

## *From the Heart of the Pastor*

Recently I have been sharing about “Dreaming a New Dream” showing how God encourages us in Scripture to value relationships with one another. On Sunday my sermon focused on the connection in Romans 12 between “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love” (12:10), and “Share with God’s people who are in need. Be hospitable” (12:13). The Greek word for “brotherly love” is *philo*, as in philosophy (lover of wisdom), or Philadelphia (City of brotherly love). The word for “hospitality” is related to the word in verse 10 and is *philaxeno*, which means “brotherly love towards strangers or foreigners.” In addition, the Greek word for “practice” means to do so with a passion, the way an athlete trains for the Olympics or a master musician practices his or her music. Paul is amazing the way he connects our love for one another with passionate hospitality for people different from us.

All of our love for one another is rooted in Jesus’ love for us, and that is why it is so important to stay connected in worship to our Lord. Paul encourages us to value one another in study and worship saying, **“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God”** (Colossians 3:16). The “psalms, hymns and spiritual songs” were how the Christians worshiped in the First Century. On Sunday, we will celebrate our music programs with a worship centered in singing, and musical offerings of our excellent musical groups. The gratitude of our hearts to God overflows to our love for one another and strangers, when we praise our Lord in music and prayer.

How can you experience the gratitude, encouragement, and wisdom of God everyday? We experience it through God’s word in Scripture. Scripture has mysterious power in its words because it is “God-breathed” (2 Timothy 3:16). God breathes the life of His Spirit into the words, and we receive new life and hope.

I want you to experience the new life of God in this way, and so I am challenging the congregation to read through the New Testament this summer. We are including a reading plan in this edition of the newsletter and you can pick up copies of it at the church office. I will offer a Bible study on Wednesday mornings at 10:00, in which we will give a general overview of the Scripture and allow time for any questions. If you base your life on principles of Christianity, it is beneficial to know the foundation of the principles. Also, if your relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is the most important relationship in your life, you will receive the blessings of knowing God more deeply, and allowing God to speak to your life. You are much more likely to see God’s movement and power in your life if you “let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.” Let’s see and celebrate what God will do in our lives when we seek Him in His word. **Fifty-five people signed up on Sunday, and let’s have at least one hundred people be blessed by committing to read God’s word this summer!**

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,

Pastor Wayne

SUMMER READING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT- 2009

**1**  
**May 31 – June 6**  
M Matthew 1-3  
T Matthew 4-5  
W Matthew 6-7  
T Matthew 8-9  
F Matthew 10-12  
S Matthew 13-15

**2**  
**June 7 – June 13**  
M Matthew 16-18  
T Matthew 19-21  
W Matthew 22-23  
T Matthew 24-25  
F Matthew 26  
S Matthew 27-28

**3**  
**June 14-June 20**  
M Mark 1-3  
T Mark 4-6  
W Mark 7-9  
T Mark 10-12  
F Mark 13-14  
S Mark 15-16

**4**  
**June 21-June 27**  
M Luke 1-3  
T Luke 4-7  
W Luke 8-10  
T Luke 11-13  
F Luke 14-16  
S Luke 17-19

**5**  
**June 28 – July 4**  
M Luke 20-22  
T Luke 23-24  
W John 1-2  
T John 3-4  
F John 5-7  
S John 8-10

**6**  
**July 5 – July 11**  
M John 11-13  
T John 14-16  
W John 17-19  
T John 20-21  
F Acts 1-3  
S Acts 4-6

**7**  
**July 12 – July 18**  
M Acts 7-9  
T Acts 10-12  
W Acts 13-15  
T Acts 16-18  
F Acts 19-21  
S Acts 20-22

**8**  
**July 19-July 25**  
M Acts 23-25  
T Acts 26-28  
W Romans 1-2  
T Romans 3-5  
F Romans 6-8  
S Romans 9-11

**9**  
**July 26-August 1**  
M Romans 12-14  
T 1 Corinthians 1-2,  
Romans 15-16  
W 1 Corinthians 3-5  
T 1 Corinthians 6-8  
F 1 Corinthians 9-11  
S 1 Corinthians 12-14

**10**  
**August 2 – August 8**  
M 1 Corinthians 15-16  
T 2 Corinthians 1-4  
W 2 Corinthians 5-7  
T 2 Corinthians 8-10  
F 2 Corinthians 11-13  
S Galatians 1-3

**11**  
**August 9 – August 15**  
M Galatians 4-6  
T Ephesians 1-3  
W Ephesians 4-6  
T Philippians  
F Colossians 1-3  
S 1 Thessalonians 1-2  
Colossians 4

**12**  
**August 16-August 22**  
M 1 Thessalonians 3-5  
T 2 Thessalonians 1-3  
W 1 Timothy 1-3  
T 1 Timothy 4-6  
F 2 Timothy 1-3, 1-4  
S Titus & Philemon

**13**  
**August 23 – 29**  
M Hebrews 1-3  
T Hebrews 4-7  
W Hebrews 8-10  
T Hebrews 11-13  
F James 1-3  
S James 4-5

**14**  
**August 30 – September 5**  
M 1 Peter  
T 2 Peter  
W 1 John 1-2  
T 1 John 3-5  
F 1 John, 2 John, Jude  
S Revelation 1-3

**15**  
**September 6 – September 12**  
M Revelation 4-6  
T Revelation 7-9  
W Revelation 10-12  
T Revelation 13-15  
F Revelation 16-19  
S Revelation 20-22

M=Monday  
T=Tuesday  
W=Wednesday  
T=Thursday  
F=Friday  
S=Saturday

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man (or woman) of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*  
*2 Timothy 3:16-17*



**Experience and Discover God  
Everywhere!**

Family Vacation School, 2009  
June 15-19, 2009, 5:30 Dinner, 6:00-8:00 Program  
**Westwood United Methodist Church**

**Pick up a Registration Form at Church Today!**

**Labyrinth**

Have you ever wanted to walk a labyrinth? I'd like to construct a simple, temporary labyrinth out of clothesline and stakes for children and adults to walk during our week of Vacation Bible School. Being spatially-challenged and not all that good at following simple instructions, I need help. If you're interested in helping to create this, or would like to help with labyrinth activities once it's made, please contact Laurel Andrews ASAP at 375-6831 or laurelkazoo@yahoo.com.

**No Water Notice**

On June 8, the city will be fixing a line leak so there will be no water in the church.

**Calling all Quilters and Crafters**

You are invited to join us!! We meet in the Wesley room on the 4th Tuesday of the month for a couple of hours of fellowship, and quilting, knitting, crocheting, scrapbooking, etc. once a month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring a snack to pass and share in this fellowship time. If you have any questions, please contact either Carrie Rouse or Kim Longstroth.

Dear Westwood United Methodist Church,

I would like to say thank you for awarding me with the VanVoorhees Scholarship. I really appreciate it. I will be using the money to buy books in the fall. Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Bridgette Clock

To our congregation,

Just to know that in countless ways our family and friends are with us, makes the way easier.

Thank you for all of your prayers and thoughts and the many cards and calls we received from all of you.

God Bless,  
Sally Fredenburg and Family  
The Hughson Family

**New Adventurers**

The New Adventurers are going to have their Annual Planning Potluck Meeting on Saturday, June 27th at 6:00 p.m. at Doug and Margo Heystek's, 530 Woods Drive, 372- 1099.

**Operating Fund Financial Picture**

	<u>April</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$22,916	\$93,844
Total Expense	\$28,246	\$111,587
Net Income/(Loss)	\$(5,330)	(\$17,743)
Operating Fund Balance as of 4/30/09: (\$15,368)		

We have a serious concern about our cash flow situation as we enter the summer months. As you can see, our deficit continues to grow. We need your help by bringing your pledge up to date

## 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.



### Alpha Retreat

May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> we held our retreat at Gull Lake Ministries. The churches involved were Battle Creek First Presbyterian, Garrison Hills Wesleyan Church of Battle Creek, and Westwood UMC.

Come to Alpha for:

Good Food, Good Fun, and Real Answers

The Next Alpha course @ WUMC begins next September 8th.

Please contact Mike Turner (207-6150) or Pastor Wayne for answers to questions concerning the Alpha Course.

## **Project Homeless Connect**

Project Homeless Connect is a service day for homeless families and individuals living in the Kalamazoo community. As a community we will come together and offer services at a single location, the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, instead of shuffling from agency to agency at different addresses.

There will be agencies providing housing services (vouchers and information), disability information, voter registration, IDs, legal aid, education programs, domestic violence resources, employment services, Youth services, substance abuse counseling, haircuts, vision and blood pressure tests, hearing and cholesterol screenings, dental cleanings, mental health information, prescription drug counseling, a meal, as well as groceries and clothing.

The event will be held on June 10th, 2009, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, 448 North Burdick Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

Westwood UMC will be collecting individually-packaged healthy snacks (granola bars, crackers with cheese or peanut butter, fruit snacks, cereal bars, etc.) to be passed out at this event. Please place your donation in the box below the Missions bulletin board by May 31.

Also, volunteers are needed for this event, especially in traffic control in which the volunteer would guide clients to the next booth so that people do not get lost and miss out on services.

Volunteers need to fill out and submit a volunteer application form which is available on the Missions bulletin board before May 31.



## **Stockbridge Ave. UMC Request**

Stockbridge Avenue UMC is planning on doing a Vacation Bible School for children in their area of Kalamazoo but are short of funds. They are also looking for volunteers, including youth, for the week of July 13 through 17 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. If this is something you feel you can help financially, mark your gift "Stockbridge VBS". If you would like to volunteer, call the Stockbridge church office at 385-8919.

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## **News from Missionary Paul Webster**

(An email bulletin from the co-director of Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre in Zambia, Paul Webster, was sent on May 16. Excerpts from that bulletin will appear in the Messenger over the next several weeks. Photographs sent in conjunction with the email will be on the Missions bulletin board for the month of June.)

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven".  
Ecclesiastes 3:1

It is now the changing of the seasons in Zambia from the rainy season to the dry season. After six months of rain and mud we are now challenged by dust and heat.

I returned to Mujila Falls in late November to find a great deal of trouble with our vehicles, our crops mostly unplanted, fertilizer un-bought, and no corn to feed the animals.

We immediately had to liquidate most of our chicken flock and hogs to conserve feed. Since then we have been able to get our vehicles running again, planted our crops and slowly get everything back on track.

## Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

Prayers for comfort, healing and strength

### Homebound

Dorothy Morse, Life Care Center of Plainwell, 320 Bringham, Plainwell, 49080

### Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast, 2639 Hazelnut Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Gary Babbitt, 47040 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Mattawan, 49071

Edna Mae Beck, 2603 Ayrshire, Lansing, 48911

Thom Carrington, Sojourner House, 1490 E. Beltline SE, Grand Rapids, 49506

Jolie Ann Corda, 617 Flamingo Avenue, Portage, 49024

Gary Cumming, 4867 Sweet Cherry Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Lois and Arlo Dunkelberger, 1390 Ewing Way, Kalamazoo, 49009

Irene Dutton, 1390 Ewing Way, Kalamazoo, 49006

Elizabeth Dye, 5145 Old Colony Road, Portage, 49024

Bob Eschliman, 25052 Silver Oaks Blvd., Mattawan, 49071

Norma Fort, 5700 Vintage Lane, Apt. 101, Kalamazoo; 49009

Vicki Hale

Cena Herder, Bronson Methodist Hospital, Room #E-232, 601 John St., Kalamazoo; 49007

Jim Parker, 5939 N. Westnedge, Kalamazoo, 49004

Mary Penn

John and Betty Pick, 4662 Weston, Kalamazoo, 49006

Patricia Smith

Emily Strong, 3504 Iroquois Trail, Kalamazoo, 49006

Betty Thompson, Step Down Unit – North 3824, Bronson Methodist Hospital, 601 John St.,  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Nancy Wallus, The Springs, Room #219, 1451 Bronson Way, Kalamazoo; 49009

### Protection from Harm in Iraq and Afghanistan

Stephen Breisach

Anthony Earl

Nicholas Heystek

Neil McKenna

John Moser

Carl Williams

Christopher Wilson



## Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 31, 2009	
	<b>Day of Pentecost/Music Sunday</b>
	<i>ASP Wash while you Worship</i>
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
9:15 AM	Missions Breakfast
10:00 AM	Worship Celebration
12:30 PM	ASP Meeting
4:45 PM	Westwood Ringers
Monday, June 01, 2009	
6:30 PM	Family VBS Camp Meeting
7:00 PM	Courters
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts of America
7:00 PM	Spiritual Partners
7:00 PM	Church Council
Tuesday, June 02, 2009	
9:00 AM	Worship Team
10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
5:30 PM	Camp Westwood Meeting
7:00 PM	Kingdom Kids - Rotation Model
7:00 PM	BSA District Meeting
7:00 PM	KAL IPMS
Wednesday, June 03, 2009	
10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
11:45 AM	55 Plus at Friendship Village
6:00 PM	Westwood Singers
6:15 PM	4th Day Women
Thursday, June 04, 2009	
12:00 PM	4th Day Men
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
7:00 PM	BSA Commissioners
	Chancel Choir Party
	West Michigan Annual Conference - Calvin College
Friday, June 05, 2009	
	West Michigan Annual Conference - Calvin College
6:00 PM	Wedding Rehearsal (Moxley)
Saturday, June 06, 2009	
	West Michigan Annual Conference - Moxley Wedding
4:00 PM	
Sunday, June 07, 2009	
	<i>Communion Sunday</i>
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
10:00 AM	Worship Celebration
	West Michigan Conference Ends

**Worship Celebrations at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.**  
 Nursery care is provided during both celebrations.



- 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!**

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

*Upcoming Deadlines:*  
 Wednesday, May 27 for publication June 1  
 Wednesday, June 3 for publication June 8  
 Wednesday, June 17 for publication June 22



**Westwood  
United Methodist  
Church**

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Kalamazoo, MI  
Permit No. 811

*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.

**Westwood United Methodist Church Staff and Volunteers**

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

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- Director of Worship and Fine Art Ministry, Jane Wright ..... 544-2390  
E-mail: [jwright-wumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwright-wumc@sbcglobal.net)
- Organist,  
Church/Staff Admin. Assistant, Lois Moeller  
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- Custodial Staff: Dan Malseed, Nicole Malseed, Ash Norton, Bill Urfer, Stephanie Knewtson, David Knewtson
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- Lay Minister of Spiritual Formation, Louise Jameson ..... 382-3463
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- Staff-Parish Chairperson, Irv Cumming
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**Subscribing to the *Messenger***

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

**Note to Subscribers:** If you will be out of town and chose not receive your 3rd class mail, please contact the church at 344-7165 to have your *Messenger* temporarily stopped. If it is not stopped, the church pays for the original postage, plus a fee when it is returned. Please help us save costs and contact us as soon as possible.