



Westview United Methodist Church

"Fire in the Rain"

"Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors."

Volume 19, Issue 1

March, 2006

The Good Views

From the Pastor

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin...Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit...The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12, 17

March 1st through April 15th excluding the Sunday's will constitute the forty days of the Lenten season this year. In this season of prayer, Bible study, and devotional practice we can take time to privately reflect on the condition of our soul, the severity of our sin, the health of our faith, and the contributions we make to the community of faith and to the coming Kingdom of God. If we do this rightly we will not draw attention to ourselves but rather to Christ as we serve God by imitating the humility of Christ. The season leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus is about us letting go of our pride and our need to be in control so we can come into the presence of God and become more receptive to God's "steadfast love" and "abundant mercy".

I will remember my Dad this Lenten season as I grieve his sudden death on Feb. 12th. He was a disciplined and pious Christian. He worked his way into the business world in Chicago selling insurance on commission for a time. I can still recall how scarce our daily bread was in those days. But, the insurance business gradually became more profitable. Soon there was even money for a new bicycle and from what I can gather my father began his ministry as a cheerful and generous giver to the Church and many other causes. He stopped smoking in a disciplined manner, putting the money he would have spent into a vacation fund and taking us to Disneyland. He often prayed, "Thy will and not my will be done."

In recent years he fought for the disenfranchised playing a big part in convincing the city of Chicago to convert a property they owned into senior housing and a park instead of another shopping mall. He advocated for a preschool at his church, worked with Habitat for Humanity, and supported the arts (writing, music, theater, Mom's quilts, etc.). He wrote a book and other articles and letters to the editor and became known for his strong political opinions. For seventy-nine years he ran the race, stood his ground, and whenever possible bragged about his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild. I can imagine my Dad reading with great emotion, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit."

The season of Lent is a serious and exciting time when as is traditional, our confirmation class completes its studies and some of our young people may choose to confirm their faith and become full members of the Church. "The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

Our Church Calendar: Programs and Activities @ Westview



United Methodist Information Service

Where you can ask any question
about the United Methodist Church

1-800-251-8140

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Central Time
Toll-free in the U.S.

<http://infoserv.umc.org>

Weekly Meetings

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Southern Gospel Folk Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 p.m. Worship Service
12-2 p.m. Youth Fellowship
2nd Sunday's – Children's Fellowship
2:00 p.m. Joyful Noyz Youth Praise band practice

Tuesdays

7:30 a.m. AA meeting

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. Hand bell Choir
6:30-8:00 p.m. Adult Choir practice
6:30 p.m. Bible Study on Hebrew's

Thursdays

7:30 p.m. AA meeting

March 2006

Wednesday, March 1	7:00 p.m. 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Services Bible Study on Hebrews led by Lay Speaker Earle Cantrell (4-6 weeks)
Sunday March 19	Anniversary Sunday 10:30 a.m. 11:30 p.m.	Rev. Jay Archer, guest preacher Special Music in Worship Service Fellowship Dinner, Pot-Luck: ham, rolls and drinks provided

April 2006

Friday, April 29	Church Yard Sale
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March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 **Aubrey Daugherty, Angie Stevens**
- 3 **Joe Bock**
- 4 **Claire Grady, Shelby Hess,**
- 5 **Tim Lampley Daniel Lampley**
- 6 **Nancy Crawford, Jim Sharber**
- 7 **Ken Brison**
- 8 **Debbie Leek**
- 9 **Joan Cameron, Renee Bowser**
- 10 **Scott Brison**
- 11 **Brigitte Sanders**
 Ed & sherry Glasgow Anniversary
- 12 **Lorene Morgan**
- 13 **Reeves Havens**
- 14 **Beverly Scales**
- 16 **Charles & Jackie Bateman Anniversary, Max & Stephanie Mayo Anniversary**
- 22 **Darah Thornhill**
- 25 **Chuck Dyer**
- 27 **Irvin Sullivan**

- On the first Sunday of each month we have a food collection. Bring dry beans/rice for Graceworks and canned goods for Second Harvest food bank. We also take an offering at the communion rail for Graceworks.
- Donate your empty inkjet cartridges to the church. We can get a FREE ream of copy paper or \$3 coupon for each cartridge you give. Since June 2005, we have received **99 reams of paper**. Thank you and keep those cartridges coming in!

Remember Our Military Friends Protecting our Country

SGT Jason Gulley
HMLA 167 F/L
UIC 77021
FPO AE 09509-7021

Captain Adam B. Mangrum
Home

Danny Gray
100 Crews Ave., A15
Alamogordo, NM 88310

PVT Jessica Spivey
L.R.M.C.
C-MROT Box 2003
APO A-E 09180

2nd Lt. Katherine Ivey
300 Taylor Street
NE Apartment L11
Washington DC 20017

PVT2 Fold, Eric
C Co. 3-75 Box 29
Fort Benning GA 31905

CTRSN Daniel Hawkins
OT Division USS Mason
(DDG 87)
FPO AE 09578-1302

Lance Corp. McDaid, Matthew
2-5 Golf Co., 3rd Platoon
UIC 40365
FPO AP 96426-0365

Minor, Jeremiah L.
Task Force Bayonet
HHC 2/503rd FSE
APO, AE 09355 Cindy New's
nephew

Renner, Scott CPL
927 Albacore Street
Beauford, SC 29906

PFC Joseph A. Clinard
B-3-69 AR 1BCT
FOB Brassfield-MORA
APO AE09383 In Iraq

AN Jenkins, Keith
V4/AIR DIV
USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67)
PPO AA 34095-2800

SPC Richards, Thomas
FOB Cobra
L. Troop 3/278
APO-AE 09374 IRAQ

HT3 Braddy, William C.
ENG/R DIV
USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67)
PPO AA 34095-2800

CPL Kenneth A Roeten
Molonge House
Room 451
6900 Georgia Ave.NW Bldg. 20
Washington, D.C. 20307-
5001

AM3 Decker, Thomas E.
1251 Orion Street South
Brunswick, ME 04011

Summer Events for WUMC Youth

DCLA – High-octane spiritual growth and evangelism training, June 29-July 6, 2006 in Washington DC. The cost is \$595, and you must turn in a non-refundable \$150 deposit by March 5 to reserve your spot with the balance due on June 4. There will be NO late registrations available. If you have questions, please contact Christine Penner at youthpastors@bellsouth.net or 615.799.2125.

Tennessee Conference Summer Camp Schedule

2006 Elementary Camp Weeks

June 12-16; 19-23; 26-30 (For graduated 3rd- 6th graders)
July 10-14 (For graduated 3rd – 4th graders only)
July 10-12 (Mini-week for graduated 2nd graders only)
July 12-14 (Mini-week for graduated 2nd graders only)
July 17-21 (For graduated 5th -6th graders only)
July 24-28 (For graduated 3rd through graduated 6th graders)

Youth Camp Weeks

June 12-16 (For graduated 6th – 12th graders)
June 19-23; 26-30; July 10-14; 17-21 (For graduated 6th -9th)
July 24-28 (Senior High Adventure Week
for graduated 9th – 12th graders)

All camps are held at Cedar Crest United Methodist Camp

Calling all Cowboys... and girls
It's almost CHOW TIME
Graceworks 5th annual Silent Auction and Benefit Dinner



Friday, April 7th at 7p.m (doors open at 6)
Jamison Hall at the Factory at Franklin
Tickets start at \$50 each or \$500 per table of 10
Join us for a Kickin' good time!

The proceeds from the dinner and auction provide Graceworks the ability to assist residents with basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, and life sustaining medications. In 2005 Graceworks Ministries assisted nearly 3,700 Williamson County families in need, providing over \$500,000 worth of assistance for medications, rent, utilities, food and clothing. As a national disaster relief partner, we also assisted those affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita with food, clothing, personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, backpacks and school supplies. We assisted 1,218 individuals displaced to the Middle Tennessee area and sent 11 semi-truckloads of supplies to the effected areas. See Paul Newman for more information or call him at 799-5948.

Atlanta Fest – Spiritual renovation and tons of fun!

June 14 – June 18, 2006 at Six Flags over Georgia. The total cost is \$195 and you must turn in a non-refundable \$50 deposit by April 2 with the balance due by May 21. After April 2, the deposit is \$80 with a total cost of \$225 if space is available. If you have questions, please contact Christine Penner at youthpastors@bellsouth.net or 615.799.2125.

Holding On To God's Hand

It is easy to find peace and turn my life over to God when I am meditating in the quiet of my home in the morning or walking along a beautiful nature path. Living life every day with its challenges and at times deep sorrows and fear are another story. However, those are the times that I grow spiritually and must focus on what is real. This is what I hold to tightly when I feel alone or afraid.

I practice:

- Trusting God until His will is closer to my heart
- Loving all in my path so I can calmly wait awhile
- Hoping until I grow braver
- Resting in God's peace until I gather strength
- Praying until I have the faith to see that there is a purpose in all circumstances

- a member of Westview United Methodist

You are invited to write and share a witness of faith and spiritual experience in our monthly newsletter. Give your account to Janie Wells or the Pastor.

Sunshine Committee seeks donations of cards

The Sunshine committee is seeking **donations of cards** (Get Well, Thinking of You, Congratulations, etc. See Frankie Bourgoyne if you can donate these.

Historical & Sentimental Items Sought for Inclusion in Anniversary Booklet

Work is underway on a revised **Anniversary Sunday Booklet** which will include an updated church history, along with various items shared by the congregation. Former Pastor Jay Archer will be preaching on Anniversary Sunday March 19th and we would like to include your memories of the church during his ministry. Write a letter, send a poem or a picture, or give other suggestions for items to include in this booklet and get this information in to the church office by March 12th.

What would you do?

Would you have made the same choice? At a fundraising dinner for a school that serves learning disabled children, the father of one of the students delivered a speech that would never be forgotten by all who attended. After extolling the school and its dedicated staff, he offered a question. "When not interfered with by outside influences, everything nature does is done with perfection. Yet my son, Shay, cannot learn things as other children do. He cannot understand things as other children do. Where is the natural order of things in my son?" The audience was stilled by the query. The father continued. "I believe, that when a child like Shay comes into the world, an opportunity to realize true human nature presents itself, and it comes, in the way other people treat that child."

Then he told the following story: Shay and his father had walked past a park where some boys Shay knew were playing baseball. Shay asked, "Do you think they'll let me play?" Shay's father knew that most of the boys would not want someone like Shay on their team, but the father also understood that if his son were allowed to play, it would give him a much-needed sense of belonging. Shay's father approached one of the boys on the field and asked if Shay could play.

The boy looked around for guidance and, getting none, he took matters into his own hands and said, "We're losing by six runs and the game is in the eighth inning. I guess he can be on our team and we'll try to put him in to bat in the ninth inning."

In the bottom of the eighth inning, Shay's team scored a few runs but was still behind by three. In the top of the ninth inning, Shay put on a glove and played in the outfield. Even though no hits came his way, he was obviously ecstatic just to be in the game and on the field, grinning from ear to ear as his father waved to him from the stands. In the bottom of the ninth inning, Shay's team scored again.

Now, with two outs and the bases loaded, the potential winning run was on base and Shay was scheduled to be next at bat.

At this juncture, let Shay bat and give away their chance to win the game?

Surprisingly, Shay was given the bat. Everyone knew that a hit was all but impossible 'cause Shay didn't even know how to hold the bat properly, much less connect with the ball. However, as Shay stepped up to the plate, the pitcher moved in a few steps to lob the ball in softly so Shay could at least be able to make contact. The first pitch came and Shay swung clumsily and missed. The pitcher again took a few steps forward to toss the ball softly towards Shay. As the pitch came in, Shay swung at the ball and hit a slow ground ball right back to the pitcher. The pitcher picked up the soft grounder and could have easily thrown the ball to the first baseman. Shay would have been out and that would have been the end of the game. Instead, the pitcher took the ball and turned and threw the ball on a high arc to right field, far beyond the reach of the first baseman.

Everyone started yelling, "Shay, run to first! Run to first!" Never in his life had Shay ever made it to first base. He scampered down the baseline, wide-eyed and startled. Everyone yelled, "Run to second, run to second!" By the time Shay rounded first base, the right fielder had the ball. He could have thrown the ball to the second-baseman for the tag, but he understood the pitcher's intentions and intentionally threw the ball high and far over the third-baseman's head.

Shay ran toward second base as the runners ahead of him deliriously circled the bases toward home. Shay reached second base, the opposing shortstop ran to him, turned him in the direction of third base, and shouted, "Run to third!" As Shay rounded third, the boys from both teams were screaming, "Shay, run home!" Shay ran to home, stepped on the plate, and was cheered as the hero who hit the "grand slam" and won the game for his team.

"That day," said the father softly with tears now rolling down his face, "the boys from both teams helped bring a piece of true love and humanity into this world."

We all can make a difference. We all have thousands of opportunities every single day to help realize the "natural order of things." Do we pass along a little spark of love and humanity or do we pass up that opportunity, and leave the world a little bit colder in the process?

**Westview United
Methodist Church**

7107 Westview Drive,
Fairview, TN 37062

Non-profit Organization

Permit # 11

Fairview, TN 37062

Return Service Requested



**Westview United Methodist Church
Staff and Contact Information:**

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Will Penner, Minister of Music

Ned Mann, Accompanist

Casie Stevens, Nursery Coordinator

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Office Email: westumc@bellsouth.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 Fellowship

2nd Sunday's – Children's Fellowship

2:00 PM Joyful Noyz Youth Praise Band

Wednesday Activities

5:30 PM Hand bell choir practice

6:30 PM Choir Practice & Bible Study