

*Watch your email for the Zoom links to all events. If you are not currently receiving our email blast and would like to, please contact the church at [wuc@westminster-uc.ca](mailto:wuc@westminster-uc.ca) and we will add you to our mailing list.*

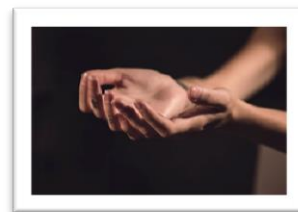


It is the Third Sunday of Advent! We will reflect on the gift of Joy (Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-45) **Livestreamed Sunday Service, December 13, 2020 at 10:30am.** We are excited to welcome the **Durham Youth Orchestra Quintet.** Come and worship with the following link: [https://youtu.be/-j\\_WQxrWfIQ](https://youtu.be/-j_WQxrWfIQ)



Join J.a.M this Sunday on Zoom. Come and learn about the journey of the Wise Men. We meet at 11:00am. See email for details.

**Send your prayer requests** to Rev. Michelle ([rev.m.robinson@gmail.com](mailto:rev.m.robinson@gmail.com)) or Cathy ([westminster.cathy@gmail.com](mailto:westminster.cathy@gmail.com)) to be held in prayer by our active prayer team.



# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

## Longest Night Service

**December 21 at 7:00 pm**

(livestreaming only)

A service open to all that honours those who have experienced loss in some way and who are carrying that this Christmas. It is our hope that this service will provide an opportunity to acknowledge all we are feeling (grief, disorientation, frustration, worry) as we're reminded that the Christmas story contains a message of hope no matter our circumstances.



For a list of upcoming worship services, events. See the **Advent & Christmas page** on our website.

<https://westminster-uc.ca/connect/worship/advent-christmas-events-2020/#page-content>

## Christmas Carol Sing-Along!

**Friday Dec 11, 18 at 7:00pm and Wednesday, Dec 23 at 7:00pm**, Heather Von Zuben will be your host. Zoom links to be coming via email!



# **CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

Please be advised that **the drop off time for gifts has changed:**  
Drive-through drop-off of hamper gifts at the church:  
**Dec. 12, 2020 from 12:30pm-4pm.**

## **Drivers Needed**

Masked drivers are needed on **Sunday December 13, 2020 from 12pm-2pm** to deliver hampers in a COVID 19 friendly way. Drive thru to pick up a hamper (and map with directions) to deliver within our community. Upon arriving at the recipient's address, you will need to call the adult receiving the hamper to meet you outside the house/apartment/unit.

Should you have questions (or please don't hesitate to contact [wucchristmashampers@gmail.com](mailto:wucchristmashampers@gmail.com) or call 289-356-3680.

Thank you to everyone who has reached out in support of our Christmas Hampers, both through selecting virtual tags and through financial donations. The support has been overwhelmingly generous.

Should you wish to make a financial donation, please contact the Westminster United Church Office (905-723-6442) or visit the Westminster United Church website.

**Thank you for your generous support of the Westminster UC  
Christmas Hamper Outreach Ministry.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Westminster United Church Book Club**  
**Wednesday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1 pm**  
on Zoom (internet or via phone)

The book being discussed:

**The Nature of the Beast by Louise Penny.**

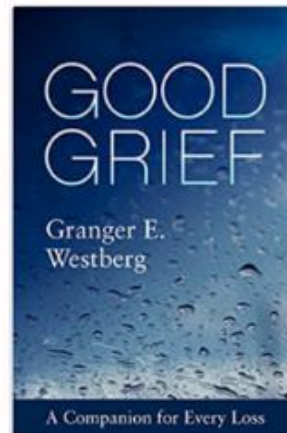
All are welcome! To borrow the book or for more information, please call Susan @ 905-493-3122. **If you have not attended a previous book club gathering please let Susan know so that she can email you the zoom link and information.**

\* \* \*

**From your Health and Wellness Committee...**

## GOOD GRIEF - A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING AND HEALING

Whether we are mourning the loss of a loved one, a job, a marriage or connections with family and friends, this book can serve as a useful companion guide. Want to know more, and join the discussion. Go to:  
<https://crosstalk.wucfellowship.ca/>



Westminster Health & Wellness Committee

## FOOD BANK



**Thank you** for your ongoing support to this important ministry. **Donations will be accepted every Wednesday from 10:00am-12:00pm.**

The following items are needed at the food bank: canned meat, instant coffee, whitener, jam, rice, Kraft dinner, canned green beans, canned fruit, chicken noodle soup, toilet paper, kid's snacks, Kleenex, crackers, paper towels, pudding, juice, granola bars.

## THANK YOU

### Westminster's 1st Drive-By Donation Day: A Wonderful Success!



Your Outreach and UCW Teams are pleased to let you know that due to the deep generosity of our congregation and friends of Westminster, we were able to safely receive, package and will complete delivery of over 800 new items to the following support centres in our community:

- **3 Local Schools and YWCA** (mittens, gloves, socks, hats/toques)
- **Back Door Mission and Cornerstone** (socks, undergarments, wallets, coats, boots, men's toiletries)
- **Denise House** (mittens, socks, children's undergarments, knitted & crocheted sweaters, scarves, afghans, toys, toiletries)

Thank you for your tremendous response, friends -- stay tuned for info about our end of January Drive-By Donation Day!

# REMINDERS



## The church office hours have changed

**Monday: Closed** (*weekend phonecalls and emails will be responded to on Tuesdays*)

**Tuesday  
to Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Becky, our Office Administrator, is currently on leave for personal reasons. The office will be supported by volunteers in the interim.

To reach Rev. Michelle Robinson or Cathy Shaw at the church, please use their direct office lines.

Rev. Michelle — 905-493-6706      Cathy — 905-493-6712



If you need to come in to the church office for any reason, please remember to call ahead and make an appointment.

# **IN-PERSON WORSHIP UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone for your support in following the safety protocols at Westminster UC over the past few months.

The Return to Building Committee continues to meet weekly to review current medical health information and our existing safety protocols. Recently the Durham Region health category was moved to red/control. Based on published guidelines we are still able to offer in person worship.

As we enter the season of Advent **we need your help to ensure Westminster continues to be a safe place for in person worship.**

While attending in person services at Westminster United, we are asking everyone to be mindful of the following:

- DO remember to reserve seating before attending each Sunday to ensure appropriate numbers and to provide contact information should a COVID-19 outbreak occur. You can reserve on the Westminster website or by calling the church office, 905-723-6442.
- DO wear your mask covering your mouth and nose and leave it on throughout your time in the church.
- DO maintain a minimum distance of six feet apart of other families when in the church and in the parking lot. Please sit only with members of your household.
- DO remember to have ushers show you to your seat before service and wait for them to direct your exit from the sanctuary. This greatly assists us all with physical distancing.

Thank you again for your support.

With blessings and gratitude for everyone,

Your Return to the Church Building Committee