



The Westmorelander

Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Volume 55, No. 10

July & August 2008

Capital Campaign

The Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees have several times in the last few years discussed undertaking a capital campaign for Westmoreland and have sought advice from experts in capital campaigns for churches. Spring of 2009 has been selected as a possible time to conduct such a campaign. To that end, Sarah Wilson, Moderator, has asked Jeff Eagan (past moderator) and myself to co-chair a working group. The task of the working group will be to gather information about needed improvements at Westmoreland, fill in any gaps, and put everything together in a comprehensive plan. This work constitutes Phase I and will hopefully be completed by early fall. After that comes a feasibility study (Phase II), further refinement in the scope of work (Phase III), a Congregational vote to move forward with a capital campaign (or not), and Phase IV, the conduct of the campaign, followed by Phase V, carrying out the improvements. Members of the Congregation will be involved in every phase, since in a Congregational church, nothing of this magnitude can move forward without the membership choosing to do so.

At this time we invite you to join us in the Working Group to Prepare for the Capital Campaign (CC Prep Working Group). We plan to hold several meetings over the next few months to solicit opinion and feedback from all members of the Congregation. Whether you can join the Working Group or not, please attend one of these feedback meetings. And, again whether you can join us or not, let us know about any expertise in design, architecture, planning, renovation, engineering, construction, landscaping, and so on, that you may have. But most of all, please let Sarah, Jeff, or me know if you have an interest in joining the CC Prep Working Group.

Heidi Hartmann, Moderator Elect
202-362-1677 or heidi1677@mac.com

Jeff Eagan, Past Moderator
jeff.eagan@verizon.net

Sarah Wilson, Moderator
swilson@cov.com

Summer Preaching Schedule

Sunday, July 6

Amos 7:7-17

“Prophets and Patriots”

Communion

Rev. Rich Smith

Sunday, July 13 - Blue Grass Sunday

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Music by GospelGrass

Rev. Rich Smith

Sunday, July 20

Judges 13:2-6, 8, 24, 16:23-31

“The Hair Affair”

Rev. Rich Smith

Sunday, July 27

Matthew 13:31-52

“Put a Fence Around the Farm”

Rev. Dr. Bob Maddox

Sunday, August 3

Rev. Dr. Bob Maddox & Jessica Petersen

Sunday, August 10

Jessica Petersen

Sunday, August 17

Rev. Sharon Graham

Sunday, August 24

Rev. Dr. Bob Maddox

Sunday, August 31

Labor Day Sunday - Denim Day



Rev. Rich Smith will be on vacation

July 23 - Labor Day.

Janet Moyer will be on leave

July 18 - Labor Day.

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
Summer Office Hours: 9 AM - 4 PM	

Board of Community Action Grants – Spring 2008

Twice each year, BCA awards grants from Westmoreland Congregational UCC to community organizations for worthy causes that serve the needy, promote social justice, and sustain the church's mission. Most of the grantees are organizations that are served by volunteers from Westmoreland. The funding for the grants comes from the Christmas and Easter offerings, the Bazaar and other events. The BCA wishes to thank the Westmoreland community for making these awards, which, this spring totaled **\$10,750**, possible.

\$2000 Devine Nord-Quest Haitian Orphanage Mission - Funding for food, clothing and other basic needs. Volunteer: Violaine Dumorne

\$1250 "Everybody Wins DC" - Support for the reading and math tutoring programs at Marie Reed Learning Center Elementary School. Volunteers: Gary McDavid, Pete Davis, Katy Mahaffey, Rich Smith, Emma Rose Martin, David Fry, Nan Fry, Sally Dick, Bonnie Hetzel, Violaine Dumorne

\$1000 Dinner Program for Homeless Women - Support for computer training programs

\$1000 National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) - Support for Spanish courses. Volunteer: Diane Kupelian

\$1000 Shaw Community Ministries - Support for children's new media and arts center program. Volunteers: Caryn McTighe Musil, Barbara McDowell

\$1000 ANERA Atfaluna Society for the Deaf in Gaza - Support for tuition & school supplies. Volunteers: Jack & Frances Stickles

\$1000 Bread for the City - Funding for police clearance charges. Volunteer: Cadie Keefe

\$1000 Bethesda Cares - Prescription drug assistance for the needy. Volunteer: John Forrest Douglas

\$ 500 Edisto Island Outreach Center - Support to help to rebuild the home of Ms. Versie Brooks, destroyed by storms. Confirmation Class project

\$ 500 Jubilee Jump Start - Support to build a playground. Volunteer: Bunty Ketchum

\$ 500 College Tracks (Bethesda Chevy Chase High School) - Support for college counseling and preparation for special needs students. Volunteer: Kathy Ireland

Board of Community Action

Christian Education Children's and Youth Ministries

It's a Rainforest Adventure!

All Westmoreland children (and neighborhood friends) in rising Kindergarten – rising grade 5 are invited to study the Bible, sing, make crafts for the rainforest and play games. We are learning how to take care of God's wondrous creation and each other.



*Elizabeth Benton, Stacey Fannon
Janet Hofmeister, Jessica Petersen*

Hang Out with Jessica

Summer is here and there is time to relax. Westmoreland children and youth are invited to "hang out" with Jessica this summer -- have ice cream, play games, or just talk. Contact her at 301-229-7766 or jpetersen@westmorelanducc.org to set something up.

Adult Education

Book Discussion

Dr. Bob Maddox is leading a discussion on **The Bible: A Biography** by Karen Armstrong. Sessions, which began Sunday, June 22, are held at 8:30 am in the church Parlor and will continue through **July 27**. In the book Armstrong discusses the "conception, gestation and life of history's most important book." As he usually does, Bob provides advance discussion notes via Westmorelandnet. You are welcome to join him any Sundays that you are available.

We Want to Know What You Think

The Board of Deacons would like your feedback on some of the **changes in the worship service** that have taken place as a result of last year's Worship Initiative and have developed a questionnaire asking for your views on the worship experience.

The questionnaire is available on the Westmoreland website in the Board of Deacons section. It can be completed online and sent to the Deacons by pressing the "submit" button. The paper questionnaire is included in the print version of this issue of **The Westmorelander**. These can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church with "Worship Questionnaire" indicated on the envelope.

We appreciate your participation.

Your Hospitality is Needed

As we look for ways to grow our church membership, let us remember two simple acts of hospitality that make Westmoreland a welcoming community: Greeting and Hosting Coffee Hour. We need many more of our members to do both through the rest of this year.

As a **Greeter**, you stand by the door to welcome all of God's people. You arrive at 9:45 a.m, wear a name tag, say good morning and shake hands. You will get to know new faces and you will reconnect with old friends. Your presence at the door makes arrival more pleasant and allows our Membership Coordinator, Janet Moyer, to give attention to visitors - and we do get visitors regularly.

As a **Coffee Hour host**, you feed the hungry, as Jesus did. And let us remember that Jesus did not require a fancy smorgasbord of snacks and munchies. There is elegance in simplicity. Think loaves and fishes. Some hosts have done cheese and crackers only, or just cookies and/or fruit.

Both jobs can be done alone, with family members or with a friend. Many Westmorelanders have teaching or singing responsibilities during much of the year but could help with hospitality in the summer.

How to sign up:

- Go to www.westmorelanducc.org. Click on Member Area. Enter the user ID and password. (Don't remember them? Call the church office.) You will find the sign-up areas for Greeting and Coffee Hour in that area. Pick the date you want from those open on the calendar you can view, then fill in a form that will be sent automatically to the people on BMF who are coordinating.
- Sign up in the Social Hall. The calendars are on the bulletin board for hosting and greeting and we keep them updated.
- Call the coordinators. Jan Lilja is our Greeter coordinator: 301-229-6846. Kim Christo is the Coffee Hour coordinator: 202-244-9122.

Community Coffee Hours

The Board of Membership and Fellowship will hold two "potluck Coffee Hours" this summer. On these two Sundays, you are invited to bring ½ dozen of the designated item. Drop it off with a BMF member in the kitchen or narthex on your way into the worship service. BMF members will serve these items at Coffee Hour:

July 6 - Potluck Donut Sunday

August 3 - Potluck Pastry Sunday

Share your hospitality with the WCUCC community!

Parish Notes

Marion Towns, a member of Westmoreland since 1939, and a resident at Asbury Methodist Village, died peacefully on June 5 at the age of 94. Her remains were interred in the Memorial Garden on June 22.

On June 8 we bid goodbye and Godspeed to **Pam Owens, Grant Doty, Ian, Nathaniel and Alexander** on their move to Missouri. Their new address: 21 Granada Way, Ladue, MO, 63124.

My thanks to you for your thoughts, prayers, phone calls, cards, food, drives to doctor appointments and visits to the hospital and Washington Home. All is most appreciated. While I am still very uncomfortable, I hope to complete treatment and feel better soon.

Vergene Journey

Donate School Supplies

Please bring items from the following list to the social hall stage **before August 11**. Interfaith Works of Montgomery County will distribute the items to low-income county school children. See the Community Action bulletin board for other ways you can help.

Items needed: New backpacks; pens; highlighters; pencils; erasers; pencil boxes and cases; boxes of colored pencils; markers; crayons (24-48); wide ruled loose-leaf notebook paper; 3-ring binders; spiral notebooks; notebook dividers; pocket folders; glue bottles or sticks; rulers; scissors; marble composition books.

Qigong and Tai Chi at Westmoreland

Qigong (pronounced "chee-gung") is an ancient Chinese practice, a non-strenuous activity that concentrates on body structure, meditation, and correct breathing. It uses minimal movement and can be practiced from standing, sitting and lying down positions. **Tai Chi Chung**, is a practice that helps manage stress, increases flexibility, strength, balance, and agility. It is made up of a choreographed set of movements performed slowly, with no jarring movements, and engages both the mind and the body.

Offered by the Sibley Senior Association, sessions will be held Tuesdays in **July and August** (9:15–10:15 am for Qigong; 10:30–11:30 am for Tai Chi Chung), in the Mabry Room. Cost: \$70 for each series. For further information or registration, call 202-364-7602.

Special for Westmorelanders: You may observe or participate in one class free to see what it is like before registering for a series.

The Westmorelander
Westmoreland Congregational UCC
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www.westmorelanducc.org



**Deadline for the September
Westmorelander:** August 15
Email articles to:
jmoyer@westmorelanducc.org

July & August 2008

Friday, July 4 - Offices closed

Sunday, July 6 - Communion Sunday
Donut Sunday

Dr. Maddox's class 8:30 am
Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Sunday, July 13 - *Blue Grass Sunday*

Dr. Maddox's class 8:30 am
Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Sunday, July 20

Dr. Maddox's class 8:30 am
Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Sunday, July 27

Dr. Maddox's class 8:30 am
Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Tuesday, July 28

Sandwich making for Martha's Table 10:30 am

Sunday, August 3 - Communion Sunday
Pastry Potluck Sunday

Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Sunday, August 10

Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Sunday, August 17

Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Sunday, August 24

Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

Tuesday, August 26

Sandwich making for Martha's Table 10:30 am

Thursday, August 28

Chancel Choir rehearsal 7:45 pm

Sunday, August 31 - Labor Day Sunday
Denim Day

Worship, Summer Church School, Nursery 10 am

LOOKING AHEAD...

Monday, September 1 - Offices closed

**Sunday, September 7 - Welcome Back
Sunday**

Worship, Nursery 10 am
Picnic on the lawn 11:30 am