

From the Heart of the Pastor

The starting gun has sounded and the school year has begun. As the beginning of the fall marks the end of the summer, so too does it signify the completion of our Summer Bible Reading. Over 100 people began the pilgrimage of reading Scripture back in June. Many people stayed current with the reading, and a number of others fell behind, yet continued to read. When you finish realize that you've read 260 chapters, 7,956 verses, and roughly 138,020 words! What a great accomplishment and statement of your faithfulness to our Lord!

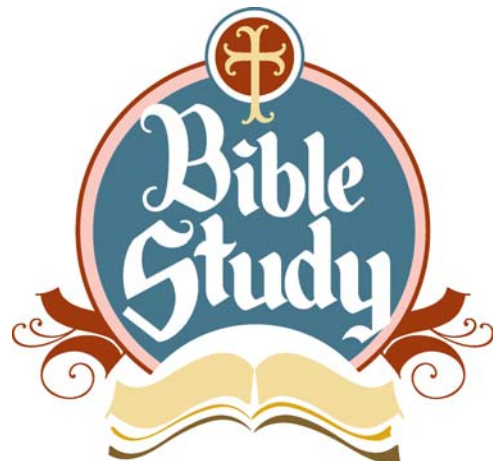
Think of two verses which especially stood out for you, and then write them down and keep them in a place where you will see them. Some people I know write them on a sticky note and place them on their bathroom mirror so they read them every morning. Others place them on their car dashboard, or in their planner. Our Lord commands for us to keep His word before us. Writing in down in a place you will see enables you to keep the Lord's encouragement before you, so it may live within you.

Revelation is the concluding book of the New Testament—and I encourage you to remember the main point of the book: Jesus wins. Jesus wins in your life by keeping you connected with the living branch (John 15), so you may know the power of His love and promise in this life, as well as receive the eternal life in the world to come. How we do this is by serving Him, and others.

In the next few months we will focus being saved so we can serve. Jesus shared a vision of God's kingdom with us, and showed how we can live the prayer, "your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Luke 11:2). We are to connect with the reality of God's kingdom on earth. How can you connect with God through the service of listening to Him in prayer and Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Colossians 4:2-3)? How can you love others in the church by serving them (1 Peter 4:7-11)? How can you love others in our community and world by serving the "least of these" (Matthew 25:31-46)? You heard all of these ways of living faith through service in your reading of the New Testament, and now we will celebrate how we can live God's kingdom through serving Him and one another.

Gratefully serving Jesus with you,

Pastor Wayne



Getting to Know You

William Urfer

Born January 18, 1943 in Kalamazoo

Graduated Bryan HS (Ohio) 1961

BS in Pharmacy, 1967 from U of Toledo

Married in Kalamazoo June 12, 1983

Daughter: Mary (Jeff) Harrington, living in Indianapolis.

Two Grandchildren, Lauren (2003), Carter (2007)

Janet (Thompson) Urfer

Born April 2, 1947 in Indianapolis

Graduated Speedway HS (Indiana) 1965

BA in German and French, 1973, Indiana U

After College graduation, Bill worked in Toledo and Hillsdale before visiting Bronson Hospital in 1969, where he had been born 26 years before. He served in their pharmacy for 28 years, during that time he completed his Masters Degree in pharmaceuticals at the University of New York in Boston, Mass.

REALLY!! After retiring from Bronson, Bill continues to work at various local pharmacies.

Jan completed her bachelor's degree while thinking of teaching or becoming an international correspondent. She found her calling, however, working in the overseas department of manufacturing companies headquartered in the Indianapolis area. In 1971 she came to Kalamazoo where she has used her skills working for local attorneys.

A life-long Methodist, Jan began her search for a church home and new friendships not long after arriving in Kalamazoo. She felt welcome at Westwood and has come ever since. Bill had visited Westwood, but credits Jan with bringing him to stay. Over the years Jan has been active in the Chancel Choir and Early Eves. She has also served on the Administrative Board, Council of Ministries and Board of Trustees. Currently Jan shares responsibility for the Love Letters, is a ringer in the Handbell Ensemble and directs and rings with the "Q." During worship she may also be found running the audio system. Bill is frequently found readying our building for our many activities as he serves with our custodial team.

Bill's interests include construction, his handiwork can be seen in their home which is very special.

Currently the two are working together to create eight stained glass windows to enhance a hallway in their home. Bill also has an interest in automobiles and recalls a 1948 Hudson convertible he restored and drove while in High School, and more recently at 1969 Toyota Land Cruiser. He enjoys reading construction and pharmaceutical magazines, and medical mystery books.

Jan especially enjoys ringing bells and also plays with the Kalamazoo Ringers. She regularly attends handbell workshops to improve her ringing and directing skills. In spare time she enjoys mysteries. Together they watch "Antiques Roadshow" and "This Old House," and action movies such as Jan's favorite, "Raiders of the Lost Ark."

Musically, Bill prefers "easy listening" while Jan leans toward Country-Western. "How Great Thou Art" is easily Jan's favorite hymn.

If you are downtown some evening dining at Fandango Tapas Bistro, look around for Jan and Bill. It is hands down their favorite restaurant.





The Alpha Course

What is the point of **life**?

What happens when you Die?

Is forgiveness possible?

What relevance does **Jesus** have in 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.

Who is Alpha for?

Alpha is for everyone, especially:

- Those wanting to investigate Christianity.
- New Christians.
- Newcomers to the church.
- Those who want to brush up on the basics.

An Alpha Invitation Update

It is an exciting time in the community as the Alpha courses start up this week. Please keep your yard signs in your yards and have your car magnets on to support the Alpha Invitation. If you are still wanting a yard sign they are available.

Even more important is that you invite someone to the Alpha Course. Dinner begins at 6:00 PM on Tuesday. Please come and see what Alpha is all about. Call the church office to make dinner reservations. It's not too late.

Participating Churches

Almena UMC, Battle Creek 1st Presbyterian, 3rd CRC, Garrison Hills Wesleyan Church, Haven of Rest (Battle Creek), Hope Church of the Nazarene, Lawrence UMC, Schoolcraft UMC, Schoolcraft Assembly of God, Simpson UMC(Bangor), Wakeshma Community Church, Westwood UMC.

**Our next Alpha Course begins September 8, 2009 with the introductory Dinner at 6:00 PM in Simpson Hall. Please invite someone to Alpha.
Good food, good fun, real answers!**

The New Adventurers are going to the New Vic Theatre

Saturday, September, 26
Dessert & Theatre

The New Adventurers are going to the “New Vic Theatre” on Saturday, September 26 to the “The Best of Times”. This is a musical odyssey of the popular folk music era of the 60’s and 70’s. We will meet at the church at 7:00 p.m. for dessert before going to the musical. Please call Joyce Branch at 372-7688 for information or reservations. Tickets are \$25.00. Deadline is September 10th.

Church Directory

The photos for the pictorial directory will be taken on Sept. 24 – 26 and Oct. 12 – 14.

Please pick up a scheduling form by the church office, fill it out, and turn it in to the Messenger mailbox (outside of the office). If you would like a sitting of extended family in addition to your directory photo, you are more than welcome to do so. If you have any questions about scheduling or your photo sitting, please contact Beth Arbogast at 343-3937.

Job Board At Westwood UMC

Got a Job? Need a Job?

We thought it would be a good idea if we, the congregation of Westwood, began to network with one another regarding available jobs and the need for jobs within our community. If you, or someone you know, needs a job, be sure to visit the job board – near the elevator entrance next to ALPHA. There are cards to fill out and post on the board. If you know about a job that is available, fill out the same card and post that as well. If you don’t need a job and don’t know about any right now – please visit the board and find out who does need a job and also become aware of what job postings you see there. Keep your eyes and ears open for jobs around the area, and keep others in mind as you go through your week. Pray for jobs to become available for those who need them, and if you hear about something, contact someone on the board with information, and also post the information on the board. Together, we can change lives and make a difference! Thank you.

Faith-Hope Circle

The Faith-Hope Circle will meet September 16 at 1:00 P.M. with refreshments and a program.

Summer Reading of the New Testament

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

Financial Peace University starts Sept. 17th @ 7:00

Previews are offered: Sept. 6th following 2nd service
& Sept. 10th @ 7:00

What is Financial Peace University? It's a 13-week life changing personal finance course that teaches solid principles of common-sense money management. You will be empowered to:

- Establish a plan to take control of your finances
- Eliminate debt using the "Debt Snowball" method
- Start an "Emergency Fund" so you are prepared for unexpected expenses

This 13-week program encourages positive behavior with accountability and support. Personal finance is only 20% head knowledge and 80% behavior. It really helps to have others work along side us who are experiencing some of the same struggles we are. You will feel empowered by establishing a plan to take control of your finances.

The cost is \$100* and includes the following:

Financial Peace University Workbook - 13 life-changing lessons designed to be worth \$2,000-\$3,000 in information and education!

All 13 Lessons on CD - Listen to the lessons anytime, or use them as a refresher once you've completed the program

Dave's best-selling book, *Financial Peace Revisited* - Over a million have benefited from these solid financial principles of common-sense money management

Financial Peace University Envelope System - Easy cash management envelope system

Budgeting Forms - Complete set of monthly budgeting forms and examples

Two Debit Card Holders - Helps you stop busting your budget!

Tip Cards - Easy reference guides for you to use when you go out

To sign up (or ask questions), please contact:
Jo Turner at (269) 207-6151 or by e-mail: fpjturner@aol.com

*There may be some scholarships available.



Fall Adult Classes: Grow Your Faith!

Sunday Morning beginning Sept. 20, 9:30 a.m.

Attentiveness: Being Present

Is life going by so fast that you have difficulty keeping up? This class will help us examine our busy lives and learn how to be present with ourselves, with each other, and with God. The group will use Scripture and video to experience, discuss, and meditate on the Christian model of attentiveness. Teacher: Ken Smith. Location: Wesley Room

Adult Bible Studies Class

"Hope is a good thing; God-centered hope changes everything." Our class this fall is about God's people in Bible times and present times struggling to maintain hope for the future God has promised. These lessons are based on Scripture from the books of Joshua, Judges, Ezra, Nehemiah, Mark and I & II Peter. The series' authors challenge us to live faithfully while reminding us of the constant presence of a faithful, forgiving, gracious, holy, welcoming God. This drop-in class is for all adults and is facilitated by Louise Jameson. Location: Simpson Hall.

Midweek Classes

Praying the Psalms

Pastor Wayne Price will teach how the ancient book of Psalms can be a vital part of our prayer life. Time: Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Location: Wesley Room

The Way of Discernment

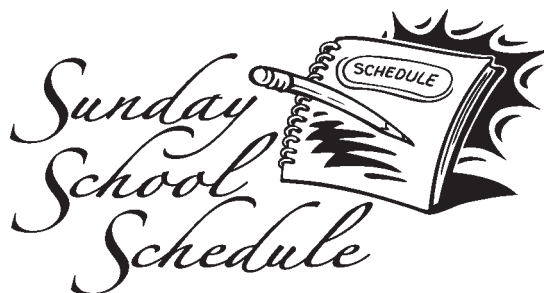
How do we know God's will for our lives? This class from the popular Companions in Christ series explores the practice of discernment for individuals and congregations through weekly reading, daily exercises and a small group meeting. Previous Companions class NOT required. Time: Wednesdays, September 30 thru Dec. 16, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Location: Wesley Room. Teachers: Eileen Scamehorn and Laurel Andrews

Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life

This is the second part of the Disciple class that began last fall. We will concentrate on the Gospel of John; 1,2, and 3 John; James; Jude; and Revelation. Worship is a central theme throughout the study. Time: Wednesdays beginning Sept. 2, 6-8 p.m. Location: Lounge. Teacher: Louise Jameson

Coming in January...Disciple II: Into the Word, Into the World

This class will concentrate Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Acts. This 32-week study will cover half the lessons in winter/spring, break for summer and finish in Fall 2010.



Words from Our Missionary in Zambia

In a recent email, Paul Webster states: "We know that these are tough economic times in the U.S. and much of the rest of the world. The United Nations and the G-20 have announced a new effort to increase agricultural production in the Third World as they are coming to realize that surpluses from the developed countries can no longer feed the poor. We are on the forefront of that effort through our animal traction projects and low-input techniques to give the poorest of the poor an entry into sustainable agriculture. We want the United Methodist Church to be in the lead in this effort so we ask your continued and even increased support for our work." Gifts to Paul's project may be made through Westwood. Please mark your gift accordingly.

Autumn Baskets

The Missions team in cooperation with United Methodist Women will be selling Autumn baskets to support our sister congregation, the Resurrection UMC in Voronezh, Russia. Lovingly decorated baskets (3 sizes available) will be filled with a variety of individually wrapped homemade cookies or mini muffins (or a combination of both) will be available for pick-up on Sunday, September 27. These baskets would make a lovely "thank you" or "thinking of you" gift. Orders will be taken on Sunday, September 13 or 20 at the table in the Narthex. Basket decorating will take place at the home of Jeanette Jupp, 4817 Weston, on Thursday mornings, September 17 and 24 with lunch following. You are invited!



Native American Sunday

A special offering will be taken on September 20 for Native American Sunday. This offering goes to develop and strengthen Native American ministries within the West Michigan Conference as well as provide scholarships to Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology and seminaries. Envelopes are in your giving envelope packet or will be available in the September 20 worship folder.

Cell phone vs. Bible

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several time a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go....hmm...where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think 'where are my priorities? And no dropped calls!

Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

Prayers for comfort, healing and strength

Homebound

Irene Tetzlaff, 1400 N. Drake Rd., Apt. 107, Kalamazoo

Comfort, Healing and Strength

Beth Arbogast, 2639 Hazelnut Lane, Kalamazoo, 49004

Gary Babbitt, 47040 24th Street, Mattawan, 49071

Pat Bailey, 1855 Quail Cove, Kalamazoo, 49009

Don Bertch, Bronson Methodist Hospital, 601 John Street, Kalamazoo, 49007

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

Judy DeHaan, 612 Jenks Blvd., Kalamazoo, 49006

Lois and Arlo Dunkelberger, 1390 Ewing Way, Kalamazoo, 49004

Irene Dutton, 918 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, 49006

Lynn (Ethlyn) Graebner, Upjohn Community Care Center, Heritage Community of Kalamazoo,
2400 Portage, Kalamazoo, 49001

Vicki Hale

Dick Harrison

Samual Jennings

Sally Krohn

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

Julie Lancaster, 1629 Turwill Lane, Kalamazoo, 49006

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

Norma Stafford, 1304 N. Eagle Lake Drive, Kalamazoo, 49009

Emily Strong, 3504 Iroquois Trail, Kalamazoo, 49006

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

Nancy Wallus, 717 Kendall, Kalamazoo, 49006

Protection from Harm in Iraq and Afghai

Anthony Earl

Nicholas Heystek

Neil McKenna

Ryan Mitchell

Carl Williams

Christopher Wilson



Calendar of Events




Sunday, September 13, 2009	
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
9:30 AM	Sunday School
9:45 AM	Praise Team
10:55 AM	Worship Celebration
6:00 PM	Youth Groups
Monday, September 14, 2009	
7:00 PM	Communications
7:00 PM	Courters
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts of America
Tuesday, September 15, 2009	
9:30 AM	Worship Team
10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
6:00 PM	Alpha
6:30 PM	Early Eves
7:00 PM	Stewardship & Finance
7:00 PM	Compassionate Friends
Wednesday, September 16, 2009	
10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
1:00 PM	4th Day Women
6:00 PM	Westwood Singers
6:00 PM	Disciple IV
6:00 PM	High School Choir
6:15 PM	4th Day Women
6:15 PM	The "Q"
7:00 PM	WHBE
Thursday, September 17, 2009	
12:00 PM	4th Day Men
6:00 PM	Glory Connection
6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
7:00 PM	Financial Peace University
7:00 PM	Foundation
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
7:00 PM	BSA Commissioners
Friday, September 18, 2009	
7:00 PM	Civil War Roundtable
Saturday, September 19, 2009	
10:00 AM	Acolyte Training
Sunday, September 20, 2009	
8:30 AM	Worship Celebration
9:30 AM	Sunday School
9:45 AM	Praise Team
	Worship Assistant Meeting between services
10:55 AM	Worship Celebration
4:45 PM	Westwood Ringers
6:00 PM	Youth Groups



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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 at
8:30 a.m. and 10:55 a.m.**
Nursery care is provided
during both celebrations.

Visit us on the web at:

<http://www.westwood-umc.org/>

Messenger Deadlines:

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

Upcoming Publications:

Sept. 14

Sept. 21

Sept. 28



**Westwood
United Methodist
Church**

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(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.

Westwood United Methodist Church Staff and Volunteers

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E-mail: jwright-wumc@sbcglobal.net
- Organist,
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

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 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.