

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

APRIL 14

PALM SUNDAY

8:15 AM: Worship with Communion

9:15 AM Palm Cross Workshop and Continental Breakfast

10:30 AM: Worship with members from First Shiloh Baptist Church

11:45 AM: Brunch

4 PM: Choral Evensong

The Westminster Choirs sing

Benjamin Britten's

Rejoice in the Lamb

APRIL 18

MAUNDY THURSDAY

6 PM: Worship

APRIL 19

GOOD FRIDAY

Noon - 1 PM: Improvisations on the Stations of the Cross

Garrett F. Martin, organ

8:02 PM: Tenebrae,

A Service of Shadows

APRIL 21

EASTER SUNDAY

8:15 AM: Worship with Communion

10:15 AM: Concert Prelude by

The Buffalo Brass

10:30 AM: Festival Worship with Brass, Choirs, and Organ

11:45 AM: Easter Brunch



Holy Week

Celebrating New Life



Dear Friends,

I don't know about you, but I've been waiting to shout "Hallelujah" during this season of Lent, when we refrain from that shout of praise in order to be still and listen for the presence of God in our lives. But now that the days are longer and the sunshine is encouraging buds to appear, I'm feeling very ready after a long winter to celebrate new life. April is just the month to do so. We

will, to be sure, continue to observe Lent and open our eyes and ears and hearts for the presence of God--especially in unexpected places in our daily routine. Yet, starting on Easter Sunday, April 21, we will shout "Hallelujah" again.

Perhaps you find yourself distressed by news from across the nation and world, or maybe you are discouraged by some personal turn of events—a twist in the path of your career or concerning diagnosis or fracture in a relationship. It is precisely at such times that God's people do, indeed, sing "Hallelujah." We are able to praise God despite the darkness in the world or in our personal lives because of the trust and hope we have that creation is not ultimately subject to the whims and fantasies of fickle men and women, but is safely in the hands of the Sovereign of Life. Even though the evidence of today may point to a dark outcome in some arena of life, we trust that history and we will ultimately fulfill the intentions of the Creator. This is exactly what the empty tomb three days after Jesus' crucifixion is all about.

I encourage you not to miss the opportunity to rediscover the power of Holy Week and Easter this April. Make sure to mark your calendar for the special services that week. We will be honored to have one of Buffalo's finest preachers, The Rev. Jonathan Staples (Pastor of First Shiloh Baptist Church) in our pulpit on April 14, Palm/Passion Sunday. Jonathan will inaugurate Holy Week and prepare us to make the journey to the upper room for the Last Supper and foot washing, then to Calvary and the cross on Friday, and at last to Easter morning and the resurrection.

One week later, on Sunday, April 28, we will hold the annual meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church and Society. This too will be an opportunity for us to shout "Hallelujah" and give thanks to God for the many blessings we enjoy in our life as a congregation and Westminster Early Childhood Programs. There is so much to be thankful for—multifaith ministry, East Side partnerships, glorious and inspired music, this marvelous campus (which is a spiritual oasis in the city of Buffalo), and more. There is also with these blessings the challenge and opportunity to sacrifice deeply enough as did our ancestors to sustain the great soul and ministry of this congregation.

Lenten blessings,

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty. Pastor

APRIL PREACHING SCHEDULE

April 14

Rev. Jonathan Staples, First Shiloh Baptist Church; Matthew 21:1-11

The Rationale for Palm Sunday

April 18- MAUNDY THURSDAY

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Listening in Holy Week:

The Basin and The Towel

April 19- GOOD FRIDAY

Matthew 27:46

Listening in Holy Week: Forsaken

April 21- EASTER

Luke 24:1-12

Listening in Easter: Message of the Angels

April 28- ANNUAL MEETING

John 20:19-31

Listening in Easter: Resurrected Jesus

MEET OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, KATHY WILDE

I am very excited to join the Westminster family. As a lifelong Buffalonian, I am very aware Westminster is a vibrant and well respected member of our community. I look forward to collaborating with the staff and members of WPC toward continued success.

My most recent position was Cathedral Accountant at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral. I offer years of experience in accounting, business, and education.

My family and I live in Amherst. My partner Paul works a full-time job and has a business recycling scrap metal. My 3 children are Corey (24), Walter Scott (22), and Paula (14). Corey and Walter just graduated from Buffalo State College. Walter is moving on to his Masters Degree in math next fall. Paula is a freshman at Sweet Home HS. We are a family of foodies. All of my children are very active and musical. While I enjoy music, my favorite past times are painting, meditation, and gardening. We also have a family camp that we visit in the better weather.

LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICES EACH SUNDAY

Can't make it to Worship on Sunday or to a special event/concert? If you're traveling or if weather is preventing you from attending, you can connect to Westminster and not miss out. Simply visit our website: www.wpcbuffalo.org and click on the link to LiveStream on our homepage. You will also be able to click a link to the Sunday bulletin so you can follow along with the service.

Westminster Prepares Summer Activities to Mirror Dr. Yorty's Renewal Grant

In preparation for Dr. Yorty's four-month absence from Buffalo pursuing a generous Clergy Renewal Grant from the Eli Lilly Foundation, a number of church members and groups are engaged in planning activities that will parallel his chosen theme of the spiritual renewal found by poets and artists in the natural world.

The Lilly program makes our congregation stronger, not only by giving the pastor a period of renewal and reflection completely disengaged from congregational life, but also by giving us the opportunity to experience our own renewal as we engage in activities drawing us closer to nature through poetry and the arts.

For months a small Lilly Task Force has invited suggestions from members of how our own "sabbatical" might reflect the theme of Dr. Yorty's visit to places in nature that inspired poets and made his own heart sing in praising God. Watch for notice of special events such as outdoor worship, programs on conserving our environment, creative arts activities, and weekly readings from nature poets as part of Sunday worship,

From the time he departs the second week of June to his return October 5, 2019, to celebrate World Communion Sunday jointly with First Presbyterian Church, the terms of the grant require Tom to fully engage in his program,

totally disengaged from the congregation. Although this is his 21st year as our Senior Pastor, Westminster has not previously provided him with such an opportunity for sabbatical renewal, nor have any of our clergy applied for such a grant before.

All are invited to share ideas for our congregational renewal by contacting Task Force members:

Cameron Airhart, Marcia Buhl, Cornelia Dopkins, Bill Gray, Allan Hayes, Jane Morris, Roberta Nickelsen, and Reed Taylor.

Submitted by Reed Taylor



Improvisations on the Stations of the Cross

Friday, April 19
Noon-1 PM

Garrett Martin, Organist and Music Director improvises on the Stations of the Cross, alternating with readings by Paul Claudel.

Music and the Arts - 2019 **WESTMINSTER** *Presents*

Palm Sunday Evensong

April 14, 4 PM

The Westminster Choirs present Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb* to begin Holy Week.

Wednesdays @ Westminster

April 17 at 12 PM

Local singers perform Saturday, 29 AD, a meditation on the Crucifixion from Pilate's point of view.

Maundy Thursday

April 18, 6 PM

The Westminster Schola leads this service marking the night of the Last Supper.

Improvisations on the Stations of the Cross

April 19, 2 PM

Garrett Martin improvises on each station, alternating with readings by Paul Claudel.

Tenebrae, Service of Shadows

April 19, 8:02 PM

The Westminster Choirs lead this service at sundown on the day of Christ's Crucifixion.

Festival Service of the Resurrection

April 21, 10:30 AM

The Westminster Choirs and Buffalo Brass celebrate the Resurrection on Easter morning.

4th Annual Friends of Music Gala at the Saturn Club

May 3, 7:30 PM

Join us for music, food, friends, and fun—all while supporting Westminster's vibrant music ministry.

Westminster Handbell Choir

May 5, 4 PM

Under the direction of Steve Mayo, the group will present favorites from the handbell canon.

Wednesdays @ Westminster

May 15, 12 PM

Westminster friend, Reid Heffner reads a selection of original short stories to celebrate the arrival of spring.

Westminster Choir Concert

May 17, 7:30 PM

The choir will present contemporary, classical, and choral anthems.

Harmonia sings "A British Choral Tapestry"

May 19, 4 PM

The Harmonia Chamber Choir perform a mix of favorite and lesser-known anthems inspired by the Anglican tradition.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION

CASE LIBRARY CONVERSATIONS

Sundays, 9AM in the Case Library.

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

**Case Library will not be meeting on the following dates:
April 7, April 14-Palm Sunday, and April 21-Easter Sunday**

April 28

The Power of Words in Times of Hurt

Presenter: The Reverend Geri Lyon

We have all been in situations where we just don't know what to say. When faced with others' pain, we cringe and feel "less than" adequate to respond. How do we show people we care without resorting to empty clichés? Taking a lesson from the biblical story of Job's foolish friends, how do we avoid blaming people who suffer for their own situations? How do we resist putting suffering in a neat, tidy box, which can be easily understood? Together we'll explore authentic ways of compassionate presence and healing words.

The Rev. Geri Lyon is delighted to be back at WPC. Honorably retired, she is a frequent preacher and teacher at local churches. Geri's passion for social justice and pastoral care have informed her ministry. Prior to retirement, Geri served as the Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo and the Director of Pastoral Care at AIDS Family Services. She is a former member of the Board of Directors at Jericho Road and NFJC and a certified Pastoral Care Specialist.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

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

**Spiritual Life will not be meeting on the following dates:
April 14-Palm Sunday and April 21-Easter Sunday**

Spiritual Life creates opportunities for Westminster members and friends to explore and reflect together upon the interior life of faith. Discoveries and questions come from topics such as deep listening, gratitude, compassion, grace, and grieving. Poetry and art are frequently woven into a presentation. We are always interactive and supportive, looking for ways to apply important spiritual concepts to our daily lives. As a Christian congregation, we are also open to learning about other faith traditions and practices that nurture, sustain, and challenge the "inward journey."

April 7

When a Companion Animal Dies

Presenter: Jen Callaghan

In this presentation, Jen will begin by introducing the basic concepts of Disenfranchised Grief and Companion Animals. Understanding how these realities shape our experience of loss is critical to giving and receiving permission to mourn. When we find ourselves in contact with persons who do not affirm our life experience, it can lead to another concept: Complicated Grief.

Jen will offer framework and suggestions for coping with the death of a companion animal. This will include preparing

for the inevitable death yourself and with others; considering euthanasia; multiple ideas for managing the stages of life without your companion; and if or when to consider adopting another animal.

Throughout this time together, we will consider the spirituality of animals in the Kingdom of God. Why are animals here? What can we learn from them? What responsibilities do we have for them? The presentation will include time for sharing participants' experiences and questions.

Jen Callaghan, LCSW-R, ACSW; is a retired Clinical Social Worker with 45 years of experience working with children and families in Chicago; London, England, and Buffalo. After approximately 20 years of treating families recovering from child sexual abuse, she decided it was time to change focus and she accepted a position at the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care. Jen was a supervising therapist at the former Life Transition Center of Hospice and specialized in helping all ages cope with sudden death through illness, accidents, and suicide. Having loved animals since childhood, it was a natural step for Jen to recognize that we grieve for all who have shared our journey in life...often most especially, "Companion Animals."

April 28

The Poetry of Spring

This is the last Spiritual Life program for 2018-2019. Everyone is invited to bring in a poem, passage, or favorite saying to offer the group. We did this last year, and it tied together what we had been experiencing all year. Someone will read his or her offering and the group will respond. One of the favorites last year was handwritten and one sentence. The participant has carried it in her wallet for decades. We ask her to read it again from time to time! This is open ended, so come participate, listen, and reflect.



THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson, assisted by Dr. Yorty and Debbie Katz, is leading a year-long Year of the Bible class, providing participants the opportunity to read through the entire Bible, cover to cover, over the course of the year. Two classes are offered each week: Sunday mornings, 9:15-10:15 AM, and Monday evenings, 7:15-8:15 PM; both classes meet in Parish Hall. It's not too late to get started, so come join the group of more than 50 who have already begun! 15 minutes of reading each day is all it takes. By the end of the year, you will have read through the entire Bible! More important, you will grow spiritually in countless ways as you deepen your understanding of God's Written Word. Visit wpcbuffalo.org for the weekly schedule.

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.

MAKING PALM LEAF CROSSES

On Palm Sunday, April 14, the Sunday School invites you to join in make crosses from palm leaves at 9:15AM in the Oak and Holmes Room. A simple continental breakfast will be served with muffins, coffee cakes, and beverages. We have invited the congregation of First Shiloh Baptist Church to join as Rev. Jonathan Staples will preach that morning. After the 10:30AM service, there will be a catered buffet brunch. Plan to join us to make palm leaf crosses; worship with two congregations and fellowship with brunch.

PASSAGES

A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Join us on Tuesday, April 2 when we'll view the documentary on Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Lunch begins at 12:30 PM in the Oak Room, and our program begins at 1:30 PM in the Case Library. Sign up at the Information table in the Gallery Room, or call Jamie, 884-9437.

WOW LUNCHTIME BIBLE STUDY

The Women of Westminster invite you to a Lunchtime Bible Study, on 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 as your schedule permits.

EASTER SURPRISES

- Sunday School Update -
Debbie Katz, Christian Educator

Each year, we tell the story of Easter, beginning with Palm Sunday. Parades are fun and exciting, and our children can easily relate to the parade when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Each gospel tells this story. We begin worship each Palm Sunday with *Hosannas*. Hosanna was the word the crowds used to welcome Jesus. We sing the hymn, but do we know what the word means? Hosanna comes from Psalm 118:25-26 where the crowds welcomed the king to the Temple. Hosanna literally means "Save us now," and they recognized the coming king was the only one who could save them. The crowds welcomed Judas Maccabaeus when he returned victorious from battle to Jerusalem one hundred years before Jesus entered Jerusalem. Unfortunately, the crowd that met Jesus remembered Judas Maccabaeus and thought the Romans were their "big problem." Jesus had other ideas.

The Easter story continues at our Maundy Thursday service on April 18. Consider coming to this service as a family. On Maundy Thursday, we remember the story of Jesus' last supper with his disciples.

For families with older children, consider attending the Tenebrae service on Good Friday, April 19, where the story continues with Jesus' arrest, and crucifixion. This is a solemn worship service that ends with a darkened Sanctuary, and a slammed door to remind us of the sealed tomb. Jesus did come as a king who rode on a borrowed donkey. Unlike a warrior king, Jesus didn't fight the Romans; rather he was willing to die for his people. Children might ask why the people who welcomed Jesus with a palm parade on Sunday would want to kill him on Friday. A young child in my Sunday school class years ago told me, "Because Jesus told them they had to share and they didn't want to."

Our Easter story that began with a palm parade ends with an empty tomb. The message for both adults and children is that God's power beats all the bad powers of the world. A message we all need to hear. On Friday night when Jesus is taken down from the cross and buried in a sealed cave guarded by soldiers, all the Roman and religious leaders thought they had won. They had killed Jesus. On Sunday morning at the empty tomb, God proved them wrong. God said, "Surprise, Jesus is alive." When the women discovered the empty tomb in Mark 15:42-47, they were so surprised they told no one what happened. In Luke 23:50-56 and John 19:38-42 the women ran to get Peter and John. Only in Matthew 27:51-61 did the women leave the tomb in fear and great joy to tell the disciples.

Surprise is a key Easter word. For the women at the tomb and the disciples, they were certainly surprised. They needed time to appreciate the wonder of the empty tomb. Most of our Easter symbols which we interpreted as symbols of new life make more sense to children as surprises. Surprise, inside a brown egg is a baby chick. Or surprise inside a gray cocoon is a butterfly. Or one of the better surprises is the chocolates or jelly beans found inside our plastic Easter eggs and Easter baskets.

As we celebrate this Easter, we tell our children, and we ourselves need to hear this story, that begins with a parade - ends with an empty tomb-with all of its surprises along the way. As we listen, remember, and celebrate, we realize that nothing can separate us from God's love.

DIVERSE OFFERINGS KEEP PASSAGES PROGRAM ALIVE

Submitted by Marcia Buhl

When the Passages program was conceived almost a decade ago by Debbie Katz, Westminster's Director of Christian Education, and the Rev. Trevor Watt, then volunteer Pastoral Care Associate, they could not have imagined just how enduring and popular the monthly gathering would remain.

The most recent event in March drew 30 participants who enjoyed the leisurely fellowship of a shared meal, and sat mesmerized as Barbara Nelson, elder at Westminster, presented an informative and entertaining address entitled *My Hawaii* in the Case Library. Barbara's chronology of her 47 years living and working on the island of Oahu was illustrated with a vivid powerpoint and accompanying narrative which included stories of her years at the Punahou School in Honolulu, teaching none other than Barack Hussein Obama! Special gifts to all participants were colorful bags filled with macadamia nuts, as well as beautiful purple and white dendrobium orchid leis, both especially imported from Hawaii for the occasion. While not every presentation has tales of brushes with fame or unexpected favors from the presenter, it is fair to say that since its inception the series has offered an array of stimulating, educational or entertaining programs. Since Gail Sheehy's 1976 landmark publication, *Passages: Predictable Crises of Adult Life*, there has been a growing appreciation for the unique life stages/phases for adults. Westminster's Passages program, held the first Tuesday of the month (October-May) and beginning with a healthy catered lunch (\$5 donation) at 12:30, followed by a 1:15 presentation, was an attempt to address some of the unique transitions for older adults. The social and emotional benefits from the series are often as enticing as the programs, historically designed to address the mind, body, and spirit. Enthusiastic discussions may occur over lunch or as a result of the day's topic. The church's current Pastoral Care Associate, The Rev. Beth Hennessy, is regularly present at these gatherings and has an opportunity to visit with the participants. While most participants are members of the church and regularly attend worship, we are pleased that others are simply devoted to the Passages program and enjoy the lunch, fellowship, and presentations. Additional attendees, who are transported to the program through the County's Senior Services van, have come from Baptist Manor, a not-for-profit retirement community. If success can be measured in collaboration amongst public/not-for-profit/faith-based partnerships, then surely Passages is a model program!

A committee of 3-4 church members, working with Debbie Katz, are brainstorming ideas for the 2019-20 program year. Keeping with past tradition, it is anticipated that there will be a mix of educational, health related, and just plain entertaining topics. Suggestions for topics are always welcomed. So, if you, or someone you know, has a theme or interest that you would like to share with the group, please contact Debbie Katz (before she retires in June).

Whether the presentation is like that of the Buffalo Taoist Tai Chi Society, whose teachers guided us through some initial Tai Chi movements, or the screening of a deeply moving movie about two boys switched at birth, "The Other Son", or Barbara Nelson's fascinating life in Hawaii, Passages' diverse offerings continue to provide stimulating options that stretch us in new and different ways. While the macadamia nuts and Hawaiian leis may be ephemeral, the spirit of those gifts, knowledge gained, and connections made remain indelible.

Anyone who is over 50 and enjoys learning about new and different topics is invited to join other curious men and women the first Tuesday of the month. A sign-up sheet is in the Gallery Room. Lunch: 12:30 PM in the Oak Room. Program: 1:15 PM in the Case Library.

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

Kathryn Wilde, Director of Finance, ext. 305

Lenore Neiler, Graphic Designer, ext 302

Mark Aquino, Youth Coordinator, ext. 310

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 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021
Laurel Braun	Cameron Airhart	Melissa Balbach
Bill Gray	Leslie Deich	Zandy Barrett
Jack Jacobs	M.Frances Holmes	Mary Callaghan
Ellen Kennedy	Barbara Nelson	Jane Hamilton
Chris LaMendola	Rebecca	Lucinda Hohn
Peter McNally	Montague	Kathleen Kelly
Ellie Seib	Roger Seifert	Brendan Mehaffy
	Joe Speth	Bobby Neal
	Elizabeth Stewart	Mimi Steadman

Deacons

Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021
Shea Akers	Ellen Bean	Wisdom Afealete
Kate Dierenfield	Kate Dierenfield	Drew Dees
Teddie Granville	Carol Greetham	Stephen Johnson
Callan Izatt	Tom Greetham	Xaixin Li
Janet Kifner-Arnatt	Jane Morris	John Mahoney
Florence Kilambo	Roberta Nickelsen	JohnPatrick Marr
Kalumbu		Candace Marr
Donald Kitangano		Beatriz Nazario
		Joan Rice
		Roy Stewart
		Ron Sutz

A P R I L

Monday, April 1

4:30 PM Membership Comm. Mtg.
6:00 PM APNC Mtg.
7:15 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, April 2

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
11:30 AM WEDI Mtg.
12:30 PM Passages Lunch
1:15 PM Passages Program
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:00 PM Spiritual Life Mtg.
6:00 PM Zen Dharma
6:00 PM Lenten Dinner and Program
7:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, April 3

9:30 AM Worship Planning
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:00 PM Lilly Grant Mtg.
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
6:00 PM Case Library Comm.
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, April 4

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP
8:00 AM WEDI Board Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 5

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP
8:00 AM WECP Art Show
9:00 AM Art Show setup
5:30 PM Centering Prayer

Sunday, April 7

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Confirmation Class Meets Session
9:15 AM Year of the Bible
9:15 AM Spiritual Life
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM First Sunday Youth Service/Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship - Lent V Confirmation Sunday
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

Monday, April 8

4:30 PM Membership Comm.
7:15 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, April 9

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:00 PM Worship, Music & Arts
5:00 PM WECP Art Show
7:00 PM Knitting Group
7:00 PM WECP Parent Board Mtg.

Wednesday, April 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
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, April 11

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:00 PM Lilly Grant Mtg.
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 12

12:00 PM Art Show Take Down
5:30 PM Centering Prayer

Saturday, April 13

9:30 AM TOY Theater

Sunday, April 14-Palm Sunday

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Palm Sunday Breakfast

9:15 AM Year of the Bible

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship

10:40 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

12:00 PM Dream Group 3

4:00 PM Choral Evensong

Monday, April 15

7:15 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, April 16

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.
3:00 PM Buildings & Grounds
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:00 PM Church Life Comm.
5:30 PM Budget/Finance Mtg.
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, April 17

9:30 AM Worship Planning
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:00 PM Wednesdays @ WPC
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Maundy Thursday-April 18

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service
6:00 PM Handbells
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal with Brass

Good Friday-April 19

6:00 AM Good Friday
12:00 PM Improvisations on the Stations of the Cross
5:30 PM Centering Prayer
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
8:02 PM Tenebrae, A Service of Shadows

Saturday, April 20

9:30 AM TOY Theater

Easter Sunday- April 21

6:00 AM Easter Sunday
8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/ Communion
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM Worship
11:30 AM Easter Reception

Monday, April 22

12:30 PM TOY Theater Workshop
5:00 PM CMH Board Mtg.

Tuesday, April 23

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
12:30 PM TOY Theater Workshop
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:15 PM Invested Funds

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, April 24

9:30 AM Worship Planning
12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
12:30 PM TOY Theater Workshop
1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
6:00 PM Capital Campaign Event
8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, April 25

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
12:15 PM WOW Bible Study
12:30 PM TOY Theater Workshop
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 26

12:30 PM TOY Theater Workshop
5:30 PM Centering Prayer

Saturday, April 27

8:00 AM BGMC
9:30 AM TOY Theater
4:00 PM Meet Up at Nietzsche's

Sunday, April 28

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:15 AM Year of the Bible
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM Dialogue Diner
10:30 AM Worship
10:40 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Annual Mtg.
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
3:00 PM BSM Fundraiser

Monday, April 29

7:15 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, April 30

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
9:00 AM Women's Business Center Mtg.
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

IF YOU ARE RECOVERING FROM AN ILLNESS OR SURGERY or if you are a caregiver with an ill family member, or have had a new baby, Westminster can provide a simple meal for those in need. Contact Jamie Adamczyk jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org or 884-9437, ext. 326.

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.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

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

POWER OF GENEROSITY

GROUNDED IN FAITH

GIVING 2019

GROWING TO SERVE

Pledges received as of 03/28/2019

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
253	\$560,362	\$54,638



A message from the Giving 2019 Co-Chair, Melissa Balbach

As we work to wrap up our campaign for Generosity 2019 - *Grounded in Faith, Growing to Serve*, I wanted to share with you some highlights from this campaign, as well as to talk about some of the changing demographics we are facing. The most exciting news is that 54% of all pledges this year have shown an increase in their pledge. That is just terrific! We have also received pledges from 13 new families. Thank you so much! The flip side of this good news is that several of our past years' contributors have either moved out of the area or - more sadly - passed away. To this end, we need to both expand the breadth of our giving base and to ask people to consider increasing their pledge wherever possible. Our daily operations are sustained by the annual campaign. These operating funds allow us to offer the sustaining spiritual guidance that brings so many of us here, as well as to boldly reach out into the broader community, grounding us personally so that we can grow and reach out to serve.

If you have not yet pledged, I would strongly encourage you to do so. Our annual campaign really requires the support of the entire congregation in order to be successful. Perhaps you have already given and may consider an increase to your pledge as we make every effort to reach our goal, we would be very grateful! Pledging is critical and easy. Just contact me, Melissa Balbach at 361- 1983, mbalbach@LSSproducts.com or Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315, sbecker@buffalo.org. Your pledge will help us to continue the vital ministries and mission we pursue every day, both inside the walls of our lovely home, and out in the larger community. We thank you so much for your support.

PLANNED GIVING/THE 1854 LEGACY CIRCLE

INQUIRER CLASS AT WESTMINSTER



"A legacy speaks not about how we died but how we lived. It speaks about the things that move us in life, the things that matter to us. A legacy is an expression of gratitude and thanks to God for all that has been given and enjoyed in life." What will your legacy say about you? 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. 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. Please stop by the information table in the Gallery Room to pick up information about the 1854 Legacy Circle of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Or contact Sawrie Becker, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315 Email: sbecker@buffalo.org or Tom Yorty, Pastor at 884-9437, ext. 313, Email: tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org

We welcome you to join our community of faith on Sunday, May 5.

Westminster is a church that is active in our community and welcomes all God's people. Anyone who would like to learn more about our community and the many ministries we support is invited to attend an Inquirer Class held in the Case Library immediately following our 10:30 AM worship service.

During the class, our Pastor, 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, contact Sawrie Becker at 884-9437, ext. 315 or Tom Yorty at 830-8596, tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org anytime about membership at Westminster.



MeetUP!

April 27

Irish Traditional Music

Anyone who has not attended a traditional music session owes it to themselves to listen to musicians playing together for the the fun of it. It's not the Clancy Brothers (no offense meant to their fans) - it's music that has been kept alive for centuries through the oral/aural tradition. It's just as alive today as ever - come hear for yourself!

- Who -

The Buffalo Celtic Session Musicians
(including David Weeks)

- What -

Irish (and other Celtic) Traditional Music - primarily instrumental music played on a variety of instruments (including fiddle, tin whistle, wooden flute, tenor banjo, mandolin, concertina and, sometimes, accordion and uilleann pipes), with the occasional song.

-Where -

Nietzsche's Bar 248 Allen Street, Buffalo

-When -

Saturday, April 27, from 4:00 until about 7:00

- Cost -

Free Admission; pints of Guinness specially priced for \$4.00; wine selection is very limited; coffee is available.

Contact Carol Greetham at
carolgreetham@gmail.com for more information.

WOW BOOK DISCUSSION

WOW will discuss *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn on May 6 in the Case Library. Please join us. All women are welcome!

KNITTING GROUP

The next dates are Tuesdays, April 9, May 14, and May 28. Our 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. Contact Fran Holmes at mfranholmes@verizon.net for more information and dates, Beginners are always welcome!

VEGAN & VEGETARIAN CULINARY DELIGHTS AWAIT YOU!

A new supper group is up and running for vegans and vegetarians at Westminster. They meet in the home of a group member every month or two and share a meal. If you are interested, get in touch with Mindy Airhart. mindy.airhart@gmail.com 716.866.4370. Questions are welcomed!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Westminster is a vibrant faith community because of the time and commitment our members dedicate. We are thankful for our volunteers, and encourage everyone to consider participating in our church life by volunteering your time and talent. *If you are interested in the opportunities below, contact Sawrie Becker, 884-9437, ext. 315, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org*

Fill the Pew Cards: 1 - 2 hours a month. Replenish the visitor information cards, prayer request and offering envelopes in the pews.

Meet & Mingle Coordinator: 1 - 2 hours a month. Reach out to members to schedule hosts/shoppers/donors for the Meet & Mingle weekly fellowship hour.

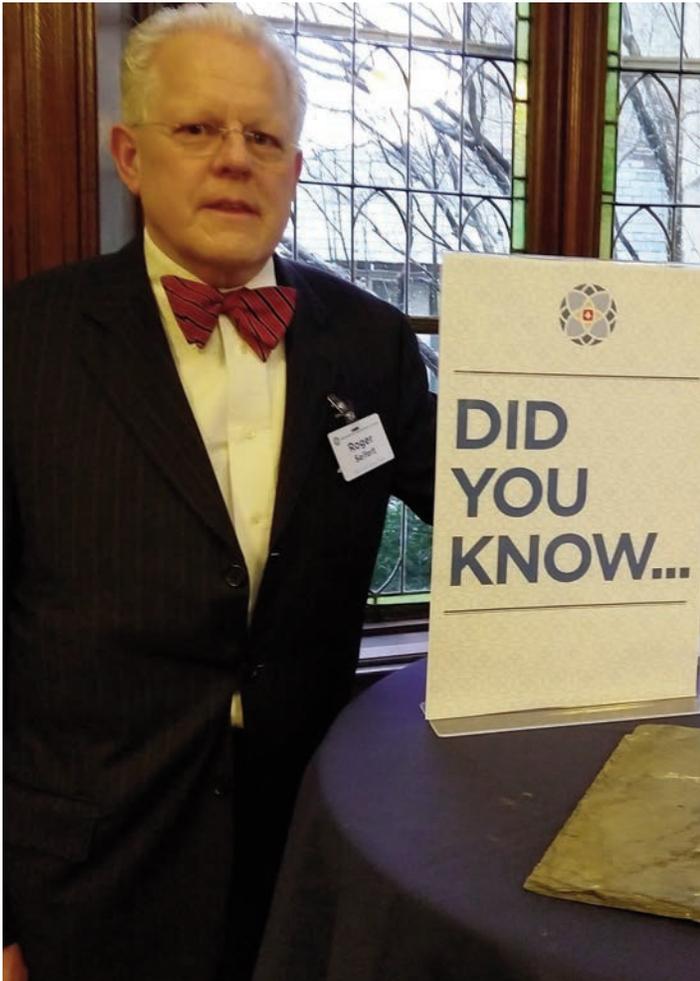
Laundry Angel: 1-2 hours a month. Assist with tablecloth maintenance around events by taking home laundry and return to church.

WECP Coffee & Donuts: 2 hours a month. Greet WECP Parents with coffee, a donut, and a smile on the second Thursday or Friday of each month at the school.

Livestream Broadcasting-Can You Help? We are looking for several people to be trained to operate the Livestream cameras that broadcast our Sunday Morning and special worship services. Some basic technical ability is needed. This new way of sharing our worship here at Westminster has generated significant online interest and viewership. *If you would like to help out or learn more, please contact Tom Yorty or Matt Marco.*

These projects have been identified by Session, and the Capital Campaign Committee as a priority to be included in the soon to be formally launched, Preserve the Pinnacle Capital Campaign.

DID YOU KNOW...



...That it took over twenty years from 1931 to 1952 for the ten magnificent WPC stained glass windows in the Sanctuary to be installed? Even with systematic care and cleanings, over the course of time, these extraordinary treasures are showing signs of stress due to the settling of the Church foundation. Artisans with specialized skills will be needed to perform the conservation work so as to protect and secure these treasures for future generations of WPC congregants.

...It was 116 years ago in 1903, that the church slate roof was replaced? Our roof and adjoining surfaces are in need of immediate repairs, and sadly, in some instances, replacement. Also needing immediate attention is our historic church spire which houses our bell. Inspection has found that slate on the spire requires re-pointing and other attention. One only need look up at the Sanctuary ceiling to see how rain and snow have penetrated the worn areas of the slate roof resulting in some portions of the plaster ceiling now requiring interior restoration work. Nothing can be restored on the interior until we have secured our roof.

...That local mission support and outreach will be a key emphasis of our Preserve The Pinnacle Capital Campaign? The Session has approved several mission projects, one in collaboration with the Bailey Green Community Restoration Project. A full 10% of all Capital Campaign gifts and pledges will be designated to support mission, and outreach projects. Our WPC members, all with many diverse talent and skills will have many opportunities to volunteer, and get involved in helping to build stronger and safer neighborhoods right here in our City of Buffalo.

...That the Narthex was originally the most used entrance of our church? The three Narthex windows over the doors facing Delaware Avenue beautifully portray the Missions of Westminster that have been our signature ministry for more than 150 years. These windows feature: **Community Outreach:** The Six Acts of Mercy from the Gospel of Matthew are represented: "For I was Hungry and you gave me food, ... I was sick and you visited me". **Welcome Visitors:** "Come unto me, ... and I will give you rest". **Spiritual Development:** "The Sermon on the Mount"

...The Holmes Chapel, Aeolian-Skinner Organ was installed in 1952, and is used weekly throughout the year for services, choir rehearsals and extensive practicing. The instrument is in need of re-leathering, cleaning of the more than 1,450 pipes (made of various metals and woods), rewiring, and other overdue upkeep, repairs, and maintenance to sustain its use, cherished sound, and value.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who have hosted and/or sponsored our "Meet & Mingle" fellowship opportunity immediately following the 10:30 AM worship service. The success of this valuable fellowship time depends on the generosity (and creativity) of our members. Please continue to support this effort by volunteering to sponsor and/or host an upcoming Meet & Mingle in April, May or June. Sign up in the Gallery Room or please contact Sawrie Becker at sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org



Happy Spring! from ENERGY



In March, ENERGY welcomed two new staff members to the ENERGY Team. I would like to introduce Ms Kylie Keshav as WEDI's new Volunteer Manager. As a former researcher, Kylie offers logical and effective solutions to Volunteer Management.

ENERGY Program Assistant. Megan left us in February in order to concentrate on her full-time job of working with kindergarteners. While we were sad to see her go, I feel very lucky to announce that Eleni Shehata, (former ENERGY Assistant from last year) has completed her Master's Degree in English Education and has re-joined us. What a blessing!

I feel very lucky to have such support from WEDI staff, and members of this congregation, and the larger Westminster Presbyterian Community. Thank you for your donations, whether you give monetarily, books to help restock our library, or your time as an ENERGY volunteer, we couldn't continue to run this program without your support. So thank you!

If you are interested in volunteering or supporting our program in other ways please reach out to Kylie, the Volunteer Manager at kkeshav@wedibuffalo.org. She will get you set up.

In gratitude,

Alyssa Wojciechowski
ENERGY Program Director





WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
724 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209



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 14TH!**

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:

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.