



# The Westwood Messenger

February 15, 2010

Volume 110, Issue 7

Westwood United Methodist Church  
<http://www.westwood-umc.org/>

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## *From the Heart of the Pastor*

We receive the promise from God through the words of Paul, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9). The congregational meeting on February 8 was filled with a spirit of perseverance. We are engaging in "the harvest" and seeing lives renewed by Jesus. As Jesus told us, "If a person remains in me and I in him, the person will bear much fruit, apart from me the person can do nothing" (John 15:5). We are bearing much fruit, because we are connected with Jesus.

Many newcomers to Westwood UMC shared with me how they are experiencing the presence of God here. Some expressed gratitude that they are learning to live their faith. Others shared with me consolation they received during a time of grief. Still others told me their appreciation for the attention they received during times of illness. We are the presence of Jesus' encouragement for people who needed our Lord at a critical time in their lives. Westwood UMC has been the presence of Jesus for many who know their need for God. Paul goes on to say, "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10). We praise God that Westwood UMC makes a difference not only in Kalamazoo, but reaching all the way to Russia and Haiti. Our support of Resurrection UMC in Russia enables people to hear the good news of Jesus' forgiveness and resurrection. In Haiti the established United Methodist missions are providing needed food and water. Even more, as John Wesley once said, our missions, "labor to do good to their souls". Through our missions we provide God's provisions for those in need, and also the hope in heaven which comes only through faith.

On Sunday we will have three opportunities to engage in God's wonderful blessings at Westwood UMC. **First**, you can commit to pray for Jesus to bless our congregation with His wisdom and presence. Jesus proclaimed, "My house will be called a house of prayer" (Matthew 21:13). God's power strengthens us and gives us the love we need to live faithfully. We receive it when we seek and ask through prayer (Luke 11:9-10). **Second**, we ask you to commit or recommit some of your time to help God's work to be done at Westwood UMC. You and some friends may feel called to "Adopt-a-Room" in the church, making sure the room is in good order. Perhaps, you may be called to help with a ministry such as the Nursery. Please pray about how you can offer the gift of yourself to God in service. **Third**, we ask you to consider your financial gifts to Westwood UMC. Our congregation reflects the reality of our community in many ways. In the last year we have felt the impact of a difficult economy, and are seeking to bridge the gap between our income and expenses. We already reduced some expenses and may need to do more. Even so, we are confident God will provide a way to the future He wants for us. While it is a great challenge, it is also a great opportunity. We are trusting God will do more than we "can ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20).

You all are a blessing. Your willingness to seek Jesus and faithfully be His presence to the world is making a difference in Kalamazoo and throughout the world. Please pray about what you can do to continue building God's Kingdom through Westwood UMC.

Gratefully serving Jesus with you,

Pastor Wayne

.....  
*Offer Christ, Grow in Faith, Touch Lives, and Make a Difference*

# News from Worship & Fine Arts



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

## Musical Offerings In Worship

<b>Date</b>	<b>First Service 8:30</b>	<b>Second Service 10:55</b>
Feb 17, Wednesday	Ash	Wednesday communion service – 7pm.
Feb 21		Westwood Singers, Jr Chimes, Praise Team
Feb 28	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir, WW Ringers, Praise Team
Mar 7	Westwood Handbell Ens, Q	WHBE, Q, Instrumentalists, Praise Team

## Ash Wednesday Service This Wednesday, Feb 17

Plan to be at church on Wednesday evening to begin the 40 day challenge as we walk through the Lenten Season together with Jesus. There will be communion and the application of ashes.

## The Westwood Praise Band In Its 9<sup>th</sup> Year

The Praise Band at Westwood began before I arrived (Jane Wright). Some time during 2001 some people decided to start doing some praise singing before the second service and let people enjoy the concept. As I arrived in 2002, things were still going about that way, and this singing of praise songs had become known as the “preliminary group.” Many folks figured there was still time to visit in the narthex area in the l-o-n-g pews by the window until they heard the music stop and then they would “Go to church.” Others did arrive early to sing some of their favorite praise songs and truly enjoyed it.

I do believe we have come a long way in 9 years. One of the blessings has been to see that we have become a family in this regard. I like the fact that there is a huge variety of music being offered here at Westwood, and we have intentionally decided that it can all minister to hearts, sometimes to ours in a very personal way, and sometimes to someone else’s. Because we are a family, we have made room for traditional hymns and praise songs to exist and become compatible within the same worship service. I might tell you that we at Westwood have become the exception and some folks don’t know quite what to make of it. We are actually growing in worship attendance, and that has gone up against some statistics that say this shouldn’t happen. I have actually been asked to write an article about “church families” and how we at Westwood incorporate our world to include each other – the idea of generations growing together in the love of Christ. Many churches have actually created two or three distinct and separate populations of people within the same church. They worship in separate locations and times in the style they are most prefer.

Thanks to the Jousting Dinosaurs – Mike Rotgers (son of Bill and Alicia) and his band for bringing in yet a slightly different genre into our “blended” worship setting last Sunday. I heard one youth comment on how awesome that was!! And – when Mike wrote on my facebook, he was saying how much he enjoyed all the different musical offerings that day – the variety being part of the great experience of worship!

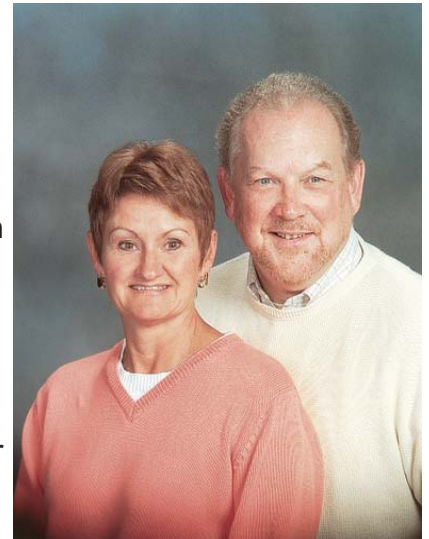
Thank you, members of the Praise team here at Westwood – for all you do for and in our worship experience each week. Thank you, Westwood UMC for your hearts of pure gold, that understand more clearly as time progresses, what it is to be a church family. Thank you, Lord for making us all unique in our tastes and characteristics; and yet drawing us together to be your body of Christ.

# Getting to Know You

Ronald Anspach  
Born in Lansing MI, June 16, 1947  
Grand Ledge HS 1965  
BA WMU 1989, Industrial Marketing  
Daughter Alicia (1974) and husband Scott Mejeur live in Kalamazoo with their 4 children  
Son Matthew (1979) lives in Kalamazoo with wife Cindi and their 2 children  
Ron's mother, Betty Anspach, also attends Westwood UMC

Royann Anspach  
Born in Lansing MI, Feb 14, 1949  
Lansing Everett HS 1967  
Lansing Business U 1969, Secretarial Degree  
Daughter Alicia (1974) and husband Scott Mejeur live in Kalamazoo with their 4 children  
Son Matthew (1979) lives in Kalamazoo with wife Cindi and their 2 children  
Ron's mother, Betty Anspach, also attends Westwood UMC

A campus party at Michigan State was where it all began for Ron and Royann, who both grew up in and around the greater Lansing area. Both raised as Methodists, they were married September 12, 1970 at Lansing's Mt. Hope UMC by former WUMC Pastor Don Merrill. After HS graduation, Ron began to work for a Lansing area jeweler which resulted in his transfer in 1971 to manage the Kalamazoo Budd's Jewelry on the downtown mall. Later he worked for various area businesses in sales, deciding in 1984 to return to school, completing his bachelor's degree in 1989. Ron has worked since for Eaton Corporation, currently as "Warranty Coordinator."



Royann was working for the State of Michigan when Ron's transfer came, and she was able to continue working for the state here which she did off and on for 30 years in various capacities at the Kalamazoo Regional Psychiatric Hospital, the Department of Corrections, and WMU, taking time off when her children were young. After retiring from the state, Royann worked for Ullrey & Company and currently enjoys secretarial subbing in the KPS system.

They recall with special appreciation their first few visits to Westwood, Zack York stood near the office and greeted people as they arrived. Zack would recognize and remember each one and welcomed the Anspachs each Sunday by name. Jeanette and Donald Jupp were neighbors and also made them feel welcome. Since their arrival at Westwood in 1974, they have participated in many activities including the old and New Adventurers, and co-leading the Jr. High UMYF with Pat and Keith Bailey in the 1970s. Ron sings in the Chancel Choir, Glory Connection, and Blendings, and has served on several committees including music, education and finance. Royann shares her smile as part of the hospitality and welcoming committees, has served on the Pastor Parish Committee, is part of the Service Group and is a member of Early Eves.

Ron and Royann often attend the various activities of their six grandchildren, who range in age from 5 to 18 years: soccer, dance, gymnastics, little league and swimming, to name a few. They both also enjoy camping and other outdoor activities such as walking. Ron enjoys woodworking, playing golf and reads, current favorite authors are Dale Brown, Clive Cussler and Jean Heller. Royann loves her aerobics classes and presently enjoys reading the books of Debbie Macomber.

Television time may include shows like "Biggest Loser," "House" or "The Mentalist" for Royann; home improvement and gardening shows for Ron. They like all kinds of food and enjoy trying Ethnic and "Mom and Pop" restaurants, especially when traveling. Royann enjoys country music and "The Old Rugged Cross" is her favorite hymn. Ron likes most styles of music and his favorite hymn is "Through It All" while at other times he is apt to listen to the oldies.

# Golden Gazette

Newsletter of the OLDER ADULT COUNCIL

Sallie Platt, Editor

## 55 Plus

- Who? YOU! and you and you
- When? At noon on Wednesday, March 3, 2010
- Where? Simpson Hall
- What? Meal prepared by Jim Jameson, served by his crew of helpers.  
To be followed by a program given by Shig Toda from the Michigan Commission for the Blind.
- How? Fill out the reservation form below and return it to the church office by Mar. 1.

### March Golden Birthdays

#### Send a Card - Make a Call - Say a Prayer

- 3/3 Beverly Prior, 1337 Manor, 49006, Ph. 381-6044
- 3/8 Georgia Kalhorn, 1223 Coolidge, 49006, Ph. 381-6044
- 3/11 Henry Budzynski, 515 Turwill Ln., 49006, Ph. 344-1034
- 3/11 David McKee, 3823 Greenleaf Cir., 49008, Ph. 375-8343
- 3/16 Irene Tetzlaff, 1400 N. Drake #107, 49006, Ph. 343-0072
- 3/16 Robert Watkins, 3222 Magnolia Cir., 49008, Ph. 342-0953
- 3/21 Judy DeHaan, 612 Jenks Blvd., 49006, Ph. 381-4510
- 3/25 Phyllis Lubbert, 3582 Wembley Ln., 49009, Ph. 375-7734
- 3/27 Thomas Hillman, 4210 Leisure Lane #M-914, 49006, Ph. 552-4317
- 3/31 Shirley Mitchell, 245 Roundhill Rd., 49009, Ph. 353-1897



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### Reservation Form for 55 Plus on March 3, 2010

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the church office by March 1.

**Early Eves**

Early Eves will meet on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Schneider Lounge. The program will be “A Women’s Personal View about her Muslim Faith” presented by Pary Tehrani. The hostesses are Pam Phillips and Beth Shirley. The item for the domestic shelter is paper towels. All women are invited to share this time together.

**New Adventurers Game Night**

February 20<sup>th</sup>

The New Adventurers are having a game night. We will meet on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> in Schneider Lounge at 7:00 p.m. Games will be furnished – you do not need to bring anything. Snacks and drinks will be furnished. Come and have fun while you are using your skills to win the game. For more information, contact the Waites, 344-8212, or the Cummings, 353-8376.

**Church Women United**

Submitted by Jeanette Jupp

Church Women United will be meeting on March 5 at Westwood United Methodist Church, 538 Nichols Rd. at 10:45 with a sack lunch. In the morning we have study and in the afternoon we will be visiting retirement homes. Everyone is welcome.

**ASP Spaghetti Dinner**

Submitted by Roxanne Frey

Mark your calendars! ASP will be having a Spaghetti Fundraiser on March 14, which includes lots of spaghetti with marinara sauce and an alfredo sauce. More details to follow!

**Volunteers for Kids Ministry**

Submitted by Laurel Andrews

We are looking for adult volunteers who would like to be part of a simple and fun ministry with our kids. One part of our children’s ministry is to offer an age-appropriate alternative to the sermon during the second worship service. After the children’s moment, we take kids (ages 4 through third grade) down to the theatre to watch a Bible story cartoon. Would you like to help on an occasional or regularly scheduled basis? Please contact Laurel Andrews for more information: 375-6831 or laurelkazoo@yahoo.com.

**What’s Going on in Missions**

Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

\$2,580 has been forwarded to date to the Haiti Emergency through UMCOR.

\$175 was sent to the Methodist Children’s Home (December loose coins) and \$175 to the Wesley Foundation for the spring break mission trip to Washington D.C. (January loose coins).

\$144 was remitted for Human Relations Sunday.

\$1,500 was transmitted to the Russia Initiative for first quarter support of Resurrection UMC and pastor Irina Mitina in Voronezh, Russia.

Loose coins and Sunday school offering in February go to International Child Care which operates Grace Children’s Hospital in Port-au-Prince and health clinics throughout Haiti. Although heavily damaged in the earthquake, care is still being provided in buildings that remain standing as well as in tents.

\$313 was given for the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 7 which will go to Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. 69 pounds of food was delivered to Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes. Thank you middle high youth for guiding us in this effort of helping feed the hungry in our community!

# Laugh Your Way To A Better Marriage For People Who Hate Marriage Seminars!

Submitted by Karen Strobel

You've heard your friends here at Westwood talking up this free video seminar... Well, we're putting it on again!!! If you missed it the times it's been presented before, **or** you'd like to join in on the experience again, **or** you have a couple of friends you'd like to share in this experience come and join us on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> for *Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage* By Mark Gungor.

Mark is one of the top marriage and family speakers in the United States, with thousands of couples attending his seminars every month. Mark has been married for more than 34 years – to the same woman. Born in New York, Mark resides in Green Bay, Wisconsin where he is the CEO of "Laugh Your Way America" and Pastor of Celebration Church. Mark and his wife Debbie have 2 married children and 3 grandchildren.

Beginning at 7:00 p.m. on March 5<sup>th</sup>, (here at WUMC in York Theater – basement level) we will begin watching a hilarious video series starting with The Tale of Two Brains. We'll have a snack break and end around 10:00 p.m. (way before your bed time)!

Come back at 9:00 a.m. the following morning and enjoy a free short continental breakfast and we will continue on with the series, including How to Stay Married and not Kill Anybody. We'll have you out of there by 1:00 p.m. to enjoy the rest of the weekend!

Men... this is not one of those "beat up on the men for not being women" seminars!  
Women...this counts as a "date"!

If you're looking to:

- achieve insight into yourself and your spouse,
- improve your marriage,
- learn how to respect and be sensitive to each other,
- *eat great food*
- have a blast...

You Won't Want To Miss This Seminar!

Please see us or call us to:

- sign up for the seminar
- ask any questions
- **sign up** for free babysitting during the seminar  
(babysitting is by reservation only)

Bob and Karen Strobel – 342-8816

(Call soon as space is limited in York Theater)!

Disclaimer...

\*\*Warning... some folks are known to have TMJ after this seminar from laughing so much!



**A Word from Your Lay Leader**

Submitted by Bob Strobel

Last Monday evening (February 8<sup>th</sup>) we held a very rare “all church meeting”. This gathering of Westwood folks was held in order to discuss an urgent challenge before us. The challenge: how we allocate our time and pledged dollars in the support of the churches ministries. You see, we have a significant shortage of funds this year, and as faithful stewards of the money given to the church, we must make decisions on how to “live within our means”.

We had a great turn out with nearly 70 people in attendance! Thom Andrews did a great job of laying out the “income versus need” scenario. In most troubled financial situations there is usually one of two problems: income or outgo. We have an income problem, which leaves us with the job of balancing our budget with less money than needed for us to go on as we have been. Many questions were asked and many answers were given. I feel most people left the meeting with a pretty good grasp of the situation.

Pastor Wayne has asked each of us to be in daily prayer for the church and I too encourage each of us to go to God in prayer.

The church council has mailed each of us a letter describing the current financial situation in a little more detail. In that letter, is a pink commitment card. We are asking you to go to God in prayer and consider increasing your pledged financial commitment. If you can increase it, please bring the card to church this coming Sunday (or mail it in if you cannot be in attendance). There will also be several things available for us to commit our time to, in support of the church building and its ministries. So if a financial increase is just not possible and you still want to contribute, there could be a way for you to volunteer a little time. We’ll have more on that later.

Thank you for being a part of the Body of Christ here at Westwood. I feel truly blessed to be a part of this church family.

**Remember The Jobs Board**

by Jane Wright

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.

**Get Mugged!**

The Westwood United Methodist Church Communication Team is selling the “Love Mug” for \$5. This would what a wonderful Christmas gift. We love because He first loved us! Please contact Roxanne Frey to make a purchase.

**Share your WUMC Good News!**

We want to hear the “Good News” from your group! Big groups, small groups, Sunday school groups, and any individual is invited to share the stories of what your group is doing. Write up a little diddy or just take a picture, but share with the Westwood family what is happening.



## Upcoming Church Events

SUNDAY, February 21

*Recommitment Sunday*

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:55 a.m. Worship

4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers

6:00 p.m. Youth Groups

MONDAY, February 22

Washington's Birthday

7:00 p.m. Church Council

7:00 p.m. Courters (Epworth)

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts of America

TUESDAY, February 23

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

6:00 p.m. Alpha (Simpson)

7:00 p.m. Liturgical Dance Class

WEDNESDAY, February 24

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study

1:00 p.m. Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)

6:00 p.m. Disciple II (Simpson)

6:00 p.m. Westwood Singers (#12)

6:00 p.m. High School Choir

6:15 p.m. 4th Day Women (Epworth)

6:15 p.m. The "Q"

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (Wesley)

6:45 p.m. WHBE (#13)

8:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, February 25

12:00 p.m. 4th Day Men

6:00 p.m. Glory Connection II

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (#12)

FRIDAY, February 26

No events are scheduled at this time.

SATURDAY, February 27

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Emmaus Gathering-  
(Wesley, Simpson, Theatre)

SUNDAY, February 28

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:55 a.m. Worship

4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers

6:00 p.m. Youth Groups

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## Looking Ahead

March 4: A Turnaround Church Conference

March 5 & 6: Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage

March 14: ASP Spaghetti Dinner

March 28: Palm Sunday

April 4: Easter Sunday

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# Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

## Homebound

Henry & Genevieve Budzynski

## Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast  
 Gary Babbitt  
 Don Bertch  
 Susan Clapp  
 Gary Cumming  
 Judy DeHaan  
 Irene Dutton  
 Kevin Fretz  
 Shirley Greene  
 Vicki Hale  
 Jack Lancaster  
 Maxine McGehee  
 Beth Mitchell  
 Carolyn Parker, Jane Waite & Family  
 Mary Penn  
 Jean Marie Peters (*Pastor Wayne's sister*)  
 Betty Pick  
 Linda Ridderbos  
 Mike Roush  
 Patricia Smith  
 Emily Strong  
 The Thompson Family  
 Nancy Wallus

## Our Community Partner

King Westwood Elementary School Staff

## Protection from Harm in Iraq and Afghanistan

Toby Brown  
 Neil Farver  
 Carl Williams

## Year of the Neighbor

Pray for our Westwood Neighborhood



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***

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

### ***Prayer Chain***

We have an active prayer chain to lift up individuals in prayer whenever there is special need. To make your request known, please call Rose Marie Kohl at 343-8101, or the Church Office at 344-7165. To sign up for the email prayer chain list, please email [info@westwood-umc.org](mailto:info@westwood-umc.org).

### ***Stephen Ministers Are There to Care***

Are you going thorough a difficult time – emotionally, spiritually, or relationally? Are you lonely, experiencing a crisis, or simply stressed by everyday life? You don't have to suffer alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. To find out more, talk with Phil Bowman.

### ***Messenger Deadlines***

The Westwood Messenger is published weekly (bi-weekly from June through September). Deadlines are the Thursday prior to publication. Go Green! Email the editor or the church office to receive the Messenger electronically.



**Westwood  
United Methodist  
Church**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*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](mailto: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.

**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)**

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

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