

## *From the Heart of the Pastor*

### **Making All Things New**

As I write these words the construction workers are tarring the roof on the new lobby area. The sanctuary ceiling is also being painted as well. It is amazing to see week after week of progress. Each step brings us closer to the renewal of our building.

On Sunday I shared with the congregation a conversation I had with Jeanette Jupp last week. She told me about making cookies for the Planning Team, which met even before the congregation gathered at Westwood Elementary School. It amazes me how a few believers decided to establish a church on what was then the outskirts of Kalamazoo. Now, in some ways, we are in the center of the city. All because of group of people had the vision to establish a church for the future.

Jeanette also shared with me that the Bennetts were key leaders in helping the fledgling group of believers establish Westwood UMC. Eileen Scamehorn shared with me the wonderful contributions and leadership the Bennetts provided. She also reflected how many people who were so important in the leadership of the congregation have passed on. At times we wonder who will take the place of significant leaders in our congregation, yet God continues to rise up leaders at Westwood UMC and continues to lead us forward to the future. As God makes all things new with our building, God is also making all things new in our congregation.

We are able to worshiping in the basement during renovations, because the whole congregation helped moved things to the basement. Many people also gave their expertise to the set up.

A group is meeting to explore the possibility of having some sort of Food Pantry in our building.

The Literacy Center has trained many tutors who are intervening in people's lives to help them to succeed with their functioning and with their schooling.

We are reaching out to churches in our community and building bridges to unite the people of our community.

Members are coming alongside one another offering meals to new parents, support to the shut-ins, and the sick. Others are mentoring people in in spiritual guidance.

New groups and classes are forming helping people live faith through groups.

The men's and women's ministries are established and are giving encouragement and fellowship for one another.

Missions continues to provide for Kalamazoo, through the "You Are Not Alone" dinners and other missions, as well as worldwide missions.

You are part of God "Making All Things New". We ask that you do so through your sharing of your **time, talent, and treasure**. Prayerfully think about offering two hours of your time each month in some sort of service at Westwood UMC. Second, take the spiritual gifts inventory and let us know your top three spiritual gifts. You can take the assessment at:

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/spiritual-gifts-online-assessment>

Lastly, we strive to be a tithing congregation in which we seek to give 10% to our Lord. We encourage you tithe, and if you are not able to do so at this time, prayerfully consider how you can take another step towards tithing. Our Commitment Sunday will be Sunday, May 1. Together, we are making all things new, fulfilling the God's vision.

As we seek to fulfill God's vision, I also ask that you pray about the youth group. We pray that God will raise up helpers and leaders who are called by God to make a difference in the life of our church and congregation. Also pray for the opportunities we are being presented with as we move forward in faith.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,  
Pastor Wayne

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### **Book Discussion Group – Apr. 19 & 20**

Our book for this month is Andy Andrews' "The Noticer". There's a lot of inspiration packed into this little book! All are free to join us for discussion, either Tues., 4/19 at 7:00 pm, or Wed., 4/20 at 1:00 pm. Books are in the office (\$5), the library, or online. Happy Reading!

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### **Basement Sale Coming Soon – Apr. 22 & 23**

The semi-annual basement sale will be held on Friday, April 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 23 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. You may drop off items to be included in this sale in room 16 next to the theatre on Sunday, April 17 after 11 a.m. but no later than Thursday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m. Can you join the fun and volunteer a couple of hours in order to make this sale successful? All proceeds benefit mission projects supported by United Methodist Women. If you have questions, please call Marlene Pyle, 375-3225. Help is needed on:

Thursday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: sort donations

Friday, April 22 and Saturday, April 23: check-out customers, tidy tables, etc. (especially Friday morning when it is the busiest)



Saturday, April 23 at Noon to pack up unsold items which will go to the Rescued Treasures Store operated by the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission

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### **Kalamazoo Valley CROP Hunger Walk – April 24**

Did you know that last year alone, the Kalamazoo Valley CROP Hunger Walk raised an amount sufficient to provide lunch for 861,660 school-age children in refugee camps on the Burmese-Thai border! Church World Service has been providing lunch there for Karin refugee children for decades at a mere 8 Thai Bhat (5 cent US) a lunch. This is a school lunch program that is a bargain! And our walking in the CROP Hunger Walk has made it possible. This year's Kalamazoo Valley CROP Walk is Sunday, April 24. Westwood UMC will once again join the effort. Plan to walk or support a walker and literally save lives! Visit the CROP Walk table on April 10, 17, or 24 to show your support!

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### **Faith-Hope Circle – April 27**

Faith-Hope Circle, a United Methodist Women's group, will meet at Friendship Village, 1400 N Drake, Room 1A on Apr. 27 at 1 pm. Everyone is welcome. Questions call Helen Lancaster, 344-9874 or Jeanette Jupp, 345-8833.

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### UMC Spiritual Growth Retreat – Apr. 29 & 30

Kalamazoo District United Methodist Women are co-sponsoring a Spiritual Growth Retreat entitled "Created For Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God" to be held on April 29 and 30, 2016 at Wesley Woods Camp. Rev. Devon Herrell will be the retreat leader. \*Develop the happiness habit! \*Seek happiness in God! \*Examine the understanding of happiness and how to live the life that God calls us to! Join us for a time of fellowship and spiritual growth. Registration forms are available on the United Methodist Women's bulletin board by the nursery. Registration deadline is April 25, 2016.

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### Pet Lovers Group - Apr. 30

The next meeting of the Pet Lovers Group will be on Saturday, April 30th at 6:00 pm in the Prayer Room. Kristen VanOrder will share with us her presentation that she did for school on animal therapy. Please bring your own fast food supper and join us! Hope to see you there!

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### Friendship Luncheon – May 4

You are invited to attend the Friendship Luncheon on Wednesday, May 4 at 12 noon in Simpson Hall. The program is called "Tulips & More" based on the experience that Linda Derfny had last spring when she visited the Netherlands for 11 days to experience tulips, history & scenery. She is sharing a narrated slide show with those attending the May 4 Friendship Luncheon. To sign up for the luncheon, prepared by Jim Jameson, please check the back of the green communication card in worship or call the church office, 344-7165.

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### Mother / Daughter / Friend Tea – May 7

Westwood United Methodist Women are once again sponsoring our annual Mother / Daughter / Friend Tea on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 10:00 am – Noon in Simpson Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a small vase or coffee cup that each person can use to make floral arrangements in. There will be a team of floral experts on hand to help with the flower arrangements. Tickets are \$3.00 per person and will be on sale every Sunday until the event. This is a FRAN event. Be sure to invite your friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors.

Beth Mitchell

President/United Methodist Women

*Mother- Daughter - Friend*

Tea

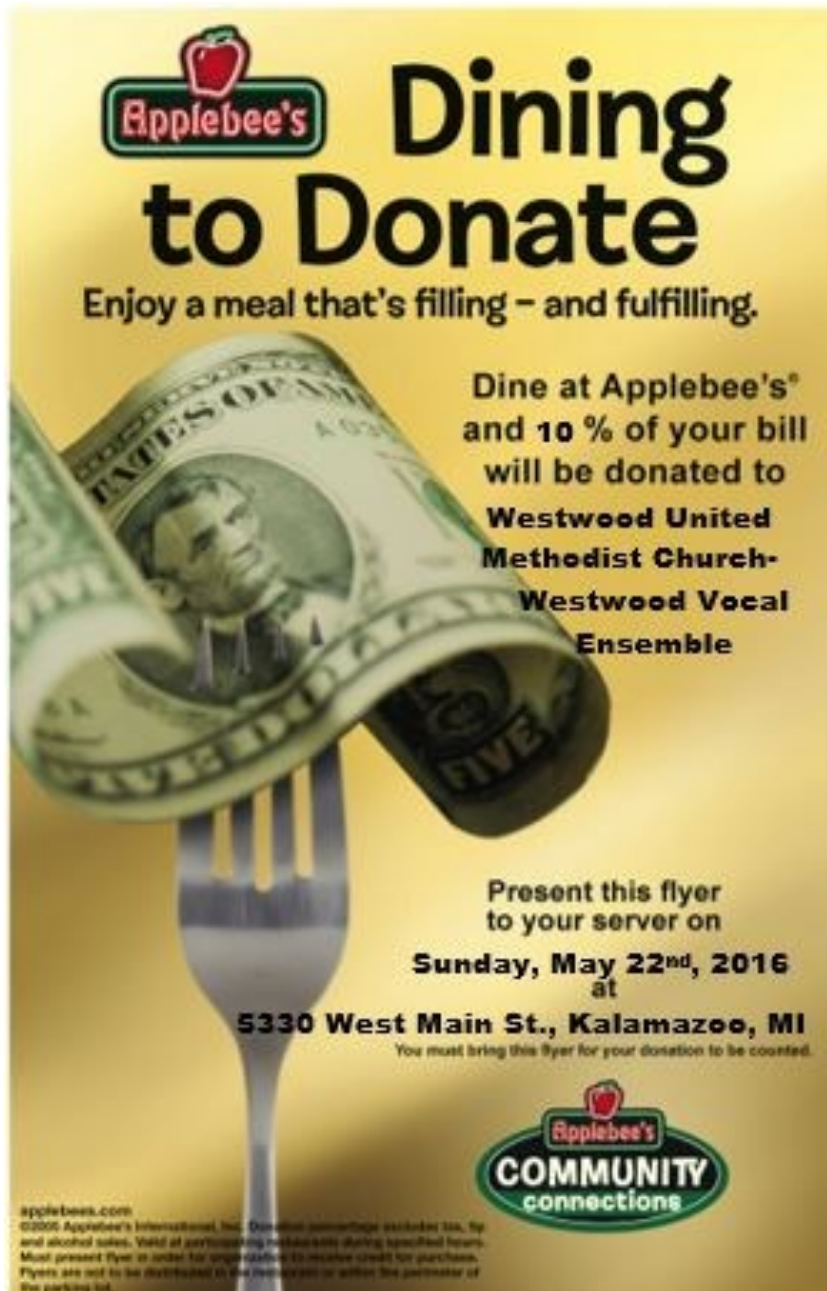


## Trustees Spring Clean Up Days – May 7 & May 21

The trustees invite you to participate in the spring clean-up days. The dates are May 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the church and May 21 at 9:00 am at the parsonage.

### Mark Your Calendar for May 22, 2016!

This spring's Dining to Donate Sunday at Applebee's will be May 22, 2015. For those new Westwood members and attenders, Dining to Donate is a fun and absolutely painless way that Westwood Vocal Ensemble raises money. All you have to do is enjoy a meal at the Applebee's on West Main St. on Sunday, May 22. All day, and that day only, 10% of the tab at your table (excluding alcohol) will be donated to us when you show the coupon to your server. Just clip this coupon or see any Westwood Vocal Ensemble member. Coupons will be in Simpson Hall also. It's always a fun event with so many of us in the restaurant through the day! Tell your family, friends and neighbors to meet at West Main Applebee's with their coupons on May 22!



**Applebee's** Dining to Donate

Enjoy a meal that's filling – and fulfilling.

Dine at Applebee's® and 10 % of your bill will be donated to Westwood United Methodist Church- Westwood Vocal Ensemble

Present this flyer to your server on  
**Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**  
at  
**5330 West Main St., Kalamazoo, MI**  
You must bring this flyer for your donation to be counted.

**Applebee's**  
COMMUNITY connections

applebees.com  
©2005 Applebee's International, Inc. Donated percentage excludes tax, tip and alcohol sales. Valid at participating restaurants during specified hours. Must present flyer in order for organization to receive credit for purchases. Flyers are not to be distributed to the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking lot.

### 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
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.

New for the week of 3/28: Things will be moved from the Sanctuary/Lobby area to Simpson and perhaps other storage areas.

New for the week of 4/4: We will lose the North/upper/closest to Sanctuary doors. There will be a temporary wall put up between the offices and the electrical panel. This wall is to minimize the dust, dirt, debris, and paint odor to the rest of the space. The lobby area will no longer be available for meeting space. There will be 2 storage containers brought in and placed by the north entrance.

The Sanctuary will be worked on after Easter beginning 4/4. 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.

April 10 –We will begin worshipping in Simpson Hall.

New for the week of April 11: The Sanctuary will be sanded and painted. The concrete has been poured in the courtyard area and the structure above that area has begun.

New for the week of April 18: All lighting will be installed.

New for the week of April 25: Decision on audio booth and video booth needs to be made and booth(s) need to be deconstructed and reconstructed in the correct locations.

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](http://www.westwood-umc.org) and click "donate". Thank you!

**~The Building 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.

	<b>April 24, 2016</b> 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	<b>May 1, 2016</b> 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
<b><i>Serving you in Worship</i></b>		
Worship Assistant	Mary Brooks	Sandra Bibilomo
Altar	Tracy Quintanilla	Laura Anderson
1st Service Audio	TBD	TBD
1st Service Video	Jim Frey	TBD
2nd Service Audio	TBD	TBD
2nd Service Video	Mike Turner	TBD
Children's Moment	TBD	Pastor Wayne
Children's Worship	Pam Chamberlin and Nancy Snell	TBD
Videographer	Derrick Quintanilla	Derrick Quintanilla
PowerPoint Preparer	Kelly Graham	Pastor or Office
<b><i>Serving you through Welcoming</i></b>		
1st Service Greeters	Wanda Horton and Betty Dustin	Jeanette Jupp and Sallie Platt
2nd Service Greeters	Jo and Mike Turner	Beth Mitchell and Beth Shirley
Hospitality	Joyce Babbitt, Norma Sylvester	Jane Waite, Carolyn Parker, Mary Faupel
1st Service Ushers	Norm & Mary Grant	Joe & Shirley Mitchell
2nd Service Ushers	Kim Longstroth, Dickson Sikaundi, Tim & Darla Ashcraft,	Diane Rathburn, Mark Reid, Tom & Paula Willson
<b><i>Staff</i></b>		
Nursery Workers	Rachel Fuller, Linda VanOrder, Mary Landreville	TBD
Keyboardist	Gail Secord	Gail Secord

## 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](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. 28	May 2
May 12	May 16
May 26	May 31
June 9	June 13
June 23	June 27

## **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

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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.