



# The Sanctuary

June 26, 2022

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

## PRELUDE

*Communion*  
Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

**Thompson Howell**  
*Organist*

## WELCOME

**Molly Vetter**  
*Senior Pastor*

*May the Peace of Christ be with you.*  
**And also with you.**

## HYMN

*Lord God, Your Love Has Called Us Here*

**UMH No. 579**

1. Lord God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
3. Lord God, in Christ you call our name, and then re-ceive us  
5. Lord God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your  
love were made; your liv - ing like - ness still we bear, though  
as your own; not through some mer - it, right, or claim, but  
joy to share; give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty to  
marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed; we come, with all our  
by your gra - cious love a - lone; we strain to glimpse your  
turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that  
heart and mind, your call to hear, your love to find.  
mer - cy seat, and find you knee - ling at our feet.  
faith can do, while love is mak - ing all things new.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1973; c. 1977 Hope Publishing Co.  
MUSIC: CAREY'S (SURREY); Henry Carey, ca. 1723;  
harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906  
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## MORNING PRAYER

Mary Garbesi

*Liberating God, you set us free  
to live a life ripe with the fruits of the Spirit.  
Not fear, but love, joy, and peace.  
Not exploitation, but patience, kindness, and goodness.  
Not knee-jerk reactions, but faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.  
With the Spirit as our guide,  
we nurture the Ways of Life.*

*Let us pray:  
Creative God, sometimes fear and old habits limit our sense of what's possible.  
Expand our imagination,  
that we might live into the abundance you intend for all of us.  
Guide us towards not a shallow freedom, oh God,  
but into deep wells of liberation.  
Amen.*

~from "Liturgy that Matters" by enfleshed

## CHILDREN'S TIME

**Diana Holbert**  
Pastor of Children & Families

# THE COMMUNITY INTERACTS WITH GOD'S WORD

## HYMN

*Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

UMH No. 465



Words: Samuel Longfellow, 1864  
Music: CANTERBURY, Adapt. from Orlando Gibbons, 1623  
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## SCRIPTURE READING

**Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20**

**Ellen Evans Agee**

*I cry aloud to God,  
aloud that God may hear me.  
In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord,  
in the night my hand is stretched out continually;  
my soul refuses to be comforted.  
I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord;  
I will remember your wonders of old.  
I will meditate on all your work,*

*and muse on your mighty deeds.*  
*Your way, O God, is holy.*  
*What god is great like our God?*  
*You are the God who works wonders,*  
*you manifested your might among the peoples.*  
*You redeemed with your arm your people,*  
*the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.*  
*When the waters saw you, O God,*  
*when the waters saw you, they were afraid,*  
*the very deeps trembled.*  
*The clouds poured out water;*  
*the skies gave forth thunder;*  
*your arrows flashed on every side.*  
*The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind;*  
*your lightnings illumined the world;*  
*the earth trembled and shook.*  
*Your way was through the sea,*  
*your path through the great waters;*  
*yet your footprints were unseen.*  
*You led your people like a flock*  
*by the hand of Moses and Aaron.*  
  
*This is the word of God for the people of God.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

## *Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

UMH No. 465



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## SCRIPTURE READING

## Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Molly Vetter

*For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.*

*For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger,*

quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

*This is the word of God for the people of God.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN**

***Holy Spirit, Truth Divine***

**UMH No. 465**



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Music: CANTERBURY, Adapt. from Orlando Gibbons, 1623  
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**SERMON**

***Guided by Goodness***

**Molly Vetter**

## THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

**CALL TO PRAYER**

***Abide With Me***

**Sanctuary Quartet**

William H. Monk (1823-1889), arr. Randall Kempton

*Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.  
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, Lord, abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day.  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me!*

*I need thy presence every passing hour.  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and strength can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

~Text by Henry L. Lyte (1793-1847)

**PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD**

**Sharon Rhodes-Wickett**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power  
 and the glory, forever.  
 Amen.

## THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GOES OUT TO SERVE

## HYMN

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

UMH No. 117

*Please stand as you are able.*

1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our  
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
 5. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, bears  
 6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
 earth re - ceived her frame, from ev - er - last - ing,  
 all who breathe a - way; they fly for - got - ten,  
 hope for years to come; be thou our guide while

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home!  
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 as a dream dies at the open - ing day.  
 life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719  
 Music: ST. ANNE, Attr. to William Croft, 1708  
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**BLESSING OF THE SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT TEAM**

**Mackenzie MacDade**

*Director, Youth Ministries, Small Groups,  
and Social Justice*

**Youth:** Cyrus Banks, Savanna Cohen, Stephen Griffin-Atil,  
Emma Pang-Le, Lauren Pang-Le,  
Jonah Parker, Oz Peterson, Jackie Reed,  
Nate Salyer, and Quinn Weatherford

**Adult Sponsors:** Keith Price and Molly Vetter

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Molly Vetter**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

***The Heavens Declare***  
Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

**Thompson Howell**

## PARTICIPATING TODAY

### Pastoral Staff

Molly Vetter (she/her/hers), *Senior Pastor*

Diana Holbert (she/her/hers)  
*Pastor of Children & Families*

Mackenzie MacDade, (she/her/hers), *Director of Youth Ministries, Small Groups, and Social Justice*

### Music Leadership

Andrew Schultz (he/him/his)  
*Director of Sanctuary Music*

Thompson Howell (he/him/his), *Guest Organist*

### Sanctuary Quartet

Taylor Jacobs, (he/him/his), *tenor*  
Louise Floyd (she/her/hers), *bass*

### Guest Singers

Andrew Schultz (he/him/his), *tenor*  
Byron Jones (he/him/his), *bass*

### Liturgists

Ellen Evans Agee (she/her/hers)  
Mary Garbesi (she/her/hers)  
Sharon Rhodes-Wickett (she/her/hers)

### Production Team

Richard An (he/him/his), *videography*  
Joshua Morales (he/him/his), *sound engineer*  
Maureen Schultz (she/her/hers), *videography*

### Flowers on the Altar

Given by **Yinka Bamgbose**: In loving memory of Olujimi Bamgbose, dear husband and father, on the 14th anniversary of his call to glory!

Missed by Yinka, Bukola, Rolake, Olusunmi and Okerinola Bamgbose.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The following people have requested prayer, or others have requested prayers for them:

### New Prayer Requests

- Penny Gipson

### Ongoing Individual and family Prayers

- Larry Adrian
- Jim Agee
- Patricia Barlow
- Ursula Myer and Family
- Glenn Johnson
- Coral Moore
- Soojung Thompson
- Sonny Miller
- Patricia Barlow
- Bob Wessling
- Jane Crail
- Charles S.
- Rae Hesling
- Dennis Payne

### Prayers Around the World

- Peace for the people of Ukraine

These requests are held in prayer by the pastoral staff and by the prayer chain. You are encouraged to join in praying for them by name.

## GIVING BACK TO GOD

We are thankful for all that God has blessed us with, and we consider financial giving an act of worship. We invite you to express your worship by becoming a faithful giver to support God's work through Westwood UMC. To make a one-time or recurring donation online, visit [www.WestwoodUMC.org/give](http://www.WestwoodUMC.org/give).



# NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Motivated by a desire to provide spiritual formation, build community and offer rich arts-based engagement, we are expanding our Sunday morning schedule.

## **WORSHIP**

**9:30-10:30am - The Sanctuary Gathering**

**10:30-11:45am - The Loft Gathering**

## **WESTWOOD KIDS**

**9:30-9:50am - Sanctuary Worship Children's Time**

Kids can sit with their families or our Children's Ministry staff for the first part of the Sanctuary Gathering. After the Time with Children, they'll depart the sanctuary together.

**9:50-10:30am - Westwood Kids Music**

All ages from preschool through 5th grade will share in music ensembles. This time will include a Children's Choir for K-5th grade, Orff instrument ensemble for 4th-5th grade, and musical play for our younger ones. Additionally, our youngest kids will have time to play together.

**10:30-11:45am - Westwood Kids Sunday School**

All ages from preschool through 5th grade get to learn the stories of our faith, and engage in fun, accessible faith-formation activities, in a loving community. Most weeks, they will spend some time divided by ages (with the 4th and 5th graders meeting in the Jesus Jaguars room); they will also have time for intergenerational fun.

## **GRAPPLE GROUP**

**9:30-11:45am** - Our 6th-12th grader group will meet up for conversations and activities. Youth are welcome to stay for the whole time, or just an hour. Designed to support the faith lives of youth, Grapple Group will include opportunities for Bible study, games, conversation about social issues and human sexuality, and intergenerational activities.

## **NURSERY CARE**

**9:30-11:45am** - Providing care for infants and toddlers throughout the morning.

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

**9:50-10:20am - Theological Concierge in The Courtyard**

Please join Rev. Dr. Carter for the first of a few conversations on the overturning of the Roe v. Wade decision. How might Christian tradition and theology help us make sense of the theological arguments being made? When does "life" begin and how do we know? What are the theological arguments for allowing abortion? How did the pro-life movement become aligned with evangelical Christianity? Join us as we discuss this difficult topic with openness, compassion, and love.

**11am-12noon - Adult Classes in Wesley Room**

We offer an adult Sunday School class each week, frequently a series on topics ranging from Bible Study to spirituality to social issues.

## **BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP**

**9-11am** - Join us for a continental breakfast on the courtyard including bagels, pastries, granola, and fruit. We invite you to bring other ready-to-serve dishes to add, potluck style. Simply bring them to the courtyard when you come. Sharing breakfast outdoors allows us to enjoy food and fellowship while minimizing Covid risk. If you have any questions, contact [sabrina@westwoodumc.org](mailto:sabrina@westwoodumc.org).





# UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## TODAY IN THE LOFT

### Sunday, June 19th (10:30am) Upstairs in The Loft

Join Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter for "Queer Theology in Post-Roe America." The overturning of Roe v. Wade will have devastating consequences for millions of people in America. The loss of constitutionally protected bodily autonomy will have lasting implications for marginalized persons - women, people of color, the disabled, and queer persons. You may be wondering "what does this have to do with Christianity or Christian theology?" The approach the conservative justices used to interpret the constitution and make their arguments has its roots in the fundamentalist interpretation of the bible. How and why did the traditionalist approach (a relatively new approach) to reading the bible emerge and how are we to push back against it? Join us this Sunday as we explore how queer theology can help us learn how to read the bible in ways that draw us closer to the God revealed through the biblical witness.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

### Sundays through July 17th (9-11:45am)

We'll start at 9am on the courtyard with breakfast before joining The Sanctuary service at 9:30am for the "Children's Moment" followed by music, movement, games, play, Bible stories, and more! Plan to pick up your children on the courtyard at 11:45am. So we know how to plan for food, RSVP to [sabrina@westwoodumc.org](mailto:sabrina@westwoodumc.org).

## SUPPORT YOUTH SERVING AT SSP

The Sierra Service Project has an over 40 year tradition of performing home repairs and other services in Native American and urban communities in the Western US. After 2 years of a limited on-line program, this summer our youth return to the in-person experience. On July 2nd, a total of 9 youth and 2 adults (Keith Price and Molly Vetter) from Westwood Church will depart for a week in Smith River, CA (in Del Norte county) where we will work on home repairs, building community gardens, environmental restoration on the coast or in the redwoods, and building community with youth from other parts of the western US. Support for the trip comes from the youth parents and from you! Consider making an additional contribution to your weekly or monthly giving. Every little makes a difference in our community and the communities of those we're helping. We invite you to donate in the Sunday offering, mail in a check to the church office, or give online at [www.WestwoodUMC.org/Give](http://www.WestwoodUMC.org/Give).

## SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS

Sponsoring the flowers on the altar is a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one, celebrate a special event or milestone, or just make the Sanctuary space more beautiful! Cost is \$85. To sign up for a specific Sunday, contact Sabrina Simmons at 310.474.451 or [sabrina@westwoodumc.org](mailto:sabrina@westwoodumc.org).

16th Annual

# Summer Organ Concerts



## WEICHENG ZHAO - Sunday, June 26th (3pm) The Sanctuary

Dr. Weicheng Zhao is the first Chinese native to win international pipe organ competitions. He was a featured recitalist at the American Guild of Organists Regional Conventions (2015, 2019). At the invitation of Jean Guillou, Zhao played a solo recital in Paris at the Saint-Eustache Festival d'orgue, 2011. As an ensemble player, he has performed concerts with the Los Angeles Philharmonic under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel and Zubin Metha. He was also invited by the LA Phil to play in their Chamber Music Series at Walt Disney Concert Hall. His performances can be heard on National Public Radio (Pipedreams). Born in Tianjin, China, Zhao came to the United States in 2009 to pursue study of the pipe organ with Cherry Rhodes at the University of Southern California, Thornton School of Music, where he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree. He is currently Director of Music and Organist-Choirmaster at All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena, California where he conducts two 50-voice adult choirs.

60 Minute Concerts - Free Admission - [www.SummerOrganConcerts.com](http://www.SummerOrganConcerts.com)



# SEEKING WISDOM AT WESTWOOD

## Cloud of Witnesses (Part 1)

**Sundays, June 26th and July 3rd (11am) The Sanctuary**

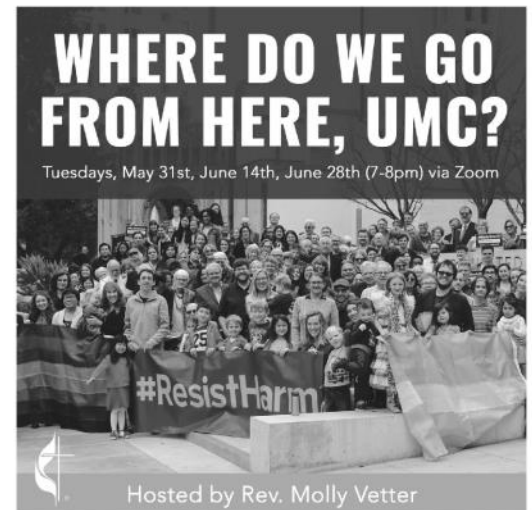
Like the medieval churches of Europe, our church's sanctuary honors "great leaders of the ongoing Christian Church in and near our own time." We call them our "cloud of witnesses" after the opening of Hebrews 12. The men and women who watch us from above include political leaders, scientists, social workers, and preachers, and some of them were still alive when their windows were installed. Join us on Fathers' Day for a look at the first five of these historical figures, beginning with John Wesley, the Father of Methodism, and his mother, Susannah. Led by Nancy Price.



## Where Do We Go From Here, UMC?

**Tuesday, June 28th (7-8pm) via Zoom**

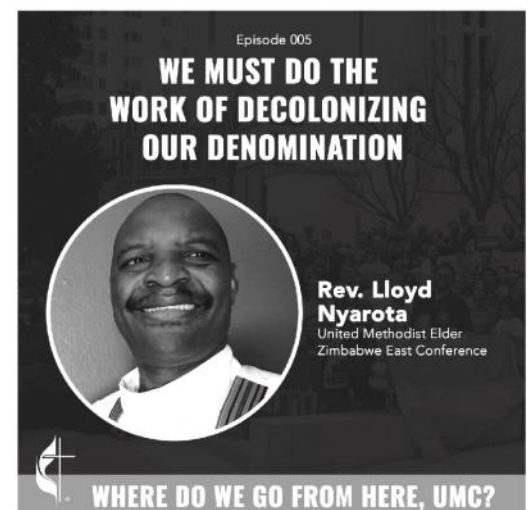
Fifty-four years after it was officially formed, our United Methodist Church faces real challenges. Dramatic shifts in our cultural landscape have altered the place of our mainline Protestant church in our communities. Long-simmering theological tensions, frequently visible in disagreements about the acceptance and inclusion of LGBTQ+ members, gave rise to a brokered protocol that would allow conservatives to leave to form a new denomination. Then, the Covid pandemic further disrupted all of our lives, and prevented the UMC's General Conference from meeting. Now postponed to 2024, questions about our denominational life remain. Despite the anti-gay policies that remain in our UMC Discipline, more and more of us continue to move forward with the work of full inclusion, including not only Westwood UMC, but our Western Jurisdiction as a whole. Conservatives, previously organized as an Association, on May 1 formally named themselves a separate denomination. So, as people committed to our grace-filled way of living the gospel, where do we go from here? Join Pastor Molly for a series of conversations about the UMC.



## Episode 005: "We Must Do the Work of Decolonizing Our Denomination"

**Rev. Lloyd Nyarota**

Lloyd Nyarota is a United Methodist elder in the Zimbabwe East Conference and a GBGM missionary spouse. Lloyd is on an ecumenical appointment in the United Church of Canada, where he serves a shared ministry at St John's United Anglican Church in the province of Alberta; his wife Tazvi is serving ethnic minority congregations in Canada. He has served as a consultant for the United Methodist Board of Church and Society. Nyarota is a founding member of the Central Conference Outreach team, who wrote and promote the Christmas Covenant legislation on regionalization that was submitted to General Conference. Listen on YouTube, your favorite podcast app, or at [www.WhereDoWeGoUMC.com](http://www.WhereDoWeGoUMC.com).







# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

## GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

During this unusual time of pandemic, our Covid-19 Relief Fund has been able to provide needed assistance to fill unmet financial needs for congregation members and others in our community. Moving forward, this fund is now able to provide assistance where needed, not only related to the Covid pandemic. **So, we are renaming the fund as our Good Samaritan Fund.** We will continue to use it to assist with unforeseen circumstances and needs.

To that end, we want to encourage you to donate to the fund as you are able. Every recipient has been deeply appreciative of the assistance we have been able to provide. **We invite you to make donations to the church marked "Good Samaritan Fund"** so that we can continue to meet needs as they surface.

**If you find yourself needing assistance during this time,** please let us know by reaching out to Pastor Molly Vetter at [molly@westwoodumc.org](mailto:molly@westwoodumc.org) or Rev. Dr. Carter at [christopher@theloftla.org](mailto:christopher@theloftla.org). This invitation extends to your communities as well—if you know of anyone in need, we want to try and relieve that need as much as possible.



# MID-DAY PRAYER

**Tuesdays and Thursdays (12noon) via Facebook Live**

We invite you to stop, take a deep breath, and join us for a few moments of centering scripture, reflection and prayer. Led from our beautiful sanctuary, Mid-Day Prayer is live at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Westwood Church Community Facebook Group. Or, you can pray with us whenever you are able, later in the day.

Go to [www.facebook.com/groups/westwood.umc](https://www.facebook.com/groups/westwood.umc) and click on the "Join Group" button at the top of the page.

# WESTWOOD CHURCH

Westwood Church is a Christian community that welcomes all people and focuses on becoming and making disciples committed to justice, kindness and walking humbly with God. We welcome and affirm our ministry with all persons, regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, economic status, ability, gender, marital status or sexual orientation, from first-time visitor to lifetime member.

We seek to understand and carry out God's will, bearing witness to Christ's compassion and embracing the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We foster spiritual growth in all persons - children, youth, and adults; through individual and corporate prayer and study, worship of God, nurturing relationships, and participating in ministries of justice and mercy at home and in the global community. ALL ministries of Westwood UMC are available to ALL people.

A Reconciling Church: We, the faith community of Westwood Church, affirm that a God-filled perspective understands and embraces diversity and radical inclusivity; for that reason we embrace and affirm the full inclusion of everyone regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We explicitly welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people who have been marginalized and diminished within the larger United Methodist tradition. We commit to embracing the responsibility of pushing for a more open and inclusive United Methodist Church. You are welcome here. You are supported here. You are included here.

## **The Sanctuary – 9:30am**

A sacred gathering with traditional liturgy, a thoughtful message, and resounding organ.

More info: [www.WestwoodUMC.org](http://www.WestwoodUMC.org)

## **The Loft – 10:30am**

An innovative gathering with spiritual conversation, creativity, coffee, and music.

More info: [www.TheLoftLA.org](http://www.TheLoftLA.org)

## **Westwood Kids**

Westwood Church has a vibrant Sunday morning Children's Ministry. Integrating Godly Play curriculum, music, and curriculum written by our own team, we are able to explore God's world using multiple teaching approaches. We are adapting to changing requirements during Covid-19. Join our Westwood Kids email by sending a message to Pastor Diana Holbert at [diana@westwoodumc.org](mailto:diana@westwoodumc.org).

## **Grapple Group**

The Grapple Group provides a spiritual community for big questions for young people in grades 6-12. The meet regularly on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:30 in Room 100.

**Westwood Church**  
10497 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday - Friday  
(9am - 1pm)

**Contact Us**  
[wumc@westwoodumc.org](mailto:wumc@westwoodumc.org)  
310.474.4511