



# The Westwood Messenger

April 12, 2010

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

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## *From the Heart of the Pastor*

Jesus paradoxically calls us to be sheep and to be shepherds in living our faith. Jesus tells us in John 10:3, "...the sheep listen to (the shepherd's) voice. He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out." When Jesus appears to Peter in the resurrection He tells Peter, "Feed my lambs", "Take care of my sheep", "Feed my sheep" (John 21:15,16, 17). Many years later, Peter tells leaders in the church, "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must; but because you are willing as God wants you to be..." (1 Peter 5:2). Jesus entrusts all of us to be shepherds of a pasture.

The paradox of leadership is that one must be a good follower in order to be a good leader. All of us have influence on people around us. The question is what kind of influence will it be? Jesus encouraged Peter to feed and take care of people entrusted into his care. I believe Peter recounted Jesus' leadership and the care he experienced in all circumstances; in the times he was faithful, as well as the time he abandon Jesus.

Sometimes we focus on our own responsibilities when we are trying to get something done. We can become caught up in our own world, so that we do not take time to step back and get perspective. It is similar to when I am boating and the waves become challenging. My primary focus can be on navigating through the waves. Even if the waves are high, I've learned that I need to keep my eye on the horizon to where I want to arrive. We can become so distracted by our own responsibilities, challenges, and wants that we take our eyes off the horizon, where Jesus wants us to be. The humility Peter experienced made him an excellent leader, because he shifted his focus from his own path,

and steadfastly looked to the horizon and guidance of the Good Shepherd. To be a good leader we need to be a good follower of Jesus.

In a couple weeks, we will begin a sermon series on Nehemiah about your vision, mission, and purpose from God. Nehemiah was in exile in Babylon. God strategically placed Nehemiah as a cupbearer to the king (Nehemiah 1:11), to whom Nehemiah made an appeal to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem. In the next two weeks I invite you to read Nehemiah 1-3 and prayerfully consider the following questions:

- What grieves you to the point you are being prompted to do something about it? (Nehemiah 1)
- What relationships can help you to connect with people and make a difference? (Nehemiah 1:11)
- What walls are you being called to build? Are they: **Walls Of Fidelity** – To Protect Marriage(s), **Walls Of Marriage** – To Protect The Family, **Walls Of The Family** - Protect The Community and Children, **Walls Of The Community** – To Encourage and Protect All God's Children, **Walls Of The Nation** – To Protect The People.

We are called by the Good Shepherd to feed the lambs, tend the sheep, and feed the sheep which are God's children. He has entrusted many people and families of our community in to our care. What is the part of the pasture He has given you?

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,

Pastor Wayne

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

**ISAAC visit to MLK King-Westwood**

Submitted by Deb Hazel

ISAAC will meet at church at 2:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> to walk to King-Westwood Elementary (MLK) for a tour of the school. You may also meet the group at 2:30 at the school.

**Early Eves**

Submitted by Mary Grant

We invite all women of Westwood to join Early Eves Tuesday, April 20, 6:30 PM, to hear Biruta Puike the Pastor of the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran United Church here in Kalamazoo. She will tell us a bit about Latvia, about the Latvian journey to the US and why there are so many Latvians in Michigan. She will also tell us about why she came to the US.

The item for donation will be individually wrapped granola bars, fruit bars and individual cheese and crackers snack packs for Project Connect to be held at the Kalamazoo Fair Grounds on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Contact Mary Grant, 345-9422, or Marian Burkey, 344-8412 if you have questions. We will be having sub sandwiches, salad, and dessert. A \$4 donation is suggested to cover the cost of the sandwiches. Please join us.

**Blendings**

Submitted by Jan Berghorst

The vocal ensemble  
Blendings  
presents "Say It With a Song"  
Friday, April 23, 2010  
Ladies Library  
7:00 p.m.

**Faith-Hope Circle**

Submitted by Jeanette Jupp

Faith-Hope Circle will meet on April 21 at 1:00 p.m. in Schneider lounge. Everyone is welcome.

**Basement Sale**

Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

The semi-annual basement sale will be held on Friday, November April 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 24 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. You may drop off items to be included in this sale in room 16 next to the theatre beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 18 but no later than Thursday, April 22 at 5:00 p.m.

Ladies...Gentlemen...Youth...Can you volunteer a couple of hours in order to make this sale successful? All proceeds benefit mission projects supported by United Methodist Women through the General Board of Global Ministries. Help is needed on:

Thursday, April 22 from 1 to 6 p.m. to sort donations  
Friday, April 23 and Saturday, April 24: check-out customers, tidy tables, etc. (especially need help Friday morning when it is the busiest)  
Saturday, April 24 at Noon to pack up unsold items which will go to the Rescued Treasures Store operated by the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission



If you have questions, please call Marlene Pyle, 375-3225.

**New Adventurer's**

Submitted by Joe Mitchell

On the evening of April 24<sup>th</sup>, the New Adventurer's of Westwood will be collecting food for our local food bank. Please save extra cans and boxes of food for this drive. If you wish to help us you can leave your name and address in the box in Schneider Lounge. One of your New Adventurer friends will pick up your donation at your home on the evening of April 24<sup>th</sup>. You may also contact Charlie and Carol Ply at 345-7066 or Joe and Shirley Mitchell at 353-1897 about your donation.

### What's Going on in Missions

Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

\$500 was mailed to the Wesley Foundation thanks to the support received from the soup/salad dinner on March 21. This is half of covenant commitment for 2010.

\$337 was transmitted for One Great Hour of Sharing which underwrites UMCOR.

\$150 was sent from March loose coins to Camp New Day, a United Methodist Camp in West Michigan for children of incarcerated parent(s). Loose coins in April will go to Kalamazoo Deacons Conference.

\$100 was remitted from Sunday School offering in March to UMCOR for the Chile Emergency (earthquake). April Sunday school offering will go to Kalamazoo Deacons Conference.

\$100 was mailed for the Haiti Hot Lunch program for schoolchildren through UMCOR.

74 pounds of food was delivered to Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes on March 30.

32 Health kits, 84 pounds of rice, 7 lb. of dry beans and miscellaneous medical supplies were delivered to the staging area for delivery to Haiti. In addition, 7 Health Kits and two tubs of food supplies had been donated and delivered by Dave Wright in January.

Westwood is hosting a donation drive of items for Project Connect and ARK Community Services during April. Information appeared in the March 29 Messenger.

Kalamazoo Valley CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, May 2. Walkers and persons to sponsor walkers (monetary donation) are needed. Full details appear in another article in this Messenger.

Golden Cross Sunday is May 2. 50% of this special offering goes to the West Michigan Conference of the UMC to assist ministries at Clark Retirement Home, Bronson Hospital, and Methodist Children's Home Society. The other 50% can be designated to a local health and welfare ministry which the Missions team has selected to be the Free Clinic of Kalamazoo that provides medical services to uninsured and underinsured persons in Kalamazoo County. Special giving envelopes are in your envelope packet.

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### 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.

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### Share your WUMC Good News!

We want to hear the "Good News" from your group! Big groups, small groups, Sunday school groups, and any individual is invited to share the stories of what your group is doing. Write up a little diddy or just take a picture, but share with the Westwood family what is happening.

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### Summer Hours begin May 30

**Worship Services will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.**

## 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Kalamazoo Valley CROP Hunger Walk

Submitted by Nancy VandebBrink

Church World Service programs, in dozens of countries from Bosnia to Haiti to Cambodia, provide people with food, safe water, employment, tools, blankets, health care and more.

Our local CROP Hunger Walk is one of more than 2,000 such walks nationwide, sponsored by Church World Service and supported by people from many different churches and other faith communities. As people of faith, our calling is not limited to only those human needs in close proximity. People of faith are called to a larger vision and care for all of God's children.

It's certainly true we have many needs here. Seven local agencies will benefit from the 2010 CROP Walk: Ecumenical Senior Center, Housing Resources, Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes, Ministry with Community, Open Door Next Door Shelters, YWCA Domestic Assault Program, and the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. People throughout the world are hungry or insecure in their ability to provide food for themselves and their families. Many of those people live in regions or communities with far fewer resources than we have in our community.

Drought, war and natural disasters can wipe out the resources of whole regions. Rising food prices are creating difficulties for many here, but the impact is far greater for the poorest people in developing countries, some of whom spend 80 per cent of their income on food. Food security for all of the world's people is necessary if we are going to move toward a more stable, just and peaceful world so, in a sense, this larger vision benefits all.

Every penny of the local portion of funds goes to local programs that feed people and help prevent hunger. Administrative costs are covered by separate funds which are donated by individuals, congregations and businesses. Church World Service provides the promotional materials and significant planning help at no cost.

Last year's walk collected \$47,809. This will mean \$11,952 for local agencies and more than \$35,000 for desperately poor families and communities in places like Sudan, Afghanistan and Guatemala. This year's goal is \$50,000. A special donor will match 10% of all funds raised through our CROP Hunger Walk. Also, the Kalamazoo Community Foundation's Fetzer Fund will give \$1 for every \$2 raised on-line (see Nancy VandebBrink for details).

Stop by the CROP Walk table to sign up to walk and receive a donation packet or contribute to a walker on Sunday, April 18 or 25 or May 2. The Missions team would like to provide lunch for walkers at 12:15 p.m. on May 2 before you head down to Bronson Park. Registration begins at 1 p.m.; the Walk steps off at 2 p.m. A benefit concert by Please Promise, a local Christian band, will take place at 1 p.m.



## Fifth Grade Assignment

A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in 20 ways to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results.

*God is like... BAYER ASPIRIN. He works miracles.*

*God is like...FORD. He's got a better idea.*

*God is like...COKE. He's the real thing.*

*God is like...HALLMARK CARDS. He cares enough to send His very best.*

*God is like...TIDE. He gets the stains out that others leave behind.*

*God is like...GENERAL ELECTRIC. He brings good things to life.*

*God is like...SEARS. He has everything.*

*God is like...ALKA-SELTZER. Try Him, you'll like Him.*

*God is like...SCOTCH TAPE. You can't see Him, but you know He's there.*

*God is like...DELTA. He's ready when you are.*

*God is like...ALLSTATE. You're in good hands with Him.*

*God is like...VO-5 Hair Spray. He holds through all kinds of weather.*

*God is like...DIAL SOAP. Aren't you glad you have Him? Don't you wish everybody did?*

*God is like...The U.S. POST OFFICE. Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from His appointed destination.*

*God is like...CHEVROLET. The heart beat of America.*

*God is like...MAXWELL HOUSE. Good to the very last drop*

*God is like...BOUNTY. He is the quicker picker upper. Can handle the tough jobs. And He won't fall apart on you.*

# Upcoming Church Events

SUNDAY, April 25

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  
6:00 p.m. Youth Groups

MONDAY, April 26

7:00 p.m. Church Council  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts of America  
7:00 p.m. Courters (Epworth)

TUESDAY, April 27

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, April 28

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
1:00 p.m. Prayer Fellowship  
6:00 p.m. Disciple II Simpson  
6:00 p.m. Westwood Singers  
6:15 p.m. High School Choir  
6:15 p.m. 4th Day Women  
6:15 p.m. The "Q"  
6:45 p.m. WHBE  
8:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, April 29

11:45 a.m. 4th Day Men  
6:00 p.m. Glory Connection II  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

FRIDAY, April 30

3:00 p.m. Setup for Bunco  
7:00 p.m. Bunco\  
Youth Groups go to "Acquire the Fire" in Lansing - Overnight

SATURDAY, May 1

Youth at Acquire the Fire Overnight in Lansing

SUNDAY, May 2

8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:00 a.m. Youth Alpha  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:55 a.m. Worship  
4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers  
6:00 p.m. Youth Groups

MONDAY, May 3

7:00 p.m. Courters  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts of America  
7:00 p.m. Spiritual Partners

TUESDAY, May 4

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting  
12:30 p.m. Lay Ministers Staff  
7:00 p.m. Compassionate Friends  
7:00 p.m. BSA District Meeting  
7:00 p.m. KAL IPMS

WEDNESDAY, May 5

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
12:00 p.m. 55 Plus  
6:00 p.m. Westwood Singers  
6:00 p.m. High School Choir  
6:15 p.m. 4th Day Women  
6:15 p.m. The "Q"  
6:45 p.m. WHBE  
8:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, May 6

11:45 a.m. 4th Day Men  
6:00 p.m. Glory Connection II  
6:00 p.m. The Lioness  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
7:00 p.m. BSA Commissioners

FRIDAY, May 7

No events scheduled.

SATURDAY, May 8

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Boy Scout District Meeting

SUNDAY, May 9

*Mother's Day/ASP Plant Sale*  
8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:00 a.m. Youth Alpha  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:55 a.m. Worship  
4:45 p.m. Westwood Ringers  
6:00 p.m. Youth Groups

# Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

## Homebound

Irene Dutton  
Irene Tetzlaff

## Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast  
Gary Babbitt  
Laurie Burke  
Susan Clapp  
Gary Cumming  
Judy DeHaan  
Irene Dutton  
Elizabeth Dye  
Shirley Greene  
Vicki Hale  
Kathy Hillman  
Barbara Hunt  
Jack Lancaster  
Mary Penn  
Betty Pick  
Linda Ridderbos  
Mike Roush  
Eileen Scamehorn  
Celina Schnooberer  
Patricia Smith  
Emily Strong  
Nancy Wallus  
Doug Weldon

## 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](mailto: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 every-day 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  
United Methodist  
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](mailto: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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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](mailto:info@westwood-umc.org) and your inquiry will be forwarded appropriately.**

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