

Minister's Message

The last two years felt a little bit like sitting in the car stuck in neutral. You want to get going, but you can't.

How wonderful it is to be able to meet together and plan events – like our highly successful *Community Barbeque* which was held on September 8. Over 150 served – not quite McDonald's territory, but wonderful, nonetheless. What was exciting for me was how many people attending were from outside Westminster. They were our neighbours in the community and was really a treat to meet so many of them. A big thank you to the Niagara Presbytery Extension Council for providing funding for this event.

We are looking forward to a full slate of services and activities this fall.

- We'll be celebrating Thanksgiving on Sunday, October 9.
- The UCW Bazaar will be back in full swing on Saturday, November 3.
- We are planning a Family Advent Activity Day on Saturday, November 19, 11 a.m – 1 p.m. including lunch.
- Photography sessions for our new church Photo Directory will be on November 28 and 29.
- Kids' Shopping day is back! After being cancelled the last two years, neighbourhood children will be invited to come and shop for presents on Saturday, December 3.
- We're planning two Christmas Eve Services this year – traditional Candlelight Communion at 7 p.m., but also a Family Service at 4 p.m.
- Christmas, 2022 is on Sunday – and yes, there will be church!

Watch for more details.

Our two new Church Committees – Community Building and Community Connections – are busy working on a number of projects, some of them in the list above. We're also planning on helping Connaught School with donations and volunteering.

Our building project in partnership with the United Church of Canada will see 39 rental apartments constructed on our back parking lot. There is not much new to report, but at this stage, no news is good news! The project is winding its way through the City planning process, and construction is slated to begin in April, 2023.

There's excitement and optimism at Westminster, where we've been pulling together to get things done for the glory of God for 145 years – and counting.

May God bless you and your family during this fall season.

Rev. Dr Paul Miller