



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to unveil Westminster's new "look!" I hope you had an opportunity to read my column in the August newsletter about "branding" and Westminster's changing logos over the last century. Past leaders understood how religious and secular

organizations make their presence known with strategically designed logos and taglines. This is especially true today, when we find ourselves at a new juncture of ministry and mission: with a soon to be launched Capital Campaign and emerging mission partnerships. It is critical for Westminster to share this work with a new, compelling image.

Over the course of many meetings this summer, staff and church members worked with a design team from Block Club, a leading local marketing firm, to determine what our new "face to the world" might look like. Our objective was to unite the church and school with a single logo and tagline. We wanted the aesthetic to be inviting, current, clean, and strong.

As you can see, the design process achieved our goals. The mandala-like rosette, inspired by stained glass, captures Westminster's warmth, elegance, and diversity. The circles suggest radiating petals that emanate outward and converge inward, just like a community woven together by their shared mission and principles. The central placement of the cross conveys the image of God imprinted on each of our hearts.

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As a testament to its nearly seven-decade mission, a heart replaces the cross at the center of the school's. Surely, no better symbol than a heart could represent the school as a nurturing community for young children and their families.



WESTMINSTER

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Complimenting the dynamic rosette is the name Westminster, presented in a bold typeface that provides stability and impact. The distinctive "W" connects the simple font to the complex logo. Surrounding the logo is our new tagline, "Nurturing Heart, Mind, and Community." These powerful words effectively embrace the core mission of both the church and school.

A logo and tagline cannot describe every intricacy of an organization in detail. Rather, they offer an enticing look at that organization, which inspires the viewer to become more closely connected. The impact of our logo and tagline on the viewer is both immediate and time-released: it draws you in with its beautiful design, then offers subtle and subconscious meaning as it is contemplated.

We trust this new look will draw members and visitors into the life we share together. In the months ahead, campus signage will be reimagined to help visitors more easily find their way. Additionally, we will develop a dynamic, easy-to-use website for the church and school. I hope you are as excited as I am about how this new image tells our community and world who we are and for what we stand. Please let us know what you think of the new look, and share with your family and friends!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom".

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

PREACHING SCHEDULE

September 2, 2018
Mark Aquino, Lay Preacher
"Lift Every Voice" Numbers 27:1-11

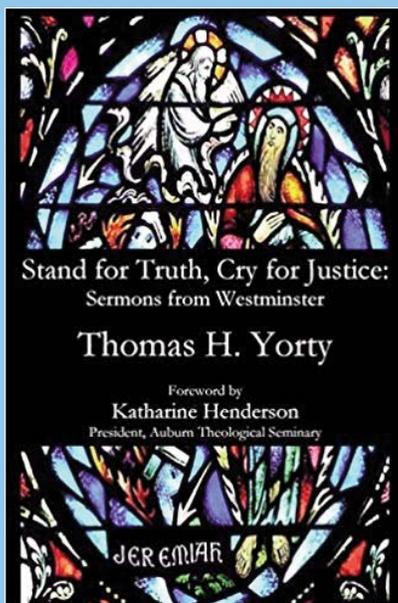
September 9, 2018
Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Mark 7:24-37
"The Church in the City: The Marginal Way"

September 16, 2018
Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Mark 8:27-38
"The Church in the City: More Than a Great Teacher"

September 23, 2018
Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson
Title/text TBA

September 30, 2018
Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Mark 9:38-50
"The Church in the City: No Credentials Required"

BOOK SIGNING



Dr. Yorty is the author of the newly published book, *Stand for Truth, Cry for Justice*, a collection of sermons which he has referred to as "a conversation between a pastor and the people in the pews."

Proceeds from the sale of the book will be used to support Westminster's emerging mission on the East Side of Buffalo.

There will be a book signing before and after the 10:30 AM service this Sunday on September 9, 2018.

For more information or to purchase a book, visit www.wpcbuffalo.org.

ADULT EDUCATION SUNDAY OFFERINGS

Case Library Conversations

Spiritual Life will join Case Library in September

Sundays, 9AM in the Case Library

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

September 16

What I Read This Summer

Presenter: Tom Yorty

Below are listed a few of the books Tom has either read in full or dipped into this summer, He will not discuss all the books, but focus on a few by way of commenting on the "takeaways" he got from his reading. If you plan to attend, please bring one book you read this summer and a sentence or two to share about your takeaway from the book.

The Prelude by William Wordsworth

The World-Ending Fire by Wendell Berry

The Road to Unfreedom by Timothy Snyder

The Redress of Poetry by Seamus Heaney

September 23

The Bicentennial of the Erie Canal

Presenter: John Montague

John is co-founder, past Director and now President Emeritus of the Buffalo Maritime Center. Trained as an art and architectural historian, he has worked as a designer, film animator, illustrator, and boat designer/builder He is heavily involved in the development of visions and plans for Buffalo's waterfront redevelopment, and is an active Maritime Painter, a member of the American Society of Marine Artists and represented by the Meibohm Fine Arts Gallery.

September 30

Undoing Border Imperialism

Case Library will look at Harsha Walia's book and video *Undoing Border Imperialism*, which is a discussion of the global refugee crisis and its implications for North America by reformulating immigrant and refugee rights movements within a transnational analysis of capitalism, labor exploitation, settler colonialism, state building, and racialized empire. This talk aims to challenge and strategize opposition to white supremacy rooted in the leadership of racialized communities.

Immigration Series

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

Community Series

November 4

A discussion on the upcoming election.

Presenter: Bob McCarthy,
Political Reporter, Buffalo News

November 11

Unpacking the election results

Speaker to be announced

November 18

Secrets of Voodoo Revealed!

"Voodoo" is a term tossed around and a popular topic of the tabloids, but most information about the prototypical African-based religion is false; come hear about the real thing.

Presenter: Dr. Phillips Stevens, retired Anthropology Professor, UB.

November 25

No Offering

December 2, 9, 16

Incarnation: Why God Became Human

Presenter: The Rev. Dr. Lance Brown, Westminster's friend and favorite retired minister.

Spiritual Life

9:00 in the Heritage Room.

Our topics lead to in-depth conversations guided by participants' thoughts about the presentation. No preparation is needed to join in.

Continued...

Adult Education continued...

October 7

Grace. In Christianity: Jane Morris will lead a discussion of the concept of Grace in different religions and then we will explore how Grace has impacted our own lives.

October 14, November 4, December 2, February 3

March 10: *My Story*

In this series, we get to know someone on a deeper level than we would in everyday conversation. The presenters spend about 10 minutes on their history and then focus on a theme that is important to them. The remaining time is for questions and open conversation.

October 21: *Pets and Spirituality:* In part 1 of our look at our relationships with animals we love, Mary Dimmock will lead us in an exploration of how pets affect our spirituality and how we recognize spirituality in them.

October 28: *Grieving the Loss of Pets:* Pets are family, and the grief of losing a loved animal is as heartbreaking as any great loss. In part 2 of our look at furry four-legged friends, Jen Callaghan sheds some light on this grieving process.

November 11 & 18: *Exploring the Gift of Being Present.*

What does it mean to be present for ourselves and our loved ones? Beth Hennessy will help us discover how being present can be a gift we give ourselves and others.

December 9 & 16: *Learning to Walk in the Dark.* What is the dark, the absence of light or is the dark its own entity? Don McLean and Allan Hayes will lead a discussion of Barbara Brown Taylor's enlightening book.

January 6 & 13: *The Spirituality of Imperfection.* Ernest Kurtz and Katherine Ketcham draw on the wisdom stories of religious cultures to provide hope, inspiration, and guidance.

February, 10 & 17: *Consciousness.* What is consciousness? Chris LaMendola will lead us in exploring what it really means to be conscious.

February 24 & March 3: *Flourish: A New Understanding of Happiness and Well-being.* Martin Seligman begins his book with, "This book will help you flourish." Allan Hayes will lead us in a discussion of this groundbreaking book about Positive Psychology.

March 17 & 24: *Meditation.* It has been said that prayer is talking to God and meditation is listening for an answer. Join us as we talk about various methods of meditation.

March 31 & Apr. 7: *Gardens.* We will invite seasoned gardeners to share their secrets for creating a beautiful garden.

April 28: *The Poetry of Spring.* This was so popular last year that we are bringing it back. Each participant will have the opportunity to share a favorite poem.

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

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
Roberta Nickelsen

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 2

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

Tuesday, September 4

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

Wednesday, September 5

12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, September 6

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
2:00 PM ENERGY Mtg.
4:00 PM Choir School
Rehearsal
6:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 7

11:00 AM Darns Memorial
Service
12:00 PM Dann Reception

Saturday, September 8

10:00 AM Boeckel Burial
11:00 AM Boeckel Memorial
Service
12:00 PM Boeckel Reception

Sunday, September 9

6:00 AM Rally Day
8:00 AM Choir School
Rehearsal
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:00 AM Senior Choristers
8:15 AM Worship /
Communion
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal /
brass
9:00 AM Deacons Q3 Mtg.
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Sunday School Mtg.
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
12:00 PM Nominating Comm.

Monday, September 10

4:30 PM Membership Mtg.
7:00 PM WOW Book
Discussion

Tuesday, September 11

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, September 12

12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, September 13

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

Saturday, September 15

11:00 AM Gartner Interment
11:30 AM MaGavern Memorial
Service

Sunday, September 16

8:00 AM Senior Choristers
8:00 AM Choir School
Rehearsal
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/
Communion
9:00 AM Case Library
Conversations
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Adult Bible Class
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
11:45 AM New Member
Reunion

11:45 AM Confirmands/
Sponsors/Parents/Teachers

Tuesday, September 18

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
3:00 PM Buildings & Grounds
4:30 PM ENERGY Volunteer
Orientation

5:00 PM WEDI Mtg.
5:00 PM Congregational Life
Mtg.
6:00 PM Zen Dharma
7:00 PM New Parent
Orientation

Wednesday, September 19

12:00 PM Wednesdays @ WPC
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Volunteer
Orientation
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, September 20

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
7:30 AM Budget & Finance
Mtg.
12:15 PM WOW Bible Study
4:00 PM Choir School
Rehearsal
4:30 PM ENERGY Volunteer
Orientation
6:00 PM Handbells
7:00 PM WNYCO Rehearsal

Friday, September 21

7:30 PM WNYCO Concert

Saturday, September 22

8:00 AM BGMC
4:00 PM WECP Fall Fest
Sunday, September 23
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:00 AM Choir School
Rehearsal
8:00 AM Senior Choristers
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Case Library
Conversations

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Adult Bible Class
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
11:35 AM Acolyte Training
11:45 AM Inquirer Class

Monday, September 24

5:00 PM CMH Board Mtg.

Tuesday, September 25

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

4:30 PM ENERGY
5:00 PM Personnel Mtg.
6:00 PM Zen Dharma
Wednesday, September 26
12:00 PM Enews Info. Deadline
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.
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, September 27

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

Friday, September 28

6:30 PM Choir Retreat
Saturday, September 29
9:00 AM Choir Retreat
2:00 PM Ludwig's Memorial
Service
3:00 PM Ludwig Reception

Sunday, September 30
8:00 AM Senior Choristers
8:00 AM Choir School
Rehearsal
8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/
Communion
8:45 AM Handbell Rehearsal
9:00 AM Learning about
Communion
9:00 AM Case Library
Conversations
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Adult Bible Class
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship/WMA
Dedication
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
11:30 AM Racial Justice Mtg.
11:45 AM 1st Confirmand/
Mentor Lunch
2:30 PM Evensong Rehearsal
4:00 PM Blessing of the
Animals

Sunday School

Debbie Katz, Christian Educator



The internet is filled with images and memes reminding us of all the heroes: super, human and even animal who have our backs. Some of the images I found were funny, some heroic

and others just plain weird. However, these images reminded me that how much we search for and desire the comfort and reassurance there is someone who will always be there for us. Someone who has our back as we begin in a new classroom, or in new school, or a new college or even for adults, the same job with new tools, tasks or responsibilities.

While we might look for a special person, we need to be reminded that God has our backs. Just as the shepherd boy David had to remind King Saul when the entire nation of Israel was challenged by Goliath that, God had his back. David didn't need Saul's armor, just five smooth stones and his faith that God was more powerful than Goliath.

On Rally Day, September 9, we will begin our new program year. We welcome back the travelers and all the vacationers. We move from the slower, lazy days of summer to the faster pace of school, and work. During Time with Children, *I will be giving out God's Got Your Back! backpack tags* and to bless our children's backpacks. These tags remind us that God indeed has our backs. This backpack tag is not a promise of carefree lives, with guaranteed A's on unstudied for tests or easy days in our workplace. This reminder tag is the promise that God is with us, we are not alone or never separated from God's love. Now that's a reminder I want on my tote.

Please remind your children to bring in their backpacks on September 9th. And if you'd like a reminder for yourself, bring in your briefcase or tote, lunchbox or diaper bag.

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. We begin on Thursday, September 20 at 12:15 PM in the Case Library. Come as your schedule permits.

Centering Prayer Workshop

Westminster is hosting an Introductory Workshop for Centering Prayer, on 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 Keither 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 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

- Our preschool class meets in the WECP building. After Time with the Children, children 3-5 year olds leave with their teachers, "Miss Debby," "Mr. Chris" LaMendola and Mrs. Janet and walk to the building together. In cold weather, the children need their coats. After worship, the children and their teachers together 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-5th grade class 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.

- Our confirmation class is made up of 8th graders. They met one-on-one 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.

- Our Senior Highs, 9th-12th graders, meet each Sunday at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall kitchen for Dialogue Diner.

Bailey Green's vision is to transform the neighborhood and to create a safe, attractive environment to help build forward momentum for the community.

On August 6th, 17 Westminsterites met with John Somers, CEO of Harmac Medical Products at Bailey Avenue and Genesee Street in Buffalo, to learn more about the Bailey Green Project. About ten years ago John, who is a member of Westminster, envisioned this project as a way to improve the community surrounding Harmac. Bailey Green's vision is to transform the neighborhood and to create a safe, attractive environment to help build forward momentum for the community. Bailey Green is a collaborative, with approximately 30 formal and informal partners and supporters.

The work began with removing dangerous and unstable properties and replacing them with green space and working with the City of Buffalo to improve sidewalks, bus stops and street lighting. The UB School of Architecture and Planning worked with the community to develop an overall Master Plan for the neighborhood to serve as a guide for further initiatives.

Our group was presented with information about the work of several partners: seven new homes built through Habitat for Humanity with six more planned; an urban farm providing food for local restaurants, with plans for mushroom production; workforce initiatives through SACRA (Society for the Advancement of Construction Related Arts) which have graduated a class of carpenters; a planned headquarters for Peacemakers, who will provide mentoring for youth and also serve as added security in the neighborhood.

The Racial Justice Committee has identified three initiatives to be included as Westminster mission projects over the next few years. These are to support additional WEDI staff for an office within the Bailey Green community; contribute to the development of the Walkway, Park and Peacemakers Headquarters; and provide funds and volunteers for the Habitat for Humanity Home Repair Program.



RACIAL JUSTICE
CORNER

by Ellen Kennedy, Chair



Developing Generosity On The Giving Path

In the book “More Give to Life- How Giving Can Change Your Life” Douglas M. Lawson, Ph.D. reviews the natural course of a life of sharing that he calls The Giving Path. Lawson suggests that the urge towards generosity usually starts early in life, then flows along a continuum with early family instruction at one end and naturally sensitive and spontaneous benevolence at the other. According to Lawson, The Giving Path unfolds something like this: Early parental teaching and examples help form childhood attitudes towards giving and money. School teachers, parents, and religious instructors help form an “emotional set” about giving, sharing philanthropy and help to form social responsibility. As children actually begin to experience giving and sharing, their early sometimes wonderfully confusing and possibly embarrassing experiences, make lasting impressions on them. The extended family helps encourage and support children’s generous impulses. Young people begin to help those in need, freely using their own resources as new but increasingly vested members of the community. Teenagers and young adults commit themselves to causes requiring volunteer service, active identification, and giving. Into maturity, adults make a wholehearted investment in a cause, inspiring spiritual kinship. Large gifts and bequests are often the natural result of this devotion. Lawson reminds us that there is no single Giving Path. Everyone’s life has twists and turns, lapses, defections, disenchantments, and resistances. Compassion and selflessness develop very early in life and largely determine adult behavior. As you reflect on your own Giving Path, who and what were the major influences for you in determining your willingness, devotion, level of participation and degree of commitment you have honed over your lifetime. Was church an influencer for you – did you watch your parents make a weekly offering; were you taught in Sunday School about how giving back illustrates God’s love, did you participate in youth group fundraisers for mission work? As a faith community, when a child is baptized in our congregation we are called on to promise to tell them the good news of the gospel; to help the child understand

Continued....

Generosity...

all that Christ commands, and to, with our fellowship, strengthen their family ties with the household of God. We are indeed called to help our children develop a life of sharing and their own Giving Paths and in doing so we inspire spiritual kinship and secure our own way on The Giving Path.

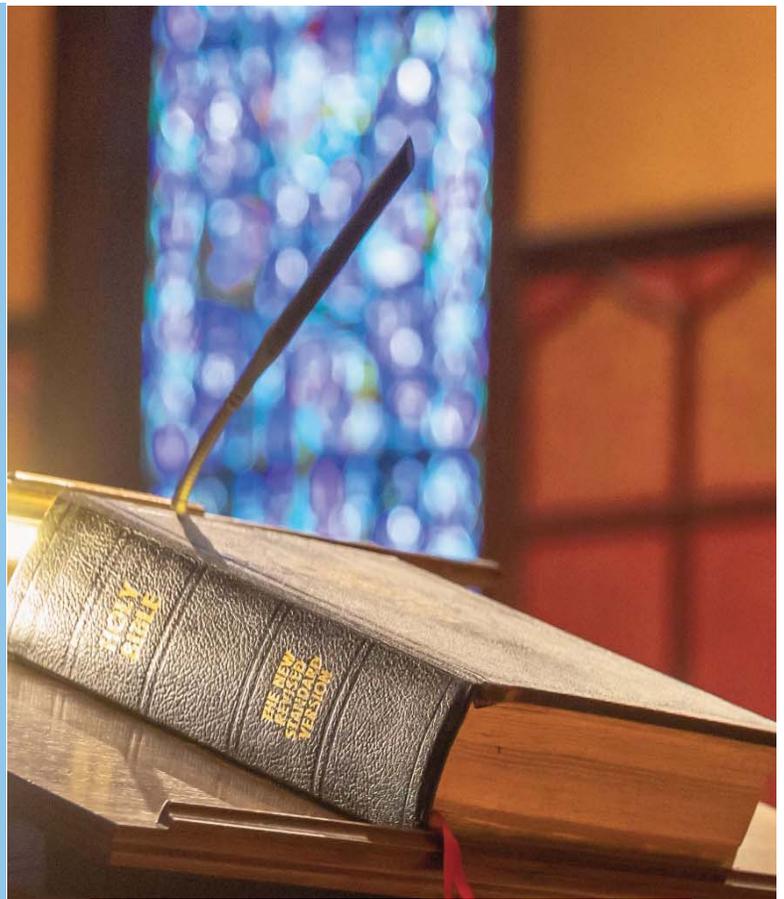
If you would like to learn more about special gift opportunities to Westminster, please contact Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315 Email: sbecker@buffalo.org

A message from Roger Seifert, Chair of Capital Campaign

After many months of work, planning, and follow-up, all under the superb guidance of Danforth Development, the Session was presented with the Feasibility Study Final Report at the June 27th Meeting. The purpose of the Study was to determine the capacity of WPC to raise funds to support the goals of a Capital Campaign in an objective and formal way. With both Session approval and the endorsement of the Ministry of Generosity it was decided to proceed with the Capital Campaign now in the early stages of organization and planning. The faith, passion, and commitment of our WPC members and friends will ensure success of the campaign with more information to follow soon.

Planned Giving

Generous living is about approaching each day with an open heart, an open mind, and an open hand. What can you do today to live more generously? What generous living choices can you make today that will make a difference in the future? As you consider those choices, we hope you may remember Westminster as a wonderful place that your legacy can make a lasting difference through a planned gift. 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,



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

Please join us on Sunday, September 23 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) anytime about membership at Westminster.

FELLOWSHIP

“MEET & MINGLE” IS BACK!

Our “Meet & Mingle” fellowship opportunity immediately following the 10:30 AM worship service will be back again this year! Please join us on Rally Day, September 9, for a very special “welcome back” Meet & Mingle outside (weather permitting) where you can greet members and friends and welcome new faces as we nurture our church community. 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 sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org.

MEETUP!

Plan to meet up at Riverworks at 4:00 PM at the restaurant entrance. Come early or stay late to see the exhibits and participate in the fun! Chalkfest is a free event, from 12:00 to 6:00 PM. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Bring friends! Bring the family! Amazing autumn themed chalk creations will be displayed on the blacktop and grain silos at Riverworks. There will be live music, face painting, rock climbing on the grain silos, DJs, street performers, an urban ropes course, a “candy shop” area with sweets and ice cream, kayaking, paddleboarding, and a free “Touch-a-Truck” for the kids, Riverworks is a full scale microbrewery and restaurant. Also, “kids” of all ages will have the chance to participate and leave their chalked mark in the community art zone, while drawing, learning, and watching over the shoulders of local and world renowned artists! Sign-up in the Gallery Room on the Information Table.

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.

WOW BOOK DISCUSSION

On Monday, September 10, we will meet at Laura Houghtaling’s house at 19 Bondcroft Drive, Buffalo to choose our WOW books. Bring one or two books you’ve read and recommend for discussion. We publish the entire WOW book reading list, and choose 3 or 4 books to read, then discuss together during the year.

KNITTING GROUP

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 for more information and dates,



Words simply cannot express my gratitude to our boy and girl choristers, adult choristers, chaperones, Chorister Trainers, English guest singers, Matt Marco, and our Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar, Käthe Wright Kaufman for the wonderfully powerful expressions of worship through music that were realized on our pilgrimage. Everyone banded together to meet all challenges and glories: from the van breaking down while en route to Toronto, to our sublime final evensong at the Cathedral in Truro. In all settings, we lived, worked, and went about our business as a caring community; it was precisely as such that we together succeeded.

With only a few exceptions, our repertoire was American. I don't like to compete with the English on their home field, and I think they appreciate hearing sacred

music from a different country. Of particular note, we presented several pieces by local composer Roland Martin (St. Joseph's University Church). Over the course of our week in residence, we sang a total of eight services, equivalent to two months of Sunday service singing here in Buffalo. For this one particular week, we served as the cathedral choir for everyone and anyone who attends its services.

Singing together at Truro Cathedral forged a new connection with a sister church across the globe. There's a beauty that we derive from taking part in a daily rhythm of prayer and praise. We sing the Magnificat (Mary's Song) and the Nunc Dimittis (the Song of Simeon) after the scripture lesson. The "Mag and Nunc" call on us to respond and show us how two important Biblical figures were

called upon to respond. The opportunity to sing these texts daily filled us with grace and humility.

Some details of the trip:

-39 choristers and friends made the pilgrimage to Truro Cathedral, a "Modern" Cathedral, built in the 1880's, where the first service of Lessons and Carols happened in 1880 (a tradition we continue to this day)

-Our choristers experienced Evensong sung by the choirs of St. Paul's London, Exeter Cathedral, and the resident Truro Cathedral Choir

-In London we visited the Hampton Court Palace, Westminster Abbey, London Eye, Houses of Parliament, Westminster Hall, Cabinet War Rooms, 10 Downing Street, Banqueting House, Buckingham Palace, Tower of London

-We also toured Stonehenge, St. Mawes, Pendennis Castle, Falmouth, National Maritime Museum, Trelissick Gardens, Eden Project, and got to know the city of Truro

Future plans for touring include Choral Evensong at Chautauqua in June of 2019, Shadyside Presbyterian and East Liberty Presbyterian, Pittsburgh, in May of 2020, the Presbyterian Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, Montreal, in 2021, and Ely Cathedral, England, in 2022.

It is clear that our choirs touched the lives of those for whom we sang. An American choir singing liturgies in this venue recalls the British adage: "it's like bringing coals to Newcastle" or "selling ice to Eskimos", as we in the States might put it. But it is clear from the many positive responses received - from clergy, congregants, and, no less, from choral scholars working in the English choral tradition itself - that we pleasantly surprised and truly impressed the natives into an authentic admiration of your work. In the field of what we do, both musically and spiritually, there simply is no higher compliment possible.

May God give us faith to sing always, Alleluia!





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 hugwalker1@gmail.com

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.