



The Westmorelander

Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Volume 55, No. 13

November 2008

Update on the Capital Campaign

Westmoreland UCC has engaged the Rev. Rob Peters, who comes highly recommended by both the central office of the UCC and local area ministers, to conduct a feasibility study for us regarding how much support there might be for a capital campaign at Westmoreland and what sum can be expected to be raised in that way.

Reverend Peters will spend some time with leadership for the remainder of the fall gathering information about Westmoreland (for example, our pledging history, annual budget, attendance, and so on). Current plans call for him interviewing a number of Westmorelanders beginning after the new year, after which he will provide a report regarding the feasibility of conducting a campaign in the spring of 2009.

In the meantime, the Capital Campaign Preparation Working Committee, chaired by Jeff Eagan and Heidi Hartmann and having membership from each Board at Westmoreland along with our ministers Rich Smith and Bob Maddox, will meet to narrow priorities on our list of possibilities. To that end, we will hold a third feedback session to present topics and issues that as of yet have not been discussed, such as energy proposals, accessibility, parking, and so on, during November.

While we are all focused on the financial markets and the state of the economy and are preparing for a period of economic uncertainty, the needs of our church and building continue. One person has already pledged to write a check for the campaign in the new year! Of course, whether and how we move forward to meet our capital needs is a matter for the whole Congregation to assess, once the results of the feasibility study are known.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns. We welcome your input!

Heidi Hartmann and Jeff Eagan

Daylight Saving Ends

Before retiring on Saturday, November 1, set your clocks **BACK** one hour.

Worship Topics & Themes

Sunday, November 2

All Saints Sunday
Sermon by Dr. Diana Butler Bass
Communion
Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 9

"As For Me and My House"
Rev. Dr. Bob Maddox
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Sunday, November 16

60 on the Circle: Celebrating the 1970's
"On Letting Go for Dear Life"
Rev. Rich Smith
Matthew 25:14-30
Ten Thousand Villages
At Coffee Hour

Sunday, November 23

Thanksgiving/Consecration Sunday
"Thanks, But No Thanks"
Luke 17:11-19
Rev. Rich Smith
Tables of Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 30

First Sunday of Advent
"The End of the World as We Know It"
Mark 13:24-37
Rev. Rich Smith
Wreath Making

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Westmoreland Bazaar

Saturday, November 8, 10 am - 2 pm

White Elephants ▪ Jewelry ▪ Holiday Shop ▪ Treasures
Toys ▪ Sports Equipment ▪ Books ▪ Bake Shop

Senior Minister.....Rev. Richard L. Smith
Minister of Discipleship....Rev. Dr. Robert L. Maddox
Director for Children's & Youth Ministries...Jessica Petersen
Director of Music....Dr. Alejandro Hernandez Valdez
Newsletter Editor.....Janet Moyer
Office Hours: 9 AM - 5 PM

Tents of Hope

Tents of Hope (www.tentsofhope.org), is raising awareness and educating people about the genocide in Darfur, Sudan. Many churches, schools, and community groups have painted refugee tents with hopeful messages of peace. They will all be coming to Washington DC for the **Gathering of the Tents Nov 7-9** for a big event weekend on the National Mall. We will then load the tents for shipping to Africa to be used as classrooms for schools in refugee camps. I hope you will **come to the event** on Saturday and/or Sunday when you aren't at the Church Bazaar. See www.tentsofhope.org for a complete list of programming including speakers, music and an interfaith worship service. **Volunteer!** Please email me if interested and I will send you a complete list of the volunteer opportunities. **Provide a homestay** for our National Coordinator and our intern from Nov 2 - Nov 10, preferably near a metro stop.

Thanks to you all for your continued support of my ministry efforts and those of the broader UCC in raising awareness in our churches and in our government so these horrible atrocities might finally end.

Rev. Amber Neuroth, DC Coordinator
Gathering of the Tents - Tents of Hope

Tents of Hope Lock-In : Middle school and high school youth are invited to join other youth in the Potomac Association for a lock-in **November 8-9**, at Rock Spring Congregational UCC in Arlington. We will participate in the Gathering of the Tents on the National Mall on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Cost: \$20. Gather in the Westmoreland parking lot at 3:15 pm on Saturday to head to Rock Spring and then on to the Mall. We return to Westmoreland by 2 pm on Sunday afternoon. Contact Jessica if you would like to participate in this event:
jpetersen@westmorelanducc.org.

Parish Notes

Former Westmoreland member, **Jane Bergler Turnbull**, died on October 18 in Palo Alto, California. A memorial service will be held on November 1 at Foothills Congregational Church. A second memorial service will be held next Spring (date to be announced) at Westmoreland and Jane's ashes will be interred in the Memorial Garden. Our condolences are extended to her husband, Stanley Turnbull, and her son, Geoffrey Bergler.

Parish Notes continued:

Our sympathy is extended to former members, **Joe Carper** and **Sue McKittrick**, (Lexington, MA) on the death of Joe's father, John Carper, on October 18. A memorial service will be held on November 1 at Brookside Gardens.

We Gather Together

Young Professionals

Sunday, November 9, 5 - 7 pm

Singles and couples in their 20's and 30's (give or take a few years) are invited to the monthly gathering: a potluck supper at 5 pm followed by a program on global health programs led by Elizabeth Fox, Deputy Director, Health Office, USAID and WCUC member. Join us for food, fellowship, and a lively discussion. Bring a main course, side dish, salad or dessert for eight and a bottle of wine or soft drink. RSVP to Trey Holloway at holloww2001@yahoo.com or 202-527-1832. Save **December 14** for the next get-together.

Prime Timers

Wednesday, November 19, 12 Noon

All Westmorelanders and their friends of the AARP generation are invited for lunch and fellowship. Start with nibbles in the Parlor at Noon and lunch at 12:30 pm. Cost: \$7. Concert pianist, Karen Davis, who has performed in the U.S. and Europe will play a selection of works following lunch. RSVP to Nona Cox at 301-229-6334 or sign up in the Social Hall.

Tables of Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 23, 11:30 am

Following the Service of Consecration at which we will present our 2009 pledges, we will celebrate the great abundance of our lives and the blessings of our community at the Tables of Thanksgiving. The Board of Membership and Fellowship will provide turkey, stuffing and trimmings. We ask that Westmorelanders bring the side dishes (vegetables, salads) and desserts. **If your last name begins A - M**, bring a side dish; **if it starts N - Z**, bring a dessert. Please bring your dish, ready to serve, to the kitchen before the worship service.

Interested in Joining?

We will receive new members on **November 23**. If you would like to join WCUC, please contact Rev. Rich Smith at 301-229-7766.

Palestinian Embroidery and Olive Oil Sale

Friday, November 14, 5-8 pm
Saturday, November 15, 10 am-2 pm

The Embroidery Project invites you to our eighth annual pre-holiday sale of traditional and modern embroidery from Palestinian refugee camps and cooperatives in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. Olive oil from the West Bank will be sold by the Middle East Committee of the Church.

We will be selling a new selection of capes, embroidered handbags, coasters, book covers and business card cases, as well as our usual selection of shawls, scarves, children's dresses, table cloths, jewelry cases, Christmas crèches and stockings, eyeglasses and cell phone cases and a host of other items.

This past year has been especially difficult for refugee women who have struggled with bleak economic prospects. The women, who are often the only wage earners in their extended families, desperately need markets for their embroidery. Enjoy their beautiful work and know that your purchase will directly benefit them.

Our project hopes to educate Americans about the Palestinian experience and cultural heritage. We work with refugee cooperatives supported by established non-profit organizations, including the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the YWCA and American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA). For more information contact: Pamela Mertz MertzMD@aol.com or 301-229-0973.

Please note that we accept cash and checks only.

Thanksgiving Baskets Full of Checks!

For a number of years Westmorelanders have donated the makings for Thanksgiving dinners for needy families through the Shaw Community Ministry. This year, Shaw has no storage area for these items. Instead of dinner fixings, we are asking Westmorelanders to **write a check made out to: Shaw Community Ministry**. Families will be able to purchase their own dinner supplies. Give some thought to how much you typically spend on purchasing those dinner items and be as generous as you can so that the families can enjoy their holiday dinners. You may: (1) drop the check in the collection plate; (2) drop it at the church office; or (3) mail the check to: Barbara McDowell, 3607 Whispering Lane, Falls Church, VA, 22041.

Thank you!

Support Fair Trade Artisans in Developing Countries

November 16, 2008
11:00 am-12:30 pm

Do your Christmas shopping early with *Ten Thousand Villages* at Westmoreland. Run by the Mennonite Central Committee, Ten Thousand Villages is a founding member of the International Fair Trade Association that aims to improve the livelihood of disadvantaged people in developing countries and to change unfair structures of international trade. They market high quality gift items that preserve rich cultural traditions and empower people to have control over their lives and those of their families. Be sure to tell your friends to visit and explore the lovely items to purchase for themselves or for others. It is a great way to introduce children to responsible purchasing too!

Ten Thousand Villages is located in Bethesda at 4959 Elm Street. Be sure to visit their store all during the year. Further information about fair trade principles, additional trade principles of Ten Thousand Villages, and more about the Mennonite Central Committee can be found at www.mcc.org.

Westmoreland Creates a Blog

Exciting news! We've set up a **News and Notes** blog to keep Westmorelanders up to date on what's happening around the church and with our members. The direct link to the blog is: <http://westmorelanducc.org/news/>. Bookmark it in your browser and check in regularly. Or go to the home page of the church website, <http://www.westmorelanducc.org/>, then click on **News and Notes**, listed on the left rail.

Your Board of Membership and Fellowship has been working with Webmaster Tim Waidmann to give us a place to bring all our information together, plus learn more about each other. Contribute your own announcements, personal, professional or church-related, which you can do by sending them to my email: lllynch@usaweekend.com.

Check it out so you'll get a sense of the types of news and notes we're looking for. We're a busy community with a lot going on. We want the **News and Notes** blog to make it easy to stay on top of all the business and events at Westmoreland as well as to promote a connection to fellow members.

Lorrie Lynch Meier, Chair, BMF

The Westmorelander
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301-229-7766
www.westmorelanducc.org



Conference on Church Vitality

Dr. Diana Butler Bass

Saturday, November 1, 9 am - 3 pm
Guest Preacher, Sunday, November 2
Forum following worship, 11:30 am
RSVP for Nov. 1 by Oct. 30

November 2008

Friday, November 28 - Office Closed

Thursdays, 6, 13, 20

Chancel Choir

8 pm

Saturday, November 1

Conference on Church Vitality: D.B. Bass

Open House Tea

Empty Nesters (Sale's home)

9 - 3

3:30 pm

7 pm

Sunday, November 2 - All Saints Sunday

Fellowship Breakfast

Worship, Communion, Church School, Nursery

Forum: Dr. Diana Butler Bass

8:30 am

10 am

11:30 am

Saturday, November 8

Bazaar

Middle- & High School Youth - Tents of Hope

10 am

3:15 pm

Sunday, November 9

Volunteer Corps Board

Adult Bible Study, Child Care

Worship, Church School, Nursery

Young Professionals

8:30 am

9 am

10 am

5 pm

Tuesday, November 11

Mid-East Committee

4 pm

Friday, November 14

Palestinian Embroidery Sale

5 - 8 pm

Saturday, November 15

Palestinian Embroidery Sale

10 - 2

Sunday, November 16

Tech Comm.; Bd. of Community Action

Adult Bible Study, Child Care

Worship, Church School, Nursery

Salute to the 1970's at Westmoreland

8:30 am

9 am

10 am

Wednesday, November 19

Prime Timers

12 Noon

Monday, November 17

Deacons; Bd. Membership/Fellowship

7:30 pm

Sunday, November 23 - Consecration Sunday

Adult Bible Study, Child Care

Worship, Church School, Nursery

Tables of Thanksgiving

9 am

10 am

11:15 am

Tuesday, November 25

Sandwich Making

Executive Committee

10:30 am

7:30 pm

Thursday, November 27 - Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 30 - First Sunday in Advent

Adult Bible Study, Child Care

Worship, Church School, Nursery

Wreath making

9 am

10 am

11:15 am