



**WESTMINSTER**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

GROUNDING IN                      GROWING TO  
**FAITH SERVE**

GIVING 2019

*The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of Faith is love. The fruit of Love is service.  
The fruit of Service is peace. - Mother Teresa*

Dear Westminster Friends,

When I moved back to Buffalo in 2008, I immediately enrolled our then pre-school twins in the Westminster Early Childhood Education Program. Nearly as quickly, the family all started attending Westminster Church. We did this because my husband and I are both Presbyterian, and that faith has grounded us since our own childhoods. We wanted our own children (now both 14!) to be similarly grounded, and to learn to live a life of generosity and service.

The theme for our Generosity 2019 campaign is ***Grounded in Faith, Growing to Serve***, and it reflects many of the reasons why I came to Westminster. Westminster Presbyterian Church has been a part of the Buffalo fabric for over 160 years. This grounding gives our congregation a base upon which to grow. The faith and determination of those who have come before us – both in our Church and in our personal lives – form the foundation for who we are and who we aspire to become. Those who came before us inform and guide us by their example, and enable us to be the people and congregation we are today, to reach out in faith and service to our wider community.

Here in our church, my children – all of our children – benefit from the generations who have come before us and from this generation, and from each of you who participate in the life of our congregation. This is the rich soil of faith in which their tiny seeds of faith grow. Indeed, our life together is the rich ground in which all of us deepen in faith and bear the fruit of care for one another and mission to the world.

The financial goal for Generosity 2019 is \$615,000. This increase over last year reflects gratitude for what we have and a corresponding desire to invite each of us to do our part and be generous in our personal giving. As we all know the cost of this ministry and mission is not stagnant but increases each year.

I, along with co-chair Michele Mehaffy and the Generosity Committee, are confident that we will achieve this goal for 2019, just as we achieved our 2018 goal and the goal for the two years preceding. With Generosity 2019, we are cultivating the ground in which the very life and mission of Westminster can continue to thrive.

Sincerely,

Melissa Balbach and Michele Mehaffy, co-chairs, Giving 2019

Join us for

**Generosity Kick-Off on Sunday, October 21!**

Come and see how Westminster is ***“Grounded in Faith, Growing to Serve”*** in our community. Information and leaders from WEDI, ENERGY, WECP, Racial Justice Committee and others will be in the Gallery Room. A special Meet & Mingle after worship will be hosted by the 2019 Giving co-chairs, Melissa Balbach and Michele Mehaffy.

## GO FOR IT! A MESSAGE FROM DR. YORTY



Dear Friends,

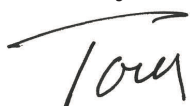
Surprise - October is a big month: 10/7, World Communion at First Church, Buffalo; 10/21, Giving 2019 Launch, and 10/28, Reformation Sunday. The readings for these Sundays are taken from the Book of Job and the Gospel of Mark. Between the two we come across

some of the most challenging, difficult texts and stories that define faith, discipleship, commitment, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

In an essay by the great American poet Donald Hall titled, "Ambition and Poetry," Hall writes that ambition has become rather pedestrian, soft, unambitious if you will. He says that there is a cycle of writing over a life time that starts with great ambition and then recedes to more achievable goals. Hall says that writers have to be reminded to be ambitious over and over throughout their life. It's easy to become acculturated to our surroundings, lose sight of the big goal and settle for the mediocre.

Living the life of faith can be the same way. When we first commit to our faith at confirmation or upon joining a church we are excited and ambitious. But over time, we often dial it back. October reminds us each Sunday of the month to raise the bar, strive for our best and give God everything we have. It will be an invigorating month to increase our ambition for God's ministry.

See you in church!



The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor

## Join us for Worship at First Presbyterian Church, October 7

On Sunday, October 7, there will be ONE worship service at 11:00 AM at First Presbyterian Church, 1 Symphony Circle. The Case Library Series will be held at First Church at 9:00 AM in the Chapel. First Church will be collecting donations to benefit the Food Pantry. Contributions of non-perishable items this Sunday would be greatly appreciated. Programs at Westminster will not take place on this Sunday.

## PREACHING SCHEDULE

### October 7- World Communion Sunday

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
Sermon: "Monotheism and the Many"  
Mark 10:2-16

At First Presbyterian Church  
One Service at 11:00 AM  
Symphony Circle, Buffalo  
First Presbyterian and Westminster  
congregations will worship together.

### October 14

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
Sermon: "All In"  
Mark 10:17-31, Job 23:1-9,16-17

### October 21

2019 Generosity Campaign Launch  
The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
Melissa Balbach and Michele Mehaffy-  
dialogue message  
Meditation: "Downward Mobility"  
Mark 10:35-45.

### October 28 - Reformation Sunday

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
Sermon: "Theology of Redress"  
Mark 10:46-52



## The Year of the Bible 2019

With Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson

Beginning January 1, we're going  
to read the entire Bible?

- From beginning to end?
  - From Genesis through Revelation?
  - Old Testament and New Testament?
  - Every story? Every Psalm? Every Proverb?
  - And you say it will be easy and fun?
- (More information to come!)

# ADULT EDUCATION

## CASE LIBRARY CONVERSATIONS

Sundays, 9AM in the Case Library.

### Immigration Series- at First Presbyterian Church

#### October 7

*The Economic Impact of Immigrants and Refugees on Western New York; Why it is Important*

Presenter: Eva Hassett, Executive Director of the International Institute of Buffalo

#### October 14

*ICE 101*

Presenters: Terry Dunford, Community Relations Officer, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

Carla J. Hengerer, Chief Counsel, DHS/ICE/OPLA

#### October 21

*My Journey from Zimbabwe to Buffalo*

Presenter: Ramson Chimwaza

#### October 28

Speaker TBA

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

Sundays, 9AM in the Heritage Room

#### October 14

*Grace*

Presenter: Jane Morris

In Christianity, *Grace* refers to the free and unmerited favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings. Where and how have you experienced Grace? How did you respond? Together, we will explore the mystery of Grace and how it changed our lives.

#### October 21

*Introduction to Centering Prayer*

Presenter: Mary Ellen MacKay

Mary Ellen MacKay is the facilitator and contact person for the Buffalo Contemplative Outreach group, She has been experiencing Centering Prayer for 23 years, beginning on Long Island, where she was trained by Contemplative Outreach to offer and facilitate the *Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshop*.

#### October 28

*My Story*

Presenter: Reed Taylor

The first *My Story* of the year is with Westminster's Reed Taylor. In this series, we get to know someone on a deeper level than we would in everyday conversation. Reed will spend about 15 minutes on his story and then focus on a theme that is important to him. The remaining time is for questions and open conversation.

## 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

## WOW Lunchtime Bible Study

Women of Westminster cordially invites you to a Lunchtime Bible Study, the 3rd Thursday each month at 12:15PM in the Case Library. This year, we will explore the Horizons Bible Study "God's Promise: I Am With You." This study focuses on God's words of promise and comfort to the biblical patriarchs, the prophets, judges, kings and in New Testament stories. Our focus in these sessions is to move from what these scripture passages mean, to discuss what do these passages mean for us now. Come

## Centering Prayer Workshop at Westminster

Saturday, October 13, from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. This workshop will focus on the method of Centering Prayer and its relationship to contemplation.

The workshop will be led by Mary McKay and Keith Kristich of the Buffalo chapter of Contemplative Outreach. This program is designed for beginners and those wanting to refresh their understanding of this form of relationship to God.

To register please contact Debbie Katz at 884-9437, ext. 329 or [dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org) or call/text Keith Kristich at 716-831-2640.

## Passages: A Program for Older Adults

Join us on Tuesday, October 2, when Passages begins its program year. We begin with a documentary on *Rosie the Riveter*, with the discussion led by Debbie Katz. Lunch is at 12:30 PM in the Oak Room and the program is in the Case Library at 1:15 PM.

Please sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.

### November 6 Passages:

Celebrate Veterans Day with Mary Callaghan and her reminisces of her experiences as a nurse in Viet Nam

## CONSTRUCTION CORNER

Autumn is upon us. The Building and Grounds Committee is gearing up for the Capital Campaign for Westminster.

We hope our entire congregation is excited at the prospect of repairing, restoration and renovation of beloved areas of our buildings, exteriors and interiors.

Building & Ground's goal is always to honor and respect the beautiful Romanesque design of our church. Many worthwhile projects will be presented to our session. Already, after two months of intense labor, the ENERGY complex has reached conclusion. We hope everyone will take the time to visit this long-headed renovation.

We now have a wonderful welcoming area for ENERGY. New flooring, painting of walls and ceilings has provided more warmth to this children

sanctuary. New furnishings have been added, considering children's sizes as well as better lighting.

We, especially, wish to thank Alyssa Wojciechowski, ENERGY Program Coordinator and Carolyn Welch, WEDI Education Directors for their efforts to secure a grant through WEDI to make this project possible. In addition, Aaron Vivian, our Facility Supervisor, provided excellent coordination.



BY PETER MCNALLY



Submitted by Alyssa Wojciechowski  
ENERGY Program Coordinator

After a long summer of renovations, as of October 2, ENERGY is thrilled to move into the newly remodeled ENERGY space, located in the basement of Westminster Church. ENERGY is a place where children of recently resettled refugee families can develop English-language skills, self-confidence, and cultural awareness. Special thanks to the Westminster Buildings and Grounds Committee for overseeing this project! We are so excited to be able to share this beautifully designed space with a new group of ENERGY English Language Learners and volunteers alike!

We could not help our students succeed without the dedication, patience, and hard work of our volunteers. Are you interested in being a role-model for refugee youth? Sign up to volunteer today! For more information, contact Alyssa at [awojciechowski@wedibuffalo.org](mailto:awojciechowski@wedibuffalo.org)

The ENERGY after-school program began as an outreach mission of Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1998 for youth on Buffalo's West Side.

The ENERGY after-school program gathers Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4:30 6:30 PM ENERGY follows the calendar of the Buffalo Public Schools.

Continued.....



ENERGY Continued...

## Summer Program Recap

This summer, WEDI partnered with West Side Community Services and *Say Yes* to provide a six-week summer program for 26 ENERGY students. Youth successfully completed the *Reading Rules!* Summer Reading Challenge, learned how to cook cuisines from different countries, and learned African Drumming and Dance! Most notably, ENERGY students took several field trips to the Niagara Branch Library, where they were able to sign up for their very own library card! ENERGY volunteers worked diligently to engage students in their summer reading goals. Thank you volunteers!!!

## Meet the ENERGY Staff!

ENERGY is staffed by Alyssa Wojciechowski, the Program Coordinator, and Megan Loghry, the Program Assistant. They are both passionate about literacy and can't wait to kick off the new year at ENERGY!

Alyssa has a BA in Linguistics and is currently pursuing a MS Ed. in TESOL Education. She has over 7 years experience working with youth and adult refugees in various educational and non-profit settings.

Megan Loghry has a BS in Inclusive Childhood Education, and works as a Teacher Aide at Elmwood Village Charter School during the school day. She is often found making the ENERGY space more beautiful with her artistic talent, or leading ENERGY students in an art project.

Most importantly, ENERGY is supported by the community at Westminster Presbyterian Church. We couldn't help our students without the unwavering support of the church. Thank you for giving us a place to call home.

## 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

Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, ext. 315

Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education, ext. 329

Patricia Pearce, Director of Finance, ext. 305

Deb Pettibone, Communications Director, ext. 310

Lenore Neiler, Graphic Designer, ext. 302

Mark Aquino, Youth Coordinator, ext. 311

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

Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant, ext. 326

Jennifer Shin, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

### 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

Heather Abbott, Administrative Assistant, ext. 300

### Facilities

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

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

Austin Becker, Maintenance. 716-479-0668

### Elders

Robert Bojdak, Clerk of Session

#### 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  
Rebecca  
Montaague

#### Class of 2020

Cameron Airhart  
M. Frances Holmes  
Barbara Nelson  
Rebecca  
Montague  
Leslie Deich  
Elizabeth Stewart  
Roger Seifert  
Joe Speth

### Deacons

#### 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

#### Class of 2020

Ellen Bean  
Kate Dierenfield  
Victoria Garner  
Carol Greetham  
Tom Greetham  
Jane Morris  
Isaiah New  
Robert Nickelsen

## Order Sunday Flowers

If you would like to purchase Sunday flowers in honor/memory of family or friends, there is a monthly sign up in the "Sunday Flower Book" in the Gallery Room. You may also contact Sue Adams at 883-7597 or hugwalk-er1@gmail.com

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Debbie Katz, Christian Educator

## Practicing Gratitude with Children

Practicing gratitude and giving thanks makes us happier. What people of faith have known for generations now has the stamp of approval from therapists who heal with mindfulness and cognitive behavioral therapy. Researchers at *Great Good Science Center* have studied how feeling grateful motivates students to help others, and use their strengths to contribute to society.

One way of modeling thankfulness is to notice how one person's actions influence those around them. "My day is better because..." A simple example is "My day is better" is when everyone says hello when they walk through the door.

Here are some ideas for practicing gratitude at home:

1. *Create a Space for Thanks.* Designate a gratitude area which has a variety of paper, pens, markers, index cards and tape. Use it as a place for some of the ideas listed below, as well as a place to write quick thank you notes. Over time you can decorate it with candles, items from nature and other surprise blessings.

2. *Carry scripture references for offering thanks.* Write down the passages on small pieces of paper, and put them in a jar. Pull one out every day to carry around, savor and, memorize

3. *Play the "best thing" game.* Think of a person, situation, or place, and take turns saying things like "The best thing about \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_." An example could be "The best

think about my church is the music we sing." To help spark ideas, get wide, wooden sticks and write down people's names, places, pet, etc. Place the sticks in jar and keep it in a place where the family gathers. Draw one stick for each time you play the game.

4. *Make a Thankfulness Window* by tearing up pieces of different colored tissue paper, and keep them in a basket or a box. Have your children write down something they're grateful for on each piece of paper. Tape the pieces of paper to a window that gets lots of sun, and watch the window's design evolve over time. To avoid having to scrape off the windows, use wax paper over the window first.

5. *Say goodbye to "Stuff."* Designate one day a month for the family to toss out items which have served you well, but aren't anymore. Gather them all together, say a prayer of thanks and then put them on the street with a sign that says "Free" or "Donate it to Good Will."

6. *Giving thanks with popcorn.* Put popcorn in the microwave or popper. Have your children shout out something for which they're grateful when they hear the sound of the kernels popping. Keep it going until the popping stops.

7. *Make blessing cards* by writing down a blessing, or any good wish for another family member or classmate. Tuck the card in a pocket or under a pillow as a surprise.

8. *Capture gratitude on film.* At Thanksgiving, or whenever the extended family is gathered, take photos or videos. Have each person say what they're grateful for. Create an album and share it at the next family gathering. Or consider taping an interview with the oldest person there.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Preschool class meets in the WECP 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.

# OCTOBER

## Monday, October 1

8:30 AM WECP Book Fair

## Tuesday, October 2

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

10:30 AM WECP Chapel Starts

12:30 PM Passages Lunch

1:15 PM Passages Program

3:30 PM AGO Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM Spiritual Life Mtg.

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

## Wednesday, October 3

8:00 AM Generosity Mtg.

9:30 AM Worship Planning

10:30 AM WECP Chapel Starts

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline

1:30 PM Staff Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

6:30 PM QED Rehearsal

7:00 PM Back to School Night

8:00 PM AA Mtg.

## Thursday, October 4

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

4:30 PM Choir School

Rehearsal

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, October 5

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

## Sunday, October 7-

### At First Presbyterian Church

9:00 AM Case Library Series

11:00 AM Worship - World

Communion

2:00 PM Buffalo Opera

Unlimited

## Monday, October 8

7:00 AM WECP & WPC

Closed

## Tuesday, October 9

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM Worship, Music &

Arts

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

7:00 PM WECP Parent Board

Mtg.

## Wednesday, October 10

9:30 AM Worship Planning

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

1:30 PM Staff Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

6:00 PM Case Library Mtg.

6:30 PM QED Rehearsal

8:00 PM AA Mtg.

## Thursday, October 11

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

4:30 PM Choir School

Rehearsal

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, October 12

7:30 PM Mikah Mayer Concert

## Saturday, October 13

8:00 AM Zen Dharma/Day

Long Meditation

9:00 AM Centering Prayer

Workshop

## Sunday, October 14

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care

8:00 AM Senior Choristers

8:15 AM Worship W/

Communion

9:00 AM Case Library Series

9:00 AM Spiritual Life

9:00 AM Adult Bible Class

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship - Bibles /

3rd&7th Grades

10:40 AMSunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

2:00 PM Buffalo Opera

Unlimited

## Tuesday, October 16

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

3:00 PM Buildings & Grounds

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

## Wednesday, October 17

9:00 AM W@W Reserved

9:30 AM Worship Planning

12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

12:00 PM Wednesdays @

WPC W/Hillary Hunt

1:00 PM Active Shooter

Training for Staff

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

6:30 PM QED Rehearsal

8:00 PM AA Mtg.

## Thursday, October 18

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

12:15 PM WOW Bible Study

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

4:30 PM Choir School

Rehearsal

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, October 19

6:00 PM Sanders/ Wedding

Rehearsal

## Saturday, October 20

4:30 PM Sanders Wedding

## Sunday, October 21

8:00 AM Generosity Kick - Off

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:00 AM Senior Choristers

8:15 AM Worship/

Communion

9:00 AM Case Library

Conversations

9:00 AM Adult Bible Class

9:00 AM Spiritual Life

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

10:30 AM Worship

10:40 AMSunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

11:40 AM Racial Justice Mtg.

11:45 AM 2nd Confirmand /

Mentor Lunch

12:00 PM Active Shooter

Training Elders/Deacons

2:00 PM Buffalo Opera

Unlimited

## Monday, October 22

4:30 PM Membership Mtg.

5:00 PM CMH Board Mtg.

## Tuesday, October 23

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM WEDI Mtg.

5:00 PM Personnel Mtg.

5:15 PM Invested Funds

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

## Wednesday, October 24

7:30 AM Budget & Finance

Mtg.

9:30 AM Worship Planning

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

1:30 PM Staff Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

6:00 PM Session Mtg.

6:30 PM QED Rehearsal

8:00 PM AA Mtg.

## Thursday, October 25

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

4:30 PM Choir School

Rehearsal

5:45 PM WECP Teaching

Staff Mtg.

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, October 26

7:30 PM The Phantom of the

Opera-Silent Movie

## Saturday, October 27

2:00 PM QED Requiem

Concert

3:00 PM Confirmation Class

Lock-In

## Sunday, October 28

8:00 AM Senior Choristers

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:15 AM Worship /

Communion

9:00 AM Case Library Series

9:00 AM Spiritual Life

9:00 AM Adult Bible Class

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship - 2nd

Generosity

Sunday/Reformation Sunday

10:40 AMSunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

11:45 AM Inquirer Class

2:00 PM Buffalo Opera

Unlimited

2:30 PM Compline Rehearsal

4:00 PM Compline

## Monday, October 29

7:00 PM WOW Book

Discussion

Tuesday, October 30

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

## Wednesday, October 31

9:30 AM Worship Planning

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline

1:30 PM Staff Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

8:00 PM AA Mtg.



# NEW MEMBER REUNION

On Sunday, September 16, 2018, new members who have joined Westminster over the past three years were invited to a "New Member Reunion". Twenty-six new members were greeted by our Membership Committee and enjoyed a festive lunch and fellowship. Rev. Tom Yorty welcomed everyone and provided updates on church life, and our community outreach. The new members had good information and ideas to share as we continue to build a vibrant worship community together.

*Submitted by Sawrie Becker, Director of Development*



New  
Members  

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Building a  
Vibrant  
Worship  
Community

## PICK UP YOUR NEW NAMETAG!

Our nametag ministry is a great success! Thank you for wearing your nametag every Sunday so that we can personally greet and welcome each other as part of our mission and purpose together here at Westminster.



# POWER OF GENEROSITY



## Generosity of Time & Talent:

Thank you to our wonderful members for participating in having their picture taken by our volunteer photographer, Jen Callaghan who spent many hours working along with Lenore Neiler, Graphic Designer to create a beautiful and useful Pictorial Membership

Directory. If you haven't yet received your directory, please contact Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315 [sbecker@buffalo.org](mailto:sbecker@buffalo.org)

## PLANNED GIVING

At Westminster, we believe in planning for the future so we can be ready to meet people's needs in a few months, years, and even decades. Including a gift to the Westminster in your will can help us do that. With a bequest, you can strengthen our faith community and make a difference for the future. Please consider making a gift that gives forward.

If you would like information about planned giving at Westminster, please contact Sawrie, Becker, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315 email: [sbecker@wpcbuffalo.com](mailto:sbecker@wpcbuffalo.com) or pick up information in the Gallery Room.

# RACIAL JUSTICE CORNER

Westminster is one of over 60 organizations that are members of VOICE Buffalo, a social justice organization that has been working for 22 years to create change in our community. There is a current volunteer opportunity to participate in a voter registration campaign. Two dates remain - 10/4 in the Ellicott district, and 10/11 in North Buffalo. If you would like to help, contact one of the organizers at [brian@voicebuffalo.org](mailto:brian@voicebuffalo.org). Additional information about VOICE is available on the table in the Gallery Room. John McClive is Westminster's representative to VOICE, and he would be glad answer any questions you might have.



## We welcome you to join our community of faith at Westminster.

Please join us on Sunday, October 28 for an Inquirer Class!

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 a.m. worship service. During the class, our Pastor, Thomas Yorty, 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.

*To reserve your spot or if you have any questions, please contact Sawrie Becker at 884-9437 Ext. 315) or Tom Yorty at 830-8596 ([tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org)) anytime about membership at Westminster.*

## FELLOWSHIP

### MEET & MINGLE

Our "Meet & Mingle" fellowship opportunity immediately following the 10:30 AM worship service. Sponsors, Shoppers & Hosts are needed for Meet & Mingle in September, October and November. Meet & Mingle is a great way to celebrate a special person or occasion. For more information and to sign up to help, please sign up in the Gallery Room or contact Sawrie Becker at [sbecke@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:sbecke@wpcbuffalo.org).

### WOW BOOK DISCUSSION

This year, WOW will discuss these five 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:

Oct 29: *The Women of the Castle*, by Jessica Shattuck.

Nov. 26: *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders.

Jan 14: *Less* by Andrew Sean Greer.

Mar. 4: *The Women's Hour* by Elaine Weiss

May 6: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

### KNITTING GROUP

The next meeting dates are October 9, October 30 and November 13. The group meets on various Tuesdays, 7PM to 9PM throughout the year and 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 at [mfranholmes@verizon.net](mailto:mfranholmes@verizon.net) for more information and dates,

## 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.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Members are invited to submit names of candidates for openings on the Board of Deacons and the Session. Deacons and Elders facilitate Westminster's many programs and ministries. Forms are available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. Place your suggestion form in the Nominating Committee mailbox in the Business Office or in the Offering Plate during Sunday Services.

## MEETUP

**October 13, 10:30 - 12:30 AM**

Enjoy the change of seasons as we explore Times Beach Nature Preserve. Located at the convergence of Lake Erie and the Niagara River, 2 Furhman Blvd. It's a globally significant bird area which boasts five ecological zones. Janet Kowalski, past chair of the Adirondack Club, Niagara Frontier Chapter, will lead us on a walk through the preserve. Bring binoculars and wear sturdy shoes for walking; snacks will be provided. This is an ideal activity for people of all ages - family and friends. We'll meet, rain or shine.

Contact [carolgreetham@gmail.com](mailto:carolgreetham@gmail.com) with questions. Sign up in the Gallery Room.





## WESTMINSTER PRESENTS OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS



**October 26, 2018 at 7:30 PM  
in the Sanctuary**

**In this annual holiday tradition, Garrett Martin provides an improvised score to the 1924 silent movie. Come in costume! Offering suggestion: \$10**

*Westminster Presents continued....*

## MUSIC AT WESTMINSTER

*By Garrett F. Martin,  
Organist and Music Director*

Last week, a church member asked “When did you start playing piano?” She almost stumped me with that one. It was actually first grade, age 6. I don’t remember, however, a time in my life when I wasn’t in church and singing. Children’s choirs in Southern Baptist churches start before you can even read. The career part began early on when—around the age of 11 or 12—I stepped in to play a community service when our church organist was away for the Thanksgiving holiday. This was my first organist-director experience; I wasn’t even a teenager yet. So you see why I have no point of reference (or patience) for the hackneyed phrase “Presbyterians don’t sing.” When someone tells me that I always reply, “Yes, they do at Westminster Buffalo. And if they don’t, it’s the music director’s fault for not selecting something worth singing.” If people are fed good choices, they will eat! Much thought and planning go into our weekly music selections.

Let’s look at church history...archaeological evidence supports that all societies and cultures have placed prime importance upon music as being essential to their religious exercises from the very beginning. For Christians, the models for lifting one’s heart through music in worship come from the Jewish practices of the great Temple worship during Solomon’s time. Have you ever read the stunning account of the opening dedication day worship (2 Chronicles) when 288 singers who had their cymbals, psalteries, and harps in hand joined 120 priests playing trumpets? Music scholars conclude that the whole Levitical structure of systematic duties for the Temple musicians set the stage for the evolution of Christian worship music models and the subsequent developments of volunteer and professional music programs of today’s time. The very first book of the Bible refers to Jubal as being the “father of all such as handle the harp and organ.” *Continued..*



*October Highlights, continued...*

**Mikah Meyer with the  
Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus**

Friday, October 12 at 7:30 PM  
Mikah Meyer, singer and LGBTQ activist, stops in Buffalo on his quest to visit all 417 US National Parks.

**Wednesdays @ Westminster**

October 17, 2018 at 12 PM  
Westminster's own, Hillary Hunt, will sing cherished jazz standards with a fall flavor.

**Compline**

October 28, 2018 at 4 PM  
The Westminster Schola leads this candlelit service of renaissance music and sung scripture.

## THE CHOIR SCHOOL

Westminster 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](mailto:gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org)

*Music at Westminster, continued...*

The New Testament overflows with musical references (too many to list here) including the Magnificat or "Song of Mary", the angels who sang "Gloria in excelsis Deo" at Jesus' birth, Jesus himself who sang a hymn with disciples in the Upper Room (imagine that night - they actually heard the singing voice of the divine), and so on. Music continues to be central to our worship experience.

I am convinced that my primary role is to lead hymnody and congregational song. (Conducting choirs and playing organ literature are bonuses I suppose.) And did you realize at Westminster, the worshiper is invited to participate in at least seven musical components of the liturgy in a given service? My work is not accomplished if blue hymnals and mouths are closed! Remember that the choir's role is to sing the hymns "with" you, not "for" you. Are you making your best efforts?

What an exciting challenge we have here in this breathtaking, historical space to continue the honored, centuries-old tradition of music-making. Saint Augustine sums it up well: "He who sings, prays twice." On a practical note, the 2018-2019 choir season has already begun. Won't you consider singing with us this year? Or bringing your children/grandchildren to learn the song of the Church at our weekly choir school rehearsals?

See you in the pews, participating and singing, of course.

Garrett