



KENMORE BAPTIST CHURCH

10 Wardman Road
Kenmore, New York 14217
www.kenmorebaptistchurch.org

Dear Pastor/Candidate:

We are a family oriented, Bible centered church located in Kenmore, NY, a first ring suburb of Buffalo, NY. Our congregation tends to be a bit older, but we have representation in all age groups. Our ethnicity is predominantly white, but we have members from other origins as well.

The enclosed materials will explain our history, who we are and our beliefs. We have also described our strengths, our needs, what qualities we are looking for in a pastor and what our goals and aspirations are. As to sexual orientation, we are welcoming, but not affirming.

Our by-laws specify that the search for a new pastor is to be conducted by a Pulpit Committee composed of nine church members who represent each area of church ministry and each age group of our congregation. Since April, 2017, our committee has been busy polling our members and our leadership for their input in this process. All of our efforts begin and end with prayer that we may find the pastor that the Lord has already chosen for our church.

Once you have reviewed our materials, if you have an interest in pursuing further discussions with us, please use the following contact information in order for us to maintain strict confidentiality.

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KBC Pulpit Committee
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Tonawanda, NY 14150

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Phone: 716-694-9145 (home)
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May God bless you, and us, as we continue our search for our next pastor.

Yours in Christ,


Chairman, Kenmore Baptist Pulpit Committee

"A Church You Can Call Home"

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What We Believe

The purpose of Kenmore Baptist Church shall be to exalt Jesus Christ in each of its corporate activities; to witness to the salvation available to all through Jesus Christ, and to provide a local fellowship within which individual Christians can grow and together be a living demonstration of the love and power of Jesus Christ.

The church voluntarily associates itself with American Baptist Churches of New York State and the American Baptist Churches U.S.A.

This church in recognition of its heritage, affirms the following historic Baptist principles:

- a church membership made up of those regenerated by a spiritual birth;
- the priesthood of the believer;
- believer's baptism by immersion;
- the Bible as final authority in matters of faith and practice;
- the church as a spiritual democracy;
- the separation of church and state;
- the Christian's responsibility to be part of Christ's continuing mission in the world.

We covenant together under the following statement of faith and fellowship.

We have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Savior. Our Baptism in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit testifies of our faith in Jesus Christ and of our union in the Church, the Body of Christ. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will seek to live by these Christian ideals:

We will live in Christian love in our homes, in the church, and in the world. We will give witness to our salvation in Christ by our words and deed in daily life, by the Christian training of our children, and by the support of the local and worldwide ministry of our church.

In order to grow spiritually we will meet together regularly for worship, fellowship, Bible study and prayer. We will read and study the Bible individually and with our families. We will pray for, forgive, help, and share with one another as our Savior has taught us.

We will be joyful in the unity given us by the Spirit, letting the power of Christ control our lives, and thanking God, Our Father, through Christ Jesus for all things.

History of the Kenmore Baptist Church

In December 1910, a small group of people met in the home of Mr. And Mrs. Edmond Anderson, at 39 Villa Avenue, Buffalo, for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Mission, there being no church in this area. A former schoolhouse on Ramsdell Avenue was purchased and twenty-six members of the group formally organized a church on October 22, 1911. The Rev. R. Jay Roberts was installed as part-time minister. On November 3, 1911 the church was officially recognized by, and admitted to fellowship in the Buffalo Baptist Association.

Within five years we outgrew the building and purchased a lot at the corner of Delaware and Wardman Roads. A church costing \$10,000 was built and the cornerstone was laid on July 3, 1916. Special tribute is due the late Mr. And Mrs. William Dixon, of Lafayette Church, for their financial help at this time. Eight years later we undertook a \$50,000 expansion and dedication ceremonies were held November 25, 1925.

Again, we soon outgrew the building, but depression and WWII delayed action to add facilities. Beginning in August 1954 we purchased four houses on Wardman, which were first used as additional Church School space and parsonages. A survey in 1957 by the Baptist Home Mission Society urged our continued presence and growth at this location.

Construction of a new \$300,000 building began in September 1960 and one year later, on September 17, 1961, we held our first service in the new sanctuary. Greatly expanded Church School facilities were provided in the new building and with conversion of the former sanctuary.

As we look forward to the future, we thank God for his many blessings, and pray for his continued guidance and strength to continue His work.

Special recognition is given these Pastors who have led us so faithfully through the years:

Pastors:

Rev. R. J. Roberts	1911-1918	Rev. William M. Childs	1956-1964
Rev. Carl Rasmussen	1919-1920	Rev. L. Philip Samuelson	1964-1970
Rev. Robert J. Fuller	1920-1929	Rev. Roland Johnson	1971-1978
Rev. Frank Hollinshead	1931-1933	Dr. Kurt A. Klingbeil	1980-1989
Rev. Carl G. Steward	1935-1950	Rev. Peter G. Wood	1990-1996
Rev. Franklin Crutchlow	1950-1956	Dr. S. Ray Schooler	1998-2007
		Dr. James Widmer	2009-2017

Interim Pastors:

Rev. G. R. Spencer	Rev. Glen H. Bradford
Rev. F. J. Reynolds	Rev. Robert Wacker
Rev. Vernon Poole	Rev. Herb Brownlee
Dr. Harold S. Stoddard	Rev. Robert McCrory
	Rev. James Walton

Assistant/Associate Pastors:

Rev. William J. Holmes	Rev. Joel Pante
Rev. William C. Gifford	Rev. Todd Putney

Directors of Youth and Christian Education:

Miss Vergie Gillespie	
Rev. Bonnie J. Borrowman	
Mrs. Bonnie Tordy	1987-present

CONGREGATIONAL STYLE INDICATOR

◆ Tends VERY strongly ■ = Definitely Tends ● = Somewhat Tends

Following are 11 continuums.
Please mark **ONCE** on each line indicating which way your church tends.

1 2 3 4 5 6

1. Our church expects our pastor to take leadership.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	1. Our church expects the pastor to share in leadership.
2. Our church makes use of conflict and confrontation.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	2. Our church seeks to avoid conflict and confrontation.
3. Our church is influenced by history and tradition.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	3. Our church is influenced by contemporary ideas and trends.
4. Our church's approach to social issues is basically educational, leaving any action to individual conscience.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	4. Our church's approach to issues is decidedly activist. We have a proven history of taking a stand on social issues as a congregation.
5. Our church feels ethical decisions should be based on absolute standards.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	5. Our church feels ethical decisions should be made in light of circumstances.
6. Our church emphasizes ABC relationships locally, nationally and internationally.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	6. Our church minimizes ABC relationships locally, nationally and internationally.
7. Our church is often involved in community affairs.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	7. Our church is seldom involved in community affairs.
8. Our church's ideas and plans are made by an informal network.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	8. Our church's ideas and plans are made by the responsible board, committee or task force.
9. In making decisions our church is governed by boards.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	9. In making decisions our church is governed by the congregation.
10. Decisions are communicated formally through worship, bulletins and newsletter.	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	10. Decisions are communicated informally by bulletin boards, posters, grapevine or other informal network.
11. Our church places much emphasis on giving to ABC national and world mission	◆	■	●	●	■	◆	11. Our church places little emphasis on giving to ABC national and world mission.

OUR CHURCH LIFE

SCALE: 1 = Always
 2 = Most of The Time
 3 = Occasionally
 4 = Never
 5 = Someday Soon We Would Like to Try This

Our church offers:

Sunday School for all ages	1 (2) 3 4 5
Midweek prayer/Bible study	1 2 (3) 4 5
Midweek children's programs	1 (2) (3) 4 5
Child care for all services	1 (2) 3 4 5
Children's ministry opportunities	1 2 (3) 4 5
Youth ministry opportunities	1 (2) 3 4 5
Senior adult ministry opportunities	1 2 3 4 (5)
Single adult ministry opportunities	1 2 3 4 (5)
Small group Bible study	1 2 3 4 (5)
Needs-based small groups	1 2 3 4 (5)
Special needs groups	1 2 3 4 (5)
Women's Ministries	1 2 (3) 4 5
Men's Ministries	1 2 3 4 (5)
Spiritual gifts assessment	1 2 3 (4) 5
Teacher training events	1 2 3 4 (5)
Revival/Renewal services	1 2 3 4 (5)
Mission education	1 2 (3) 4 5
Mission Involvement	1 (2) 3 4 5
Community service opportunities	1 2 3 4 (5)
Ecumenical worship events	1 2 3 4 (5)
Intergenerational activities	1 2 (3) 4 5
Discipleship classes	1 2 3 4 (5)
Day-Care ministry	1 2 3 (4) 5
"English as a Second Language" Ministry	1 2 3 (4) 5
Community basic needs ministry	1 2 3 4 (5)
Other _____	1 2 3 4 5
Other _____	1 2 3 4 5

OUR WORSHIP LIFE

WORSHIP is the major focus of life together in the church; it gathers the people of God together regularly. Use the following list to help describe the worship experience of your congregation. You can simply check the ones that apply to your church situation or you can mark each one according to the following criteria:

- A = Always Happens
- R = Regularly Happens (note monthly, yearly, etc.)
- M = Most of the Time Happens
- O = Occasionally Happens
- N = Never Happens
- S = Someday Soon We Would Like to Try This

CONGREGATION:

- N Worship committee plans our worship
- S Children participate in worship
- ___ Lay Leaders participate:
 - R Make announcements
 - O Pray
 - N Preach
 - O Tell Children's Story
- N-S Church Covenant is read
- A People greet each other as part of worship
- ___ Prayer concerns come from the people
 - N verbally - *during worship svc.*
 - M Written form
- N-S Responsive Readings/Litanies are used
- A Unison Prayers are used
- N Unison Bible Readings are included
- A Communion Served by Minister
- O Invitation is extended to make a decision to join church or make public decision for Christ
- ___ Other: _____

MUSIC:

- ___ Choirs participate
 - N Children's Choir
 - M Youth Choir
 - A Adult Choir
 - ___ Other: _____
- N Hand Bell Choir participates

(continued on next page)

OUR WORSHIP LIFE

MUSIC: (continued)

- Congregation participates in singing
- A Praise Songs/Choruses
- A Familiar Hymns
- A New Songs
- A Gospel Songs
- Songs with inclusive language are used
- Other: _____
- A A Worship Team leads congregational singing
- A A Song Leader leads congregational singing
- O Soloists participate
- S An organ is played
- A A piano is played
- Other instruments are played
- A Guitar
- M Drums
- Other: _____
- O We use computer-generated music accompaniment

WE LIKE THE MINISTER TO:

- M Be the only worship leader
- M Mention all prayer concerns in the pastoral prayer
- A: Preach sermons with a biblical focus
- O Preach sermons on evangelism
- O Preach sermons on social issues
- O Preach sermons on stewardship
- O Share leadership of worship with laity
- N Share leadership of worship with other staff/associate pastors
- N Share leadership of worship with students in ministry
- R Tell the children's story
- N Use input from the Worship Committee
- N Encourage use of charismatic gifts
- N Use a variety of worship styles
- N Wear a robe/stole
- Other: _____

Summary of All Church Council Meeting Saturday, May 20, 2017

Present: 20 of 30 board members and officers.

The following summary is from a meeting of church leadership. Page two represents an initial assessment of where our leadership feels growth is desired and needed to serve the Lord.

1. What are the strengths of our church?

Welcoming
Music
Facilities
Dedicated members, workers
Children's programs
Adherence to Gospel
Excellent location
Missions outreach
Fellowship
Strong Christian faith (Conservative)
Family of believers (unity)
Open to those of different Christian denominations, ethnicity's

2. What are the needs of our church?

(top priorities and score ranked out of all responses)
More emphasis on personal prayer and spiritual growth (20)
To support and develop lay volunteers (17)
Pastor's class for 12 year olds and or other seekers. (16)
After school homework/tutoring program (16)
To attract and retain young families (15)
Welcome packet for visitors and new members (12)

Other responses:

Bridge between young/old
More men's/women's activities
More blended music- old/new - variety of instrumentation - "special music"
Gifts and talents utilization
Transportation
More parental involvement
Review, enhance website (it's what younger folks use!)
Small groups - spiritual, social
Revival

3. What qualities are we looking for in the new pastor?

"Barnabas", encourager
Approachable
Human warmth, relateable
Prayer warrior
Youthful (not necessarily young), enthusiastic, energetic
Goal oriented, able to challenge us, visionary
Practical
Biblical preacher, teacher
Open to try new things
Visitation - leads, encourages
Sense of humor

KBC Goals: Who, what, where, when, how. Ownership/champion(s)? Need to further define.

1. More emphasis on personal prayer and spiritual growth (20)

pastoral influence, "Daily Bread" type analog and digital apps (ex., "Jesus Calling"), Diaconate emphasis, more personal testimony (at dinners?) Numeric codes: **PS130, PS210, PS230**

2. To support and develop lay volunteers (17)

Seminars, mentoring program, encouragement, screening of qualifications, publicize opportunities, communicate what various boards do, determine steps/progression process **PS160**

3. Pastor's class for 12 year olds and/or other seekers (16)

pastor, Chr. Ed. board (need people here) **PS320**

4. After school homework/tutoring program (16)

Need to define, determine needs/candidates, tutors recruited and qualified. Legal, child protection. Needs champion. Longer term development project.

5. To attract and retain young families (15)

Welcome packet. Initial contact/visitation. Contemporary music. Funding where needed. Babysitting. Name tags (Steve Slater investigating). Need to develop and target programs. How to attract parents. Ownership: Exec. Bd., Chr. Ed., congregation **PS020, PS190, PS300**

6. Welcome packet for visitors and new members (12)

Target availability: Fall, 2017. Owner: Exec. Bd. **PS020, PS190**

Summary of Professional Skills listed above: PS020, 130, 160, 190, 210, 230, 300, 320

WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO AND WHAT DO WE WANT OUR PASTOR TO DO

Below is a list of ministry activities that relate to the life and work of a congregation. For effective partnership in ministry, the work ultimately belongs to both clergy and laity. However, at specific moments in the life of the congregation, pastoral leadership is needed more in some areas than others.

From the list select the ministry activities for which the congregation has major responsibility, and place a "C" beside them. Then select eight ministry activities for which your church is seeking professional skills at this time, and place a "P" beside them. Not all the activities listed will apply to all church positions.

Note: The numeric codes below, (PS010, PS020, PS030, etc.), will be used later by your regional consultant when matching your ministry needs with the ministry strengths of potential ministry candidates

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS010 Prepare and implement budget. (budget/financial management)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS020 Develop and maintain programs and activities for enlarging the membership and/or the church's vision for ministry. (church growth)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS025 Gather together a new body of believers on a regular basis for Bible study and worship that will lead to a new permanent congregation. (church planting)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS030 Keep persons informed through the use of the media, the church newsletter, etc. (communication)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS040 Identify and evaluate the needs of the community and work to meet those needs through individual and/or corporate action. (community assessment/involvement)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS050 Resolve conflict situations with persons and groups for the sake of the church's ministry. (conflict management)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS060 Provide opportunities (a place and/or persons) for individual, couples, families and/or groups to enter a healing relationship. (counseling)</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS070 Work with a language, ethnic or cultural group different from your own. (cross-cultural involvement/mission)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS080 Provide a teaching ministry that is based on theological, educational and historical foundations. (education)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS090 Seek to lead persons to make decisions for Christ encouraging their identification with and participation in the local church/community. (evangelism)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS120 Cooperate with churches/leaders from Baptist and other denominations. (interchurch cooperation)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS130 Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology in terms relevant to persons' lives. (interpreting the faith)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS140 Seek to recognize and call forth the potential of persons as leaders, providing opportunities for their training and growth. (leadership development)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS150 Attempt to turn vision into reality and to sustain it in the church. (leadership)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PS160 Motivate and support persons in discovering and using their gifts for ministry in their daily lives. (ministry of the laity development)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS170 Encourage and provide opportunities for the congregation/individual to be informed and involved in Christian witness at home and abroad. (mission promotion)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS175 Demonstrate keen sensibilities to other language, ethnic, and/or cultural groups and settings. (multicultural sensitivity)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PS180 Maintain a choral and/or instrumental program/s of the church. (music directing/performing)</p> |
|---|---|

- ✓ **PS190** Create an atmosphere in which persons feel accepted, included and cared for and can identify with the group. (nurturing fellowship)
- **PS200** Develop and implement the goals and objectives of the church. (planning and management)
- ✓ **PS210** Provide by word and presence an empathetic understanding of and concern for persons in the routine and joys as well as the crises and transitions of life, giving assistance where appropriate and feasible. (pastoral care)
- **PS220** Enable the staff to accomplish their duties and responsibilities and encourage their personal and professional growth. (personnel supervision)
- ✓ **PS230** Support the preaching ministry with time for preparation/reflection on the Word, and commitment to listen for the Word's power and its implications for individuals, the church, the community and the world. (preaching)
- **PS240** Design, encourage and help to implement organizational, social, educational, religious and/or recreational programs of ministry. (program development)
- **PS260** Seek to be aware of justice issues in the community and the world; then discover ways to act toward eliminating the cause of injustice. (social action enablement)
- **PS270** Provide opportunities for individuals or groups to understand and enhance the spiritual dimensions of their personal lives. (spiritual life development)
- **PS280** Enable persons to develop and use individual and corporate resources – personal gifts, skills and finances – to the glory of God. (stewardship)
- **PS290** Enable persons to lead using methods and materials appropriate for the learners' ages and situations. (teaching)
- ✓ **PS300** Make formal and informal connections with church members or others in their homes, at work or in other settings. (visitation)
- **PS310** Participate actively in worship, offering feedback and suggestions for greater participation and effectiveness in the expression of praise, thanksgiving and devotion to God. (worship preparation and leading)
- ✓ **PS320** Develop and lead a ministry with adolescents that nurtures youth toward Christian faith commitment and discipleship. (youth ministry)

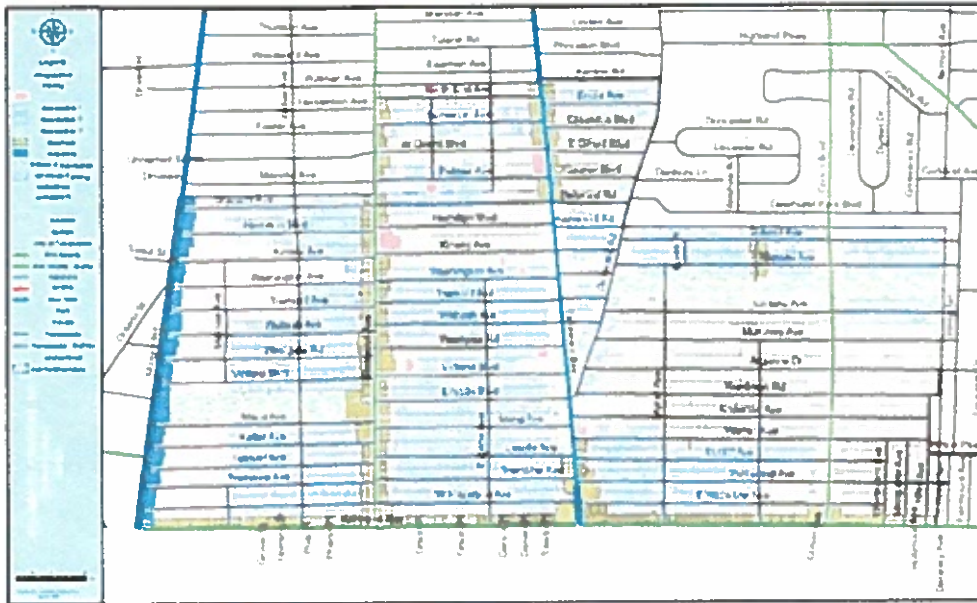
Websites

The Village of Kenmore

<http://www.villageofkenmore.org/>

The Village of Kenmore, New York was incorporated in 1899. The Village is situated just north of Buffalo, New York with the Town of Tonawanda surrounding it on all other sides. The Village is approximately 1.2 square miles and has a population of approximately 15,500.

The Village of Kenmore is "Buffalo's First Suburb". Following the Civil War, the City of Buffalo's population grew tremendously. With the invention of electric streetcars, people were able to live outside of walking distance from their jobs.



Town of Tonawanda

<http://www.tonawanda.ny.us/>

Tonawanda, which means "swift waters," was the name given to the area by Neuter and Erie Indians, the area's original inhabitants, and it probably refers to the Niagara River current.

Area Demographics

As of the 2010 census, Tonawanda, along with the Village of Kenmore had a population of 73,567, and property values of almost \$3.7 billion. A dynamic expansion of facilities and personal lifestyles has added new dimensions to the quality of life in the town.

As an industrial, commercial and residential location, the Town of Tonawanda can provide the ideal solution to satisfy the varied needs of today's more technological society.

Communities and Housing

Beautiful, tree-lined streets and comfortable homes are the hallmarks of life in the Town of Tonawanda. Residents of established neighborhoods, as well as more recently developed areas, share a common pride in home ownership. From spacious mansions to more modest homes, town residents reflect the same concern for the appearance of their community.

A wide variety of apartments and other rental housing provide the town with a variety of facilities to satisfy the lifestyle of every individual or family. All offer easy access to schools, churches, public transportation, shopping plazas, a major hospital, plus a variety of commercial and savings banks as well as other financial institutions in the town.

Kenmore-Tonawanda Union Free School District

<http://www.ktufsd.org/>

The Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District, commonly shortened to "Ken-Ton," is located in northern Erie County along the Niagara River shoreline. Ken-Ton has a population of approximately 75,000 residents and a student population of approximately 7,000 students, making it the third largest school district west of Rochester and among the largest school districts in Upstate New York. The District encompasses the vast majority of the Town of Tonawanda and the historic Village of Kenmore, which has won numerous distinctions including identification as "One of the Top 10 Great Neighborhoods" in the United States by the American Planning Association and as the highest-rated community in Western New York by "Business First."

The District operates five elementary schools, two middle schools, and two high schools. The District's two high schools, Kenmore East and Kenmore West, are two of only four International Baccalaureate (IB) schools in the eight counties of Western New York. Ken-Ton is also well known for its high school Career Academies, its exceptional art and music programs, and other innovative program offerings.

The City of Buffalo

<https://buffalochamber.org/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffalo,_New_York

Buffalo is a city in western New York state and the county seat of Erie County, on the eastern shores of Lake Erie at the head of the Niagara River. As of 2014, Buffalo is New York State's 2nd-most populous city after New York City, with 258,703 residents. The metropolitan area has a population of 1.13 million.

KBC Pulpit Committee

Area Demographics for Kenmore, NY, a first ring suburb of Buffalo, NY

From Zip Code 14217

Total Population	23,480
Median Age	43.0
Education	92.2% HS or higher
# Housing Units	11,164
Median Household Income	\$50,434
Foreign Born	654
Below Poverty Level	8.3%
Race:	
White	21,317
African American	805
Amer Indian/Alaskan	42
Asian	101
Hawaiiin/Pac. Islander	3
Other	1212
Veterans	1642

Source: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml



In recent years the “city of good neighbors” has seen a substantial amount of positive press with publications like *The New York Times* reporting on the influx in young professionals moving to the city, in lieu of places like New York or San Francisco. Sperling's Best Places regularly includes Buffalo in its "Top" lists; Best Cities to Relocate to in America, Most Energetic Cities, Most Secure Places to Live in 2011 and Top 97 Opportunity Cities. The list of publications that are recognizing the success that's going on within the city could go on. Buffalo NY is the second largest city in NY state.

History

With a history dating back over 200 years to when the city was first settled in 1789 you better believe that there are plenty of stories to be told. Wars were fought here, Presidents died and were inaugurated here, a fire decimated the city in 1812, slaves reached their freedom here, world fairs like the Pan American Exposition of 1901 were celebrated here, famous musicians, actors, artists, architects got their start here.

Cost of Living

The cost of living in Buffalo is 36 percent lower than the average for all of New York State, according to Areavibes.

Population

- *The New York Times* reporting on the influx in young professionals moving to the city, in lieu of places like New York or San Francisco.
- Since the 2010 census, it's estimated that the city's population is on the rise, according to the Census Bureau.
- Some of the population growth can be credited towards the growth in the city's immigrant population. In the past three years, nearly 2,000 immigrants have moved to the city.

Housing

Buffalo and the surrounding suburbs are regularly noted as some of the most affordable areas in the nation and the best places to raise a family. With the median cost of a home at just around \$100,000, according to Trulia, there are plenty of opportunities to live comfortably on a moderate salary.

Raising a Family

What better place than Buffalo, NY to raise a family.

- **WNY School Rankings:** <https://www.niche.com/k12/rankings/public-school-districts/best-overall/m/buffalo-metro-area/>
- **WNY Best Places to raise a family:** <https://www.niche.com/places-to-live/rankings/suburbs/best-suburbs-for-families/m/buffalo-metro-area/>

Weather

Just to clarify, Buffalo isn't always buried in snow. We experience all four seasons, albeit in extremes, but there's plenty of variety.

- In the fall we have mild days, the winter offers plenty of snow, the spring is moderate with plenty of nice days, and the summer is beautiful with sunny days in the 70s, 80's and sometimes the 90's.

Sports

There are also plenty of devoted sports fans for the Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres. While neither has claimed a national title in a while, Buffalonians always have hope that their next win is just around the corner. Buffalo also offers baseball. Attend a Triple A Buffalo Bison's baseball game.

Food

- The city is known for its namesake “Buffalo” wings (visit the world-renowned Anchor Bar – creator of the Buffalo Wing) but the food options go far beyond butter and hot sauce-covered chicken. With such a rich history filled with immigrants from all over the world, the food scene is like nothing you’d expect. The first wave of immigrants--Irish, Polish and Italian--filled Buffalo with delicious eats that shaped the character of the city. The East and West sides of the Buffalo is filled with dynamic restaurants with delicious foods from all corners of the globe and shouldn't be missed.

Architecture

The city boasts examples of internationally renowned architecture. Many of the world's greatest architects got their start in Buffalo, helping contribute to the impressive collection of buildings spread throughout the city. Buffalo has dozens of examples of internationally celebrated architect's work, many of which don't get the recognition they deserve. Frank Lloyd Wright, Minoru Yamasaki, Louise Bethune, Louis Sullivan, H.H. Richardson and Frederick Law Olmsted are just a handful of the talented and celebrated architects who have contributed to the city's skyline, making it one of the most architecturally significant cities in the world.

Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin house just underwent a multimillion dollar restoration over the course of fifteen-plus years and is one of the largest attractions in the city. M & T Plaza in downtown Buffalo may seem familiar because it was designed by Minoru Yamasaki, the world-renowned architect who designed New York's twin towers. Louis Sullivan's Guaranty Building was one of the first skyscrapers in the world. Louise Bethune, the first professional female architect, built the Lafayette Hotel which was once considered one of the best fifteen hotels in the world when it was completed in 1911. Last but not least, Frederick Law Olmsted's work shaped the city, literally. The man who designed the world famous Central Park in New York City focused on greenery over city streets with his Buffalo design as he dreamed of a city formed around a park system rather than dropping a park in the center of the city.

Culture

Buffalo is a city with plenty of character, heart and culture and there are so many ways to experience this. Through the museums, restaurants, galleries, festivals and simply by walking the streets, you pick up on the laid back atmosphere that makes Buffalo one of the greatest places (in my humble opinion) in the world. You'll be hard pressed not to run into a Buffalonian, far or near, who won't talk your ear off about all of the great things in this town.

The blend of cultures and ethnicities make each neighborhood a truly unique pocket of culture, from food to festivals and events, these areas of Buffalo make the city one of the most diverse places you can visit. Stepping into the historic Polish East side, strolling the city's Little Italy on Hertel Avenue, or visiting any number of traditional Irish pubs make you feel like you're in a cultural hub for a truly immersive experience. All of these unique destinations make a city that has a unique persona that is worth the visit.

Arts

The art scene in Buffalo is one of the most dynamic around as the city has proven to be a hotbed for creative types. The low cost of living and the robust community make it the ideal location for photographers, painters, sculptors, musicians and actors. The edge of Main Street downtown is lined with both small and nationally celebrated theaters like Shea's and the Irish Classical Theater. These theaters put on a range of productions all year round that cater to all types of theater-goers. Many of the Broadway shows from NYC tour to Buffalo first! Galleries, in the artistic communities in Buffalo, line the streets and in the summertime the neighborhoods each host their own festivals to showcase the talents of Buffalonians.

Scenery

Aside from the Olmsted park system which defines the layout of the city there are plenty of beautiful and peaceful spots to soak up the scenery.

- Many of the parks throughout Buffalo are small pocket parks that allow for a peaceful respite from the chaos all around. The outer and inner harbor offer miles of paths along the Buffalo River and Lake Erie, and Tiff Nature preserve can make you feel like you're hundreds of miles away from the closest civilization.
- The recently renovated Canalside was replicated to look like its former self. Over 100 years ago this neighborhood was the central vein for the city's shipping and trading. Recently the city has invested millions of dollars to make it one of the most beautiful and visited places in the city; perfect for a quiet walk or numerous activities like kayaking, biking or paddle boating.
- A 20 minute ride and you are in majestic Niagara Falls. Hear the roaring of the falls while taking a ride on the Maid of the Mist. Enjoy a picnic lunch on the side of the river and watch the water fall over the gorge.
- Take the international Canadian US Peace Bridge and 23 minutes you are in Ontario, Canada. Sightsee the old forts or enjoy wine tasting at Niagara on the lake.
- Nothing is better than an ice cream cone from Old Man Rivers on the Niagara River. Only minutes away from any location. Enjoy eating your cone and watching the action on the river.
- Enjoy Boating? Buffalo is the place to be. The Niagara River and Lake Erie both offer boat friendly, fun and safe waters. There are plenty of boating opportunities throughout WNY. Take a tube ride down the Niagara River or watch the sun set at Sunset Bay. The WNY Power Boat Association (WNYOPA). has one of the largest "Go Fast" Poker Runs in the country.

Things to Do

- **Summer:** There are tons of festivals that celebrate the city's arts, culture and cuisine. The Allentown Art Festival, Elmwood Avenue Festival of the Arts, Taste of Buffalo, National Buffalo Wing Festival, Memorial Day Parade and Juneteenth are only a few of the many events, many of which are one of the largest of their kind in the nation. Boating & Fishing.
- **Winter:** Sledding, Ice Skating, Skiing, Snowboarding, Snowmobiling, Polar Bear Swim
- **Fall:** October Fest, Pumpkin Patch, Letchworth State Park
- **Spring:** The Ice Boom Celebration, Mother's Day and/or Father's Day Brunch on the water front, Easter Celebrations

With so many restaurants, galleries, museums, events and festivals, we haven't even scratched the surface of what the city has to offer. Coupled with the low housing prices and general affordability, Buffalo is a city worth considering when you're looking for your next move.

Check out these sites for more information and fun facts about WNY:

- thingstodo.buffalonews.com/events
- www.villageofkenmore.org
- <https://www.zillow.com/kenmore-tonawanda-ny>
- www.city-data.com/city/Kenmore-New-York.htm
- <http://www.movoto.com/guide/buffalo-ny/move-to-buffalo/>
- <http://globetrottergirls.com/2014/08/10-surprising-facts-about-buffalo-new-york/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/buffalowyoachamber>
- buffaloareachamber.org
- www.thepartnership.org
- <https://parks.ny.gov>