

A Summary of the Town Hall Presentation from the Building Team

Note: The next steps in the building process will be presenting the proposal to the Kalamazoo District UMC Building and Relocation Committee on November 11. If the committee approves the project, a date for the Charge Conference will be set. The church will make a final decision on the project at the Charge Conference.

The Building and Capital Campaign Committees propose to Westwood UMC that we as a church body commence with the construction of Plan A, with revisions. The major revisions are to leave the current restrooms, kitchenette and offices in their current locations. With these modifications and the construction bidding completed we propose the acceptance of the project cost of \$800,579. (The architects and the construction manager are asking the construction vendors to re-bid the project, so the amount may vary in the coming weeks, but will be set by the time of a Charge Conference.)

To date, the church has received pledges of \$560,000 (70% of the project cost) leaving potentially a balance of \$240,579 to finance. First National Bank of Michigan, our chosen lender, has structured a two loan process for us. The first loan would be for five years, we would draw the money for the construction, as needed through the completion of the project. Our payment obligation during the five years would be interest only, though we can pay principle on it as we desire. The construction loan converts to a 48 month term loan after the first year. The balance we have left at the end of five years would then be refinanced on a 10, 15 or 20 year loan.

Some options the Capital committee are recommending include conducting a "Miracle Sunday" at the end of year three or four, with proceeds going toward the loan balance. Any balance left at the end of five years may be paid by a second capital campaign, or asking those who pledged toward the project for four years to extend their giving a fifth year. Which financing choice to pursue would be determined at that time and would depend on the loan balance at that time.

What we have learned over the last few years:

No church receives enough pledges to cover their building projects in one campaign.

Almost all churches conduct more than one capital campaign to finance a project.

Continued on next page...

We have pledged to cover 70% of our building cost. This is a much higher percentage than most churches raise to start a project.

While waiting to start a project, the building cost goes up.

Construction loan interest rates are at an all-time low right now.

The Building Team and Capital Fund Team thank the congregation for the engagement, questions, and faith which have helped to improve the plans, and make the new vision for our church possible. As one of our members suggested at the Town Hall Meeting, every member can support the project with prayers to our Lord, who provides the means for what He desires.

Proposal re homeless school children on Nov. 3 ballot
Get the facts before you vote on the
Kalamazoo County LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUND Millage

1) Over 1200 school children were homeless in the 9 school districts of Kalamazoo County last year (KRESA data.) Research shows that stable housing is essential to children's educational achievement, as well as their emotional development and physical health (Kids Count Data Book 2015.)

2) Over the 6 years of the millage, 600 families would get partial rent subsidy and personal coaching with a focus on income and budgeting to bring the family into long-range stability.

3) A local housing nonprofit will run the program under contract with the Public Housing Commission and will report to the community annually.

4) \$5.85/year is the cost for the average household in the county. For a house with a market value of \$100,000 (\$50,000 taxable value) it would be \$5/year.

5) Endorsers include KRESA (Kalamazoo Regional Educational Services Agency), Kalamazoo Public Schools, Kalamazoo City Commission, Housing Resources, Inc., Open Doors, YWCA, First Congregational Church, St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Westwood United Methodist Church, NAACP, ISAAC and many other organizations and countywide community leaders listed at voteyesforkids.net

Friendship Luncheon – Nov. 4

Do you wonder what young people, some from WUMC, are doing with their time these days? Come to our Friendship Luncheon on Wednesday, November 4, at noon in Simpson Hall. Following the meal (Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, gravy and pumpkin dessert) we will hear about FOCUS Kalamazoo, a community service network founded within the WMU campus by Tenashe Chaponda. Your reservation is requested and can be made by checking the back of the green communication card in worship, signing the Friendship Luncheon sheet on the bulletin board, or calling the church office, 344-7165.

Church Women United – Nov. 6

Church Women United World Community Day, Fri., Nov. 6, 2015, 10:45 Bible Study, 1:00 speaker Jennifer Franks, YMCA "The Infant Mortality Initiative". Noon-2 P.M. Lunch \$7 and service. Questions - Jeanette Jupp, 345-8833

Student Recital – Nov. 7

Tina Egan and her musical friends will present a recital on Saturday, Nov. 7, at 3:00 pm in the church sanctuary. Please join us and invite others. Refreshments will be served following the recital.

Hanging of the Greens Planning Committee – Nov. 8

You are invited to participate in the planning committee for the Hanging of the Greens. This group will meet for a planning meeting on Sunday, Nov. 8, following the 11:00 am service. Everyone's opinions are greatly appreciated! For more information, contact Phyllis Lubbert, 375- 7734.

Wreaths for sale

Are you interested in ordering holiday greens for your home? Daniel Whitcomb is selling wreaths; all profits support the Kalamazoo Central High School band. There are a few different sizes of decorated wreaths and door swags. They will come from Wahmhoff Greenhouses in Gobles; delivery shortly after Thanksgiving. See Daniel next Sunday if you are interested. Thanks!

Westwood Vocal Ensemble and Kids Praise Pie Sale – On sale now!

Our young singers are again going to be offering those wonderful frozen pies from Gordon Food Service! We will take orders beginning Sunday, Oct. 25, through Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015. Pick-up will be from the church kitchen downstairs Saturday, Nov. 21 and Sunday, Nov. 22 mornings so you'll have them in plenty of time for holiday dining! Get out your shopping list and place your order!

Nuts for ASP! – On sale now!

Just in time for holiday baking and giving! We will be selling nuts in the lobby 11/8 & 11/15, with a couple of new products this time! Orders will be distributed 11/29. Please help support our 2016 mission to make home's warmer, safer and dryer for families who are in need in Central Appalachia. For the youth and young adults of this congregation, ASP is an opportunity to give legs to their faith and place their hands and feet into the service of the Lord.

Daycare provider needed

Kelly Graham is seeking for daycare on Tuesdays through Fridays from 7am to 2pm. If anyone knows of a good reliable place or person please contact Kelly at 269-330-2166.

Private Music Lessons Available for voice, violin, and piano

Tina Egan now has available times for private lessons here at Westwood UMC. Tina teaches voice, violin and piano. Lessons are weekly for either 30 minutes or 1 hour depending on your preference. Call Tina at 269-381-1074 for further details.

Love Your Neighbor Fund-Raiser! – Nov. 8

In Luke 10:25-37, Luke defines “Neighbor” in the story of the Good Samaritan. An expert of the law asks Jesus: “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replies: “... the one who had mercy on him. Now go and do likewise.”

On Sunday, November 8, right after the 1st service at 9:30 a.m., the Outreach Committee will be serving a fabulous breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, French toast, biscuits & gravy and a variety of coffee cakes. As a way of paying for your breakfast, we are asking you to bring a gift card to a local grocery store, gas station or fast food restaurant in amounts of either \$10.00, \$15.00 or \$20.00, or combinations thereof. If you can't get out to purchase a gift card, cash donations will be accepted and we will purchase the gift cards for you. You may also donate online via our website at www.westwood-umc.org, choose the donate button, and then enter “Neighbor Fundraiser” in the note line.

The gift cards will be given to Sheriff Rick Fuller who will give the cards to his deputies to hand out to our “neighbors” who are in need. How many times do our officers come upon a stranded motorist who has run out of gas and money? The Samaritan from Luke would have given the motorist money for gas. How many times do our officers answer a domestic disturbance call and find a home with children and no food in the house? The Samaritan would have fed the family. This is our opportunity to be the Samaritan for our “neighbors” in Kalamazoo County.

No reservations are needed - just come and enjoy good food and good fellowship with your “neighbors” here at Westwood - so that together, we can “touch lives, and make a difference” for others in our community.



The Pasty Sale Needs Your Help!

The Pasty Sale is Coming!! Proceeds from our sale support women and children locally and around the world. Unfortunately, the price of the ingredients continues to go up each year. We don't want to raise the cost of our pasties – so we are looking for donations. We need 3 lb. cans of Crisco shortening (it must be Crisco brand) and 5 lb. bags of all-purpose flour (any brand). If you could purchase one or both of these items, you will be helping our mission dollars go further. Please place any donated items in the upstairs kitchen outside of the sanctuary. You may also donate online via our website at www.westwood-umc.org, choose the donate button, and then enter "UMW Pasty Sale" in the note line. Thank you in advance. -Beth Mitchell, President, United Methodist Women

Pasty Sale



The Fall pasty sale will be Saturday, November 14. A maximum of 650 pasties will be made. Orders will be taken on a first ordered, first filled basis. If you have questions, contact Nancy Vandenberg at 344-6945.

Please return your order to the church office by Monday, November 8.

Name _____

Phone _____

Indicate quantity desired:

_____ Baked (\$3.25 each) _____ Unbaked (\$2.75 each)

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

_____ 10:00 a.m. _____ 11:30 a.m. _____ 12:30 p.m.

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

Ladies Night Out! – Nov. 10

Celebrating 60 Years of Service to Women and Children

Calling all Women!! On Tuesday, November 10, 2015 beginning at 6:00 pm, the United Methodist Women of Westwood will be celebrating their 60 years of service to this church and to women and children around the world. Please join us in the Lobby for an offering of delicious appetizers along with a short program highlighting where we have been during the last 60 years and where we are going in the future. There will also be displays and sign-up sheets for different activities and events which might interest you. Membership in United Methodist Women is open to ALL women. There are no dues and no special requirements. You only need to have a passion for helping women and children, at our own church, down the street, across town, around our nation and around the world. It's a BIG job! Do you need a ride? Contact Beth Mitchell at 343-6806 or Louise Jameson at 382-3463. If you are unable to attend, but would like more information about United Methodist Women at Westwood, please talk with Beth Mitchell, Louise Jameson, Nancy Snell, or Nancy Van-denBrink. Join us on Tuesday, November 10 and see what YOU can do to help make a difference in the lives of women and children.

-Beth Mitchell, President, United Methodist Women



Men's Prayer Breakfast – Nov. 21

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21 beginning at 9:00 am in Simpson Hall with prayer time to follow. Sign up for the breakfast either on the sign-up board or on the back of the Communication Card.

Hanging of the Greens – Nov. 22

The Hanging of the Greens will be on Sunday, Nov. 22. All are invited to decorate! We will begin with a potluck after the second service and then decorate the building for the Christmas Season! For more information, contact Phyllis Lubbert, 375-7734.

Homemade Bread Sale to Benefit Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes – Nov. 22

Just in time for your Thanksgiving table, the Missions team will be selling homemade breads on November 22 to benefit Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes which continues to see an increase in persons needing emergency food assistance. A variety of breads such as pumpkin, cranberry, banana, and others in various sized loaves will be available for sale on a first-come, first-served basis in the lobby on November 22. Stop by and pick up a loaf or two and help fight hunger in our community while savoring delicious bread.

Pet Lovers Group – Nov. 29

The Westwood UMC Pet Lovers Group meets the last Sunday of every month at 6:00 pm in the library. Next meeting is Nov. 29. All pet lovers are invited.

Advent Workshop – Dec. 6

Coming soon - Our annual Advent Workshop! Dec. 6, 12:15-2 pm. There will be lunch of pizza and fruit/salad bar, music, crafts, cookies, and much more. Mark the date now and plan to join us. More information and sign-ups in the near future. Be watching for the gold stars, and for sign-ups on the main bulletin board.

Adult Mission Trip Opportunity – Feb. 2016

Westwood will be heading on another mission trip to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) in Chatham, IL (just outside Springfield) the first week of February 2016. The MMDC is a disaster relief facility related to the United Methodist Church that offers groups an opportunity to help provide disaster relief kits and resources as well as educational and medical supplies to those in need nationally and internationally. It provides a “hands on” mission experience. There are plenty of projects to work on -- something for everyone, no matter what your ability. We'll have lots of fun working, eating, and relaxing together. Cost will be \$200 per person (\$100 due by December 1, \$100 by February 1). There are funds available for those who would like to go on the trip but need financial assistance so don't let that stop you from going on this trip! Talk to Nancy VandenBrink with questions or to say “sign me up!”

Financial Gifts to Westwood United Methodist Church

If you have gifted stocks or mutual funds through Oppenheimer or your financial institution or if you are planning to in the future, then we need to request that you assist us with our financial records. Please call the office and speak with Beth Arbogast so that we have the information and know that a gift is coming. We would like to make sure that our records are aligned and are recording the gifts properly. Thank you in advance.

Trunk or Treat 2015

THANK YOU!

To all of you who participated in Trunk or Treat on Halloween:

Thank you to the more than 50 people who handed out candy to over 600 Trick or Treaters who came in from the cold and rain to warm, welcoming, caring, smiling Westwood UMC neighbors.

Thank you for answering the call to donate over 31,000 pieces of candy for the children of our community who came through our halls.

Thank you to those who got in the spirit of the fun evening by wearing costumes and decorating their tables – we even had “bats in the belfry.” Most of all, thank you for getting in the Spirit and welcoming and caring for our neighbors. You are awesome!

The Outreach Team.



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.

	November 8, 2015 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	November 15, 2015 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
<i>Serving you in Worship</i>		
1st Service Acolyte(s)	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
2nd Service Acolyte(s)	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Altar	Margo Heystek	Julie Lancaster
1st Service Audio	Jan Urfer	Derick Daniels
1st Service Video	Jim Frey	Jim Frey
2nd Service Audio	Matt Knewtson	Matt Knewtson
2nd Service Video	Mark Longstroth	Daniel Whitcomb
Worship Assistant	Gail Secord	Mark Reid
Children's Moment	Jane Wright	Pastor Wayne
Videographer	Derrick Quintanilla	Derrick Quintanilla
PowerPoint Preparer	Gary Lubbert	Pastor or Office
<i>Serving you through Welcoming</i>		
1st Service Greeters	Sue Pulling and Jim & Louise Jameson	Bev Prior and Lauretta Eisenbach
2nd Service Greeters	Mike and Jo Turner	Beth Shirley and Beth Mitchell
Hospitality	Paula Willson, Sue Pulling	Louise Jameson, Royann Anspach
1st Service Ushers	Bud Mahieu and Phil Engel	Norm and Mary Grant
2nd Service Ushers	Bob Mitchell, Brian VandePolder, and Mary & Dan Brooks	Roxanne Frey, Matt Knewtson and Tim & Darla Ashcraft
<i>Staff</i>		
Nursery Workers	TBD	TBD
Children's Worship	Nancy Snell, Helga Mortensen and Ken Smith	Ken Smith and Helga Mortensen
Keyboardist	Dana Tipken	James Middaugh (1st), TBD (2nd)

Prayer List

The family of Lurn Meadows who passed away Oct. 31.

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Julian Blair
Gary Cumming
Courtney Chandler (Irene Dutton's grandson)
Gary Cumming
Barry Keith Damon (Coral Damon Brown's father)
Bob Difrancisco
Lois Ellis
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
Stephen Hunt (Barb Hunt's son)
Jerry Kalhorn
Dick Kowal
Gini Martin
Jean Marie Peters (Pastor Wayne's sister)
Linda Ridderbos
Frank Sierawski (son of Nancy Snell)
Helen Sikkenga
Rick Wells

Serving in the military:

Ryan Cavey, Marine Sergeant (serving in the Middle East and friend of the Rotgers family)
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.



*Have updates on these friends?
Let the church office know!*



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. Messenger deadlines are the Thursday prior to publication.

Future Messengers and Deadlines

Deadline	Publication Date
Nov. 12	Nov. 16
Nov. 25	Nov. 30
Dec. 10	Dec. 14

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 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.

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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.