



The Westmorelander

Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Volume 54, No. 18

November 1, 2007

Stewardship: Growing and Greening Our Faith

As we move into a rather dry fall with leaves struggling to burst forth into riotous colors despite the drought, Westmoreland chooses to act like it's a verdant spring by building its annual stewardship effort around the theme **Growing and Greening Our Faith**. Each week between now and November 18, some aspect of our ever-budding springtime faith will get an exciting drum roll.

Children, young adults, middlers and seniors will take part in Sunday services. The choirs will sing special music. Pastor Rich Smith and Rev. Robert Maddox will offer guidance from the scripture through sermons and enriched liturgy.

To help focus our attention, Sunday worship programs will come forth in colors to match our theme. To further help focus our attention on the stewardship and service opportunity before us for 2008, the Trustees will shortly present a **"Challenge Budget,"** a "dream budget" if you please, setting forth what we could do as funds are made available by the congregation. The Trustees make haste to say this document represents our best hope of what we can do but is not a final, line-item recitation of a spending plan for 2008. It's a "let's dream, hope, pray, see-what-we-can do"

profile. The Trustees will have this document before the congregation by early November as individuals and families decide the strength and reach of pledges for 2008.

Festival of Faith, a celebration of Westmoreland's many gifted people, will break forth on **Sunday, November 11**, in the Social Hall immediately following the morning worship service. This will be a fun festival to showcase some of the many splendid abilities of Westmorelanders. Features include fun and serious music, juggling, readings by some of our own poets and authors, dancing and just about any other acts that Master of Ceremonies David Batson and his helpers in the congregation can stir up.

Everyone is assured of a grand time.

Consecration Sunday, November 18, will, as Westmorelanders have come to expect, provide a few new twists and surprises as the congregation presents its pledge cards for support of the 2008 ministry. Following the worship service, we will celebrate with **Tables of Thanksgiving** - a traditional Thanksgiving meal complete with turkey and trimmings.

Indeed, much lies before us Westmorelanders as we feel and live in the Spirit to Grow and Green Our Faith.

Worship Themes & Topics

Sunday, November 4

All Saints Sunday
"Will the Circle Be Unbroken?"

Psalm 145: 1-5, 17-21

Holy Communion

Reading of the Memorial Roll
Rededication of Memorial Garden

Rev. Rich Smith preaching

Sunday, November 11

"A Wow Moment with Jesus"

Luke 19:1-10

Festival of Faith

Rev. Dr. Bob Maddox preaching

Sundown Service

7 pm

Social Hall

Westmoreland Bazaar

November 3, 10 am - 2 pm

Invite your family, your friends and your neighbors. We will have White Elephants, Jewelry, a Holiday Shop, Treasures, Toys and Sports Equipment, Books and a Bake Shop. Lunch will be served.



Daylight Saving Time Ends November 3

Don't forget to TURN BACK your clocks before going to bed on **Saturday night, November 3**. You gain an hour of sleep!

FESTIVAL OF FAITH
Westmoreland's Celebration of Gifts

NOV.
11
11:30AM

Westmoreland Rededicates the Memorial Garden

Sunday, **November 4** will be a special All Saints Sunday. Following the worship service, we will rededicate the Memorial Garden, originally dedicated in 1975. The ashes of some 79 "saints" are interred in the Garden and their presence is marked with bricks bearing their names. We have invited relatives related to those in the Garden to help us mark this special occasion. Please join us in remembering and honoring those who have gone before us.

Shaw Thanksgiving Baskets

Please help Shaw Community Ministry furnish Thanksgiving dinners to needy families and seniors in the inner-city Shaw community. You may help by providing a Thanksgiving basket (or bag) of the following non-perishable food items or equivalents:

2 boxes of stuffing mix	2 cans of any vegetable
2 cans of sweet potatoes	2 cans of any fruit
1 can of cranberry sauce	2 boxes of macaroni and cheese
1 box of muffin mix	1 can of frosting
1 box of cake mix	

The above items are the basic dinner fixings. Over the years a number of Westmorelanders have said that they add other items such as turkey gravy, and a bottle of cranberry juice. If you feel moved to include additional items (only non-perishable), please feel free to do so. Additional copies of this list will be in the November 4 bulletin and on the What's Happening table in the Social Hall.

You may leave your contributions on the Social Hall stage between Sunday, November 11, and Sunday, November 18. Or, you may help by making a financial contribution toward Thanksgiving turkeys and other perishable items for the Ministry's year-round feeding programs. Checks should be made out to Shaw Community Ministry and left in the church office or mailed to SCM representative Barbara McDowell, 3607 Whispering Lane, Falls Church VA 22041.

Women's Reading Group

Wednesday, **November 7**, 7:30 at the home of Betsy Bennett. RSVP to her at 301-657-8565. The group will discuss **God at 2000** by Marcus Borg and Ross MacKenzie.

Palestinian Embroidery Project and Olive Oil Annual Sale

Friday, November 9, 5 - 8 pm
& Saturday, November 10, 10 am - 2 pm
Church Parlor

shawls • scarves • women's and children's dresses
hand towels • tote bags • cell phone cases
coin purses • clutch bags • nativity sets • aprons
table runners and much more!

Your purchase of these beautifully made items directly benefits women in Palestinian refugee camps and cooperatives. In addition this year the Middle East Committee will sell olive oil from the West Bank. Proceeds from those sales support Palestinian farmers and redevelopment projects.

Gretchen Theobald gtheobald@mindspring.com
Pamela Mertz MertzMD@aol.com

Marie Reed School Needs Tutors

This year, Westmoreland will work together with City Gate, a Christian nonprofit in the District with a long relationship with Briggs, to provide math tutoring to Marie Reed students. Violaine Dumorne worked tirelessly to organize the initial tutoring program last spring, and Pete Davis, Sally Dick, Gary McDavid, and Liz Platts were among the 20 math tutors who volunteered. Test results show that the 35 students who received tutoring had improved math AYP (annual yearly progress) test scores. To expand the tutoring this year, City Gate, which has experience in running children's tutoring programs, will help administer the program, provide instructional materials, and recruit volunteers.

Math tutoring will be from 4 - 5 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. These children need our help. If you can tutor a child in math, please contact Gary McDavid at 301-320-3657 or Kristin Wiener, the Program Director at City Gate, at 202-237-1799.

An Inspiring InterFaith Concert

Enjoy an evening of sacred song, dance and chant at the 28th Annual InterFaith Concert on Tuesday, **November 13**, 7:30 pm. Artists from nine world religions will share sacred music from their traditions at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Avenue NE. For tickets, call the Interfaith Conference at 202-234-6300.

Children's and Youth Ministries

Friday Night Fellowship: All Middle School youth (grades 6 – 8) are welcome to attend on **Friday, November 2**, 6:30 – 9 pm for a game night. Feel free to bring your favorite game and a friend. Please contact Jessica (jepetersen@westmorelanducc.org or 301-229-7766) if you plan to attend so we will have enough food for everyone. See you there!

Confirmation has begun! Our Sunday sessions have gotten underway. November meetings are **November 4 and 18**, 4 - 6 pm in the Youth Room (40). Please join us as we explore our faith.

The **High School Service Learning** group will have its monthly meeting during Church School on Sunday, **November 11** in the Library.

Westmoreland is walking for the homeless! Join us as we participate in the 20th Annual Fannie Mae **Help the Homeless Walkathon**, Saturday, November 17, 9 am. You can register online or on paper; the registration fee is \$25 for adults and \$15 for youth (age 25 and younger). All funds raised will go to Bethesda Cares, Inc. To learn more about the walk, to register or donate, visit www.helpthehomlessdc.org (our team is Westmoreland Walks) or contact Jessica Petersen or Sue Kirk.

Adult Education

Saving Jesus is a DVD-based exploration of Jesus Christ for the Third Millennium that is offered by Rev. Maddox on Sundays at 8:30 am in the Parlor and Mondays 12:30 – 2 pm at the Carpenter's House. Each **stand-alone session** includes a 20-minute video segment featuring an outstanding Christian scholar, followed by a guided discussion.

Advent Class: On **December 1**, 9:30 am - 12 Noon, Rev. Maddox will teach a class on the gospels of Matthew and Luke, giving Westmorelanders an opportunity to "meet Jesus again" through chapters 1 and 2 of both Matthew and Luke.

BCA Grant Deadline Extended

The Board of Community Action announced that it has extended the deadline for fall applications to Sunday, **November 25**. If you know of an organization that could benefit from one of these grants, please refer it to www.westmorelanducc.org which has a link to the BCA web page.

Parish Notes

Dear Members of Westmoreland,

As time passes, I continue to be overwhelmed and humbled by your generosity and love during my farewell. Thanks for all of the hugs, love, good wishes and gifts you all shared with me. They will continue to bless both Michael and me in the days to come.

Thank you also for your love and service during all my three years at Westmoreland. I was so blessed to be a part of your community.

I miss you all very much, but your lives and the ministry of Westmoreland are still on my heart and in my prayers. I pray the best for you all until we meet again.

Love always,
Amber

Warm congratulations to **Mabel Janes** who celebrated her 95th birthday on October 20.

Former Westmorelander, **C. Hayward Marshall Jr.**, died on October 4 in Martinsville, VA. A memorial service was held on October 13 at First United Methodist Church in Martinsville. Hayward was a fourth generation, faithful member of Westmoreland for 59 years until his move to Virginia. He was a civil engineer and often used his woodworking skills for projects here at Westmoreland. He is also remembered for his artistic abilities as a watercolorist.

We extend our prayers of condolence to his wife, **Roberta** and their daughters. Cards may be sent to Mrs. Roberta Marshall, 30 Mill Trace Road, Martinsville, VA, 24112.

Lead the Church

It's board recruitment time! All the WCUCB boards are currently recruiting for new members to begin serving in January. If you would like to serve on a board, and have not received a call, please contact Caryn Musil, chair of the nominating committee (301-493-4571 or musil@aacu.org). If you have a preference for the board on which you would like to serve, contact the current board chair or tell Caryn. Some boards now meet on Sunday during the day, so don't let concerns about night time meetings stand in the way of serving.

FAQ: Do I need to be a church member?

ANS: Only to serve as an officer or on Trustees, Deacons and Membership & Fellowship. Otherwise you are welcome to serve anywhere. Come be a leader!



November 1 - November 17, 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Chancel Choir 7:45 - 9:45 pm	2 Middle Sch Youth 6:30 - 9 pm	3 Yoga 9 am BAZAAR 10 am - 2 pm Daylight Saving Ends
4 All Saints Sunday Worship & Ch. School 10 am Child. Choir 11:45 Mem. Garden Rededication	5	6	7	8 Chancel Choir 7:45 - 9:45 pm	9 Palestinian Embroidery Sale 5-8 pm	10 Yoga 9 am Palestinian Embroidery Sale 10 - 2
11 Worship & Ch. School 10 am Festival of Faith Sundown Service 7 pm	12	13 Middle East Comm 4 pm	14	15 Chancel Choir 7:45 - 9:45 pm	16	17 Help the Home- less Walkathon 9 am Marlow Guitar Conc 8 pm

Senior Minister.....Rev. Richard L. Smith
 Director for Children's & Youth Ministries...Jessica Petersen
 Minister of Discipleship....Rev. Dr. Robert L. Maddox
 Director of Music....Dr. Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez
 Newsletter Editor.....Janet Moyer

Office Hours: 9 AM - 5PM

Newsletter Deadlines

Issue Date	Deadline
Nov 15	Nov 5
Dec 1	Nov 15

Articles should be emailed to:
jmoyer@westmorelanducc.org

