



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

DECEMBER 30, 2018

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

8:15 AM IN THE HOLMES CHAPEL

10:30 AM IN THE SANCTUARY

THE REVEREND DR. THOMAS H. YORTY
PASTOR



Worship in the Sanctuary - 10:30 AM

Welcome to this Place of Christian Worship

Do not wait for someone else to begin worship. Pray silently for yourself, for those about you, for the poor and the oppressed, for those unable to be present, for those who will shortly lead our common worship. Latecomers may enter the Sanctuary during the singing of the first hymn or during the Response to the Assurance. Ushers are available for assistance. Please turn off all cell phones.

Opening Voluntary

Adeste Fideles

Jeanne Demessieux[†] (1921-1968)

It is the tradition of this congregation to remain silent during the Opening Voluntary as we collectively prepare for worship.

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Yorty

Order of Worship

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.

Call to Worship

The people stand and remain standing for the hymn that follows.

Hymn in Procession, No. 40

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession


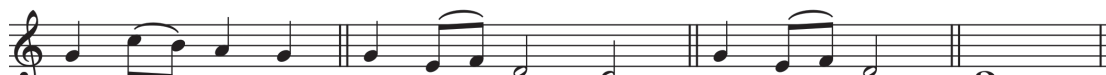
**God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory
And surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us.
Forgive our dullness and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known,
That we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your extravagant love;
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Time for silent prayer.

Kyrie

The people sing.

Thomas Pavlechko (b. 1961)

Cantor	Congregation	Cantor
		
<p>Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.</p>		
Congregation	Cantor	Congregation
		
<p>Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.</p>		

Assurance of Pardon

Response



Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, and to the
Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost, as it was in the be -
gin - ning is now and for - ev - er. A - men.



Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbors.

Prayer for Illumination

Voluntary

Messiah

George Friedrich Handel (1685-1759)

Recitative and Air

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people:
But the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee,
And the gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.
And they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death hath the light shined.

Scripture Lesson

The people stand.

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Poems for the New Year

Hymn, No. 36

In the Bleak Midwinter
The people stand to sing.

CRANHAM

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

The Deacons receive the gifts, a portion of the blessings God has given us, which we return unto God.

Messiah

Recitative and Air

George Friedrich Handel

Thus saith the Lord of Hosts; yet once, a little while,
And I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea, and the dry land;
And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come:
The Lord whom seek, shall suddenly come to his temple,
Even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in:
Behold, he shall come, the Lord of hosts.

But who may abide the day of his coming and who shall stand when he appeareth?
For he is like a refiners fire.

Presentation of the Gifts

The people stand as the Deacons come forward and remain standing for the Prayer of Dedication.

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low;
Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.



Prayer of Dedication

Loving God: we give you thanks for Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Receive the gifts we offer in union with Christ's gift for us. Clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, that we may be Christ for others. In his name we pray. Amen.

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 and ever. Amen.**

Sending Hymn, No. 56

The First Nowell
The people stand to sing.

THE FIRST NOWELL

Benediction and Congregational Response

Go, All Ye Faithful

Closing Voluntary

In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 608

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Immediately following the service, please join us for Meet & Mingle in the Holmes Room, hosted by Elaine Mattar & Mary Beth Parrinello.

Worship Leaders

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor
Roy Stewart, Liturgist
Michael Manganiello, tenor
Jennifer Shin, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

Deacons Serving Today

Teddie Granville, Carol Greetham, Tom Greetham, Johnpatrick Marr, Jane Morris, Roberta Nickelsen

The Christmas tree in the Narthex is a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Speth.

If you would like to purchase 2019 Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, please sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. You may also call Sue Adams at 883-7597 or email hugwalker1@gmail.

Notes on Today's Music

‡**Jeanne Demessieux** was born in Montpellier, in southern France. After taking private piano lessons she entered the Montpellier Conservatory. She obtained first prizes in solfège and piano. Jeanne was enrolled as student at the Paris Conservatory; studying piano, and composition with Henri Büsser. She was appointed titular organist at Saint-Esprit a post she held for 29 years. She studied organ with Marcel Dupré receiving a first prize in organ performance and improvisation, She played more than 700 concerts in Europe and the United States. She made numerous recordings, including the complete organ works of César Franck, which was awarded the Grand Prix du Disque. In 1962, Demessieux was appointed titular organist at La Madeleine in Paris. She was professor of organ at Nancy Conservatoire (1950-52) and the Conservatoire Royal in Liège, Belgium (1952-68). In 1967, she signed a contract with the Decca label for a complete recording of Olivier Messiaen's organ works. Due to her untimely death in 1968 the project was never realized.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, December 30

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, December 30
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
10:30 AM Worship
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

Monday, December 31

7:30 AM WECP & WPC Closed

Tuesday, January 1

6:00 AM Year of the Bible begins
7:00 AM WECP & WPC Closed

Wednesday, January 2

9:30 AM Worship Planning
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Meeting
5:00 PM Case Library Committee
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Thursday, January 3

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

Sunday, January 6

9:00 AM Year of the Bible Class
9:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
9:00 AM Case Library Conversations
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
10:00 AM First Sunday Youth
Service/Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

WORSHIP AND PREACHING SCHEDULE

8:15 AM: Worship in the Holmes Chapel with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
10:30 AM: Worship in the Sanctuary

JANUARY 6 - One worship service at 10:30 AM The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

NEWS AND NOTES

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER

If you are visiting and would like to learn more about our programming or mission, please fill out a Welcome Card (found in the pews) and return it to a deacon or staff member.

- As a More Light church, we invite all persons of the LG-BTQIA+ community to membership and full participation in all ministries of Westminster.
- We light our Peace Candle to pray for peace—both in our own neighborhoods and across the world.
 - Bibles and children's worship guides are available at the Sanctuary entrances.
 - For the hearing impaired, wireless receivers are available in the Church Conference Room.
 - Childcare for children 5 years old and younger is available from 9:30 AM to 11:30AM in the school building (across the garden).
 - If you need assistance at any time, please ask a Deacon.
 - Please pick up your generosity envelopes, which are available on the table in the Holmes Room.

CHURCH LIFE

Westminster's Alcohol and Drug Education and Referral service provides support to assist members and friends with issues and questions related to abuse of alcohol or other drugs. If you or someone you love needs help, call for free and confidential advice. Phil Stevens, Chair, 839-3357; Dave Carstensen, 884-5403; Jane Morris, 571-481-1839; Ellen Smith, 882-2064; Elizabeth Stewart, 585-217-7878; Jim Wieland, 523-0217.

If you are recovering from an illness/surgery, a caregiver with an ill family member, or have had a new baby, Westminster can provide a simple meal for those in need. Please contact Jamie Adamczyk at jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org or 884-9437, ext. 326.

INQUIRER CLASS

Sunday, January 20, 11:30 AM

Friends and visitors interested in learning more about Westminster and the ministries we support are invited to attend a meeting immediately following worship. Dr. Yorty will share details of Westminster's history, discuss current outreach and mission programs in the city and region, and answer any questions. At the conclusion of the meeting, those who so desire will be received into the membership of the church. For more information, please contact Sawrie Becker, 884-9437, ext. 315 sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

WEDI AND MISSION

ENERGY

ENERGY is accepting warm winter socks in youth sizes, books about/featuring animals, and books written by Sarah L. Thomson. ENERGY Store donations are always appreciated! Get involved with ENERGY! Sign up to tutor students, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday afternoons, 4:30-6:30 PM. Contact Alyssa Wojciechowski, Program Coordinator at 507-8216 or awojciechowski@wedibuffalo.org Thank you!

WEST SIDE BAZAAR

Check out The West Side Bazaar, 25 Grant Street, for lunch and shopping. Sunday and Monday: Closed. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM. Friday: 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Saturday: 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM.

WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND ARTS

The Worship, Music, and Arts committee strives to assist the staff to give shape and substance to the life and work of Westminster Church as expressed in its worship and music ministry. Our worship services are never static but always a 'living testimony' of our attempt to worship and praise

God to the best of our ability. From year to year, season to season, the form and order of worship changes as our worship leaders seek to enable us to give fresh and meaningful corporate and personal expression to our love for God and depth of faith – which varies in taste and temperament, origin and background, and length of journey among us. Since Rally Day, this year our liturgy has included some new aspects including the presentation of the Gospel selection for the day. Ellie Seib, the Chair of WMA, would like to take this opportunity – following the Committee’s spring ’18 Case Library session on worship/liturgy planning at Westminster – to remind the congregation that the Committee is open to hearing from members and friends of the congregation regarding our Sunday corporate worship experience. Please feel free to contact her at ejseib@yahoo.com

WEDNESDAYS @ WESTMINSTER

January 16, 2019 at 12:00 PM

Local artist will recognize Holocaust Remembrance Month with music, poetry, and art.

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR SCHOOL

All Choir School offers programs for all children—regardless of age, musical skill, or Westminster membership! Choristers receive individualized weekly training from talented teachers and regularly lead worship services. For more information, please contact Garrett Martin, Organist and Director of Music, 884-9437, ext. 318 or gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sundays, 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Each Sunday, join a conversation about the week’s scripture passages and how they apply to our lives. The discussion is led by Debbie Katz and uses the *Feasting on the Word* curriculum.

CASE LIBRARY

Sundays, 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Every Sunday, Case Library Conversations provides an opportunity to discuss local, national and global issues. With these conversations, we can examine our life-long adventure in faith.

Travelogue Series

January 6

Presenter: Cameron Airhart

When You’re Tired of London, You’re Tired of Life:

What a week in London can teach you about the world and your own hometown.

People have been singing London’s praises since the 12th century, and the city has re-invented itself every century to stay on the cutting edge of culture. A well-spent week in London can teach you things about the whole world.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Sundays, 9:00 AM in the Heritage Room

Spiritual Life creates opportunities for Westminster members and friends to explore and reflect together upon the interior life of faith. Discoveries and questions come from topics such as Deep Listening, Gratitude, Attentiveness, Compassion, Sacred Spaces, Grieving, and Joy. Poetry or art are frequently woven into a presentation. We are always interactive and supportive, looking for ways to apply important spiritual concepts to our daily lives. As a Christian congregation, we are also open to learning about other faith traditions and practices that nurture, sustain, and challenge the “inward journey.” January 2019 Spiritual Life programs feature advice from Warren Buffet and a conversation about consciousness.

Applying Warren Buffet’s process to come up with your own resolutions

January 6 and 13

Presenter: Allan Hayes.

We will take a new look at how to identify what is really important to us. In his book *When*, Daniel Pink shares some advice that billionaire investor Warren Buffet provided about regaining one’s traction in life: “Legend has it that one day Buffet was talking with his private pilot, who was frustrated that he hadn’t achieved all that he’d hoped.” Buffet prescribed a three-step remedy, which our Spiritual Life group encourages you to try ahead of time; then we’ll share.

1. write down the top 25 goals for the rest of your life.
2. Look at the list and circle your top five goals, those that are unquestionably your highest priority.
3. immediately start planning how to achieve those top five goals. And the other 20? Get rid of them.

Year of the Bible, New Adult Education Course will begin January 6, 2019.

The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson, who recently retired from his pastorate at the First Presbyterian Church, Manassas, VA and relocated to Orchard Park, will lead a year-long weekly Sunday morning (9:15-10:15 AM) during the school year and (8:30-9:30 AM summer hours) class which will read and discuss the entire Bible. Dr. Ferguson has led this class several times in the congregations he has served. In fact, he uses a special Bible that selects the readings for each day (requiring about 15 minutes) that will be available to class participants. The class will be structured around brief presentations with questions for discussion, including visual and video aids. Dr. Yorty and Ms. Debbie Katz, as well as a small team of church members, will also teach some of the sessions. We hope you consider this exciting option for your continued spiritual growth and development. The class is open not only to members, but friends of Westminster. If you have any questions, contact Tom Yorty or Debbie Katz.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH EDUCATION

- Preschool class meets in the WECF building. After *Time with the Children*, children 3-5 years old leave with their teachers, Debby and Chris LaMendola, and Janet Kifner-Arnatt and walk to the building together. In cold weather, the children need their coats. After worship, the children and their teachers gather in the Holmes Room.
- 1st-2nd grade class meet each Sunday with their teachers in the first classroom before the Parish Hall balcony.
- 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades meet with their teachers in the first classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- 6th-7th grade class meet each Sunday in the last classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- Confirmation class is made up of 8th graders. They meet with their mentor until January, after which they meet each Sunday from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM in the classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- Senior Highs, 9th-12th grades, meet each Sunday at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialogue Diner.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MEET AND MINGLE

Sundays, following 10:30 AM Worship

Enjoy snacks and fellowship in the Holmes Room with friends old and new! Please consider lending a hand to ensure Meet & Mingle’s continued success by shopping, hosting, or sponsoring. For more information, please contact Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org or 884-9437, ext. 315.

HEAVENLY GROUNDS CAFÉ-Sundays, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM
 Stop by the Oak Room for a cup of coffee or tea as you make your way to Adult Education programs between the worship services, or sit and enjoy with friends after Worship.

KNITTING GROUP

The next Knitting Group meetings will be announced. The group meets on various Tuesdays and works on individual projects, as well as prayer shawls, scarves, and other items for members of the church. Beginners welcome! Contact Fran Holmes, mfranholmes@verizon.net for information.

PASSAGES-The next meeting is Tuesday, January 8th at NOON for lunch and 12:45 PM for the movie which is, *Greenfingers* starring Clive Owen and Helen Mirren. Sign up in the Gallery Room if you are planning to come for lunch.

WOW BOOK DISCUSSION

This year, WOW will discuss these books on the following dates. Join us at 7PM on these Monday nights in the Case Library. Feel free to attend as your schedule permits:
 January 14: *Less* by Andrew Sean Greer.
 March 4: *The Women's Hour* by Elaine Weiss
 May 6: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

WOW WINTER RETREAT

Mark your calendars now and save **Friday, January 25 through Sunday, January 27, 2019**. If you haven't been to our Winter Retreat, plan to join us for inspiring workshops, wonderful conversations, fresh air, beautiful surroundings, great food, and spiritual renewal. Everything is optional-- participate or not, the choice is yours. Single rooms are limited, plan on attending and register early. Registration forms are available in both in the December newsletter and brochures on the Information Table.

JANUARY MEETUP

Have you been to the West Side Bazaar recently? With vendors from all over the world serving up delicious food and merchandise, there's always something new and interesting to discover. Our next MeetUp will be Saturday, January 19 at 2:00. There will be a tour, shopping, food, and fellowship!

In case of weather issues, our alternate date will be January 26. Contact Carol at carolgreetham@gmail.com. Friends are welcome!

MEN'S RETREAT- 2019

Being Present in the Moment

Friday, February 1 - Saturday, February 2, 2019 at the Byrncliff Resort, Varysburg, NY. This year's Men's Retreat promises to be a well-spent overnight, taking time for "Being Present in the Moment." Our lives are so easily distracted by our personal and professional responsibilities, as well as the never-ending news and social media, that we easily lose touch with the very resources—everyday occurrences, people, routine opportunities and challenges—that remind us that life is a gift and instill gratitude for all that we have. The retreat will feature speakers - Tom Yorty, Dave Carstensen, and John Montague, activities and extended small and large group discussion as we explore the theme of being more intentional and mindful of our daily lives and relationships. Reservation forms are on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. LIM-ITED ROOMS AVAILABLE!

Deadline for reservations is Friday, January 4, 2019.

FOYER DINNER GROUPS

The Foyer Dinner Groups bring new friendships into our congregation! Three groups of folks have been meeting regularly for a few months now, with lots of good food and drink shared by all. We've heard reports that hilarity has broken out repeatedly. The groups are meeting every four to six weeks in the homes of members. Each person brings food to share, with the host usually picking the menu and providing the main course. It's low-key and casual and an opportunity to expand our friendship-horizons! (To say nothing of the delicacies we've tasted!) In December and January you may sign up to join a new group. Watch for signup sheets in the Gallery Room and start making new friends at Westminster in 2019. Get in touch with Mindy Airhart with questions (716.866.4370 or mindy.airhart@gmail.com).



Pledges received as of 12/19/2018

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
177	\$431,930	\$183,070

Westminster's Giving 2019 is well underway! Pledge cards have been distributed. There is a basket on the table in the Holmes Room where you can place your completed pledge card. **For your convenience, you may make a pledge or a pledge payment on our secure site at www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving.** Our goal this year is \$615,000. As you prayerfully think about your pledge, please consider increasing your pledge for 2019 by either increasing your weekly offering by a few dollars, or making an overall 5% increase to insure that we successfully accomplish our goal. Please know that whatever you contribute is greatly appreciated.



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor
tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 313

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate
bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org, 716-697-0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries
gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 318

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development
sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 315

Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education
dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 329

Patricia Pearce, Director of Finance
tpearce@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 305

Lenore Neiler, Graphic Designer
lneiler@wpcbuffalo.org, ext 302

Deb Pettibone, Director of Communications
dpettibone@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 310

Mark Aquino, Youth Coordinator
maquino@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 311

Matthew Marco,
Assistant to the Pastor and to the Director of Music
mmarco@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 306

Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant
jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 326

Jennifer Shin, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar
jshin@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 357

Westminster Early Childhood Programs

Dr. Cindy Lynn-Garbe, Director
clynn-garbe@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 328

Todd Bothwell, Associate Director of Admissions
tbothwell@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 330

Jessica Mitrovits, Development Associate
jmitrovits@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 332

Heather Abbott, Administrative Assistant
habbott@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 300

Facilities

Aaron Vivian, Facilities Supervisor
avivian@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 319, 716-504-7308

Jeff Kaczmarek, Maintenance
ext. 319, 716-345-8013

Austin Becker, Maintenance
716-479-0668