



The Westwood Messenger

December 19, 2011

Volume 111, Issue 26

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

538 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49006 269.344.7165
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From the Heart of the Pastor

Timing is everything. God came to us in His time through the birth of Jesus in the manger. At the right time the angels announced to the shepherds the good news of Jesus' birth. The shepherds rushed with haste to see Jesus, and rejoiced in God's intervention in the world.

During Advent we heard God calling us to help others in our community. Like the shepherds we responded with haste. As a result we saw how God was blessing people through our mission. After Sunday morning's collection, our congregation had collected 735 items during Advent for the Gospel Mission, Loaves and Fishes, King-Westwood Elementary School, and the Humane Society. We helped children to be warm, families to be fed, and parents to have what they needed for their babies. It was inspirational to hear Missy Best, the Community in Schools Site Coordinator, tell how children received snow pants and were able play with the other children. People saw our Lord's presence on earth through our devotion and compassion.

We are living our mission to offer Christ, grow in faith, touch lives, and make a difference. We will continue to bless others in our Christmas Eve offering for Haitian Artisans for Peace Initiative, through which Stephanie and Ash Norton are serving as missionaries in Haiti.

We invite you to celebrate the birth of our Savior with two special worship services on Christmas Eve at 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm. The 7:00 pm service will include a Children's Message and drama, while the 11:00 pm service will be a Candlelight Service. On Christmas Day we will celebrate with a Carol Service at 10:00 am. Please remember we will also have worship at

10:00 am on New Year's Day. Sandra Douglas will preach on New Year's Day.

Gratefully serving our Lord with you,

Pastor Wayne

Alpha Marriage Course

The Alpha Marriage Course will begin on Friday, January 13 and end on March 4. It is an eight-week series of dates/relationship building. The evening includes a dinner for two, a fun and inspiring video presentation about different aspects of marriage, and some time to share with your spouse. There is no group sharing. It is like having eight "date nights". Last year, 16 couples were blessed by the marriage course and we invite you and your spouse to experience the blessings. The cost will be \$100 and include dinner and materials for the course. If you would like to know more please call Wayne and Joy Price at 762-4787, or Bob and Karen Strobel at 342-8816.

Can you help?

Volunteer Hostesses needed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We will have a birthday cake and beverages for the 7 PM Christmas Eve Family Service. If anyone is interested in cutting and serving cake, please contact Mary Faupel or Roxanne Frey.

Extra Christmas cookies and fruit can be dropped off at the church on Christmas Eve for our 10 AM Christmas Day service.

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

The Advent Season at Westwood

A Gift That Cannot Be Contained		
Dec. 24	A Family Christmas	7:00 p.m.
	A Gift for the Ages	11:00 p.m.
Dec. 25 Love: A Gift That Keeps Giving		
	A Carol Service	10:00 a.m.
Jan.1 New Beginnings 10:00 a.m.		

Advent Scriptures

Scripture	Focus
December 18-24	
· Luke 1:1-25	God's Promises
· Luke 1:26-38	Being God's Servant
· Luke 1:39-45	Being Blessed
· Luke 1:46-56	God's Glory
· Luke 2:1-20	Baby Jesus



Westwood UMC Weather Related Closures

Passed 5/23/11

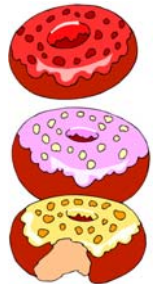
If Kalamazoo Public Schools (KPS) has cancelled school due to weather, then the church office will be closed. If KPS is not in session, office hours are up to the pastor's discretion, and he is to notify staff. When evening activities are scheduled, the pastor will decide by 2:00 p.m. if events are cancelled. When events are cancelled, they will be announced via voicemail header message, posted on the website, sent out via email, and announced on local television station (WWMT, Ch 3). The pastor will work with Communications Team to ensure all communication avenues are taken. Regarding Sunday weather closures, that will be up to the pastor to decide taking into consideration the safety issue of driving to church.

Hole Lotta Love

Dec. 24
Submitted by Louise Jameson

The tradition continues of the Westwood United Methodist Church family delivering donut holes from Sweetwater Donut Mill to those in the Westwood area who must work on Christmas Eve - our police officers, firefighters, hospital staff, nursing home staff, gas station workers, fast-food workers, etc.

Sign-up sheets for the number of boxes (each box contains 1 ½ dozen donut holes) and place(s) you would like to visit will be in the Lobby on December 4, December 11, and December 18 for anyone willing to make the deliveries on Christmas Eve.



The donut holes will be packed on Christmas Eve morning and will be ready for pick-up in the Lobby any time between 10:00 am and noon and can be delivered during the day or evening of Christmas Eve.

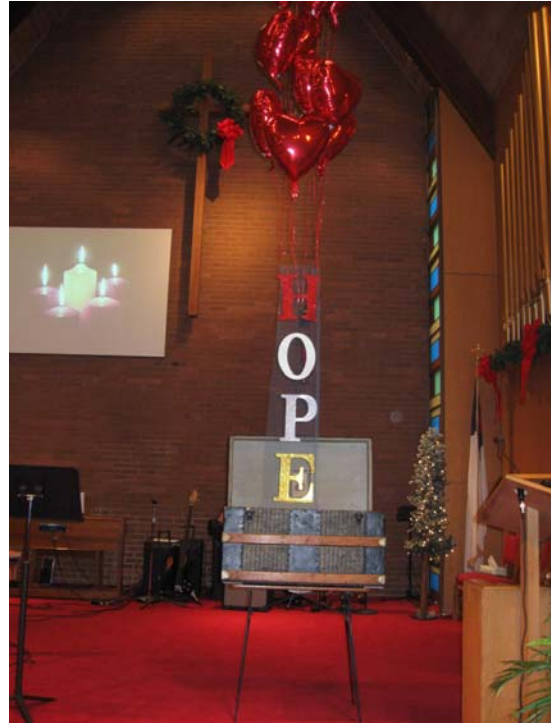
If you cannot help deliver, but would be willing to contribute to the cost of this ministry, there is a Sweetwater Box next to the sign-up sheet board or submit your check marked, "Hole Lotta Love" and put in the offering plate during worship.

We are grateful this meaningful tradition of caring for our Westwood neighbors continues through the faithful service of those who have helped in the past and those who are willing to try it for the first time.

The Discipleship Team

Heavenly Father

In rejoicing, this Sunday of Advent, We remember the promise of your Son. As the light from this candle shines vibrantly May the blessing of Christ come upon us, May the love we feel brighten our way And guide us by his truth. May Christ our Savior bring life into the darkness of our world, And to us, as we wait for His coming. O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, desire of every nation, Savior of all peoples, come and dwell among us. May you continue your journey during this Advent season with the blessing of God upon you, the healing of Christ within you and the strength of the Holy Spirit upholding you.



Mabel Hillis, Bev Pryor and Phil Engels.

An Advent Reflection

We live in a world in which bigger and better define our expectations for much of life. We have become so enamored by super size, super stars, and high definition that we tend to view life through a lens that so magnifies what we expect out of the world that we tend not to see potential in small things. But as the prophet Zechariah reminds us (Zech 4:10), we should not “despise the day of small things,” because God does some of his best work with small beginnings and impossible situations in remote parts of the world and in our own backyards.



It is truly a humbling experience to read back through the Hebrew Scripture and see how frail and imperfect all the “heroes” actually are. Abraham was the coward who could not believe the promise. Jacob was the cheat who struggled with everybody. Joseph was the immature and arrogant teen. And what about Moses, the impatient murderer who cannot wait for God? Would you let your daughter go out on a date with Gideon, the cowardly Baal-worshipper? Samson was the womanizing drunk; David, the power abusing adulterer; Solomon, the unwise wise man and Hezekiah, the reforming king who could not quite go far enough. And finally, we hear about a very young Jewish girl from a small village in a remote corner of a great empire; one who was deeply devout and faithful to the Lord. Not a princess, just an ordinary girl.

A small group of us went caroling Sunday night in the Westwood neighborhood. Truthfully I was expecting a much larger crowd. Where were they? Watching the Lions, shopping or just deciding it was too cold to visit our neighbors and make known that the church they attend really cares about the community? But God didn't mind because our group of singers warmly touched the life of an elderly gentleman who, with tears streaming down his cheeks sang Silent Night with us and then sang it to us in his native Czechoslovakian language. I saw a young girl, not a member of our church; reach out to him with a warm embrace.

It never ceases to amaze me that God often begins with small things and ordinary people. It certainly seems that God could have chosen “bigger” things and “better” people to do His work in the world. Yet if God can use them, and reveal Himself through them in such marvelous ways, it means that He might be able to use me, inadequate, and unwise, and too often lacking in faith that I am. And it means that I need to be careful that I do not in my own self-righteousness put limits on what God can do with the smallest things, the most unlikely of people, in the most hopeless of circumstances. I think that is part of the wonder of the Advent Season.



2011 — Birth of a New Tradition

Submitted by a friend

As the holidays approach, the giant Asian factories are kicking into high gear to provide Americans with monstrous piles of cheaply produced goods — merchandise that has been produced at the expense of American labor. This year will be different. This year Americans will give the gift of genuine concern for other Americans. There is no longer an excuse that, at gift giving time, nothing can be found that is produced by American hands. Yes there is!

It's time to think outside the box, people. Who says a gift needs to fit in a shirt box, wrapped in Chinese produced wrapping paper?

Everyone — yes EVERYONE gets their hair cut. How about gift certificates from your local American hair salon or barber? Gym membership? It's appropriate for all ages who are thinking about some health improvement. Who wouldn't appreciate getting their car detailed? Small, American owned detail shops and car washes would love to sell you a gift certificate or a book of gift certificates.

Are you one of those extravagant givers who think nothing of plunking down the Benjamin on a Chinese made flat-screen? Perhaps that grateful gift receiver would like his driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway plowed all winter, or games at the local golf course.

There are a bazillion owner-run restaurants — all offering gift certificates. And, if your intended isn't the fancy eatery sort, what about a half dozen breakfasts at the local breakfast joint. Remember, folks this isn't about big National chains — this is about supporting your home town Americans with their financial lives on the line to keep their doors open.

How many people couldn't use an oil change for their car, truck or motorcycle, done at a shop run by the American working guy? Thinking about a heartfelt gift for mom? Mom would LOVE the services of a local cleaning lady for a day. My computer could use a tune-up, and I KNOW I can find some young guy who is struggling to get his repair business up and running.

OK, you were looking for something more personal. Local crafts people spin their own wool and knit them into scarves. They make jewelry, and pottery and beautiful wooden boxes.

Plan your holiday outings at local, owner operated restaurants and leave your server a nice tip. And, how about going out to see a play or ballet at your hometown theatre. Musicians need love too, so find a venue showcasing local bands.

Honestly, people, do you REALLY need to buy another ten thousand Chinese lights for the house? When you buy a five dollar string of light, about fifty cents stays in the community. If you have those kinds of bucks to burn, leave the mailman, trash guy or babysitter a nice BIG tip.

You see, Christmas is no longer about draining American pockets so that China can build another glittering city. Christmas is now about caring about US, encouraging American small businesses to keep plugging away to follow their dreams. And, when we care about other Americans, we care about our communities, and the benefits come back to us in ways we couldn't imagine.

THIS is the new American Christmas tradition.





Submitted by Sandra Douglas

Where did 2011 go? We have reached that time of the year in which we are preparing to celebrate and also remember. Quietly, the season of “remembering” and assessing how we have done this year is before us. All of those commitments that we made with great intentions creep in and what do we do with them?

Live one day at a time and give God thanks for the “right now” moments in our lives. One of the blessings of knocking on 50’s door is the wisdom to know that living in the present is precious and keeps my blood pressure in check.

Honor what you have done in spite of the “New Year’s resolution list. We live in a time when the temptation to measure our efforts against others is everywhere and we must remember that we are called to work within the capacity of the gifts that have been given to us. We all have made a difference in the lives of at least one person this year and the one who remembers is our loving God.

I have a community outreach plan for Kalamazoo: Westwood UMC and as I promised it includes various levels of outreach based on the gifts of the congregation. I am asking you to consider this outreach opportunity and I am asking you to pray and discern if you can serve Jesus Christ in this manner and model discipleship in the marketplace.

Organization: Communities In Schools

Volunteer Opportunity: Serving as one to one tutor for students at King-Westwood Elementary School.

Time Commitment- 1-1/2 hours per week (1 day per week)

Requirements-The sign up process is done online. Visit www.ciskalamazoo.org and click on volunteer. Yes, there are five forms that you need to complete, yet, we need to ensure that all children are interacting with adults who have their best interest in mind. If we have enough persons, i.e. at least three volunteers, the Communities In Schools volunteer training can be held here at Westwood UMC. John 15:16 states “You did not choose me but I chose you. I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

If you have questions, call me at 369-8803 or sandra.douglas73@yahoo.com

Blessings,
Deacon Sandra Douglas

55 Plus

January 4, 2012
Submitted by Sallie Platt

Join us in the New Year on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at noon in Simpson Hall for a light meal. We are pleased that Debra Lindstrom-Hazel has safely returned from her second mission to Bangladesh. She will share about her experience on this trip at the Center for Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed. Please make a reservation by calling Sallie Platt, 343-3917. Deadline is January 1.

Human Relations Day

January 15
Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

A special offering will be received on January 15 for Human Relations Day. Your donation supports a network of grassroots social-service organizations and offer youth offenders a second change. You open doors for church-based community developers to work in racial and ethnic-minority communities in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Special giving envelopes are in your offering envelope packet or will be available in the January 15 worship folder.

Camp Scholarship Dinner

January 22, 2012
Submitted by Nancy VandenBrink

Mark your 2012 calendars now to join your church family for a hearty soup and salad bar lunch following worship (12:15 p.m.) on Sunday, January 22 in Simpson Hall. A variety of homemade soups, chili, tossed salad with your choice of toppings, and dessert will be served. Cost is a donation to the camp scholarship fund which enables our children and youth to attend summer church camp here in West Michigan or music camp at Lake Junaluska in North Carolina. Our campers and their parents thank you for your support!



Beta Course begins January 10, 2012

The first ever Beta course will begin Tuesday January 10, 2012 at 7:00 PM. Please come if you want to continue your journey after Alpha. Beta will provide the tools that will allow you to continue your exploration of the Christian faith. Prayer, study and service are explored as avenues to further your understanding of the Christian lifestyle.

Each Tuesday for ten weeks you will meet together either in full session or small groups. Dessert will be served at the general sessions and a lesson given. Small group time will be organized by your small group as to where, when and what you will do. This will be a practical course in going deeper in the Christian faith but still travel at your own speed.

Please come to the introductory session Tuesday January 10, 2012 at 7:00 PM in Simpson Hall. Call the church office 344-7165 or Mike Turner to let us know you will attend. Please include your name, address, phone, the date you attended Alpha.

ASP 2012

Submitted by Stephanie Knewton

liiiiittt's ASP! Time to get out your toolbelts, organize all those toys and make a commitment for the experience of a lifetime! Buy in commitments are due earlier this year so NOW is the time to decide - will you say YES! or will you pass up this awesome opportunity? Don't forget to ask you friends! Please contact Matt Knewton at 720-6716 or matt.knewton@wmich.edu. It is early but it is important we know if you are going! They want to know now! Please contact Matt by Dec. 22.

Every Season is the Season of Forgiveness

Thom Andrews Gives Insight into a Happier Life through Practicing Forgiveness at November Early Eves Meeting

Be gentle and forbearing with one another and, if one has a difference against another, readily pardoning each other; even as the Lord has freely forgiven you, so must you also forgive. Colossians 3: 13
Early Eves was privileged to have Thom Andrews give a dinner talk about forgiveness by explaining what forgiveness means and why it is healthy physically, mentally and spiritually to do so. Forgiveness has been the cornerstone of many religions as well as ethnic traditions for many centuries and is key to a peaceful heart by transforming our thoughts about the past and free the future to new possibilities. Forgiveness is life changing and failure of character on one side is no excuse for failure on the other side. Giving up on forgiveness means you are at some level giving up on kindness, goodwill and compassion. More information can be found at www.SeasonOfForgiveness.org.



God Does Have an Eraser.

Sign up for Altar Flowers

The flower chart is posted in the Narthex outside the office to sign up for altar flowers. Now is the time to sign up if you would like to help provide these flowers. Please indicate whether the flowers are “in memory of” or “in honor of”. Only one request per week please. Make your check for \$15.00 payable to Westwood United Methodist Church with “Altar Committee” noted in the memo line. Put it in the collection plate or in the office. An Altar committee member will contact you about your wishes for the arrangement or plant. The committee member will make the arrangement or purchase the plant. You may pick up your arrangement or plant after the second service ends.



The Altar Committee will put a rose on the altar for newborns. This is a gift from the church.



Getting to Know You

William Snell, Born March 3, 1952 at Camp Lejeune, NC (United States Marine Corp).

Graduated Kalamazoo Central High, 1970

BS and MS, University of Michigan, 1974 & 75

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences

MS, Georgia Institute of Technology, 1993 Health Physics

Daughters Kirby (1986) Whitney (1987); Son Tyler (1989)



Nancy Snell, Born June 6, 1953 in Lansing, MI

Graduated Lansing Sexton HS 1971

BA Michigan State University, 1975

Special Education for the Visually Impaired (with minors in Fine Arts and Religious Studies)

Daughters Sarah (1976) (Mike); Clare (1982)(Jon); Bethany (1985)(Scott); Son Frank (1979) (Katijo)

Married in Naperville, IL in 1997, Bill and Nancy have blended a total of seven children into a new family. Bill's first wife died of cancer when his children were still in elementary school, Nancy's marriage had ended in divorce when her children were in middle and high school. Since their marriage, they have added four grandchildren to the family, Mikayla, Mateo, Francis and Bennett. While both grew up in Michigan, they had been living in Illinois where they met and married. They both firmly believe the Lord had a hand in bringing the two of them together through a co-worker of Bill's, who happened to be taking a class with Nancy and arranged a blind date.

Bill worked for the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission as an inspector and supervisor for the inspection and decommissioning of nuclear power plants. Nancy enjoyed a diverse career including early childhood education, operating her own day care, teaching, and converting educational materials to Braille for the East Lansing schools. She credits several years of volunteering at the Michigan School for the Blind during her youth with developing her interest in teaching the visually impaired.

Nancy and Bill moved to Michigan after they retired in 2010 because they felt the call to look after Bill's parents, who still live in Kalamazoo. When they began to look for a church home, their wish was to find a United Methodist Church with "good contemporary Christian Music." Luckily for us, Westwood was near their home and they came and stayed. Having been raised in the Catholic and Congregational churches respectively, they found the United Methodist church early in their relationship to be a satisfying compromise. In the short time they have been with us, they have become involved in a variety of ways, including mentoring youth in confirmation, and sharing good times with the New Adventurers. Bill is coordinator for the "Dinner with Friends" and Nancy enjoys singing with the choir, helping with Kingdom Kids, and teaching adult Sunday School.

The home they purchased when they arrived in Kalamazoo is about a mile from the Kal-Haven Trail, an important factor in their active plans for retirement which include biking and kayaking. Bill is a runner, having just completed his 26th marathon December 3, and he plans to run at least three more in the next six months, including the Boston Marathon. He also enjoys woodworking, and photography. Bill earned the rank of Eagle Scout and was a Scout Master when his son also earned the rank of Eagle.

The Snell's share an enjoyment of travel and often make Bill's marathons an opportunity to vacation in a new area such as Colorado. In addition to singing, Nancy's musical interests include singing, dancing, and playing guitar. She also leads a bi-weekly sing-a-long at Friendship Village, and currently enjoys appearing as Mother Goose in a traveling show she developed for preschool and early elementary children.

There is little time for television in the Snell household, but it isn't surprising to learn they look forward to the Olympics, both winter and summer. You might also catch them watching "Dancing with the Stars", "House", or "The Closer", but don't count on it, they are pretty busy.



ISAAC News

Submitted by Larry Oppliger

New ISAAC Issues for 2012; Exciting Banquet Speaker!

Which 3 of these priorities would YOU choose for ISAAC to work on in 2012?

- * Economic Development
- * Education
- * Affordable Housing
- * Violence & Drug Prevention
- * Transportation
- * Environmental Justice

All 6 were frequently expressed concerns in the ISAAC Porch Patrol and Listening Campaign, but we can only work on 3 at a time.

** Be part of the fun and lively democratic process to choose which 3 ISAAC will work on!

ISAAC Issues Convention
 Saturday January 21, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
 Sunnyside United Methodist Church
 2800 Gull Rd., Kalamazoo MI 49048

** The more people who come from your congregation or organization, the more votes your group gets!
 ISAAC Member groups: 1 vote for every 3 people present, up to 10 votes (30 people)
 Non-member groups: 1 vote for every 5 people present, up to 6 votes (30 people)

ISAAC is very pleased to announce our ISAAC 2012 Banquet speaker...

the person whose approach has created a miracle in city after city—violence plummets, drug markets dry up and the relationship between the police and the community is reset

David M. Kennedy, author of *Don't Shoot: One Man, a Street Fellowship, and the End of Violence in Inner-City America*

Save the Date!
 Saturday evening March 24
 WMU Bernhard Center

For the recent National Public Radio interview with David M. Kennedy go to: <http://www.npr.org/books/authors/141803963/david-m-kennedy>

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.

	December 25, 2011 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
<i>Serving you in Worship</i>	
Altar	Margo Heystek
1st Service Audio	Bob Reed
1st Service Video	Jim Frey
2nd Service Audio	N/A
2nd Service Video	N/A
Worship Assistant	Roxanne Frey
<i>Serving you through Welcoming</i>	
1st Service Greeters	Bill & Jan Urfer Lauretta Eisenbach
2nd Service Greeters	Paul & Lois Moeller Tom & Elise Hillman
1st Service Ushers	Norm Grant Mary Grant
2nd Service Ushers	Clint Whitcomb Jean Whitcomb

We're working on it! As you can imagine, it is a busy time of the year and the coordinators are working to schedule folks that are willing to serve as ushers, video and audio, altar, greeters, hospitality, worship assistants, and acolytes in 2012. If you are interested in helping, please email the office or note it on the back of your weekly Communication Card and we'll take it from there!

Thank you to all of our 2011 volunteers!



Ongoing Prayers for Westwood Members

Comfort, Healing and Strength

- Beth Arbogast
- Gary Babbitt
- Julian Blair
- Aerimya Brown
- Val Brown
- Susan Clapp
- Gary Cumming
- Judy DeHann
- Violet Essany
- The family of Al Gardner
- Shirley Greene
- Vicki Hale
- Donna Howser
- Amy Jameson
- Kris Kenz
- Tim King
- Dick Kowal
- Jack Lancaster
- Lois Moeller
- Jean Marie Peters
- The family of John and Betty Pick
- Bev Prior
- Linda Ridderbos
- Mike Roush
- Beth Shirley
- Emily Strong
- Nancy Wallus
- Doug Weldon

Our Community Partner

King Westwood Elementary School Staff

Year of Hospitality

Pray for our Westwood Neighborhood

Prayers for Continued Blessings

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



F.R.A.N.

- F = Friends
- R = Relatives
- A = Acquaintances
- N = Neighbors

Be a part of FRAN and invite, invite, invite!



Share God's Word

Keep In Touch...




Find the church calendar on our website!

Keep up with church news with...

- Join up for Worship!
- the Messenger,
- the email news list,
- the prayer chain,
- the website,
- Find us on Facebook,
- Lotsa Helping Hands,
- and make sure your personal information is on file in the church office!



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!

Our Mission

- Offer Christ
- Grow In Faith
- Touch Lives
- And Make A Difference

Our Vision

We are a disciple-making community that encourages and equips all people to live in Christ by the power of the Spirit and in fellowship with one another through worship, prayer, study and service.

Our Values

- *Worship*
We celebrate our faith in many ways so that God is encountered and lives are changed.
- *Justice*
We confront injustice and work for change within ourselves, our community, nation and world.
- *Lay Ministry*
We help people discover, develop and use their spiritual gifts and talents to serve God and others.
- *Fellowship*
We are a caring, compassionate Christian community open to all.
- *Spiritual Growth*
We nurture children, youth and adults in their journey toward mature discipleship.
- *Mission*
We go and serve others in our community, nation and world through our time, talents, and resources as we proclaim the Gospel and meet human needs.
- *Witness*
We prepare and encourage people to share the experience of God’s love in Christ.

Worship Celebrations

Worship Celebrations are held at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (10:00 a.m. from Memorial Day through Labor Day). 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 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 through 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, contact the church office.

Lotsa Helping Hands

Westwood UMC is signed up on the Lotsa Helping Hands website. Sign up today by going to <https://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/628393/> and fill out the right side of the form (“Request to Join the Community”). The coordinator will “approve” pending members and then you will receive instructions for setting a password and signing-in.

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.

Future Messengers and Deadlines

Deadline	Publication Date
Jan. 12	Jan. 16
Jan. 26	Jan. 30

There will not be a Messenger on January 2.



**Westwood
United Methodist
Church**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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 the deadline. Your name may be used in the article. The *Messenger* is mailed Tuesday. Subscribers do not receive it before Wednesday. Articles must be submitted at least 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.

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)**

Westwood United Methodist Church Staff and Volunteers

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

- Westwood United Methodist Church 344-7165
- Email info@westwood-umc.org
- Website: www.westwood-umc.org
- Fax 344-9174
- Pastor, The Reverend Dr. Wayne A. Price 762-4787
- E-mail: pastorwayne@westwood-umc.org
- Church/Staff Admin. Assistant, Kelly Green 344-7165
- E-mail: kgreen-wumc@sbcglobal.net
- Director of Fine Art Ministry, Jane Wright 544-2390
- E-mail: jwright-wumc@sbcglobal.net
- Deacon, Sandra Douglas 344-7165
- Custodial Staff, Doug Tipken (head custodian), David VanOrder
- Lay Leader, Bob Strobel 342-8816
- Staff-Parish Chairperson, Jim Jameson 382-3463
- Trustees, Mark Reid 375-0531
- Wesley Foundation Director, Lisa Batten 344-4076
- Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College (Office)
- Westwood Messenger* Editor, Beth Arbogast, E-mail: betharbogast@charter.net

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.