

# Westwood

January / February 2011

## Church of God

### How Will You Add to the Church in 2011?

I came upon an Italian folk tale about the Mayor of a small southern village who wanted to throw a party. He told all the people in the village to bring a jug of wine to be poured into a large vat, which would be shared by all.

One man in the village did not want to go to the expense of buying the wine, so he reasoned, "With several hundred people pouring their jugs of wine into the great vat, who will notice any difference with my one jug of water?" So he decided to substitute water for his wine.

The day came when the townspeople walked forward, emptied their jugs into the great vat, thanked the mayor for the great idea and began the celebration. Later the mayor asked the music to stop. The crowd went to the vat, lifted their glasses and drank together.

Suddenly a cry of disbelief came from the crowd. What they tasted was not wine but water! Apparently each guest had decided that his or her one jug of water would not spoil the great vat of good wine. Everyone reasoned that his or her gift would not be missed.

As many exciting changes and new ministry initiatives are implemented in the New Year at Westwood Church of God, it would be easy for any one of us to say, "My small contribution won't be missed if I don't get involved. The church doesn't need me." Consequently, we could very well come to the end of 2011 and see that the church didn't grow or move forward to reach people who are not yet connected to Christ. What a tragedy this could be! Let me encourage you to add your efforts of the church's ministries this year, so that we can all celebrate God's work among us and through us! Where will you get involved this year?

Here's a list of several new things happening in January that need immediate involvement (see more information on each new ministry in the following pages):

#### **Transportation Ministry — RIDESHARE** — beginning in January.

NEEDS: People willing to pick someone up for worship on the way to church and drop them off on the way home (contact Marti at 544-0920 or [twopawslady@yahoo.com](mailto:twopawslady@yahoo.com))

#### **New Worship Service Schedule** beginning January 9:

Traditional service at 9 a.m. & Contemporary service at 11:00 a.m.

NEEDS:

- ~sound & computer technicians (training available — contact James Snider at 388-4267 or [mr.snider@gmail.com](mailto:mr.snider@gmail.com))
- ~choir members (practice begins, Jan. 12 @ 6:00 p.m.) ensembles (contact Jean Tufts at 353-0843 or [jeanotuf@juno.com](mailto:jeanotuf@juno.com))
- ~worship band members (contact Gary Hurt at 626-0260 or [garold1@hotmail.com](mailto:garold1@hotmail.com))
- ~greeters, ushers & information desk attendants for both services (contact Pastor Diane Tultz at 321-1706 or [dianetultz@yahoo.com](mailto:dianetultz@yahoo.com))
- ~serving coffee and pastries between services (contact Caroline Sherman at 349-4015 or [carbensherman@juno.com](mailto:carbensherman@juno.com))

#### **KID'S CONNECTION** - Children's Ministry beginning January 9 (Contact Katie Call at 760-1504 or [callkatie1@yahoo.com](mailto:callkatie1@yahoo.com))

NEEDS:

- ~Nursery workers, Sundays during the at 9:00 a.m. & 11 a.m. services
- ~Kid's Connection, Sundays, 10:45 a.m. — 12:15 p.m.
- ~Check-in desk workers, 10:45 a.m. — 11:10 a.m.
- ~Play & Praise time (chaperones) — 10:45 a.m. — 11:10 a.m.
- ~Connect Class teaching assistants (apprentices) - during the 11:00a.m. service
- ~Special event and outreach coordinators

#### **CONNECT** Youth Ministry begins every Sunday evening, January 9, 4-6 p.m. (Contact Tim Tufts at 372-1849 or [tim@wwcog.com](mailto:tim@wwcog.com))

NEEDS: activity coordinators, weekly youth workers, outreach event assistance, food prep.

You DO make a difference! Let's make a difference together for Christ and His Church!  
See you at the Westwood Church of God vat,

*Pastor Bill*



# Gather

## New Sunday Morning Schedule

Starting January 9, 2011

9:00am	Traditional Worship Service
10:15am	Hospitality & Fellowship
10:45am	Kids Connection!
11:00am	Contemporary Worship Service

To assist our outreach efforts and worship celebrations, two services will be offered in the New Year. Jean Tufts will coordinate the 9:00 a.m. Traditional service. This service will include a variety of traditional worship elements in music (choir, ensembles, solos), scripture reading and prayer and other creative traditional liturgy. Please contact Jean at 353-0843 or [jeanotuf@juno.com](mailto:jeanotuf@juno.com) or Pastor Bill to get involved! Gary Hurt will coordinate the Contemporary service. This service will include new expressions of scripture, prayer and liturgy and contemporary worship songs led by the Worship Band. Please contact Gary at [garold1@hotmail.com](mailto:garold1@hotmail.com) or Pastor Bill to get involved! We need technical team members (computer/projection and sound and lighting) for both services. If you would be willing to be trained to serve in this area, please contact James Snider at 388-4267 or [mr.snider@gmail.com](mailto:mr.snider@gmail.com)

## January Sermon Series:

*“Off The Map”*



How far are you willing to go to follow Christ in 2011? Each week, we will probe the limits of our faith as we learn about God's nudging's, adventurous faith, pursuing greatness and the promise of persistence.

## February Sermon Series:

*“What's Love Got To Do With It?”*

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

*Everything!*

Taken from 1 Corinthians 13, this series looks at “what the world needs now”, as the old song says. It's all about LOVE!

It's what God is all about. It's what makes the church so powerfully transformative in the world. Join us as we look at the way love can change our lives, our church and our world.

# Connect

## Senior Adult Ministry

**Friday Morning' Breakfast:** An informal gathering for fun, food and fellowship

- ⇒ Fri., Jan. 14, 9:00am @ Perkins
- ⇒ Fri., Jan. 28, 9:00am @ LaRue's
- ⇒ Fri., Feb. 11 @ 9:00am @ Michelle's
- ⇒ Fri., Feb. 25 @ Colonial Kitchen

**Potluck & Program:** Bring a dish or two, and a friend or two and join us for a relaxing lunch and program in the Fellowship Hall.

- ⇒ Wed., Jan. 19 @ Noon
- ⇒ Wed., Feb. 16 @ Noon

**Hymn Sing:** Join us as we sing the classics of our faith. Light refreshments following, so bring a treat to share!

- ⇒ Sun., Feb. 27 @ 5:00pm

**Park Village Pines Ministry:** Join us once a month at Park Village Pines for a time of encouragement through Fellowship, Prayer & Bible Study.

- ⇒ Tues., Jan. 4, 1:30pm in the Fish Room @ PVP
- ⇒ Tues., Feb. 16, 1:30pm in the Fish Room @ PVP

# Connections



**Welcome Diane Tultz,  
Pastor of Congregational  
Connections and Involvement**

Diane Tultz will join the Pastoral Staff team in the area of Congregational Connections and Involvement in 2011. She is an ordained minister of the Church of God who has served numerous churches in a variety of capacities around the state, is a retired public school teacher and continues to volunteer at MLK Jr. Elementary school in the Westwood Community.

We are very fortunate to have Pastor Diane join the staff team to give her time to lead the ministry in congregational first impressions and hospitality. She will lead several new initiatives to enhance our welcome and connections with visitors. Diane will also work with Pastor Bill on follow-up, new member orientation and involvement. There is much to be done in this important area for congregation growth. Please pray for Pastor Diane and contact her to get involved! (321-1706 or [dianetultz@yahoo.com](mailto:dianetultz@yahoo.com))

# Grow



## Welcome Katie Call, Children's Ministry Director

Pastor Bill has invited Katie Call to join the ministry staff team in 2011 to lead the children's ministry efforts at WWCOG toward increased growth and effectiveness in 2011.

Katie will work 10 hours each week to lead the Children's ministry committee and volunteer team of teachers and workers in a new ministry approach beginning Sunday, January 9, called "Kids Connection." Katie and team have already been working to transform the children's area to be ready for a full-orbed approach of fun, worship and learning from 10:45 a.m. — 12:15 a.m. each Sunday. Katie will also focus on following up with new families and work with Pastor Bill to create outreach events in the community to reach families with children. Pray for Katie and the team as they work to share the message and love of Jesus Christ with children! Get involved!! (callkatie1@yahoo.com or 760-1504)

"Beginning in my childhood, I had a desire placed in my heart to make a difference in the lives of other children. As I raise my own kids, the desire has grown abundantly. This past spring I felt God tugging on my heart to consider finishing my teaching degree. With the support of friends and family, I was able to take a giant step of faith by leaving work and pursuing my passion (as a mother and wife this time!) God has blessed this faith step in many ways, but especially through this opportunity. There is no greater way to make a difference in a child's life than to lead them to Christ and allow them to experience God's mercy and love like I have. Kids need to know there is more to life than video games and toys - at the end of the day, those items don't love you back. But God does. Our jobs as ministry workers are much harder these days with the issues kids are facing. However, I know God has great plans and I pray that he will work in amazing ways through me and this congregation to bring the truth to our precious children and to those we haven't met yet."

~Katie Call

## Nursery

Sundays from 8:50-10:15am and  
10:45am to 12:15pm

## Kid's Connection!

Sundays @ 10:45 am

### Preschool—5th Grade

Gather for a time of supervised play and organized praise & worship. At 11:15am, you will head to your classrooms for "Connect Class" for a time of hands-on bible truths.



## CONNECT

### Youth Ministry — every Sunday night 4-6 p.m.

Pastor Tim Tufts and team have been working to transform the youth ministry area, as a weekly youth ministry develops. This new weekly approach for youth ministry that will include high energy group fun, creative learning, discipleship and outreach. If you can help coordinate an activity, get involved as a weekly youth worker or help with an outreach event, contact Pastor Tim. A youth ministry planning and growth retreat, "Freeze" is being planned for youth and workers on February 25-26 at Warner Camp. It's going to be a great year in youth ministry!! (tim@wwcog.com or 372-1849)

## Adult Study Groups

### I Choose Joy

Sundays @ 9:15am

This class will be studying "Christian Worldview" by Rick Warren and Chuck Colson. See Debbie Moore for more details.

### Partners For Life

Sundays @ 9:30am

Married couples are invited to join Jamie & Becky Cripps as they continue an interactive study of "Your Time Starved Marriage" by Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott. When this series is wrapped up, they will begin another study by the Parrotts titled "I Love You More (How Everyday Problems Can Strengthen Your Marriage)". Smiles, fun and support included at no extra charge!

### Timothean Class

Sundays @ 10:45am

#### Senior Adult Sunday School Class

Teacher: Pastor Tom Tufts

Study for January: "Called to be Like Jesus"

Study for February: "Whosoever will...Come"

### Covenant Class

Sundays @ 10:45am

#### Senior Adult Sunday School Class

Teacher: Bonnie Wright

Study for January & February: Book of Philippians

## New Bible Study on Prayer for January and February, Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m

Pastor Bill will lead a new study to help participants discover new ways to connect with God in prayer. He will use as an additional resource: "Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home", by Richard Foster. Foster's book adds insight to the scripture by looking at how the ancient church practiced prayer. We will consider new expression of these ancient ways of prayer for our lives today. Join us for this relevant and interactive study!



## Christmas Clean-Up

Saturday, January 8, 9:00a.m.—11:00a.m

Volunteers are needed to help taken down and store our Christmas decorations for another year. If you are unavailable to join us on Saturday, January 8, there are many smaller jobs that can be tackled during the week of January 3-7. Call the church office or come in between 10:00am —3:30pm and we'll give you a quick project to tackle!

## Thank You!

The Staff of Westwood Church of God want to thank all those who brought Christmas gifts and goodies to the office in December. May God richly bless you for your generosity and kindness.

*Pastor Bill, Pastor Tom, Pastor Tim and Elise*

# Ministry Needs

## Wednesday Morning Cleaning Crew

Join Patty Hurt each Wednesday morning from 10:00am-Noon to tackle some odd jobs around the church. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy a time of Fellowship when you are done! No sign up necessary...just show up when you have time!

## PJ's Closet

The Big Give was a huge success and our phones are ringing off the hooks! There is a definite need in our community for this ministry. Linda Pierce and her Closet Crew would love to have you join them in this ministry. Volunteers are needed to: staff the Closet each Friday afternoon from 1-4pm, sort, fold and put away clothes any time during the week, launder and return soiled clothing, and greet guests on the main level to direct them to the Closet on Fridays. Please contact Linda Pierce at 269-373-4530 or e-mail her at lindystar14@gmail.com to get involved.

## Children's Ministry

Each Sunday, the children will gather on the lower level for a time of supervised play prior to their worship and class time. The Children's Ministry Department would like to have a couple of interactive gaming systems set-up for the kids to play with while they wait for class to start. If you have a gently used Wii or PlayStation System that you are no longer using (along with any age/content appropriate games) please contact Katie Call at callkatie1@yahoo.com or call her at 760-1504.

# Contact

### Lead Pastor

Bill Ferguson                      207-8472                      bill@wwcog.com

### Student Ministries:

Tim Tufts                              372-1849                      tim@wwcog.com

### Senior Adult Ministries:

Tom Tufts, Sr.                      353-0843                      tom@wwcog.com

### Children's Ministry:

Katie Call                              760-1504                      callkatie1@yahoo.com

### Connections and Involvement:

Diane Tultz                              321-1706                      dianetultz@yahoo.com

### Office Administrator:

Elise Ripmaster                      344-0985                      elise@wwcog.com

# Serve

## Kalamazoo Communities in Schools

### Volunteers Still Needed in the Following Areas at MLK School:

- ⇒ **Pen Pals:** Short hand-written or e-mail correspondence with a child every 4-6 weeks throughout the school year
- ⇒ **One-Time Projects:** place your name on a list for short, one-time project help. This list does not obligate you if the project does not suit you.
- ⇒ **Publishing Center:** Thursdays from 1:00-3:00pm. Training provided to help one child edit his/her writing.
- ⇒ **Food Pack Distribution:** Friday mornings for 1 hr. If more than one volunteers, this job could be on a rotating basis.
- ⇒ **Classroom Helper:** 2 hrs per week, 1 day per week to help during math or language arts class.

Please contact Diane Tultz at (269) 321-1706 or e-mail her at dianetultz@yahoo.com for more information or to volunteer for any of these opportunities.



## Rideshare:

Marti McNeal will be coordinating transportation for worship. She is developing a new approach (Rideshare) for 2011. The van will be available to run as needed, however, with the small number of persons riding – RIDESHARE makes more sense. All this ministry takes is people willing to pick someone up for worship (in your own vehicle) on your way to church and drop them off on your way home. This is a great way to serve, while strengthening the bonds of friendship and support in our church. If you do not have transportation to worship and need a ride, we want you to be able to come to worship. If you can provide a ride for someone, we need your help! Please contact Marti at 544-0920 or twopawslady@yahoo.com for a ride or to serve in RIDESHARE

# Give



With the new year comes a change in how we are distributing Giving Envelopes. We will be using a new company and a new system. In January you will be receiving a three month (or quarterly) supply of envelopes that will be mailed directly to your home. You will receive a new set of envelopes each quarter.

If you do not receive your envelopes in the mail by January 8 please contact the church office so that we may get a set to you as soon as possible. In the event that your envelopes are delayed in arriving at your home, we invite you to use the pew envelopes for your weekly offering until your dated/numbered giving envelopes arrive in the mail. Please be sure to indicate your name on the envelope that you use until the new ones arrive so that we may properly credit your giving statement.

**Information Deadline for the March / April Promotional Publication is Mon., Feb. 14, 2011**