

Jesus intended us to live in community with one another for two reasons. First, is to support and “love one another” (John 15:12), and to lift one another in prayer. We lifted up one another in prayer on Sunday in a powerful witness of Jesus’ love and intercession. We are a church blessed by God, as God uses us to support one another. We are also a community to be a witness for our world. In the last two months many people expressed concern over the fear they see in our country. The Light of Jesus’ love shines brighter in the darkness. As Jesus’ best friend John reminded us, “Perfect love casts out all fear” (1 John 4:18). Jesus’ love drives it out because God so loved the world that He drove out fear through Jesus’ sacrifice. In the end love wins, because nothing will trump Jesus’ sacrifice and eternal life. The church as a community gives witness to the victorious love by what we do and how we live.

Celebrating Holy Week is celebrating the love, sacrifice, and victory of Jesus. We will be the light for the world as we join with one another in worship, and with Allen Chapel African Methodist Church for Maundy Thursday. Take time apart this week to re-dedicate yourself to Jesus’ love through your worship Him.

Maundy Thursday: We will join with Allen Chapel AME church for a meaningful remembrance of Jesus’ last night with the disciples. The worship will include time in the Sanctuary with music from the Westwood UMC Chancel Choir and the choir from Allen Chapel. We will then celebrate a Seder Meal together, concluding with Communion. The service will be on March 24 at 7:00, at Allen Chapel AME Church, 804 W North St, Kalamazoo.

Good Friday: We will honor the sacrifice of our Lord through drama and music. We will look at the day through the eyes of people who wanted Jesus crucified and the man who made the cross. The service will be on March 25 at 7:00.

Easter: Easter will be a joyous celebration of our Lord’s resurrection filled with music and joy.

Prepare your heart to receive the holiness and love of our Lord through joining as one to worship Jesus. Every person matters to our Lord and to us. In addition, think of others to invite to these special services.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,
Pastor Wayne

Faith-Hope Circle – Mar. 23

Faith-Hope Circle, a United Methodist Women's group, will meet at Friendship Village, 1400 N Drake, Room 1A on March 23 at 1 pm. Everyone is welcome. Questions call Helen Lancaster, 344-9874, or Jeanette Jupp, 345-8833.

Holy Week 2016

**Thursday, March 24 is Maundy Thursday. The Maundy Thursday service will be held at Allen Chapel AME at 7:00 pm. It has been suggested that some people may want to carpool to the 7pm Maundy Thursday service at Allen Chapel AME. Those willing to drive and those wanting a ride should meet in the upper church parking lot between 6:30 and 6:40. If you have questions, please call John Chamberlin (344-1655) or the church office (344-7165).

**Friday, March 25 is Good Friday. The Good Friday service will be held at Westwood UMC at 7:00 pm.

**Sunday, March 27 is Easter.

ASP Easter Son Rise Breakfast Sunday – Mar. 27

You are invited to attend an Easter breakfast in Simpson Hall (downstairs) on Easter Sunday at 9:30 am. This breakfast is hosted by the ASP (Appalachian Service Project) and will include various flavors of strata (ham, bacon, sausage, veggies) as well as home-baked goods. A free-will offering will be collected. The money will go toward their summer mission trip where they will spend a week in the Appalachian Mountains making homes warmer, safer, and dryer. Donations may be made via dropping off cash at the breakfast, putting your donation in the offering indicating "ASP" on the envelope or check, or by donating online. Go to westwood-umc.org, choose "donate" and choose ASP. Thank you for your donation!

Coming on Easter Sunday – Mar. 27

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt and Easter celebration for children and their families! Join us at 9:30 a.m. March 27 in the children's wing for a short worship time, Easter egg hunt and games and crafts afterward, all to celebrate that Jesus is alive!

Special Easter Offering – Mar. 27

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 2016 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 March 27 are in your giving envelope packet.

Pasty Sale – Orders due Mar. 28



Our final pasty sale until the Fall will be Saturday, April 2. A maximum of 600 pasties will be made. Orders will be taken on a first ordered, first filled basis. If you have questions, contact Nancy VandenBrink at 344-6945. Checks should be made payable to Westwood United Methodist Women. (Orders can be prepaid or pay at time of pick-up.)

Please return your order to the church office by Monday, March 28.

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):

_____ 9:30 a.m. _____ 10:30 a.m. _____ 11:30 a.m.

Friendship Luncheon – Apr. 6

Due to the cancellation of the March Friendship Luncheon, the pizza lunch is moved to April 6 in Simpson Hall at noon. A free will offering helps defray the cost. Pastor Wayne Price will share his experiences on his trip to Australia. Please make a reservation by checking the back of the green registration card or enter your name on the list posted on the narthex bulletin board, or call the church office at 344-7165.

Women’s Prayer Breakfast – Apr. 9

Please join us for a light breakfast, fellowship, devotion, and prayer time on Saturday, April 9, 2016. We will meet from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Simpson Hall. Child care will be available upon request. Sign up on the communication card or on the church bulletin board. For more information, please contact Helga Mortensen.

Men’s Prayer Breakfast – Apr. 16

The Men’s Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2016 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.

The Building Project

The building project is well underway. So what is happening next? What is the timeline? And I'm sure some of you are wondering what will happen the next time you are here for a meeting, or an event and where you will meet if some of these spaces are not available. Although we are working to contact leaders if and when we are made aware of space not being available, we all need to be flexible and extend some grace during this construction time.

Below is a very (*very, very!*) rough timeline of the areas that will be affected with the dates. Please remember that these are *VERY TENTATIVE* and we will try to keep you updated as the information changes. We encourage you to be careful as you enter the building during the next few months as there may be construction materials, extra dust, etc. throughout the building. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

Line Item	Expected Start Date	Duration (Weeks)	Item
1	1/18	1	Library taken down - Temporary wall built
2	1/29	10	From 1/29 through 4/1 the construction will be primarily in the courtyard and exterior work.
3	2/29	1	Education wing - Rooms 10 & 11 turned into new nursery
4	4/1	6	Sanctuary/North Entrance - New Wesley Room (May 1)
5	5/16	6	Music room/Prayer room - Hallways will be blocked off. New Wesley Room built before old one is offline/unavailable.
6	6/13	1	East Entrance/Back door - Back stairs

New for the week of 2/15/16: The courtyard is being excavated. It has sounded like there is an earthquake or that we are stationed on the island like in Jurassic World! Noisy, but more progress! Look out the windows across from the Wesley room for a view of the progress.

New for the week of 2/22/16: There are 2 areas in the Sanctuary where the ceiling is being used for staining and painting testing. The team is looking at options.

New for the week of 2/29/16: They are working in the Education/Music hallway where the new nursery will be.

New for the week of 3/7/16: There is a piece of wood missing in the Sanctuary. It is being used to match stains and colors.

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****UPDATE****

April – We will continue to worship in the Sanctuary through April 3. We will then begin worshipping in Simpson Hall beginning April 10.

The week of March 28 through April 2 – Things will be moved from the Sanctuary/Lobby area to Simpson and perhaps other storage areas.

After the second worship service on April 3, we will ask for everyone's help to "empty the pews". If you could bring to the lobby any pew hymnals, Bibles, envelopes, pencils, or prayer cards, we will have a spot in the lobby for these. Thank you!

The Sanctuary will be worked on after Easter beginning April 4. Worship will be held in Simpson Hall. If you need to access the church during the week, you are encouraged to enter via the West Main Entrance as the Nichols Road entrance may be blocked due to construction. The doors closest to the Sanctuary (the North doors) will be blocked off during construction. This phase is expected to take about 6 weeks. Sunday mornings will have the entrances on the East/South side of the building, aka the "Elevator Entrance" and the "Back Entrance" (by the kitchen) available for entry. Please drive slowly and carefully on Sunday mornings as there will be additional traffic in these parking lots.

To make a donation to this project, please indicate that your giving is for the "2015 Capital Campaign" or "Capital Project". You can donate online anytime at www.westwood-umc.org and click "donate". Thank you!

~The Building Team



Fine Arts Ministries Spring News

OPPORTUNITIES to participate in Fine Art Ministries are always available. Please consider becoming part of the Choir, or Handbell Ensemble, Youth Vocal Ensemble or Drama ministries here at Westwood. Snow birds that fly south for the winter months make for plenty of extra space in the Chancel Choir, and the Handbell Ensemble is always wonderful for those who read music enough to come and learn to ring, or come and ring again as subs are needed. We also have two permanent openings in the handbell ensemble at the moment, and would love to have some folks join in the fun. Paula Wilson is always interested to know who would like to be part of upcoming dramas. Any questions: email Jane at jwrightwumc@gmail.com or call my cell at 517-204-2439.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

The Dinner Cruise and 10 Cent Sale was a huge success thanks to the wonderful attendees and the many hands that went into making it happen! Creative juices were not just flowing from the kitchen for that night, but the artists (Paula Wilson, Anne Klute, Art Klute, Jane Wright) and photographer (Jim Jameson), painters (Bob Strobel, Doug and Dana Tipken, Jane Wright, Ron and Royann Anspach), set up folks (Doug Tipken and David VanOrder) were all working behind the scenes. Beth Mitchell brainstormed the food, and cooked it, too. Thanks to the many choir folks and Vicki Reed who helped serve it up that night. Thanks to John Chamberlin for bringing the jazz trio on board, and for all the other musicians who made our evening so special. There was a strange fellow who was reported as highly suspect and turned out to be a Pastor who actually married off a couple who we believe barely knew each other. However, the Pastor was a good sport and blessed them and us with a lovely surprise wedding ceremony. The 10 Cent sale hosted by Wayne Price and Thom Andrews (such an expressive displayer of priceless items) contained many lovely surprises, including the frequency by which we kept hearing the number 42!!! Hope Mark and Joy had room at their place for all that stuff! We have heard some say they hadn't laughed that hard for a very long time. That being said, plus many other encouragements, lead us to believe that the SS Westwood may port one more time next mid-winter to host a similar type dinner. So, if you missed out on this cruise, be watching for the next one!

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.

	March 27, 2016 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	April 3, 2016 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
<i>Serving you in Worship</i>		
Worship Assistant	Sandra Bibilomo	Sandra Bibilomo
Altar	Tracy Quintanilla	Beth Mitchell
1st Service Audio	Bill Rotgers	Bill Rotgers/TBA
1st Service Video	Jim Frey	Jim Frey
2nd Service Audio	Matt Knewton	Matt Knewton
2nd Service Video	Mike Turner	Brian VandePolder
Children's Moment	Pastor Wayne	
Children's Worship	No Children's Worship	Nancy Snell and Helga Mortensen
Videographer		
PowerPoint Preparer	Kelly Graham	Pastor or Office
<i>Serving you through Welcoming</i>		
1st Service Greeters	Sallie Platt and Jeanette Jupp	Jim & Louise Jameson and Sue Pulling
2nd Service Greeters	Lisa Fuller and Laura Anderson	Cathy Cowham Tyler and Sheila Skinner
Hospitality	Shirley Mitchell, Joy Price	Beth Mitchell, Karen Bowman
1st Service Ushers	Pam & Doug Phillips	Joe & Shirley Mitchell
2nd Service Ushers	Clint & Jean Whitcomb, Kim Longstroth, Dickson Sikaundi	Diane Rathburn, Mark Reid, Tom & Paula Willson
<i>Staff</i>		
Nursery Workers	Rachel Fuller, Linda VanOrder, Mary Landreville	TBD
Keyboardist	Dana Tipken	Dana Tipken

Prayer List

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.

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Julian Blair

Gary Cumming

Vicki Hale (friend of Louise Jameson)

Jean Marie Peters (Pastor Wayne's sister)

Frank Sierawski (son of Nancy Snell)

Serving in the military:

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

Prayers for healing and strength to the home-bound

King-Westwood Elementary School & Staff

Our Westwood Neighborhood



*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

<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Publication Date</i>
Mar. 31	Apr. 4
Apr. 14	Apr. 18
Apr. 28	May 2
May 12	May 16

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.