



The Westwood Messenger

March 15, 2010

Volume 110, Issue 10

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

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From the Heart of the Pastor

On March 28 we will celebrate Palm Sunday, which is the beginning of Holy Week. During Holy Week we will remember Jesus' sacrifice for us with worship services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Easter Sunday, April 4, will be a day of rejoicing, as we celebrate "Reason for Hope."

In the last few weeks, our sermon series has focused on the "I am" sayings of Jesus, in which Jesus described Himself using the words "I am". Knowing who Jesus is enables us to understand who we are as Christians. We know we have a pathway to God, a firm foundation for our lives, and the promise of everlasting life because Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

Jesus also said, "I am the gate (for the sheep)...whoever enters through me will be saved" (John 10:9). Jesus goes on to say, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep" (10:11). On Palm Sunday we will focus on Jesus being the Good Shepherd, leading us to His love and life by laying His life down for us. As we prepare ourselves for Holy Week I ask you to continue to dedicate ten minutes in prayer each day for our church and consider these two questions: 1) What difference does Jesus laying His life down make for me, and 2) What difference does Jesus laying His life down make for the world?

The Good Shepherd came to seek and save the lost (Luke 15:4-7; Luke 19:10) by laying down His life so we could experience God's unconditional love. What is Jesus asking you to lay down, so that people will experience Jesus' love and saving power through you and others at Westwood UMC?

The Good Shepherd leads us to abundant life (John 10:10). How have you experienced Jesus' abundant life? Whom do you know who needs the abundant life Jesus has to offer? How can the strength of the Good Shepherd enable you to invite them to the abundant life of God?

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,

Pastor Wayne

P.S. This week the Staff-Parish Relationship Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the Stewardship/Finance Team will be meeting to discuss how we will use the resources God has given us. Monday, March 22, The Church Council will look at the decisions of the teams and committees. We ask the church join together in prayer for our leaders as we seek the leading of the Good Shepherd. We know our Lord is faithful if we humble ourselves before Him and seek His way. May the Holy Spirit empower us and guide us in all things. Thank you for your prayers, faith, and commitment to our Lord.



.....
Offer Christ, Grow in Faith, Touch Lives, and Make a Difference

Kalamazoo Lioness Club Fashion Show

Saturday, March 20

Submitted by Jan Urfer

Spring into Fashion with Dress Barn at the Crossroads Mall. Kalamazoo Lioness Club fashion show and luncheon March 20 at 12:00 noon. Westwood UMC Simpson Hall. Ticket price is a \$12.00 donation. Contact Jan Urfer 381-2256 or Ann Wheeler 553-0751.

Come One Come All - Wesley Foundation Mission Support Luncheon

Sunday, March 21

Submitted by Tim Ashcraft

Please join us on Sunday March 21, 2010 directly following the second service in Simpson Hall for a delicious lunch of Soup, Salad, Bread and Dessert. We will have opportunity to here from Lisa Batten, Wesley Foundation Director about the many ministries taking place with the students involved with the Foundation as well as the future vision for the Wesley Foundation. A good will offering will be accepted to help support their active and vibrant ministries.

New Adventurer's

Saturday, March 28

Submitted by Marian Burkey

New Adventurer's Potluck on Saturday, March 28th from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at Sleepy Hollow Resort, Cottage #9, in South Haven. Play games or walk on the beach. Contact Linda and Al Ridderbos or Marian Burkey for more information.

Early Eves

Submitted by Marian Burkey

Early Eves will meet on March 16th in Schneider Lounge at 6:30 p.m. The hostesses for the evening are Nancy Stern, Laura Anderson, Mary Grant, and Marian Burkey. Lectio Divina will be given by Laurel Andrews as the program. Health Kits are the domestic item. They should be placed in a one gallon Ziploc bag (available on Missions bulletin board) and contain a hand towel (no kitchen towels), 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket sized), 1 nail file or quality fingernail clippers, 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up), 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes), 1 tube toothpaste (4.5 oz. or larger with expiration date beyond 6 months or more). All women are invited to attend. For more information, call Marian Burkey at 344-8412.

Author! Author!

Submitted by Karen Bowman

Congratulations are in order for Jane Wright! Her article, entitled "Creative Worship Experiences" can be found in the March-April 2010 issue of Worship Arts. Let her know how proud we are that she has been "published." Check in the office if you'd like to read her article. She talks about some things we have done here at Westwood!

Westwood Singers Thank You

Submitted by Karen Bowman

To everyone who dined at Applebee's last Sunday, March 7. We hope you enjoyed yourselves and had a great meal. The Applebee's management informs us that by your patronizing their restaurant last Sunday, you raised \$118.82 for our church's Westwood Singers. Your support of the church youth in music ministry is greatly appreciated.

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
Mar 21	Moving Praise (Liturgical Dance)	Moving Praise, WW Singers, Praise Team
March 28 Palm Sunday	Chancel Choir, W Handbell Ens	CC, WHBE, Praise Team
Thursday, April 1	7PM Maundy Thursday Service (Communion)	
Friday, April 2	7PM Good Friday Service (Tenebre service of lights)	
April 4 Easter Sunrise service	7AM	
April 4 Easter	Chancel Choir, WHBE,	Chancel Choir, WHBE, Instrumentalists

Upcoming Special Services/Offerings For Holy Week

March 28 - **Palm/Passion Sunday** – is a service with Palm processional that begins with the triumphal entry into Jerusalem and ends going into the Passion of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

There will be **two special services, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday** both at 7PM in the evening on April 1 & 2. Thursday evening, Pastor Wayne will preach and Holy Communion will be provided. The Good Friday service will be a tenebrae service of light and darkness.

Prayer Stations will be available once again in the multipurpose room downstairs (Simpson Hall). Come and follow the path of Jesus between the hours of 2PM Thursday, April 1 through 9PM on Good Friday, April 2.

The Sanctuary Garden is available now through Easter on weekdays from 10 AM to 9PM for you to kneel and pray for a time of respite.

April 4 – **Easter Sunday Services:**

- 7 AM – Sunrise Service. Conceived and lead by our youth and their leaders
- 7:30 AM – Easter breakfast: An Appalachia Service Project Fundraiser in Simpson Hall.
- 8:30 AM – Easter Traditional Worship Service of celebration
- 10:55 AM – Easter Blended Worship Service of celebration

Thank You For Your Support

The Westwood Singers are well on their way to funding their trip to Lake Junaluska, NC thanks to the support of so many of YOU. The last fundraiser was to eat out at Applebee's last Sunday. I did see many of you there, and every 10% adds up. We will know in another couple of weeks how that turned out! Thanks so much for all the donations at the Valentine Weekend Talent show which also went to help support this week long liturgical arts week in North Carolina.

Getting to Know You

Kenneth Smith

Born Sept. 25, 1966 in Aliquippa, PA

Cornwell (NY) Central HS 1984

BS & BA Kings College (NY) 1990

Master's Eastman School of Music, 1992 Master's in English Indiana U. 2004

PhD U. of Illinois, Music Education, 2002 Teaching Certificate IN Wesleyan U. 2005

Married March 3, 2007 at St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Speedway, IN

Son, Ethan David born January 11, 2010 at Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo

Jennifer Smith

Born Aug. 16, 1975 in Bloomington, IN

Speedway (IN) High School, 1993

BA in English, Ball State (IN), 1997

It was the Music Department at IUPUI (say "ooee poeee") that brought Ken and Jenny together in 2004. (IUPUI is a combined program of Indiana University and Purdue University in Indianapolis). Ken was the Technology Coordinator for the School of Music and Jenny the secretary. Both have an education background, Ken having previously taught band and music for the Toledo Christian Schools in the 90s and Jenny teaching English Composition for Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis.

Ken fondly recalls their first date, dining at "Nothing But Noodles." A year later he took a job as Professor of Music Education at WMU and the romance continued long distance until they married two years later.

Jenny is currently employed as the executive secretary to the director of the Kellogg Biological Station in Hickory Corners.

Neither Ken nor Jenny was raised in the Methodist Church, but have found a comfortable compromise in their respective faith traditions here at Westwood, where they felt very welcome. First as participants then as helpers, they have been part of Alpha. They also have served as worship assistants, communion helpers, and "Dinner for eight" hosts. Jenny has played in the handbell choir and Ken teaches an occasional Sunday School Class and is currently chair of Spiritual Formation.

Jenny likes to read when she has spare time and also likes to travel. She has special memories of a trip to England about 10 years ago where she visited Winchester, the home and gravesite (Winchester Cathedral) of her favorite author, Jane Austen. She was thrilled to catch actress, Kate Blanchet on stage in the London production of "Plenty.". Other free time may be spent watching shows such as "Lost" or "Grey's Anatomy" on television. Her favorite movie is "Citizen Kane." Musically, she enjoys many types; pop, rock and folk. She leans to contemporary Christian music citing Nichole Nordeman as her favorite artist.

Ken's free time activities include computer generated music and playing bluegrass on the banjo, which along with folk music are his favorites for listening. With diverse interests though, he also enjoys some classical listening such as Brahms' "Requiem." His favorite hymn is Gaither's "The Longer I Serve Him" and 19th century hymns with lyrics by Frances (Fanny) Crosby. More actively he enjoys biking and has ridden the Kal-Haven Trail. Much of his reading is work related but when the opportunity presents itself he indulges in science fiction.

The Smith's like to cook together and try different recipes and styles of cooking. Their interests are also diverse when eating out, anything goes from Sushi Bar to Italian cuisine.



A Poem for Easter

by the Rev. R. Preston Price

Like a blade of grass pushing up stubbornly
through the sidewalk.

or

Like the butterfly emerging from the tomb-like
chrysalis.

But much more.

Like the seed after years of dormant death sending
up sprout.

or

Like the brown bulb breaking forth from brown
earth into brilliant color.

But much more.

Like brilliant daybreak after stormy, darkened night.

or

Like a rainbow mystically appearing amidst the
rain.

But much more.

Like a patient making an unexpected, unpredicted
turn for health.

or

Like the pine cone opening to spread seed only
after touched by fiery death.

But much more.

Like a beautiful vase emerging from a lump of clay
in the potter's hands.

or

Like a hidden spring burbling forth in the middle of
a barren desert.

But much more.

Like the surprise of Spring's buds pushing aside
Winter's snow.

or Like someone finally emerging from the fatality
of addiction.

But much more.

So, it comes.

Nothing else like it.

No image adequate. No simile. No metaphor.

Unable to talk about it but inadequately
We celebrate this great, real mystery that

Neither language nor imagination can encompass.

Easter!

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What's Going on in Missions

Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

\$300 was sent from February loose coins and
Sunday School offering to International Child Care
in Haiti which operates Grace Children's Hospital
and other health clinics throughout Haiti.

An additional \$75 has been forwarded for the Haiti
Emergency through UMCOR as well as an
additional \$30 remitted for Human Relations
Sunday.

\$127 was sent for Racial Ethnic Local Church
Sunday which helps support Native American,
Vietnamese, Hispanic, Korean, and African
American United Methodist churches in the West
Michigan Conference.

The Russia Initiative Valentines Day fundraiser
dinner netted \$525. Our commitment is \$500
monthly. Your support is needed and appreciated
as we help bring the gospel to people in Voronezh,
Russia. Our second quarter support is due in April.

Loose coins in March will go to Camp New Day, a
United Methodist church camp for children and
youth with an incarcerated parent(s). Sunday
School offering in March will go to UMCOR for the
Chile Emergency (earthquake).

Health kits as well as specific medicine and food
continue to be collected for Haiti during Lent.



Upcoming Church Events

SUNDAY, March 21
8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Youth Alpha (Theatre)
10:55 a.m. Worship
12:15 p.m. Wesley Foundation Luncheon
4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers
6:00 p.m. Youth Groups

MONDAY, March 22
7:00 p.m. Church Council, Courters
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts of America (Simpson)

TUESDAY, March 23
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
12:30 p.m. Lay Ministers/Staff (Lounge)
6:00 p.m. Alpha (Simpson/Theatre)

WEDNESDAY, March 24
10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (Wesley)
1:00 p.m. Prayer Fellowship (Lounge)
6:00 p.m. Disciple II (Simpson)
6:00 p.m. Westwood Singers (#12)
6:00 p.m. High School Choir
6:15 p.m. 4th Day Women (Epworth)
6:15 p.m. The "Q"
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (Simpson)
6:45 p.m. WHBE (#13)
8:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, March 25
11:45 a.m. 4th Day Men
6:00 p.m. Glory Connection II
7:00 p.m. Winter Jam—Youth in Grand Rapids
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (#12)

FRIDAY, March 26
Set-up for Pinewood Derby

SATURDAY, March 27
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pinewood Derby

SUNDAY, March 28 *Palm Sunday*
8:30 a.m. Worship
9:00 a.m. Youth Alpha (Theatre)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:55 a.m. Worship
4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers

MONDAY, March 29
7:00 p.m. Courters (Epworth)
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts of America (TBD)

TUESDAY, March 30
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:00 p.m. Alpha (Simpson/Theatre)

WEDNESDAY, March 31
10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Disciple II (Simpson)
6:00 p.m. Westwood Singers (#12)
6:00 p.m. High School Choir
6:15 p.m. 4th Day Women (Epworth)
6:15 p.m. The "Q"
6:45 p.m. WHBE #13
8:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, April 1 *Maundy Thursday*
11:45 a.m. 4th Day Men
6:00 p.m. Glory Connection II (to be determined)
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (to be determined)
7:00 p.m. BSA Commissioners (to be determined)
7:00 p.m. Worship Service with Communion

FRIDAY, April 2 *Good Friday*
12:00 p.m. Prayer Service (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m. Tennabrae Worship Service

SATURDAY, April 3
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunrise Service Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Sunrise Breakfast Prep

SUNDAY, April 4 *Easter Sunday*
7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service
7:30 a.m. ASP Breakfast (Simpson Hall)
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Youth Alpha (To be determined)
10:55 a.m. Worship Service
No Youth Groups

Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

Homebound

Violet Essany
Irene Dutton

Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast
Gary Babbitt
Phyllis Bertch and Family
(Don Bertch passed away)
Laurie Burke
Susan Clapp
Gary Cumming
Judy DeHaan
Irene Dutton
Elizabeth Dye
Kevin Fretz
Shirley Greene
Vicki Hale
Kathy Hillman
Jack Lancaster
Maxine McGehee
Mary Penn
Betty Pick
Sharon Quintel
Linda Ridderbos
Mike Roush
Patricia Smith
Emily Strong
Family of Sharon Underdah
Nancy Wallus

Our Community Partner

King Westwood Elementary School Staff

Protection from Harm in Iraq and Afghanistan

Toby Brown Neil Farver
Carl Williams

Year of the Neighbor

Pray for our Westwood Neighborhood

Prayers for Continued Blessings

Happy Birthday to all who have their special day this week!



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.

Prayer Chain

We have an active prayer chain to lift up individuals in prayer whenever there is special need. To make your request known, please call Rose Marie Kohl at 343-8101, or the Church Office at 344-7165. To sign up for the email prayer chain list, please email info@westwood-umc.org.

Stephen Ministers Are There to Care

Are you going thorough a difficult time – emotionally, spiritually, or relationally? Are you lonely, experiencing a crisis, or simply stressed by everyday life? You don't have to suffer alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. To find out more, talk with Phil Bowman.

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.



**Westwood
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Church**

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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)**

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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