

Westover View
Westover Hills Presbyterian Church
February 2020



Session Notes

From the Stated Meeting of December 29th, 2019

Westover Hills received the following correspondence:

- a. A Happy Thanksgiving card from Presbyterian Village of Little Rock.
- b. A thank you card from Tanja Eckart for the use of the gym for volley ball lessons.
- c. A Christmas card from The Japanese School of Little Rock along with a \$100 gift.
- d. A Christmas card from Alessi Keyes Construction.
- e. A copy of Trinity Today from Trinity Presbyterian Church of Little Rock for the 2019 Advent Season.

Session approved changing the official minutes from a 9 ¾ x 11 format to a more standard 8 ½ x 11 format.

Jerico 'Rico' Cruz Garlington was approved for the sacrament of baptism. He is the son of J.J. and Amanda Garlington and grandson of Rev. Gordon and Shirley Garlington. Rev. Garlington will assist in the sacrament.

The 2019 Statistical Report to the Presbytery of Arkansas was referred to the Membership and Communications Committee to oversee the reconciling of the church rolls.

The Building Use Policy from 2010 was referred to the Property and Maintenance Committee for review and potential revision.

Session voted to make a principal reduction on the mortgage by transferring \$12,000.00 of the gains made from the Texas Presbyterian Foundation building fund.

An honorarium to Rev. Carol Clark in the amount of \$1,000.00 was made for services given to Westover Hills; she has in turn designated that the money be used for music and/or instrumentation at church services.

Communion duties will now rotate from one elder class to another with each celebration of the sacrament. Also, the communion stations may be altered to accommodate the smaller number of elder class members.

The Session advises the congregation of the Resistance to Harm Service at First United Methodist Church Little Rock at 5:30 on January 5, 2020.

From the Stated Meeting of January 12th, 2019

Westover Hills Presbyterian Women will be selling tickets for the Presbyterian Village Mardi Gras fundraiser. Westover will also lend tables to the event, if needed.

For 2019, the church took in 106% of the planned budget.

Nancy Jordan will be teaching a four-session class entitled Art for Non-Artists beginning January 28, 2020 at 6:30 in the Hardie Chapel. The cost will be \$25 for materials.

Session approved the 2020 budget.

Session approved the Membership and Communications Committee to look into receiving a grant from the Zoll Company for an additional AED machine. The device would be placed near the gymnasium.

The **Preschool** Board announced the Annual Chili Supper will be held March 6, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

N. Zane Wilson,
Clerk of Session, WHPC

Santa Claus Comes to Presbyterian Village

Santa Claus came to Presbyterian Village on Friday, December 6, to ask the residents what they wanted for Christmas. Charlie and Charlotte Frith helped with the occasion. Charlie Frith took photos of most of the residents as they talked to Santa Claus, and Charlotte helped each one to select a special Christmas hat for their photo.



Decorated entrance to Presbyterian Village



Residents enjoy delicious homemade cookies



Charlie taking a photo



Charlotte talks to Santa Claus while Charlie listens

Westover Choir at Presbyterian Village

December 1st proved to be a busy day for the choir. After a beautiful Advent service in the morning, plus lunch and Advent activities following worship, the choir offered a program at 2:30 in the Presbyterian Village Chapel. From the familiar texts of favorite hymns and carols to the rousing sounds of Southern gospel, music

filled the chapel. The warm, gracious reception by residents and staff continue to make this a favorite performance venue for the choir.



**David Austin, WHPC
Music Director**



WHPC Choir

Office Hours

Damaris will work from 9am-1pm Monday through Friday. Her email is office.westoverhills@gmail.com.

Kris will be with us each Sunday and will keep regular office hours (9:30 – 5:30 Monday through Wednesday each week). She is eager to attend any and all evening meetings and church events. She maintains an open-door policy and welcomes a visit! Please give her a call to set a time. Kris can be reached at kris.westoverhills@gmail.com

Children's Sermon



Rev. Kris gives the children's sermon during the second week of Advent.

Baby Shower for Elizabeth Rogers

The Westover Hills Presbyterian Women Board hosted a baby shower for Elizabeth Rogers in the parlor of Westover Hills on Saturday afternoon, December 7. All Westover Hills Presbyterian women were invited. Elizabeth will be adopting a baby girl in early January, who will be named Josephine Jeannette Rogers. Everyone enjoyed cake and punch as Elizabeth opened baby gifts. Baby Josephine was born on January 6, 2020.



Elizabeth Opening Gift



**Elizabeth Opening, and
Deanine recording gift.**



**Rebecca, Elizabeth and
Deanine Rogers.**



The cake



Mary Lois Stanfield cuts the cake.



Betty Glenn Serves Punch

Merry Christmas, Pettus House!

Westover Hills helped the Pettus House and all its residents celebrate Christmas. The Presbyterian Women, in the person of Carolyn Nash, purchased a \$150 gift card and a well-stuffed stocking for each of the Pettus House kids. Charlotte and Charlie Frith went shopping for a number of items that were for the Pettus House. Through the WHPC Pettus House account, they purchased a Keurig coffee pot, electric hand mixer, 12 each of forks and spoons, several cooking pots of different sizes, large spoons including a ladle and a slotted and a non-slotted spoon and several bowls of different sizes.



Charlie Frith with gifts



Bowls and variety of spoons



Charlotte Frith with gifts



Charlie's CRV loaded with presents

5th Sunday Brunch



What a delicious way for about 35 people to head into the New Year! On Sunday morning, December 29th, the WestoverMen cooked a delicious 5th Sunday brunch for the congregation of Westover Hills. The brunch consisted of breakfast burritos, fresh fruit and coffee and orange juice. The burritos contained refried black beans, sour cream, scrambled eggs, shredded cheese and bacon bits. Thanks to all of the Westover Men who helped and hosted!



Mariners White Elephant Christmas Party

The Mariners got together on Saturday, December 21 at Eileen Joyce's house to celebrate Christmas with white elephant gifts. Their December gathering was a festive occasion since each person was asked to bring a white elephant gift beautifully wrapped or sacked in order to entice an unsuspecting friend to enjoy its hilarious contents. In the photos above you can read the joy -- or shock -- on each recipient's face. Also, everyone brought a side dish, appetizer or dessert to go with beef brisket, rolls, tea and coffee provided by hosts Margaret and Scott Hiers, Mary Chrisman, and Eileen Joyce. The Mariners is a quarterly fellowship opportunity for all friends and members of Westover Hills.



From L to R: Joyce and Bill Smith, Laura Whitmore, Charlotte Frith, Marcey Berry, Joyce Smith, and Kay McCollum



From L to R: Joyce Smith, Sid McCollum, Charlie Frith, Carol Enderlin, Mary Chrisman and John Mac Leod



From L to R: Margaret Hiers, Eileen Joyce, Margaret Hiers, Garry Enderlin, Ashley Berry, Scott Hiers, Mary Chrisman, Charlie Frith and Kay McCollum

WHPC Serves Coffee to Preschool Parents

Cute, bashful, exuberant, happy, sleepy: these are the descriptions of children coming through the door of the Westover Hills Preschool on Monday mornings. Hugs, kisses and good byes are given to parents as they hand their children into the waiting arms of teachers.

For an hour on Monday mornings, members of the Westover Hills congregation who served coffee to parents from 7:45am till 9am got to be enveloped in this innocent wonder of early childhood.



Ellen and Nancy Move Coffee from Inside to Outside



Ellen McEwen and Nancy Passini Make Coffee in the Kitchen



Ellen Serves Coffee to Preschool Dad



Ellen Serves Coffee to Preschool Mom

Preschool Christmas Program

The Westover Hills Preschool held its annual Christmas celebration in a nearly-full Westover Hills sanctuary on Friday, December 20. To the delight of the parents, grandparents, and friends of the children, each preschool class sang two or three Christmas songs. At the beginning of the program, Preschool Director Shawn Mittledorf presented a bag of cash from the preschool parents to WHPC Sexton Ulysses Neyman and Ms. Janet, music director of the preschool. The parents also presented a monetary gift to Shawn. After the program, everyone adjourned to the fellowship hall for punch and cookies prepared by the preschool board. The children posed for photos with Santa Claus (our own Bobby Thomas); photographer Charlie Frith made the photos and videos of the program available online and Shawn shared links with the parents. After the punch and cookies and Santa photos, the little people went home with their parents for the holidays. School will resume on Monday, January 6.



**Shawn & Ulysses
Neyland**



Decorated Sanctuary





**Shawn Mittedorf & Ms.
Janet**

Santa Claus

Our own Bobby Thomas



Preschool Board with Santa Claus: Shawn Mittedorf, Mary Lois Stanfield, Charlie Frith, Deanine Rogers, Santa Claus, Betty Glenn and Laura Whitmore. (Eileen Joyce was working with the Jail Program and had an excused absence.)

Westover Hills Staff Party

On December 16, The staff at Westover Hills got together for their Christmas Party . They enjoyed a catered lunch from Olive Garden, a great time was had by all!



Damaris, Rev. Kris, Tammy, Ulysses



Tammy and Debbie



Tammy and Debbie



Ulysses and Damaris

Sock It to Undie Sunday at Westover Hills

During all of November, Westover Hills members brought socks and underwear for the Stewpot Clothes Closet. The good news? The large collection bins in the church narthex



of the church filled to overflowing before Charlie delivered the contents to Barbara at the Clothes Closet.



Westover Hills Special Advent Events

December 1

Westover Hills began its new church year this December with three special Advent events. For three Sundays, the community gathered after the morning worship service to share a meal and an activity that reflected some aspect of this year's theme, "Prepare the Way."

December 1, we invited Kathy Webb, Little Rock City Director for Ward 3, and Norm Hodges, president of the Heights Neighborhood Association, to share sandwiches and observations about our immediate neighborhood and ways that Westover can become increasingly engaged with those around us. Their shared insights will become the basis of further conversations in 2020, as we plan new ways to connect to our neighbors.



Norm Hodges
president of the
Heights Neighborhood
Association



Sally Browder, Moderator



**Kathy Webb, Little Rock City
Director for Ward 3**

Chrismon Cookies and Hot Dogs on December 8

On Sunday, December 8, we enjoyed Christmas Garland Hotdogs a la David Austin, followed by an unleashing of creative energy, as folks decorated sugar cookies baked in the shape of Chrismons, to offer as gifts to friends or be eaten on site! Cookie bakers, including enthusiastic cooks from outside of Westover's own gifted membership, offered up table loads of cookies ready to be decorated.



Mason Cantrell decorates cookies





**David Austin, author of
Christmas Garland Hotdogs**

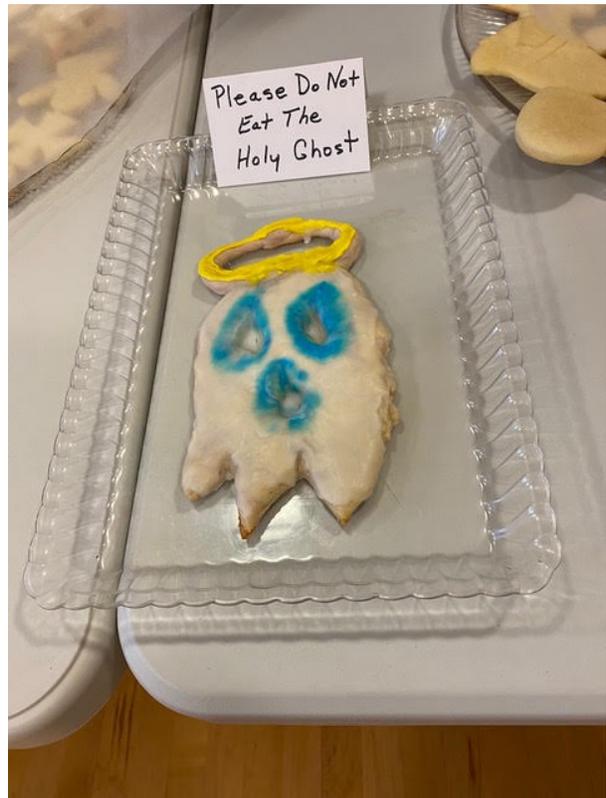
**Chrismon shapes, ready for
decoration**



**Marti Hampton and Mary
Frothingham turn on their
decorator genius**



**Non Westover Hills members
help bake cookies**



No title needed



**Cookie bakers Mary, Sally, Marti,
Laura and Candice hold the magic**

rolling pin



Mary Ellen Holder adds a sweet finish to some cookies



Morgan Cantrell makes an angel special

Singing in a Square - December 15

On Sunday, December 15, the Westover community gathered once more to enjoy hot sandwiches -- and a singing square. Chairs arranged in a square allowed the singers in each part to hear one another and join in a rousing concert of carols, old and new.



Some of the singers

As we proceeded through this Advent season of reflection and preparation for the coming year in the life of our church, we valued time for both individual and group reflection and for fun to encourage ourselves to offer God's gift of presence to the world around us.

Welcome Josephine Jeannette Rogers!



Congratulations to Elizabeth Rogers on the birth of her daughter, Josephine Jeannette Rogers, who entered this world on January 6. Josephine weighed 5 pounds 13 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches long. The congregation and friends of Westover Hills offer prayers of thanks for her safe arrival.

Westover Hills Baptism

The Rev. Gordon Garlington baptized his grandson, Jerico Garlington, on Sunday, January 19 in the Westover Hills sanctuary following the morning service. Jerico is the son of J.J. and Amanda Garlington.



**Rev. Gordon Garlington and grandson,
Jerico**

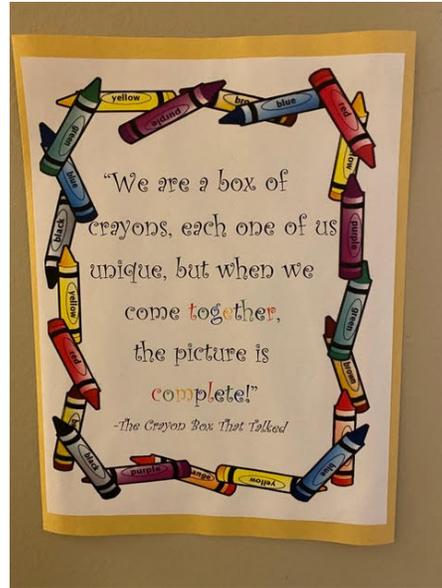


**Amanda and J.J. Garlington with their son,
Jerico, and their daughter, Gianna**

Preschool Registration

The preschool is currently registering for the 2020-2021 school term. Please call 501-666-0880 with questions or for more

information.



A couple of signs from the preschool that are worth sharing.

Preschool Chili Supper March 6



It's chilly now -- and on Friday, March 6, from 5:30-7:30pm, it will be chili time. Supper tickets will be \$10 at the door; hotdogs and three types of chili will be served. Be sure to buy tickets for yourself, your family, your friends, and your friends' families! This is the big preschool money raiser for the entire year. And please help with the silent auction that the preschool board is organizing. The board is looking for attractive auction items: gift cards, new merchandise from businesses or places of employment, etc. You can lend a hand by donating and/or soliciting such items. Brian and Terri Kinder will be there to entertain the kids.



Brian and Terri Kinder

Meet Us at the Table

Hope Rises Calling Westover Presbyterians To Help with Dinner for Third Wednesday AA/NA Women's Recovery Group

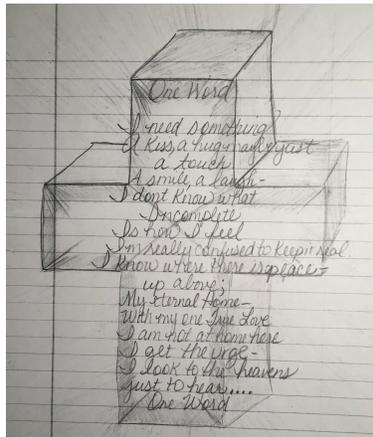


The H.I.P. (Hope in Progress)

Is a fusion meeting supporting women recovering from alcohol, drugs and/or co-dependency. The meetings are Wednesdays at First United Methodist Church, 723 Center St. Dinners are provided by ecumenical groups each week. Presbyterians are responsible for the third Wednesdays each month. While we are recruiting other Presbyterian churches to join us, we would love to have a group of Westover folks who would be willing to cook/bake/provide food for the dinners when it is Westover's turn to participate.

Currently the group is 20-25 women. Kitchen access is at 4:30pm and a team of women helps with prep weekly. Dinner begins at 5:45pm and ends at 6:30 pm when the meeting starts. The main reason to support the program is that many of the participants have been in the PCRDF jail literacy classes or the Hawkins re-entry program. Some are staying in re-entry facilities like Hope Rises (the program coordinator)

If you would like to participate in this ministry by providing food (and fellowship), or providing an item for the March dinner, please contact Kathy Rateliff at 501/944-4244.



The photo is from Hope Rises, a re-entry facility offering holistic services to women impacted by addiction, trauma, or incarceration and committed to improving their health and well-being while providing opportunities for personal growth and empowerment.

Westover Presbyterian Women (PW)

Outreach to the Incarcerated

Since Westover Hills PW committed to working with and funding outreach to incarcerated programs in January 2016, more than 3,000 men, women and kids have been in our literacy, re-entry and art programs. Hundreds of volunteer hours have been donated teaching everything from etiquette to grammar, from punctuation to poetry and making dream-catchers to creating clay sculptures.

From knees-knocking first time teaching at the jail, to celebrating graduation at the prison, no two days at any lock up are the same. After heavy doors rattled our teeth and shook the floors when closing, we realized why prisons and jails are called “slammers.” We learned that inmates at the jail can’t pick their uniform colors each morning - that orange, blue and mustard yellow indicate certain assignments and levels of freedom (or lack thereof). We also learned that the people locked up inside are just like the ones on the other side of the bars, with all the same fears, hopes, families and stories.

But rather than hear it from us, instead read the words from some of our students this past year:

A Haiku: All Time

I read day & night
Time is a precious resource
Except while in jail

by CW

from a class assignment after discussing Reading With Patrick

A writing assignment from the Hawkins re-entry program, "What I have learned while I have been in prison," made for extraordinary class presentations.

"I don't feel like I can express all I have learned in the last six years of my incarceration...I will hit the highlights...The first four years or so of my prison sentence I refused to learn a dang thing. I refused to conform, to follow rules, to be or act right, or to follow others. I spent so much time in trouble, on seg (segregation) and time without being able to see or call my (family) that it was eventually that punishment that taught me the most and made me a better me.

After being sexually, emotionally & physically abused as a child my coping skills came down to cutting and self-mutilation to escape my fate. I learned as a child that I was useless, worthless, and not worth living.

The last six years though have taught me how truly and completely wrong that is. I am a beautiful, smart, kind, caring (woman) who love(s) to make other people laugh and most of all I am worth so much more than I ever imagined... Prison is the only place that ever made this possible. *DS*

The first thing I learned about myself when I finally got locked up was that I was an addict and was out of control. Signing up for the substance abuse treatment program was a big step for me. While in the program I learned ...I had shame & guilt... and no clue how to work past these things. After finding out these things about myself I began to dig deep inside myself and began to work on myself...I have made a lot of mistakes, but I am not a mistake. *LA*

Out of all the times I have been in prison, I've never really taken the time seriously, it's always been fake it to make it. So for me this time is different, because for once I am taking full responsibility for my actions. So instead of sleeping my time away, I decided to sign up for this program.

Some days I catch myself wanting to fall back into the same patterns as before. Then I have to check myself and get my thoughts back in order. Cause I'm sick and tired of being a repeat offender, drug addict at 30 year old. It is time for something to click. *BH*

Presbyterian Village Mardi Gras Masquerade



The Presbyterian Village Foundation is hosting a Mardi Gras Masquerade on February 20 from 4:30-7 p.m. The evening will include New Orleans themed cuisine from local restaurants, entertainment and valet parking! Tickets are \$50 and must be purchased in advance.

Please contact Melissa Jenkins (501-225-1615) to inquire about reserving tickets or for more information.

Westover's Coupon Clippers Hit \$1,000,000.00



Westover's Coupon Clippers Hit \$1,000,000.00

America's military families hit it big thanks to Westover's congregation and the merry band of coupon clippers headed by Mary Chrisman. "Troopons" are coupons gleaned from Sunday newspaper inserts or other manufacturers' coupons and then cut and grouped by specific categories, placed in quart size plastic bags that are labelled and then shipped to the Support Our Troops

location in Daytona Beach, Florida.

At SOT, volunteers ship expired ones to military bases overseas (personnel can use them for up to six months past the printed expiration date), and ones not yet expired are sent to bases in the US. Most preferred coupons by military families are food and baby items followed by ones for common household goods.

WOH started asking church members to bring Sunday newspaper coupon inserts to church in the fall of 2013. That first year we mailed \$75,000 worth of coupons. By 2017 we had mailed in \$152,198.95.

In December 2019 Mary, Alice Ahart, Nancy Blackstone, Alicia Quinn and Tammy Pflug had clipped enough coupons to hit the one million dollar mark. What a great program to assist our military families here and overseas. Thanks to the coupon clippers, the congregation who brings the inserts, and Presbyterian Women who pay to ship the coupons to Support Our Troops.

Bridge Builders Reading Group Begins March 10

Bridge Builders Reading Group will convene in March on the following Tuesdays, at Mosaic Church of Central AR, 6221 Colonel Glenn 72204. If you want to participate in the spring study, please email or text Liz Branch.

Dates for Spring 2020 – 4 Tuesdays, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31, 6:30-8:30pm. As in the fall, car pool participants will meet in the WHPC office parking lot at 5:45pm to ride together.

Book: *The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Rise of American Capitalism*, by Edward E. Baptist (available at Wordsworth or other book stores). Here is a new slant on the history of slavery and how enslaved people have been used to power US infrastructure -- and the capitalistic economy that we now experience. In the span of a single lifetime, the South grew from a narrow coastal strip of worn-out tobacco plantations to a continental cotton empire, and the United States grew into a modern, industrial, and capitalist economy. The book helps us understand the deep rifts between peoples and cultures in the US today – and can help us “see” each other as beloved sisters and brothers who together have a long, dark history that has made it difficult for us to “see” each other.

Children on Sunday Morning

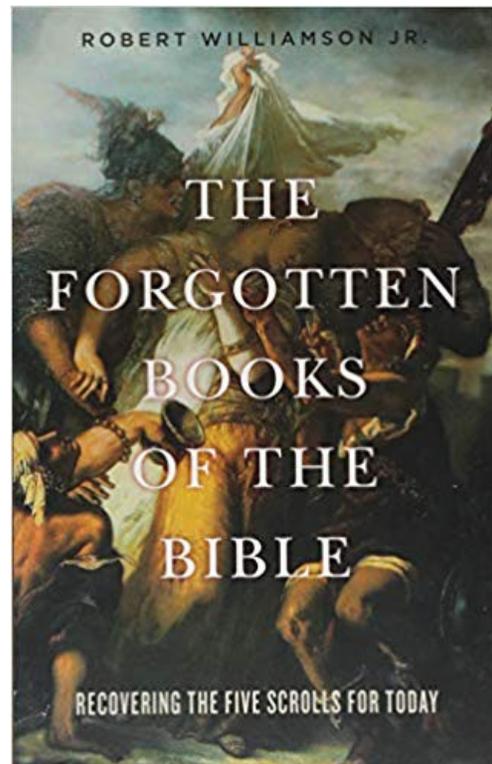
"I feel God on ordinary days and on special days, all year long. Come worship with me" are opening words from the children's book, *A Journey through the Church Year, Come Worship with Me* by Ruth L. Boling, a writer and Presbyterian minister.

We know of the special days of Advent and Christmas, Good Friday and Easter, but what are “ordinary days”? Children on Sunday Morning will experience the seasons of the Christian year with Bible stories, symbols, crosses and crafts as well as songs, prayer and snacks. Come learn about worship in the seasons of the Christian year; Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 in the Children on Sunday Morning classroom, in the preschool wing.

Evening Book Study

Remember The Forgotten Books of the Bible?

The study group looking in depth at five little-known (and seldom preached on) books of the Old Testament has four more sessions – and invites you to join us for the final four! Using Dr. Robert (Bobby) Williamson, Jr.'s commentary as a guide, the group will delve into the words and issues in Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Esther. We read Song of Songs before the holidays and Ruth in January. The sessions are self-standing, so even if you missed earlier sessions, you are invited to participate now. We'll pick up Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Esther beginning January 14 and author Williamson will offer a closing word on February 25. For a copy of Williamson's book, please see Liz Branch.



Mariners Movie Night

Mariners Movie Night - March 20

Hosts - Nancy Passini and Doyle and Helen Hughes

The movie, I Can Only Imagine, will be shown in the Westover Hills Hardie Chapel on Friday, March 20. There will be pizza, popcorn, penny candy, and pop soda — and a chance for a door prize — all for the low admission price of \$10 per person or \$15 per twosome. Sounds like fun! See you there! RSVP email to Doyle & Helen Hughes at etusnavy@aol.com



Movie - I Can Only Imagine

Growing up in Greenville, Texas, Bart Millard suffers physical and emotional abuse at the hands of his father, Arthur. When Arthur becomes terminally ill, he finds redemption by embracing his faith and rediscovering his love for his son.

Years later, Bart's troubled childhood and mended relationship with his dad inspires him to write the hit song, "I Can Only Imagine," as singer of the Christian band MercyMe.

We need Mariners hosts for the months of June, September and December Christmas Party. If you are willing to host one of these events, please contact Charlie Frith at chfrith@mac.com

Did You Know...

...that Donna Callaway tends to the Westover Hills kitchen on most, if not all, Monday mornings? She straightens up, critically assesses freshness of refrigerator contents -- and removes expired treasures, notes when supplies are dwindling -- and replenishes them. Periodically she organizes a clean-up day and invites others to help with deep cleaning or suggests a kitchen shower if the kitchen seems to lack important items. In short, she makes sure that the kitchen is fully functional, tidy, and well-stocked. A person who started helping in the church kitchen when she was in her 20's and admittedly needed a mentor, Donna has mentored many another person in the mysterious ways of making a church kitchen into a place of ministry. Lest you think she is the only one working in the kitchen, Donna says, "It takes lots of hands to keep the kitchen running." We are grateful for the work of the many Westover Hills hands!

Honorarium



Church Family at Westover Hills
Paulette Nieuwenhof



Art Campbell
Kay and Ray Stephens for Bldng. Fund

Mary Knopf
Kay and Ray Stephens for Bldng. Fund

Dixie Smith
Kay and Ray Stephens for Bldng. Fund

Vaska Westbrook
Kay and Ray Stephens for Bldng. Fund

Westover Hills Presbyterian Church | 6400 Richard B. Hardie Drive, Little Rock, AR 72207

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