The Committee appreciates the blessing that is this active and vibrant congregation which is so willing to serve. The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce and present the following nominees:

Elder Class of 2020

Alex Bryant grew up in North Carolina. He attended Wake Forest University where he met his wife Janie Roden. He and Janie were married at Westminster in 2007. They lived in Atlanta, GA until moving to Alexandria, VA in 2010. Alex officially joined Westminster in 2017 but has been active in the young family activities, plays on the church softball team and is part of the Children Ministries Team. He and his wife Janie have 4 kids - Andy, Molly, Penny and Cora. He operates a video production company in Alexandria, Bryant Productions, and has helped Westminster create several videos over the years such as the 75th Anniversary video.

Phil Kuhl has been a member of Westminster since 2016 and is a member of the International Missions Committee. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he studied at the Université de Paris-Sorbonne, the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris, and is a graduate of Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. Phil's professional years were spent with the Central Intelligence Agency, about a third of which was spent in Western Europe. He is unmarried. Retired since 2006, he volunteers as a docent at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History and as a motorman at the National Capital Trolley Museum.

Jill Maguire and her husband, Rhett Skiles, joined Westminster in 2015. Jill and Rhett live in Annandale with their three children, Henry (6), Hattie (4), and Hagen (1), who were baptized together at Westminster. Since joining Westminster, Jill has volunteered in the nursery and Creation Station, attended the family retreat, and served as a member of the Prayer Chain. An East Texas transplant, Jill graduated from Austin College and, later, George Mason University Law School. Previously in private practice at Steptoe & Johnson, Jill is now an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division.

Jill McClure was born and raised in Kingsport, Tennessee. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts from Sewanee: The University of the South, a Master of Historic preservation from the University of Georgia, and a Master of Architecture from the University of Maryland. Jill is employed by the United States Capitol Police as a security project planner. She joined Westminster in August 2015. Here at Westminster she is a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, and volunteers for the Meals on Wheels program. She is the owner of a loving and loyal rescue dog, Quincy.

Ted Pusey has been a member of Westminster since 2013, the year Larry married Ted and Page in the Chapel. He is a native Washingtonian who grew-up in Montgomery County, MD. Ted is a graduate of Wofford College and has a Masters from the US Army Command and General Staff College. Ted retired in 2015 after 40 years of combined military, congressional staff, and civil service. He has been an Usher at

Westminster since 2013 and became an Usher Captain this year. Ted has two daughters and five granddaughters. He is a member of the Washington Metropolitan Golf Association Board of Directors and is an avid Washington Nationals fan.

Candace Rush was born in San Francisco, California, and raised Catholic. She started attending Westminster in 1984. She and her husband, Henri, were married here in 1987. While at Westminster she has served in many capacities including the Administration and Finance Committee, Session, Congregational Life Committee, United Orphanage & Academy Steering Committee, Chair of the Foundation Board, among others. She has participated in numerous mission trips including Kenya, Peru, and North Dakota. She is also a member of the Rachel Circle. Volunteering for the Presbytery, she has served on the Peace and Social Justice Committee, and the Peacekeeping Committee of Northern Ireland. Prior to retirement Candace served as the Administrator for the General Council Office of the NASD in Washington, D.C.

Jim Sample and his wife, Stephanie, and their two children Carrie (13) and Bennett (11) joined Westminster in 2007. The whole family was immediately drawn into the caring of the greater Westminster community when Carrie started attending Westminster preschool in 2007. Jim works for Colorado State University and is currently detailed to the U.S. Air Force to aid with installation and land management issues. He is a DC native that spent most of his childhood in the Northern Virginia suburbs and earned an engineering degree from the University of Virginia. Jim's hobbies revolve around family, but other interests include skiing and the odd construction project. He is grateful to be able to aid Westminster as it embarks on this expanded mission.

John Scruggs and his wife, Nancy, first joined Westminster in 1983 when they were married in the Chapel by George Pera. They rejoined in 2013 after returning from living in Switzerland. John has served on Session for the last three years, initially as Vice Chairman of the Administration and Finance Committee and this year as Chairman. He has been active in the Thursday Morning Study Group, tutoring at George Mason, attended one of Pastor Larry's New Testament classes and previously served on the Adult Education Subcommittee. John's two daughters, Michelle Ozanus and Sarah Scruggs, attended Westminster Pre-School as will all four of his grandchildren. John is retired but does some consulting work. He and Nancy live in Alexandria.

Melissa Sellevaag and her husband, Tom, joined Westminster in 2011 after attending regularly for several years. With a young daughter Maggie (6) and son Ben (4), she is a regular volunteer in the preschool rooms during the Sunday service. Melissa is a proud native of New Jersey, but she has lived in the DC area since 2000. A social worker by training, she has spent the past 15+ years supporting vulnerable populations

with a focus on persons living with HIV. Her current work, at Whitman-Walker Health, focuses on youth and families impacted by HIV. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking and baking, going for a run through her Capitol Hill neighborhood, and finding the perfect cup of coffee.

Deacon Class of 2020

Becca Bagley joined Westminster in 2007. Born and raised in Richmond, VA, Becca grew up in the Bon Air Presbyterian Church. After graduating from the University of Virginia, Becca was an elementary school teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools for 6 years. Becca is married to Chris, and stays at home with their three children: JT (6), Savannah (5), and Luke (2). She is a member of the Children's Ministry Team, is active in young family activities, and serves as a superintendent in the preschool wing.

Sue Browning has lived in Alexandria, VA since 1981 having grown up in Wellesley, MA and being a member of the Wellesley Congregational Church there. She came to the DC area after graduating from William & Mary. She joined Westminster in 1996. She has served on the Finance Committee and volunteered with the bag lunch program. She worked in high technology sales to the Federal Government for 17 years for several companies. Wanting to spend more time with her daughters she started her own Ad Specialty distributorship so she could work out of her home. She has been married to her husband, Kelly, since 1983. Both of her daughters were confirmed at Westminster. She has served in various capacities with the Campagna Center, including 6 years on their board of directors. She was on the board of the MacArthur PTA serving as president as well as volunteering as a tutor for many years afterward. She also served on the board of the Belle Haven Nine Hole Golf group where she is an avid golfer. Her other hobbies include skiing, needlepoint, reading and traveling with her family.

Bill Eckert grew up in Knoxville, Tennessee, and resides with his family in Springfield. He and his wife, Marilyn, were married here at Westminster, and have been members for over 25 years. They have two grown sons, John and David. Bill has served previously as a Deacon and an Elder. He has also chaired the Buildings and Grounds Committee, served on the Local Mission Committee, ushered for many years, taught and served as Shepherd for Sunday school, and been very active in ALIVE! Bill is a structural engineer and holds degrees from Vanderbilt University and the University of Texas. He really likes spending time outdoors, and enjoys both golf and tennis.

Jim Ewalt is a lifelong Presbyterian who has actively participated in several congregations while living in the Northern Virginia area since 1960. He and his wife, Kary, joined Westminster after moving to Alexandria in 2007. Jim is a graduate of Muskingum University in Ohio and received his JD degree from Washington and Lee University in Virginia. He is retired from his career as a lawyer with the cable television industry and now serves on several volunteer and non-profit boards, is a tour guide, travels, and enjoys golf and baseball.

Jim Helm and his wife Susie joined Westminster in 2015. He currently serves on the Administration and Finance Committee and has participated in Reverend Hayward's Old and New Testament classes. Jim does accounting work for a

medical trade association in Alexandria. Jim is a native of Charleston, WV. He and Susie have been married for 28 years and have lived in Alexandria for over 4 years with their Vizsla, Lexi. Jim has a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech and an MBA from Indiana University. He enjoys history, politics, golf and is an avid fan of Virginia Tech and Indiana sports as well as New York professional sports teams.

Susan McAdoo has been a lifelong member of Westminster. She had a wonderful career, as a United Airlines Flight attendant for 17 years. She met the love of her life, Mike and was married by Don Campbell. They have three adult children, Chris, Katherine and Will. Their grandsons, Cole and Ryan, are continuing the McAdoo tradition in the life of Westminster. She looks forward to growing in her faith and becoming a Deacon.

John McArdle and his wife Laura joined Westminster in 2014. Born and raised in Darnestown, Maryland, John grew up attending Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Parish. After graduating from the University of Virginia, John moved to the D.C. area to work for Roll Call Newspaper on Capitol Hill. He now works as a producer and host for C-SPAN, the public affairs network. John also serves as a national board member for One in Four, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of rape and sexual assault with a focus on college campuses. John and Laura have two children, Lucy - who attends Westminster Weekly Preschool - and David.

Chris Miles has been a member of Westminster since 2007. Originally from Michigan, Chris and his wife, Laura, met in Alexandria. They have two daughters: Samantha is a junior at the University of Delaware and Caroline is a ninth grader at the TC Williams Minnie Howard campus. Since joining Westminster, Chris has been active with Rebuilding Together Alexandria and participated in a middle school mission trip to Pittsburgh. Chris works at the Architect of the Capitol.

The son and grandson of Presbyterian ministers, **David Moser** first joined Westminster in 1988. He previously served on the Session of two Presbyterian churches in which he chaired the New Member and Adult Education Committees and also served as Clerk of Session. In addition, he has served on the Personnel Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Youth Renovation Task Force, and two Search Committees for church staff. Other activities include teaching Children in Worship and participating in various local mission projects. David and his wife, Rebecca (who previously served on the Board of Deacons), met and were married at Westminster. They have two sons and one daughter.

Anne Pickett is a North Carolina native and graduate of Duke University. She initially worked at the House of Representatives on a Congressman's personal staff. After that she worked as a project manager for the computer systems used to gather and disseminate official legislative data for the Congress. She has been a member of Westminster for most of her adult life, and is a member of the Rachel Circle. She has served our church as an elder, deacon, and clerk of the session. She has also tutored extensively next door at George Mason Elementary, and was the coordinator of Westminster's tutoring program there. Anne loves the educational and service opportunities at our church, and especially the fellowship and community that is Westminster.

the Chronicle

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Member Involvement News



We're off to another great program year. Larry Hayward kicked off the Adult Education program with reflections on the theme for this year, "Toward Fuller Faith and Service." This theme is a reminder of all that Westminster has to offer. It's also a reminder that we must be intentional about taking advantage of these offerings. We can have the best worship service ever, but it won't do you any good if you don't attend. Likewise, we can (and do) offer many opportunities for service in the community, nationally, and around the world, but they are of no use to you if you don't participate. We also offer

easy and fun ways to be involved in the life of the church through numerous fellowship activities. In all cases, you can learn more by visiting the church website <https://wpc-alex.org/> or by reading the monthly newsletter and the weekly updates.

Westminster is able to offer the many programs and activities for a number of reasons. First of all, we have a capable and dedicated staff that plans and directs church activities. They are assisted by dedicated volunteers (we can always use more). We also have a generous congregation that supports the programs with monetary contributions.

On this last note, we will soon be reminded via the annual Stewardship Campaign that we need to continue our generous support of Westminster activities. In considering your pledge, keep in mind what Westminster means to you and what you would miss if we were unable to continue to support it. It is important that each of us give as we can to support the mission of the church. In giving we are saying that we value the program at Westminster. Every contribution is valuable. Every member is needed. Together we can make Westminster an even larger witness to Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Art Sauer
Membership Involvement Coordinator