



# WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

## FEBRUARY MEETUP

Women of Westminster  
(WOW) invite you to a

## 50'S SOCK HOP

February 15  
6-9:00 PM in Parish Hall  
Sign Up in the  
Gallery Room



- Live Music by the Joe Donohue Trio
- Potluck Dinner: Bring a 50's dish to share
- \$10 per family
- Childcare will be provided

After a potluck dinner of 50's favorites, a professional dancer will teach us all a few 50's dance steps, then we'll swing to live music by the Joe Donohue Trio.

- Prizes will be given for the best 50's outfit, as well as additional door prizes.

- Cost: \$10/family at the door and benefits the Youth Maine Mission Trip.

- Childcare will be provided by the WPC Youth Group in the Energy room.

- All ages are welcome

- Have a favorite 50's song, memory, or story to share? Does anyone remember Buffalo's famous 50's DJ, *The Hound* and his infamous *Hound Howl*? Email the memory to Mary Jane Hayes at [mjmhayes@verizon.net](mailto:mjmhayes@verizon.net)

**FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND FUN!!**

## THE PRACTICE OF FAITH: LIVING A LITTLE BIT MORE LIKE JESUS



Dear Friends,

Just recently, I overheard our guest organist, Patrick Scott (Organist and Assistant Choirmaster at the Episcopal Cathedral in Atlanta) talking with Garrett Martin about how important it was for each of them as organists and musicians to grow up in the Southern Baptist church. They both said that hymns and singing hymns in worship were of paramount importance to the service and had a sense of importance

because the hymns had a sense of immediate relevance to the day-to-day practice of faith.

They also said that they were given the opportunity to learn and play the organ at an early age and were encouraged to explore and use the instrument to its fullest without worrying about making mistakes. Many young organists today, they both observed, who lack the kind of early instruction Patrick and Garrett received approach the instrument with fear. The organ is complicated—it requires all four appendages to play, and in worship services like ours, it commands the center of attention. It is understandable that musicians would bring a certain fear or anxiety to the instrument, given its complexity and the expectations for its use. But Patrick and Garrett said the value of their learning at an early age with heavy doses of encouragement gave them a sense of playfulness when playing the organ.

It seems to me that this is a metaphor for the practice of faith, the Christian life, and the Bible, with all of its rules, admonitions, and high expectations, can seem overwhelming to put into practice. But my guess is that Jesus simply wanted people to follow him in the way that he treated others, prayed to God, and lived out his Jewish faith.

An old friend once made the distinction between “churchianity” and “Christianity.” Churchianity is the formalized, stiff, inauthentic following the rules of religion. Christianity is the attempt each day to live a little bit more like Jesus in what we say and do. Christianity practiced in this way can actually be playful, creative, and fun. That kind of faith is particularly important at this stage of our national and global life.

See you in church,

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor

## FEBRUARY PREACHING SCHEDULE

### February 3

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
“The Purpose of Preaching”  
Jeremiah 1:4-10  
Luke 4:21-30

### February 10

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
“The Priesthood of All Believers”  
Isaiah 6:1-8  
Luke 5:1-11

### February 17

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
“Jesus’ Sermon on the Blessings and Woes of Life”  
Jeremiah 17:5-10  
Luke 6:17-26

### February 24

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty  
“Game-changing Commitment”  
Genesis 45:3-11, 15  
Luke 6:27-38

## 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.

## LIVE STREAM 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](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org) and click on the link to LiveStream on our homepage. It's that easy! You will also be able to click a link to the Sunday bulletin so you can follow along with the service.

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

**Wednesdays @ Westminster**

February 20, 2019, 12 PM

In recognition of Black History Month, hear popular and unfamiliar spirituals.

**Taizé Service**

February 24, 2019, 4 PM

Singers and instrumentalists guide worshippers in this meditative service of song and prayer.

**Ash Wednesday**

March 6, 2019, 6 PM

The Westminster Schola leads this service marking the beginning of the solemn season of Lent.

**Wednesdays @ Westminster**

March 20, 2019, 12 PM

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, join us for this lively program featuring Celtic music and art.

**Compline**

March 24, 2019, 4 PM

The Westminster Schola leads this candlelit service of renaissance music and sung scripture.

**WNY Chamber Orchestra:**

**Mozart's Trinity Mass**

March 29, 2019, 7:30 PM

WNYCO and the Westminster Choirs join forces to perform this Mozart masterpiece.

**Palm Sunday Evensong**

April 14, 2019, 4 PM

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

**Wednesdays @ Westminster**

April 17, 2019 at 12 PM

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

**Maundy Thursday**

April 18, 2019, 6 PM

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

**Improvisations on the Stations of the Cross**

April 19, 2019 at 12 PM

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

**Tenebrae, Service of Shadows**

April 19, 2019, 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, 2019, 10:30 AM

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

**4th Annual Friends of Music Gala at the Saturn Club**

May 3, 2019, 7:30 PM

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

**Westminster Handbell Choir**

May 5, 2019, 4 PM

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

**Wednesdays @ Westminster**

May 15, 2019, 12 PM

Westminster member Reid Hefner reads a selection of original short stories to celebrate the arrival of spring.

**Westminster Choir Concert**

May 17, 2019, 7:30 PM

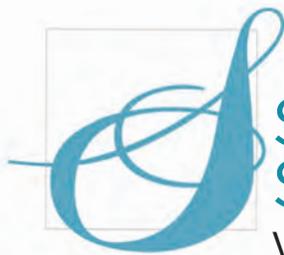
The choir will present contemporary, classical, and choral anthems.

**Harmonia sings**

**"A British Choral Tapestry"**

May 19, 2019, 4 PM

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



**STAFF** February 8, 7:30 PM  
**SINGER CONCERT**

Westminster's talented staff singers perform opera, Broadway, jazz, and more.

# 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.

To gain a better understanding of the city's East Side, the February Case Library Conversations will focus on the rich history, growing diversity, and new vitality in this area of Buffalo.

### February 3

*Job Training on the East Side: Northland Workforce Training Center*

The Northland Workforce Training Center focuses on closing the skills gap of the local labor pool, and creates economic on-ramps to training, co-ops, internships, apprenticeships, and permanent employment for Western New Yorkers seeking high-paying, advanced manufacturing and energy careers. Duncan Kirkwood, Manager, Outreach and Recruiting will present.

### February 10

*Transformation of a Neighborhood*

Zakaria Mosque Imam Mohammed Iqbal will offer information about the Zakaria Mosque which combats crime and blight with a school located on three campuses; a community center and numerous stores. Their work attracts people to the East Side from all over North America and abroad.

### February 17

*The Historic Michigan Corridor: Past, Present and Future*

Former Common Council President and Treasurer of the Michigan Street Preservation Corporation, George K. Arthur will share his many years of experience working to preserve the Michigan street corridor, while highlighting new projects and discussing plans for the future.

### February 24

*Groundwork Market Garden*

The Groundwork Market Garden, is a unique, urban farm on Genesee Street. Urban farmers, Anders Gunnensen and Mayda Pozantides will talk about how they serve their community by producing high-quality fruits and vegetables which they sell to farmer's markets, grocers, and our local restaurants.

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

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

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."

### February 3: *My Story*

Presenter: Laythanette Shine

*My Story* is an opportunity for us to get to know someone on a deeper level than we would in everyday conversation. Join Spiritual Life for the third *My Story* of the year with First Shiloh Baptist Church's Laythanette Shine. When Westminster's Healing Circles participants joined First Shiloh last year, we moved outside our normal sense of space and time and into a sacred and shared space, resulting in new friendships.

Ms. Laythanette Shine is a devoted member of First Shiloh Baptist Church. She met and became close to several Westminster parishioners at Healing Circles last year. She was born and educated in Buffalo, where she married and started a family. She and her husband relocated to St. Louis for 1.5 years before she returned to Buffalo as a single mother. For 15 years she worked as secretary of Greater Refuge Temple Church, and then was called by God to move to Long Island, where she pursued her ministry and grew closer to Jehovah Shammah, Jehovah Jireh, El Shaddi, and Elohim while working for the Long Island Railroad.

Several years later, Ms. Shine and her two children returned to Buffalo, where the children completed their high school and college education, and Laythanette continued her ministry at Greater Refuge Temple. Three years ago, she was called to serve God at First Shiloh. Ms. Shine enjoys serving God and others with her whole heart. Living her best life is her greatest pursuit and love is her earnest desire.

### February 10 and 17: *Reflections*

Spiritual life programs always bring up ideas and insights, but often we do not understand their impact until days, weeks, or months later. For these two weeks, participants will share how they have digested, and applied lessons and takeaways from our topics. This will be an open-ended format that fosters reflection and assimilation of ideas.

### February 24 and March 3: *Flourish: A New Understanding of Happiness and Well-Being*

Presenter: Allan Hayes

Martin Seligman begins Flourish with, "This book will help you flourish." Flourish builds on Dr. Seligman's game-changing work on optimism, motivation, and character to show how to get the most out of life, unveiling an electrifying new theory of what makes a good life—for individuals, for communities, and for nations.

Allan is about to reach his 30th anniversary with Jeanie, which they will celebrate with their two kids Matt (29) and Ellie (26). Perhaps one of the early gifts he received was being a tutor in high school at the St Augustine's Center, where every Monday night he established stable relationships that he later recognized were more significant to the grade schoolers than the subjects because of the turbulence in their homes. His career was split between the first half in advertising—highlighted by a short stint as Microsoft's Director of Advertising—followed by 19 years in a 5th-grade classroom.



## THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

### *New Adult Education Course*

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](http://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.

## WOW LUNCHTIME BIBLE STUDY

The Women of Westminster cordially invite 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 as your schedule permits.

## ORDINARY TIME

- Sunday School Update -  
Debbie Katz, Christian Educator

This February, we have reached the point in our church calendar where we're smack in the middle of Ordinary Time. The Christmas festivities are behind us, while Ash Wednesday and the forty days of Lent won't begin until March 6th.

In comparison to Christmas and Easter, Ordinary Time may feel a little flat. To name a church season "ordinary" might seem that it means this time is common or mundane. This season is called "ordinary" because the weeks are numbered. The Latin word, *ordinalis*, refers to numbers in a series and stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word order. Ordinary Time is, in fact, the ordered life of the Church; the period in which we live our lives neither feasting - as in Christmas and Easter, or fasting as in Lent.

In Ordinary Time, we can focus on living in a more "ordered" way. A group of more than fifty Westminster members have committed to daily Bible readings. They began on January 1st and by December 31, 2019, they will have read the entire Bible. Their days are ordered by their 15-20 minutes of Bible reading; they're discovering new stories and rereading more familiar stories.

Ordinary Time is a season where we live out the promises made at our baptisms, and to put into practice the lessons we learn each Sunday. By the middle of February, our youth and their adult advisors will travel to Philadelphia for an urban mission trip. They will set aside the ordered days of their lives to work on mission projects and explore a new city.

I believe the parents of our children live out the promises made at their children's baptisms each day, and especially on Sundays. As parents attend Sunday worship, and as their children join their Sunday School and confirmation classes, parents are demonstrating the importance of how to be faithful. As our children participate in worship by praying, singing, and passing the peace, they become part of the life of our faith community.

### *On a personal note...*

I want to thank everyone who kept me in their prayers, and sent get well cards during my medical leave in December. I'm happy to report my surgery was successful. Even better, my doctor assured me I won't need any further treatment. The weeks I waited for that report were difficult and during that time I was comforted by your support. For that, and for all your prayers, I am truly grateful.

## PASSAGES

### A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Join us February 5th for an armchair tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin House. Our tour guides will be Marcia Buhl and Dennis Stewart. Lunch begins at 12:30PM in the Oak Room, and our tour begins at 1:30PM in the Case Library. Sign up at the Information table in the Gallery Room, or call Jamie at 884-9437.

# ENERGY is Back in Full Swing!



*ENERGY UPDATE from Alyssa Wojciechowski,  
ENERGY Program Coordinator*

Our first week back was spent listening to a book series on kindness. Thank you to all the volunteers who read the books aloud to our ENERGY students.

Coming up in February we have a visit from two authors of the book *Buffalo A-Z* to present to our students on Thursday, February 7th. We will get a chance to learn all about Buffalo Landmarks!

Last month, we got to play on the front lawn of the church grounds. The students really enjoyed the chance to run around and burn off some of their pent up energy!

Thank you for giving this program a home. Please come down any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday to observe the work that goes on here.

As always, if you are interested in getting involved, in any way, please reach out to Alyssa Wojciechowski, ENERGY Program Coordinator 572-1728 or email at [awojciechowski@wedibuffalo.org](mailto:awojciechowski@wedibuffalo.org)



# FEBRUARY

## Saturday, February 2

12:00 PM TOY Theater

## Sunday, February 3

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:15 AM Worship/Communion

9:00 AM Case Library Series

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:00 AM Confirmation Class

9:15 AM Spiritual Life

9:15 AM Year of the Bible

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM First Sunday Youth  
Service/Sunday  
School

10:30 AM Worship

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

11:30 AM Youth Committee Mtg.

1:00 PM Buffalo Opera

Unlimited Rehearsal

## Monday, February 4

4:30 PM Membership Commi.  
Mtg.

7:15 PM Year of the Bible

## Tuesday, February 5

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

12:30 PM Passages Lunch

1:15 PM Passages Program

3:45 PM Capital Campaign  
Cabinet

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM Spiritual Life Mtg.

5:45 PM WECP Teaching Staff  
Mtg.

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

## Wednesday, February 6

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 Case Library Planning  
Comm.

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

8:00 PM AA Mtg.

## Thursday, February 7

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, February 8

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

5:00 PM Reserved SSC

5:30 PM Centering Prayer

6:30 PM WEDI Winterfest @  
Rich's Atrium

7:30 PM Staff Singer Concert

## Saturday, February 9

9:30 AM TOY Theater

10:00 AM Valentine Fun

## Sunday, February 10

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:15 AM Worship/Communion

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:00 AM Case Library Series

9:00 AM Confirmation Class

9:15 AM Spiritual Life

9:15 AM Year of the Bible

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship

10:40 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

11:30 AM Racial Justice Mtg.

12:00 PM Dream Group 3

12:30 PM Josh Lauriteg Recital

6:00 PM Buffalo Opera

Unlimited Rehearsal

## Monday, February 11

7:15 PM Year of the Bible

## Tuesday, February 12

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

11:00 AM Colgate Rochester

Divinity School

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM Worship, Music & Arts

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

7:00 PM WECP Parent Board  
Mtg.

## Wednesday, February 13

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, February 14

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, February 15

5:30 PM Centering Prayer

6:00 PM 1950's Dinner/  
Sock Hop

## Saturday, February 16

9:00 AM TOY Theater

## Sunday, February 17

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:15 AM Worship/Communion

9:00 AM Case Library Series

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:15 AM Spiritual Life

9:15 AM Year of the Bible

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship

10:40 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

## Monday, February 18

7:00 AM WECP & WPC Closed

7:15 PM Year of the Bible

## Tuesday, February 19

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

7:30 AM UPK Closed

8:00 AM Ministry of Generosity

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

12:30 PM TOY Theater

Workshop

3:00 PM Buildings & Grounds

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

## Wednesday, February 20

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/Black History Month

12:30 PM TOY Theatre

Workshop

1:30 PM Staff Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:30 PM Pathways To Peace

8:00 PM AA Mtg.

## Thursday, February 21

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

7:30 AM Budget & Finance  
Mtg.

12:15 PM WOW Bible Study

12:30 PM TOY Theatre

Workshop

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

5:00 PM Church Life Comm.

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, February 22

12:30 PM TOY Theatre

Workshop

5:00 PM Fat Bob's Staff

Happy Hour

5:30 PM Centering Prayer

6:00 PM Joan Rice Wedding  
Rehearsal

## Saturday, February 23

9:00 AM TOY Theater

5:00 PM Joan Rice Wedding

## Sunday, February 24

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care

8:15 AM Worship/Communion

9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:00 AM Case Library Series

9:15 AM Spiritual Life

9:15 AM Year of the Bible

9:30 AM Dialogue Diner

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship

10:40 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

2:30 PM Taize rehearsal

4:00 PM Taize

## Monday, February 25

7:30 AM UPK All Day

Conferences

4:30 PM Membership

Committee Mtg.

7:15 PM Year of the Bible

## Tuesday, February 26

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

9:00 AM Management Mtg.

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

6:00 PM Zen Dharma

## Wednesday, February 27

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.

8:00 PM AA Mtg.

## Thursday, February 28

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

4:30 PM ENERGY Program

6:00 PM Handbells

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal



*The Downton  
Abbey Tea  
fellowship event  
is moving to a  
Sunday in May.  
More details  
will be in our  
newsletters and  
Sunday bulletins.  
Stay tuned!*

# POWER OF GENEROSITY



Pledges received as of 02/01/2019

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
217	\$503, 349	<b>\$111,651</b>

**Our goal this year is \$615,000. We are confident that we will reach our goal this year because of the extreme generosity of the members of Westminster, and a collective desire to serve our congregation and those around us. To help ensure that we meet our goal, please consider increasing your own pledge for 2019 by either increasing your weekly offering by a few dollars, or making an overall 5% increase. Please know that whatever you contribute is greatly appreciated. For your convenience, you may make a pledge or a pledge payment on our secure site at [www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org/giving).**

*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](mailto:sbecker@buffalo.org)*

## PLANNED GIVING/THE 1854 LEGACY CIRCLE



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, Director of Development, at 884-9437, ext. 315 Email: [sbecker@buffalo.org](mailto:sbecker@buffalo.org) or Tom Yorty, Pastor at 884-9437, ext. 313, Email: [tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org).

## INQUIRER CLASS AT WESTMINSTER

**We welcome you to join our community of faith on Sunday, March 31.** 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, 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.*

## 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. Below are some opportunities you may be interested in:

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

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

**Thank you for your consideration!!**

## WOW BOOK DISCUSSION

This year, WOW will discuss these 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:  
 March 4: *The Women's Hour* by Elaine Weiss  
 May 6: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

## KNITTING GROUP

**Tuesday, February 12 at 7:00 PM**

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 hand-made items for members of the church. Contact Fran Holmes at mfranholmes@verizon.net for more information and dates, Beginners are always welcome!

## MEET & MINGLE NEEDS YOU!

Thank you to all who have hosted and/or sponsored our "Meet & Mingle" fellowship opportunity immediately following the 10:30 a.m. 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 upcoming Meeting & Mingle gatherings in, February, March and April.*** Sign up in the Gallery Room or please contact Sawrie Becker at sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org



Foyer Dinner Groups are bringing new friendships into our congregation! Three groups of folks have been meeting regularly for a few months now, with lots of good food and drink shared by all. We've heard reports that hilarity has broken out repeatedly.

The groups are meeting every four to six weeks in the homes of members. Each person brings food to share, with the host usually picking the menu and providing the main course. It's low-key and casual and an opportunity to expand our friendship-horizons! (To say nothing of the delicacies we've tasted!) Sign up sheets are in the Gallery Room. Start making new friends at Westminster in 2019! Get in touch with Mindy Airhart with questions (716.866.4370 or mindy.airhart@gmail.com).

## CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Thanks to the generosity of those who attended our two Christmas Eve Services this year, a total of \$5,575. was raised. This heartwarming offering will be divided between the following two non-profit organizations serving the formerly incarcerated and school children in our community. Together we are building upon our City of Good Neighbors, a welcoming community with opportunity for all.



**Peaceprints of WNY (PPWNY)** offers a wide array of services to the formerly incarcerated and the greater community. These services include: Residential Housing; Support Groups; the Empower Youth Program; the Hope Campus offering college classes; and a food pantry. PPWNY prides itself in creating clean, safe and affordable housing options for returning citizens and their loved ones. As part of our housing program portfolio, PPWNY operates permanent supported housing units for returning citizens. Annually, PPWNY's Bissonette House Transitional Residence Program welcomes approximately 150 men returning from state correctional facilities, providing them with the tools necessary to assimilate back into society as successful and law abiding members of our community.



**MISSION: IGNITE Powered by Computers for Children** was established in 1997 and is the first non-profit agency in New York State whose core mission is to address the digital and technology divide in schools. Its programs and leadership have received national recognition for bringing technology to underserved communities and to the classroom. More than 30,000 computers have been installed in area schools and the community that have limited resources and access to technology, and that also have student populations that are primarily made up of low-income populations. Because of Mission Ignite's innovative approach, it serves as an advisor on education and technology to the United States Congress and the Governor's Broadband Access & Adoption Task Force for New York State.

## MEET LESLIE DEICH, WESTMINSTER ELDER



Tom recently inquired as to how I came to Westminster and I shared the simple story of a young fellow that I met over at the Lafayette Presbyterian Church who after listening to what I was seeking told me about WPC's mission work with WEDI and suggested I come see for myself. That is how I walked through the door but I stayed for the congregation. Some who know me may be surprised to hear that I am rather shy with new people, so please know it wasn't easy for me to introduce myself. For the first few months I only attended the early service as there were fewer people. I would peek into the main Sanctuary but leave before the service. Then a Sunday came where we did a joint service at First Presbyterian and during the sharing of the peace I had a friendly tap on the shoulder and was met with Bob Bojdak's broad smile. I know Bob from M&T and it was comforting to see a familiar face. I eventually made my way to the 10:30 AM service, and it was Roger Seifert who stepped right up at Meet & Mingle to introduce himself, and then introduced me to many other congregants. He was patient, and did this for me many times over the coming weeks. I could go on and on with each of the many friends who reached out to get to know me but it easier to say that after my first WOW Retreat - I simply felt like a member of the WPC family.

I should back up and share that I came to Buffalo in April of 2016 for a position with M&T. As my partner of 25 years, Denise Adorante, is still teaching at The Spence School in Manhattan, I am mostly here alone as we bounce back and forth between our residences. We were both raised in the Bronx just five miles apart. I hail from City Island and Denise from the neighborhood known as the little Italy of the Bronx - Arthur Avenue.

Both of our fathers were huge fans of the NY Yankees and loved to play ball. We don't know for certain, but it is hard to believe they didn't play against each other in their youth.

*Continued on next page...*

## MEET LESLIE DEICH *Continued...*

Being new to Buffalo I was in search of a church family with a strong focus on mission and my young friend from Lafayette Presbyterian directed me to the right home. It is easy to talk about how I met folks but it was stepping up and getting engaged in activities that allowed me to feel like I was becoming part of the community. And there were so many ways for me to do this. Lenten dinners, celebrations in the parish hall, the Foyer diner groups, meet ups, the Bison's baseball game, WOW Book Club, Case Library... and then being invited to be on Session. Those early days where I wondered how I would ever get to know so many new friends - seem very distant now.

I came looking for mission. I've been inspired and enlightened by Tom's sermons. I've been uplifted by Garret's transcending music. But it is the congregation - the church family that I found that has helped me build a new home here at Westminster. I wanted to share this so that you know how much you mean to me and how quickly you made me feel at home. I feel very blessed to be a part of this family.

## CHURCH LIFE/MISSION

**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.

**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 at [jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org](mailto:jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org) or 884-9437, ext. 326.

**CHECK OUT THE WEST SIDE BAZAAR**, 25 Grant Street, for lunch and shopping. Sunday/Monday: Closed. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM. Friday: 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Saturday: 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM.

### ORDER 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](mailto:hugwalker1@gmail.com) **Two dates in 2019 (before Lent) are open: February 17 and March 3**

## WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 AM-5:00 PM  
Office: 884-9437 • Office Fax: 884-3450  
WECP: 884-9438 • WECP Fax: 886-7641  
[www.wpcbuffalo.org](http://www.wpcbuffalo.org)

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

### Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, 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. 311

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

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

#### Class of 2020

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

#### Class of 2021

Melissa Balbach  
Zandy Barrett  
Mary Callaghan  
Jane Hamilton  
Lucinda Hohn  
Kathleen Kelly  
Brendan Mehaffy  
Bobby Neal  
Mimi Steadman

### Deacons

#### Class of 2019

Shea Akers  
Kate Dierenfield  
Teddie Granville  
Callan Izatt  
Janet Kifner-Arnatt  
Florence Kilambo  
Kalumbu  
Donald Kitangano

#### Class of 2020

Ellen Bean  
Kate Dierenfield  
Carol Greetham  
Tom Greetham  
Jane Morris  
Roberta Nickelsen

#### Class of 2021

Wisdom Afealete  
Drew Dees  
Stephen Johnson  
Xaixin Li  
John Mahoney  
JohnPatrick Marr  
Candace Marr  
Beatriz Nazario  
Joan Rice  
Roy Stewart  
Ron Sutz



## WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

724 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14209



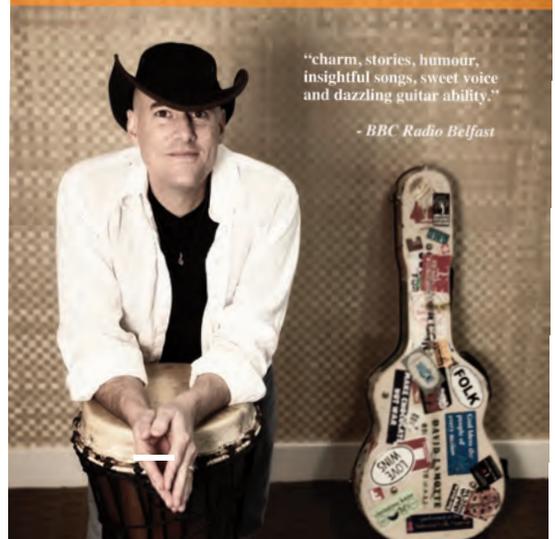
## Winterfest 2019

**February 8, 2019 at 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM**  
**Rich's Atrium**  
**One Robert Rich Way, Buffalo, NY 14213**

Join us in celebrating the accomplishments of WEDI and learn about the impact of community projects like the West Side Bazaar, a small business incubator, and our After-School and Microloan programs. Learn about WEDI's plans for the future, including the Bazaar expansion, and meet like-minded community improvement supporters who are willing to dedicate time, energy, and funding to see our community truly become a better place for all. Enjoy authentic ethnic cuisine directly from the West Side Bazaar, live auctions, silent auctions, and live music.

For tickets: <https://wf2019.brownpapertickets.com>

## David LaMotte



### David LaMotte in Concert

Friday, February 22, 2019 ~ 7:30 PM

Orchard Park Presbyterian Church  
4369 Buffalo St, Orchard Park, NY 14127

Tickets: \$12 in Advance/\$15 at the door  
For tickets, call Mary Ann 716-668-1995

*Sponsored by the Presbytery of Western NY*