

From the Heart of the Pastor

The workers continue to make progress this week framing the new lobby, creating a new drain for the roof, building the north entrance, and rewiring the Sanctuary. I am amazed at the skills of the workers and their ability to create a whole new space. Our United Methodist Men made lunch for the workers a week ago Friday. The workers were very grateful.

Every one of us has spiritual gifts, talents, resources, and individuality which God uses to build up one another so people will experience “the fullness of Jesus Christ”. We may not build buildings, yet we build life and faith. Each one of us has a distinctive personality God uses to bless people in unique ways. How is God using your unique set of gifts to help people build faith? Please go to the website: <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/spiritual-gifts-online-assessment> take the spiritual gifts assessment and share your results with Tim Ashcraft or me.

Our church is in a time of great opportunities and challenges. Just as we committed to the transformation of our building two things happened one creating urgency and the other possibilities. The first is that our elevator broke, probably beyond repair. We’ve asked the view of many companies, and are waiting for a final diagnosis from one of them. We need an elevator to enable all our people to be involved in worship and community. The elevator will probably cost a large sum of money, and we need to be prepared to make the repairs.

The possibility for our congregation is the availability of the Gentle Dentistry Building next to the church. The Church Council proposed the exploration of buying the building. We need to be wise regarding the purchase of the building and land. Our Lord is faithful when we take it to prayer. Please join us in praying about the possibility.

Lastly, our youth group struggled in the last year, and I believe our Lord is calling us to take strong action to minister to youth. A group will meet on Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00 in the Prayer Room to vision for youth. We will review what has been done and possibilities for the future. If you are interested in helping create a new vision please be there. If you are not able to do so, I ask that you pray for our youth program. As well as praying for the youth, please continue to lift our children’s ministry as well, as we seek to touch lives and make a difference. Let us move forward in faith and trust in God with all things in our lives and congregation.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,
Pastor Wayne

Golden Cross Sunday

Golden Cross Sunday focuses on the work of health and welfare ministries and institutions of the West Michigan Conference. A special offering this day supports the Methodist Children's Home Society providing for emotionally troubled and homeless children, the Benevolent Fund of Clark Retirement Community, and Bronson Methodist Hospital's in-house chaplaincy. Special offering envelopes dated May 1 are in your giving envelope packet. You may make an offering for Golden Cross Sunday any time in May.

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.

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



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 7th at 9:00 am at the church (outside only) and May 21 at 9:00 am at the parsonage. Lunch will be provided.

Women's Prayer Breakfast – May 14

The Women's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Sat., May 14, beginning at 9:00 am in the Wesley Room with prayer time to follow. Sign up for the breakfast either on the sign-up board or on the back of the communication card.

Book Discussion Group – May 17 & 18

Our book this month is The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color-blindness by Michelle Alexander. With less than 5% of the world's population, why do we have 25% of the world's prison population? And why are the majority of inmates people of color? How has the War on Drugs affected our policies - and how does all of this affect us? Join us at 7:00 pm on May 17th OR 1:00 pm on May 18th to discuss chapters 1-3 of this very important and acclaimed book. (We will finish the book in June!). Sponsored by UMW - but anyone can join in!

Friday Films – May 20

IMMIGRATION is our topic this month! Come join us on Friday, May 20, for a light meal and program (6:00 pm), followed by 75-min. film "Crossing Arizona" (7:00 pm). We see the headlines: "Refugee Crisis at Our Border," "Rising Death Toll," "Deportations Increase." "Crossing Arizona" examines the crisis through the eyes of those who are directly affected by it, and raises many questions about human rights, culture, class, labor, and national security. What is our role as Christians in this broken world? A JFON representative will speak at the meal, and we'll have a discussion time after the film. Sponsored by UMW and the Justice Committee.

Men's Prayer Breakfast – May 21

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Sat., May 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.

Change the World Day* – May 21

This year will be the sixth annual "Change the World Day" in Kalamazoo as we partner with community volunteers for a day of service and mission. 2016 will bring some changes to our event that will enable us to get more work completed and see what God's up to in other areas of ministry. Projects this year will be limited to the "Front Porch Garden" at Sunnyside UMC (2800 Gull Rd), a Free Store Big Give (at Sunnyside UMC), The Peace House (312 Phelps Ave.), and some sprucing up in and around Stockbridge Ave. UMC at 1009 E. Stockbridge Ave. This year's cookout will be at Stockbridge UMC giving us a chance to see what's going on at this new site! Change the World Day is May 21st from 8:30 – 12 noon, with a 12:30 cookout at Stockbridge! Registration will be on the Volunteer Kalamazoo website and will be up and running soon. <http://www.sunnysideumc.com/change-the-world-may-21st-2016.html>

CHANGE
THE WORLD

Dining to Donate* - May 22

This spring's Dining to Donate Sunday at Applebee's will be May 22, 2016. 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 the coupon (available in the Messenger newsletter) 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 22nd, 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. Donation 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 purchase. Flyers are not to be distributed to the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking lot.

Child Protection Policy Training –June 12

Our next Child Protection Policy training will take place on June 12 at 12:15 p.m., immediately following the second service. It will take about an hour, so feel free to bring lunch or snacks. This is required every 3 years for anyone who wishes to work in any capacity with our children and youth. If you have been invited, or expressed interest in working with children and youth, or you just want more information, this is for you. Come to the Wesley Room and plan for it to take about an hour. Please RSVP to the office or on the back of the green communication card with the date you will be attending.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for their prayers, cards, visits, and food. Especially to Donna and Maggie for taking such good care of me. I am sure they all helped. The best part was being able to be back in church and seeing everyone. Love, Jeanette Jupp

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.

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

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!

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 pan-

el. 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 is scheduled to be installed. Note: This is delayed due to not receiving the lighting supplies.

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. Note: This was decided. There will be 2 stations on either side of the back of the Sanctuary to facilitate the entry areas.

New for the week of May 2: Work on the north entrance, roof, and outside windows as well as the electrical and further work on the Sanctuary.

New for the week of May 9: The lights are scheduled to be installed.

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!

HEY! Remember when....

...the congregation was going to be asked to help with some things with the building project? Well, help is requested to construct a basic woodworking project. Basically we have dimensions to build 2 desk-like structures for the audio and video stations to be inside the Sanctuary. If you could help at all, please make a note on your communication card. We already have some of our first volunteers for this project and some others willing to pay for some of the materials! Thank you!

~The Building Team



Missions Happenings for the First Quarter 2016

\$150 was forwarded to the Methodist Children's Home in southeastern Michigan (December loose coins offering).

Forwarded United Methodist special offerings (West Michigan Conference or national): \$92 for Human Relations Sunday, \$69 for Racial Ethnic Local Church Sunday, \$698 for One Great Hour of Sharing (for UMCOR operating costs).

A team of 13 people (8 from Westwood) volunteered at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center (disaster relief facility) the week of February 1.

\$540 was mailed to Kalamazoo Gospel Mission from the Souper Bowl of Caring donations.

\$300 was forwarded for the United Methodist response to the Flint water crisis (February loose coin and Sunday school offering).

\$250 was given to support Ivan Martinez, a Wesley Foundation student at WMU, for a Wesley Foundation spring break mission trip in California (from Meijer/Hardings rewards).

\$1,000 was forwarded in February to Resurrection UMC in Voronezh, Russia from the Missions line of the church operating budget.

Prepared and served 67 persons at the You Are Not Alone dinner for persons in need on February 21 (\$83 expense from January Sunday school offering).

\$275 was given to a Wesley Foundation student for one month's rent (Meijer/Hardings rewards and a special gift).

\$50 was given to Friends of CROP to help with CROP Walk expenses (Meijer/Hardings rewards).

\$125 was forwarded to Samuteb Hospital in Congo and \$175 to Lord's Mountain Orphanage in Zambia (member directed gifts).

\$1,164.37 was given to Stephanie Norton for seminary expenses (remainder of the Norton missionary support fund).

\$220 was forwarded for Camp New Day (church camp for children with an incarcerated parent) (March loose coin and Sunday school offering).

Mission Stitchin' group continues to meet twice a month to cut and sew needed items like school bags, children's clothing, and pillowcases, and to knit and crochet prayer shawls and enjoy great fellowship.

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.

	May 8, 2016 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	May 15, 2016 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
<i>Serving you in Worship</i>		
Worship Assistant	Chaz Mortensen	Dan Brooks
Altar	Beth Mitchell	Julie Lancaster
1st Service Audio	Matt Knewtson	Matt Knewtson
1st Service Video	Jim Frey	Jim Frey
2nd Service Audio	Matt Knewtson	Matt Knewtson
2nd Service Video	Mark Longstroth	Daniel Whitcomb
Children's Moment		
Children's Worship	Lisa Fuller and Joyce Babbitt	Sarah Mannschreck and Paula Willson
Videographer	Derrick Quintanilla and Dickson Sikaundi	Derrick Quintanilla and Dickson Sikaundi
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	Royann and Ron Anspach	Kris Kenz Locke and Diane Rathburn
Hospitality	Kathy Hillman, Andrea Daniels	Paula Willson, Sue Pulling
1st Service Ushers	Bud Mahieu, Phil Engel	Bev Prior, Jeannette Jupp and Wanda Horton
2nd Service Ushers	Bob Mitchell, Brian VandePolder, Dan & Mary Brooks	Matt Knewtson, Tim & Darla Ashcraft, Don Hilbert
<i>Staff</i>		
Nursery Workers	TBD	TBD
Keyboardist	Dana Tipken	Dana Tipken

With Heartfelt Thanks

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)

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

Deadline	Publication Date
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 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 info@westwood-umc.org	
Website: www.westwood-umc.org	
Fax: 344-9174	
Pastor, The Reverend Dr. Wayne A. Price	762-4787
E-mail: pastorwaynewumc@gmail.com	
Director of Fine Art Ministry, Jane Wright	544-2390
E-mail: jwrightwumc@gmail.com	
Deacon, Sandra Bibilomo	
Email: sandra.douglas73@yahoo.com	
Coordinator of Children's Ministries, Helga Mortensen	
Email: hmortensenwumc@gmail.com	
Lay Leader, Ken Smith	270-3093
Staff-Parish Chairperson, Mark Reid	720-6543
Trustees, Seth Virgo	207-3939
Wesley Foundation Director, Lisa Batten	344-4076
Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College (Office)	
<i>Westwood Messenger</i> Editor, Beth Arbogast,	
E-mail: info@westwood-umc.org	

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.