

# Alumni News



WESTMORELAND VOLUNTEER CORPS

January, 2012

## House Renovations



**Volunteer House**  
after the 2009 December Snow

The Volunteer Corps Program has always emphasized group and community living. As in most cultures around the world, community living centers around food preparation and gathering together to share a meal, just as Jesus did with his disciples. When the Volunteer

Corps Program began, the dining room of the house was converted to a bedroom so each of the Volunteers would have a bedroom. Thus the very small breakfast room became the primary dining area. This dining area allowed room for a table and five chairs and no room for gathering with the Counselor or other guests. With this in mind the Volunteer Corps Board embarked on a mission to return the dining room/bedroom to its original state as a dining room to enhance the community living experience of the Volunteers.

Roy Grossnick, Volunteer Corps Board member and House Manager, took on the job of "project manager" to lead the renovation. In order to return the dining room to its original state a new bedroom needed to be created in the basement. This is where a true "Team Effort" began that finally led to the return of the dining room and completion of a new bedroom and bathroom in the basement.

- First and foremost, the board needed additional funds to do the project. The Briggs Center for Faith and Action responded to a request and provided the needed funding.
- Board member Susan Langley drew up the architectural plans for the basement bedroom and bathroom and assisted with getting them approved by Montgomery County.
- Church member Steve Eckert, and crew from his construction company, provided the labor and materials to frame the bedroom and bathroom.

- Roy Grossnick selected the contractors for the other work after bids from electricians, plumbers, and drywall contractors.

Work began in June and was completed in early September. It included painting the dining room and expanding the kitchen into the small breakfast room (former dining room) to allow group participation in food preparation.

To facilitate this project Roy enlisted many people to clean, paint and acquire needed fixtures for the bedroom and bathroom. A special "thanks" goes to board members and family who participated in painting and acquiring fixtures. In addition, thirteen church members and friends responded to a request for furniture for the house. A special "thank you" goes to Shirley Stubbs and Carol Mabry for managing the Briggs Center money provided for the project.

## Recruiting 2012-2013 Volunteers

Application due February 15.

Please spread the word!

See [www.westmorelanducc.org/boards/Volunteer\\_Corps/](http://www.westmorelanducc.org/boards/Volunteer_Corps/).

## Facebook

The Westmoreland Volunteer Corps (WVC) now has an official alumni Facebook Page. The site was created by Sabrina Vasa ('10-'11) over the summer and is under the administration of Eva Squibb ('09-'10, board member) and David Bennet (board member). The Volunteer Corps Board intends to use the site to provide information about the current WVC and to keep in contact with the alumni. Please "like" us on Facebook!



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## Former Volunteers

**1985-1986 Ann Lutterman-Aguilar** is the Mexico Site Director for the Augsburg College Center for Global Education. She completed her PhD in vocation. **Janice Morikawa Ogoshi** celebrated her 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary as pastor of the Hawaii Kai United Church of Christ in Honolulu.

**1986-1987 Amy (Hausknect) Reed** is working a corporate job, but she is eager to start her own business. She is the proud owner of 2.5 acres, chickens, and hopefully some goats soon.

**1990-1991 Heather DeVoe Miner** is the Associate Minister of Community Church, Congregational in Corona Del Mar. Her daughter is in fourth grade this year. **Anil Oomen** is a primary school educator at an alternative school in Oregon. He and his wife, **Melanie Green Oomen**, have three children. They have made several trips to El Salvador.

**1992-1993 Meg Bryant-Knarr** lives with her four kids and husband in a house they built on her parents' farm. She runs a program for inner city kids and families to visit the farm.

**1993-1994 Melinda Bogardus** is a family nurse practitioner for the county health department. She enjoys the mountains around her home in North Carolina.

**1995-1996 Shaan Hamilton** is the CFO at St. Paul College in Minnesota. His greatest enjoyment is his family. He and his wife just celebrated their ten year wedding anniversary.

**1997-1998 Amanda Hornbuckle Humiston** is in private practice OB/GYN in Missouri. She has two happy and healthy kids.

**2000-2001 Nelson Bansil** and his wife had their first child. He is currently in a Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship. **Lauran Baker-Askew** just welcomed her third child into her family. She is a new resident to North Carolina.

**2002-2003 Abigail Lenhart** is an attending at Oregon Health and Science University. She is practicing part time and teaching part time. **Beth Garriotte** completed a dual master's program in Public Health and International Development Studies. She moved to California to work with nonprofits in global affairs.

**Hannah Griffin Brown** served her first year as the pastor for West Concord Union Church in Massachusetts.

**2003-2004 Carolyn Emigh** lives in Sofia, Bulgaria teaching 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade English at the American College of Sofia.

**2004-2005 Logan Fitzpatrick** lives in Kunming, China and works for an environmental NGO called World Agroforestry Center. In the summer she leads American high school students through western China on a program called Where There Be Dragons. **Samantha Gallo** works for the nonprofit FACETS in Virginia. She is a Community Case Manager and works with 40 homeless and low-income families.

**2005-2006 Laura Sauder** completed her year of internship training to be ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. **Valentine Woods Breitbarth** is working for DC Medicaid. She recently had a wonderful trip around Ghana with her husband.

**2006-2007 Johanna Heilman** completed an accelerated second degree Bachelors of Science in Nursing. She is working as a nurse before returning to school for a masters degree. **Rachel Cloud** is in school for a Masters of Social Work at the University of Michigan, as a child welfare scholar. **Marissa Gunn** is a staff attorney for Children's Law Center in DC. **Katelyn Macrae** completed her final year at the Yale Divinity School this past May. **Julia Clark Prickett** is working with unaccompanied immigrant children at the Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Service in Baltimore.

**2008-2009 Charlotte Emigh** completed a Masters in Education and was hired by the University of Puget Sound in the Center for Writing, Learning, and Teaching. **Deanna Drake** is working on a dual Masters of Divinity and a Masters of Social Work at McCormick Theological Seminary. **Jennifer Cacace** is working at a healthcare advertising agency in New York City. **Rachel Birhhahn-Rommelfanger** is completing a Masters of Divinity at the Wesley Theological Seminary.

**2009-2010 Hannah Campbell Gustafson** is pursuing a dual degree in Masters of Divinity and Masters of Social Work at the University of Chicago. **Laura Shatzer** is completing a Masters of Divinity at Harvard Divinity School. **Sarah Adamson** is in her first year of medical school at the University of Minnesota. **Eva Squibb** was married in April. She is in nursing school at the University of Maryland and currently on the WVC Board.

**2010-2011 Chloe Sidley** is a first year medical student at Wright State University. **Sabrina Vasa** is a first year law student at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. **Lindsay Wallace** is the Coordinator of the Campus Kitchen at the University of Massachusetts Boston, which is an offshoot of DC Central Kitchen. **Kirsten Wittowski** just completed the "Program and Development Associate" position at Samaritan Ministries and is now teaching ESL at the International Language Institute in DC. **Allison Young** has applied to Public Health graduate programs and works at a gym in North Carolina. **Rev. Jessica Peterson** served as Community Counselor for three years and is now the pastor at Newton (IA) Congregational UCC. **Yonce Shelton** is the new Community Counselor.