



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • BUFFALO

JOIN US FOR A POT-LUCK

CELEBRATION



On Sunday, June 2 following the 10:30 AM service, there will be a celebration of service held to thank Debbie Katz, Westminster's Director of Christian Education, and Mark Aquino, Youth Coordinator, for their years of dedication to our church members. It will also be a time to say good-bye to Tom Yorty and Carol Timmerman-Yorty as they embark on their sabbatical leave. There will be a pot-luck enhanced Meet & Mingle following service. Please sign up in the Gallery Room, or call Jamie, 884-9437, ext. 326 to let us know what dish you will bring to share! Turkey, ham, and rolls will be provided - salads, side dishes or desserts will be appreciated! Please plan to attend the 10:30 AM service, and then this celebratory event to show your appreciation to these WPC leaders.

CELEBRATIONS, SUMMER SOLSTICE, AND SABBATICALS



Dear Friends,

As I prepare to leave for a four month sabbatical, I want to reaffirm that our plans for this summer for Westminster that parallel my theme (On the Road With the Romantic Poets) for the sabbatical have generated some exciting opportunities. You will receive more information through the newsletter, e-news, website, and Sunday worship bulletin, but in summary there will be a weekly reading of poetry along with the scripture in worship, several opportunities to explore the outdoors through a celebration

of the summer solstice, plein air painting, a tour of the waterfront, and an eco-justice walking tour of the West Side. Most of these events will be organized in our Meet-Up fashion. I encourage you to join in and even invite your friends.

Our congregation will be in good hands with Garrett Martin serving as acting head of staff; The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson serving as acting moderator of the session and preaching twice a month; The Rev. Beth Hennessy expanding her hours as our Pastoral Care Minister (a ministry which Rev. Ferguson will also assist in as needed); Bob Bojdak, our clerk of session, meeting regularly with Garrett and Skip to keep a pulse on the life of our church family and address needs as they arise. There are many other people—the rest of our staff and members of Westminster—who have given their time, support, and encouragement to make this time away for Carol and me possible. I am deeply grateful not only for the permission to take four months of a sabbatical, but also for your enthusiasm to join me in exploring the wisdom of the romantic tradition. I look forward to gathering in the fall and next winter to consider together not just what we have learned and felt about immersing ourselves more deeply in the natural world, but what we as a congregation are called to do to address the ominous specter of climate change.

As many of you know, the Lilly National Clergy Renewal Grant terms require the Pastor to “disengage” from the congregation during his time away. I am, with the support of the session, observing that by temporarily distancing myself from email. I will have my mobile phone and Matt Marco will be reviewing communication addressed to me and will alert me, certainly, to any emergencies or matters of critical importance. It will be a strange experience to be not so dependent on my smartphone dozens of times through the day to organize my work and communicate with you, but I suspect that is exactly what the people at Lilly intend, and I must say, I'm looking forward to the rest from the technology.

All of this takes place while we welcome the Revs. Katelyn and Micah Nutter Dowling to our church family, say goodbye to Debbie Katz as she enters a well-deserved retirement, and celebrate her and Mark Aquino's ministry with us. I am particularly aware, given all of these opportunities and blessings, of how God continually creates and recreates us and equips us to be light and hope to the world.

Blessings of Pentecost,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor

PREACHING SCHEDULE

8:15 AM: Worship in the Holmes Chapel with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper,
10:30 AM: Worship in the Sanctuary

June 2

Congregational Meeting

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
The Community In and Beyond Time and Space; John 17:20-26
We will celebrate the ministries of Debbie Katz and Mark Aquino following worship

June 9

Day of Pentecost

Dr. Skip Ferguson, Guest Preacher
John 20:19-23

June 16

Trinity Sunday/Father's Day

Dr. Skip Ferguson, Guest Preacher
John 16:12-15

June 23

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Mark Aquino, Guest Preacher
The Cost of Healing to the Wider Community; Luke 8:26-39

June 30

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Cameron Airhart, Guest Preacher
Authentic Faith Follows When Called Upon; Luke 9:51-62
Festival Service for the Northeast Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists

ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

Worship This Summer!
July 7 through September 1
10:00 AM in the
Holmes Chapel

Join us this summer for an intimate Worship service. The doors of the Chapel will be open allowing a wonderful view of the Kratz Garden. What a great way to start a summer Sunday morning! (Fall hours resume on Welcome Back Sunday, September 8)



Summer Solstice Worship • June 21, 2019

Please join us at the Butler Mansion Gazebo for a brief Vespers Service prior to the Buffalo Bisons Baseball Game.

5-5:25 PM: Vespers Service at the Butler Mansion Gazebo

5:25-6:30 PM: Pot-luck/barbecue on WPC South Lawn

7:05 PM: Bisons game

WESTMINSTER *Presents*
Music and the Arts

QED Vocal Ensemble • June 16, 4 PM in the Sanctuary

Westminster's chamber choir in residence presents a program of all-French choral repertoire.

Worship with Brass • June 30, 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

The Westminster Choirs and Buffalo Brass welcome the 2019 American Guild of Organists Regional Convention to Buffalo.

Choral Evensong • June 30, 4:15 PM at Chautauqua Institute

The Westminster Choirs sing Evensong at Chautauqua's Hall of Christ, followed by an organ recital by Joshua Stafford on the Massey Memorial Organ.

Michael Hey, organ • July 2, 1 PM in the Sanctuary

From St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC, Michael Hey performs as one of the featured recitalists of the 2019 AGO Regional Convention.

David Higgs, organ • July 4, 7 PM in the Sanctuary

Professor of Organ at the Eastman School of Music, David Higgs performs as one of the featured recitalists of the 2019 AGO Regional Convention.

THE CASE LIBRARY SUMMER BOOK SERIES
JULY 14, 21, 28 • SUNDAYS, 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM IN THE CASE LIBRARY

CLIMATECHURCH CLIMATEWORLD

HOW PEOPLE OF FAITH MUST WORK FOR CHANGE

July 14, Chapters 1-3: Mark Hall

July 21, Chapters 4-6: Laurel & Doug Braun

July 28, Chapters 7-9: David Weeks & Rebecca Montague

Climate Church, Climate World argues that climate change is the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced; it multiplies all forms of global social injustice: hunger, refugees, poverty, inequality, deadly viruses, war. Environmental leader, Reverend Jim Antal presents a compelling case that it's time for the church to meet this moral challenge, just as the church addressed previous moral challenges. He calls for the church to embrace a new vocation so that future generations might live in harmony with God's creation. After describing how we have created the dangers our planet now faces, Antal urges the church to embrace a new vocation, one focused on collective salvation and an expanded understanding of the Golden Rule. He suggests ways people of faith can reorient what they prize through new approaches to worship, preaching, witnessing, and other spiritual practices that honor creation and cultivate hope. Books are \$25.

Please join us for this important series.



THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

Year of the Bible class, provides participants the opportunity to read through the entire Bible, cover to cover, over the course of the year. Led by The Rev. Dr. Skip Ferguson, two classes are offered each week: Sunday mornings, 9:15-10:15 AM, and Monday evenings, 7:15-8:15 PM throughout June in the Case Library. The summer schedule switches to Monday evenings only starting on July 8 at 7 PM and runs through August 26 with no class on September 2, Labor Day. 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.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

**Spiritual Life will resume in
September, Sundays, 9-10:15 AM
in the Heritage Room.**

All are welcome!

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."

STAINED GLASS WINDOW TOURS

Allentown Art Festival
Sunday, June 9, 12:00 - 4:00 PM



The Westminster Stained Glass Windows are treasures, not only for our church community but also for the City of Buffalo. During the Allentown Art Festival, Westminster will open its doors to the public to view our outstanding Sanctuary and window masterpieces. The ten large windows in the Sanctuary tell 127 Bible stories, with Old Testament scriptures depicted on the North side, and New Testament lessons on the South. They were generously donated by members and installed between 1931 and 1952. As sunshine radiates through the gem-like colors, the timeless messages of the scriptures are revealed:

- The Commandment Window depicts Moses raising enduring rules to live by, and the Good Samaritan story is revealed in the New Testament's Parable window.
- The red embroidered cushions in the chancel depict selected pictures from the windows.
- The Creation story is represented, along with the Prophet Isaiah's message, and the Nativity story. These provide fun window scavenger hunts for youth groups!
- The Praise Window located near the choir loft stairway celebrates the Blessings of Music and Community Service. These touching symbols include Marian Anderson singing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, and Peanut's "Schroeder".
- Also pictured is Westminster House, started in 1893 by Rev Samuel Holmes to support needy families on East Side Buffalo.

Docents are always needed to guide visitors for an informal Sanctuary tours.

If you would like to learn about our windows and share them with others, please contact Sawrie Becker, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Debbie Katz, Christian Educator



This June, before you leave for your summer adventures, make sure you pick up a copy of *A Guide to Summer Self-Care for Families on the Go!* This 20 page booklet is chock full of ideas on how to make this your most humane, healthy, restorative, and magical summer. You can find copies of this booklet on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.



This guide is divided into three sections, peppered with evocative bible verses along way; simple activities that take no prep time; medium-sized suggestions to chew on, and big ideas that can help transform the entire summer. This booklet is based on the Danish hygge (pronounced "HOO-gah"). Hygge has been called

everything from "the art of creating intimacy" to "coziness of the soul" and even "cocoa by candlelight." While hygge is usually promoted during the winter months, read through this booklet for ways of creating customs and traditions for your family this summer.

As spring continues cool and rainy, I'm looking forward to the warmer and slower pace of summer. It seems to me that we all can more consciously enjoy the blessing of summer days.

SUPPORT THE YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP TO MAINE



**Buy a
Maine
Share!**

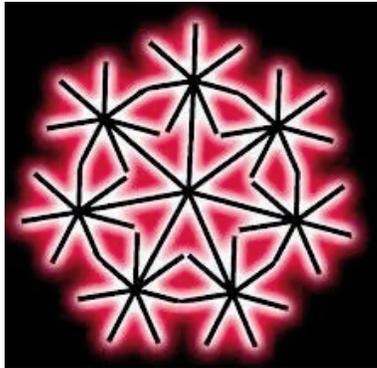
Maine shares are being sold every Sunday throughout June after the 8:15 am service and before and after the 10:30am service. Please also support the Youth Groups Allentown Parking fundraiser on June 8th and 9th.

PARENTS GROUP



No one knows the highs and lows of parenting like other parents.

Come join our group for support, fellowship, and fun. Open to all types of families! We meet at Westminster Presbyterian Church. For more information, contact Kayla at kaylamckinley@gmail.com. Child-care will be provided for those who wish it.



NETWORK OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES 39TH ANNUAL APPRECIATION DINNER JUNE 13, 2019

The 39th Annual Appreciation Dinner of the Network of Religious Communities will be held 6:00 PM, Thursday June 13, 2019 at Samuel's Grand Manor, 8720 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221.

Each year they proudly honor outstanding members of our WNY religious communities for their volunteerism. ***This year, Westminster members Marcia Buhl and Tom Warszawski will be honored.***

The appreciation dinner provides an opportunity for houses of worship and religious organizations to honor together "community saints" who have served their organization and the wider community. It is also an opportunity for members of the various religious communities of Western New York to experience and celebrate the religious diversity of Western New York.

The speaker of the evening will be Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D. Sr. Carney was the 20th President of St. Bonaventure University from 2004 until 2016. She is the university's first president emeritus and is known for her commitment to interreligious understand and work for social justice.

She holds master's degrees from Duquesne University and St. Bonaventure University and he doctorate was awarded by the Franciscan University of Rome "Antonianum."

Please join us. Sign up on the Information Table in the Gallery Room to purchase tickets.

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

Lindsay McGuire, Human Resources, ext. 359

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

JUNE AT WPC

Saturday, June 1

9:30 AM Centering Prayer Workshop

Sunday, June 2

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
 8:15 AM Worship/Communion
 8:30 AM Youths Selling Maine Shares
 9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
 9:15 AM Year of the Bible
 10:30 AM Worship- Welcome New Members
 11:30 AM Debbie, Mark & Tom Goodbye Party
 11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
 1:00 PM Shirley Chan Piano Recital

Monday, June 3

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

Tuesday, June 4

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
 9:00 AM Management Mtg.
 5:00 PM Spiritual Life Mtg.
 6:00 PM Zen Dharma
 6:00 PM Wow Hat Dinner

Wednesday, June 5

9:30 AM Worship Planning
 1:00 PM Newsletter Deadline
 1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
 5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
 6:30 PM Case Library Conversations Mtg.
 8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, June 6

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
 10:00 AM Buffalo Seminary Graduation
 6:00 PM An Evening of Appreciation

Saturday, June 8

9:00 AM Allentown Parking fSenior Highs

Sunday, June 9

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
 8:15 AM Worship/Communion
 8:30 AM Maine Shares Sale
 9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
 9:00 AM Allentown Parking Senior Highs
 9:15 AM Year of the Bible
 10:30 AM Worship/Pentecost
 11:30 AM Racial Justice Comm. Mtg.
 11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
 12:00 PM Stained Glass Window Tour

Monday, June 10

7:15 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, June 11

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
 9:00 AM Management Mtg.
 9:00 AM Youths Selling Maine Shares
 12:00 PM Buffalo Seminary Graduation
 6:00 PM Zen Dharma
 7:00 PM WECF Parent Board Mtg.

Wednesday, June 12

9:30 AM Worship Planning
 1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
 3:30 PM WECF Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner
 5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
 8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, June 13

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

Sunday, June 16

Happy Father's Day!

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
 8:15 AM Worship/Communion
 8:30 AM Maine Shares Sale
 9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
 9:15 AM Year of the Bible
 10:30 AM Worship
 11:30 AM Meet & Mingle
 3:00 PM QED Concert

Monday, June 17

4:00 PM Membership Committee Mtg.
 7:15 PM Year of the Bible

Tuesday, June 18

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
 9:00 AM Management Mtg.
 3:00 PM Buildings & Grounds
 5:30 PM Budget & Finance Mtg.
 6:00 PM Zen Dharma

Wednesday, June 19

9:30 AM Worship Planning
 12:00 PM Planned Giving Comm.
 1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
 5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
 5:30 PM Personnel Mtg.
 8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, June 20

7:15 AM Wake Up Group

Friday, June 21

5:00 PM Vespers Service/
 Gazebo@Butler
 Mansion Park
 5:00 PM Bison Baseball Picnic
 5:00 PM Centering Prayer

Sunday, June 23

8:00 AM Infant /Toddler Care
 8:15 AM Worship /Communion
 8:30 AM Youths Selling Maine Shares
 9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds

9:15 AM Year of the Bible
 10:30 AM Worship- Youth Commissioning
 11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

Monday, June 24

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

Tuesday, June 25

7:15 AM Wake Up Group
 9:00 AM Management Mtg.
 6:00 PM Zen Dharma
 6:30 PM AGO Rehearsal

Wednesday, June 26

9:30 AM Worship Planning
 1:30 PM Staff Mtg.
 5:30 PM Pathways To Peace
 6:00 PM Session Mtg.
 6:30 PM AGO Rehearsal
 8:00 PM AA Mtg.

Thursday, June 27

6:00 AM Youth Group
 Maine Trip
 7:15 AM Wake Up Group
 9:00 AM Charter School Rehearsal

Saturday, June 29

9:00 AM Charter School Graduation

Sunday, June 30

8:00 AM Infant/Toddler Care
 8:15 AM Worship /
 Communion
 9:00 AM Heavenly Grounds
 9:15 AM Year of the Bible
 10:30 AM Worship
 11:30 AM Meet & Mingle

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 pro-

gressive 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 CHANCEL 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

EXPRESSING **GENEROSITY** THROUGH **FELLOWSHIP**

"Meet & Mingle" fellowship opportunity immediately following the 10:30 AM worship service continues to be a fulfilling addition to our church life. Members and friends truly appreciate the chance to enjoy a cup of punch and a delicious goodie while taking a few moments to chat with folks we often see at church but don't really have a chance to get to know. Meet & Mingle has enriched our church community and helped visitors and friends feel welcome! Throughout the year, we have celebrated special birthdays and occasions, welcomed new members and highlighted special programs and accomplishments. As always, the generosity of our members made this fellowship time possible by sponsoring, shopping and hosting each week to create an inviting table full of delicious and healthy delectables. Special gratitude to the Church Life Committee for their dedicated efforts to ensure this special fellowship continues throughout the year. Thank you to all who sponsored shopped and hosted this past year:

Rachel Afaelete
Margaret Bace
Melissa Balbach
Zandy Barrett
Doug & Laurel Braun
Ben Christy
Fred & Val Cooley
Leslie Diech
Gail Donaldson
Cricket Gordon
Chris & Camie Greene
Joan Gruen
Lucinda Hohn
Stephen Johnson
Karen Keaton
Kathleen Kelly

Janet Kowalski
Chris & Debby LaMendola
John, Madelyn
Joan Maitino
Johnpatrick & Candace Marr
Elaine Mattar
Peter McNally
Brendan & Michele Mehaffy
Beatriz Nazario
Barbara Nelson
Mary Beth Parinello
Joan Rice
Rob & Audrey Sanders
Ellie Seib
Roger Seifert
Mimi Steadman

Elizabeth Stewart & Tony Bannon
Nancy Trimble
Sarah Williams & Bob Bojdak
Claude Welch
Associate Pastor Nominating
Committee
Case Library Committee
Church Life Committee
ENERGY
Membership Committee
Ministry of Generosity
Sunday School Committee
Westminster Youth Group
Worship, Music and Arts
Committee

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? Please stop by the information table in the Gallery Room to pick up information about 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

THANK YOU FOR WEARING YOUR NAMETAG

Being a welcoming church is part of our mission and purpose together here at Westminster. With the summer months approaching, we look forward to visitors who may be worshipping at Westminster for the first time. When you arrive at church, all members are encouraged to locate their nametag in the nametag display cabinet so that you may personally greet visitors and other members. Don't forget to leave your nametag in a basket provided.

INQUIRER CLASS AT WESTMINSTER

***We welcome you to join our
community of faith
on Sunday, July 28.***

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 AM worship service.

During the class, you will hear 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 anytime about membership at Westminster.



MeetUP at the BALLPARK!

**BUFFALO BISONS
VS.
NORFOLK TIDES**

**Friday, June 21, 7:05 PM at Sahlen Field
with fireworks after the game.
Potluck picnic in the Oak Room at 5 PM.
Tickets \$12. Purchase at the church.**

MEET & MINGLE "LIGHT"

**This summer, join us for
Meet & Mingle "Light" during
June, July & August**

Enjoy fellowship with lemonade and simple sweet & savory goodies! Volunteers are needed to provide snack and host during this time. A sign-up sheet is available in the Gallery Room or contact Sawrie Becker at 884-9437 ext. 315, sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org to volunteer

KNITTING GROUP

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 mfran-holmes@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!

MEET & MINGLE-WE NEED 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 Hosts and upcoming Meeting & Mingle, May and June. Sign up in the Gallery Room or please contact Sawrie Becker at sbecker@wpcbuffalo.org

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*

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.

RECONNECTING WITH NATURE: SUMMER 2019 AT WESTMINSTER

"I used to think the top environmental problems were biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse, and climate change. But I was wrong. The top environmental problems are selfishness, greed, and apathy.... To deal with those issues we need a spiritual and cultural transformation--and we scientists do not know how to do that."

-Gus Speth, former Dean of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University

We at Westminster are part of a mission-minded church dedicated to biblical values, traditional worship and social justice. Every Sunday we struggle to understand how biblical truths apply to our 21st century local community, and we are inspired by liturgical music from traditional and contemporary composers performed by our region's premier music ministry. On the other days of the week we are active in our city, with a highly respected early childhood education center and mission partnerships on the West Side, as well as developing partnerships on the East Side. We are thoughtful, we are engaged, and we are busy.

There is something, though, we have taken for granted; we don't talk much about nature, about creation itself. Although many of us are environmentalists, we haven't reflected much as a Christian community about our relationship to the natural world. And, just as important as reflection, we don't observe and enjoy the natural world around us as we should.

This summer, Tom Yorty is embarking on a sabbatical journey designed to reconnect him with nature by following in the footsteps of the romantic poets, and while he is engaged with his pursuit, we will do the similar things at home in our own way. For the romantic poets address many contemporary themes—the devaluing of nature, the exploitation of natural resources and human beings, the moral ties that bind us to each other, and the encounter of the holy in the natural world around us.

Every Sunday we will explore these themes together in worship: in our music, in our scripture lessons, and in poetry. During the summer months, we will be encouraged to experience some WNY natural settings and record our reflections in words or images. We'll have the chance to plein air paint, boat on the Buffalo River, and take an eco-justice tour of the West Side and the Niagara River. When the Yortys return, we will share our experiences together at a fall luncheon on October 20, and on February 29/March 1 we will gather for an eco-justice weekend event with Jim Antal, author of *Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change*.

Our goal is to begin to love the world as God loves the world, this God who gave his Son that we and the world might be redeemed. While understanding ourselves and the world is crucial, it's love that motivates action and gives perseverance. Love never fails.

Tom's journey and these summer plans are fully funded by a generous grant from the Lilly Foundation's Clergy Renewal Program.

DID YOU KNOW...

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.

....That local mission support and outreach will be a key emphasis of our Preserve The Pinnacle Capital Campaign that will officially launch later this year?

The Session has approved several mission projects, one in collaboration with the Bailey Green Community Restoration Project. Bailey Green is a sixty-acre residential community that has attracted wide recognition for their ability to coordinate the efforts of many partners, each with different talents. The outcome has been the success of creating a synergy of both human and material resources to rehabilitate and support their neighborhood.

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 neighborhoods.

...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. After careful and thorough investigation, under the watchful eye of the Building and Grounds Committee, and it's Chair, Tom Warszawski, Session has approved roof repairs, and as needed, replacements as a top priority.

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 of the four finials has tumbled to the ground and the others are severely weekend by age and weather. All four will be repaired and restored.

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.

For this reason, these two exterior projects, both requiring extensive professional scaffolding have been moved to the top of the immediate repairs list and authorized by Session as the first priority of Preserve the Pinnacle Capital Campaign to be launched later this year.

Scaffolding will soon be installed so that work can commence.

Please stop by the DID YOU KNOW table during Meet & Mingle on Sundays and find out more.

Thank you!



Thank you to our wonderful volunteers, coordinated by Camie Greene, who hosted the Bake Sale Table at the WECP Children's Fair on Saturday, May 19, 2019. A great day was had by all at this beloved annual event:

Cricket Gordon, Lucinda Hohn, Fran Holmes
Stephen Johnson, Kathleen Kelly, Beatriz Nazario
Barbara Nelson



The following Solidary Statement was created at the 14th Annual Walk & Tent of Abraham gathering of Christians, Muslims, and Jews on May 16, 2019. The sponsoring organizations were: the Muslim Public Affairs Council of WNY, Congregation Havurah, the Islamic Society of the Niagara Frontier, the Network of Religious Communities, North Presbyterian Church, and Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Declaring Solidarity and
Calling for Vigilance and Action
Islamic Center (Muslim Community Center)
Amherst, NY
Th 14th Annual Tent of Abraham
May 16, 2019
(Ramadan 11, 1440)**

The recent deadly attacks on churches, mosques and synagogues, both in the United States and around the world, coupled with a dramatic rise in anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, xenophobia, and racist ideologies, deeply shock us all. We mourn the loss of innocent lives and salute the first responders and law enforcement for their heroic contributions.

In times such as this we find ourselves confronted by the gathering forces of darkness. We recognize the dire threat to our democracy, and the freedoms it enshrines, from the growing appeal of authoritarian government.

To claim our common heritage, we come together today for the Fourteenth Annual • Tent of Abraham." Many of us are members of the three Abrahamic religions - Judaism, Christianity, and Islam - descendants of the foundational faith and lineage of Prophet Abraham. We are joined by members of other religious traditions or of no tradition, for all of us share the same moral imperatives that underlie all religions, spiritual searching, and humanistic conviction. Truth itself is under attack, and the very soul of our nation is at stake.

Therefore, we stand together and call upon each of our faith communities to be vigilant against divisiveness and fear. And we affirm the need, not just to talk, but to take definitive action. Houses of worship are sacred places, and everyone has the right to feel safe when he or she is at worship. We commit ourselves to speaking out against violence directed at people of any faith or no faith. As members of the Abrahamic faiths, we promise to be there for one another.

Armed with integrity, knowledge, courage and determination, we must pursue our sacred obligation to defend what is just and good in the world. We invite thoughtful, caring people everywhere to join us in answering this urgent and transcendent call.



WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

724 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209



**WOW-Women Of
Westminster
Annual Pot Luck
Hat Dinner**
(Salads, Casseroles, and Desserts)

**Tuesday, June 4, 6PM
in the Oak Room**

Heavenly, humorous, historic, hideous, or humble...each year the Women of Westminster don chapeaus of various shapes, sizes, virtue, and lineage! This is an evening of food and fun, spanning all ages of women in our congregation. Just one requirement: the head must be attired! Come hear the hat stories! Bring an appetizer or dessert to share (plus \$1 to cover the cost of paper goods). A sign up sheet is available on the Information Table in the Gallery Room.