



Westminster United Church  
**Events Guide**  
**September**  
**to**  
**December 2016**

**THIS IS YOUR GUIDE TO OPPORTUNITIES TO  
DEEPEN YOUR FAITH AND BUILD RELATIONSHIPS  
AT  
WESTMINSTER UNITED CHURCH**



**There's a place for you!**

Welcome to our Events Guide!  
In these few pages, we hope that you will get a glimpse  
of the mission and the service that takes place  
both inside and outside of our church building.  
At Westminster, it is our hope that you will find a  
community of faith where you will...

## **Be Welcomed Be Nourished Belong**

### **Special Worship Services**

**Oct.2** - World Wide Communion

**Oct.9** - Thanksgiving Sunday

**Nov.27**- The Season of **Advent** begins

**Dec.11** - A 7:00pm service of **Lessons and Carols**

**Dec.18** - 7:00-8:00pm **Longest Night Service**: A service of care and concern for those who may be grieving or sad during the Christmas Season or for people who are feeling stressed or 'out of sync' with the seasonal emphasis on happiness, togetherness and family gatherings.

**Dec.24** - Celebrate the birth of the Christ child through our traditional youth play (with live animals!) and our 10:00pm

**Candlelight Service.**

### **Guest Speakers**

**Sep.18** – Water Sunday (Season of Creation) Dr. Jake Robinson will present a reflection on Water and Ocean Life. Dr. Robinson has a Ph.D. in Biochemistry of Marine and Freshwater Organisms.

**Sep.28** – A Labyrinth Workshop - "steps on the way". Come walk the labyrinth and learn how it serves as a spiritual practice and personal journey. Guest presenter, Karen Marks, is a Veriditas Certified Facilitator.

**Oct.2** – World Wide Communion. Dennis Sallans will discuss "What we can do to advocate for a healthy environment." Mr. Sallans has degree in Recreation. His passion for the environment led him to start Blue Dot Whitby (an initiative of the David Suzuki Foundation) to advocate for a healthy environment for all Canadians.

# Be Welcomed

*(Our doors are opened wide...discover what we have to offer.)*

## Blessing of the Backpacks

Back to School is upon us, so on **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**, bring your backpack (*filled or empty*) to church with you so that we can bless it, bless its contents and bless your journey, as you embark on another exciting year of fun and learning.

## Sunday Night Live – Youth

The Westminster Youth Group will be hosting Sunday Night Live on **Sunday, October 2**, from **7:00pm-8:30pm**. This event is for youth (Grade 6 and up) from all churches in the Lakeridge Presbytery and will offer participants a chance to meet with other Youth Groups in a casual environment full of fun and fellowship. For more information, contact **Cathy Shaw** at [cshaw@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:cshaw@westminster-uc.ca) or 905-723-6442.

## Family Night: Dinner and a Movie

On **Friday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>**, you and your family are invited to a Hassle-free night of food, fun and fellowship!

You don't have to bring a thing except yourself...and your family! A great meal and an awesome movie await you! Come and join the fun!  
**Dinner: 5:45pm, Movie: 6:30pm.**

So we know how many meals to prepare, please take a moment and RSVP to **Leanne** at: [leannefisher71@gmail.com](mailto:leannefisher71@gmail.com)

## Annual Turkey Dinner

This year's dinner is on **Saturday, Nov.5<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets will go on sale in October and are available after Sunday worship services or through the church office from Monday to Friday.

## Comedy Night

Let's Laugh Out Loud!

A fantastically funny family comedy night is in the planning stages for **Saturday, November 26**, at 7 p.m. Featured will be homegrown Westminster young adults who have the theatre in their veins, and some special invited guests..

*Laughter is healthy. Your doctor has ordered you to attend.*

## Blood Donor Clinics

**Sep.6, Nov. 1**

At Westminster, Blood Donor Clinics are held every second month throughout the year. Anyone between 17 and 71, in good health, can become a valuable donor. Book your appointment by calling 1-888—236-6283. Contact: **Elizabeth** 905-430-8184

## Blood Pressure Screening Clinic

This clinic is open in the Founders' Room on the first Sunday of every month from 11:45 to 12:15. **Sept.11, Oct.2, Nov.6** and **Dec.4**

## Scott Woods Concert

**Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 7:00 -9:00 PM**

Are you ready for an “upbeat, uplifting” concert prior to the busy Christmas period? Come and hear one of Canada’s best talents - the fiddling sensation, Scott Woods. This two hour concert combines old time fiddling with country gospel songs, perennial favourites and a generous helping of humour. Tickets will be available through the church office - \$25 per adult, \$10 for children 6-12.

***Get your dancing shoes polished up and your voices ready to sing!!!***



## Be Nourished

*(Take care of yourself and others.)*

### Blanket Exercise

Westminster’s Outreach Committee is hosting a **Blanket Exercise** on the evening of **Oct 12<sup>th</sup>**.

This program, put on by KAIROS, is an interactive teaching tool that raises awareness and understanding of the nation-to-nation relationship between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples in Canada and spurs conversation on the meaning of reconciliation. Please plan to attend this moving and educational experience.

### NOOMA DVD Series

Looking for a fresh way to explore your faith? Want a new and compelling look at the teachings of Jesus?

Then set aside some time to attend the NOOMA DVD Series on four **Monday evenings** this Fall.

From **7:00pm - 8:00pm** on **October 24, November 7, November 21 and December 5**, our Minister of Faith Formation, **Cathy Shaw** will offer a series of short films that promote spiritual reflections on individual life experiences. Each of the four DVD’s will be presented in a highly relatable manner that invites you to search, question and join the discussion. Each of the films is written and narrated by Rob Bell, an American author, motivational speaker and former pastor. Please consider attending as many of the four evening s as you can of this faith forming series.

### Christmas Hampers

Each year, the Westminster congregation generously supports about 75 families at Christmas with a food hamper and gifts for children of the family.

Nov. 6 – Tin cans returned

Nov. 8 – Tin cans counted

Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11 – tags for families available

Dec. 17 – 1:00 - 4:00pm gifts returned to Westminster UC

Dec. 18 – Hampers delivered after church

### Living Alone Luncheons

**Sept. 7, Oct.5, Nov.2, Dec.7** at 12:00 noon

For a minimal cost, enjoy a nutritious and delicious lunch, cards and games!

This outreach program provides fellowship for those living alone in our community. Contact: **church office** 905-723-6442 or **Barb** at 905-430-1715

### United Church Women (UCW)

UCW meetings are the first Monday of the month from September to June. It is a time to worship, socialize, listen to a speaker and enjoy yourself with other women. On Saturday, **November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**, we have the UCW **Christmas Bazaar**.

Contact: **Susan** 905-493-3122 or **Carol** 905-666-8930.

### St. Vincent's Kitchen

The first Wednesday of every month, a team of volunteers from our church helps serve meals to anyone in need at the Kitchen in downtown Oshawa.

Our church contact is **Gail** 905-576-9288.

\*\*For other volunteer opportunities at the Kitchen, please pick up a Durham Outlook pamphlet and/or call their office at 905-434-7543.

### DivorceCare

Another session of DivorceCare begins this fall. It will run every Wednesday from **Sept.21 to Jan.11, from 6:30 - 9:30pm**. This is an on-going weekly seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. It is a non-denominational program, sponsored by Westminster. For further information, please contact **Carolle** (facilitator) at 905-723-6685.



## Belong

*(Get moving, Get involved.)*

### Small Groups

#### Wine, Women and the Word Bible Study

This ongoing Bible Study is open to all women and meets in the Founders' Room at the church on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month**, from **7:00-9:00pm**. The theme for this season is "Breathe". *One of the greatest challenges among women in our culture is taking time to stop and cease from all the activities. By neglecting time for tranquility, serenity and repose, we miss out on some of God's greatest gifts. It is time for us to breathe and build margin into our lives for God.* For information on meeting places or for further information, please contact **Carol** at 905-666-8930 or nss@overwhelming.ca

### Book Club

The Book Club meets 5 times a year (September, November, January, March and May) on the **4th Wednesday of the month**, from **1:00pm - 3:00pm** at Westminster United Church to discuss a previously voted upon book. Upcoming selections are:  
September 28/16 - Movie and book - Brooklyn by Colm Toibin  
November 23/16 - Canada Reads 2016 Winner - The Illegal by Lawrence Hill  
January 25/17 - The Blue Castle by Lucy Maude Montgomery  
All are welcome! For information, please contact **Susan** at 905-493-3122.

### Westminster Walkers

Keep fit by joining us at **9:30, on Thursday mornings** at the church for an outdoor walk in pleasant weather. During the winter months, join us at the Whitby Abilities Centre. With a Whitby Seniors Membership and a one-time only lifetime card fee of \$15, seniors may walk any day up until 10:30am. All ability levels are welcome, and you will always find someone to walk with you...in this group, no one walks alone! Contact **Eileen** at 905-571-0368 for details.

### Foodman Group

This men's group meets every **Monday evening** at **7:00pm** in the church kitchen for fellowship and cooking. Contact: **Ed** at 905-666-5069

### Youth Group

This group is for youth in Grades 6-8 and meets on **Thursday night, from 7:00pm-8:30pm** in the Youth Room at Westminster. This program offers a variety of youth focused activities, events and discussions and provides a place where youth can connect and belong. Our Fall Session will take place from **September 15<sup>th</sup> - December 1<sup>st</sup>**. For more information, please contact our Minister of Faith Formation, **Cathy Shaw** at cshaw@westminster-uc.ca or 905-723-6442.



## Connect with us...

As in life, there are also many changes that occur in a church throughout the year. To stay connected and updated on all our events, programs and worship services, and to explore additional opportunities to participate in the life of Westminster United Church please check out our:

### **Website**

([www.westminster-uc.ca](http://www.westminster-uc.ca))

### **Weekly Bulletin**

**The Westminster World Newsletter**



### **Westminster United Church**

**The United Church of Canada – Lakeridge Presbytery**

**1850 Rossland Road East, Whitby, L1N 3P2**

**Phone: 905 723-6442 FAX: 905 723-0653**

Email: [wuc@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:wuc@westminster-uc.ca)

Website: [www.westminster-uc.ca](http://www.westminster-uc.ca)

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Michelle Robinson <a href="mailto:mrobinson@westminster-uc.ca">mrobinson@westminster-uc.ca</a>
<b>Minister of Faith Formation</b>	Cathy Shaw <a href="mailto:cshaw@westminster-uc.ca">cshaw@westminster-uc.ca</a>
<b>Minister of Music</b>	Margaret Motum
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Garth Edwards <a href="mailto:gedwards@westminster-uc.ca">gedwards@westminster-uc.ca</a>
<b>Custodian - Interim Custodian -</b>	Bill Fitton Virgilio Herrero (DenJen Cleaners)



## Our Mission Statement

Westminster United Church is a Christian family sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with the congregation, the community and the world at large. We provide a spiritual home for worship, celebration of the sacraments, and Christian Education.

## Statement of Inclusion



**Affirm/S'affirmer**  
UNITED/ENSEMBLE

We embrace people of all ages, gender, race, sexual orientations, gender identity, abilities, ethnicity, social and economic circumstances, in the membership, ministry, leadership and life of this congregation.