

Picture Yourself

at Westminster!

Join us as we connect
our families!

It's time for a new Pictorial Membership Directory of our Westminster Family!

We invite you and your family to stop by the Oak Room to get your picture taken, starting on Rally Day, Sunday, September 10th and continuing through October 15th. It will only take a moment and, with our own Jen Callaghan as the photographer, you can be sure that it will be fun and comfortable too!

We ask that you make every effort to "Picture Yourself" at Westminster and get your picture taken. Adding pictures to our membership directory of contact information for our church members is a very important part of being a welcoming and nurturing church and helps all of us to feel at "home." If you can't make it on one of these Sundays, we invite you send in a picture via email to lnailer@wpcbuffalo.org or call Sawrie Becker at 884-9437, ext. 315 to explore other options.

RallyDay, 2017

Sunday, September 10

- Join us for Worship, Music and Fellowship
- Worship at 8:15 AM in the Holmes Chapel
 - Worship at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

Join us as we
Welcome!
in the New Program Year!

One Service Sunday

**July 2nd through
September 3rd
at 10:00 AM**

Join us for worship in the
newly air conditioned
Holmes Chapel.
(Fall hours resume on Rally
Day, September 10th)



Taking up a Conversation with Nature

Dear Friends,

In his new collection of essays and poems, *A Small Porch*, Wendell Berry writes,

Why do you force the knowledge of me to leave your memory and go abroad, you in whom my gifts proclaim me who have blessed you with the right bounteous gifts of so many favors; who, acting by an established covenant as the deputy of God, the creator, have from your earliest years established the appointed course of your life.....I am Nature who, by the gift of my condescension, have made you a sharer in my presence here and have designed to bless you with my conversation.

August is surely a time to re-enter the “conversation” with nature that Berry encourages us to take up again. Our lives pick up such speed and momentum that it is often difficult to slow down, breathe, and re-engage the physical world around us. What Berry says is that this is our birthright; nothing takes precedence or priority over it. If we lose it, we lose ourselves.

So find a trail or a beach or the quiet of your porch—wherever that may be—and reconnect with the deputy of God, Nature.

Blessed reflection and meditations,

Tom

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor

Let's Stay Connected!

We need your help in keeping our church records up-to-date. By doing so we can: Ensure your family is kept informed about all that's happening at Westminster, continue to design effective & interesting programming, and provide timely Pastoral Care. Forms to update your information can be found on the Information Table in the Gallery Room or at www.wpcbuffalo.org/lets-stay-connected.

Preaching Schedule

Summer Worship
July 2 through September 3:
One service at 10:00 AM in the Holmes Chapel

August 6
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Summer Picnic
Matthew 14:13-21

August 13
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
The Deep End of the Pool
Matthew 13:22-33

August 20
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Whatever It Takes
Matthew 15:21-28

August 27
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
The Question No One Can Answer But You
Matthew 16:13-20

Order Sunday Flowers



If you would like to purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, there is a monthly sign up on the kiosk in the Gallery Room. You may also call Sue Adams at 883-7597 or hugwalker1@gmail.com



Join us in October when Passages resumes for the 2017-2018 program year. 12:30 PM: Lunch in the Oak Room and 1:15 PM: Program in Case Library. Program details, speakers, and topics will be listed in the September newsletter and on our website: www.wpcbuffalo.org. Stay tuned for another informative and fun Passages program year



Legacy Corner Planned Giving

What part of church life means the most to you? Is there a ministry or program that has made a difference in your life, or a family member's life? A gift to the church in your Will can keep that vital aspect of our community growing so it can bless others in the future. You can give different kinds of gifts to the church in your Will. You can give a dollar amount, or real estate, stocks, business interests, artwork, or copyright royalties. Making a gift or bequest is as simple as including the following statement: *I give to Westminster Presbyterian Society, Inc., Buffalo, New York, ___ percent of my residuary estate.* OR *I give to Westminster Presbyterian Society, Inc., Buffalo, New York, the sum of ___.*

Please stop by the information table in the Gallery Room to pick up information about including a bequest to Westminster and other planned giving opportunities. You may also contact Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org, 884-9437, ext. 315.



Become a part of our **life**

Interested in learning more about Westminster?

We invite you to join our community of faith at Westminster. Westminster is a church that is active in our community and welcomes all God's people. Anyone who would like to learn more about our community and the many ministries we support is invited to attend an Inquirer Class held in the Case Library immediately following our 10:30 AM worship service. During the class, our Pastor, Tom Yorty, will tell the story of our church and discuss the current programs of outreach and mission in the city and region. There will be time for conversation and an opportunity to get answers to any questions you may have. Light, healthy refreshments will be served. At the conclusion of the meeting, those who so desire will be received into the membership of the church. The next class will be on **Sunday, September 17, 2017**, however, you may speak with Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org, 884-9437, ext. 315. or Tom Yorty, tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org, 884-9437, ext. 313, anytime about membership.



Join us for Meet & Mingle Light during July and August where you can still enjoy fellowship with lemonade and cookies! Volunteers are needed to provide cookies and host during this time. **A sign-up sheet is available on the first floor kitchen refrigerator or contact Sawrie Becker 884-9437, ext. 315, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org to volunteer.**

The Power of Generosity

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development,

NEW! Name Tag Display



Thanks to a generous donation, members and visitors will have the opportunity to greet and welcome each other by name with new nametags which will be displayed on a custom designed nametag cabinet.

Being a welcoming church is part of our mission and purpose at Westminster. Making sure that visitors feel we want to personally greet them and make them feel welcome is a key to our success as a church family. They will also enjoy being able to get to know each other on a first name basis!

Be sure to look for the new nametag cabinet in the Holmes Room on Rally Day, September 10 and get your nametag. We are blessed by the generosity of our members and thankful for this special community building gift!

If you would like to learn more about special gift opportunities to Westminster, please contact Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315 or sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

The Westminster Choir School



The Senior Choristers, ages 12-18, rehearse Tuesday, 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM, Wednesday, 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM, and Thursday, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM. At 6:00 PM on Wednesdays, the choristers sing Choral Evensong in the Holmes Chapel, open to everyone. The Junior Choristers, ages 7-11, rehearse simultaneously, joining the Senior Choristers for the service of Choral Evensong at 6:00 PM.



The Apprentice Choristers, ages 4-6, rehearse each Sunday during the 10:30 AM Sunday School in the Holmes Chapel. The Apprentice Choristers are taught fundamental music and choral skills, with the assistance of Dr. Val Cooley and Mrs. Julie Zenger. Participation in the program is not limited to Westminster members; all are welcome to join. For more information, please contact Garrett Martin, Organist and Director of Music gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org 884.9437 ext. 318.

**Wednesdays
@Westminster**
Come for Music
Stay for Lunch!

Starting September 13th

Each Wednesday, local Buffalo artists present a 30 minute lunchtime recital in Westminster's Historic Sanctuary. Lunch is provided by a local food truck. Wednesdays at noon, September 13th-December 13th and January 17th-May 16th. Donations benefit the *Westminster Friends of Music*. Food Trucks TBA

Sunday Morning Spiritual Growth

Join us in September when our Sunday morning offerings will begin for the new program year.

Spiritual Life

Sundays, 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM in the Heritage Room

Our programming will resume in September when Dr. Yorty offers his introduction to the new program year to both the Case Library and Spiritual Life groups.

Case Library Conversations

Case Library Conversations presents opportunities to hear from community leaders, experts, and members on local, national, and global issues. Participants are invited to dialogue, discuss, and respectfully disagree. Through these conversations we can examine how our life-long adventure in faith informs our response to these local, national, and international issues.

Adult Bible Study

9:00AM - 10:15AM in the first classroom on the Parish Hall Balcony

Join our continuing conversation as we explore the Sunday scripture passages. This discussion moves from what the biblical passage means to what this passage might mean in our lives. Our class is led by Debbie Katz and other class members. Our curriculum is *Feasting on the Word*. Please come to these classes as your schedule permits.

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Office Hours: M-F 8:30 AM-5:00 PM
Office: 884-9437 • Office Fax: 884-3450
WECP: 884-9438 • WECP Fax: 886-7641
www.wpcbuffalo.org

To email a staff person use the person's first initial and last name @wpcbuffalo.org. In the event of an emergency, Rev. Yorty can be reached at 830-8596
Staff members' phone extensions are listed below for your convenience.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor, ext. 313

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate, 716-697-0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries, ext. 318

Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education, ext. 329

Mark Aquino, Youth Coordinator, ext. 311

Lenore Neiler, Communications Coordinator, ext. 302

Patricia Pearce, Director of Finance, ext. 305

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, ext. 315

Matt Marco, Assistant to the Pastor and the Music Director, ext. 306

Jamie Adamecyk, Administrative Assistant, ext. 326

Brian Gilkes, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar, ext. 357

Westminster Early Childhood Programs

Dr. Cindy-Lynn Garbe, Director, ext. 328

Todd Bothwell, Associate Director of Admissions, ext. 330

Jessica Mitrovits, Development Associate, ext. 332

Barbara Robinson, Administrative Assistant, ext. 300

Facilities

Aaron Vivian, Facilities Supervisor, ext. 319, 716-504-7308

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

Nolan Arroyo, Maintenance, 716-346-7670

Elders

Robert Bojdak, Clerk of Session

Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Fran Holmes	Mark Aquino	Laurel Braun
Karen Keaton	Melissa Balbach	Bill Gray
Sandy Laub	Sawrie Becker	John Heer
Ardrey Manning	Bob Bojdak	Jack Jacobs
Elizabeth Stewart	Jen Callaghan	Ellen Kennedy
Adam Utley	Edwin Johnston	Chris LaMendola
Tom Warszawski	Jeff Renzoni	Peter McNally
	Mimi Steadman	Ellie Seib
		Rebecca
		Montaague

Deacons

Class of 2017	Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Kate Dierenfield	Russell Braun	Shea Akers
Doug Fabian	Patty Charlier	Cameron Airhart
Carol Huber	Kathleen Kelly	Mary Dimock
Joan Kuznia	Kirsten	Teddie Granville
Callan Izatt	Kifner-Kennedy	Janet
Mike Reynolds	Johnpatrick Marr	Kifner-Arnatt
Nancy Stevens	Jennifer Russell	Florence Kilambo
Roy Stewart	Josephine Stevens	Kalumbu
	Ronald Sutz	Donald Kitangano
		Rebecca
		Read-Lukan



WEST SIDE BAZAAR

Summer at the West Side Bazaar!

Come on over for a delicious lunch and do some shopping! Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11:00 AM-7:00 PM, Friday: 11:00 AM-8:00 PM, Saturday: 10:00 AM- 8:00 PM. Sunday & Monday, Closed. Plenty of FREE PARKING!

25 Grant Street, Buffalo, 464-6389



BIGGER. BETTER. BRIGHTER.

ENERGY

Returns on September 19th.

We will have our volunteer training/orientation on September 12th, 13th, and 14th. If you are interested in becoming an ENERGY Program volunteer, please contact Alyssa Wojciechowski, ENERGY Program Coordinator, awojciechowski@wedibuffalo.org



Alcohol and Drug Education Referral Service

Westminster's Alcohol and Drug Education and Referral service has been working quietly and steadily since 1981 to help members and friends with any questions they may have about alcohol or other drugs. Call any of us 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.

August Calendar

Tuesday, August 1

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
10:00 AM Garden Group
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, August 2

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, August 3

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

Sun August 6 - Name Tag Sunday

9:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
10:00 AM Worship/Communion
11:00 AM Meet & Mingle

Monday, August 7

5:00 PM Membership Comm. Mtg.

Tuesday, August 8

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
10:00 AM Garden Group
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, August 9

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, August 10

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
5:30 PM Ministry Of Generosity Mtg.

Sunday, August 13

9:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Meet & Mingle

Monday, August 14

8:30 AM Middler Mission Week in Rochester

Tuesday, August 15

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
10:00 AM Garden Group
6:00 PM Zen Dharma
7:00 PM WECP Parent Board Mtg.

Wednesday, August 16

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
12:00 PM Planned Giving Mtg.
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, August 17

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

Sunday, August 20

9:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Meet & Mingle

Tuesday, August 22

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.

10:00 AM Garden Group

5:30 PM Personnel Comm. Mtg.
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, August 23

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
6:00 PM Session Mtg.
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, August 24

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
7:30 AM Budget & Finance Mtg.

Sunday, August 27

9:30 AM Infant/Toddler Care
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Meet & Mingle

Tuesday, August 29

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
10:00 AM Garden Group
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, August 30

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, August 31

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
7:30 AM WECP Closed - Staff Only

Finding Your Slow Summer



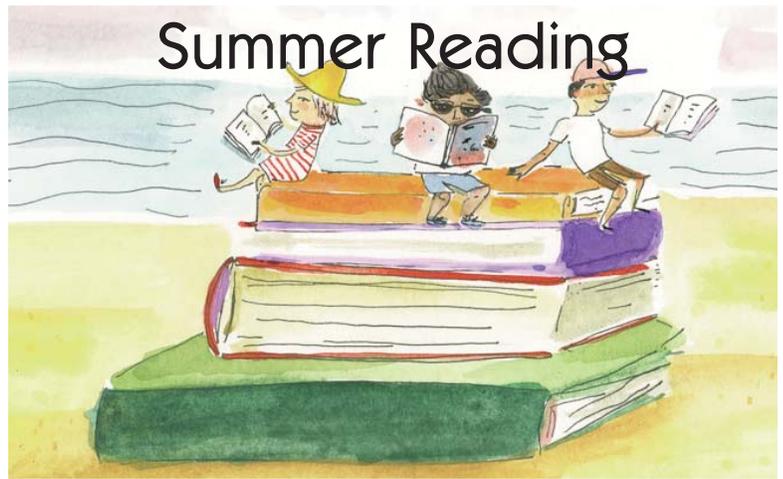
Sunday School Update
Debbie Katz, Christian Educator

Remember when you were a kid on the last day of school before the summer vacation? Summer days seemed to stretch out with the promise of days with friends, ice cream, and hanging out. Even now, as an adult, I enjoy the slower pace that summertime offers – evenings with friends and chatting outdoors with neighbors.

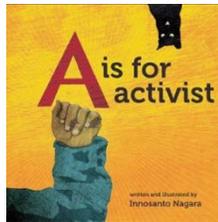
Are you having trouble forming your summer “bucket list” of things you want to do, while still enjoying ample breathing room? Just pickup the Salt Project’s “*Finding Your Slow Summer*” booklet on the table in the Gallery Room. This is a delightful resource which can give purpose to your summer in important ways. It has whimsical illustrations and thought provoking conversation starters.

Don’t think of *Finding Your Slow Summer* as a to-do list; rather, think of it as a guide book to soak up the season. If you don’t like wiggling your toes in the sand, move on to the next suggestion or better yet, write down your own favorite summer sensation. Whether you’re traveling, spending time at a cottage, or enjoying the delights of your own back yard, you can incorporate the suggestions on a daily basis. Suggestions: “*Watch the sunset and give thanks to God for the day!*” or if you’re a morning person, “*Watch a sunrise and give thanks for a new day!*” “*Create family lists of the five songs you all love*” or “*Think of one question you would ask God, if you could.*”

I hope this little booklet will inspire your imagination—that its ideas will invite you kick off your shoes, climb trees (real or metaphorical), stay up late, nap as you wish, ban the busyness, and slowdown enough to enjoy God’s beauty all around this summer.



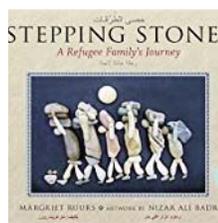
Suggested Reading List from NPR



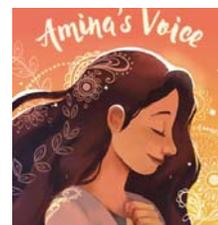
A Is For Activist by Innosanto Nagara. Every letter is the definition of a different social movement. For the letter F, kids learn about Feminism, when they get to G, they learn the meaning of grassroots organizations and why they are important. If your child likes this book, they might enjoy Nagara’s *My Night at the Planetarium*, which illustrates the role the arts play in resistance.



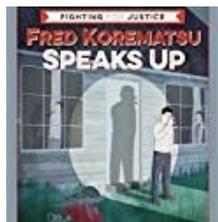
One of a Kind, Like Me/Unico Como Yo is the story of Danny, a young boy who fights gender stereotypes by dressing up as a princess for the school parade. The author, Laurin Mayeno, was inspired to write this from her own experiences with her son, Danny. “Sometimes as parents we must unlearn things we learned growing up,” says Mayeno. This book is bilingual, in English and Spanish, and discusses gender expression from a child’s point of view.



Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family’s Journey is another bilingual book, in English and Arabic. This is the story of a Syrian’s family’s flight from their home. The book explains the refugee experience through beautiful illustrations.



Amina’s Voice by Hena Khan is written for adolescents. *Amina’s Voice* is a coming of age story of a young Muslim girl named Amina as she deals with the ups and downs of growing up, friends, moving away, and preparing to read from the Quran in public. While dealing with the pains of adolescents, Amina must also process the vandalism of her local mosque and the Islamophobia that follows.



Fred Korematsu Speaks Up by Laura Atkins tells the story of internment camps for Japanese-Americans during the Second World War. Fred Korematsu believes the acts of internment are unconstitutional and he brings a case against his internment all the way to the Supreme Court. This book is the first in a series of books that aim to influence young readers to fight for justice in their community.



Sunday School at Westminster

Children are a vital part of the life and worship at Westminster.

- Our preschool class meets in the WECP building. After Time with the Children, children 3-5 year olds leave with their teachers, “Miss Debby” and “Mr. Chris” LaMendola and walk to the building together. In cold weather, the children need their coats. After worship, the children and their teachers meet together in the Holmes Room.
- 1st - 4th grade class meet each Sunday with their teachers in the 1st Parish Hall Classroom.
- 5th -7th grade class meet each Sunday with their teacher, Carol Timmerman-Yorty, in the 2nd Parish Hall classroom.
- Our confirmation class is made up of 8th graders. They meet one-on-one with their mentor until their class begins in January when they meet each Sunday from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM in the classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- Our Senior Highs, 9th-12th graders, meet each Sunday at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialogue Diner.



Kids' Summer Worship

July & August: On the first Sunday of July we switch to our summer hours and move into the Holmes Chapel for worship. Children's activity bulletins will be available each Sunday in July and August. Childcare for children 5 years old and younger will be available during July and August in the WECP building from 9:30AM to 11:30AM.

Calling all 6th - 8th Graders and their Parents

Please save the dates of Monday, August 14th-Thursday, August 18th for the Middler Work Camp. Contact Debbie Katz or Mark Aquino for details. We look forward to a week of faith, mission, fellowship, and fun!



I was thrilled to be able to return to Maine this year as an advisor. After a 7 year hiatus, one question that passed through my mind leading up to the trip was, will it be the same? I'm no longer a Senior High, with friends I see every week, so will I find my place? As we settled in at the Hartford Community Church, after a long van ride up, the answer came to me quickly...YES. Many of the people have changed and the jokes are different but the Maineiac spirit is alive and well!

Throughout the week-long service trip, the group reflected on the fact that there is just something about this trip that is very hard to explain to others. The special element that keeps people coming back year after year is so much bigger than words. The experience is pure magic.

That magic comes from so many things. Being in a rural setting, different from home, working alongside members of the Hartford community, like Ron Darling, seeing a project

progress and witnessing others learn new skills, and filling free time with card games and board games, away from technology.

Our group of about 19 worked hard over the course of the week on wood chucking, yardwork, taking down ceilings, and reinforcing barn windows but also found time to connect. Connect with the Hartford Community, connect with each other, and connect with ourselves.

One of the “big picture” lessons that I took home with me is that life gets busier and busier as we grow, but service is how we can truly connect with our surroundings and one another. Callan Izatt spoke of service in his sermon this year and reminded us that you do not have to take a service trip every year to give. Acts of kindness come in all shapes and serving those who serve can be a powerful thing.

If you can be mindful of your surroundings and the power of giving, find value in the people around you and all of their special quirks, and remember to have a lot of fun as you go, then you're on your way to understanding the spirit of Maine. - Submitted by Olivia McCarthy, Mainiac 2007-2010

Special Olympics

Ron Darling, Elder and coordinator of our annual Maine Mission project, asked us to help Travis Curtis, a 20 year old special olympian. Travis is scheduled for the next Special Olympics in the sport of golf. Ron is asking our youth, and any interested adults, to send Travis a postcard congratulating him on his place on the Special Olympic team. You can send your postcard to Travis Curtis, 8 Lucas Drive, Montville, ME 04941. Please let Travis know Ron Darling asked you to send your congratulations. Ron would like Travis to receive postcard congratulations from Buffalo and wherever you are this summer. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Katz at dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org

WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

724 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209-2294
716-884-9437

Interfaith Congregational Picnic



**Sunday,
August 13th
4-7PM**

A covenant between Presbyterians and Jews in pursuit of a more just world: Israel, Palestine, Divestment, and Longing for Peace. An opportunity for discussion and fellowship.

- Congregation Shir Shalom • North Presbyterian Church
- Temple Beth Zion • Westminster Presbyterian Church

A Picnic Dinner will follow:

- All ages are welcome • Activities for children
- Hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers and refreshments provided
- Please avoid pork and shellfish. • Bring casseroles, and desserts to share
- Donations of paper towels, bathroom tissue, toothpaste, etc. for the Town Square Food Pantry are appreciated

The picnic will be held in the picnic grove at Congregation Shir Shalom, 4660 Sheridan Drive, Williamsville, New York 14221

**RSVP! Call Congregation Shir Shalom
at 716-633-8877**

Westminster Knitting Group



The knitting group meets on various Tuesdays from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Upcoming dates will be announced. The group works on individual projects as well as prayer shawls, scarves, and other handmade items for members of the church. Beginners welcome! Contact Fran

Holmes at mfranholmes@verizon.net for information.

Nominations Wanted

All members are invited to submit names of candidates for openings on the Board of Deacons and the Session. New Deacons and Elders are needed to facilitate the many wonderful ministries of Westminster. Forms are available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. Place your suggestion form in the Nominating Committee mailbox in the Business Office