



The Westmorelander

Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ

Volume XLVI, No. 11

An Open and Affirming Congregation

June 1, 2005

Students Prepare for Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday is coming up on June 12 and I am writing to let you know about this exciting service in the life of our congregation. In working on this service, I thought of the song, "Jesus Loves the Little Children," a sentiment that is so true about the upcoming Youth Sunday. Children and youth have a unique understanding of life and faith that can speak to us all. They explore religious themes, Biblical texts, and worship liturgies with fresh eyes. As cynical as today's youth can be, they still bring to this material openness, life, and hope. Not only will we feel God's blessing during their service, but also see the future of our faith.

In some ways, this coming Youth Sunday will be similar to those in the past. This year's service, however, will be different in that the high school youth have planned the entire service. They have worked diligently in choosing the scripture and the themes. They have collaborated together and with the church staff on the preached message, the musical selections, and the incorporation of their younger peers into the service. I am so happy about this opportunity for them!

Now, if you're thinking, "What kind of service can we expect with the youth in charge? Will it be proper?" let me reassure you that these youth take the worship experience seriously. Let me also give you advance notice that we have encouraged these young people to create a service that reflects

their own religious faith, which will not be traditional in every respect. This Youth Sunday service is one way that our children and youth can feel part of our community in EVERY way!

If you are thinking, "I can't wait to see what the youth have created," then you are on the right track. I ask that we all support them in their efforts and open ourselves to encountering God as seen through these young eyes.

*Amber Neuroth,
Director of Christian Education*

Julian Bond to Deliver Keynote Address

All Westmorelanders and friends are invited to the 20th Anniversary celebration of the Westmoreland Volunteer Corps on Saturday and Sunday, June 18-19. **Julian Bond**, well known social activist and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the NAACP, will give the keynote address.

The theme for Saturday's program (9:30 am -2:00 pm) will be "Church-Based Volunteerism for Our New Century—20 years and Still Evolving." In addition to Dr. Bond's presentation, the program will include two panels comprised of former volunteers, social agency directors, and religious leaders. They will lead our discussions about what has and has not been accomplished through the work of the Westmoreland Volunteer Corps and other church-based volunteer agencies. The discussions will be followed by a catered luncheon (with a \$10 suggested donation). **If you plan to attend Saturday's program, please contact Ann Morales** at moralann@aol.com or 301-229-7286 by June 13.

The Saturday evening potluck at the church will feature original music and skits created by Jean Lutterman and David Batson. **If you plan to attend the potluck, contact Jo Ann Harris** at jaj2@comcast.net or 301-229-7175 and let her know if you will bring an entrée, salad, or dessert.

The Sunday morning church service will focus on how church-based volunteerism needs to evolve to remain relevant. The celebration will officially end after the Coffee Hour, which will include special recognition of the founders of the Volunteer Corps.

Worship Topics and Themes

Sunday, June 5

"On the Difference Between a Healing and a Cure"

Matthew 9:10-12, 18-31

Communion

Rich Smith preaching

Sunday, June 12

Youth Sunday

Luke 19:1-10

Worship Service conducted by
Westmoreland Youth

Evening Worship at 6:00 pm

Washington Conservatory Agreement

The Executive Committee voted, on April 26, to move forward with negotiations regarding a relationship between Westmoreland and the Washington Conservatory of Music.

Moderator **Pete Davis** and Trustee Chair **Jeff Eagan** have asked the following four people to serve on the core Negotiating Team that will work out the details of a relationship with the Conservatory: **Gary McDavid**, **Sue Kirk**, **Caryn McTighe Musil**, and **Doug Hallward-Driemeier**.

The committee has already begun its work and individual members have agreed to serve as point persons for different issues. Gary will take the lead on developing synergies between the Conservatory and Westmoreland's own mission, such as conservatory faculty enhancing the music during worship services, joint benefit concerts, youth jazz evenings, and the like.

Sue is the lead person working on space and scheduling issues, including the possible reconfiguring of some space in mutually beneficial ways. Doug and Caryn will be heading up efforts to address administrative issues relating to the relationship, such as parking, security, custodial needs, and ongoing scheduling issues.

The negotiating team will be consulting with interested staff and members of the congregation through an Advisory Group that we hope you will consider joining. Please contact Jeff Eagan by e-mail (jeff.eagan@eh.doe.gov) or phone (W 202-586-4598/ H 301-652-9047) if you would like to play a role in the advisory group.

Film on Church History Screened at WCUC

A television documentary, **In This House**, will be shown at Westmoreland on June 4 at 4 pm and repeated at 6 pm, with a reception at 5 pm.

The film is the first program in a new historical television series from writer/director David Alan Gages that examines the history of religion in the country. This program focuses on the story of Mount Hollywood Congregational Church, the first integrated house of worship in Los Angeles, and its long-time pastor, Rev. Allan Hunter.

The documentary traces the church from its founding through its controversial outreach to Japanese-Americans interned during World War II. For reservations, call **Helen Louise Hunter** at 301-320-5444 or **Eleanor Gates** at 301-933-0808.

UCC Central Atlantic Conference

The annual meeting of the Central Atlantic Conference, "Deepening Faith, Making Peace", will be held June 10-12 at the University of Delaware in Newark. Westmoreland will be represented by **Caryn McTighe Musil**, but the meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Three resolutions will be presented: protected status for Indonesians; to be a Fair Trade Conference; and marriage equality. For meeting information and/or to learn more about the resolutions, visit www.cacucc.org.

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. Contact **John or Judy Newman** (301-949-7039).

Parish Notes

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to **Caryn McTighe Musil** and her family on the death of her sister, Mary McTighe Weeks, in Phoenix, Arizona on May 10.

This past year has been a challenging one for the **Doty-Owens Family**. I want to thank the church and its members for their prayers during the year and for the kind homecoming I received two weeks ago. It is good to be home.

Grant Doty

(Editor's note: Lt. Colonel Grant Doty returned on May 3 from a year-long deployment in Iraq. His return was recognized during the worship service and at coffee hour on May 8. Grant created a web blog to keep family and friends informed of his activities and thoughts about his experience. His final posting, reflecting on his experience in Iraq, is available at <http://mycatch22.blogspot.com/>).

I wish to thank my wonderful Westmoreland friends for the great send-off to Goodwin House where I am finally settled into my last Foreign Service post. I miss all of you and send my love.

Ginny Bogardus

Congratulations to the 2005 Graduates

Emily Bartlett graduates from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. She will be attending Cornell University. **Ryan Reed-Kaufman** graduates from Washington and Lee High School and will attend Northern Virginia Community College.

Conference on Hunger and Poverty

The United Church of Christ has partnered with Bread for the World and Call to Renewal to sponsor an event at American University on June 4-7. "One Table, Many Voices," will address reducing poverty and hunger in the United States and will offer the opportunity to meet anti-hunger/poverty advocates from around the world. The event will include:

- Plenary sessions with nationally-known political leaders and policymakers, religious leaders and community activists in the anti-poverty/hunger field
- An interfaith convocation Monday June 6th at the Washington National Cathedral on the scandal of hunger at home and abroad, with UCC General Minister and President **John Thomas** speaking
- A Congressional Breakfast on National Hunger Awareness Day at the MCI center to launch a Lobby Day
- Workshops that will equip you to become a stronger anti-hunger/poverty activist and will provide valuable insight into current poverty and hunger policies.

For more information on the conference and to register online, visit <http://www.ucctakeaction.org/ctt.asp> or call 800-822-7323, ext. 203

Meet Our New Member

Doug Hunt is an ordained minister in the Chesapeake Conference and former pastor of Columbia United Christian Church. He is currently self-employed and is the co-convenor of NEER, the Network for Environmental and Economic Responsibility of the UCC. His personal interests include economic justice, the environment, reading and travel. He and **Susan Frant** live in Garrett Park, MD. He joined by letter of transfer.

Benefit Concert

The **Westmoreland Chancel Choir**, accompanied by orchestra and guests, will present a concert of Bach music on **Sunday, June 4 at 4pm**. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Bethesda Cares.

Congratulations Confirmands!



Congratulations to the following young people who were confirmed into the membership of Westmoreland Church on Sunday, May 15: Lee Axelrod, Phaon Derr, Charlie Johnson, Peter King, Kate Perino, Dana Savage, Sarah Schear, Jeffrey Scholl, Caroline Sieber, Katie Siegner, Laney Siegner, and Marc Toureille.

Christian Education

June 12 will be the end of the formal Children and Youth Ministries programming for the 2004-2005 year at Westmoreland. On June 19, we will begin the Summer Passport program for the children rising into the 1-6 grades (in other words, just completed K-5). Children younger than that will be in the nursery care during worship, and older youth are invited either to join the adults in the worship service or to help teach the Summer Passport Program. As of now, the Summer Passport program will be held in Room 26 (downstairs), but keep watching for possible location changes.

Church Picnic

Please join us for the BCE All-Church Picnic following the Youth Sunday service on **June 12**. Lunch will be catered and contributions will be appreciated. There will be food, fun, and fellowship for the whole family.

See you there!



June 1 - June 15, 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Alanon 12 pm	2 Choirs 6:15, 7 and 8 pm	3 Alanon 12 pm AA 8 pm	4 Documentary Film and Reception 4 and 6 pm
5 Worship & Church School 10 am Children's Choir 11:15 am Choir Concert 4 pm	6	7 Staff 10 am and 11 am AA 7:30 pm	8 Alanon 12 pm	9 Choirs 6:15, 7 and 8 pm	10 Alanon 12 pm AA 8 pm	11
12 Youth Sunday Worship & Church School 10 am Worship 6:00 pm	13	14 Staff 10 am and 11 am AA 7:30 pm	15 Alanon 12 pm			

Senior Minister.....Richard L. Smith
 Associate Minister
 for Parish Life.....Melinda Reed
 Minister of Music.....Mackenzie Albert
 Director of Christian
 EducationAmber Henry Neuroth
 Newsletter Editor.....Janet Moyer

Office Hours: M-F 9am - 4pm

Newsletter Deadlines

Issue Date	Deadline
June 15	June 6
July 1	June 21

Articles should be emailed to:
jmoyer@westmorelanducc.org

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