
THE WESTMINSTER WORLD

JUNE
2026

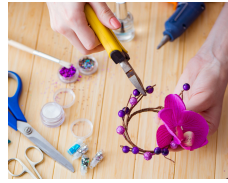


Join us at the **Church Picnic!**





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On April 30th, Westminster youth shared a fun and relaxed evening together filled with creativity, conversation, and connection. With music playing and people singing along, we decorated cookies in the kitchen and created unique pieces of jewelry in the Youth Room. It was fun to spend time with friends doing simple things that encouraged laughter, self-expression, and community.



YOUTH GROUP

Glow in the Dark!!



Westminster youth and invited friends had an exciting night out at the glow-in-the-dark mini golf on May 14th.

Friendly competition and fun glowed as brightly as the young people did! Surrounded by neon colours and creative courses, everyone enjoyed golfing and gaming in the arcade.

So many great memories were made!



SAVE THE DATE

PRIDE MONTH

Durham Pride June 6, 2026

SAVE THE DATE!

Westminster is looking forward to participating in the Multifaith Pride Service and Pride Parade on Saturday June 6, 2026 in Ajax. All are welcome to the Multifaith service and to walk with us!

Multi-Faith Service: 12:00pm - 12:45pm

[Arbour Park, Pride Gazebo, Ajax](#)

Pride Parade: 1:00pm - 2:00pm

[Ajax Council Building Parking Lot](#)

Walking south along Harwood towards the Ajax Community Centre

Marketplace: 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Ajax Community Centre - rink 2](#)

Drag show: 2:00pm - 5:00pm



Media Enthusiasts!

HELP US CAPTURE OUR STORY

**WANTED
CREATIVES**

Join the Communications Committee!

Photography | Videography | Digital Editing | Recording History

More Info

JORDAN HAYNES
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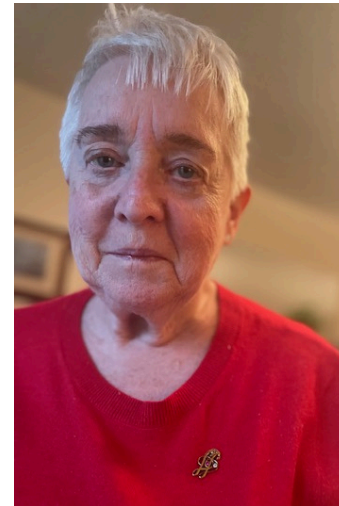


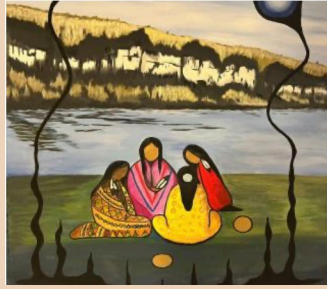
Congratulations!

Our friend, **Heather M**, whom you usually see in the kitchen at Westminster serving tea and coffee, was recently awarded her 35 Year Pin as a member of the Eastside Harmony's Sweet Adelines. Even more outstanding was her being honoured as "*Sweet Adeline of the Year*" for 2025-2026! During the award ceremony,

Heather was described as: a kind, compassionate person who is genuinely interested in the well-being of all choir members; showing amazing commitment and dedication to [the] chorus; in spite of personal and family health issues, showing up with grace, kindness unwavering dedication, and music in her heart.

Bravo, Heather!





Indigenous History Month

June is celebrated as National Indigenous History Month in Canada. It is a dedicated time to honour the vibrant history, diverse cultures, and profound contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. Check out the website for Government of Canada National Indigenous History Month.

On the Ontario Government's website, you can explore local activities planned for National Indigenous History Month. You can plan to attend local events such as Summer Solstice festivals or Pow Wows to deepen your understanding of Ontario's traditional territories and treaties and support Indigenous tourism, businesses and artists.

Indigenous peoples have cared for Turtle Island long before the arrival of Settler peoples. In the words of Chief Dan George, a member of the Co-Salish Burrard First Nation, "My people's memory reaches into the beginning of all things." In honour of Truth and Reconciliation, may we learn from his wisdom and apply his message to our world:

*"The only thing that can truly help us is genuine love.
You must truly love us...*

*And we must love you - with a genuine love that forgives and forgets...
that lifts up its head and sees in your eyes an answering love of trust and acceptance.*

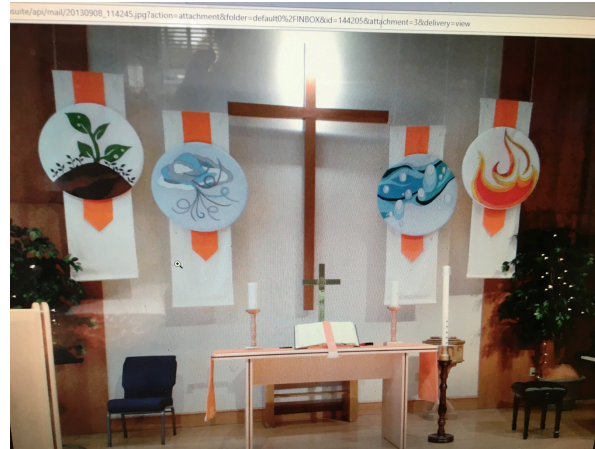
*This is brotherhood ...
anything less is not worthy of the name."
[My Heart Soars, by Chief Dan George]*



C O M M I T T E E

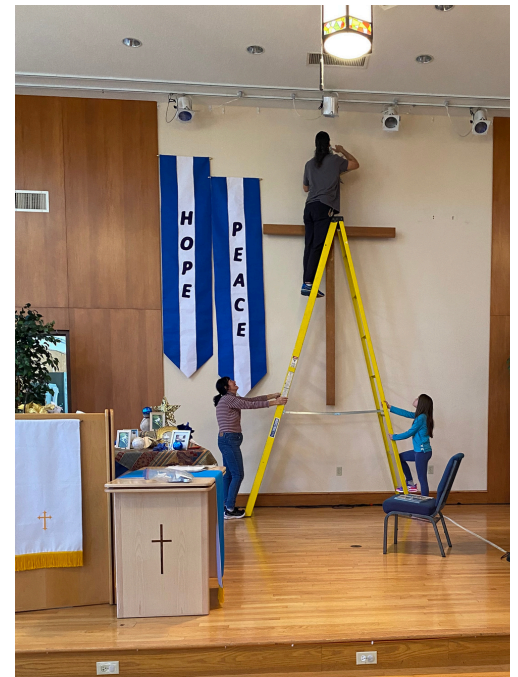
- O**
- R**
- N**
- E**
- R**
- W WELCOME** people to the church and the service. We do this by organizing volunteers to greet people at the front door, and have tea/coffee teams to provide refreshments after the service.
 - O OFFERING** our usher teams are responsible for collecting the offering during the service. They also help guide people to their seats before service, give directions to rooms in the building and help the overall flow of the service.
 - R RITUALS** such as the sacrament of Communion and Baptism fall under the Worship committee duties. We arrange for volunteers to help set up, serve the Communion and then clean up after the service. This usually occurs monthly. Baptism also can occur once a month.
 - S SANTUARY** is the name given to the worship space of our building where the service is held. The sanctuary committee, part of the worship committee is responsible for providing a visual presentation of the liturgical calendar, decorating with different colours and themes.
 - H HOSPITALITY** is key to our service, team and community. We provide opportunities for others to be active and involved in the whole service from Greeting, Reading Scripture, Singing in Choir, Praise Band, and then have some time to chat with each other over coffee after service.
 - I INCLUSION** in the worship experience for all ages, abilities, gender, races and diversity. We work as a committee with Reverend Michelle to try and provide a safe and diverse service that invites and accepts all.
 - P PLAN** and prepare special services throughout the year and also search and provide pulpit supply for when our minister is away.

Continued ...



Our **Worship committee** works hard throughout the year to help Reverend Michelle and Minister of Music Ben provide the best worship experience possible.

The other members of the committee are Ava Tomlinson, Heather Montague, Ed Rosdobutko, Joanna Coulter and Heather Von Zuben.



Please consider volunteering to help with the worship experience at Westminster.





MOTHER'S DAY TEA

TEA BY THE SEA

On Saturday, May 9th, Westminster's gym was turned into an elegant seaside resort to celebrate Mother's Day.

The guests were delighted by the delicious dainties and wonderful music. The beautifully decorated seashells were a lovely memento of a special afternoon.



Thank you to the UCW organizing team, the catering team, the servers and all the workers who helped make this a memorable occasion.





Westminster United Church – Who Are We?

Church Council has spent time this year discerning what it means to be ‘the church’. Beyond our motto, “**Be Welcomed, Be Nourished, Belong**”, what is it that we want to stand for?

The result of our examination is this summation of our core values: Westminster Values. Please read and examine the sheet below to understand how we hope to live out our faith.

WESTMINSTER VALUES

Spiritual development and learning.

Growing in faith and connecting stories of faith with life and the world today



FAITH AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

Friendship, love for God and neighbour. The feeling that “we can get through this together”.



Welcoming to all, regardless of background or belief. A safe, welcoming, and respectful environment.

HOSPITALITY AND INCLUSION

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Called to be the church both inside and outside the walls.

Generous with time, resources, and presence. Commitment to helping others and sharing gifts.



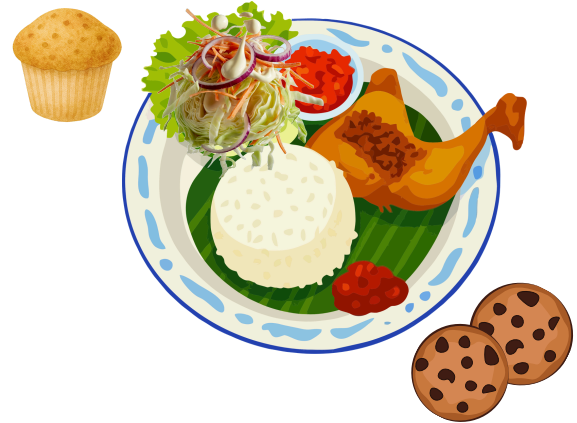


WINNER WINNER, CHICKEN DINNER!

Get ready for a scrumptious classic BBQ take-away meal that's perfect for kicking off the long weekend! Enjoy a delicious regular leg and thigh chicken dinner, available in your choice of **smoky BBQ** or **bold Jerk** flavour, served with fried rice, a warm corn muffin, creamy coleslaw, and two sweet cookies to finish it off.



Whether you're heading to the cottage, planning a relaxing night at home or gathering with family and friends, this hearty meal makes dinner easy and delicious.



Save the date: June 26!
More details to follow in the E-blast.



P. P. P.

**When I pray, I pray for all living things.
When I thank, I thank for everything.**

**O earth
for the strength
in my heart
I thank thee**

**O cloud
for the blood
in my body
I thank thee.**

**O fire
for the shine
in my eyes
I thank thee.**

**O sun
for the life
you gave to me
I thank thee.**

[from My Heart Soars, by Chief Dan George]



That we have available for purchase Loblaw and Sobeys gift cards?

When you purchase these cards, the church gets a rebate – adding some extra funds to our coffers. Please see Ed R. to purchase them or to get more information.



That we have eight youth who are graduating from high school this year?

We will be presenting them with prayer shawls on Picnic Sunday, June 14th. Don't miss the celebration!



You're invited...

*...to join us for Worship,
In-person or Online*

*If you're new to Westminster,
we're so glad to meet you!*

*If Westminster is your church home,
we're so glad to see you again!*