



The Westwood Messenger

January 18, 2010

Volume 110, Issue 3

Westwood United Methodist Church
<http://www.westwood-umc.org/>

538 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49006 269.344.7165
Email: info@westwood-umc.org

From the Heart of the Pastor

On Sunday, I spoke about how fear is a natural, protective emotion, given to us by God. Yet, fear can overwhelm us, which can lead us to believe we are unable to influence our situation. On the other hand, we may burn-out when we try to do more than we can. God gives us the clarity to see what we can and cannot do in a situation. He empowers us to make a difference by doing our job, while letting God do God's job.

The places beyond our control can be fearful places, because we want to be able to impact what happens to us and loved ones. Places beyond our control include: illnesses, death, economic circumstances, as well as other people's responses. Instead of places of fear, these areas beyond our control can become the "God Zone" because we are acutely aware of our need of God.

The places of uncertainty are also places of grace and the Lord's kindness. As the psalmist relates, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty...He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings will you find refuge" (Psalm 91:1,4). The image is of a bird, perhaps an eagle, wrapping its protective wings around you as a refuge. **Where do you need God's refuge and reassurance?**

Jesus encouraged us to "Remain in my love" (John 15:9), which means to fully integrate it into our lives. The enduring permanency of Jesus enables us to persevere during difficult times. The enduring love is grace because it withstands all circumstances. **How are you remaining in Jesus' love and grace?**

We are deeply troubled by the tragedy in our world, including the earthquake in Haiti. We cannot save all the earthquake victims in Haiti. We can make a difference to the people of Haiti and the people in our neighborhood. Sam Dixon, the head of our relief agency, UMCOR literally gave his life in helping others. While we may not be called to make the ultimate sacrifice, we can give each day to bring people God's hope in their time of need. One of the great needs of Kalamazoo is the 36% of children who live in poverty. We can make a difference to the families of our community. Another very significant need of the people in our community is the need for the enduring grace and kindness of God. Many people need the permanency and love only Jesus' grace can provide. **How are you remaining in love of Jesus, just as Jesus "obeyed my Father's commands"?** Take time this week to think about how God is giving you refuge and how you can "remain" in His love. How is God calling you to make a difference in your family, workplace, church, and neighborhood? May Jesus' joy be in all of us, and may it be complete (John 15:11).

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,

Pastor Wayne



Helping in Haiti

By the United Methodist Communications

Dear United Methodist Friends,

United Methodist Communications continues to provide news coverage of the situation in Haiti, including how the church is responding, at www.umc.org/haiti. We also want you to know of other resources available for churches and members who want to help.

Volunteers and Health Kits

According to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), there will be a great need for volunteers to help rebuild once the initial crisis is past, but it is not safe or possible for volunteers to go to Haiti at the present. However, UMCOR's two relief supply warehouses are asking United Methodists to provide health kits that will be sent to Haiti. Instructions for assembling and shipping health kits are available at [umc.org](http://www.umc.org).

(http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.5721887/k.24FC/How_can_you_help_Provide_UMCOR_Health_Kits.htm?aid=5813305)

Donations

We are grateful that donations continue to come in online. Donors may also contribute by placing a check in the offering plate at a local church or by mailing it to UMCOR, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087. Checks should indicate "Advance #418325" in the memo line. United Methodist Communications is creating a special bulletin insert for churches' use, which will be available Friday at www.umc.org/haiti.

Ministry Resources

Following the Asian tsunami, United Methodist Communications produced a video and study guide titled "God, Why?" to help people cope with the spiritual and emotional impact of disasters. The resource, available from EcuFilm, explores why such tragedies happen and God's role in them. The study guide provides a basis for group study and discussion. During this time of pain and suffering, let us take comfort in the promise of Psalm 46:1, NSRV: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

United Methodist Communications
810 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203



The Alpha Course

What is the point of **life**?

What happens when you **die**?

Is **forgiveness** possible?

What relevance does **Jesus** have for our lives today?

What is Alpha?

The course is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening manner over ten, thought provoking weekly sessions. There is a meal together at the beginning of each session which gives you an opportunity to get to know each other. Listen, learn, discuss and discover. Ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile.

A Wonderful Gift!

It is said by many that the greatest gift one human being can give another is the gift of Jesus Christ. One of the ways that many try to give that gift is by bringing someone in their life to an Alpha Course. How about you? Do you have a friend, coworker, neighbor or relative that just might be ready to give such a gift to? If not will you keep looking?

There is still time to come the Winter Alpha Course.
Please call Mike Turner if you want to come see what Alpha is all about!

Come to Alpha for:
Good Food, Good Fun, and Real Answers

The Next Alpha course @ WUMC begins Tuesday January 12, 2010.
Please contact Mike Turner (207-6150) for answers to your questions concerning the Alpha Course.

News from Worship & Fine Arts



For the heights and depts. That have no reach, God gave us music, the soul's own speech

Musical Offerings In Worship

Date	First Service 8:30	Second Service 10:55
Jan 24	Chancel Choir	Chancel Choir / Praise Team
Jan 31	Glory Con II	Glory Con II / Praise Team
Feb 7	WHBE	WHBE, WW Ringers, Praise Team
Feb 13 Saturday	Sweet Things and Sweet Songs for Sweethearts 6:00 – 8PM	
Feb 14	Chancel Choir, Q	Choir, Q, Praise Team

Sweet Things And Sweet Songs For Sweethearts

The Third Annual talent show and dessert night and Fine Arts Fundraiser will happen Saturday, February 13 at 6:00 pm down in Simpson hall. It is wonderful to see all the talent offerings that happen on that night. If you would like to sing, play an instrument, do a magic trick, recite or read a poem, sing in your music group, ring in your bell group, or tell a joke or short story – let Jane know about your intentions. She holds the privilege of previewing entries beforehand, and is also willing to help you to further develop your talent by working with you on your “act.” This happens as close to Valentine’s Day as possible, so remember, our theme is about loving each other, or God, or being friends, etc. That being said, every entry is not required to stick to that theme exclusively. All talent entries must be submitted by Thursday, February 11.

Liturgical Dance Class For All Ages

Beginning Tuesday, January 19 at 7pm, there will be an offering for those who are interested in a liturgical Dance class. This class will all ages to explore the meaning behind movement as expressed through Christian music. The class will last for 8 weeks and will involve stretching exercises, creative work to design what we do, and the actual memorization and sharing of our outcomes with one another and perhaps in worship if we become inspired and willing to do so. There is no cost except for the possibility of becoming hooked on dancing for God. Register by calling the church office or:

_____ *Cut here and mail to church or put in Jane’s box* _____

I am interested in the liturgical dance class beginning January 19. Name _____

Other family members participating: _____

Nursery needs? Yes ___ No ___ for (# of children 2nd grade and younger) _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____ Home phone: _____

Cell: _____

High School Choir Has Begun

For those high school people who love to sing, we now have started a choir group for you. If you might be interested, you can contact Jane Wright at the office (see above) or talk to the director - Tina Egan at: tegan@InterActMich.org or call at: 381-1074.

Getting to Know You

Kay Ensfield has become the newest staff member of Westwood United Methodist Church, Sharing her enjoyment of organ music as she uses her God given talents on our organ, which she likes very much.

Born in Dallas Texas in 1947. Kay lived there only briefly. Her parents returned to southeast Michigan where they were from when she was about three months old. She graduated from Grosse Point High School in 1965 and arrived in Kalamazoo that fall to attend Kalamazoo College

On the first day of college she met Bob Ensfield, sitting down next to him for a book discussion in a class they shared. They married the weekend before graduation in 1969. She continued her education at Indiana University, completing a master's in social work in 1975. The couple has three children; Cindy of Phoenix, Jennifer and Jeff of Kalamazoo. All five of the grandchildren live in Kalamazoo; Hope is 5, Grace is 1, and 4-month-old triplets Amelia, Shelby and Claire.

Kay has worked off and on since 1978 in disaster relief for the Red Cross. She retired in August 2009 in excited anticipation of spending lots of time with her grandchildren.

Kay played piano when she was a child, but began taking organ lessons as an adult. She was a stay-at-home mom and "it was fun to practice when the kids watched "Sesame Street." As she neared retirement she decided she would like to do more organ playing and began to sub for some local churches when their regular organists were unavailable.

In the summer of 2008, Kay played for the annual conference at Calvin and met Jane. They enjoyed playing together and Jane thought of her when the position of organist became available at Westwood. She has filled in for us several times during the past two months, but as of January 10 became our permanent organist.



Welcome, Kay





Early Eves

by Marian Burkey

Early Eves will meet Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. in Schneider Lounge.

Meal by Roxanne and Alberta Cummings
Devotions by Laurel Anderson
Program will be Planning and Programs and Pledging for the year

Faith-Hope Circle

by Jeanette Jupp

Faith-Hope Circle will be meeting on January 21 at 1 for refreshments. We will continue studying The Purpose Driven Life. We are on chapter 3.

Sign up for Altar Flowers

The new flower chart is posted in the Narthex outside the office to sign up for altar flowers. Now is the time to sign up if you would like to help provide these flowers. Please indicate whether the flowers are "in memory of" or "in honor of". Only one request per week if possible. Make your check for \$15.00 payable to Westwood United Methodist Church with "Altar Committee" noted in the memo line. Put it in the collection plate or in the office. An Altar committee member will contact you about your wishes for the arrangement or plant. The committee member will make the arrangement or purchase the plant. You may pick up your arrangement or plant after the second service ends.

Appropriate arrangements or plants may be put in the garden during Lent. The Altar Committee will put a rose on the altar for newborns. This is a gift from the church.

Remember The Jobs Board

by Jane Wright

Please stop by the jobs board and take notice of the needs there. It will become far more effective if we all take a look once in awhile, lift those needs in prayer, and keep our eyes and ears open for the sake of others.

Do you have a job that someone could help do, or know of a job that is open and ready to fill?

Do you need a job? Please post your needs or insights on the JOBS bulletin board located within a section of the large red bulletin board near the elevator on the top level.

Attention New Adventurer's

Saturday, January 23

Sally Mahieu and Mary Grant are planning an exciting night of food and fellowship. We will meet for dinner at TGIFriday's and after dinner, we challenge all of you bowlers to a night of bowling at one of the local lanes. If you aren't a bowler, you can come and watch the rest of us bowl that perfect 300 game!

When: Saturday, January 23, 2010, 4 PM for Dinner

Where: TGIFriday's off West Main

Bowling: At this point to be determined.

Call Sally @ 216-3231 or Mary @ 345-9422 by Monday, January 18th as TGIF need to know how many to set up for.



Thank You

I want to express my sincere appreciation to my Church Family for the gift I received at Christmas. Paul and I are so Blessed to be members of Westwood UMC and have the opportunity to worship with the many caring and loving persons in our Church family. Thank you so very much and may God grant our Church and each of you good health and many Blessings in the New Year.

Lois & Paul Moeller

To My Westwood Friends

Thank you so much for the prayers and phone calls and Pastor Wayne's comforting words during my weeks of chemo.

Gods Blessings,
Mabel Hillis

Thank You

Dear Members of Westwood UMC,

Thank you for letting us use the church for our cub scout meetings for the last 3 ½ years. It was fun having our Pinewood Derby in Simpson Hall, and all out other activities. We are looking forstd to our new adventures as part of Troop 217.

Sincerely,
Webelos II Den
Pack 290
Jay – DenLeader
Clint – Den Leader
Noah Gross, Daniel Whitcomb, Nick Anderson

Thank You for Supporting the Troops through Operation Holiday Cheer

Dear members of Westwood UMC,

We want to thank you for your very generous donations for our "Operation Holiday Cheer."

We had an amazing day on November 21! With the help of many hands we packed and shipped 190 boxes to our troops. Each box contained gallon size zip lock bags of hygiene items as well as zip lock bags with food items, enough of each for 4 to 5 soldiers. Each box also had Christmas stockings and larger bulk goodies, Oreo cookies, peanut butter and jelly, footballs, soccer balls, magazines, socks, playing cards, and very special hand made cards and letters written by local area schools. We were able to arrange for almost 1,000 troops to receive holiday care packages! The total weight shipped was 2.55 tons and the total cost of mailing was \$4,247.86.

You enabled us to accomplish this and we are so very appreciative!

We have received a couple thank yous already from our service members who were recipients of the packages. SMSgt David Tilley writes that he sure needed some white socks and that the cookies only lasted 20 minutes! Another solider, MSG Michael Henry (currently serving in Iraq) who now lives in Paw Paw but attended high school in Gobles, wondered if it was a coincidence that the box he received contained Christmas cards from Gobles High School staff, students, and parents?

Thank you for being a part of a community who is so supportive. We would not have accomplished this without your help!!

Blue Star Mothers of America
Southwest Michigan Chapter #179

Obadiah's Journey to Jerusalem An interview by Wesley the Church Mouse

The Palm Sunday story is found in your Bible in Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40 and John 12:12-15.

Wesley: Obadiah is a strange name for a donkey.

Obadiah: It is Hebrew for servant. I love my name.

Wesley: I understand that your story is very special in that prior to Jesus entering the city, you were lame.

Obadiah: Yes, that is true, I am a beast of burden and the roads can be are very rocky, steep and narrow. It is not uncommon for donkeys, horses and camels to go lame especially when stones bruise our feet. I was an unbroken colt, lost my footing and slipped on my journey even though my mother was by my side. The stones made my cry out.

Wesley: If the road was too difficult and the burden on your back too great would your master sacrifice you?

Obadiah: If you mean, destroy me, yes that is correct. My body would have been used for man in some capacity. But my master had a different plan for me that day. (I love to tell the story.) My master whispered into my ear that God created me for a reason. I prayed, God, I want to be healthy and to go to Jerusalem with all the townspeople. When Jesus sat on my back, and I took my first step on that journey to Jerusalem, my feet were relieved of the pain.

Wesley: What was happening in Jerusalem?

Obadiah: The Messiah was coming and He sent two of his disciples to my town of Bethphage, to bring an unbroken colt to ride on His Triumphal Entry. This was the time in which all of Israel would be gathered at Jerusalem and a time for Him to fulfill the prophecy of Zechariah.

Wesley: Why would the King of kings chose a lowly donkey, a beast of burden?

Obadiah: Jesus demonstrated his humility and gentleness by riding a donkey instead of a great war horse. A donkey is a symbol of peace, a lowly animal whose back could carry such great weight.

Wesley: How does it feel to be so important to the Palm Sunday story? You played a really big role?

Obadiah: I just pray that the Lord keeps me small so that all may remember how great He is and all will say "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord" not "What a awesome donkey He rides".

Wesley: Did Jesus weigh a lot?

Obadiah: The story is not about me but about Jesus. Jesus came to carry our burdens, the tremendous weight of the sins of the world.

Wesley: Do you have any parting thought for the church family at Westwood?

Obadiah: It was an honor not a chore to carry our Savior. Even if there are no donkeys in a heavenly stable, it is worth having Christ in our lives. What nobler, finer role do we have than to be His donkey, the bearers of Christ into our neighborhoods, villages and world?

Wesley: You mean to have Christ in our lives here and now and bearing Him wherever we go? Ask the animals and they will teach you— Job 12:7



**Westwood United Methodist Church
Second Mile Mission Giving 2009 Year-In-Review**

Lane One—Missionary Support

Paul Webster (missionary to Zambia) #11865Z (goal \$1,880) 1,880.00

Lane Two—World Projects

World Communion Sunday #5820 265.00
 Agriculture Project, Zambia, #15016A 100.00
 Russia Initiative (Irina Mitina/Resurrection UMC, Voronezh), #011510-RA (goal \$6,000) 6,000.00
 Bible Translation and Literacy, Liberia, #07508A (from United Methodist Women) 100.00
 Front Porch Orphans #14420T — Back to School, Zambia 110.00

Lane Three—National Projects

Human Relations Sunday #5807 173.00
 Peace with Justice Sunday #5809 299.00
 United Methodist Student Day #5816 219.00
 Appalachia Service Project 10,755.00

Lane Four—Hunger/UmcOR (Conference Goal \$17 per member)

One Great Hour of Sharing #5822 622.00
 Zimbabwe Emergency #199456 200.00
 Domestic Disaster Response, Red River Floods, #901670 200.00
 World Poverty/Hunger via the Great Gospel Sing-Out 797.32

Bread for the World 200.00

CROP Walk (75% global hunger, 25% stays for local hunger agencies) 414.00

Lane Five—Racial Ethnic Churches & Ministries (Conference Goal \$8 per member)

Native American Sunday #5813 108.00
 Racial Ethnic Local Church Sunday #5806 125.00

Lane Six—Conference And District Projects

Camp Sunday #5812 — Camp Renovations 150.00
 Christian Education Sunday #5442 28.00
 Golden Cross Sunday (the portion sent to West MI Conf.) #5814 162.00
 Rural Life Sunday #5808 103.00
 Camp New Day #7482 220.00
 Methodist Children’s Home 150.00
 Youth Service Fund (Love Links Challenge) 46.00

Other Mission, Hunger Or Shelter Giving (Can Be Local)

Kalamazoo Area Loaves & Fishes	450.00
Kalamazoo Gospel Mission	279.00
Free Health Clinic, Kalamazoo (half of Golden Cross Sunday)	260.00
Emergency Needs (pastor's discretionary "Love Fund" for people needing assistance)	1633.00
Kalamazoo Deacons Conference	550.00
CROP Walk Administrative costs	25.00
Shepherd's Center of Kalamazoo	150.00
Wesley Foundation of Kalamazoo mission trip	125.00
Wesley Foundation of Kalamazoo	1000.00
Special ball for Croyden School	25.00
Walk for Warmth	150.00
World Vision (30 Hour Famine)	680.00
Grace on the Hill UMC, Corbin, KY	150.00
International Child Care (Haiti/Dominican Republic)	175.00
Clean Water for the World	300.00
Foods Resource Bank	25.00
Stockbridge Ave. UMC Vacation Bible School	140.00
LifeSpring UMC	90.00
Resurrection UMC renovation, Voronezh, Russia	2500.00
Projector for Russia Theological Seminary, Moscow	275.00

Above Six Lanes And Other Mission/Hunger/Shelter \$32,408.32

United Methodist Women

Pledge to Missions	4500.00
Supplementary Giving (other mission giving to Women's Division)	256.00
Local and other mission giving	267.25
What-So-Ever Freebed, Kalamazoo	200.00
The Marianists (sponsor a student at Our Lady of Nazareth Primary School in Kenya)	125.00
United Methodist Community House, Grand Rapids	600.00
Bible Translation and Literacy, Liberia	(see Lane 2)

Total United Methodist Women Giving \$5948.25

Combined Grand Total (Congregation and UMW) \$38,356.57

The total above does not include \$25,000 given through our church's ministry shares (formerly Apportionments) for World Service and Conference benevolences and Kalamazoo District missions (one part of the connectional ministry of the United Methodist Church). These funds carry out ministries which a local church could not do alone such as supporting missionaries, building and strengthening churches worldwide, and supporting more than 40 local and statewide mission and outreach ministries. The Missions Team thanks you for your generous support of missions and outreach that helped children, adults, and families here in Kalamazoo, our nation, and around the world. Let us continue to serve others through our time, talents, and resources in 2010 as we offer Christian love and compassion to our neighbors.

Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre Year-In-Review

Note: We received a Christmas e-mail bulletin from Paul Webster, our missionary in Zambia, which was a brief 2009 year-in-review. Excerpts will appear over the next three weeks.

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light...” Isaiah 9:2

Dear Friends and Supporting Congregations,

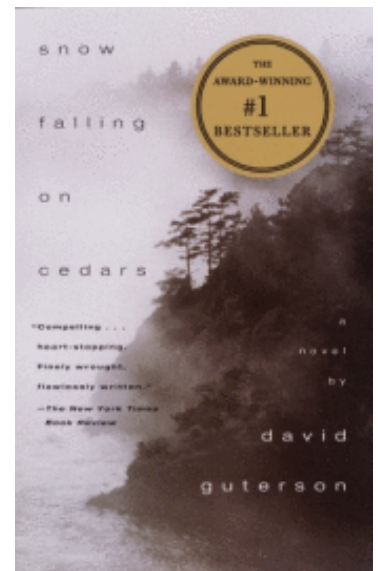
Again it is the Christmas Season and we are counting our blessings here at Mujila Falls. Much has been accomplished in the past 12 months. Your prayers and your gifts have not been expended in vain. Each day here we are making progress in producing more food, training more people, building a better training center, and bringing people to the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Africa was traditionally known as the “Dark Continent” due to the difficulty of getting information about it. Today, the problem is getting information in to the inhabitants so that they can improve their lives. This has been our work for the past 15 years. Thanks to you and your prayers, valuable information is reaching the hungry and needy in North Western Zambia and Southern Congo. Let us pray that ALL will “see a great light”.

Last year when I came back from itineration in the U.S., I found crops unplanted or doing poorly; I found our vehicles broken down and useless; I found our water system unfinished and our rabbit numbers down. We had a bull that wasn’t breeding, no corn in the corn crib and our chickens and pigs without feed.

Since then we have repaired our vehicles and later sold the old 1995 LandCruiser for a new one. We have trained more oxen and gotten our crops planted in record time. We have innovated to build hand push cultivators out of old bicycle parts use in our soybeans and greatly speeded up the planting of soybeans and peanuts by using our cultivator to open up furrows and using push planters to lay down the seed. We then use the oxen and drag to cover the seeds. By planting earlier, we have found that we can simply ridge without plowing. This has saved us much time and money.

From the Library

Have you considered participating in Reading Together? Reading Together is a program supported by the Kalamazoo Public Library designed to get the entire community reading the same book at the same time. Throughout the year programs involving issues raised by the book are given, ending with the author visiting during National Library Week. This year’s book is Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson. He will visit Kalamazoo on March 17. The church library now has a copy of the book available to check out. For more information on Reading Together visit the Kalamazoo Public Library website at www.kpl.gov and click on the Reading Together link.



IT'S A BOY!

Celebrate!

Congratulations to Ken and Jenny Smith, who are the proud parents of Ethan David Smith, who was born on January 11, 2010.

Golden Gazette

Newsletter of the OLDER ADULT COUNCIL

Sallie Platt, Editor

55 Plus

Plan to meet on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, for the meal at noon in Simpson Hall. To assist our chef, Jim Jameson, please fill out the reservation form and return it to the church office by Feb. 1. Following the meal, we welcome Dr. Debra Hazel who will present a program, "Home Fit", with information to evaluate your home for long term needs that may help you to stay in your home longer.

February Golden Birthdays Send a card, make a call, say a prayer

- 2/5 Jim Platt, 1904 W. North St., 49006, Ph. 343-3917
- 2/6 Clair Branch, 8935 South 12th St., Portage 49024, Ph. 372-7688
- 2/13 Laura Anderson, 1399 Cadet Lane, 49009, Ph. 375-0424
- 2/14 Barb Riegel, 1400 N. Drake Rd. #170, 49006, Ph. 226-9505
- 2/14 Royann Anspach, 1187 Harrier Ridge, 49009, Ph. 381-3369
- 2/15 Sallie Platt, 1904 W. North St., 49006, Ph. 343-3917
- 2/17 Ellen Whitcomb, Wyndham Apartments #229, 2300 Portage, 49001, Ph. 342-0759
- 2/19 Betty Pick, 4662 Weston, 49006, Ph. 373-1888
- 2/19 David Strong, 3315 Huron, 49006, Ph. 342-5317
- 2/27 Louis White, 7786 West Saint Andrews Circle, Portage, 49024, Ph. 327-7969
- 2/28 Virginia Martin, 114 N. Kendall, 49006, Ph. 343-6898

Reservation Form for 55 Plus Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Name _____

Please return to the church office by Monday, February 1. Thank you.



UMCOR Responds to Haiti Catastrophe

Nancy VandenBrink
Missions Chair

I have been reading United Methodist news reports about what’s happening with the United Methodist personnel, volunteers, and mission projects in Haiti following last Tuesday’s devastating earthquake in Haiti. The following is a summary of the information I have seen.

The epicenter of the quake was just a few miles outside Port-au-Prince, the capital, and at least 1.8 million people live in the area.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has close ties with the Methodist Church in Haiti and is responding to the devastating earthquake with funding, material resources and prayers. UMCOR is working with partner relief agencies on the ground to provide immediate relief to the people of Haiti. UMCOR is mobilizing staff to go to the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, the weekend of January 16 and 17. Once non-governmental organizations are allowed in and the situation is safe, UMCOR staff will move quickly to begin offering direct support, hopefully this week.

Volunteers from at least six different United Methodist conferences were in Haiti on mission trips when the quake struck. A team from Michigan was working in Jeremie which is on the western tip of Haiti and is safe. Another Michigan team was to leave for Haiti on January 17 but that has now been postponed. There was a group of five mission and relief specialists trapped by the collapse of the Hotel Montana. They were at the hotel for a meeting with representatives of other organizations making plans to improve medical services in Haiti. They were trapped under the rubble for 55 hours. Four of the five were rescued and are back in the U.S., one of them in intensive care at a hospital in Florida. The fifth person, the Rev. Dr. Sam Dixon, head of UMCOR, died before he could be rescued.

Just three days after the quake, over \$1 million in on-line contributions to the Haiti emergency relief effort fund set up by UMCOR has already come in. 100% of those gifts will go to help the people of Haiti. With your help, Westwood will also respond. Gifts designated to UMCOR over the next several weeks will go to this fund, and loose coins and Sunday school offering will go to International Child Care which operates 127 health care clinics and schools in Haiti including Grace Children’s Hospital in Port-au-Prince. The director of International Child Care is Keith Mumma, a member of Stockbridge Ave. UMC, and its headquarters is in Kalamazoo. He was interviewed for a story that appeared in the Kalamazoo Gazette on Thursday, January 14. Keith just returned from Haiti two days before the earthquake. He has not been able to contact the hospital and does not know the condition of the hospital or whether staff or patients at the hospital survived.

UMCOR will be in Haiti for the long haul. It is anticipated that years of rebuilding will be needed and eventually many volunteers will be needed to help with that response. You can keep updated on the United Methodist response on the web at umcor.org.

Please support all of the people affected by the earthquake in Haiti with your financial gifts and prayers. Checks can be made out to Westwood UMC; put “Haiti” in the memo line. Let us provide them with basic necessities and a ray of hope.

Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

Prayers for comfort, healing and strength

Homebound

Irene Tetzlaff, 1400 N. Drake Rd., Apt. 398, Kalamazoo, 49006

Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast, 2639 Hazelnut Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Gary Babbitt, 47040 24th St., Mattawan, MI 49071

Don Bertch, Rose Arbor Hospice Residence, #9, 5473 Croydon Avenue, Kalamazoo, 49009

Susan Clapp, 1974 Dunlin Court NE, Grand Rapids, 49505

Gary Cumming, 4867 Sweet Cherry Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Judy DeHaan, 612 Jenks Blvd., Kalamazoo, 49006

Irene Dutton, 918 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, 49006

Shirley Greene

Dale Griffith, 6118 Ormada, Kalamazoo, 49048

Vicki Hale

Mabel Hillis, 3014 Winter Wheat, Kalamazoo, MI, 49004

Erica Jenkins, 2804 Wellington Rd., Kalamazoo, 49008

The family of Leora Kuiper (Leora died on January 10, 2010)

Jack Lancaster, 1629 Turwill Lane, Kalamazoo, 49006

Maxine McGehee, 6934 N. 14th St., Kalamazoo, 49004 (*Maxine had surgery this week.*)

Jim Parker, 5939 N. Westnedge, Kalamazoo, 49004

Mary Penn, 550 Chadd's Ford Way, Oshtemo, 49009

Jean Marie Peters (*Pastor Wayne's sister*)

Betty Pick, Bickford Cottage, Merry Bee, 4704 W. Milham Ave., Portage, 49024

John Reid, 1205 Bunkerhill, Kalamazoo, 49009

Mike Roush, 522 Cherokee #212, Kalamazoo, 49006

Patricia Smith

Emily Strong, 3504 Iroquois Trail, Kalamazoo, 49006

Betty Thompson, 1400 N. Drake Rd., Apt. 189, Kalamzoo, 49006

Nancy Wallus, The Springs, 1451 Bronson Way, #111, Kalamazoo, 49009

Jean Weinberg (*Jean will have outpatient surgery.*)

Our Community Partner

King Westwood Elementary School Staff

Protection from Harm in Iraq and Afghanistan

Toby Brown

Carl Williams

Year of the Neighbor

Pray for our Westwood Neighborhood



Upcoming Church Events

SUNDAY, January 24

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 8:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 10:55 a.m. Worship
- 4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups

MONDAY, January 25

- 7:00 p.m. Courters
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts of America (Simpson)
- 7:00 p.m. Church Council (Wesley)

TUESDAY, January 26

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:30 p.m. Lay Ministers/Staff
- 6:00 p.m. Alpha (Simpson, Theatre)
- 7:00 p.m. Liturgical Dance Class (Sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY, January 27

- 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class
- 1:00 p.m. Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)
- 1:30 p.m. Cooperative Meeting-First Church (Wayne)
- 6:00 p.m. Disciple II (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. Westwood Singers (#12)
- 6:00 p.m. High School Choir
- 6:15 p.m. 4th Day Women
- 6:15 p.m. The “Q”
- 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (Wesley)
- 7:00 p.m. WHBE (#13)
- 8:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, January 28

- 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Testing (Gwen Becker-Library)
- 12:00 p.m. 4th Day Men
- 6:00 p.m. Glory Connection II
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (#12)

FRIDAY, January 29

No events are scheduled.

SATURDAY, January 30

- 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 a.m. Youth Lock-In—Wesley Foundation

SUNDAY, January 25

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 8:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 10:55 a.m. Worship
- 4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups



At Westwood United Methodist Church, we seek to connect:

- with God, seeking a spiritual center for our lives
- with each other, creating friendships that last
- with our community, serving the needs of our neighbors

Come and see!

Worship Celebrations
 Worship Celebrations are held at 8:30 a.m. and 10:55 a.m. Nursery care is provided during both celebrations.

Messenger Deadlines
 The Westwood Messenger is published weekly (bi-weekly from June through September). Deadlines are the Thursday prior to publication.



**Westwood
United Methodist
Church**

538 Nichols Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49006-2946
(269) 344-7165

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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 betharbogast@charter.net by Wednesday of the week before it should appear. Your name may be used in the article. The *Messenger* is mailed Tuesday. Subscribers do not receive it before Wednesday. Articles must be submitted 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: Beth Arbogast at 343-3937.

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The *Westwood Messenger* is a newsletter published weekly by the members and friends of Westwood United Methodist Church. There is no subscription fee. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe, call the church office at 344-7165.

Westwood UMC supports **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**

Westwood United Methodist Church Staff and Volunteers

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Pastor, The Reverend Dr. Wayne A. Price 762-4787

E-mail: pastorwayne@westwood-umc.org

Director of Worship and Fine Art Ministry, Jane Wright 544-2390

E-mail: jwright-wumc@sbcglobal.net

Organist, Kay Ensfield

Church/Staff Admin. Assistant, Lois Moeller

E-mail: lmoeller@sbcglobal.net

Child Care Staff

Custodial Staff: Dan Malseed, Nicole Malseed, Ash Norton, Bill Urfer, Stephanie Knewtson, David Knewtson

Lay Leader, Bob Strobel 342-8816

Lay Minister of Spiritual Formation, Louise Jameson 382-3463

Lay Minister of Worship, Matthew Knewtson 349-5603

Staff-Parish Chairperson, Irv Cumming

Wesley Foundation Director, Lisa Batten 344-4076

Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College (Office)

Westwood Messenger Editor, Beth Arbogast 343-3937

E-mail: betharbogast@charter.net

For general information or if you are unsure where to direct your question, please email info@westwood-umc.org and your inquiry will be forwarded appropriately.

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