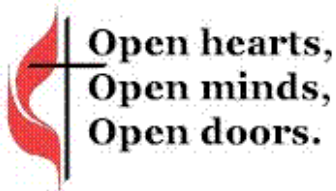


Westview United Methodist Church Newsletter



Volume 15, Issue 2

The People of the United Methodist Church

February, 2005

The Good Views

From the Pastor

"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God...by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous...But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to others gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish...I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him..." Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The Model T Ford car began to decline in popularity when General Motors began to offer car models of differing colors and styles. Henry Ford insisted that the Model T was the best car and declared that people could have any color they wanted, so long as they wanted black.

"The great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving." Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. We all have to make choices about the direction we will go. We can make better choices if we first know the difference between right and wrong.

In Deuteronomy God is dealing with his wild children who are wandering away, ignoring the rules, tempted by cults and idolatry, witchcraft, and other ruthless practices.

When King Josiah ordered the rediscovered book of law read aloud in 621, God's people had one more of many chances to return to the fold. In Deuteronomy Moses lays out the ground rules in no uncertain terms saying the choice is between life & good and death & evil. To choose God we are told to love God, walk in God's ways, and observe God's commandments. This love is a call to Christian action, not just a feeling.

If we choose not to love, if we turn our hearts away from God and worship idols and other gods this will lead to evil and death. In simple terms, we as God's children risk being absorbed into the larger society. Rather than doing God's good work in the world the world begins to shape us and eventually comes to own our soul. Even losing one's soul and being wild comes to seem normal as Christians are blended with the larger society.

The monkey is on our back not on the back of those outside the church. We must learn their language versus the attitude that insists that they learn our ways first. Then speaking their language we must show that the inner Christian qualities hold up in the midst of secular culture.

Being wild for Christ is a different sort of rebellion. It is the result of an emphasis on love, life, and goodness which surprises even Christian people. Jesus showed us how to go to extremes of love and compassion which even Christian people sometimes find uncomfortable. Are we wild enough to do what Jesus would have done?



Our Church Calendar: Programs and Activities @ Westview

The dates of Ash Wednesday
and Easter Sunday

Ash Wednesday February 9

Easter Sunday March 27



Join the Funsters for an outing to Miss Mary Bobo's boarding house/restaurant in Lynchburg, TN on Monday Feb. 14, 2005. Make your reservation by Jan. 31st by calling Debbie Rainey 799-8221 and paying ½ of the meal cost or \$7.50.

Weekly Meetings

Sundays

12-2 p.m. Youth Fellowship

2:00 p.m. Joyful Noyz Youth Praise band practice

2nd-5th Sunday

12-2 p.m. Children's Fellowship and 12 p.m. Children's Choir

Tuesdays

9:00 a.m. Preschool parents Bible study (Everyone is welcome)

9-3:00 p.m. Preschool in session

6:30 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

7:30 a.m. AA meeting

Wednesdays

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Art Academy

5:30 -7:00 p.m. Sprouts and Confirmation Class

6:30-7:30 p.m. Adult Choir practice

Thursdays

9-3:00 p.m. Preschool in session

6-7:00 p.m. Spiritual Weight Management

7:30 p.m. AA meeting

Fridays

10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Contact Patti Carrol)

February

Sunday February 6

Fellowship dinner after 10:30 worship. After fellowship dinner meeting to plan the Spring Art Festival.

Wednesday February 9

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

Saturday, February 12

Youth Valentine Banquet

Sunday, February 13

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee meeting

7:15 p.m. Administrative Council meeting

Thursday February 17

5:30-7 p.m. Preschool fundraiser at Pizza Hut

Sunday February 27

1:30-3:30 p.m. Widows and Widowers Support Group

March

Sunday March 6

12-4pm Spring Art Festival

Monday March 14

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee meeting

7:15 p.m. Administrative Council meeting

Sunday March 20

Anniversary (Homecoming) and Palm Sunday; 12 noon Pot Luck dinner

Thursday March 24

7:00 p.m. Sedar (Passover) Meal and Holy Communion

Friday March 25

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Tennebrae Service

Sunday March 27

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Bowie

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Breakfast

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Easter Services

2:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt at Bowie

April

April 16, 9:00-3:45 p.m. Annual Women's Retreat

Mark 16:15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

As Christians, God ask that we share our Love for Him and others. Each month, a member of Westview United will share their testimony about their Love for Our Lord and how His Love has changed their life.

Please send your witness to janiew@comcast.net

The grief of losing a child recognizes no age barrier. The healing process for parents involves the same gamut of heart-wrenching emotions. When my 30-year-old daughter was murdered, I began mourning not only an offspring, but a friend and confidant. I was not angry with God but I was lost in what was real about my beliefs. Sorrow became the tool that eventually placed me back into the arms of God and a strong belief in angels as God's messengers. For the next two years I did not know that God and Joann, now a heavenly angel, were watching and protecting me.

I gave a collection of over one hundred books that Joann was collecting for her wellness center to the Williamson County Public Library. An artist who paints angels checked out Joann's book entitled Angel Therapy from the library. The name plate told the story of Joann and her death. After reading the book, Joann gave the artist, Ariane, a message in her heart that I needed help. Ariane heard, "You have got to paint me an as angel for my mother". Ariane listened to her heart and began to paint that portrait. Joann gave Ariane details to paint so that I would know it was from her.

My friend Amy called me very excited in January 2004. A co-worker of hers was in a department store located forty miles from my house waiting to pay for merchandise. There was a beautiful angel painted on the shirt of the women in front of her. She asked about the angel and the reply from Ariane was that angels were her life and she painted them for a living. During the conversation, Ariane shared that she was in the process of painting an angel for a woman she did not know and may never find. She felt called by higher realms to paint this angel. After hearing the details of Joann's murder, my friend's co-worker was shocked. She told Ariane that she could connect her with the mother suffering from the loss of her dear daughter.

Ariane said that she would take it to my friend's office with a letter attached to the portrait. She didn't want me to meet her until after I interacted with the painting and feeling that it was from God and Joann. Ariane wrote a four page letter and I would like to share some of it with you:

From Ariane:

My dear friend Leslie in Georgia called me one day and urged me to get a few books called Lightworker's Way and Angel Therapy. For some reason instead of going to the store I went to the library. The reference desk ordered these books thru interlibrary loan. They were your daughter's books. I saw her scribbled notes in them and never made a connection until the band that was around the book on interlibrary loans fell off of the nameplate describing the fact they were Joann's books. I read her story and was so taken by her lovely spirit and how senseless her death is I could not shake it. One day driving I hear a voice in my head say - "You must do a portrait for my mother of me as an angel... So right then and there I made my mind up to do it and to just trust the forces of higher realms that I could be guided to how to get it to you.

When I saw the painting I knew that it was from Joann. She had given Ariane the details that she knew I would recognize. I had been praying for two years for God or Joann to give me a sense of their presence before the trial of the murderer in Georgia. I received this wonderful gift from God two days before the trial began.

I look forward to sharing this painting and the blessings that it represents at the Spring Arts Festival on March 6. I also have the entire letter from the artist by the painting.

Janie Wells

**Westview United
Methodist Church**

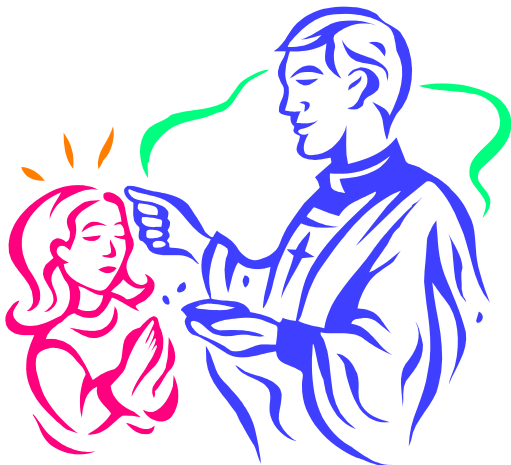
7107 Westview Drive,
Fairview, TN 37062
Phone/Fax: 615-799-0250
Email: westumc@comcast.net

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Mission Statement: "We envision Westview United Methodist Church as a place that equips disciples to change lives."



"The Good Views" is a monthly publication of the Westview United Methodist Church.

- Gary Wedgewood, Pastor
- Rev. Loyd Mabry, Columbia District Superintendent
- Bishop Dick Wills, Tennessee Conference

Sunday Activities

- 8:30 AM Southern Folk Worship
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship
- 12-2:00 PM Youth & Children's Fellowships & Children's Choir
- 2:00 PM Joyful Noyz Youth Praise Band

Tuesday Activities

- 6:30 PM Bible Study

Wednesday Activities

- 3:30-5:30 PM Art Academy
- 5:30 PM Sprouts
- 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice