
Relationship with God Is A Thing Of The Heart

1 Samuel 16:1-13: But the LORD said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn’t make decisions the way you do! People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at a person’s thoughts and intentions.” (1 Samuel 16:7, NLT) **GOD’S PRIMARY CONCERN IS WITH THE HEART.** Saul was tall and handsome; he was an impressive-looking man. Samuel may have been trying to find someone who looked like Saul to be Israel’s next king, but God warned him against judging by appearance alone.

When people judge by outward appearance, they may overlook quality individuals who lack the particular physical qualities society currently admires. Appearance doesn’t reveal what people are really like or their true value. Fortunately, God judges by faith and character, not appearances. And because only God can see on the inside, only he can accurately judge people. Most people spend hours each week maintaining their outward appearance; they should do even more to develop their inner character. While everyone can see your face, only you and God know what your heart really looks like. What steps are you taking to improve your heart’s attitude? To obey “with all your heart” means to give yourself fully to God, to love him “with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind”

I have often wondered why David appeared to be highly favoured by God in spite of his mistakes. God always seemed to give David another chance even when he sinned. When Saul sinned he was rejected by God. The difference between these two men was the attitude of their hearts. David had a heart which loved and feared God his heart never ‘drifted’ from loving God. He stayed connected to God by the attitude of his heart. Saul’s heart ‘drifted’ from the Lord while David’s heart continued to love God.

The heart of a man determines what he really is like. Out of the heart proceeds all manner of sins, murder, adultery, theft etc. Before a man commits a sin, he starts by conceiving the evil thought or idea in his heart. Likewise faith starts in the heart. Faith is an attitude of your heart. When Ananias and Sapphira decided to deceive the apostles they died when Peter, through the anointing of the Holy Spirit revealed their deception – He said “why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Spirit”. They had decided to cheat God’s people in their hearts. Satan can enter the heart of a person.

Ps 51:10 - Ps 51:11 (NKJV): Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. David was constantly concerned about the condition of his heart. He even spoke to his own heart, “My soul why are you cast down?” “Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart”. The heart is the seat of emotions happiness, joy, faith, temperance, anger, sorrow, anger, fear. The heart defines your character and determines your behaviour.

If you want to develop a close relationship with the Lord you must deal with the condition of your heart. God is looking for your heart more than any thing. Its time to cry unto the Lord for a clean heart.

Faith comes by hearing, and hearing the Word of God. (Rom 10:17). **FILL YOUR HEART WITH THE WORD OF GOD. PRAY THIS PRAYER:** “Create in me a clean heart, O God and renew the right Spirit within me” Ps 51:10. It is time to deal with your heart, **START TODAY!!**

~Mudiwa Shakespeare Chikukwa

Church Directory Pictures

Pictures continue this week on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. If you were not able to get your pictures taken at WUMC and still want to be included in the pictorial directory, please contact Beth Arbogast at 343-3937 today.

If you are not able to make it to a sitting, you can still submit a picture to be included in the directory. Just submit a print or electronic copy to Beth or put it in the Messenger mailbox.

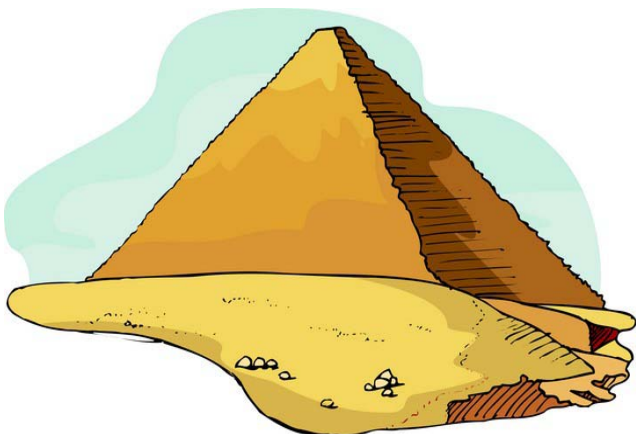


Middle High Youth

Ahlan Wa Sahlan Egypt October 18th

Lynn Whitcomb, PhD in Egyptian Studies will discuss the culture of the Arabic nations. Egyptian food and a lesson in Arabic language will be included as we talk about Abraham and the covenant with God (Gen 13: 14-17).

You don't have to be a middle high youth to join in this discussion.



Russia Initiative Dinner

A dinner to benefit Resurrection UMC in Voronezh, Russia will be held Sunday, October 18 at 12:15 p.m. Enjoy a dinner of baked chicken, cheesy potatoes, mixed vegetables, fruity coleslaw, and chocolate éclair dessert and support our financial covenant through the Russia Initiative with your donation. Enjoy good food and fellowship! Take-out orders dinners be available if you are unable to stay. Please help the church in Russia be a place where people can find love, joy, and hope and be a blessing to others in the name of Jesus Christ.

Early Eves

On Oct. 20 at 6:30 p.m., the Early Eves will meet in Schneider Lounge to hear a presentation by Roxanne Frey on Bone Density and Osteoporosis. The hostesses are Mary Grant and Marion Burkey, and dinner will consist of Subway sandwiches (turkey and swiss, no mayo and no mustard). Please call Marion to RSVP and with any special requests at 250-0637. The cost for the meal is \$2.75. The mission gift is women's or children's socks.

Keep those germs away!

In all of the bathrooms at Westwood UMC, there is now hand sanitizer. In this cold and flu season, please utilize this to keep the germs away.

Dates to Remember

Flu Shots at Westwood UMC on Nov. 1, 9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (\$30.00 without Medicare)

Basement Sale at WUMC on Nov. 13 & 14
Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

News from Our Missionary in Zambia

Paul Webster writes, "Now that most of our open cows are now bred, this will give us a bumper crop of calves in about 10 months. However, we will suffer several months without much milk coming in. We are therefore, hoping to raise the funds to buy two high quality springing heifers to fill the gap. Along the same note, we are very pleased that after several years of poor sales, we are suddenly being approached by many drive-in customers looking for milk, yoghurt, strawberries, eggs, and vegetables. Our problem now is with supply rather than demand as in the past. Again, God seems to be answering our prayers, though on His time-table rather than ours. Like the farmer in Ecclesiastes, we need to be diversified and persistent because we don't know what will succeed nor can we be looking at the sky to decide when to act."

Westwood Singers News

Your Westwood Singer families are working hard to raise money for our choir program and activities. We are offering a collection of excellent merchant coupons from local businesses. These **Peel It Cards** cost only \$10 and represent an incredible value. We retain \$5 from each card. They may be used through the end of 2010. We will soon have **Peel It Cards** exclusively for Arby's and Domino's Pizza. Check out the unlimited use coupons through 2010 for Arby's, Bennigans, Big Apple Bagel, Dunham's Sports, and Family Video. See any Westwood Singer for yours!

The Westwood Singers are grateful for the support we are receiving from our church family, and we all want to say

Thank You!

Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage WOMEN ONLY

This message is for WOMEN ONLY. Ladies, are you looking for a great way to spice up your marriage? Aren't we all? This little seminar is the ticket! Bring your guy to the, "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage" video-seminar. Beginning at 7:00 pm on Friday October 30th, join us for several easy going sessions, starting with "The Tale of Two Brains". We'll break up around 10:00 pm leaving you plenty of time for quality beauty sleep. We start again on Saturday morning at 9:00 am for a light breakfast before continuing the seminar, which includes the session, "How to Stay Married Without Killing Anybody". We'll wrap it up no later than 1:00 pm, leaving you plenty of the weekend to do other things.

What is it?

- A very funny look at marriage
- Presented by Pastor Mark Gungor, nationally known marriage and relationship expert.
- A message that will pull at your heart strings while tickling your funny bone.
- An opportunity to not cook breakfast on Saturday.
- Something the two of you will talk about for months to come.
- Free! With free child care! Such a deal!

So, you will not want to miss out on this opportunity. Stop right now before the kids distract you again and call us to reserve your spot.

Call either:

Bob and Karen Strobel 342-8816 or
Thom and Laurel Andrews 375-6831

Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

Prayers for comfort, healing and strength

Homebound

Henry & Genevieve Budzynski, 515 Turwill Lane, 49006

Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast, 2639 Hazelnut Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Gary Babbitt, 47040 24th Street, Mattawan, 49071

Pat Bailey, 1855 Quail Cove, Kalamazoo, 49009

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

Sue Clapp, 1974 Dunlin Court NE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49505

Gary Cumming, 4867 Sweet Cherry Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Judy DeHaan, 612 Jenks Blvd., Kalamazoo, 49006

Arlo Dunkelberger and family, 1390 Ewing Way, Kalamazoo, 49004

Irene Dutton, 918 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, 49006

Lynn (Ethlyn) Graebner, Upjohn Community Care Center, Heritage Community of Kalamazoo,
2400 Portage, Kalamazoo, 49001

Vicki Hale

Dick Harrison, 3908 Iroquios, Kalamazoo, 49006

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

Ann Marie Hovey and Family

Samual Jennings

Sally Krohn

Bud Mahieu, 1433 Barney Rd., Kalamazoo, 49004

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

Norma Stafford, 1304 N. Eagle Lake Dr., Kalamazoo, 49009

Emily Strong, 3504 Iroquois Trail, Kalamazoo, 49006

June Strong & Family, Apt. 424, 6503 Wilora Lake road, charlotte, NC, 28212

(Maggi Predum's uncle, Russell Strong, passed away this last week.)

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

Nancy Wallus, 717 Kendall, Kalamazoo, 49006

Protection from Harm in Iraq and Afghanistan

Toby Brown

Anthony Earl

Nicholas Heystek

Carl Williams



Calendar of Events




Sunday, October 18, 2009	
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
9:30 AM	Sunday School
9:45 AM	Praise Team
10:55 AM	Worship Celebration
12:00 PM	Missions Dinner
4:45 PM	Westwood Ringers
6:00 PM	Youth Groups
Monday, October 19, 2009	
12:00 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive
7:00 PM	Courters
7:00 PM	Missions Dinner
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts of America
7:15 PM	Board of Trustees
Tuesday, October 20, 2009	
10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
12:30 PM	Lay Ministers/Staff Meeting
6:00 PM	Alpha
6:30 PM	Early Eves
7:00 PM	Compassionate Friends
7:00 PM	Stewardship & Finance
Wednesday, October 21, 2009	
10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
1:00 PM	UMW
6:00 PM	Westwood Singers
6:00 PM	Disciple IV
6:00 PM	Companions in Christ Bible Study
6:00 PM	High School Choir
6:15 PM	4th Day Women
6:15 PM	The "Q"
7:00 PM	WHBE
Thursday, October 22, 2009	
12:00 PM	4th Day Men
6:00 PM	Glory Connection II
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
7:00 PM	Financial Peace University
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Friday, October 23, 2009	
	Alpha Retreat
	No other events scheduled.
Saturday, October 24, 2009	
	Alpha Retreat
	No other events scheduled.
Sunday, October 25, 2009	
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
9:30 AM	Sunday School
9:45 AM	Praise Team
10:55 AM	Worship Celebration
4:00 PM	Youth Groups - KSP
6:00 PM	Westwood Ringers



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There really is more to life!

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:

Oct. 12

Oct. 19

Oct. 26



**Westwood
United Methodist
Church**

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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
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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.