



# The Westwood Messenger

June 21, 2010

Volume 110, Issue 17

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

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## *From the Heart of the Pastor*

From the time he was born Jacob lived up to his name, which meant “he who supplants”. His life was marked by vying with others and with God. In an illustrative incident Jacob wrestles with an angel and will not let go until he receives a blessing. The angel gives Jacob a new name, “Israel”, because he “struggled with God and man and have overcome” (Genesis 32:28). We grapple with questions of justice and suffering because we desire to overcome and find a better way. God places a holy discontent in our heart so we may be the presence of God’s compassion, and draw closer to Him. Jacob had a relationship with God, yet was preoccupied with achieving what he desired, whether it be the birthright, Rachel, or success with his crops and flocks. Jacob had to realize the negative side of his zealous aggression in first facing his father-in-law, Laban, and then his brother Esau. Jacob’s new name is given to him just after the confrontation with Laban, and just before his confrontation with Esau.

The new name also came with God’s call for a changed life. Jacob no longer seeks to overcome Esau, but to find favor in Esau’s eyes (Genesis 33:8). God changes our name by giving us the name of His Son Jesus, as we are called “Christians”. Having a new name means our actions are changed as well. Like Jacob, we move from focusing on our story to focusing on God’s story.

Richard Foster, in his book “Prayer” asserts that action and obedience always follows prayer, because if we are asking for God’s intervention, we also need to be open to how God will use us to answer prayer. A couple of months ago we began praying for things that break God’s heart and break our hearts as well. We did so in the spirit of Nehemiah’s prayer for the people of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 1:5-11). Our prayers now fill our Prayer Wall in the front of the Sanctuary.

This Summer I am challenging the congregation to each do one act of kindness a week, and write it down during worship. We will then place our act of kindness on our Prayer Wall, which will be an illustration of how God is using us to answer prayer. Our birthright of being called “Christian” by our Lord is to live up to our name. We do struggle with God and man and overcome. The reason we overcome is Jesus, who tells us, “I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart for I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). May we see how God’s story is being lived through the prayers He is answering through our actions.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,  
Pastor Wayne

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

**New Adventurer’s Planning Potluck**

Submitted by Margo Heystek

The New Adventurers will meet at Heystek’s for the annual planning potluck. Bring a dish to pass..no theme this year, so we may be eating all desserts or all salads! But, we never seem to go hungry, so bring your favorite dish to pass for a true “potluck”!! We’ll discuss and plan events and set dates for the coming year. Please give a call to let us know you are coming!

Planning Potluck  
Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m.  
Doug and Margo Heystek  
530 Woods Drive  
(use 530 Treasure Island Drive if you are using a GPS)  
372-1099

**What’s Going on in Missions**

Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

\$150 was sent from Golden Cross Sunday to the West Michigan Conference to support Clark Retirement Home, Bronson Hospital pastoral care program, and United Methodist Children’s Home.

\$263 was given at the May 30 pancake breakfast for support of our sister congregation in Russia.

\$150 was remitted for camp renovations at our West Michigan Conference United Methodist camps from four weeks of May’s loose coins.

\$47 was offered for Love Links for the Kalamazoo District (for youth programs in the Conference) from May 9 loose coins.

41 pounds of food was delivered to Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes.

\$82 has been remitted through May 31 for Peace with Justice Sunday.

\$263 was given at the May 30 pancake breakfast for support of our sister congregation in Russia.

**Operating Fund Financial Picture**

Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
Total Income	\$30,965	\$26,468
Total Expenditures	\$24,241	\$22,680
Net Income	\$ 6,724	\$ 3,788

Operating Fund Balance as of 5/31/10: \$7,194

**AIN’T**

He was just a little boy,  
On a week’s first day.  
Wandering home from Bible school,  
And dawdling on the way.

He scuffed his shoes into the grass;  
He even found a caterpillar.  
He found a fluffy milkweed pod,  
And blew out all the ‘filler.’

A bird’s nest in a tree overhead,  
So wisely placed up so high.  
Was just another wonder,  
That caught his eager eye.

A neighbor watched his zig zag course,  
And hailed him from the lawn;  
Asked him where he’d been that day  
And what was going on.

‘I’ve been to Bible School ,’  
He said and turned a piece of sod.  
He picked up a wiggly worm replying,  
‘I’ve learned a lot about God.’

‘M’m very fine way,’ the neighbor said,  
‘for a boy to spend his time.’  
‘If you’ll tell me where God is,  
I’ll give you a brand new dime.’

Quick as a flash the answer came!  
Nor were his accents faint.  
‘I’ll give you a dollar, Mister,  
If you can tell me where God ain’t.’

## VIM Teams Return to Haiti

Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

5/21/2010 from the West Michigan Conference website

VIM (Volunteers in Mission) teams from North Alabama and Kansas East Annual Conferences became the first post earthquake VIM Teams to go to Haiti. Those groups have returned and new teams from Alabama-West Florida and Rock Mountain Conferences were in Haiti the week of May 17.

About three teams per week are scheduled with a total of 52 teams scheduled through the end of 2010, said Susan Miester, who is the calendar coordinator for a Haiti pilot project developed by the Methodist Church in Haiti, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), UMVIM, and the Mission Volunteers Office of the General Board of Global Ministries. Twenty-six more teams await date and clearance and another thirty have requested dates into 2011.

“It is only now that volunteers can be effectively and safely deployed to Haiti,” said Jerald McKie, an executive with Global Ministries who has been involved in setting up the pilot. “We had to be concerned with transportation and supplies, and accommodations for the volunteers.”

The Haiti teams, organized by congregations or annual conferences, consist of up to 10 persons who have received training from UMVIM with a team leader with previous experience in Haiti, Meister explained. “When an appropriate team is formed, I am contacted and we work out a date. A team works in Haiti for seven to nine days.”

“We now have five primary work sites,” he said. “Teams follow a week or so apart, and we are also hiring local Haitians to work alongside the volunteers.” The first projects include the rebuilding of a wall at a Methodist boy’s home, and the rebuilding of a school in the village of Mellier.

The Haiti volunteer effort is a partnership among UMVIM, UMCOR, and Global Ministries. Each UMVIM team contributes \$3,500 per project, with construction matching grants from a \$565,000 allocation by UMCOR for the six-month pilot.

At sites a distance from Port-au-Prince, team members are sleeping in tents. Projects in the city or close by make it possible for teams to stay at a Methodist guesthouse that has long been a rallying place for mission volunteers.

“There are still shortages of gasoline and material prices have escalated 10 to 15 percent,” Willis said, “but we are able to obtain sand, gravel, concrete, plywood, and materials for roofs. It is very hot at this time of year and rains are increasing, so shelter for classrooms is essential.”

News of the volunteer work in Haiti can be followed on a website, [umvimhaiti.org](http://umvimhaiti.org).

**Dart Test...**

A young lady named Sally, relates an experience she had in a seminary class, given by her teacher, Dr. Smith. She says that Dr. Smith was known for his elaborate object lessons.

One particular day, Sally walked into the seminary and knew they were in for a fun day.

On the wall was a big target and on a nearby table were many darts. Dr. Smith told the students to draw a picture of someone that they disliked or someone who had made them angry, and he would allow them to throw darts at the person's picture.

Sally's friend drew a picture of who had stolen her boyfriend. Another friend drew a picture of his little brother. Sally drew a picture of a former friend, putting a great deal of detail into her drawing, even drawing pimples on the face. Sally was pleased with the overall effect she had achieved.

The class lined up and began throwing darts. Some of the students threw their darts with such force that their targets were ripping apart. Sally looked forward to her turn, and was filled with disappointment when Dr. Smith, because of time limits, asked the students to return to their seats. As Sally sat thinking about how angry she was because she didn't have a chance to throw any darts at her target. Dr. Smith began removing the target from the wall.

Underneath the target was a picture of Jesus. A hush fell over the room as each student viewed the mangled picture of Jesus; holes and jagged marks covered His face and His eyes were pierced.

Dr. Smith said only these words....

'In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me.' Matthew 25:40.

No other words were necessary; the tears filled eyes of the students focused only on the picture of Christ.



“GOD has made this  
JESUS,  
whom you crucified,  
both LORD  
and CHRIST.”

ACTS 2:36, NIV

## Serving you on Sundays

If you are unable to help on your assigned Sunday, please switch with someone on the list and let the office know of the change. Your help in finding a replacement is deeply appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

	<b>June 27, 2010</b> 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.	<b>July 4, 2010</b> 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
<b><i>Serving you in Worship</i></b>		
Acolyte	Allyssa Mitchell	Katie Longstroth
Alter	Laura Anderson	Beth Shirley
8:30 Audio	Jan Urfer	Bob Reed
8:30 Video	Bill Urfer	Jim Frey
10:00 Audio	Matt Knewton	Bill Rotgers
10:00 Video	Katrina Price	Rachel Quick
Worship Assistant	Gail Secord	Jean Whitcomb
<b><i>Serving you through Welcoming</i></b>		
8:30 Greeters	Jim Jameson Louise Jameson	Jeanette Jupp Sallie Platt
10:00 Greeters	Nancy Roberts Dave McGee	Beth Mitchell Beth Shirley
Hospitality	Marian Burkey Jo Turner	Sharon Quintel Tara Pomeroy Karen Strobel
8:30 Ushers	Norm & Mary Grant Roxanne Frey	Joe Mitchell Shirley Mitchell
10:00 Ushers	Clint Whitcomb Jean Whitcomb Karen Strobel Bob Strobel	Paul Moeller <b>Need Volunteer</b> <b>Need Volunteer</b> <b>Need Volunteer</b>


  
*Thank*  
*You*  
*for Serving*

# Upcoming Church Events

## Sunday, June 27, 2010

8:30 AM Worship Celebration  
10:00 AM Worship Celebration

## Monday, June 28, 2010

7:00 PM Courters  
7:00 PM Church Council

## Tuesday, June 29, 2010

10:30 AM Staff Meeting  
12:30 PM Lay Ministers/Staff

## Wednesday, June 30, 2010

10:00 AM Adult Bible Study  
6:00 PM Disciple II  
6:15 PM 4th Day Women

## Thursday, July 01, 2010

11:45 AM 4th Day Men  
6:00 PM Glory Connection  
6:00 PM Liturgical Dance  
7:00 PM BSA Commissioners  
7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

## Friday, July 02, 2010

No events scheduled.

## Saturday, July 03, 2010

No events scheduled.

## Sunday, July 04, 2010

### *Independence Day Communion*

8:30 AM Worship Celebration  
10:00 AM Worship Celebration

## Monday, July 05, 2010

### *Church Office Closed*

7:00 PM Courters

## Tuesday, July 06, 2010

Staff Meeting  
7:00 PM Church Council Meeting  
7:00 PM Compassionate Friends  
7:00 PM KAL IPMS  
7:00 PM BSA District Meeting

## Wednesday, July 07, 2010

10:00 AM Adult Bible Study  
6:15 PM 4th Day Women

## Thursday, July 08, 2010

11:45 AM 4th Day Men  
12:30 PM Lay Ministers/Staff  
6:00 PM Liturgical Dance  
7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

## Friday, July 09, 2010

No events scheduled.

## Saturday, July 10, 2010

9:00 AM Cub Scouts Rummage Sale

## Sunday, July 11, 2010

*ASP Commissioning during the Second Service*

8:30 AM Worship Celebration  
9:30 AM Praise Team Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Worship Celebration

**Congratulations to Joan & Dick  
Kowal on the celebration of  
their 55th Wedding  
Anniversary on June 18!**

# Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

## Homebound

Pauline Hannon

## Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast  
 Gary Babbitt  
 Donna Blair  
 The Clapp Family  
 Susan Clapp  
 Gary Cumming  
 Judy DeHaan  
 Alta DeRoo  
 Irene Dutton  
 Elizabeth Dye  
 Shirley Greene  
 Vicki Hale  
 Emily Hazel  
 Kathy Hillman & Family  
 Jack & Helen Lancaster  
 Marian Mahieu  
 Mary Penn  
 Betty Pick  
 Mike Roush  
 Eileen Scamehorn  
 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!



**connect**  
*There really is more to life!*

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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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  
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- Organist, Kay Ensfield
- Custodial Staff: Will Alderman, Stephanie Knewtson, David Knewtson, Peter Breithaupt, Dan Malseed, Bill Urfer
- Nursery Staff: Bridgette Clock
- Lay Leader, Bob Strobel ..... 342-8816
- Lay Minister of Spiritual Formation, Ken Smith ..... 270-3093
- Lay Minister of Worship, Matthew Knewtson ..... 349-5603
- Staff-Parish Chairperson, Irv Cumming
- Wesley Foundation Director, Lisa Batten ..... 344-4076  
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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.**

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