

## -TUESDAYS IN LENT- DEEP STORIES AND COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

We will hold our annual dinner/discussions 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](mailto: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.

### March 1 - Ash Wednesday

Services at Noon and 6PM (no dinner)

Meditation: *Deep Stories and Courageous Conversations*  
Dr. Yorty

### 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

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

## Lent 2017 – A Time to Grow and Heal



Dear Friends,

I was raking our lawn and gardens the other day in one of our mild weather spells and noticed day lilies popping their heads above the soil. It really does feel like we are past the mid-winter cold and frost. Yes, there will be plenty more winter before Spring is officially here, maybe even after it is officially here but it does feel good to have longer days and signs of thawing of the frozen earth.

Lent starts on the first day of March, Ash Wednesday, for two services at noon and 6pm in the Holmes Chapel. I will lead off a series that will continue with

dinner on Tuesdays featuring members of our staff and church leaders sharing our deep stories. Arlie Russell Hochschild defines ‘deep story’ as the way we feel and experience the world, the formative influences and life events that shape and drive our assumptions, attitudes and commitments. The Tuesday dinners will be a way to learn to listen to the deep stories of others and speak our deep stories. The final line of King Lear says, “We should speak what we feel and not what we ought to say.” That’s deep story talk. It is through courageous conversations like this that we can begin to knit back together a fractured nation.

I was talking with a ‘friend’ of Westminster recently. He told me that he is not a ‘believer’ but that he tries to engage in helping his neighbor, reaching out to those in need who cross his path whenever he can, that’s his ‘religion.’ He said he likes to attend Westminster because our congregation does in our collective life what he tries to do in his personal life. I told him he was in good company here, that many of us don’t have all of the theological questions worked out but we are generally clear as a church that we are here to make the world better, to help those less fortunate and to work for justice and peace.

We are living in challenging times. There seems to be much unsettlement in Washington, executive orders that have disrupted the lives of thousands of immigrants, split families and left people wondering what will come next. In the meantime, the earth spins on its axis and moves through the seasons. Winter leaves, Spring comes. The earth and our hearts turn sunward. Signs of life start appearing. We make the world better with small acts of kindness each day, as Mother Theresa said. May we find our way this Lent into bigger, fuller, richer, more abundant life.

See you in worship,

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor

## Preaching Schedule

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

Lent from the Old English means ‘to lengthen.’ In Lent the days begin to lengthen, the natural world around us stretches out of its winter slumber sunward and we, too, find our hearts and minds opening up to burgeoning life all around.

This season of the year was used and still is in some traditions for new converts to the Christian faith to prepare for their baptisms on Easter Day. So the weeks of Lent at Westminster have also been focused over the years on deepening and growing our personal faith and our congregation work and witness.

The sermons this Lent will address the organic nature of our faith – as a living, growing thing – a seed per Jesus Parable of the Sower – that requires good soil, nurture and care. I invite you to join me Sundays as we consider the biblical stories that take us from the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness to the encounter of Jesus and Nicodemus to the woman at the well to the man born blind to dead Lazarus in his tomb. These stories are each moments of crisis in personal faith. But in each case a way opens up unexpectedly, surprisingly, astonishingly.

### March 5-Lent I

*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



## Ash Wednesday - March 1, 2017

The Start of our Lenten Journey

The Choirs of Westminster begin the season of Lent at this solemn service.  
The traditional service of imposition of ashes, and celebration of the Lord’s Supper.  
**12 Noon and 6PM in the Holmes Chapel.**



# ST. JOHN PASSION

**MASTERWORKS SERVICE**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017**  
**10:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY**

THE WESTMINSTER CHOIR AND MUSICIANS  
FROM THE BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC  
PERFORM BOB CHILCOTT'S  
"ST. JOHN PASSION"

The influence of Bach's Passion settings is so great that any composer taking up the form can only feel what has been called the anxiety of influence. But this version of the *St. John Passion* by British composer **Bob Chilcott** is so well thought out, and so original in dealing with the inherited material, that it will compel the admiration even of those not especially enamored of contemporary British church music and its sometimes too-sunny tone. Chilcott does not attempt to shed the Bachian models entirely, but he devises convincing contemporary equivalents for them. His setting consists of diverse elements. First are narrative passages from the King James translation of the Bible, with an evangelist describing the action and soloists and the choir taking up the words of Jesus, Pontius Pilate, and the crowd demanding Jesus' head. Each of these is distinguished by its own instrumental accompaniment, and Chilcott's melodic characterizations are at once simple, flexible, and dramatically vivid. These gather in intensity as the story approaches its climax, and Chilcott is masterly here at not overplaying his hand; listeners are swept along. Second are settings of English poetry that reflect on aspects of the tale. These are older texts, dating from the middle centuries of the second millennium, and beautifully rounded out by Isaac Watts' *When I survey the Wondrous Cross* at the very end. Finally, in a simpler musical and textual vein, are mostly later texts that Chilcott designates hymns. These fill the role of Bach's chorales and could be sung by a congregation in the church service.



## EVENING SERVICES AT WESTMINSTER

### EVENSONG AND COMPLINE SERVICES

Based on the services held daily in the medieval Church, Choral Evensong as arranged in the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England has been sung regularly since the sixteenth century. Many people enjoy the contemplative feel of Evensong.

The word "Compline" is from the same root as the word "complete." As the last service of the day, this stunningly beautiful candlelit service features a small group of singers, "Schola," offering Gregorian chant and Renaissance polyphony.

*All services are held at Westminster in the Sanctuary unless otherwise indicated.*

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#### CHORAL EVENSONG

Every Wednesday, 6PM in the Holmes Chapel, September - May  
The Senior Choristers of the Westminster Choir School lead this weekly service of music and Scripture readings.

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#### CHORAL EVENSONG SERVICES AT 4PM, ORGAN PRELUDE AT 3:30PM

March 12th, Westminster Choir School  
April 9th, Westminster Choirs, Dr. Gerald Gray, Guest Conductor

## Experience a Taizé Service

Friday, March 17  
5:30PM in the  
Holmes Chapel

Westminster will offer a Taizé service of music, prayer and contemplation on the third Friday of each month.  
For more information call 884-9437.



*Come join your friends for a beautiful evening!*

A five-course gourmet dinner

prepared and served lovingly by the staff of Westminster.

The Case Library will be transformed into a fine dining experience.

*Saturday, March 18, 2017*

6:30pm Champagne Reception in the Drawing (Oak) Room

7:30pm Dinner in the Case Library

Five-Course Gourmet Dinner - choice of two entrees with Wine Pairings

Dietary restrictions considered

Piano Music provided by Garrett Martin and Matt Marco

*\$125.00 per person*

Individuals, Groups and Couples encouraged

*RSVP by March 3, 2017*

Make your reservation online at [www.wpcbuffalo.org](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org) or use a reservation form available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

You may also call the church office-884-9437.

This event will help to continue the important ministries of our church.

*Thank you for your support.*



# The Choir School



## The Choir School

**The Junior and Senior Choristers**, ages 7-18, rehearse Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30PM. At 6PM, the choristers sing Choral Evensong in the Holmes Chapel, open to everyone. The Choristers produce a high volume of quality choral repertoire each week, while furthering their ability to read music in various languages.

**The Apprentice Choristers**, ages 4-6, rehearse Sundays during the 10:30AM Sunday School time. They are taught fundamental music-reading and choral skills.

### Our Choristers...

...learn more than just music: confidence, time management, leadership, and collaboration.

...receive significant individual attention in a stimulating, challenging, and fun environment.

...enjoy field trips, choir parties, and tours that foster bonding and strong friendships.

Westminster's music program is one of the most highly respected in Western New York. Choristers use the RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) curriculum, and learn from professional musicians at no expense to parents. The wide range of ages encourages teamwork—the older children gain experience mentoring the younger children.

Children of any religious affiliation (or no affiliation) are welcomed at any time; no prior training or experience is required. A small stipend, based on leadership and performance, is paid to each chorister, underscoring the seriousness of the commitment to the choir.

For additional information, contact: Garrett Martin, Organist and Director of Music  
[gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org), 716.884.9437, ext. 318.

## Fridays@Westminster

### Come for Music! Stay for Lunch!

Each Friday, local Buffalo artists present a 30 minute lunchtime recital in Westminster's historic Sanctuary. Come for the music, stay for lunch provided by a local food truck. Donations benefit the *Westminster Friends of Music*.

**Concerts for February and March will take place ONLY on the first Friday of the month. In April and May, it will return to weekly concerts.**

**March 3: David Snyder, organ**



## 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 email her: [hugwalker1@gmail.com](mailto:hugwalker1@gmail.com)**

### 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](http://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, 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 Kelly, Director of Finance, ext. 305

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, ext. 315

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

Jamie Adamczyk, 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

Austin Becker, Maintenance, 716-479-0668

#### Elders

Robert Bojdak, Clerk of Session

##### Class of 2017

Fran Holmes  
 Karen Keaton  
 Sandy Laub  
 Ardrey Manning  
 Elizabeth Stewart  
 Adam Utley  
 Tom Warszawski  
 Jim Weiland

##### Class of 2018

Mark Aquino  
 Melissa Balbach  
 Sawrie Becker  
 Bob Bojdak  
 Jen Callaghan  
 Edwin Johnston  
 Jeff Renzoni  
 Mimi Steadman

##### Class of 2019

Laurel Braun  
 Bill Gray  
 John Heer  
 Jack Jacobs  
 Ellen Kennedy  
 Chris LaMendola  
 Peter McNally  
 Ellie Seib

#### Deacons

##### Class of 2017

Kate Dierenfield  
 Doug Fabian  
 Carol Huber  
 Joan Kuznia  
 Callan Izatt  
 Mike Reynolds  
 Nancy Stevens  
 Roy Stewart

##### Class of 2018

Russell Braun  
 Patty Charlier  
 Kathleen Kelly  
 Kirsten  
 Kifner-Kennedy  
 Johnpatrick Marr  
 Jennifer Russell  
 Josephine Stevens  
 Ronald Sutz

##### Class of 2019

Shea Akers  
 Cameron Airhart  
 Mary Dimock  
 Teddie Granville  
 Janet  
 Kifner-Arnatt  
 Florence  
 Kilambo Kalumbu  
 Donald Kitangano  
 Rebecca  
 Read-Lukan

# Sunday Morning Adult Education

## LENTEN SERIES:

### A CASE LIBRARY CONVERSATIONS & ADULT BIBLE STUDY JOINT PRESENTATION

Sundays, 9AM - 10:15AM in the Case Library

#### ***How to Read the Bible and Still be a Christian***

By John Dominic Crossan

March 5, 12, 19, & 26

#### *Is God Violent? An exploration from Genesis to Revelation*

The acclaimed Bible scholar and author of *The Historical Jesus* and 12 other books grapples with scripture's conflicting visions of God and Jesus. At times the Bible depicts a loving God, and at other times a vengeful God. Crossan explains how Christians can discern and decipher which passages to trust and follow. Please join us for what promises to be a very stimulating program!

March 5: Part I & Epilogue – The Challenge & An Overview

Discussion Leader – John McClive

March 12: Part II & Part IIIa: Chapters 3-6 – Civilization & Covenant

Discussion Leader – John Montague

March 19: Part IIIb & Part IVa: Chapters 7-10 – Covenant & Community

Discussion Leader – David Weeks

March 26: Part IVb: Chapters 11-14 – Community Conclusion

Discussion Leader – Jerry Kelly

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

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

#### **March 5 and 12: Foster and Enhance Your Relationships Using Myers-Briggs**

Presenter: Karen Rumsey, licensed mental health counselor at Catholic Charities

The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) is a tool that measures a person's individual preferences regarding Extraversion/Introversion, Intuition/Sensing, Feeling/Thinking, and Perceiving/Judging. Karen Rumsey, a licensed mental health counselor at Catholic Charities, will guide us in understanding how our personal preferences affect how we relate to the world, including relationships, careers, and other pursuits. We all decide how to use our talents, and the MBTI tool can help us foster and enhance our relationships and optimize our effectiveness. Even if you are familiar with MBTI and your preferences, you may wish to delve deeper as you face new life stages or endeavor to access your less developed sides.

On March 5, Karen will introduce us to the MBTI and we will fill out the inventory. On March 12, she will explain the preferences and we will discuss how to apply them in our lives.

#### **March 19, 2017: Mindfulness**

Presenters: Fred Cooley and Larry Castellani

As we discuss, reflect on and practice various ways to be spiritual, some of us believe additional effective tools can always be helpful to some. Larry Castellani and Fred Cooley will suggest ways to identify various blockages in your cognitive and emotional milieu that can sap spiritual energies and be disguised as anxieties, obsessions, and other negative forces within. Identification (knowing that I don't know) can be followed by practices to ameliorate these drains on your peacefulness and happy spirituality.

#### **March 26 & April 2, 2017: Spiritual Connections with My Art**

Presenter: Dot Keller

Seeing Dot's shell series is a glorious aesthetic experience. Yet when you hear her talk about her creative process the connections become magnificent. She will show her work and then work with us on our own projects.



Sisterhood of Temple Beth Zion  
Invite Women of All Ages (8-98)  
to our Annual Intergenerational  
Women's Seder

Sunday, March 26, 2017  
1:00PM

Temple Beth Zion Broder Center  
700 Sweet Home Road

Cost: \$18.00 per person which will include: the Passover Seder, Matzah Ball soup and salad lunch, gefilte fish, hard-boiled egg, symbolic foods, wine or grape juice, matzah and Passover desserts.

If you choose to help with our meals by bringing a requested dish to serve 12 people or volunteer to setup or cleanup, your cost will be reduced to \$12.

Questions and foods requested for the Seder can be directed to Susan Bruckheier, 716-835-0421 or email [susan\\_b@roadrunner.com](mailto:susan_b@roadrunner.com). Reservation forms are available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. **Deadline is March 17th.**

A Program for Older Adults  
**Passages** 

**Join us on March 7 for Rev. Tom Yorty's report on the 4-Congregation Trip to Israel.** Lunch at 12:30PM, presentation at 1:15PM. Please sign up by in the Gallery Room if you will be having lunch, or RSVP to Jamie at 884-9437, ext. 326.

**Save the Date, April 4th** for some great Buffalo stories told by guest speaker Marla Bujnicki. Marla is a Buffalo preservationist and history enthusiast, certified master docent by the Preservation of Buffalo Niagara.

## GIVING 2017



Pledges received as of 02/24/17

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
269	\$533,003	\$66,997

We ask that you prayerfully consider the blessings you have received and with a grateful heart return your pledge card with support for 2017. Your financial pledge will enable Westminster to continue our ministry as we strive to answer the Prayer of St. Francis to “Love, Comfort, Understand and Give” within our church home and our community. Pledge cards are available in the Holmes Room and you may return your pledge card by mail, make a pledge or a pledge payment on our secure site at [www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving), or email Sawrie Becker, [sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org). Thank you for being a contributing member of this church as your pledge, in any amount, makes us a stronger congregation.



# Legacy Corner

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# Planned Giving

Did you know that the 1854 Legacy Circle of Westminster Presbyterian Church was created by the Session in 2000 in recognition of the forty North Street area residents who founded Westminster Presbyterian Church. Our visionary founders, led by Jesse Ketchum, a businessman and civic leader who donated the land upon which the church now stands, discerned God's leading and established a ministry to our community of which we are the present-day heirs. The 1854 Legacy Circle of Westminster Presbyterian Church recognizes our predecessors' vision and generosity and provides a way to honor those who choose to benefit Westminster through their estate planning. You are invited to participate in this cherished tradition of planned giving to

our church by including Westminster in your own estate planning. When you do, you will discover the joy and satisfaction of making a lasting gift to the mission of Westminster and you will take your place among an honored circle of stewards of our ministry and service to this community. There are ways to leave your legacy to Westminster such as: Bequests in your will; Life Insurance; Gift Annuities; Charitable Trusts and Real Estate. Please stop by the information table in the Gallery Room to pick up information about planned giving opportunities. You may also contact Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315 Email: [sbecker@buffalo.org](mailto:sbecker@buffalo.org) or Tom Yorty, Pastor at 884-9437, ext. 313, Email: [tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org)

# The Power of Generosity

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development,

A message from our Giving 2017 Co-Chair Mike Reynolds

“As a college alumnus, I receive regular fundraising solicitations from my alma mater. I wonder, given the immensity of the university and its endowment, what impact, if any, my contribution can possibly make. In case you have the same notion about your contribution to the life of Westminster, please let me dispel it. Or, maybe you assume that because we see a well-kept campus, experience excellent and uplifting worship, hear about impactful mission, and offer education for all ages that we have enough dollars to sustain this rich and varied program that touches so many lives.

I want to make clear how important it is to achieve our goal of \$600,000 in pledged support. Last year we fell short of our goal, and the Session was forced to make difficult cuts. Our Session has outlined a plan to ensure *long-term financial sustainability*, which includes capital expenditures, planned giving, wise use of endowment funds, continuing our mission commitments and more. The first crucial step in this plan is to reach the goal of \$600,000 for 2017. This will meet our daily operating needs and provide a solid foundation on which to build a sustainable future.

As of today, we have received pledges totaling just about \$500,000. Those who pledged last year but not yet this year, may account for an additional \$75,000. If that includes you, I can assure you every dollar is vital to the life of this church right now – in 2017. I want to be optimistic - I want to say all of those who pledged last year but not yet this year will do so - and that will leave a gap of \$25,000. Together, we have to find a way to close that gap, this month.

If you have never pledged before, start now. If you have yet to turn in your pledge, please do so today, and please consider increasing your pledge. If you have already pledged this year... yes, we are asking you to dig a little deeper and submit a pledge of additional funds. We are well on our way to a successful campaign, however, without you – and all of us together, actively, sacrificially giving – we will not be able to do it!

On behalf of the Session and those who give their time to the Ministry of Generosity, I wish to express our sincere thanks for *your generosity*. Let's finish this campaign; let's make it a success!"

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Two new members, Barbara Nelson and Joe Grieco, officially joined our membership on Sunday, January 22, 2017 after attending the Inquirer Class. Our congregation is honored that these folks have decided to be a part of our church family as their presence and participation will make us a stronger Christian faith community. Please be sure to say “hello” and welcome our newest members to the Westminster church family.

## Here's What We've Been Doing at **ENERGY** in the Past Couple of Months!



Carol Greetham, ENERGY Director

- Learning about feelings
- Writing winter poetry
- Learning body parts
- Practicing Yoga
- Celebrating birthdays
- Painting self portraits
- Reading about Martin Luther King Jr. and writing about our dreams
- Singing songs about the body
- Hearing the Buffalo Opera Foundation perform
- Visiting the Choir/Organ loft with Garrett Martin
- Celebrating Valentine's Day
- Playing games that help us learn new words
- Shopping at the ENERGY store and learning fiscal responsibility
- **READING!** We're holding a reading challenge to see how many pages ENERGY kids and volunteers can read. Stayed tuned to see how we do!

*The ENERGY Program creates a caring environment where children from refugee families gain social and cultural awareness and self confidence through improving their English language skills. We make a difference in the lives of refugee and immigrant kids in grades 1-8 from Buffalo's West Side. A nutritious meal, positive adult relationships, and homework help provide physical, social and academic support to ENERGY students. ENERGY meets Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4:30 -6:30 p.m. Please contact Carol Greetham at 507-8216 or carol@wed-ibuffalo.org for more information, to make a donation, or to volunteer.*



Anyone who would like to learn more about our community and the many ministries we support is invited to attend a meeting in the Case Library immediately following our 10:30AM .worship service on any of the following dates: **March 26, May 21.** Thomas Yorty, Pastor of the congregation will tell the story of our church as well as 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. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Yorty (tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org or 830-8596), Karen Keaton (khkeaton@verizon.net) or any staff member.

## Lets 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, 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](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org/lets-stay-connected)



## Alcohol and Drug Education Referral Service

*Alcohol abuse affects many millions of Americans.  
Alcoholism and drug addiction are chronic progressive  
diseases, fatal if untreated.  
But they can be successfully treated.*

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.

## Meet & Mingle NEEDS YOU!

The new "Meet & Mingle" fellowship time after worship has been a great success! Thanks to all of our members who have graciously volunteered to shop, host and sponsor this event. A special thank you to Roger Seifert and Debby LaMendola for leading this endeavor. Please consider volunteering for an upcoming "Meet & Mingle" in 2017! Plenty of opportunities and dates are available. Contact Debby LaMendola at (716) 983-4993 or email [dlamendola@marykay.com](mailto:dlamendola@marykay.com) to sign up to shop, host and/or sponsor "Meet & Mingle" today!



## 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 Children*, children 3-5 years old, 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-5th grade classes: Each month our classes rotate through our three Workshops; Creation Station, Holywood and Apostles Playhouse.
- 6th-7th grade class meets each Sunday in their classroom on the Parish Hall balcony. Carol Timmerman-Yorty is their teacher.
- 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 9:15AM to 10:15AM in the classroom on the Parish Hall balcony.
- Our Senior Highs – 9th – 12th graders meet each Sunday at 9:30AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialogue Diner.



**Creation Station**  
(artwork) in the Heritage Room



**Hollywood**  
(video) 1st room Parish Hall balcony



**Apostles Playhouse**  
(drama, cooking, & games)  
Parish Hall Kitchen

## Lenten Food Drive

March 5 through April 2

We would like to continue to support the work of Food Bank of Western New York. To remind ourselves and teach our children how the need for food is a daily need, we are asking people to put aside a daily donation of non-perishable food items during the weeks of Lent. Beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 1st, please put aside one or two food items. Then each Sunday during Lent, on March 5th through on April 2nd, bring your accumulated non-perishable food items to fill the empty barrels for the Food Bank. These barrels will be at each of our church entrances, and will be decorated by the Sunday School children, so they'll be easily seen. This Lent take on the daily practice of buying extra non-perishable food items and then bringing them in each Sunday morning. At the end of Lent or as the barrels are filled, the Food Bank will pick up our donated food items.

## Lent in a Bag and Food in a Bin.

Sunday School Update, Debbie Katz, Christian Educator



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This year Ash Wednesday falls on March 1st. Here at Westminster members of our congregation will gather at noon or at 6PM for a simple service of Imposition of the

Ashes. This service marks the beginning of the forty days of Lent.

Traditionally Lent is the season where people focus on enhancing their relationship with God. In the early church Lent was a time when people prepared to be baptized, and they learned stories of Jesus' life, and ministry. This preparation time readied these new Christians to be baptized and celebrate communion on Easter Sunday.

Presently people use the season of Lent as a time to concentrate on how God is with us all the time. For some, they chose to give up a small thing like chocolate or cream in their coffee as a means of focusing on God's presence in their lives. Other people chose to take on a spiritual practice like centering prayer, journaling or daily Bible readings. Because of the length of Lent, these spiritual practices transform from Lenten experiences to daily practices.

I'd like to offer a third option. Pick up and bring home the little bags on the information table with the sticker Lent in a Bag. In these bags you'll find 6 small items you and your family can use during the six weeks of Lent. There is no assigned order to using these items. Although if you want your seeds to grow before Easter, plant them early in Lent.

In the bag you'll also find a handbook that joins the six small items to a Bible passage to read or share. There are questions to begin a conversation or can be used to begin an individual's meditation. Families can use these stories and questions to begin a discussion at the dinner table or while driving in the car. Or individuals can use these items as part of their daily or even weekly devotional time.

Lent is a time for more than spiritual practices. As Jesus taught we should love God with our heart, mind and soul, he also taught we should love our neighbor as ourselves. One tangible way of expressing love for our neighbors is to support our Lenten Food Bank Drive. Please put aside one or two non-perishable food items each day during Lent. On Sunday bring in these items into the large food bins we will have at each of our entrances. The truck from the Food Bank of Western New York will pick up the bins at the end of Lent or as needed.

## March Youth Events

- March 4-5: Senior high lock-in for Maine Mission trip planning
- March 5: Middler lunch and Food Drive bin decorating.

## Community Shredding Event

June 17th, 9AM - 1PM at Westminster

Sponsored by Buffalo Sunrise Rotary Club. This service ensures safe and secure disposal of unneeded, outdated business and personal papers. The cost is \$10.00 per box (approx size 10"x12"x15") Rotarians will be on hand to assist with unloading boxes from your vehicle. For additional information about Rotary or this event call 716-479-8711 visit the Buffalo Sunrise Rotary Facebook page.



# WOW Women of Westminster

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events!

**LUNCHTIME BIBLE STUDY:** WOW Lunchtime Bible Study is meeting the third Thursday of each month. in the Case Library. Join us each month and together we will explore some of the Bible's 800 references to water. Come as your schedule permits. For more information, please contact: Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education at [dkatz@westminster-bflo.org](mailto:dkatz@westminster-bflo.org) or (716) 884-9437, ext. 329. Coffee and tea provided.

**WOW BOOK DISCUSSION:** At our annual "discuss names of books we liked" evening, we came up with three book discussion ideas. These discussions are open to any woman who is interested. Meetings are at 7PM. **April 24th, at WPC:** We will discuss *The Samurai's Garden: A Novel*, by Gail Tsukiyama. "...The daughter of a Chinese mother and a Japanese father, Tsukiyama uses the Japanese invasion of China during the late 1930s as a somber backdrop for her unusual story about a 20-year-old Chinese painter named Stephen who is sent to his family's summer home in a Japanese coastal village to recover from a bout with tuberculosis..." Amazon review. Please come and join the discussions.



**WESTMINSTER KNITTING GROUP:** For this month only, the group will meet on Wednesday, March 15 and Wednesday, March 29, 7PM to 9PM. The group will resume meeting on Tuesdays in April, from 7PM to 9PM. The group works on their individual projects as well as prayer shawls, scarves and other handmade items for members of the church. Beginners welcome! Contact Fran Holmes: [mfranholmes@verizon.net](mailto:mfranholmes@verizon.net) for information and dates.

*The Women of Westminster  
invite women of all ages to a*

## *Downton Abbey Tea*

*in the Case Library  
Sunday, March 12th  
Immediately following the :a.m service*



Draped in lace tablecloths, adorned with flowers and antique teacups, our library will be transformed to a Highclere Castle tearoom, missing only the Dowager Duchess, herself. An offering of soup, savory and sweet tea sandwiches, scones with Devonshire cream, dainty pastries and, of course, tea, will be served by Mrs. Patmore's helpers. (white gloves NOT mandatory!) **Seating is limited! Sign up in the Gallery Room by March 5th.** Cost: \$5 payable at the door.



God has called us to a **new kind** of fast—

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

**...to share our bread, to fight injustice, and to care for the afflicted.**

**How is my gift used?**

A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

**Ways to Give...**

Look for giving envelopes in your Sunday Bulletins and on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. You can also give online at <http://pma.pcusa.org>

# March Calendar

## Wednesday, March 1

### Ash Wednesday

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.  
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline  
12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service  
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline  
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline  
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace  
6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service  
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

### Thursday, March 2

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
7:45 AM Ministry of Generosity  
8:30 AM Centering Prayer  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Handbells  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, March 3

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP  
10:00 AM Art Gala Set Up  
12:00 PM Friday@Westminster Concert

### Saturday, March 4

10:00 AM Art Gala Set up  
5:00 PM Senior High Lock/Maine Trip Planning  
7:00 PM WECP Art Gala

### Sunday, March 5-Lent I

Name Tag Sunday  
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care  
8:00 AM Senior Choristers  
8:15 AM Worship/Communion  
9:00 AM Spiritual Life  
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds  
9:00 AM Case Library  
Conversations/Adult Bible  
9:15 AM Confirmation Class  
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM First Sunday/Youth Service/Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship/Communion  
11:30 AM Middlers decorate food bins  
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle  
1:00 PM Virginia Paul Piano Recital

### Monday, March 6

12:00 PM Planned Giving Mtg.

### Tuesday, March 7

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
9:00 AM Management Mtg.  
12:30 PM Passages Lunch  
1:15 PM Passages Program

4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
5:00 PM Spiritual Life Mtg.  
6:00 PM Zen Dharma  
6:00 PM Lenten Dinner/Program  
7:00 PM Zen Dharma

### Wednesday, March 8

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.  
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline  
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline  
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
5:00 PM CMH Board Mtg.  
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace  
5:45 PM All Staff Retreat  
6:00 PM Choir School Evensong  
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

### Thursday, March 9

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
8:30 AM Centering Prayer  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Handbells  
6:00 PM Congregational Life Mtg.  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, March 12

8:00 AM Senior Choristers  
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care  
8:15 AM Worship/Communion  
9:00 AM Spiritual Life  
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds  
9:00 AM Deacon Mtg.  
9:00 AM Case Library  
Conversations/Adult Bible  
9:15 AM Confirmation Class  
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Worship/3rd & 7th Graders Receive Bibles  
10:40 AM Sunday School  
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle  
11:45 AM Downton Abbey Tea  
4:00 PM Choir School Evensong

Tuesday, March 14

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
9:00 AM Management Mtg.  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
5:30 PM Worship, Music & Arts  
6:00 PM Zen Dharma  
6:00 PM Lenten Dinner/Program

### Wednesday, March 15

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.  
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline  
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace  
6:00 PM Choir School Evensong  
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

### Thursday, March 16

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
8:30 AM Centering Prayer  
12:15 PM WOW Bible Study  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Handbells  
7:30 PM Masterworks Rehearsal

### Friday, March 17

5:30 PM Taize Service

### Saturday, March 18

9:00 AM Confirmation Class Retreat  
9:00 AM "Celebrating Our Love For Westminster" Fundraising Dinner

### Sunday, March 19

8:00 AM Senior Choristers  
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care  
8:15 AM Worship/Communion  
9:00 AM Spiritual Life  
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds  
9:00 AM Case Library  
Conversations/Adult Bible Class  
9:15 AM Confirmation Class  
9:30 AM Reserved for Masterworks  
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Worship/Masterworks  
10:40 AM Sunday School  
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle  
12:30 PM St. Patrick's Day Parade

### Tuesday, March 21

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
9:00 AM Management Mtg.  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
6:00 PM 3rd Lenten Dinner/Program  
6:00 PM Zen Dharma  
7:00 PM WECP Parent Board Mtg.

### Wednesday, March 22

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.  
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline  
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline  
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace  
6:00 PM Choir School Evensong

6:30 PM Session Mtg.  
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

### Thursday, March 23

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
7:30 AM Budget & Finance Mtg.  
8:30 AM Centering Prayer  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Handbells  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, March 26

8:00 AM Senior Choristers  
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care  
8:15 AM Worship W/ Communion  
9:00 AM Spiritual Life  
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds  
9:00 AM Case Library  
Conversations/Adult Bible Class  
9:15 AM Confirmation Class Meets w/Session  
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner  
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Worship/ Confirmation  
10:40 AM Sunday School  
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle  
12:30 PM Inquirer's Mtg. w/Light Refreshments

### Tuesday, March 28

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
9:00 AM Management Mtg.  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
5:30 PM Personnel Comm. Mtg.  
6:00 PM Zen Dharma  
6:00 PM 4th Lenten Dinner/Program

### Wednesday, March 29

9:30 AM Worship Planning Mtg.  
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline  
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline  
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace  
5:45 PM All Staff Retreat  
6:00 PM Choir School Evensong  
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

### Thursday, March 30

7:15 AM Wake Up Group  
8:30 AM Centering Prayer  
4:30 PM ENERGY Program  
4:30 PM Choir School Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Handbells  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

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



# Easter Lily Memorials

*A Gift of beauty and remembrance.*

The mental image we all carry of Easter morning at Westminster is highlighted by the lilies which grace the front of the Sanctuary. These beautiful flowers have a double significance on this special occasion. They represent a memorial to those special people who are gone from our lives but not from our hearts.

They also bring the beauty and joy of the Resurrection to members who are sick or shut-in or who have suffered a loss in recent months. The flowers are delivered by volunteers to nursing home residents and other shut-ins. We invite you to remember your own family and friends by sending a contribution to the church. By listing those persons you wish to have remembered, your memorial will be shared with the rest of the congregation through the Easter bulletin. If your intent is simply to brighten the day of someone who is unable to be at the Easter service, you can send a contribution without memorial designation. To cover the cost of these plants, we warmly welcome any amount you wish to contribute. Please fill out the bottom section of this form and return it, along with your gift, payable to: **Westminster Presbyterian Church, ATTENTION: EASTER LILY MEMORIALS, 724 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209, NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH!**

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**Please print clearly and check one of the following:**

Please accept the enclosed contribution, with the following people to be remembered through my memorial gift:

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Please accept the enclosed contribution, but without designation for memorial purposes.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you do not specify someone to be listed, your contribution will be considered undesignated.