



The Westmorelander

May 2014

A newsletter for the congregation of
Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ

Are You Ready For Peace Camp?

June 23-27, 2014 - 5:30pm - 8:00pm



Children: You are wanted. All K-5th grade Westmoreland kids and friends are invited to join us for Peace Camp, June 23-27. We'll gather each evening from 5:30pm to 8:00pm to hear stories, create art, play games, and build life-long friendships -- all to help us generate and spread Peace.

Adults: You are wanted. A big part of Peace Camp is strengthening our church family. Adults spending time with "our" Westmoreland kids shows them how much

you love and respect them. This week offers you a chance to be with our kids while using some skills you might not use on a regular basis -- preparing and leading art projects, reading or acting out stories, planning and guiding games. Think about it -- then, contact Amy Prichard Tutt to volunteer (amyptutt@yahoo.com.)

Youth: You are wanted. You are great leaders during Peace Camp! We can use your help with leading, guiding, and encouraging your younger friends throughout the week. Think about it -- then, contact Amy Prichard Tutt to volunteer (amyptutt@yahoo.com)

What an opportunity -- spreading peace in our world. Come join us. Questions? Talk to Amy Prichard Tutt (amyptutt@yahoo.com) or Alexis Kassim (alexis@westmorelanducc.org).

Registration forms are available in the church office.

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda, Maryland 20816
www.westmorelanducc.org, 301-229-7766

May Sermon Series



Sunday, May 4

Luke 15:1-7 Parable of the Lost Sheep
Sermon: "Carry-On Luggage for a Trip to the Future"

Sunday, May 11

Mother's Day Weekend
Children's Musical: "Land of the Lost and Found"

Sunday, May 18

Luke 15: 1-10 Parable of the Lost Coin
Sermon: "God Is a Hard-Working Maid and We Should Be Too"

Sunday, May 25

Luke 15: 10-32 Parable of the Lost Child
Sermon: "Cemetery of the Prodigals"

Invitation to Small Group Conversations

Our senior minister and the Governance Council invite all Westmorelanders to explore three questions with other Westmorelanders in small group sessions during May and June. The schedule of conversations is on page 3 of the newsletter.

Information about Small Group Conversations

Dates and Times

See the schedule on the next page.

Location

The meetings will take place in the Mabry Room (Room 40) which is on the Sanctuary/Office level of the church, at the west end of the hallway.

Questions to Ponder for the Meetings

1. What initially attracted you to Westmoreland? And why do you keep coming?
2. If you had \$1 million to designate for one specific cause or purpose at Westmoreland, what would you fund with that money?
3. What three values do Westmorelanders cherish as a congregation?

Refreshments

The Governance Council will provide drinks for the meetings.
You are invited to bring snacks to share (if you choose, not necessary).

Children and Youth

Children and youth are invited to take part in the meetings.
We want to hear the answers that children and youth have to these three questions.

(Continued on page 3)

(Invitation to Small Group Conversations continued from page 2)

Childcare

Childcare will be provided (by reservation only!) for kids who are pre-school aged and younger. Please RSVP for childcare to Alexis Kassim at least one week prior to your invited meeting. You may contact Alexis at 301-229-7766 or alexis@westmorelanducc.org.

Leadership

Who will lead these meetings? Tim Tutt will lead each meeting. The bulk of the conversation will be you!

Alphabetical Issues

What if your family has last names that begin with different letters? Come to any group that works for you.

Schedule Conflicts

What if you can't make it to the group to which you are assigned? Come to any group that works for you. What if you can't make any of the meetings? Feel free to email your answers to Tim Tutt at timtutt@westmorelanducc.org.

Small Group Meeting Dates

Meeting Dates	Times	Childcare RSVP date	Invitees Last names beginning with:	Governance Council Host
Saturday, May 3	5:00-6:30	April 26	A-B	David Bennett
Saturday, May 10	5:00-6:30	May 3	C-E	Nancy Pielemeier
Sunday, May 18	4:00-5:30	May 11	F-G	Sarah Smith
Saturday, May 31	5:00-6:30	May 24	H-J	Gary Walbridge
Sunday, June 1	4:00-5:30	May 25	K-Mc	Kay Jansky
Saturday June 21	5:00-6:30	June 14	Me-P	Jeanine Derr
Sunday, June 22	4:00-5:30	June 15	Q-S	Paul Leistra
Sunday June 29	4:00-5:30	June 22	T-Z	Gary Walbridge

Welcome New Members

Please extend a warm welcome to our newest members who joined Westmoreland on April 27:

Genie Holmes has been attending Westmoreland since last November. She is a retired anthropologist and educator. Her interests include theater, music, dance, reading, travel, and activism, to include immigration issues. Her three children are grown and live in various places around the country. Genie lives in Silver Spring and she joined by reaffirmation of faith.

Carter Oakley is the son of Glenn and Jane and brother of Chris. He graduates in May from Syracuse University with a degree in broadcast journalism. Naturally, he hopes to find a job in his field but is open to any and all possibilities. He is a go-getter as the CEO of Oakley's Odd Jobs. Carter joined by letter of transfer from Princeton United Methodist Church in Princeton, NJ.

Deborah Rogler is an attorney. In her spare time, she enjoys art and swimming. She lives in Washington, DC and joined by reaffirmation of faith.

Thoughts from the Senior Minister: A Thousand Words

Most months I use this little corner of the newsletter for a few words on some (hopefully) relevant topic or another. Today (late April, post-Easter) with a deadline approaching, I stared at my laptop and wondered what words to type.

Our Property Committee is hard at work. The UCC national office today announced that the denomination is suing the state of North Carolina over concerns that free speech is being impinged by that state's restrictive marriage laws. Vicious tornados ripped apart towns and lives in Arkansas and Oklahoma last night. All of these things are possible topics for this little column.

While avoiding writing, I checked my email to find this stunning photograph of our church.

John Kieswetter is the nephew of Ann Morales and a regular guest at Westmoreland. John snapped this photo on Easter Sunday. The old saying is that a picture is worth a thousand words. So I offer you this column of color with but a few more words. The blossoms, the sky, the steeple, the sunlight — all of this speak to me of hope, of promise, of transcendence, of beauty. Good words for our aching old world. Amen.

I am glad to share this small plot of time and earth with you.



Tim Tutt

Thoughts from the Director of Music

Wrapping up Messiah

On Saturday, June 7 at 7PM we will be presenting the third and final part of Handel's greatest oratorio, Messiah. The journey, which has been accompanied by multiple rehearsals, two performances, and the lectures on the topic presented by Rev. Tim Tutt, has been long but extremely rewarding. Week after week the Chancel Choir has been joined by voices from the community for the preparation of this massive work and because of this Westmoreland has enlarged its presence within the community. We will be preparing similar projects in future seasons, but for now, we invite you to join us on this particular day - our soloists, choristers, orchestra, and myself will be greatly rewarded by your presence.

Respectfully,

Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez



Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez

Thoughts from the Office Administrator

As we move to the (hopefully) slower summer months, we are looking at reworking our website. The goal is to create an inviting site that attracts visitors, with concise descriptions of the many programs that Westmoreland offers our members and guests. Additionally, we want a site that is easy for the staff to maintain and update. To achieve this goal, I'm looking for writers to help create the web content. If you are interested in working on this project, please let me know.

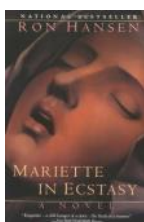
Peace, *Mimi*



Mimi Miller

Westmoreland StillReading Book Group

Sunday, May 4, 4:30-6:00pm, Parlor



Westmoreland's StillReading book discussion group has chosen *Mariette in Ecstasy* by Ron Hansen, available in area public libraries and in Kindle and audio editions.

In upstate New York in 1906, 17-year-old Mariette has entered the convent of Our Lady of the Afflictions with a demure but forceful religious fervor. When she starts to fall into trances—speaking directly with Jesus, she says—and then starts to suffer Christ's wounds, the strength of her devotion causes problems among the nuns. This novel is beautiful: from its writing, to the rural world it evokes, to the ecstasy at its heart. Please join us! --Brad Case

Children/Youth Save the Dates

June 23-27

Preschool – 5th grade “Peace Camp”. 5:30 - 8:00pm.

June 29-July 5

High School Mission Trip. Habitat for Humanity in West Virginia.

July 20-24

Middle School Mission Week. Local mission experience with Reach Beyond Mission in Washington, DC.

Middle East Movie Brown Bag

Sunday, May 18, 11:45am, Parlor

The Middle East Committee invites everyone to a screening of “The Law In These Parts”, an award-winning documentary by an Israeli film maker. The movie explores the legal system that the Israeli government employs to administer its 40-year military occupation of the West Bank. Through archival footage and interviews with the Israeli lawyers, judges, and generals who helped create the system, the film raises this question: “Can a modern democracy impose a prolonged military occupation on another people while retaining its core democratic values?”



The film length is 1 hour, 40 minutes. Viewers are invited to bring a brown bag lunch.

New York Times Review

“... By keeping its focus admirably tight, the sober and sobering Israeli documentary “The Law in These Parts” presents a devastating case against the occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Investigating the legal system in the occupied territories, the film is fundamentally an inquiry into justice. It makes a forceful argument: Justice and the occupation are incompatible.”

Singers Sought for Interfaith Pride Service

Monday, June 2, 7:30pm, Luther Place Memorial Church

The Capital Pride Interfaith Service will be Monday, June 2, at 7:30 pm. The theme is “Building Faith Allies: Locally, Nationally and Globally” featuring speaker Frank Schaefer, a Methodist minister defrocked for performing his gay son's wedding.

Local choir directors, Revs. Candy Holmes and David K. North are asking you to participate in a choir for this momentous interfaith event and lift your voice with others for Love and Justice. If you are interested, send your name and contact information to Rev. Candy Holmes (Candynotes@gmail.com). The rehearsal will be on Sunday, June 1, 4:00pm - 6:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Metropolitan Community Church, 4907 Niagara Road, Suite #101, College Park, MD, 20740.

The service is scheduled for Monday, June 2, 7:30pm - 8:30pm (arrive at 6:30pm) at Luther Place Memorial Church, 1226 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The choir will sing three songs: "Woke Up This Morning With My Mind Stayed On Freedom," "Let It Rise," and "Break Every Chain."

Music will be sent to all choir members in advance. The choir will help lead the congregation in two songs: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” and “Lift Every Voice and Sing.”

Serving Breakfast at S.O.M.E.

Wednesday, June 4

David and Betsy Bennett have registered to help serve breakfast at SOME on June 4, (the day we deliver Westmoreland's casseroles to SOME). SOME relies on the support of volunteers and Provide-A-Meal groups to serve more than 800 meals to hungry people each day.



Photo courtesy of Thom Wolf

If you would like to join them on June 4 for an interesting morning -- and perhaps lunch together on the way home -- let Betsy know as soon as possible, so that SOME can reserve places for servers. You can reach Betsy at betsybennett@rcn.com.

Ongoing Events

English as a Second Language Classes

Wednesdays & Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am
Contact: Briggs Center 301-229-7725

Improve Your French Conversation

Friday Mornings, 9:30am, Library
Contact: Pascal Tawes tawespasi@yahoo.fr

Yoga Practice

Saturday Mornings, 9:30-10:45am, Mabry Room
Contact: Lorrie Lynch Meier
lorriemeier@gmail.com

Meditation

Thursdays, Noon-1:00pm, Briggs Carpenter House
Contact: Linda Maddox lcaddox@comcast.net

May Calendar (This calendar does not include contracted use by the Washington Conservatory)

<p>Thursday, May 01 9:00a ESL Classes 8:00p Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR</p> <p>Friday, May 02 9:30a French Conversation Group L 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR 8:30p AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Saturday, May 03 9:00a Potomac Association Mtg. 9:30a Yoga Class - Cancelled 5:00p Small Group Conversations (A-B) MR 8:00p WCM Concert S, SH</p> <p>Sunday, May 04 8:30a Confirmation Class YL 9:00a Adult Study: Lectionary Discussion P 9:00a Chancel Choir Rehearsal S 9:00a Children & Youth Musical Rehearsal MR 9:00a Youth Class-Grades 6-12 YL 9:00a Child Care through age 2 N 10:00a Church School 1: Ages 3, 4, 5 Yellow 10:00a Church School 2: Grades K through 2 Red 10:00a Church School 3: Grades 4 through 5 Blue 10:00a Worship Service S 11:30a Children's Musical Rehearsal S 11:30a Fellowship Hour SH 11:30a Get Acquainted Luncheon P 12:15p JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal MR 2:00p WCM Recital S, SH</p> <p>Monday, May 05 12:00p ACOA Meeting MR</p> <p>Tuesday, May 06 2:00p Staff Meeting L 7:00p Board of Christian Education Mtg. P 7:00p Deacon Meeting L 7:30p Women's AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Wednesday, May 07 9:00a ESL Classes 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR</p> <p>Thursday, May 08 9:00a ESL Classes 8:00p Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR</p> <p>Friday, May 09 9:30a French Conversation Group L 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR 8:30p AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Saturday, May 10 9:30a Yoga Class - Cancelled 9:30a Children's Musical Rehearsal S 5:00p Small Group Conversations (C-E) MR</p> <p>Sunday, May 11 8:30a Volunteer Corp. Board Mtg. Blue 8:30a Outreach Ministries Red 9:00a Adult Study: Lectionary Discussion P 9:00a Chancel Choir Rehearsal S</p>	<p>9:00a Children & Youth Musical Rehearsal MR 9:00a Youth Class-Grades 6-12 YL 9:00a Child Care through age 2 Children & Youth Musical N 10:00a Church School 1: Ages 3, 4, 5 Yellow 10:00a Church School 2: Grades K through 2 Red 10:00a Church School 3: Grades 4 through 5 Blue 10:00a Worship Service S 11:30a Fellowship Hour SH 12:15p JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal MR</p> <p>Monday, May 12 10:00a NOW Rehearsal S 12:00p ACOA Meeting MR</p> <p>Tuesday, May 13 2:00p Staff Meeting L 7:30p Women's AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Wednesday, May 14 9:00a ESL Classes 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR 7:30p Governance Council Meeting L</p> <p>Thursday, May 15 9:00a ESL Classes 8:00p Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR</p> <p>Friday, May 16 9:30a French Conversation Group L 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR 8:30p AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Saturday, May 17 9:00a Laura Shatzer's Ecclesiastical Council Off Site 9:00a Men's Group Off Site 9:30a Yoga Class MR 11:00a Walbridge/Finnell Wedding S 2:00p Hofmeister Piano Recital MR, S</p> <p>Sunday, May 18 9:00a Adult Study: Lectionary Discussion P 9:00a Chancel Choir Rehearsal S 9:00a Children's Music Age 3-Grade 5 MR 9:00a Youth Class-Grades 6-12 YL 9:00a Confirmation Class YL 9:00a Child Care through age 2 N 10:00a Church School 1: Ages 3, 4, 5 Yellow 10:00a Church School 2: Grades K through 2 Red 10:00a Church School 3: Grades 4 through 5 Blue 10:00a Worship Service S 11:30a Fellowship of the Ringers Rehearsal MR 11:30a Building Tour by David Bennett 11:30a Fellowship Hour SH 11:45a BMF Meeting L 11:45a Mid-East Committee Movie & Brown Bag P 12:15p JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal MR 2:00p WCM Recital S, SH 4:00p Small Group Conversations (F-G) MR</p> <p>Monday, May 19 12:00p ACOA Meeting MR</p>	<p>Tuesday, May 20 12:00p Prime Timers SH 2:00p Staff Meeting L 7:30p Women's AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Wednesday, May 21 9:00a ESL Classes 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR</p> <p>Thursday, May 22 9:00a ESL Classes 8:00p Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR</p> <p>Friday, May 23 9:30a French Conversation Group L 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR 8:30p AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Saturday, May 24 9:30a Yoga Class MR 10:00a Messiah Rehearsal CR</p> <p>Sunday, May 25 9:00a Adult Study: Lectionary Discussion P 9:00a Chancel Choir Rehearsal S 9:00a Children's Music Age 3-Grade 5 MR 9:00a Youth Class-Grades 6-12 YL 9:00a Child Care through age 2 N 10:00a Church School 1: Ages 3, 4, 5 Yellow 10:00a Church School 2: Grades K through 2 Red 10:00a Church School 3: Grades 4 through 5 Blue 10:00a Worship Service S 11:30a Fellowship of the Ringers Rehearsal MR 11:30a Fellowship Hour SH 12:15p JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal MR</p> <p>Monday, May 26 8:00a Memorial Day - Office Closed 12:00p ACOA Meeting MR</p> <p>Tuesday, May 27 10:30a Sandwich Making for Martha's Table Kitchen 2:00p Staff Meeting L 7:30p Women's AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Wednesday, May 28 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR</p> <p>Thursday, May 29 6:30p WCM Piano Lessons P 7:00p Chancel Choir Rehearsal CR</p> <p>Friday, May 30 9:30a French Conversation Group L 12:00p ALANON Meeting MR 8:30p AA Meeting MR</p> <p>Saturday, May 31 9:30a Yoga Class MR 10:00a Martha's Table Sandwich Preparation SH 10:00a Messiah Rehearsal S 1:30p WCM Community Orchestra Rehearsal S 5:00p Small Group Conversations (H-J) MR 6:00p Confirmation Class Party Off Site 7:00p WCM Recital S, SH</p>
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CR ~ Choir Room K ~ Kitchen	L ~ Library MR ~ Mabry Room	N ~ Nursery P ~ Parlor	S ~ Sanctuary SH ~ Social Hall	YL ~ Youth Lounge RED ~ Red Class	BLUE ~ Blue Class YELLOW ~ Yellow Class
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Sunday Schedule

9:00am

Adult Lectionary Bible Study
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Children's Music Age 3-Grade 5
Youth Class Grades 6-12

10:00am

Worship
Church School Ages 3-Grade 5

Following Worship

Coffee Hour, 11:00am
Fellowship of the Ringers, 11:30am
JuBELLation Bells, 12:15pm

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“Be kind to unkind people; they need it the most.” – Ashleigh Brilliant

THE DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE WESTMORELANDER IS MAY 20

Please send your submission to Mimi Miller at mmiller@westmorelanducc.org.

Westmoreland Staff

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