



westminster
presbyterian

WESTMINSTER *life*

Westminster Refugee Ministry Team Supports Congolese Family *by Ann Morris*

Can you imagine having to flee from your home country, living in a refugee camp for eight years and then getting off a plane in Greensboro to start a new life?

That is the experience of this Congolese family. Working with Church World Service as a “Match Team,” Westminster’s Refugee Ministry Team has made a six-month commitment to help the Congolese family with learning English

and navigating everything from laundromats to grocery shopping. The family includes two parents and six kids ranging in age from 4 to 18.

The family fled war-ravaged Congo to Uganda, where they lived in a refugee camp for eight years. They were finally approved for resettlement in the United States and moved to Greensboro in February.

The dad, Aliser, has already gotten



Westminster Refugee Ministry Team members with family members at the team’s first group visit.

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WESTMINSTER HAS JOINED TWITTER. FOLLOW US AT @WPC_GREENSBORO.

The pastor's column

I've been thinking recently about community – what brings us together, and what pulls us apart.

We had a good response to the recent Sunday Night Life class on “Bridging Our Divides.” We talked about politics, which is so divisive today. We talked about religion, which has been divisive from the beginning. We talked about race and ways that the source of our racial divide can sometimes be hard to see. I offered some resources in the last class that have been helpful to me through the years in trying to bring people together in times of disagreement or conflict.

Paul's letter to the Ephesians makes it clear that bridging our divides is central to God's work in Christ. Writing to a church where Jews and Gentiles were having trouble living together, Paul writes, “But now in Christ, you who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is the hostility between us.” (Ephesians 2:13-14)

Paul also makes it clear that God calls us to be involved in the ministry of reconciliation. Paul says to the Christians in Corinth, where members argued about which preacher they liked the best, “All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:18)

My theology reading group recently gathered at Union Seminary in Richmond and read Rabbi Jonathan Sacks' book, *To Heal A Fractured World: The Ethics of Responsibility*. Sacks views this healing of a fractured world as a central calling of the Jewish faith, and I think we as followers of Christ share the same calling. Sacks says, “We are here to make a difference, a day at a time, an act at a time, for as long as it takes to make the world a place of justice and compassion.”

I'm glad for the recent opportunities we've had to begin this conversation about bridging our divides. It is a conversation we'll continue, a conversation which will lead us to action.

Your pastor,

Ernie

New Members



TOMMIE ANNE MOORE

607 Woodvale Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410
Joined: March 18



LIBBA WILLINGHAM

28 Brownstone Lane
Greensboro, NC 27410
Joined: April 1

Life's Passages

Births

Marguerite Ann Collins,
granddaughter of
Karen and Lenwood Collins

Deaths

John Alexander Wright on April 11

Notes to the Congregation

I thank God for everyone that visited, called, or provided meals for me and my family while I was in the hospital and during recovery. The cards and notes also were a comfort and brought joy to me and lifted my spirit. What a wonderful expression of following Christ's example of love and kindness! A special thank you to my sister in Christ, Abbie Calhoun.

I have been truly blessed,
Carolyn Lee

Mission Celebration and Auction

Saturday, May 5

4:30pm—6:30pm Bidding and Sale in the Fellowship Hall
5pm—6pm Outdoor BBQ Dinner (\$10 adults, \$5 children ten and under)
6:30pm—8pm Live Auction and Raffle in the Fellowship Hall

Proceeds go towards national and international mission trips. Tickets available beginning April 8 on Sunday mornings on both campuses, Sunday evenings at Sunday Night Life, and during the week in the Church Office.

Group's

ROME



Paul
and the
Underground Church

Intergenerational Vacation Bible School

July 22—25, 2018

The Westminster Presbyterian household is invited to step back in time to Rome, exploring the life of the apostle Paul and the underground church. Kids and adults will participate in a memorable Bible-times Marketplace, learn fun and meaningful songs, play team building games, try some Roman snacks and visit Paul while he's under house arrest. Each day begins and ends with Extollo—a time of upbeat worship that gets everyone involved.

We want the entire Westminster household to join us for this special summer event from 5:30pm-7:30pm (including dinner).



Register Now!
westpreschurch.org/VBS

Summer Playlist

June 3 - August 26

We invite you to join us this summer as we listen to each song on our playlist, hear a lesson from scripture on the same theme, and explore what the song means to our faith.

9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT LAKE BRANDT*
9:30AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY
11AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

-
- ▶ **JUNE 3** "HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING"
 - ▶ **JUNE 10** "BE THOU MY VISION"
 - ▶ **JUNE 17** "MORE LIKE LOVE"
 - ▶ **JUNE 24*** "SCREEN DOOR"
 - ▶ **JULY 1** "FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH"
 - ▶ **JULY 8** "THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD"
 - ▶ **JULY 15** "PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND"
 - ▶ **JULY 22*** "THE LOVE OF GOD"
 - ▶ **JULY 29** "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"
 - ▶ **AUGUST 5** "FOR EVERYONE BORN"
 - ▶ **AUGUST 12** "WHERE THE STREETS HAVE NO NAME"
 - ▶ **AUGUST 19** "BLESSED ASSURANCE"
 - ▶ **AUGUST 26*** "THIS IS ME"

*JUNE 24, JULY 22, AND AUGUST 26 WE WILL WORSHIP TOGETHER IN THE FRIENDLY AVENUE SANCTUARY, THERE WILL BE NO LAKE BRANDT SERVICE ON THESE DAYS

a job working 3rd shift at the Tyson chicken plant in North Wilkesboro. Mom, Emeline, is focused on learning English while the five oldest kids attend the Newcomers' School. Many of the children have already learned a substantial amount of English and are able to translate for their parents. They are a vibrant and fun-loving family and enjoyed the team's first group visit, which included ice cream sundaes and soccer in the backyard of their 3-bedroom rental home in east Greensboro.

The Westminster team members are:

Caroline Robinson and Ann Morris (co-leaders); Jack and Marybeth Bedrosian; Peter and Sally Zeillman; Jeff and Laura Collie; Stephanie Chandler; Elizabeth Bengtson and Lynda Purcell.

This is the second family the Westminster Refugee Ministry has helped to resettle. The previous family is Syrian and was resettled last year.

For anyone interested in donating items or money, please contact Caroline Robinson at csrob@umich.edu or 336-709-0387.

CHS Ramp Build Project

On a chilly morning in March, a team from Westminster partnered with Community Housing Solutions (CHS) to build a permanent ramp for a Guilford County homeowner. Westminster's construction team helped this elderly homeowner be safer in his home as he is now able to come in and out of his home using his new accessibility ramp. CHS's mission is to preserve homeownership for Guilford County residents who can't physically or financially make needed repairs to their home. The team from Westminster included: Bert Andia - WPC Project Coordinator, Andy Fuller, Jody Allen, Lucas Selvey, Joshua Selvey, David Selvey, Elaine Thompson, Scott Brown, Annmarie Dloniak, Jim Pierce, Harold Lewis, Alex Brandsma, Terry Brandsma and Butch Sherrill.



Church Staff Updates



Lisa Carwile

Lisa Carwile has joined the church staff as our new Director of Congregational Connections. Lisa will work with our Connections Committee

reaching out to visitors and members and helping them get plugged into our church family. She will also work with the Fellowship Committee to support our JOY group lunches, sports teams and church-wide events that build community. We are thrilled to have her.

Lisa and her husband, Eric, have been members of Westminster since 2003. They have two daughters: Katie, who is a sophomore at Grimsley (Go Whirlies), and Addie, who is in 8th grade at Kiser Middle. Currently, Lisa teaches preschool at the Childhood Enrichment Center at Christ United Methodist Church. She has been involved in Junior League of Greensboro, Greensboro Jaycees and the Distinguished Young Woman program (formerly known as Junior Miss), Girl Scouts, PTA and, of course, here at Westminster. For fun, Lisa likes to travel, read, go out with family and friends, and cheer on her East Carolina Pirates. She is looking forward to this new chapter.

May Calendar and Announcements

Greensboro Tornado Recovery

We continue to lift up our Greensboro neighbors affected by the devastating April 15 tornado. This is a very fluid recovery effort. Please visit the church website at westpreschurch.org for the most recent updates and opportunities. If you are interested in making a financial gift for tornado relief and recovery efforts, we suggest donating directly to tornado relief funds at the United Way of Greater Greensboro or The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro. Both organizations are meeting critical recovery needs in a strategic and coordinated manner. Checks may also be written to Westminster noting tornado relief. Funds will be split between these two organizations.

Volunteers Needed for Weaver House Breakfast

Westminster serves breakfast at the Greensboro Urban Ministry Weaver House Shelter the first Sunday of each month. Our next breakfast is on Sunday, May 6 at 6:45am. If this is a ministry you have been curious about and/or you would like to get involved in, we can definitely plug you in. Children elementary school age and older are welcome. No sign-up is necessary. Please enter the GUM property by way of their loading dock entrance at 1002 South Eugene Street. Park just south of the loading dock and enter the building just north of the loading dock by way of the first covered walkway door. Please contact Ann Comfort (ann.comfort@westpreschurch.org) if you have further questions.

Vitamin Collection for Nicaragua

The Westminster teams serving in Los Robles, Nicaragua this summer are collecting children's multivitamins with iron and women's pre-natal vitamins. Poor nutrition continues to be a major problem in rural Nicaragua, especially affecting pregnant women and children. Thank you for contributing vitamins and leaving them in the bins at either campus during the month of May.

Circle Meetings

Tuesday Evening Circle will meet **May 8** at 6:30pm for a salad supper at the home of Pamela Rosendale, 6180 Bar-Mot Drive.

Wednesday Morning Circle will meet on **May 9** at 10am in the Fellowship Hall at the Friendly Avenue Campus with lunch following.

JOY (Just Older Youth)

All seniors are invited to join us at noon on **Tuesday, May 22** in the Fellowship Hall of the Friendly Avenue Campus for a delicious home-cooked meal with friends and an informative program (TBA). Contact Lisa Carwile at 336-299-3785 if you'd like to make a reservation or sign up on the Worship Response Card.

3rd Grade Bible Discovery

3rd Graders are invited to learn about the Bibles they received in the fall. It takes place during the Church School hour (9:30—10:30am) on the 4th Sundays of the month at the Friendly Avenue Campus. **May 20** will be our final Bible Discovery class. Parents will meet at the same 9:30am hour on Sunday, **May 20**, Rm 106. These are fun learning opportunities that help our children get to know the Bible and help them along their faith journey.

Music Camp Registration Now Open!

June 18-22

Monday through Friday, 9am—12pm

2nd through 5th grade

Westminster's Summer Music Camp provides elementary-aged children an opportunity to explore basic music concepts in a hands-on, developmentally appropriate setting. Activities include singing, movement, instrument-playing and craft-making. On Friday, campers present a program to demonstrate what they've learned during the week. Registration fee covers the cost of a T-shirt, a melody flute and a daily snack.

Cost: \$65 per child with an \$80 family max. Camp is open to all (members and nonmembers). Pay and register by visiting westpreschurch.org/musiccamp.

Westminster Camps for Children

Opportunities for your children to grow in their faith this summer:

- **Passport Camp at Montreat, July 2-5.** This is a conference-model camp for current 3rd-5th graders and their chaperones. Cost is \$300 per camper (scholarships available). \$100 deposit required.
- **Outdoor Challenge** for current 4th-5th graders, **July 6-13.** This adventure camp begins at Camp Lookout in NW Georgia for community building, rappelling, ropes course, paddling prep, and caving. Then we move to SE Tennessee for tent camping, hiking, biking and paddling the Hiawasee. Cost is \$510 per camper (scholarships available). \$100 deposit required.

Registration is open. To register, send Lynn (lynn.turnage@westpreschurch.org) your child's name, DOB, and grade. Your deposit confirms your registration.

Westminster Presbyterian National Cancer Survivors Day

20  18 Celebration
Thursday, June 7

The Westminster Cancer Ministry will sponsor its 6th annual National Cancer Survivors Day Celebration on Thursday, June 7, at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall of the Friendly Avenue Campus. All cancer survivors (including those recently diagnosed, currently in treatment, or in remission), as well as families, care-givers and friends, are invited and urged to attend. As a faith community, we are a part of the care-giving team through our presence, prayers, and encouragement. We hope everyone will consider attending this special hope-filled event.

The featured speaker will be Greensboro resident Ms. Margaret Burnham, a ten-year survivor of Stage 4 Colon Cancer. Her message, "Hope and Healing," is based upon her own eighteen month journey of treatment at the Duke University Cancer Center. A woman of faith and an active member of Irving Park United Methodist Church, Margaret will share her story, which includes the power of love and support of family and friends, prayer and maintaining as much physical activity and fun in her life as possible. Her two daughters were ages 7 and 10 when she was diagnosed and, as she says, "her story is very much part of their story."



Margaret Burnham

Professionally, Margaret is a commercial real estate lawyer with Nexsen Pruet Law Firm, a member of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, the American College of Mortgage Attorneys, a certified mediator and a licensed real estate broker. She is an adjunct faculty member of the Wake Forest University Law School and volunteers as a judge for Guilford County Teen Court for juvenile first offenders.

Westminster maintains an active Cancer Ministry supporting two church-wide public information programs each year as well as men's and women's small support groups. The church has a current mailing list of more than 75 known cancer patients and survivors within our membership. We know from experience that cancer can strike anyone and that when it does, it is not only the patient that is affected. The entire family becomes a part of the journey. The Cancer Ministry is here to be a part of that experience. Please come and celebrate those journeys with us on June 7.

NO OTHER
WESTMINSTER YOUTH BAND

ON SALE NOW
The Youth Band CD
"NO OTHER"
will be on sale for \$10
April 29 (after the youth worship service),
May 5 (at the Missions Auction)
and in the Church Office after those dates.

ONE CHURCH. TWO LOCATIONS.

Westminster Presbyterian Church is a Christ-Centered Community of Faith that prayerfully seeks God's direction as we provide opportunities for spiritual growth and expression through worship, education and servanthood, responding with God's love and compassion to the needs of the world.

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