

## *From the Heart of the Pastor*

We are a community of transformation. Our vision statement is:

We are a disciple-making community that encourages and equips people to live in Christ through worship, prayer, study, and service.

Being a disciple is to become a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Being a new creation means we are transformed by the cross and resurrection of Jesus. To make it real: loneliness is transformed by community, despair is transformed by hope, and brokenness is transformed by healing. Jesus takes the brokenness of the world to the cross, and emerges victorious in the resurrection. Jesus still had the scars of the nails in His hands and feet, but was a new creation in the resurrection. In healing physically, emotionally, spiritually, and mentally we still remember the scars, but the wounds are transformed by the new life.

We experience transformation in small groups, Bible studies, participating in and giving to missions, in worship, friendships, Financial Peace University, Alpha, and outreach. Beginning on Palm Sunday, March 29, we will celebrate Jesus' compassion, cross, and resurrection during Holy Week. Please remember the opportunities for transformation during Easter Week:

**Maundy Thursday**, 7:00, April 2: Worship with dramas, songs, and prayer stations will bring us into the final night of Jesus' life, and His last supper with his disciples.

**Good Friday**, 7:00, April 3 at Pathfinder UMC in Portage: Worship will center on the fear, love, and courage of Jesus' journey to the cross. We will be joining with other congregations for this memorable worship.

**Easter**, 8:30 and 11:00am, April 5: We will culminate the series "Wholeness and Holiness" with a spectacular celebration of Jesus' resurrection. It will be a memorable day as we celebrate Jesus' victory over suffering and death as well as Jesus' transformational power in our congregation.

One of the transformational events we are currently experiencing is the potential transformation of our structure. We are anticipating changes to our Sanctuary, gathering space, and children's area. We have a great start with a number of families committing their financial gifts in the next four years. Their giving has also inspired others to offer services which will benefit the campaign. God has blessed us with a great start.

Our Lord blazed the path for transformation through the cross and resurrection, and empowered us to be a transformational congregation. May you experience Jesus' transforming goodness and hope in your life and family this Easter season.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,  
Pastor Wayne

### **Easter Plants for the Sanctuary – Orders due Mar. 28**

You may share in glorifying God by filling our sanctuary with tulips, daffodils, and lilies on Easter Sunday, Apr. 5.

These may be given in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please fill out this form and return it to the church office or collection plate with your check payable to Westwood United Methodist Church. Note on the memo line "Altar." Any cash orders should be put in an envelope marked "Altar." To pay online, visit our homepage and enter "Altar" in the line provided. The cost per plant is \$7.50. The order deadline is Mar. 28. Plants may be picked up following the 11:00 service on Easter Sunday.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Type & quantity of Plants: Tulips \_\_\_\_; Daffodils \_\_\_\_; Lilies \_\_\_\_

### **Lenten Prayer Service – Mar. 29, Westwood UMC, 5:00pm**

Please come worship in singing and support one another in prayer hour on March 29 at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

### **Holy Week**

#### **Palm Sunday – Mar. 29, Westwood UMC, 8:30 am and 11:00 am**

We will celebrate Jesus' entering Jerusalem with the bringing forth of the palm branches. The service will include a drama about the people who cleaned up the streets after everyone went home. Deacon Sandra Douglas will give the message on being a healing community.

#### **Maundy Thursday – Apr. 2, 7pm at Westwood UMC**

We will remember the evening Jesus was arrested and gave Himself for us. Worship will include dramas about Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane and the servant who served Jesus and the disciples at the Last Supper. We will also spend time sharing Communion and at prayer stations reflecting on Jesus' sacrifice. It will be a creative and engaging worship. The worship service will be at Westwood UMC at 7:00 on April 2.

#### **Good Friday – Apr. 3, 7pm at Pathfinder UMC in Portage**

Westwood UMC will join with the other UMC congregations of the Kalamazoo area in celebrating Good Friday. The service will be an innovative and meaningful worship reflecting on Jesus' sacrifice for the world. The service will be at Pathfinder UMC in Portage at 7:00, April 3.

#### **Easter – Apr. 5, Westwood UMC, 8:30 am and 11:00 am**

Easter will be a joyous celebration, with Pastor Wayne will share about Jesus' victory in our lives. We will be lifted up by excellent music, great rejoicing about God's miracles, and some fantastic artwork. Invite your friends for a memorable Easter.

### **Special Easter Offering – Apr. 5**

A special offering to support Paul Webster, our missionary at Mujila Falls Agriculture Research and Training Center in Zambia, Africa, will be taken on Easter Sunday. We are a covenant congregation with Paul and part of that covenant is a financial commitment to his salary and health insurance. Our commitment for 2015 is \$1,475. The project Paul directs addresses hunger and poverty of the Lunda-Ndembu people with sustainable agriculture and leadership training. People learn simple methods of food production, animal traction, and marketing so that they can have balanced diets, better nutrition, less illness and death, more disposable income, and can become part of the larger Zambian economic, social, political and religious mainstream. Special offering envelopes dated April 5 are in your giving envelope packet. Our support of Paul is not part of the church operating budget so your special gift is most appreciated!

---

### **Office Notes**

On Monday, April 6 the church office will be closed.

---

### **Friendship Luncheon – Apr. 1 **\*\*CHANGED\*\*****

On Wednesday, April 1, 2015, Pat and Keith Bailey will host the Friendship Luncheon at The Fountains at Bronson Place. We will gather in the lobby by 11:45 a.m. Reservations can be made by contacting Sallie Platt at 343-3917. Cost will be \$8.00 per person payable in cash or by check (made out to Sallie). Wheelchairs will be available.

---

### **Eating Out Can Be Profitable! – Apr. 12**

Westwood Singers invites you to enjoy a meal at Applebee's with friends and family, and at no extra cost or effort on your part, create a donation to Westwood UMC for our Singers. How? Simply eat at Applebee's on West Main on Sunday, April 12, and hand your server a Dining to Donate coupon when you pay your bill. Ten percent of the total bill for all at your table will be donated to our church. Naturally, the total will exclude any liquor, taxes or tip. But what a painless way to generate income for Westwood Singers and allow us to become more self-supporting in 2015. Perhaps some of your friends and neighbors would enjoy going out for Sunday dinner. Coupons are available in this newsletter and from any Westwood Singer. Print 'em out and pass 'em out! You can go any time during the day on Sunday, April 12, and dine to donate!

---

### **Men's Prayer Breakfast – Apr. 18**

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, Apr. 18 beginning at 9:00 am in Simpson Hall with prayer time to follow. Sign up for the breakfast either on the sign-up bulletin board or on the back of the Communication Card.

### **Basement Sale – Apr. 24 & 25**

The semi-annual basement (rummage) sale will be held on Friday, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, April 25 from 9 a.m. to Noon. Complete details will be in the April 6 Messenger. Be sorting your items to donate and planning to help on one of the sale days or sorting/set-up on Thursday, April 23. Many hands make the work lighter and there is lots of fun and fellowship to be enjoyed! Proceeds of the sale support the mission of United Methodist Women. If you have questions, contact Marlene Pyle, 375-3225.



### **CROP Hunger Walk – Sun., April 26**

*Have you ever found something floating in your glass of water? It's enough to make you sick, isn't it?* But sickness from dirty water is no joke. More than 3.5 million people die each year from waterborne illnesses – that's about as many people who live in Oregon. Across Southeast Asia, a simple sand filter can be made from local sources that traps about 98.5% of pollution, making water safer to drink. Our CROP Hunger Walk makes this possible. Last year alone our local walk raised \$40,039. That's enough to supply 2002 filters to communities and families. This year's Kalamazoo Valley CROP Walk is Sunday, April 26. Plan to walk or support a walker and literally save lives!

### **CROP Walk Moment for Mission**

Have you ever held a baby in your arms and dreamed of her/his future? Proper nutrition is critical during a child's first thousand days of life, making the difference between health development and life long physical problems for those who even survive. For kids in developing countries, a sprinkle of micronutrient powder added to local food can be life altering. Over the past three years, our CROP Hunger Walk has raised over \$121,242. This would provide a year supply of micronutrients and vitamins for 101,035 babies and toddlers. Change a child's life and you can change the future by supporting the CROP Walk on April 26.

### **Time to Register for Church Camp!**

It's time to think about summer church camp and get registered! Church camp is about growing in Christian faith and love of God, forming new friendships, fun, worship, Bible based activities and lessons, fire bowl, outdoor athletics, nature, personal growth, relaxation, and adventure. The Westwood church family helps support the life-changing experience that camp can be by providing scholarships to our children and youth to attend camp (average cost of a week of camp is \$399). Camp brochures can be accessed on the web by clicking on "camping" at [westmichiganconference.org](http://westmichiganconference.org). Mini-camps (3 days) are available for 1st through 3rd graders. \$50 rebates are available for first time campers and the friend who invites you (\$25 for mini-campers). Talk to Nancy VandenBrink for more information.

## Hospitality

### hospitality

- **Definition of Hospitality**

1. Cordial and generous reception of or disposition toward guests.
2. An instance of cordial and generous treatment of guests.

Jesus encouraged us to practice hospitality and we have a ministry team for just that! The Hospitality team here at Westwood UMC serves our church family by providing food and beverages during the weekly worship gatherings.

Because this ministry is not funded by the church and our volunteers contribute the food offered each Sunday, you can offset this expense to our volunteers and support this important ministry by donating to the basket on the hospitality table on Sundays, submitting an envelope with your donation and write "hospitality designated" on it, or go online and give a gift (please note "hospitality designated").

If anyone in the church congregation has a desire to serve others in this capacity, or by just volunteering to help clean up, please indicate it on the communication card or contact the church office. Because this ministry is not funded by the church and our volunteers contribute the food offered each Sunday, you can offset this expense to our volunteers and support this important ministry by donating to the basket on the hospitality table on Sundays, submitting an envelope with your donation and write "hospitality designated" on it, or go online and give a gift (please note "hospitality designated").

We wish to thank Royann Anspach, Joyce Babbitt, Karen Bowman, Joyce Branch, Andrea Daniels, Mary Faupel, Roxanne Frey, Kathy Hillman, Louise Jameson, Shirley Mitchell, Beth Mitchell, Joy Price, Sue Pulling, Diane Rathburn, Norma Sylvester, Carol Tolis-Bucklin, Jane Waite, Paula Willson as well as substitutes Marian Burkey, Alberta Cumming, Sue Kroeze, Julie Lancaster for serving! We so appreciate your God given gifts to serve His people!



### Capital Campaign News and Views

The Westwood Capital Campaign is well underway. In the next 4-6 weeks we hope to complete the majority of the visitations and have a good idea of where we stand financially on the proposed building and renovation project.

So far the visitations have gone very well and the Holy Spirit has been present at every meeting. The volunteer members of the committee feel the visitations are a special time getting to know each other better and to provide a forum where questions can be asked and concerns can be addressed. Serving the church in this way is new to most of us and we have found it to be a blessing in our lives.

We met as a committee with our consultant, Mike Wolf on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. After that meeting we have some news to share about the success of the campaign. With 16 Capital Fund gift pledges received to date, we have been blessed with \$339,720!

Please keep this project and every program of the church in your prayers. Pray that God will be present at each step and that He will guide us all as we make decisions about how we can participate in the growth of His church here at Westwood.

Serving Him together with you,

Bob Strobel

Capital Campaign Facilitator



## Serving you on Sundays

If you are unable to help on your assigned Sunday, please switch with someone on the list and let the office know of the change. Your help in finding a replacement is deeply appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

	<b>March 29, 2015</b> 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	<b>April 5, 2015</b> 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
<b><i>Serving you in Worship</i></b>		
1st Service Acolyte(s)	TBD	TBD
2nd Service Acolyte(s)	TBD	TBD
Altar	Tracy Quintanilla	Beth Mitchell
1st Service Audio	Jan Urfer	Bill Rotgers
1st Service Video	Gary Lubbert	Jim Frey
2nd Service Audio	Emmanuel Sikaundi	Derick Daniels
2nd Service Video	Jim Frey	Mark Longstroth
Worship Assistant	Thom Andrews	Sandra Douglas
Children's Moment	TBD	TBD
Videographer	Derrick Quintanilla and Dickson Sikaundi	Derrick Quintanilla
PowerPoint Preparer	TBD	Carol Tolis-Bucklin
<b><i>Serving you through Welcoming</i></b>		
1st Service Greeters	Sallie Platt and Jeanette Jupp	Jane & Gary Waite and Sue Pulling
2nd Service Greeters	Lisa Fuller and Laura Anderson	Jill Reid and Marian Burkey
Hospitality	Carol Tolis-Bucklin	Roxanne Frey and Diane Rathburn
1st Service Ushers	Doug & Pam Phillips	Joe & Shirley Mitchell
2nd Service Ushers	Al & Linda Ridderbos and Art & Anne Klute	Diane Rathburn, Mark Reid and Tom & Paula Willson
<b><i>Staff</i></b>		
Nursery Workers	Linda VanOrder, Rachel DeWitte and Kristen VanOrder	Rachel DeWitte, Kristen VanOrder and Linda VanOrder
Children's Worship	Pam Chamberlin and Sarah Mannschreck	TBD
Keyboardist	TBD	TBD

## Prayer List

### *Ongoing Prayer Requests:*

Julian Blair  
Courtney Chandler (Irene Dutton's grandson)  
Gary Cumming  
Bob Difrancisco  
Betty Georgeau (Sister of Marian Burkey & Linda Ridderbos)  
Marion Gray (Sharon Permenter's mom)  
Loree Grupe (Shirley Johnson's daughter, undergoing bone cancer treatment)  
Vicki Hale  
Mabel Hillis  
Stephen Hunt (Barb Hunt's son)  
Jerry Kalhorn  
Herb Kenz (Kris Kenz's dad)  
Dick Kowal  
Gini Martin  
Jean Marie Peters (Pastor Wayne's sister )  
Frank Sierawski (son of Nancy Snell)  
Helen Sikkenga  
Rick Wells

### *Serving in the military:*

Mackenzie Newman, USAF (serving in Europe; granddaughter of Tom & Elise Hillman)

Prayers for healing and strength to the home-bound

King-Westwood Elementary School & Staff

Our Westwood Neighborhood

We have an active prayer chain to lift up individuals in prayer whenever there is special need. To make your request known, please call Mary Grant (345-9422) or the Church Office (344-7165). To keep our prayer list updated, please contact the church office with updates.



Share God's Word

## **F.R.A.N.**

*Be a part of FRAN and invite, invite, invite!*

**F = Friends**

**R = Relatives**

**A = Acquaintances**

**N = Neighbors**



### **Our Vision**

We are a disciple-making community that encourages and equips all people to live in Christ by the power of the Spirit and in fellowship with one another through worship, prayer, study and service.

### **Our Values**

- *Worship*  
We celebrate our faith in many ways so that God is encountered and lives are changed.
- *Justice*  
We confront injustice and work for change within ourselves, our community, nation and world.
- *Lay Ministry*  
We help people discover, develop and use their spiritual gifts and talents to serve God and others.
- *Fellowship*  
We are a caring, compassionate Christian community open to all.
- *Spiritual Growth*  
We nurture children, youth and adults in their journey toward mature discipleship.
- *Mission*  
We go and serve others in our community, nation and world through our time, talents, and resources as we proclaim the Gospel and meet human needs.
- *Witness*  
We prepare and encourage people to share the experience of God's love in Christ.

### **Worship Celebrations**

Worship Celebrations are held at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (10:10 a.m. from Memorial Day through Labor Day, inclusive). Nursery care is provided during both celebrations.

### **Prayer Chain**

We have an active prayer chain to lift up individuals in prayer. To make your request known or to sign up for the prayer list please contact the church office.

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

Stephen Ministry is a confidential care giving ministry of our church. If you would like a Stephen Minister to walk with you during a difficult time in your life, contact the church office.

### **Lotsa Helping Hands**

Westwood UMC is signed up on the Lotsa Helping Hands website. Sign up today by going to <https://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/628393/> and fill out the right side of the form ("Request to Join the Community"). After approval you will receive instructions for setting a password and signing-in.

### **Keep up with church news...**

- Join up for Worship!
- the Messenger,
- the email news list,
- the prayer chain,
- the website (Including the calendar),
- Find us on Facebook,
- Lotsa Helping Hands,
- and make sure your personal information is on file in the church office!

### **Messenger Deadlines**

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

### **Messenger Articles**

Please email all Messenger information to: [info@westwood-umc.org](mailto:info@westwood-umc.org). Messenger deadlines are the Thursday prior to publication.

### **Future Messengers and Deadlines**

<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>
Apr. 16	Apr. 20
Apr. 30	May 4
May 14	May 18

## **Our Mission**

**Offer Christ, Grow In Faith, Touch Lives, and Make A Difference**

Westwood United Methodist  
Church

538 Nichols Road  
Kalamazoo, MI 49006



*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 [info@westwood-umc.org](mailto:info@westwood-umc.org) by the deadline. Your name may be used in the article. The *Messenger* is mailed Tuesday. Subscribers do not receive it before Wednesday. Articles must be submitted at least 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.

### Westwood United Methodist Church Staff and Volunteers

Westwood United Methodist Church	344-7165
Email: <a href="mailto:info@westwood-umc.org">info@westwood-umc.org</a>	
Website: <a href="http://www.westwood-umc.org">www.westwood-umc.org</a>	
Fax: 344-9174	
Pastor, The Reverend Dr. Wayne A. Price	762-4787
E-mail: <a href="mailto:pastorwaynewumc@gmail.com">pastorwaynewumc@gmail.com</a>	
Director of Fine Art Ministry, Jane Wright	544-2390
E-mail: <a href="mailto:jwrightwumc@gmail.com">jwrightwumc@gmail.com</a>	
Deacon, Sandra Douglas	344-7165
Email: <a href="mailto:sandra.douglas73@yahoo.com">sandra.douglas73@yahoo.com</a>	
Coordinator of Children's Ministries, Helga Mortensen	344-7165
Email: <a href="mailto:hmortensenwumc@gmail.com">hmortensenwumc@gmail.com</a>	
Lay Leader, Deb Lindstrom	544-0248
Staff-Parish Chairperson, Thom Andrews	370-3951
Trustees, Mark Reid	375-0531
Wesley Foundation Director, Lisa Batten	344-4076
Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College (Office)	
<i>Westwood Messenger</i> Editor, Beth Arbogast,	
E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@westwood-umc.org">info@westwood-umc.org</a>	

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