

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

Welcome New Officers!



Left to Right: Bobbie Billings Neal Elder, Jane Hamilton Elder, Beatriz Nazario Deacon, Candace Marr Deacon, Mary Callaghan Elder, Zandy Barrett Elder, Lucinda Hohn Elder, Kathleen Kelly Elder, Joan Rice Deacon

We are thankful for their willingness to lead, and serve our congregation.

On behalf of all members of Westminster Presbyterian Church, the Nominating Committee welcomes its new officers! At a Congregational meeting held in November, the following Elders and Deacons were elected to serve: in 2019:

To be ordained to the Office of Deacon and installed as members of the Board of Deacons:

Wisdom Afealete, Peter Ahrens, Drew Dees, Stephen Johnson
Xaixin Li, John Mahoney, Candace Marr, Beatriz Nazario, Joan Rice

To be installed on the Board of Deacons:
John Patrick Marr, Ron Sutz, Roy Stewart

To be ordained to the Office of Elder and installed as members of the Session:

Zandy Barrett, Mary Callaghan, Jane Hamilton, Lucinda Hohn,
Kathleen Kelly, Brendan Mehaffy, Bobbie Billings Neal

To be installed on the Session:
Melissa Balbach, Mimi Steadman

During worship on Sunday, January 13, our new officers will be installed. Please join us and take a few moments to introduce yourself and congratulate them. We are very grateful for the time and talents they provide to the life and ministries of our church.

Meet Bob Bojdak



As Westminster's Clerk of Session, he is the lay leader of the congregation, and as secretary for the governing board of elders, responsible for Westminster's adherence to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and, with the pastor, for the management, oversight, and guidance of the board's committees and their work.

People often ask me why we live in Clarence, yet attend a downtown church. The short answer is, "We fell in love with Westminster." I am the Chief Credit Officer of M&T Bank, and an Executive Vice President on the bank's Executive Management Committee. My wife, Sarah (Williams) and I have been married for 18 years. We moved to Buffalo in 2004, and that fall, began visiting churches with our 20-month old daughter, Elizabeth. We were looking for a church with great preaching and great music. We also wanted to belong to a congregation that was involved in the community—that had a role in Buffalo, improving the lives of Western New Yorkers.

We found all of that at Westminster: the quality of Reverend Tom Yorty's preaching, the wonderful music, and the important concerns and work of this church... everything was and is extraordinary. And then Debbie Izatt—a friendly mom in the congregation, with her then 4-year son at her side, leaned over and asked if Elizabeth would like to be an angel in Westminster's upcoming Christmas Pageant. With delight, we accepted Debbie's invitation, joined Westminster soon thereafter, and quickly became involved in church activities.

Much has happened in the last 15 years. Sarah and I now have two daughters! Our Christina is in 7th grade, and Elizabeth is a sophomore in high school. They are

Continued on next page...

A NEW YEAR: A TIME OF RENEWED ENERGY AND COMMITMENT



Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! January is, after its patron god Janus, the month that looks backward and forward at the same time. We are at the midpoint, more or less, in the church program year (September to June).

We will ordain and install new elders and deacons on January 13. Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend is the following week and an opportunity for those who have participated or are interested in the

Healing Circles to sign up for an afternoon healing circle on January 20 (3:30-5) at Kleinhans Music Hall (Mary Seaton Room) including dinner provided by the Community Foundation and the annual MLK celebration. Let Matt Marco or me know if you are interested!

It's also the start to whatever resolutions you made for yourself for 2019. I have a few myself – get into the swimming pool more often at the JCC; add the lighting of a candle to my morning meditation and reading routine; and curb the deserts! I hope that whether you have resolutions for the New Year or not that you will find it a time of renewed energy and commitment for you personally and for us as a congregation.

When I was on a Presbyterian Church (USA) sponsored retreat in early December, the purpose of which was to be a Sabbath for the twenty of us clergy, a chance to reflect on what was important and to rededicate ourselves to our core values and principles, I realized that being committed to “my best” was my first priority. By that I mean committed to the image of God in me, the image in which I was created. Being committed to God's best for me is deeply liberating. It means I can let go of some of the things that get in the way or don't really contribute to 'my best.' It could also mean taking on some new and risky ventures, or exploring deep change. Some people say the goal of life is to just keep moving. I'd add to that “to keep moving with purpose.” Good fodder for January when we refocus after the holidays. Let me know how it's going for you! I'd love to know.

See you in worship,

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor

WESTMINSTER AND FIRST CHURCH BUSINESS ETHICS CONVERSATIONS

In February, The Rev Dr. Ken Hughes, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church and Dr. Yorty will lead a four-week discussion of ethics in the work place. They will use the first four chapters of a book written for such discussion. The goal is to meet in places where their church members work. The meetings will be one hour in length and include a simple meal at breakfast or at lunch time. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dr. Yorty (tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org) or Matt Marco (mmarco@wpcbuffalo.org).

JANUARY PREACHING SCHEDULE

January 6 - The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Saving Attraction
Matthew 2:1-12

January 13 - The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Ordination/Installation Sunday
Spirited Leadership
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20 - The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend
Revelation, Religion and Race
John 2:1-11

January 27 - The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
In This Very Room
Luke 4:14-21

MEET BOB BOJDAK

Continued...

smart, beautiful, talented young women who somehow find time for such things as Westminster Youth Mission Trips, and Christmas pageants—and causing this father's heart to melt with pride in pretty much everything they do. Needless to say, life is busy and hectic. Yet being at Westminster—whether on a Sunday morning—arriving early enough to hear the Choir practice while I sit and marvel at this incredible Sanctuary and the church built 160 years ago by just 40 faithful families...or on any day—in meetings of Session and other church committees, and when using my skill-set to help a friend or build community...being a part of Westminster is transformative.

Perhaps you can relate to why Westminster is so important to me. From my parents—my Dad served on a Destroyer Escort in the Pacific during World War Two, I learned to love God, and to value service. From the Jesuit Priests who were my professors at Georgetown University where I received my undergraduate degree, I learned that it was my responsibility, “to make the world a better place.” And here at Westminster, this is where “all I know and believe” serves a higher purpose. This church keeps me and my family centered and focused on what is most important: Love - Living Jesus' Great Commandment, and loving our neighbor.

I am grateful to be here with you—in worship, in conversation, in caring for Western New Yorkers, and each other, and of course, in guiding our children and watching over all the little angels and shepherds in annual Christmas Pageants. I welcome any questions you may have. And I invite you to join me in continuing Westminster's historic legacy: to leave the church, the community, and our country, a better place for all children and future generations.



FESTIVAL OF HYMNS

January 27, 4 PM

Guest Organist
Patrick Scott,
the Westminster
Choirs, and Brass
Quintet present
great hymns of
the faith.

WESTMINSTER *Presents*

Wednesdays @ Westminster, January 16, 2019 at 12 PM.
Local artist will recognize Holocaust Remembrance Month with music, poetry, and art.

Staff Singer Concert, February 8, 2019 at 7:30 PM.
Westminster's talented staff singers perform opera, Broadway, jazz, and more.

Wednesdays @ Westminster, February 20, 2019 at 12 PM.
In recognition of Black History Month, hear popular and unfamiliar spirituals.

Taizé | February 24, 2019 at 4 PM.
Singers and instrumentalists guide worshippers in this meditative service of song and prayer.



Gene O'Hara and Hillary Hunt, members of the Westminster Choir, and Garrett Martin, Westminster's Organist and Director of Music, pictured after singing the final Choral Evensong at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, for a week's residency after Christmas, as part of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) America National Choir.

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.

Travelogue Series

January 6

When you are tired of London, You are tired of life:

What a week in London can teach you about the world and your own hometown.

Presenter: Cameron Airhart

"Among the noble cities of the world that Fame celebrates, the City of London of the Kingdom of the English, is the one seat that pours out its fame more widely, sends to farther lands its wealth and trade, lifts its head higher than the rest. It is happy in the healthiness of its air, in the Christian religion, in the strength of its defenses, the nature of its site, the honor of its citizens, the modesty of its matrons; pleasant in sports; fruitful of noble men."

- William Fitzstephen, 1190

People have been singing London's praises since the 12th century, and the city has re-invented itself every century to stay on the cutting edge of culture. A well-spent week in London can teach you things about the whole world.

January 13

My Experience: A South African Trip

Presenter: Rachael Jordan Afealete

January 20

A Visit to Ecuador: The Jungles of the Amazon and the Galapagos Islands

Presenter: Fran Holmes

January 27

Cruising the Elbe: From Berlin to Prague

Presenter: Claude Welch

The Elbe River links many of eastern Germany's loveliest cities with glorious Prague. Explore the beauties of Berlin, Potsdam, Dresden and other towns, both from land and from an 80-passenger paddle wheeler. See contrasts between post-World War II reconstructed buildings and medieval batiments, all infused with cheers, Gemütlichkeit and pictures of all sides of life.

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."

January's programs focus on a new way to look at the tired topic of New Year's resolutions and what it means to be conscious. We begin the year with advice Warren Buffet gave his pilot about prioritizing a "bucket list." Our second program, Consciousness, is an integral component to recognizing what is most important to us. When we come from a place of being awake and aware of our surroundings, we are able to filter out the noise that can cloud our intention.

January 6 and 13

Applying Warren Buffet's process to come up with your own resolutions

Presenter: Allan Hayes.

We will take a new look at how to identify what is really important to us. In his book *When*, Daniel Pink shares some advice that billionaire investor Warren Buffet provided about regaining one's traction in life: "Legend has it that one day Buffet was talking with his private pilot, who was frustrated that he hadn't achieved all that he'd hoped." Buffet prescribed a three-step remedy, which our Spiritual Life group encourages you to try ahead of time; then we'll share.

- First, write down the top 25 goals for the rest of your life.
- Second, look at the list and circle your top five goals, those that are unquestionably your highest priority.
- Third, immediately start planning how to achieve those top five goals. And the other 20? Get rid of them.

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.

January 20 and 27

Consciousness

Presenter: Chris LaMendola.

Consciousness is one of those concepts we often see as mysterious. From science to religion to psychology, we humans grapple with what consciousness really is. Wikipedia defines it as "the state or quality of awareness or of being aware of an external object or something within oneself." But what is awareness? Chris LaMendola will guide our discussion.

Chris has been married to Debby for 31 years. They, along with son Nick and daughter Aurora, have been attending WPC for 27 years. Chris and Debby have taught the 3- to 5-year old class in Sunday school for most of that time. Chris participates in youth mission trips and other WPC activities. He is a member of Session, an electrical engineer by day, fancies himself as a hockey player even at his advanced age, and is a physics geek in his spare time.



THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

New Adult Education Course will begin January 6, 2019

The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson, who recently retired from his pastorate at First Presbyterian Church, Manassas, VA and relocated to Orchard Park, will lead a year-long weekly Sunday morning (9:15-10:15 AM) during the school year and (8:30-9:30 AM summer hours) class which will read and discuss the entire Bible. Dr. Ferguson has led this class several times in the congregations he has served. In fact, he uses a special Bible that selects the readings for each day (requiring about 15 minutes) that will be available to class participants. The class will be structured around brief presentations with questions for discussion, including visual and video aids. Dr. Yorty and Ms. Debbie Katz, as well as a small team of church members, will also teach some of the sessions. I hope you consider this exciting option for your continued spiritual growth and development. The class is open not only to members, but friends of Westminster. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Yorty or Debbie Katz.

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.

PASSAGES

A PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

Throughout our lives we experience periods of stability and times of transition. So it comes as no surprise the last stage of our life is also marked by various passages. Many older adults face a change of lifestyle and a redefinition in the light of changed circumstances. On the first Tuesday of each month there's a gathering for adults who have reached this time of their life. These programs focus on the topics that deal with the physical, spiritual and mental interests of older adults.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 8th at NOON for lunch, and 12:45 PM for the movie which is, *Greenfingers* starring Clive Owen and Helen Mirren. Sign up in the Gallery Room if you are planning to come for lunch.

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.

Happy New Year from all of us at ENERGY!

Our last week of ENERGY in 2018 was filled with fun! Storyteller Annemarie Jason made a visit to ENERGY and told a story about a star, before showing our students how to make their own "wish star." Each student wrote a wish on a small piece of paper before folding it into a star. An ENERGY student, Eh Naw, who was born in Thailand wrote: "I wish the flood wont come to my country." Keep these sweet children in your prayers.

Thank you to everyone who purchased an Angel Tree Gift. The students were filled with glee as they opened their present. A second grade boy exclaimed "I can't wait til our next party!" and proceeded to try on his new sweater. Your generosity is so appreciated. Thank you very much.

In December, I polled volunteers on their student's progress. Here is what some of them are saying:
"Shaw Mo has become more confident in her reading and understanding her math"
"Increased confidence with her writing and reading, also asking questions."
"He seems to be increasingly interested in completing book reports, reading, and improving his reading level."
"He always wants to try more challenging books"

In the new year, we have some exciting things planned, including making chocolate, and a field trip to the local library.

ENERGY is accepting warm winter socks in youth sizes, books about/featuring animals, and books written by Sarah L. Thomson. ENERGY Store donations are always appreciated!

If you would ever like to stop in for a visit, please do! ENERGY resumes Tuesday, January 8th. If you have any questions on how to get involved with our programming, please contact Program Coordinator Alyssa Wojciechowski at 572-1728.

Peace and blessings to you and yours.

Alyssa Wojciechowsk, ENERGY Program Director



JANUARY

Tuesday, January 1

7:00 AM WECP & WPC Closed

Wednesday, January 2

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

Thursday, January 3

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

Sunday, January 6

9:00 AM Case Library Series
9:00 AM Year of the Bible Class
9:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
10:00 AM Youth Service/
Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship
11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

Tuesday, January 8

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
8:30 AM Centering Prayer
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
12:00 PM Passages Lunch
12:45 PM Passages Movie
5:00 PM Worship, Music & Arts
6:00 PM Zen Dharma
7:00 PM WECP Parent Board
Meeting

Wednesday, January 9

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, January 10

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

Friday, January 11

7:30 AM Coffee @ WECP

Saturday, January 12

9:00 AM Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, January 13

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Case Library Series
9:15 AM Year of the 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
12:00 PM Dream Group 3

Monday, January 14

4:30 PM Membership Comm.
7:00 PM WOW Book
Discussion
7:15 PM Year of the Bible Class

Tuesday, January 15

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
8:30 AM Centering Prayer
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
3:00 PM Buildings & Grounds
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, January 16

9:00 AM W@W Reserved
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.

Thursday, January 17

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
7:30 AM Budget & Finance
12:15 PM WOW Bible Study
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Handbells
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, January 19

2:00 PM WPC Meet Up

Sunday, January 20

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Case Library Series
9:00 AM Confirmation Class
9:15 AM Year of the 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 Inquirer Class

Monday, January 21

8:30 AM WECP Closed/Staff
Attends
7:15 PM Year of the Bible Class

Tuesday, January 22

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
8:30 AM Centering Prayer
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
10:00 AM WECP Parents Week
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
5:15 PM Invested Funds
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, January 23

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, January 24

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

Friday, January 25

5:00 PM WOW Winter Retreat
6:30 PM Winter Choir Retreat

Saturday, January 26

9:00 AM Winter Choir Retreat
12:00 PM Hymn Fest rehearsal

Sunday, January 27

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
8:15 AM Worship/Communion
9:00 AM Spiritual Life
9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
9:00 AM Case Library Series
9:00 AM Confirmation Class
9:15 AM Year of the 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
2:30 PM Hymn rehearsal
4:00 PM Festival of Hymns

Monday, January 28

5:00 PM CMH Board Mtg.
7:15 PM Year of the Bible Class

Tuesday, January 29

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
8:30 AM Centering Prayer
9:00 AM Management Mtg.
10:00 AM WECP Parents Week
4:30 PM ENERGY Program
6:00 PM Zen Dharma

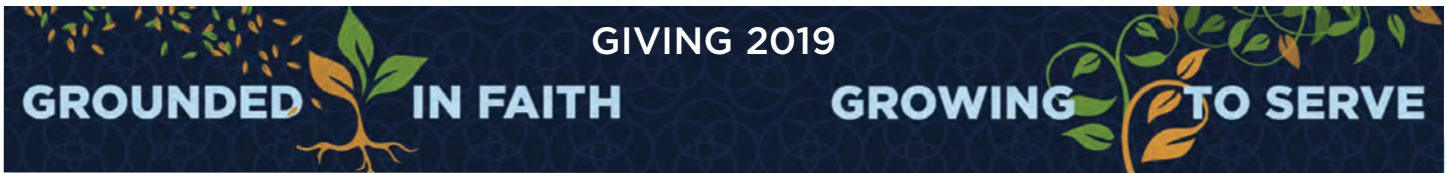
Wednesday, January 30

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, January 31

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

POWER OF GENEROSITY



Pledges received as of 01/04/2019

Number of Pledges Received	Total Pledges Received	Dollars to Goal
199	\$473,089	\$141,911

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. Pledge cards have been distributed. There is a basket on the table in the Holmes Room where you can place your completed pledge card. **For your convenience, you may make a pledge or a pledge payment on our secure site at 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

NEW YEAR-NEW OPPORTUNITIES

PLANNED GIVING/ THE 1854 LEGACY CIRCLE

INQUIRER CLASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20



It's a new year and a new opportunity to make a difference! One of the simplest things you can do to make a positive impact on the future is to make a will. Including a gift to the church in your Will can make a lasting difference in our church family and our community. 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 or Tom Yorty, Pastor at 884-9437, ext. 313, Email: tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org.

We welcome you to join our community of faith. 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 anytime about membership at Westminster.*

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:
 January 14: *Less* by Andrew Sean Greer.
 March 4: *The Women's Hour* by Elaine Weiss
 May 6: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn.

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. Contact Fran Holmes at mfranholmes@verizon.net for more information and dates, Beginners welcome!

MEET & MINGLE NEEDS YOU!

Our "Meet & Mingle" fellowship opportunity immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service is back again this year! Please continue to join in the Holmes Room to greet members and friends and welcome new faces as we nurture our church community. Sponsors, Shoppers & Hosts are needed for Meet & Mingle in January and February. For more information and to sign up to help, contact Sawrie Becker, 884-9437, ext. 315 or 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.

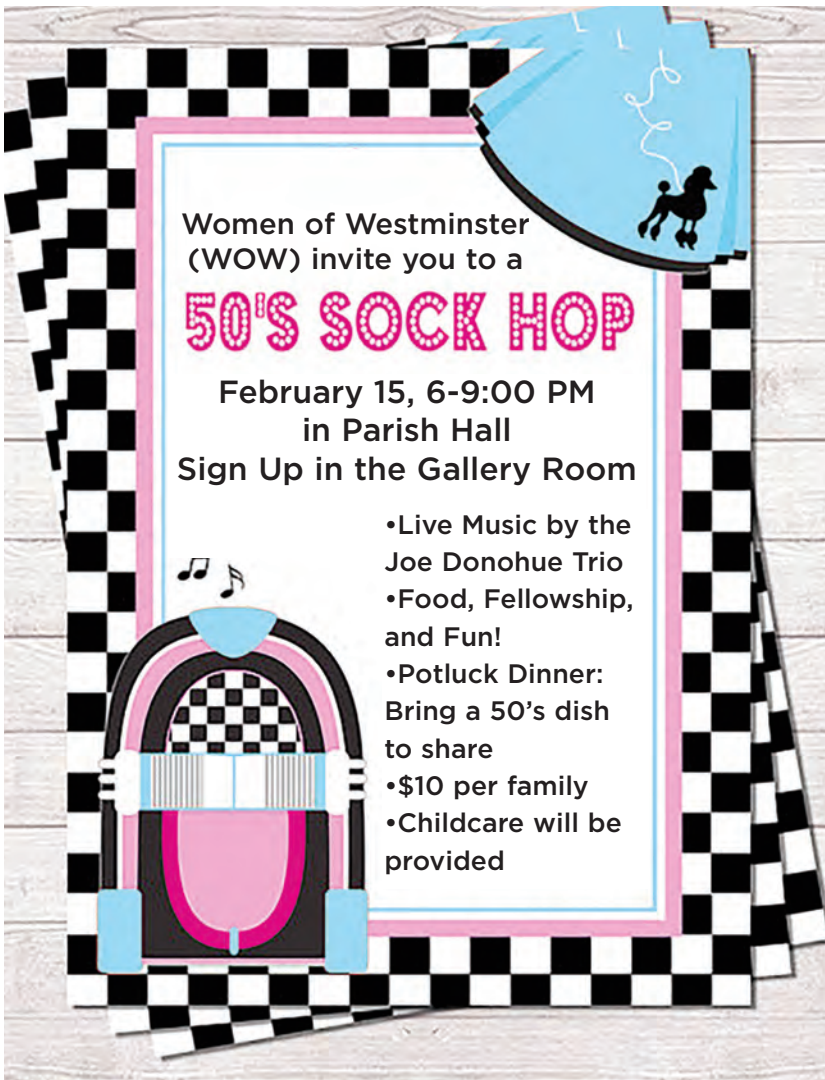
The groups are meeting every four to six weeks in the homes of members. Each person brings food to share, with the host usually picking the menu and providing the main course. It's low-key and casual and an opportunity to expand our friendship-horizons! (To say nothing of the delicacies we've tasted!)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

WEST SIDE BAZAAR

JANUARY MEETUP!

Have you been to the West Side Bazaar recently? With vendors from all over the world serving up delicious food and merchandise, there's always something new and interesting to discover. Our next MeetUp will be Saturday, January 19 at 2 PM. There will be a tour, shopping, food, and fellowship! In case of weather issues, our alternate date will be January 26. Contact Carol at carolgreetham@gmail.com. Friends are welcome!





Food, Fellowship, and Fun!

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 best 50's outfit, as well as other door prizes.
- \$10/family at the door benefits the Youth Maine Mission Trip. Childcare will be provided by our Westminster Youth Group in the Energy room. All ages are welcome
- Have a favorite 50's song, memory, or story to share? 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

Sign Up in the Gallery Room and let us know what dish you will bring to share!

WOW - WOMEN'S WINTER RETREAT

Friday, January 25 Sunday, January 27, 2019 at the Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, Bemus Point, NY

This is a favorite event for everyone who's ever attended! There's wonderful conversation, inspiring workshops, fresh air in beautiful surroundings, great food, spiritual renewal, and since everything's optional--rest if you need it! A brochure with complete information with the weekend schedule is on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. If you would like a brochure mailed to you, call Jamie at 884-9437.

Women's Winter Weekend 2019 Registration Form

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____

Address _____ Roommate _____

Emergency contact (Name) _____ Phone _____

I prefer a single room _____ at \$175. _____ a double room with two beds at \$130 per person

____ a double room with a trundle bed at \$130 per person

Special needs (vegetarian, gluten free, handicap, etc.) _____

Your reservation and room preference is confirmed with 50% deposit. Deadline is January 11th! Please mail check and this form to: Westminster, 724 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209 ATTN: Winter Retreat. Balance is due by **Friday, January 25, 2019**. If you need to change from a double to a single room, you will need to make up the difference by January 27, 2019.

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/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. Please contact Jamie Adamczyk at jadamczyk@wpcbuffalo.org or 884-9437, ext. 326.

WEST SIDE BAZAAR...

Check out The West Side Bazaar, 25 Grant Street, for lunch and shopping. Sunday and 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.

WEDI WINTERFEST GALA...

February 8, 2019. There will be live auctions, silent auctions, live music, and authentic ethnic cuisine directly from the West Side Bazaar! To purchase tickets: <https://wf2019.brownpapertickets.com>

ORDER SUNDAY FLOWERS...

To order flowers, sign up in the Sunday Flower Book in the Gallery Room or contact Sue Adams at 883-7597, hugwalker1@gmail.com

ANGEL TREE...

A huge thank you to those of you who helped by taking Angels and purchasing gifts for this year's Angel Tree, as well as those who so generously gave cash donations. Through your generosity we were able to brighten Christmas morning for hundreds of deserving people. Thank you to the wonderful helpers this season who gave generously of their time; who helped with sign out, and sign in of Angels, purchased gifts and came to sort and pack the gifts. ***A special thank you to Ardrey Manning, whose generosity of time and talent every year, makes this mission project happen.***

FOLLOW WPC ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/westminsterBflo

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. 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
John Heer
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 Hohr
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



***Being Present in the Moment* - Men's Retreat 2019**

Friday, February 1 - Saturday, February 2, 2019 at the Byrnclyff Resort, Varysburg, NY

This year's Men's Retreat promises to be a well-spent overnight, taking time for "Being Present in the Moment." Our lives are so easily distracted by our personal and professional responsibilities, as well as the never-ending news and social media, that we easily lose touch with the very resources—everyday occurrences, people, routine opportunities and challenges—that remind us that life is a gift and instill gratitude for all that we have. We will arrive around 5:00PM on Friday and leave mid-afternoon on Saturday, Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM with meal options available. The retreat will feature speakers - Tom Yorty, Dave Carstensen, John Montague, and Chris LaMendola, brief talks, activities and extended small and large group discussion as we explore the theme of being more intentional and mindful of our daily lives and relationships. Reservation forms are on the Information Table in the Gallery Room. **LIMITED ROOMS AVAILABLE! Deadline for reservations is Friday, January 18, 2019.**

MEN'S RETREAT 2019 REGISTRATION FORM - FOR ROOM AND MEALS

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone _____ Roommate _____

I prefer: single room ___ at \$190 ___ double room w/2 beds at \$135/person ___ I would appreciate riding with others

Special needs (vegetarian, handicap, etc) _____

Total cost including room, food, taxes and tip is about \$200 for a private/single room and about \$160 for a shared /double room. The church will offer financial help to those requesting it. Your reservation and room preference is confirmed with \$100 deposit Reservation Deadline is December 10. Please mail your check and this form to: Westminster, 724 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209 ATTN: Men's Retreat. **Balance is due by Friday, January 18, 2019.** Any questions contact: Allan Hayes, allanhaye@gmail.com