



# Westminster United Church

## "Embracing Our Community"



## Weekly Worship Service each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

# January 19, 2020

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.



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.

We are so glad you came! Thank you for worshipping at Westminster. We hope you will be encouraged by the teaching you hear and by the people you meet. Please take a moment to fill out "A Westminster Welcome!" card located in the seat pocket in front of you and place it in the offering plate. To stay connected with us, see our Facebook page, website [www.westminster-uc.ca](http://www.westminster-uc.ca) or sign up for our weekly email at [wuc@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:wuc@westminster-uc.ca).

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



find us on

**Facebook**

(\* Indicates standing in body or spirit)

## **We Gather Together**

**Prelude** - The Power of Your Love - *arr. Holstein*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Call to Worship**

One: In this moment,

**ALL: in this holy moment,**

One: we draw together.

**ALL: A time of reflection,**

One: a time of shared values,

**ALL: a time of shared commitment.**

One: We bring with us our human frailties, some mistakes and regrets,

**ALL: our hopes, aspirations and trust, and all our human possibilities.**

One: We come with reverence,

**ALL: we come with faith,**

One: and we come to remember

**ALL: how Jesus calls us to live in love.**

**Gathering Verse - MV 115 Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New**

#### **Opening Prayer**

**\* Passing the Peace**

**\* Hymn: Gather Us In - Haugen**

#### Verse 1

Here in this place, new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away.  
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in - the blind and the lame.  
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

#### Verse 2

We are the young - our lives are a mystery,  
we are the old - who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in - the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in - the proud and the strong.  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.

### Verse 3

Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you.  
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

### Verse 4

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away,  
but here in this place, the new light is shining;  
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in - and hold us forever,  
gather us in - and make us your own.  
Gather us in - all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

## **To Offer Ourselves**

### **Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory** - Love Song - *Strathdee (Katie Bonikowsky,  
Heather Von Zuben)*

**\* Sung Response - MV 34 All Is Giv'n for the Glory (v4)**

### **Offering Prayer**

## **To Hear God's Word**

### **Time with all God's Children**

**Song while children leave for J.A.M. - Hallelu**

**Ministry of Music** - You are Mine - *Haas/Hayes*

**Scripture: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32** - *Bev Crumb*

**Message: "Beloved"** *Rev. Dan Yourkevich*

## To Respond in Faith

### Time of Silent Reflection

**\*Hymn: VU 112 O God, How We Have Wandered** - Lancashire

### Prayers of the People

#### Invitation to the Table - Communion

*We warmly invite all (adults, youth and children) to share in this celebration. The table of God is an open table to which all are welcome.*

**\* Hymn: VU 469 We Gather Here** - Divernon

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: We thank you, God, Father and Mother of us all.

From the beginning You made the world and all its creatures;  
You made people to live for You and for each other.

**ALL: We praise You, God.**

One: You created Adam and Eve and gave them a garden;  
You showed Noah a rainbow;

You gave strength to Moses to free his people  
and taught Miriam to sing;

You gave courage to Esther and loyalty to Ruth;

You helped David defeat the giant and gave him a harp to sing  
with.

**ALL: We praise You, God.**

One: And yet many of them turned away from You  
and forgot about You, as many of us do too.  
But You did not forget.

You sent Your only child Jesus to the world to show  
how much You love us and to bring us back to You again.

**ALL: We praise You, God.**

One: As one of us He came, at first a tender infant,  
then a child, a youth and an adult.

He rejoiced with those who rejoiced and wept with those  
who wept. To the despairing He spoke a word of hope.

To the sick He gave healing. To the rejected He was a friend.  
And yet He was betrayed and nailed to a cross.

- One: But He was lifted from the grave and restored to life,  
that He might be with us and we with Him.  
Alive for evermore!  
Therefore, with all the saints, and with angels in the heavens,  
our hearts beat with happiness and we say:
- ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven  
and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the  
highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**
- One: On the night before Jesus died, He had supper with His  
disciples;  
He took bread; thanked You, as we have thanked You;  
broke the bread; and gave the bread to His friends, saying,  
"Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is My body, given for you.  
Each time you do this, remember Me."  
After supper He took the wine; thanked You for it,  
and passed a cup of wine to His friends, saying,  
"This cup is the new promise God has made with you in My  
blood. Each time you do this and drink from this cup,  
remember Me."  
Remembering His death and celebrating His resurrection,  
we await with hope His coming again to bring peace and  
justice to the earth.
- ALL: As our Lord Jesus Christ offered Himself to You,  
O God, we offer ourselves to You, as Your people have  
done before, as they still do everywhere.  
Let us offer ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and  
acceptable in Your sight.  
Use us as You will that we may die to self to live for You.  
Come, Lord Jesus.**
- One: We pray You, God of Love, send Your Holy Spirit  
upon us and what we do here, that we, and these gifts,  
touched by Your Spirit, may be signs of life and love to  
each other, and to all the world.  
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is Yours,  
God most holy, now and for ever.
- ALL: Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

### **Prayer after Communion**

## To Go Into the World

\* **Hymn:** *Soon and Very Soon* - *Very Soon*

\* **Blessing and Sending Forth**

**Closing Response - MV 58 We Sing of Your Glory (v4 2x)**

\* **Postlude** - I Have Called You By Your Name - *Damon*

Next Week's Scripture: Mark 8:27-35;  
Mark 12:28-34  
Theme: "Have You Learned Who You Are?"



### Upcoming Services and Events

- Sunday, January 26      Worship Service
- Sunday, February 2      Black History Month Presentation

The New Year has arrived and brings with it changes and fresh starts. On January 20th, Rev. Michelle will transition back into her leadership role at Westminster, as Rev. Dan prepares for his next "retirement" date. Rev. Dan will lead us in worship for the final time on January 26th and Rev. Michelle will resume worship leadership on February 2nd.

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Michelle back, and we are ever so thankful to Rev. Dan for his warm and caring embrace of Westminster since May 2019.

### A Message from Rev. Michelle Robinson:

Dear Westminster Friends,

With my maternity leave coming to an end I will be returning to work on **Monday, January 20**. It will be a gradual start. You will see me back in the pulpit on February 2, 9 and 16. Following that I will be away for two Sundays (February 23, March 1) before continuing full steam ahead. I've valued this important time home with my family and am looking forward to serving among you again. Blessings and I'll see you soon!

## **We have Hearing Assistance equipment available every Sunday //**

If you are hard of hearing or you wear hearing aids, we can assist you to enjoy the service. Either headphones can be worn without hearing aids or neck loops which can be used with hearing aids. If you wish to wear the neck loop you need to ensure that your hearing aids come equipped with a telephone coil (T switch). You can ask one of our ushers for assistance.

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A children's program is available for your baby/toddler in the nursery down the hall. Children will be invited to head to J.a.M. during the service after the Children's Time. Please speak to an usher for directions or more information. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our J.a.M. program, please contact: Cathy Shaw, Minister of Faith Formation ([cshaw@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:cshaw@westminster-uc.ca))

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## **Ways to Give Your Offering //**

\* Via envelope: cash or cheque

\*Via PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance): contact the office or pick up a brochure in the Narthex

\* Via text: text "give" to 833-963-1387 to set up your account. Once you have set up your account, you can text your offering amount at any time. It's that simple!

\* Via Tithe.ly app: download the app for free. Set up your account within minutes!



**Tithe.ly**

\* Via e-transfers to [wuc@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:wuc@westminster-uc.ca). Please make the security question and answer the same. For example, both could be "Offering". In the message section, please specify what the money is for (i.e. Local Fund, Building Fund, Mission & Service, Foodbank, Special Appeal, etc.). If you require a tax receipt, please include your mailing address if your contact information is not already on file with the church office.

\* Via debit or credit card by going to [westminster-uc.ca/give/](https://westminster-uc.ca/give/) and click on the "GIVE ONLINE" button.

\* Via debit or credit by visiting the gym after service or stopping by the office Monday through Friday during office hours.



\* Donation receipts for offerings/donations of \$20 or more (cumulative) are issued in February of the following year in which the offering/donation is made.

\* If you have questions regarding any of these options, please see Monica Veenstra after the service or contact the Office Administrator, Becky Clingman.



## **Regional Prayer Cycle //**

We are holding in prayer our fellow community of faith, Westbrook.

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## **Prayer Requests during the service //**

Our weekly worship service provides a time for submitting prayers of concern, thanksgiving and praise. You will find prayer forms in the pew pockets. Prayer & praise requests are collected along with the offering. Please place the completed prayer cards in the baskets as they are circulated and your weekly offering in the plates. The requests are read in the service during our prayer time together, unless otherwise noted and then forwarded to our Prayer Team who will continue to pray for each concern.

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## **Book Club //**

The next gathering of the Book Club is Wednesday January 22, 2020 at 1:30pm at the church to discuss the book entitled **Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte**. All are welcome. To borrow the book or for more information, please call Susan at 905-493-3122.



## **Annual Congregational Meeting – Sunday, February 9th //**

*What does it mean to be faithful people of God in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century context?*

Please join us on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> for Westminster's Annual Congregational Meeting and the kickoff to our discernment journey as we listen for the ways God is guiding us as a community of faith.

Dr. Betty Pries from Credence & Co. will be facilitating the process over the next few months. She joins us as our guest speaker during worship on February 9<sup>th</sup> speaking about the challenges and opportunities for the "Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

After service there will be a light lunch provided by the Foodman Group followed by our Annual Congregational Meeting where we will discuss and celebrate Westminster's many ministries.

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## **Foodbank //**

Our foodbank is well stocked at present but we are low on coffee, coffee whitener, canned green beans and toothpaste. Many thanks for your ongoing support.



## **Coffee and tea are served after worship in the gym...All Welcome //**

Your purchases of organic coffee, green and NEW earl grey tea and Fair Trade chocolate bars enable us to provide the organic coffee and tea after church.



## **Greeters and Candlelighters //**

If you are looking for a new way to meet your Westminster Church family, please consider signing up to greet and light the candles. Greeting is a great way to get to know the members of our congregation. If you aren't sure and would like more information please speak with Patti Lang or Ava Tomlinson. The sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthex.

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## **Sock Tree //**

The tree in the Narthex is looking for decorations. Winter has set in and everyone wants to have warm feet. Please bring in your donations of warm socks and they will be donated to local community groups and schools that have expressed a need. Donations will be collected until the middle of February.



## **Let's learn about the diverse history of our community //**

Local Historian and Archivist at the Oshawa Museum, *Jennifer Weymark*, will be giving a presentation February 2 at Westminster UC after worship, 12:30 p.m. **Black History in Oshawa: One Family's Story.** Lunch provided by the UCW. All are welcome!

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## **UCW Requests //**

In the past year, the following items have worn out, broken down and have had to be thrown out. Consequently, the UCW is in need of replacements for: an electric hand-held mixer, a 6 cup/1.5 litre electric blender, an electric can opener and an 8 cup/2 litre food processor. We have included diagrams to give you a better idea of the desired item. If you have any questions, please contact Susan at 905-493-3122. Thank you so much for your assistance.



## **Readers Needed //**

Readers needed for monthly Minute for Mission. For further information, please contact Debbie Joyce at (905) 668-9416.

## **Concerned about energy efficiency? Here are some helpful ideas ...**

One person contributes as much heat as a 100 watt heater: so invite your friends over!

In the kitchen: your refrigerator and freezer are more energy efficient when they are full. Use water and ice cubes to fill up the space.

Cook in quantity: when you bake, keep both racks full.

Small appliances such as a slow cooker, bread maker and pressure cooker are considerably more efficient than their larger equivalents.

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## **Canadian Blood Services Report //**

83 units of valuable blood were received on

December 17, 2019. 90 people attended the clinic.

Thank you to all who helped at the clinic: Jim Ward, for looking after the signs; all the people who took time to give; the friendly helpers who chatted, and

served cookies and drinks. Please book for our March 17 clinic.

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*Thank  
you*



# FINANCIAL UPDATE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP / FINANCE COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - CASH BASIS

	ACTUAL 2019 JAN - DEC	BUDGET 2019 JAN -DEC	VARIANCE JAN - DEC
Offerings - Local Fund & Building Fund	274,198	295,800	-21,602
Other Receipts - excl M&S Fund	178,550	161,964	16,586
<b>Total 2019 Operating Receipts - excl M&amp;S Fund</b>	<b>452,748</b>	<b>457,764</b>	<b>-5,016</b>
<b>Total 2019 Operating Disbursements - excl M&amp;S Fund</b>	<b>461,116</b>	<b>465,866</b>	<b>-4,750</b>

<b>2019 OPERATING DEFICIT</b>	<b>-8,368</b>	<b>-8,102</b>	<b>-266</b>
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<i>Offerings - Mission &amp; Service - collected &amp; forwarded to UCC</i>	27,237	23,460	3,777
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*as on Dec 31, 2019*

<i>Reserve for Capital Investments</i>	49,873
<i>Reserve for Ministerial Investments</i>	52,000
<i>Contingency for Day-to-Day Operations</i>	30,286
<i>Other Funds</i>	46,320
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>	<b>178,479</b>

*Together, we reached 93% of our target for Local Fund and Building Fund Offerings.*

*Other Receipts included:*

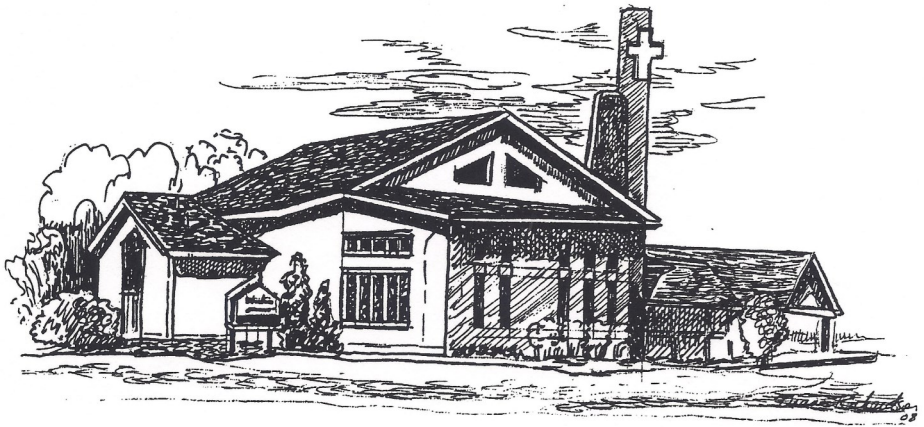
*\* \$6,000 additional funds from the UCW in December (in addition to the \$4,000 received in June)*

*\* \$7,131 through the "Friendly Challenge" to cover most of the unexpected expenditure of \$7,900 for two access ramps, a catch basin, and two broken windows*

*Without these generous additional receipts, our 2019 Operating Deficit would have been -\$21,700.*

*Thank you for your continued support of Westminster United Church, financially and otherwise.*

*This faith community and its ministries would not be what they are without you!*



- Greeters and Candle Lighter** Carrie, Paul, Jacob and Isabella Cruz
- Ushers** Team 4 - Bob Dingman, Larry Morrow, Bob Neil, Arlene Jones, Gord Mahaffy, Neville Wright, Jim Edwards
- Coffee and Tea** Team 5 - Bob Locksley, Liz Aldred, Arlene Jones
- Tech Booth** Tim Shkolnik and Chris Shkolnik
- Volunteer Custodian(s)** Team 4 - Bob Dingman, Maureen Dingman, Bill Beer, Bonnie Beer
- Counters** Brian Woodlock and Bob Dingman
- 

**Rev. Michelle Robinson**, Minister of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care  
(Parental leave) [mrobinson@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:mrobinson@westminster-uc.ca)

**Rev. Dan Yourkevich**, Supply Minister  
[minister@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:minister@westminster-uc.ca)

**Cathy Shaw**, Minister of Faith Formation  
[cshaw@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:cshaw@westminster-uc.ca)

**Margaret Motum**, Minister of Music

**Rebecca Clingman**, Office Administrator  
[wuc@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:wuc@westminster-uc.ca)

**Ronell Paguio**, Custodian



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