

From the Heart of the Pastor

In the last few weeks the sermons focused on: What is Jesus doing in your life and who is Jesus to you?; The Holiness of Jesus and His power in your life; and Jesus enduring grace which takes you beyond your detours to His destination. In our lives we are experiencing many changes, and it can feel uncertain and sometimes unstable. The more uncertainty we face in our lives, the more real Jesus' enduring strength can be. In Luke 6:46-49, Jesus encourages us to build our homes upon a solid foundation, so they will not be washed away when storms come (Luke 6:49).

I encourage you to build your house on the firm foundation, by setting some time aside each day, finding a specific location in your home, at a local coffee house, library, or someplace else you are not interrupted. Take some time to get to know Jesus better, by reading through The Gospel of Luke. You may want to supplement the reading with a book of prayers, the handout "The Names of Jesus," the Upper Room magazine or a website for the next month. The foundation of Scripture and a book of devotions and prayer will allow God to speak to you every day, and you will see His power and direction in your life.

Please also pray for our congregation as well, as we are adjusting to our times and are seeking God's goodness, strength, and wisdom.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,

Pastor Wayne

2009 Advent Mission Giving Wrap Up

Kalamazoo Drop-In Child Care Center

11 bottles apple juice
618 small paper plates
8 rolls paper towel
6 jars of jelly
13 packages snack crackers
768 baby wipes

Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes

196 pounds of food

Ministry with Community

hundreds of personal care items

**Christmas Dinner for Persons in Need
at Stockbridge Ave. UMC**

40 coats
31 hats
16 mittens/gloves
9 scarves
5 blankets
21 socks
5 undershirts
2 boots
several boxes of toys and stuffed animals
winter clothing

King-Westwood Adopt-a-Family

6 families (30 persons total) (all we were given)



News from Worship & Fine Arts

For the heights and depths. That have no reach, God gave us music, the soul's own speech

Musical Offerings In Worship

Date	First Service 8:30	Second Service 10:55
Jan 17		High School Singers / Praise Team
Jan 24	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir / Praise Team
Jan 31	Glory Con II	Glory Con II / Praise Team

Jane's Office Hours

Office Location: Epworth House, Phone: 344-1765 Ext 205

Cell: 517-204-2439, Email: jwright-wumc@sbcglobal.net

Sunday: Worship 7:30-1:00, Rehearsal 4:45-6:15

No Office hours

Monday: Day off (in Lansing for Capital City Ringer Rehearsals)

Tuesday: Meetings 9-1:30, Office 1:30-7:30 pm

Wednesday: 1 - 6 pm Rehearsals 6 - 9:30pm

Thursday: 1 - 6 pm Rehearsals 6 - 9:30 pm

Friday: 12:30 - 6 pm

Saturday: Family day

While I am happy to meet with you, please call ahead to schedule. My schedule does fluctuate occasionally and I wouldn't want to miss you.

High School Choir Is Begun

For those high school people who love to sing, we now have started a choir group for you. If you might be interested, you can contact Jane Wright at the office (see above) or talk to the director - Tina Egan at: tegan@InterActMich.org or call at: 381-1074.

Liturgical Dance Class For All Ages

Beginning Tuesday, January 19 at 7pm, there will be an offering for those who are interested in a liturgical Dance class. This class will all ages to explore the meaning behind movement as expressed through Christian music. The class will last for 8 weeks and will involve stretching exercises, creative work to design what we do, and the actual memorization and sharing of our outcomes with one another and perhaps in worship if we become inspired and willing to do so. There is no cost except for the possibility of becoming hooked on dancing for God. Register by calling the church office or:

—————Cut here and mail to church or put in Jane's box—————

I am interested in the liturgical dance class beginning January 19. Name _____

Other family members participating: _____

Nursery needs? Yes ___ No ___ for (# of children 2nd grade and younger) _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____ Home phone: _____

Cell: _____

Getting to Know You

Clint Whitcomb

Born May 28, 1966 in Plainwell, MI

Kalamazoo Central HS 1984

WMU Automotive Engineering

Married May 19, 1990 in Farmington Hills MI, Orchard United Methodist Church

Family: Son Daniel born December 28, 1999, Fifth grader at King-Westwood School.

Jean Whitcomb

Born March 7, 1967 in Ferndale, MI

North Farmington HS, 1985

BBA Finance WMU 1990

Clint was born in Plainwell and lived his toddler years in Martin, his parents taught at Martin High School. Eventually they moved to Kalamazoo where Ellen was a stay-at-home mom and Ron taught at Gull Lake. Jean grew up in Farmington Hills.

It was not Wesley Foundation and their common background in the Methodist Church that brought Jean and Clint together at WMU, it was sharing a group of friends that all lived at Bigelow Hall. Clint brought her to Westwood for Easter Services during her freshman year and dating began shortly after. She said it felt similar to her home church from her first visit and where she was supposed to be.

Both Jean and Clint have been very active at Westwood. Growing up Clint participated in the MYF, choir and served as acolyte, he served on the Appalachia Service Project Team at least 15 times. He currently ushers, teaches Senior High Sunday School, serves on the Trustees Committee and has taken two Disciple classes, Alpha and Financial Peace. Jean has taught Sunday School, taken Disciple I through IV, Financial Peace, Alpha and currently is church financial secretary, and serves on the staff-parish and stewardship-finance committees as well as occasional worship assistant.

Jean has been a teller supervisor for National City Bank in Downtown Kalamazoo for the past year, prior to that she was a teller then teller supervisor through the many transformations and name changes that ultimately became Bank of America. Clint has worked in a variety of local businesses and dealerships selling auto parts.

Outside of church, Clint is very active with Daniel's Cub Scout Den and enjoys camping with them, an activity he learned to enjoy when he was growing up. He also likes to hunt and has bagged a deer almost every year he has tried. Yard work and being the general handyman for home and car repairs are also fun ways to spend his time. He enjoys reading magazines with an educational content such as "Popular Mechanics." Less active times may find him watching action movies or TV shows such as "NCIS" and "CSI." Musically, he enjoys country music and has special fondness for the ASP theme song, "Here I am, Lord," and also "Pass it On."

Jean reads a lot of fiction, currently the "Outlander Series" by Diana Gabaldon. Her all time favorite book is "To Kill a Mockingbird." For watching "Jeopardy" is definitely #One, but the "Lord of the Rings" movies are also high on her list. She enjoys "Castle" on TV. Jean listens mostly to country and classic rock, (Beatles music of the 60s tops her chart). Her favorite hymns are "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and "It is Well with My Soul."

Jean says they don't eat out a lot, but she likes "anything I don't have to cook." Clint, a meat and potatoes man, enjoys Logan's or Olde Peninsula.

Daniel follows in Clint's footsteps serving as acolyte, and playing the chimes and in Westwood Ringers. He enjoys reading, especially the Harry Potter books and thinks he might like a career as a writer of fantasy fiction. He likes "Survivor" and eating at the Texas Corral.



Disciple II

Jim Jameson will be teaching Disciple II beginning Wednesday, January 13th from 6:00-8:00 pm. Please call Jim at 271-0839 if you are planning to take Disciple II so books can be ordered.

Camp Scholarship Dinner

Join members of your church family for a hearty soup and salad bar lunch following worship on Sunday, January 17 in Simpson Hall. A variety of soups (Italian vegetable beef, potato, chili and more) and tossed salad with your choice of toppings plus bread and dessert will be served. Cost is a donation to the camp scholarship fund. Thank you for your support!

Human Relations Day

A special offering will be received on January 17 for Human Relations Day. Your donation supports a network of grassroots social-service organizations and offer youth offenders a second change. You open doors for church-based community developers to work in racial and ethnic-minority communities in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Special giving envelopes are in your offering envelope packet or will be available in the January 17 worship folder.

Faith-Hope Circle

Faith-Hope Circle will be meeting on January 21 at 1 for refreshments. We will continue studying The Purpose Driven Life. We are on chapter 3.

Jeanette Jupp

Thank You

Thank you to my church family for the very generous gift at Christmas. What a lovely outpouring of love. It is amazing to me how generous, loving and giving you all are. Thank you for being a living testament to the God we love and serve. May God richly bless your New Year. Jane Wright

Remember The Jobs Board

Please stop by the jobs board and take notice of the needs there. It will become far more effective if we all take a look once in awhile, lift those needs in prayer, and keep our eyes and ears open for the sake of others.

Do you have a job that someone could help do, or know of a job that is open and ready to fill?

Do you need a job? Please post your needs or insights on the JOBS bulletin board located within a section of the large red bulletin board near the elevator on the top level.

From the Library

Have you considered participating in Reading Together? Reading Together is a program supported by the Kalamazoo Public Library designed to get the entire community reading the same book at the same time. Throughout the year programs involving issues raised by the book are given, ending with the author visiting during National Library Week. This year's book is Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson. He will visit Kalamazoo on March 17. The church library now has a copy of the book available to check out. For more information on Reading Together visit the Kalamazoo Public Library website at www.kpl.gov and click on the Reading Together link.

Early Eves

Early Eves will meet Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. in Schneider Lounge.

Meal by Roxanne and Alberta Cummings

Devotions by Laurel Anderson

Program will be Planning and Programs and Pledging for the year

Thanks,
Marian Burkey

Sign up for Altar Flowers

The new flower chart is posted in the Narthex outside the office to sign up for altar flowers. Now is the time to sign up if you would like to help provide these flowers. Please indicate whether the flowers are "in memory of" or "in honor of". Only one request per week if possible. Make your check for \$15.00 payable to Westwood United Methodist Church with "Altar Committee" noted in the memo line. Put it in the collection plate or in the office. An Altar committee member will contact you about your wishes for the arrangement or plant. The committee member will make the arrangement or purchase the plant. You may pick up your arrangement or plant after the second service ends.

Appropriate arrangements or plants may be put in the garden during Lent. The Altar Committee will put a rose on the altar for newborns. This is a gift from the church.

Attention New Adventurer's

Sally Mahieu and Mary Grant are planning an exciting night of food and fellowship. We will meet for dinner at TGIFriday's and after dinner, we challenge all of you bowlers to a night of bowling at one of the local lanes. If you aren't a bowler, you can come and watch the rest of us bowl that perfect 300 game!

When: Saturday, January 23, 2010, 4 PM for Dinner

Where: TGIFriday's off West Main
Bowling: At this point to be determined.

Call Sally @ 216-3231 or Mary @ 345-9422 by Monday, January 18th as TGIF need to know how many to set up for.

Pasty Sale – Saturday, January 23

Our second pasty sale of the season will be held Saturday, January 23. In an effort to make the amount of pasties produced more feasible, **a maximum of 750 pasties will be made.** Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis. One more sale will occur in March. Contact Nancy VandenBrink at 344-6945 if you have questions.

Please return your order to the church office by Monday, January 18.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Quantity desired:

_____ Baked (\$2.75 each) _____ Unbaked (\$2.25 each)

Please indicate the time you will pick up your order:
(for unbaked orders, morning is best)

_____ 10:30 a.m. _____ 12:30 p.m. _____ 2:00 p.m.

Checks should be made payable to Westwood United Methodist Women.
(Orders can be prepaid or pay at time of pick-up)



The Alpha Course

What is the point of **life**?

What happens when you **die**?

Is **forgiveness** possible?

What relevance does **Jesus** have for our lives today?

What is Alpha?

The course is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening manner over ten, thought provoking weekly sessions. There is a meal together at the beginning of each session which gives you an opportunity to get to know each other. Listen, learn, discuss and discover. Ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile.

A Wonderful Gift!

It is said by many that the greatest gift one human being can give another is the gift of Jesus Christ. One of the ways that many try to give that gift is by bringing someone in their life to an Alpha Course. How about you? Do you have a friend, coworker, neighbor or relative that just might be ready to give such a gift to? If not will you keep looking? Remember you will need a dinner reservation for the celebration Dinner on the 12th.

Please know this is a good time to put out your Alpha yard signs & car magnets!

Come to Alpha for:
Good Food, Good Fun, and Real Answers

The Next Alpha course @ WUMC begins Tuesday January 12, 2010.

Please contact Mike Turner (207-6150) for answers to your questions concerning the Alpha Course.

WOW! We Won the Prize!

Thanks again to all of you who purchased Peel-It cards from our Westwood Singers this fall. We hope that you are using and enjoying them. We also thought you'd like to know that for every 5 cards that each girl sold, her name was entered into a drawing to win a Wii. Out of over 1,500 names, the winner was our own Natalie Sturdy!



From The Salvation Army

Dear Doug,

Thank you for ringing the bell for The Salvation Army's 2009 Red Kettle Campaign!

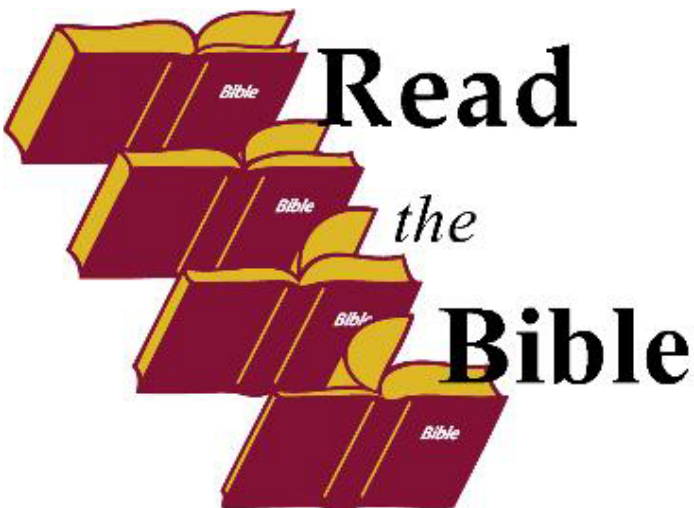
In our third year of an all-volunteer bell-ringing force, your time and efforts helped up to have more kettles covered throughout the season than ever before. Consequently, our kettles have so far received almost \$40,000 more in donations this year compared to last. What an achievement!

Thank you for withstanding the cold wind, snowy days and nights, and the hours of standing on your feet. By making these sacrifices, you will have helped The Salvation Army reach thousands of families in Kalamazoo County through all of its services and programs, including emergency utility assistance, emergency food pantry, Thanksgiving food baskets, Christmas Toy Shop, after-school youth programs, senior citizen luncheons, and much more!

Beyond this, you have helped The Salvation Army spread the hope and joy of Christmas – the love of Jesus Christ.

Thank you again for all the time you're given us and God bless you this Christmas Season!

Grace and Peace,
Major Don Tekautz
Corps Officer



Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

Prayers for comfort, healing and strength

Homebound

Pauline Hannon, 1700 Bronson Place, #226, Kalamazoo, 49009

Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast, 2639 Hazelnut Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Gary Babbitt, 47040 24th St., Mattawan, MI 49071

Don Bertch, Rose Arbor Hospice Residence, #9, 5473 Croydon Avenue, Kalamazoo, 49009

Susan Clapp, 1974 Dunlin Court NE, Grand Rapids, 49505

Gary Cumming, 4867 Sweet Cherry Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Judy DeHaan, 612 Jenks Blvd., Kalamazoo, 49006

Irene Dutton, 918 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, 49006

Shirley Greene

Betty Georgeau, Tendercare Kalamazoo, 1701 S. 11th, Kalamazoo, 49009

Dale Griffith, 6118 Ormada, Kalamazoo, 49048

Vicki Hale

Mabel Hillis, 3014 Winter Wheat, Kalamazoo, MI, 49004

Erica Jenkins, 28047 Wellington Rd., Kalamazoo, 49008

Doris Johnson & Family and Joanne Clapp & Family

(Bill Johnson died on December 28, 2009)

Jack Lancaster, 1629 Turwill Lane, Kalamazoo, 49006

Maxine McGehee, 6934 N. 14th St., Kalamazoo, 49004

(Maxine had surgery this week.)

Jim Parker, 5939 N. Westnedge, Kalamazoo, 49004

Mary Penn, 550 Chadd's Ford Way, Oshtemo, 49009

Jean Marie Peters *(Pastor Wayne's sister)*

Betty Pick, Bickford Cottage, Merry Bee, 4704 W. Milham Ave., Portage, 49024

John Reid, 1205 Bunkerhill, Kalamazoo, 49009

Mike Roush, 522 Cherokee #212, Kalamazoo, 49006

Patricia Smith

Emily Strong, 3504 Iroquois Trail, Kalamazoo, 49006

Betty Thompson, 1400 N. Drake Rd., Apt. 189, Kalamzoo, 49006

Nancy Wallus, 717 Kendall, Kalamazoo, 49006

Jean Weinberg *(Jean will have outpatient surgery.)*

Our Community Partner

King Westwood Elementary School Staff

Protection from Harm in Iraq and Afghanistan

Toby Brown

Carl Williams

Year of the Neighbor

Pray for our Westwood Neighborhood

Prayers for Continued Blessings

Congratulations to Carolyn & James Parker on their 52nd Wedding Anniversary on Jan. 18, 2010.






Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 17, 2010	
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
9:30 AM	Sunday School
10:55 AM	Worship Celebration
12:15 PM	Camp Dinner
4:45 PM	Westwood Ringers
6:00 PM	Youth Groups
Monday, January 18, 2010	
	Martin Luther King Day
12:00 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive
7:00 PM	Courters
7:00 PM	Staff Parish
7:00 PM	Missions
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts of America (TBD)
7:15 PM	Board of Trustees
Tuesday, January 19, 2010	
10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
6:00 PM	Alpha
6:30 PM	Early Eves
7:00 PM	Compassionate Friends
7:00 PM	Liturgical Dance Class
Wednesday, January 20, 2010	
10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
1:00 PM	UMW
6:00 PM	Disciple II
6:00 PM	Westwood Singers
6:00 PM	High School Choir
6:15 PM	4th Day Women
6:15 PM	The "Q"
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
7:00 PM	WHBE
8:00 PM	Praise Team Rehearsal
Thursday, January 21, 2010	
12:00 PM	4th Day Men
6:00 PM	Glory Connection II
7:00 PM	Stewardship & Finance
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
7:00 PM	Foundation
7:00 PM	BSA Program Committee
Friday, January 22, 2010	
	Preparation for Pastie Sale
Saturday, January 23, 2010	
10:30 AM	Pastie Sale
Sunday, January 24, 2010	
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
9:30 AM	Sunday School
10:55 AM	Worship Celebration
4:45 PM	Westwood Ringers
6:00 PM	Youth Groups



At Westwood United Methodist Church, we seek to connect:

-  with God, seeking a spiritual center for our lives
-  with each other, creating friendships that last
-  with our community, serving the needs of our neighbors

Come and see!

**Worship Celebrations at
8:30 a.m. and 10:55 a.m.
Nursery care is provided
during both celebrations.**

Visit us on the web at:

<http://www.westwood-umc.org/>

Messenger Deadlines:

The Westwood Messenger is published weekly (bi-weekly from June through September). Deadlines are the Thursday prior to publication.

Upcoming Publications:

Jan. 18

Jan. 25



**Westwood
United Methodist
Church**

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Kalamazoo, MI 49006-2946
(269) 344-7165

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Westwood Messenger articles relate to the activities of Westwood United Methodist Church. Any member or constituent may submit articles for publication. Place articles, with your name and phone, in the *Messenger* mailbox outside the church office or send an e-mail to betharbogast@charter.net by Wednesday of the week before it should appear. Your name may be used in the article. The *Messenger* is mailed Tuesday. Subscribers do not receive it before Wednesday. Articles must be submitted two weeks before events. All articles are edited to correct errors and conform with postal regulations. Due to space constraints, some articles are abbreviated or postponed at the discretion of the editor. If you have any questions or comments, address them to the editor: Beth Arbogast at 343-3937.

Westwood United Methodist Church Staff and Volunteers

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

- Pastor, The Reverend Dr. Wayne A. Price 762-4787
E-mail: pastorwayne@westwood-umc.org
- Director of Worship and Fine Art Ministry, Jane Wright 544-2390
E-mail: jwright-wumc@sbcglobal.net
- Organist,
Church/Staff Admin. Assistant, Lois Moeller
E-mail: lmoeller@sbcglobal.net
- Child Care Staff
- Custodial Staff: Dan Malseed, Nicole Malseed, Ash Norton, Bill Urfer, Stephanie Knewtson, David Knewtson
- Lay Leader, Bob Strobel 342-8816
- Lay Minister of Spiritual Formation, Louise Jameson 382-3463
- Lay Minister of Worship, Matthew Knewtson 349-5603
- Staff-Parish Chairperson, Irv Cumming
- Wesley Foundation Director, Lisa Batten 344-4076
Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College (Office)
- Westwood Messenger* Editor, Beth Arbogast 343-3937
E-mail: betharbogast@charter.net

Subscribing to the *Messenger*

The *Westwood Messenger* is a newsletter published weekly by the members and friends of Westwood United Methodist Church. There is no subscription fee. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe, call the church office at 344-7165.

Westwood UMC supports **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**

For general information or if you are unsure where to direct your question, please email info@westwood-umc.org and your inquiry will be forwarded appropriately.

Note to Subscribers: If you will be out of town and chose not receive your 3rd class mail, please contact the church at 344-7165 to have your *Messenger* temporarily stopped. If it is not stopped, the church pays for the original postage, plus a fee when it is returned. Please help us save costs and contact us as soon as possible.