



# The Westmorelander

Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ

Volume XLVII, No. 17

An Open and Affirming Congregation

October 15, 2005

## Making the Connections

Each fall Westmorelanders decide how much to pledge for the support of our church. On Consecration Sunday, October 30th, you will be asked to present that pledge as part of the service. As you make that decision please consider the following connections:

- Westmoreland is settling a New Orleans evacuee and her daughter and is raising large donations for the UCC's "Hope Shall Bloom" Hurricane Katrina relief fund.
- Westmoreland helps inner city students at Marie Reed Learning Center to read and to stay warm.
- Westmoreland celebrated its 20th anniversary of the Volunteer Corps, which provides five full-time volunteers to the neediest local outreach organizations.
- Westmoreland is a strong voice in Action in Montgomery for low-income housing, better treatment of immigrants, and better public transportation.
- Westmoreland is a strong voice for Middle East peace.
- Westmoreland's partnership with the Washington Conservatory of Music offers benefit concerts, soloists, and lessons for 600 members of the community.
- Westmoreland's church school, children's choirs, and on-site day-care continue strong support for children and youth.
- Westmoreland has put its fiscal house in order after many years of deficits.

As Rev. Rich Smith said last November, "The good news is that we have all the money we need. The bad news is it's still in your pockets!" In conclusion, he asked, "Is giving a chore, or do you give cheerfully, or even hilariously, because you just can't help yourself, you are just so bursting over with joy at the miracle of God's abundance, and as a follower of Jesus, you simply have to share that abundance with others?"

That's a very good question. Thank you for your consideration.

*Pete Davis, Moderator*

## Hurricane Recovery Benefit Concert

A benefit concert for musicians affected by Hurricane Katrina

Presented by the by **Washington Conservatory of Music** faculty

**Saturday, October 15 at 8 p.m.**

Westmoreland Congregational UCC.

## Worship Topics and Themes

**Sunday, October 16**

"Connect with the Community"

A special service celebrating

Community Action

Matthew 15:32-38, Acts 3:1-10,

Luke 4:16-21

Rich Smith and special guests

**Sunday, October 23**

"Extreme Stewardship"

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8, Matthew

22:34-40

Rich Smith preaching

**Sunday, October 30**

Consecration Sunday

Donna Schaper, guest steward,

preaching

## Community Action Grant Applications due Nov. 1

Applications for the fall round of Community Action Grants are due in the church office by **Tuesday, November 1**. The recently revised grant guidelines and application form are available on the What's Happening Table in the Social Hall or at [www.westmorelanducc.org](http://www.westmorelanducc.org)

The grants go to organizations providing services such as health care, housing, and job training, with priority for those in which Westmorelanders are active as volunteers. Other criteria include whether a grant will

*(see Grants, p. 3)*

## Hurricane Recovery Update

Westmoreland and Briggs Church have cooperated to resettle Joelle Bowers and her 20-month-old daughter, Mikala, into The Carpenter's House (5148 Massachusetts Avenue) next door to Briggs Memorial Baptist Church. The two of them fled New Orleans first to Houston and then to Waldorf, MD where they had temporary shelter with friends. Flood waters from Hurricane Katrina destroyed Joelle's house and they left with only a box of Mikala's baby pictures. Joelle, a graduate of Howard University and Tulane Law School hopes to find a position in a Washington firm and begin a new life in this area. Jennie Fogarty is working with Joelle to determine her immediate needs. Contact Jennie if you would like to help: [jennielfogarty@hotmail.com](mailto:jennielfogarty@hotmail.com).

Westmoreland has forwarded \$9,550 to the UCC Hope Shall Bloom hurricane recovery fund from checks sent to our church. This does not count contributions Westmorelanders have made on line. Please send checks to Westmoreland marked "hurricane recovery" and we will continue to forward them weekly. You may also contribute at [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org).

Check out the poster in the Social Hall with hurricane recovery news from the UCC and suggestions on how you can help in addition to contributing money.

## Music and the Arts

**Literary Reading - October 21, 7:30 pm.** **Piotr Gwiazda**, born in Poland, is the author of *Gagarin Street*. **Elisavietta Ritchie** is the author of numerous books of poetry and fiction including *The Spirit of the Walrus*, which won the Bright Hill Press contest. Poet, fiction writer, and musician, (Celtic Thunder) **Terence Winch**, is the author of eleven books and chapbooks.

**Halloween Concert - October 28, 7:30 pm.** Washington-area organists play music of the season. The concert will be preceded by a Halloween party for children at 6 pm. Costumes are encouraged for all ages! Benefit for Marie Reed Community Learning Center.

**An Invitation to Westmoreland Artists - April 30, 2006, at 4 pm**, there will be a concert

at Westmoreland by concert pianist/composer **Haskell Small**. He will perform two pieces based on art - *Pictures at an Exhibition* by Modest Mussorgsky, and his own composition, *Renoir's Feast*, based on the painting, *Luncheon of the Boating Party*, will be premiered at the Renwick Gallery.

We invite you to submit art based on classical music titles to have at the exhibit which will open immediately following the concert. For example: *Moonlight Sonata*, or an opera, or music by Bach or Mozart. Or even Mussorgsky's titles: *The Gnome*, *The Old Castle*, *Bydlo* (the Polish word for "cattle"), *Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks*, *The Hut on Hen's Legs*, *The Great Gate of Kiev*. Perhaps you can listen to the music and be inspired by what you hear. Contact **Martha Hill** at 202-363-6172.

## Parish Notes

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to **Diane Wagener** on the death of her father, Hoby Wagener, on September 30 in California; and to **Glenn Carroll** on the death of his father, Herbert Carroll, on September 20.

## Social Groups Gather

**Prime Timers:** Westmorelanders 65 and older meet **Wednesday, October 19, 12 noon**. Local historian **Bill Offutt**, author of *Bethesda: A Social History*, will talk about the history of Bethesda and Chevy Chase. Cost of lunch: \$7. Sign up with Nona Cox (301-229-6334) or in the Social Hall on the What's Happening Table.

**Empty Nesters:** Parents whose children have left home for school or work are invited to **Pam and Rich Smith's home for a potluck dinner on Sunday, October 23 at 6 p.m.** RSVP to [pam.smith16@verizon.net](mailto:pam.smith16@verizon.net) or 301-762-3456 and let her know whether you will bring main dish, salad, side dish, dessert or wine.

**Dinner for Eight:** Meet some Westmorelanders you don't know and enjoy the company of those you have known for years. Sign up on the poster in the Social Hall or contact Janet Moyer ([jmoyer@westmorelanducc.org](mailto:jmoyer@westmorelanducc.org) or 301-229-7766). Janet will divide the names into groups of eight; each group will set its own date and

## Have Bikes, Will Travel

The Westmoreland Volunteer Corps is looking for a few bikes to keep at the house for the Volunteers to use and enjoy while they live here. Please bring bikes to the church kitchen clearly marked for Volunteer Corps. If you want a letter for tax purposes, contact David Bennett.

(from p. 1)

### Community Action Grants

encourage self-reliance, offer an opportunity for ecumenical cooperation, and make a key difference (more likely in a smaller organization). Most go to groups in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, although up to a third may go to national and international groups. A list of recipients in the past year is posted on the website and hall bulletin board.

Funds for the grants come primarily from Christmas and Easter offerings and the Bazaar. The Board of Community Action makes 15 to 20 grants a year in the range \$500 to \$1000. Contact **Barbara Baldwin** or **Fran Irwin** if you have questions.

### Public Affairs Forum

**Katrina and Its Aftermath: Rediscovering the Poor** – will be held **Sunday, October 23, at 11:30 a.m.** in the social hall. The forum will consist of the following panelists: **Dr. Mark Bergel**, Executive Director of A Wider Circle, Bethesda; **Becky Wagner**, Executive Director of Community Ministry of Montgomery County, and Katrina evacuee families who live among us now. Chaired by **Sue Kirk**, Executive Director of Bethesda Cares and WCUC member, the forum will describe outreach programs of A Wider Circle to help relocate dozens of hurricane evacuee families in our community. We will discuss how the human tragedy created by Katrina has revealed the real extent of poverty in our country.

### Help Westmoreland

On October 2, Westmorelanders were given the opportunity to sign up to help our church. If you were not in church that Sunday, you can still make a commitment. There are additional forms on the What's Happening Table or call or email Jeanine Derr at 301-654-6057/jeakpd@aol.com.

## Christian Education

**We still need mentors for the 2005–2006 Confirmation class.** Please contact Amber if you are interested. Confirmands and parents of confirmands are free to request a particular mentor from the congregation that you'd like to be matched up with.

**Connecting To Faith through Art:** Amber Neuroth and Bob Maddox will be co-teaching a class for 3rd – 6th graders from 3:30 - 5 p.m. Wednesdays this Fall. We will be exploring faith concepts in different works of art. The goal is to enrich faith through imagination and reflection. We also hope to create art in response to what we have learned. There is no cost and the class is open to anyone. Invite your friends from school! Register with Amber by October 20 at 301-229-7766 or [aneuroth@westmorelanducc.org](mailto:aneuroth@westmorelanducc.org).

**Family Halloween Party, Friday, October 28 at 6 p.m. in the Social Hall!** Kids of all ages and parents are invited to come in costume for some spooky fun! This party will precede the Halloween organ concert at 7:30 pm.

**High School Lock-In for the Potomac Association UCC, Friday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m.** Meet at Westmoreland at 7:30 pm to travel to Little River Church in Annandale, VA to attend an event for high school kids from around the DC area. We will finish the next day by participating in the DC Walk for the Homeless and will return to Westmoreland by 1 p.m. Saturday, November 19.

### Countdown to the Bazaar

It's just about four weeks until the Bazaar. Take this once-a-year opportunity to clean out the house of all those items you are not going to use anymore. The Bazaar recycles them into White Elephants. Bring the good stuff. Remember to bring in a bottle of something worth at least one dollar - wine, cologne, after shave, body lotion, detergent, jam, salad dressing, etc. – for the Bottle Sale.

Make a couple of goodies for the Bake Sale and deliver them either Friday afternoon or early Saturday before 10 am. Finally, come help set up Wednesday - Friday, Nov 9, 10 and 11, help sell and cashier and clean up on Bazaar Day, November 12. Questions? Call **Kay Jansky**, 301-365-4805, **Ann Morales**, 301-229-7286, or **Bonnie Hetzel**, 301-229-8895.

### Community Events

**Book Discussion** - Jim Wallis, will discuss his book, **God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It**, on **November 3, 7:30 p.m.** at the Friendship Heights Village Center. For information on other events in our community, check out the Community Bulletin Board in the hallway outside the Christian Education office on the Sanctuary level.

**All That Jazz** - **Louise Kupelian** will perform jazz piano on Sunday, October 23, at 4 p.m. with clarinetist, **Dr. Fred Hendricks**, and soprano, **Debby Evans**, at her home, 4806 Falstone Avenue, Chevy Chase, for the first 40 people to sign up. Contact Pete Davis, [pete@daviscap.com](mailto:pete@daviscap.com) or 202-293-5522.



**October 15-31, 2005**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						15
<b>16</b> Fellowship B'fast 8:30 am Worship 10 am Conn. w. West- moreland 11:15	<b>17</b> Boards meet at 7:30 pm	<b>18</b> Staff 10 am and 11 am	<b>19</b> Alanon 12 pm  Prime Timers at 12 noon	<b>20</b> Treble Choir 6:45 pm Chancel Choir 8:00 pm	<b>21</b> Alanon 12 pm Poetry Read- ing 7:30 pm  AA 8 pm	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Worship 10 am Empty Nesters 6 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Staff 10 am and 11 am	<b>26</b> Alanon 12 pm  Youth Art Class 3:30 pm	<b>27</b> Treble Choir 6:45 pm Chancel Choir 8:00 pm	<b>28</b> Alanon 12 pm Halloween Party 6 pm & Concert 7:30 pm AA 8 pm	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Consecration Sunday	<b>31</b>					

Senior Minister.....Richard L. Smith  
 Associate Minister  
 for Parish Life.....Melinda Reed  
 Director of Christian  
 Education .....Amber Henry Neuroth  
 Newsletter Editor.....Janet Moyer

**Office Hours: M-F 9am - 4pm**

**Newsletter Deadlines**

<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
November 1	October 19
November 15	November 4

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.