



TUESDAYS IN LENT

DEEP STORIES AND COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

We will hold our annual dinner/discussions on Tuesday evenings in the Holmes Room.

- Dinner is at 6pm \$5 suggested donation
- Presentation is at 6:30pm • Discussion is at 7:00pm
- Concludes at 7:30pm • RSVP is Necessary:

Sign up at the Information Table in the Gallery Room or email Jamie at jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org

This year our traditional Wednesdays in Lent has moved to Tuesdays in Lent. Given the great chasms revealed by the recent election that divide our nation among common, everyday folks, many are calling for efforts to bridge the divides. Suggestions range from “Courageous Conversations” about politics to listening to and learning from one another’s “Deep Stories.”

Three recent best sellers – *The End of White Christian America*, *Strangers in Their Own Land: A Journey Into the Heart of Our Political Divide*, and *Hillbilly Elegy* – each tell the deep story of various groups of people and specific individuals representing those groups. Deep stories are, as one of the authors says, “how we feel about and experience life”; deep stories give us our orientation to the world; they are the values, assumptions, and social tenets we learn early in life and that shape our attitudes and commitments as adults.

In the spirit of deepening the bond of our own community here at Westminster, and learning to listen deeply to one another, our Lenten Dinner Series will give us an opportunity to hear the deep stories of some of our staff and church leaders. Our goal is to equip us to help bring about healing in our community as we listen deeply to others and learn how to think and speak deeply about ourselves.

From our neighbors in city neighborhoods and suburbs, to perhaps even our own family members we thought we knew but realized in the current political climate that we don’t, this series will help us listen with compassion and speak with courage about faith, values, and even politics.

Tuesday, March 7

Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations
Marc Joseffer, Entrepreneur, SCORE Business Mentor

Tuesday, March 14

Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations
The Reverend Beth Hennessy, Minister for Pastoral Care, WPC

Tuesday, March 21

Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations
Roger Seifert, Entrepreneur, Sales Executive

Tuesday, March 28

Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations
Elder Mimi Steadman, Associate Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness, Daemen College

Tuesday, April 4

A discussion on how Westminster can contribute to healing and hope in the current environment
Elder Tim Johnston, CEO and Founder of Sandhill Investment Management and Dr. Yorty



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
724 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 716.884.9437

March 1, 2017 - Ash Wednesday
6:00PM in the Holmes Chapel

Order of Worship

Before the service, speak to God. During the service, let God speak to you

Voluntary

O Mensch, beweine dein Sünde gross
O man, lament your great sin

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Chiming of the Trinity

The sounding of the chimes, invoking Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, is an invitation to prepare for worship through a time of silent reflection. Please be respectful of those who are praying.

Introit

Psalm 103:8-14

Plainchant Tone VIII.2

⁸The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness. ⁹He will not always accuse us, now will he keep his anger forever. ¹⁰He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness. ¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those who fear him. ¹²As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us. ¹³As a father cares for his children, so does the Lord care for those who fear him. ¹⁴For he himself knows whereof we are made, he remembers that we are but dust.

Call To Worship

Let us worship God.

God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

God's love endures forever.

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God's love endures forever.

Hymn Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes

Stand to sing.
Please see insert.

BEACH SPRING

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 51:12

Preaching Schedule in Lent

March 5-Lent I - The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
The Importance of Boundaries: On Just Saying No
Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

March 12-Lent II
The Importance of Questioning: On Not Being Afraid To Ask
Genesis 12:1-4a; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

March 19- Lent III
Masterworks Service-Bob Chilcott's *St. John Passion*
The Importance of Using Your Voice: On Speaking Up; John 4:5-42

March 26-Lent IV
The Importance of Personal Experience: Not Just Libraries; John 9:1-41

April 2-Lent V
The Importance of Ultimate Trust: Dead or Alive; John 11:1-45

Voluntary

He That is Down Need Fear No Fall

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

He that is down need fear no fall; he that is low, no pride;
He that is humble, ever shall have God to be his guide.

I am content with what I have, little be it or much;
And, Lord, contentment still I crave, because thou savest such.

Fullness to such a burden is, that go on pilgrimage;
Here little, and hereafter bliss, is best from age to age.

Meditation

Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations

Dr. Yorty

Invitation to the Observance of the Lenten Discipline

Litany of Penitence

Let us pray.

**Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

We confess to you, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,

We confess to you, O God.

Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

We confess to you, O God.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

We confess to you, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

We confess to you, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done.

For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

Accept our repentance, O God.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, O God.

For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Imposition of Ashes

Voluntary

Abide With Me

Eventide, arr. Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes. Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Prayers of the People

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil;

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

We will distribute the elements of communion today by intinction – simply take the bread and dip it in the cup. It is appropriate to say “Amen” or “Thanks be to God” when receiving the bread and the cup as they are gifts of God for the people of God. Westminster Presbyterian Church serves only gluten and dairy-free bread in Communion. Please take the aisle nearest you to the communion station at the front of that aisle, and return to your seat by the same aisle.

Voluntary

Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken

Jamie Hitel (b. 1958)

Bread of the world, in mercy broken, wine of the soul, in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead:
Look on the heart by sorrow broken; look on the tears by sinners shed;
And be thy feast to us the token that by thy grace our souls are fed.
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food. (text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826)

Hymn, No. 85

What Wondrous Love is This

WONDROUS LOVE

The people stand to sing.

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

What Wondrous Love is This

Southern Harmony, arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Please leave in silence.

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music

Senior Choristers of the Westminster Choir School

Hillary Hunt and Veronica Shanchuk, Chorister trainers