

From the Heart of the Pastor

Yesterday in worship Joe Mitchell shared about his daughter's father-in-law, Paul G. Temewan, who suffered with ALS before succumbing to the illness in December 2013. We used his poem, "To Be Healed", as the basis for the pastoral prayer:

If I could touch His Robe.
I would be healed.
In mind, body, and soul.
But He is not here.
He sits at the right hand of God in heaven.

The Holy Spirit is here, He is with me.
He has always been here,
Before my affliction.
Now as my affliction worsens,
He remains at my side.

Despite my unworthiness,
My weakness,
My foolishness,
My errors,
My sins of omission and commission,
I am never alone.
He will be with me forever,
Today, tomorrow, forever.

On that day
When I breathe my last,
When my heart stops beating,
I will realize the promise of Christ
When He said
Those who believe in me shall never die,
But have life eternal.

At that time
I will touch His robe
See His face
Feel His embrace,
Healed in body, mind, and soul
I will dwell in the house of God
Forever.

From "In My Mind", Paul G. Tremewan, Georgia Mountain Publishing, 2016

Hospitality Helpers Needed

Would you be able to help provide for hospitality time once every two months? We are looking for some helpers. Please contact Mary Faupel 381-7216 with any questions.

Backpacks and School Supplies Collection

Stores have begun their Back to School sales. Please help students in need at King-Westwood Elementary start class with backpacks filled with basic supplies. We'll also be collecting supplies to fill school bags at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Supplies needed for these bags are spiral notebooks, rulers, pencil sharpeners, pencils, pink pencil erasers, scissors (rounded tip), boxes of 24 count crayons. Collection boxes will be located at the elevator entrance and the north door entrance. Your donations will be much appreciated!



Adult Mission Trip Opportunity – Register by Aug. 28

Westwood will be heading on another mission trip to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC) in Chatham, IL (just outside Springfield) from October 30 through November 4, 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 August 28, \$100 by October 23). Scholarship funds are 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 Vandenberg with questions or to say “sign me up”!



Friendship Luncheon – Sept. 7

You are invited to attend the Friendship Luncheon on Wednesday, Sept. 7 at 12 noon in Simpson Hall. Following the meal, Kalamazoo County sheriff Rick Fuller will give us an update of the “Love Your Neighbor” program. To sign up for the luncheon, prepared by Jim Jameson, please check the back of the green communication card in worship or contact the church office, 344-7165.

Renovation Dedication – Sept. 10

Please reserve the evening of September 10 at 5:00 pm to attend our Renovation Dedication Celebration. We will enjoy a catered dinner, and celebrate the completion of our project. We will also ask God's blessing on our building improvements.

The dinner will begin promptly at 5:00 pm. Please plan to be seated and ready for dinner at that time. A program will follow the dinner.

Since this is a catered event and we will be paying per person, RSVP's are required. Please indicate your RSVP on the communication card. All RSVP's must be submitted by Aug. 29.

Community Open House – Sept. 11

Mark your calendar for Sept. 11 from 2:00 to 3:00 pm for a Community Open House to show our neighbors, our contractors and sub-contractors, and anyone who wants to see the new upgrades to the building.

Adult Bible Studies Fall 2016 - Begins Sept. 18 in Simpson Hall Annex

This quarter, vision runs through the Bible lessons from Isaiah, Hebrews, and Revelation. This vision is what people could see with their eyes at the time (oppression, pain, trouble, calamity, lack, sadness) to what they could see only with their hearts – the future God has promised in the New Jerusalem (peace, healing, security, wholeness, bounty, joy.) In spite of how things seem NOW, God and Christ are sovereign. "Every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." (Hebrews 3:4 Revelation 22:13).

Come to this discussion class each Sunday, September through May, or drop in any time you are available. Everyone is welcome as we learn and share God's Word. Adult Bible Studies books will be available on Kick-off Sunday, September 11. Facilitator: Louise Jameson

Half-Truths by Adam Hamilton – Begins Sept. 21; Register by Sept 11

Explore popular sayings that miss the point. They are simple phrases. They sound Christian – like something you might find in the Bible. We've all hear these words. Maybe we've even said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways. Join Adam Hamilton in his search for the whole truth by comparing some common Christian sayings with the wisdom found in Scripture. "Adam Hamilton exposes well-worn clichés that lead us down unfaithful and sometimes dangerous paths. Most importantly, he points to what Scripture really says and how that truth can set us free." – Christine Chakoian, cohost of the Covenant Bible Study.

Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Wesley Room beginning September 21. Please sign up for this class by September 11, so your book can be ordered. Facilitator: Louise Jameson

Widow/Widowers Retreat – Sept. 24; Register by Sept. 14

Westwood United Methodist Church is planning a Widow and Widowers Retreat to be held this year on Saturday, September 24, 2016. There are flyers available with more information, or see the Messenger dated 8/22/2016. Registration is due 9/14. All are invited.

Clarification of Church Assets

To clarify a few rumors, the Board of Trustees are in charge of the assets of the church. As of now, they are trying to go through everything and decide what to keep and if there is anything that is to be discarded. As for the metal folding chairs, there has not yet been a decision, so please understand that this is a process and many decisions need to wait until the construction is finished prior to some of these decisions being made. Many things will be decided on based on storage options, usage of rooms, and needs of the building. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or the Trustees.

Trustees – Help Needed

The Trustees have had offers to help with projects, and now is the time! Over the next few weeks, projects such as painting, carpet laying, cabinet mounting, moving of furniture, and providing lights for the outside walkway, etc. is needed. Please call Jim Jameson at 271-0839 or email him for further details. These projects need to be completed before Kick-Off Sunday, Sept. 11 (The earlier the better). Supplies will be provided. Thanks! -Trustees

Keys – They Are a'Changing

The keys to the building entry keys, classroom keys, Epworth entry and office keys have been changed. If you need new keys and have not yet received them, please contact the church office on Mondays or Wednesdays so we can figure out how to deliver them to you and more specifically what entrances that you need. Thanks! ~Beth

Thank You, Westwood Church Family

Dear Pastor Wayne and the Westwood Church Family,
We give thanks for Pastor Wayne's call and prayers while Greg was in Hospice care until his death. We were humbled by all the love, support, cards, funeral visits and prayers of the Westwood church family during the difficult time of losing our son to cancer after a 5-year courageous battle.

We appreciate such a loving family as our faith sustains us in these days.

Blessings,
Joan and Gary Melvin

Westwood Warriors Softball Team

Just to let you know that we did lose our last game Thursday, Aug. 18 against the 1st United Methodist Church with a score of 22 to 8. OUCH! But it was still fun! It's been a great season playing ball together! And thanks again to our wonderful cheering section! You made it all worthwhile! Hope to see you all out again next year!

George and Norma Sylvester

This was our 2016 season schedule:

Day	Date	Time	Final
Tu.	6/14	7:45 p	Won 21-15
Tu.	6/21	Bye	-- --
Tu.	6/28	6:15 p	Won 17-8
Tu.	7/5	7:45 p	Lost 13-8
Tu.	7/12	7:45 p	Lost 28-11
Thu.	7/21	6:15 p	Won 10-6
Thu.	7/28	Bye	-- --
Thu.	8/4	7:45 p	Lost 16-15
Thu.	8/11	6:15 p	Lost 20-19
Thu.	8/18	6:15 p	Lost 22-8

Thanks for all of the support!

2016 Westwood Warriors and our special extras!



Food Pantry

The Grand Opening of the Westwood Neighborhood Food Pantry to be located at Westwood UMC in the basement of Epworth will be Saturday, October 8, 2016, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. At this time, we are in need of financial support as well as food donations. If you would like to contribute to the Pantry, please make your check payable to Westwood UMC and put "Food Pantry" in the memo line. You may also pay online through our website and please indicate "Food Pantry". Beginning on Sunday, September 4th, we will start collecting food items for the pantry. Bring your food items to church and place them in the designated collection boxes.

- September 4: Peanut Butter / Jelly
 Cereal - any type
 Toilet Paper (4-6 roll package)
- September 11: Canned tuna
 Boxes of Macaroni and Cheese
 Small bottles of liquid dish soap
- September 18: Pancake mix and syrup
 Canned Ravioli
 Paper Towel (1-2 roll package)
- September 25: Hearty Soups
 Canned fruit
 Instant potatoes

Thank you for your support!

Wanted: A refrigerator in good condition for the Westwood Neighborhood Food Pantry. We also may need a stand-alone freezer in the near future. If you have either of these items you want to donate, please let one of the Food Pantry committee members know. We will arrange for pickup. Thank you.

Food Pantry Committee:

Beth Mitchell, Nancy VandenBrink, Bev Henson, Maggie Blair, Louise and Jim Jameson and Tom Willson.

Missions Happenings for June and July 2016

A sloppy joe dinner was prepared and served for 40 children and adults attending VBS at Sunnyside UMC on June 26 by four Westwood members.

\$3,000 was forwarded to Resurrection UMC in Voronezh, Russia (one time gift from Westwood Foundation).

\$100 was delivered to Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes for the summer Food is Fuel program to provide lunch to children and families in need (June loose coin offering.)

276 travel size personal care items were delivered to Ministry with Community and 30 pair of reading glasses to Gospel Mission on July 12.

Mission Stitchin' group consistently has had 8 to 10 women working on prayer shawls, school bags, and pillowcases at their twice-monthly meetings.

News from Missionary Paul Webster

Paul Webster, our missionary who is director of the Mujila Falls Agriculture Center in Zambia, posts what is happening at the Center and with him personally on the Center's facebook page. His posts will be featured in Messengers so you can follow what is happening there and how our mission dollars are at work. The following posts are from July 1 - 4.

I recently was asked to do the Sunday Service for the District Church Conference in Mwinilunga. Then the weekend of July 2 and 3 I was in Kakoma to preach three days at Chief Kakoma's Christian Revival Event. This was a very successful Christian Crusade in a remote chiefdom near the D.R.Congo border. Four Chiefs from D.R.Congo came to attend. We had two to three thousand people on site for singing, dancing, scripture and preaching. I was the principal preacher and was well received. Chief Kakoma declared his chiefdom for Christ and barred all witch doctors from coming into his chiefdom. He requested to be anointed by the participating pastors. It was a moving event that really fired up his subjects. We had two Sanga Chiefs in attendance who requested that we have a similar event in D.R.Congo next year.

Chief Kakoma gave testimony and declared his Chiefdom for Christ before his anointing with oil by the pastors present. His subjects were ecstatic with joy and danced for more than an hour afterwards. This first Crusade and the first one in which I had a principal part, brought a lot of joy and hope to a very remote place. I read from Matt. 28 (the Great Commission) and really felt like we might be "bringing the Good News to the "ends of the earth". The emphasis was on getting people to give up idols, witchcraft and dealings with demons. All of the pastors were organized for an altar call where every person as prayed for individually and many were overcome by the experience. Now the hard part begins of following up with the newly converted.

UMCOR Responds to Catastrophic Flooding in Louisiana

From the UMCOR Hotline:

Days of torrential rain inundated the state of Louisiana, beginning August 11. Flooding has impacted at least 40,000 homes.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) issued an emergency grant to the Louisiana Annual Conference, releasing 2,950 cleanup buckets to United Methodist churches in LaFayette and Baton Rouge, areas severely affected by the floods, for distribution to affected households.

UMCOR stands ready to release another 2,000 cleanup buckets to go to the most vulnerable places as identified by the Louisiana Conference, as more cleanup buckets are being assembled to meet more needs.

The state of Mississippi also was affected by flooding, and UMCOR has readied relief supplies to go there, when the water recedes.

Greg Forrester, UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response executive, called the disaster "catastrophic," and recalled that it follows on the heels of "massive" spring floods in Louisiana. He said UMCOR had just approved a long-term disaster-response grant to aid the Louisiana Conference in its response, when floodwaters again impacted the state, affecting some of the same areas as the previous event.

Several United Methodist churches have been converted to shelters for those who have been displaced. Four Louisiana parishes — East Baton Rouge, Livingston, St. Helena, and Tangipahoa — received a Federal disaster declaration, so FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, was mobilized. Some 50,000 families already have registered with FEMA for assistance, and many more are expected to do so.

UMCOR is collaborating with FEMA and other national disaster response organizations, including the American Red Cross, Lutheran Disaster Response, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, and the umbrella group, National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD).

"The Red Cross national office reached out to us, and we have connected them with the Louisiana Annual Conference leadership, as well as with UMCOR Sager Brown for warehouse space, cleanup buckets, distribution assistance, and shelter for evacuees," Forrester stated.

The Missions team at Westwood asks that you aid the efforts in Louisiana as well as West Virginia with your financial gift. Checks should be payable to Westwood UMC and "UMCOR flood relief" in the memo line. 100% of gifts go to the relief and rebuilding efforts.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT



RIB + CHICKEN BBQ
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2016
5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

AT
WESTWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
558 NICHOLS ROAD, KALAMAZOO, MI 49006

ALL ARE INVITED!

- **YOURSELF**
- **SONS + GRANDSONS**
- **IN-LAWS (FATHER, SON, ETC)**
- **NEPHEWS**
- **FRIENDS + NEIGHBORS**

IT'S A FREE EVENT!

PLEASE SIGN-UP ON THE SHEET LOCATED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD WITH HOW MANY WILL BE ATTENDING. THANK YOU!

**CALL 269.344.7165 OR DOUGTIPREN@LIVE.COM
FOR MORE INFORMATION/QUESTIONS**

September 11, 2016

Fall Kick-Off

Fall Programming Begins

Worship will be at 8:30 am & 11:00 am

Sunday School will be at 9:40 am

Kick-Off Breakfast will be held at 9:40 am in Simpson Hall.

“Back to Church—No Supplies Needed!”



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.

	August 28, 2016 8:30 & 10:10 a.m.	September 4, 2016 8:30 & 10:10 a.m.
<i>Serving you in Worship</i>		
Worship Assistant	Marilyn Price Richard	Sandra Bibilomo
Altar	Julie Lancaster	Margo Heystek
1st Service Audio	TBD	TBD
1st Service Video	Jim Frey	Jim Frey
2nd Service Audio	TBD	TBD
2nd Service Video	Mike Turner	Brian VandePolder
Children's Moment	TBD	TBD
Children's Worship	Helga Mortensen and Nancy Snell	TBD
PowerPoint Preparer	Kelly Graham	Pastor or Office
<i>Serving you through Welcoming</i>		
1st Service Greeters	Lauretta Eisenback and Bev Prior	Jane & Gary Waite and Jan & Bill Urfer
2nd Service Greeters	Ron & Royann Anspach	Kris Kenz Locke and Diane Rathburn
Hospitality	TBD	TBD
1st Service Ushers	Norm & Mary Grant	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	Mary Landreville, Kristen VanOrder, Rachel Fuller	Linda VanOrder, Mary Landreville
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
Michael Clup (friend of the Lancaster's)
Gary Cumming
Vicki Hale (friend of Louise Jameson)
Matt Knewton
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

<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Publication Date</i>
Sept. 1	Sept. 6
Sept. 15	Sept. 19
Sept. 30	Oct. 3

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

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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.