

From the Heart of the Pastor

Journeys of Ministry

Our journey with the Lord is engaging, and rewarding. On June 1 Doug will begin his pastoral ministry at Fennville and Pearl UMCs. In the last nine years or so, Doug and Dana Tipken engaged in their faith journey at Westwood UMC. They came as a way of starting over, and the most significant event of their new beginning was their marriage in the Pinto Memorial Rose Garden on a very hot August day. They became involved in the ministries that helped people grow in faith. As they assisted others they grew in their own faith. During this time, Doug took night classes on theology and Biblical studies in Grand Rapids, while working at Humphreys during the day.

Doug's work at Humphrey's challenged him in his faith. Many co-workers were supportive, but some pestered him when they learned he wanted to pastor. Doug blessed those who persecuted him for the sake of righteousness. For Doug it was a time of tremendous growth. He did not react in anger, but respond in patience, gentleness, and grace. Doug then entered the process of being an Inquiring Ministerial Candidate in the UMC, taking lay speaking/servant class. He eventually had responsibility for the lay servant classes in the Kalamazoo District. Doug met with the Kalamazoo Board of Ordained Ministry, and over a few years certified him as a candidate.

Dana's commitment to her faith and support of Doug also was inspired by God. Through physical challenges, she persevered in faith and in service. Others were encouraged by her commitment to prayer, and as an insightful leader of small groups. When one of their small group members, Bev Prior, passed away, the family invited the Tipkens to sit with the family during the funeral. Dana's love for the members of the small group created a caring community of support and faith. Dana was also called to the music ministry, as our keyboardist. God used Dana's gifts to lift them into God's Presence in worship. Doug recently shared with me he could not have succeeded in his journey without Dana's support and encouragement. Dana shared with me how much Doug's support has meant to her. We will bless them in worship on May 27.

Mike Kosten, our youth and technology intern, term will be up May 22. God gifted Mike with a spirit of encouragement, industriousness, and lovingkindness. Mike's gentle spirit has lifted the spirits of youth and adults, and his dependability and commitment has been inspiring. Mike has an attitude of acceptance, humor, and flexibility, working with people as they are. He also has a deep faith, orienting his life on the conviction of Jesus as Lord and Savior. We are grateful for Mike's gifts and will miss him.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,
Pastor Wayne

Book Discussion Group – May 15

On Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00, we'll be discussing Finding God in a Bag of Groceries, by Laura L. Willis. "In a tiny food pantry, the author discovers her own hunger for God, and a world of neighbors she never knew: the lonely, unemployed, chronically poor, and middle-class folks surprised to be struggling in a great recession." All are invited to come, listen, and share any of your experiences! We'll meet in Simpson Hall.

Men's Prayer Breakfast – May 19

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 19, at 9:00 am in Simpson Hall with prayer time to follow. Sign up for the breakfast either on the sign-up sheet in the lobby or on the Communication Card.

Trustees Work Day - May 19

Question: How many Methodists does it take to paint a room, trim shrubbery, and spiff up Church property?* Westwood's trustees know there are many tasks to complete to maintain God's house. We are setting up monthly work days to accomplish this. The next date is Saturday May 19th from 9-1 pm at the Parsonage, 1003 Greenway Terrace. Lunch will be provided. Please bring yard tools. Questions? Contact Kim Longstroth (269)569-2740 *Answer: subject to your attendance!

Pentecost Sunday - May 20

Sunday, May 20 is Pentecost Sunday. We would like everyone to wear something **red** on that day when they come to service to help celebrate the Birth of the Church.

A Shelter from Their Storm Campaign – May 20

Kalamazoo Gospel Mission's campaign to replace the old buildings on Burdick St. to better serve the increasing number of women, children, and men with children is asking area churches to take a special offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, to support this much needed project. With a goal to collectively raise \$1 million dollars as a church united, Westwood UMC will join in this unified effort of churches. Special giving envelopes will be in the bulletin on May 20 (checks payable to Westwood UMC). This is one way to do something significant to display God's love for the least of these and make a difference in our community.



WUMC Prayer Service – May 20

The WUMC Prayer Service will be Sunday evening, May 20, at 6:00 pm. Join us for this monthly time of prayer and worship together, lifting up the needs of our congregation and giving thanks for God's blessing.

A Celebration of Ministry – May 25

After serving as the Director and Campus Pastor for the Wesley Foundation of Kalamazoo since 2007, Lisa Batten will be moving into a new ministry opportunity as the Young Adult and Campus Ministry Coordinator for the MI Area UMC. Come celebrate her eleven years of ministry on Friday, May 25: Open House Reception from 6:00-7:15 pm and a Celebratory Worship at 7:15 pm at the Wesley Foundation, 2350 Ring Road North, Kalamazoo.

Peace with Justice Sunday – May 27

The special offering for Peace with Justice Sunday enables the United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs. Special offering envelopes are in your giving envelope packet or will be available in the May 27 worship folder.

Pack a Child for Camp – Donations through May 27

Westwood UMC will be collecting items for children and youth in need in our community who will be able to attend summer camp through Family and Children Services. These items are small daypacks or backpacks, sunscreen, insect repellent, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, towels and washcloths, and new swimsuits. Place items in the collection bins in the lobby by May 27. Thank you!

Pet Lovers Group Will Continue – June 2

Pet Lovers Group will continue to meet per everyone's request! Our next meeting will be a potluck picnic at 1:00 pm on Saturday, June 2 at the Kal-Haven Bike Trail State Park trail head on 10th Street. Details to follow. God Bless! Linda VanOrder

Graduation Sunday – June 3

If you have a high school or college graduate, please plan on attending second service on June 3 to acknowledge these graduates. For all graduates, please let us know their name, the name of the school of which they are graduating, and if a college or university graduate, let us know the degree earned and the name of their college or university. Please email the church office at info@westwood-umc.org with this information by Tuesday, May 29. We will honor all our graduates on Sunday, June 3 during the 10:10 worship service.

ISAAC Run/Walk/Roll Event - June 30

The Interfaith Strategy for Action and Advocacy in our Community (ISAAC) Walk, Run or Role event will take place on June 30, 2018 at Spring Valley Park. The Walk Run event replaces the annual ISAAC Banquet held each year. Members of Westwood Methodist Church are known for high representation at the annual banquet and your WUMC Justice Team is extending the same invitation to represent our Church in large numbers again at this event. The event theme this year is *Moving Towards Justice*. **There are two course choices: a 1-mile or 3.1-mile course. This event is open to all age groups 0-100+. Registration starts at 7:30am and the run begins at 9:30 am. All experience levels are welcome. Wheelchairs, strollers and walkers are welcome. See a member of the Justice Team to register. **There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby. The entry fee is \$35 per person for teams of 8, or \$40 for individuals. We have a challenge to form a minimum of three teams of eight, two teams to run the 3.1-mile course and one team to participate in the shorter 1-mile course either walking, in a wheelchair or stroller, or rolling. Sign up and pay by May 30th to take advantage of the reduced \$35 entry fee. ** It is going to be a fun-filled family day with several different activities, including justice and faith vendors, music, singing, dancing, and good food. Above all, it will be an opportunity for unity and fellowship while we are taking care of our bodies. ** There is also opportunity to donate so that anyone who wants to go but cannot afford to will have a chance to do so. We are also hoping that this will be an opportunity for the ISAAC Church members to meet and mingle in celebration of and commitment to Social Justice.

Literacy Center – Help Needed July 10 to Aug. 9

The Literacy Center needs your Help! We are hosting an English as a second language adult summer school program this July in partnership with the Kalamazoo Literacy Council, the Kalamazoo Refugee Council and ESL of Southwest Michigan. We need volunteers. The program is from July 10 through August 9 and will run from 9:00-12:30 in the morning and 5:30-9:00 in the evening on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We would also like to open the literacy center on Mondays for a few morning and evening times. A similar program last year served about 60 adults a day. This year our trained ESL teachers will be teaching English language skills, reading, and writing through a health literacy curriculum called "What to Do When Your Child Gets Sick". Watch for a sign-up sheet for volunteers in the lobby. We need: trained tutors to work under ESL teachers and in the literacy center on Mondays (KLC tutor training begins on May 8 or is online), volunteers for child care, volunteers interested in helping with pre and post testing, parent literacy volunteers, library/materials volunteers, receptionists, hospitality/snacks, set up and clean up. There will be a brief training for all volunteers before the beginning of classes. Please call Dori Ravotas with your questions at 269-870-5282.

WUMC News to Know

Westwood United Methodist Church (WUMC) will be moving to summer hours beginning on May 27. On May 27 (Memorial Day Weekend) through September 2 (Labor Day Weekend), Worship services will be held at 8:30 am and 10:10 am. There will not be Sunday School or Youth events during this time.

The Church Office will be changing to summer hours during this time as well. The office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Beth Arbogast will be working Mondays and Wednesdays, and Barbara Hathaway will be working Tuesdays and Thursdays.

There will also be a change in the WUMC newsletter, The Messenger, as it will be changed from every other week to only once a month. Details are still being worked out at this time, but it will begin as a once a month publication in June.

Messenger Newsletter News

Beginning in June, the newsletter will only be published once a month. The deadline for the newsletters will be on the second Monday of the month by 9:00 am, so the June deadline will be June 13. The publish date will be Wednesday of that week. There will be no late submissions accepted unless there space available. Thank you for your understanding.

Fair Trade Sale Coming in December

Last December, our church held its inaugural Fair Trade Sale. It was very successful, in large part due to all the wonderful volunteers who helped on the day of the sale, and with setting up the night before. We plan to expand our December 1st sale this year and are looking for more volunteers! We want to form several committees, especially for advertising, volunteer coordination, and food. Would YOU please prayerfully consider helping with this endeavor? Many hands make light work - and a lot more fun, too! Planning meetings will start up in June. Please contact Julie Lancaster (269-271-3336) or Nancy Snell (630-926-1235) with any questions- and to VOLUNTEER! You will be helping people throughout the world receive a fair price for the marvelous items they make and produce.

A Brief Farewell

I thought I'd better let my church family all know officially that I will be away on an eight-week family leave/sabbatical for the months of June and July. Our eldest daughter, Kate, is expecting her second child (later in life) and my duties will entail helping with their almost six-year-old, Joseph, and helping to unpack the household into their new home in Purcellville VA. They just got there on May 8 and the moving van has shown up with all their stuff on May 10. The new baby is due July 1, so with Kate in her 9th month by the time I arrive, unpacking will be slow at best over the next few weeks.

Along with these duties of being a helper to our daughter, I will also continue to remain in touch with Pastor Wayne and our office concerning worship details and will continue to assist the praise team in making sure ppt files get sent out to those who construct the ppt for us each week. Additionally, I will be researching and studying some long-time details regarding our best friend, Jesus, and his time while he was here walking around his part of the world. I know this will be an exciting time for me in this regard.

I will be back with everyone by August 1, or maybe even July 29 depending on how things go with the Davinroy household. Kate and Justin are thankful I can have this time away to help out, and I, too, am grateful for my wonderful church family and your understanding and support.

I will be on line and my cell will still be operating, so for those who may need or want to get ahold of me, I will be accessible.

We have been blessed with three candidates regarding the pianist/organist position that will be available in Dana's absence. We have interviewed all three and are in the process of deliberating further. Your prayers are very much appreciated.

Blessings and joy in serving Him with you,
Jane Wright





Pentecost Sunday is May 20, 2018

WEAR RED FOR
Pentecost

Westwood UMC Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is accepting items from the list for the food pantry. Monetary donations will be used to purchase meat and eggs. Pantry food items can be brought in at any time. Please place them in the bins in the lobby. *Thank you for your continued support!*

If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, please speak with Maggie Blair or any committee member.

WUMC Westwood Neighborhood Food Pantry Shopping List

hearty soups
tuna
dish soap
facial tissue
diced tomatoes



Food Pantry Volunteers:

Saturday, May 19, 2018

Committee Member: Brenda Tiefenthal
Name: Joyce Branch
Name: Liz Prentice
Name: Barb Elliott
Name: Diane Herpolsheimer

Saturday, June 2, 2018

Committee Member: Nancy VandenBrink
Name: Barb Elliott
Name: Donna Blair
Name: Carolyn Parker
Name: Jane Waite

Saturday, June 16, 2018

Committee Member: Nancy VandenBrink
Name: Dee Cole
Name: Help Needed
Name: Help Needed
Name: Help Needed
* Barb Elliott (help w/ Pantry breakfast)

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 20, 2018 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. PENTECOST / Last Day of Sunday School	May 27, 2018 8:30 & 10:10 a.m. MEMORIAL DAY
<i>Serving you in Worship</i>		
Worship Assistant	Tina Egan	Roxanne Frey
Altar	Julie Lancaster	Lauren Harris
1st Service Audio	Brian VandePolder	Gary Lubbert
1st Service Video	Mike Kosten	Mike Kosten
2nd Service Audio	Matt Knewtson	Seth Virgo
2nd Service Video	Jim Frey	Mike Turner
Children's Moment	Helga Mortensen	Pastor Wayne
Children's Worship	Helga Mortensen, TBD	Helga Mortensen, TBD
Power Point Preparer	Barbara Hathaway	Kelly Graham
<i>Serving you through Welcoming</i>		
1st Service Greeters	Jim & Louise Jameson, John Motter	Sallie Platt, Rachael Deneau
2nd Service Greeters	Sheila Skinner, Cathy Cowham Tyler	Julie Lancaster, Helen Lancaster
Hospitality	Diane & Roger Herpolsheimer, Mary Faupel	Carol Tolis-Bucklin, Royann Anspach
1st Service Ushers	Donna Blair, Maggie Blair	Norm & Mary Grant
2nd Service Ushers	Jeff Skinner, Elizabeth Dalzell, Jill & Emmanuel Sikaundi	Clint & Jean Whitcomb, Kim Longstroth, Dickson Sikaundi
<i>Serving you Through the Week</i>		
Counters	Phil Engel, TBD, TBD	Phil Engel, TBD, TBD
<i>Staff</i>		
Nursery Workers	Melissa Lain, Violet Flores, Morgan Jung	Melissa Lain, Morgan Jung, Violet Flores
Keyboardist	Justin Ortez	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
Michael Clup (friend of the Lancaster's)
Gary Cumming
Vicki Georgeau (niece of Marian Burkey & Linda Ridderbos)
Eric Ridderbos (son of Al & Linda Ridderbos)

Serving in the military

Kyle D'adam, Air Force (grandson of Tom & Elise Hillman; serving in the middle east)
Alec Ridderbos, Army, stationed in Middle East (grandson of Al & Linda Ridderbos)

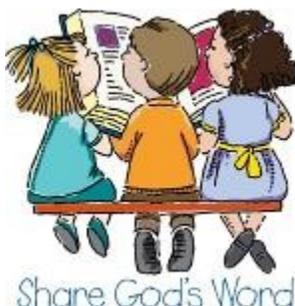
Prayers for healing and strength to the homebound

King-Westwood Elementary School & Staff

Our Westwood Neighborhood



*Have updates on these friends or others?
Please let the church office know!*



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 by noon.**

Future Messengers and Deadlines—by noon

<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Publication Date</i>
May 24	May 30*
June 14	June 16

*Delayed due to Holiday

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 email articles as you wish them to appear to info@westwood-umc.org by the deadline. The *Messenger* is distributed Wednesday. Subscribers do not receive it before Wednesday. Articles must be submitted by the deadline date with no late submissions accepted. All articles may be 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.