



# The Westmorelander

Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ

Volume XLVI, No. 10

An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 15, 2005

## Executive Committee Approves Conservatory Proposal

On April 26, the Westmoreland Executive Committee unanimously approved in principle a proposal from the Washington Conservatory of Music to share space at Westmoreland, as recommended by the Trustees.

“This is an important opportunity to strengthen our ties with the community, to enhance our music program, to bolster our outreach concerts, and to add income for church priorities by building a partnership with a highly respected major arts organization,” said Moderator **Pete Davis**.

The Executive Committee commissioned a Negotiating Team comprised of Church leaders, to negotiate a detailed contract with the Conservatory. The Conservatory hopes to relocate to Westmoreland this summer and to begin teaching this fall. “We must work out a complex agreement which puts the Church’s needs first, while serving the Conservatory’s faculty and students” said Trustee **Doug Hallward-Driemeier**, who will lead the working group. Other members of the working group include **Gary McDavid**, **Sue Kirk** and **Caryn McTighe Musil**.

Because of the impact on the Church, a special Conservatory Advisory Group is being formed of all interested Church members who

would like to have input into the new arrangement.

If you would like to serve on the Advisory Group, please contact Trustee Chair **Jeff Eagan** via email ([jeff.eagan@eh.doe.gov](mailto:jeff.eagan@eh.doe.gov)) or phone (W 202-586-4598/ H 301-652-9047). Each Board is being solicited to appoint at least one member to the Group. The Trustees will continue to reach out, to listen, and to involve individual members and Church organizations in the deliberations.

The Washington Conservatory has resided next door at Briggs Baptist Church for the past two decades until its recent sale to the Washington Jesus Baptist Church. That congregation has plans to use the building which will require the Conservatory to relocate.

“We are delighted with the decision,” said Conservatory Director Kathy Judd. “This is a win-win situation which will benefit both our organizations. We look forward to working closely with Westmorelanders to develop new initiatives for cooperation.”

To learn more about the Conservatory, Church members are invited to visit them at their current home. Just call the Conservatory office at 301-320-2770. Their website is <http://www.washingtonconservatory.com/>

### May Worship

Confirmation Sunday-May 15

The 2005 Confirmands will be received into membership.

Children’s Musical  
Sunday-May 22

Music, drama, ferocious animals and a hero! We’ll see and hear it all when the children’s choirs present the musical **Rescue in the Night** by Allen Pote, the story of Daniel in the Lion’s Den.

Arts Appreciation Sunday-May 29

Special music, liturgy, and recognition of the Westmoreland Arts Committee.

### Public Affairs Forum on Social Security

A Public Affairs Forum—“Social Security Program: How Do We Fix It?”—will be held on **Sunday, June 5 at 11:30 am** in the Social Hall. The forum, consisting of a panel of legal, economic and policy experts, will examine the current social security debate from three different perspectives. It will be chaired by **Heidi Hartmann**, member of Westmoreland Church and President of the Institute for Women’s Policy Research. The panelists are: **Lisa K. Davis**, Legislative Counsel, American Association for Retired Persons (AARP), **Maya MacGuineas**, Director, Fiscal Policy Program, New American Foundation, and **Christian Weller**, Senior Economist, Center for American Progress. Child care will be provided.

## Pilgrim UCC Introduced to Shaw Community Ministry Program

Pastor Steve Anderson and ten parishioners from Pilgrim UCC of Wheaton, Maryland paid a visit to Shaw Community Ministry on April 24. **Alisa Tanaka** from First Church represented the SCM Board explaining the board's role in directing and planning the affairs of the ministry. **Rev. Paul Saddler**, SCM Executive Director, described the programs and directed a tour of the facility.

The heart of the day was listening to the testimonies from the beneficiaries of the ministry who described how SCM plays a vital role in the community and in their personal lives. Carsia and her mother **Tessie Todd** shared how important SCM is to the residents of Lincoln/Westmoreland Apartments, while **Arthea Reynolds**, a mother of two sons, offered a moving testimony about how, after divorce, SCM helped her keep it together. Her older son Daniel is now in college and with the help of the

## Sojourners Concert

**Carrie Newcomer**, socially conscious singer and guitarist, will present a concert "A Gathering of Spirits" to benefit Sojourners, a progressive faith community. The concert will be held at Cedar Ridge Community Church, Spencerville, MD. The evening will be hosted by pastor **Brian McLaren** and will include a dialogue and reception following the concert featuring Jim Wallis, founder of Sojourners and author of **God's Politics: Why the Right Gets it Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It**. Tickets are available at 800-714-7474 or [www.sojo.net](http://www.sojo.net).

Ministry purchased books his mother could not afford. **Shantice Holley**, who has just been accepted to three different colleges, spoke about how both the Youth Development Project at SCM and the After School Program have helped her succeed.

Thank you, Westmorelanders, for your unwavering support of Shaw Community Ministry from its inception. As you can see, your constancy has touched people's lives.

— *Caryn McTighe Musil,*  
*Chair of SCM Board*

(*Ed. Note: The Arts at Westmoreland has raised \$2,710.95 for SCM since September 2004.*)

## Funds Raised for Bone Marrow Tests

Westmoreland Church contributed \$2,140 to help pay for bone marrow tests of students in **Abby Lenhart's** medical school class. Abby's roommate, **Audrey Segal**, has aplastic anemia and may undergo a bone marrow transplant. Abby has been raising funds to have all of their classmates tested for compatibility. Once again, you have opened your wallets and demonstrated your compassion and generosity. Thank you, Westmorelanders! We will keep you posted on Audrey's progress.

## Parish Notes

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to **Ann Morales** on the death of her mother, Martha Kieswetter, on April 24, in Washington, DC, and to **Pat Nelson**, whose mother, Margery Barger, died on March 7 in Texas.

## Gatherings

**Prime Timers**—The May luncheon will be held May 18, with nibbles in the Parlor at 12 noon and lunch at 12:30 in the Social Hall. **Jayne MacLean, Charlotte Moore and Nona Cox** are the co-hosts. The cost is \$5. Sign up during Coffee Hour at the What's Happening Table in the Social Hall, or with Nona at 301-229-6334. If you have a birthday in May, please let one of the co-hosts know. All Westmorelanders over 65 are invited to attend.

**Fellowship Breakfast**—The next Fellowship Breakfast will be on Sunday, June 5, in Room 35 starting at 8:30 am. This will be a pancake event, so bring the kids.

## Filmgoers, Unite!

Do you enjoy attending the movies? Westmorelanders **Susan Frant** and **Doug Hunt** would like to be part of a small group for filmgoers and movie buffs. Participants would arrange a date to see a film, then have coffee and dessert afterwards to discuss it. The Washington area offers ample opportunities for movie buffs: The American Film Institute, various art movie houses and a host of chain theaters.

The group will be modeled after our book clubs and parents groups: a coordinator who will be a contact person and the Board of Membership and Fellowship to lend support as needed. Let's make a date to go to the movies! Contact Susan at 301-933-3377 or [sammoll@hotmail.com](mailto:sammoll@hotmail.com) or Janet Moyer in the church office.

## Volunteer Corps 20th Anniversary

The anniversary gala weekend, **June 17–19**, is just one month away. If you would like to help with the planning, contact **John Pielemeier**.

## Book Sale Raises \$1,500 for BCA

Thanks to all who purchased books. The results of the Spring Book Sale are now in: \$1547 was collected over the 3-day sale period (Friday, April 29-Sunday, May 1). Thanks are also due to the donors and to the people who worked so hard to put the books out for the sale, and re-box the remaining books on Sunday. There may be more good news after second-hand book dealers have a chance to look over our remaining specially-priced books.

— *Kay Jansky, Alan McMann,  
Ann Morales, Judy and John Newman*

## Library News

These books were recently purchased for the Elisabeth Tisdale Nordbeck Library, (Room 34).

**Her Image of Salvation: Female Saviors and Formative Christianity** by Gail Paterson Corrington is part of the Westminster/John Knox Press series **Gender and the Biblical Tradition**. Corrington's book raises important points for all Christians, but especially for those women who ask: "Can a male savior save women?" and "Why must a savior be male?"

**Jonathan Edwards, A Life**, by George M. Marsden is the first comprehensive biography in sixty years of the great American and Christian who is perhaps best known for his sermon "Sinners in the Hand of an Angry God". Marsden's book won the 2003 Bancroft Prize for that year's best volume of historical scholarship. Edwards was a preeminent figure of "The Great Awakening" and served as president of what was to become Princeton University.

## Congratulations College Graduates!

**Kari Brindle**—Master of Science in Systems Engineering from Vanderbilt University. She is entertaining several job offers. **Laura Wells**—Master of Education from Harvard University, Phi Beta Kappa. She will be teaching in the Durham, North Carolina area. **Brian Moyer**—Bachelor of Science in Psychology from James Madison University. He is planning to teach English for a year in Viet Nam. **Kate Pielemeier**—University of California at Berkeley in International Development Studies. She will spend the summer in Brazil and look for a job in the fall. **Bonner Sale**—Bachelors in Fine Art from the Maryland Institute College of Art. His plans include work and graduate school. **Katharine Wells**—Bachelor of Arts in Art History. She hopes to work in a museum. **Katie Shelton** graduated in December 2004 with a degree in Spanish from Emory University. She hopes to work in international development.

## Escrip Benefits Volunteer Corps

Thank you to the 26 Westmorelanders who registered for the Escript program that sends a percentage of purchases our way. As we continue to interview a wonderful group of applicants for next year's Volunteer Corps, we are reminded again and again of how worthy this program still is in the metropolitan area. To join our group of supporters, all YOU need to do is go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) or [www.schoolpop.com](http://www.schoolpop.com) and follow the instructions for registering. Our group name is Westmoreland Congregational Church, but all money earned goes to the Volunteer Corps budget. Just think how much more successful this program would be in raising funds for the Volunteer Corps if more Westmorelanders would take the plunge! Please visit the websites above and register. It is not too late! Again, thank you for your support.

—*Gail Edie, Volunteer Corps Board*

## Still-speaking Stats

2,301 churches are demonstrating their excitement about helping people find a spiritual home with the United Church of Christ. They are strengthening their United Church of Christ brand identity by joining the Still-speaking movement. And they are extending extravagant hospitality in Jesus' name.

53% of all United Church of Christ members belong to a Still-speaking church. What a powerful voice for invitation and welcome!

42,844 visitors went to "Find a Church" on the UCC website in the month of March.

## Christian Education

Take a moment to admire the beautiful flowers planted on May 1 by our children in the Godly Play and **Grades 1-6** on the Massachusetts Avenue side of the church!

**Youth Groups**—On May 22, at 12:30pm, we'll be taking a group after church to go see the new Star Wars movie: *Revenge of the Sith* at the United Artists Theater, Bethesda. This activity is open to both Middle School and High School groups! If you would like a reserved ticket (recommended), please RSVP to Amber as soon as possible.



**May 15-31, 2005**

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday                             | Friday   | Saturday                              |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>15</b><br>Worship & Church School 10 am<br>Childrens Choir 11:15<br>Karen Davis Concert 4 pm<br>Worship 6 pm | <b>16</b><br>Boards meet 7:30 pm                             | <b>17</b><br>Staff 10 am and 11 am<br><br>AA 7:30 pm                       | <b>18</b><br>Alanon 12 pm  | <b>19</b><br>Choirs 6:15, 7 and 8 pm | <b>20</b><br>Alanon 12 pm<br><br>H.S. Youth Lock-in<br><br>AA 8 pm | <b>21</b>                             |
| <b>22</b><br>Children's Musical 10:00 am  | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b><br>Staff 10 am and 11 am<br>Exec. Comm 7:30 pm<br><br>AA 7:30 pm | <b>25</b><br>Alanon 12 pm<br>Wed. Eve. Book Club 7:30 pm<br><br>Women's Book Group 7:30 pm | <b>26</b><br>Choirs 6:15, 7 and 8 pm | <b>27</b><br>Alanon 12 pm<br><br>AA 8 pm                           | <b>28</b><br>Confirmation Dinner 6 pm |
| <b>29</b><br>Arts Appreciation Sunday 10:00 am  | <b>30</b><br><b>MEMORIAL DAY</b><br><br><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> | <b>31</b><br>Staff 10 am and 11 am<br><br>AA 7:30 pm                       |  |                                      |  |                                       |

*Senior Minister*.....Richard L. Smith  
*Associate Minister for Parish Life*.....Melinda Reed  
*Minister of Music*.....Mackenzie Albert  
*Director of Christian Education* .....Amber Henry Neuroth  
*Newsletter Editor*.....Janet Moyer  
  
**Office Hours: M-F 9am - 4pm**

**Newsletter Deadlines**

| Issue Date | Deadline |
|------------|----------|
| June 1     | May 17   |
| June 15    | June 5   |

**Articles should be emailed to:**  
**jmoyer@westmorelanducc.org**

The **Westmorelander** (USPS 680-780) is published semi-monthly September to June by Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda, MD 20816. (301)229-7766

[www.westmorelanducc.org](http://www.westmorelanducc.org)

*Postmaster:* Send address changes to The Westmorelander, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda, MD 20816.