



## Learning How to Be Successful

After a conversation with my daughter Hannah about the Whitworth University Women's Soccer program and the coach's plans to develop the program, I decided to order the book the coach is using to create a new model. That book is *The Messiah Method* by Michael Zigarelli. What drove my interest in reading the book was the success of the soccer program at Messiah College, a small liberal arts college in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. This small Christian college has the most successful college soccer program (both men's and



women's) for the last 16 seasons in all divisions of the NCAA. In total, the two teams have won 15 national championships since 2000—the men with 10 wins and the women with 5 wins. No other college comes close.

These two amazingly successful teams would tell you candidly that the "secret sauce" to their success is not about winning soccer games!

The core of their success is living intentionally, in Christian community, their core values and principles every day. First and foremost, they play soccer for the glory of God! This soccer program is about raising young people to be excellent examples of those who live for the kingdom of

God. Yes, they are really good soccer players who have very good coaches who know the game of soccer—but that is not enough to succeed for this many years. It is the core values of the team that provide the main ingredients of the team's success. Take a look at a few of the core values for the women's team:

- ▷ We choose to be positive.
- ▷ There are no unimportant details. We do things a certain way for a reason. Little things make big things happen.
- ▷ Team Spirit: an eagerness to sacrifice personal interests or glory for the welfare of all.
- ▷ Success: giving of your best at all times, no matter the circumstances.
- ▷ Do the right thing, for the right reason, all the time.
- ▷ We are a team of grace.

If you are like me, it is easy to see how the Messiah College soccer program can shape lives into amazing followers of Jesus Christ. What is more important is that the players and coaches work on these core values every day. What could happen if the church, or each of us, could live like this? If we lived into these kinds of core values, our lives and the lives of others would change in some powerful ways.

As we move toward a new pastor as the head of staff to lead this church, let me encourage all of you to be thinking about how our core values effect our witness, so we can make it our goal to live for the glory of God as well as our positive relationships with each other and those who are new to our church.

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Steve

## March Highlights...

- Upper Room Discourse: an Adult Christian Formation Discussion for Lent
- Lenten Evensong Services
- New Member Class: Joining WPC!
- WPC Staff Updates
- Plan on These Dates
- Library Lines
- Adult Fellowship: Pathfinders, Women's Bible Study, Bookworms
- Saturday Suppers Return
- Benefit Dinner for Bridges
- Youth: Mission Internships Available, Why Winter Camp?
- Children's and Family Ministry: KFC continues Tuesdays

## Lenten Evensong Services

You are invited to evensong services on Wednesdays in Lent, at 7 pm. These quiet, meditative services will help us prepare our hearts for Holy Week and Easter.  
 Dates for the services: March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29, April 5

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2017

- Maundy Thursday is April 13, with an evening worship service at 7 pm
  - Good Friday is April 14, with an evening worship service at 8 pm
  - Easter this year is on April 16, there will be 3 worship services at WPC:
    - Traditional Services 8:00 and 9:30 am
    - Contemporary service 11:15 am
    - Egg hunts for children to follow Easter worship services
- Invite friends, your relatives and your neighbors to any or all of these services!

## Lenten Devotionals

Lenten devotional booklets, with daily meditations and prayers by C. S. Lewis and Henri Nouwen, are available for those who would like to take one. Pick up a devotional in the Narthex, on Sunday or during the week. One booklet per family, please.

### ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Upper Room Discourse

On Sundays, March 12 – April 9, our Adult Christian Formation classes will use the *Gospel of John*, Chapters 13-17, for our Lenten focus. There will be various leaders for the discussions. Please join us in the Fellowship Center at 10:45 each Sunday morning.

## New Member Class

Have you been considering church membership? Please join us for a new members class on Saturdays, March 18 and 25, 10 am – 2 pm. Meet our church leadership, make some new friends, and ask all your questions! Please contact Kathy Josselyn in the church office to sign up: [Kathy@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:Kathy@wpcwestlake.org) or extension 10.

## WPC Staff Updates

Dr. Robert Danes, who has been our Westminster Presbyterian Church organist for 25 years, retired at the end of January. Bob and his wife Laura have moved to Atlanta to live closer to their daughter and grandchildren. We wish them all God's blessings on their move. We will miss you, Bob and Laura!



After 26 years on the WPC staff as bookkeeper and Business Manager, Janet Makela retired at the end of February. Janet is looking forward to doing some traveling, and spending more hours on her quilting!

### NEW BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Taking over as Business Administrator is Terry Monahan, who is already well known to some of you. Terry served as Assistant to Student Ministries when Rob Douglas was our Director of Student Ministries. We extend a warm welcome to Terry, and send our best wishes with Janet on her retirement.





## Plan on These Dates

**Sunday Worship Services**

- 9:30 Traditional Service
- 11:15 Contemporary Service

**For Children on Sundays**

- 9:30 & 11:15 am

Children age 3 through 8th grade begin in worship with their families and are dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Message.

Childcare is available for children from birth to 3 years from 9:30 to 12:30 each Sunday morning.

**Adult Christian Formation**

Sundays, 10:45 am, Fellowship Center

**Weekly Bible Studies:**

- ❖ **Monday Bible Study**, Mondays, 1 pm, Oakside Room, contact Aubrey Grey
- ❖ **Wednesday Study**, 2:30 pm, WPC Library, contact Jim Mulick
- ❖ **Women on Wednesday**, Wednesdays, 7 pm, Library, contact Sue Minihan

**Student Ministries****Junior High Ministry, Grades 6-8**

Contact Matt Pardee

[Matt@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:Matt@wpcwestlake.org)

**Sunday School**, 9:30 am, Youth Lounge

**JYF** (Middle School Youth Group),

Tuesdays, 6 pm, Youth Center

**Senior High Ministry, Grades 9-12**

Contact John (JR) Robertson

[JR@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:JR@wpcwestlake.org)

**SYF** (High School Youth Group): Sundays, 6:00 pm, Youth Center

**CNA** (Christians Non-Anonymous Midweek Bible Study) Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, off site

**Chancel Choir**

Rehearsals Thursday evenings, 7:30 pm  
Everyone with a voice is invited!

**Wednesday Koffee Klatch**

For adults 50+, Oakside Room, 9:30 am, conversation & sermon text preview, more!

**Weekly Community Outreach**

❖ WPC Winter Shelter, Wednesdays in the Community Outreach Center: overnight shelter (December–March), dinner, showers, health care

❖ **Westminster Free Clinic**: Wednesdays, 5-10 pm, United Methodist Church, TO, contact Cindy Vinson

## Upcoming Events

**Kids Fellowship Club**

*Making Room*: continues on Tuesdays through March 28, 4:30 pm (see page 5)

**Ash Wednesday Service**

Wednesday, March 1, 7 pm  
A reflective service with the traditional imposition of ashes, and service of communion.

**Youth Winter Camp**

SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship) March 3 through 5 (more on page 6)

**Saturday Suppers are Back!**

March 4, April 1, May 6

**Lenten Evensong Services**

Wednesday evenings, 7 pm, during Lent: March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5

**Bookworms**

March 9, 2 pm, WPC Library

**Pathfinders**

March 18, 8:30 to 10:30 am (more on page 4)

**New Member Class**

Two Saturdays, March 18 and 25, 10 am to 2 pm (more info on page 2)

**Blood Drive**

Sunday, March 26, 8:30 – 12:30  
The Bloodmobile will be in our parking lot, please consider trying this convenient way to help others

**Palm Sunday**

April 9

**Fabulous Festival of Faith**

Activities for Children and Families  
Sunday, April 9, 10:30, Fellowship Center

**Maundy Thursday Service**

Thursday, April 13, WPC Chancel Choir presentation with orchestra

**Good Friday Service**

April 14, 8 pm

**Easter Services**

Traditional 8 am, 9:30 am  
Contemporary 11:15 am  
Egg Hunt for children following services

## Communion

March 1 (Ash Wednesday),  
March 5, April 2

## Library Lines

We are so pleased to welcome Peggy and Jeff Ellis to our Book Brigade. Their help in reorganizing the 200 sections that were previously in boxes will make finding titles so much easier as we move along towards putting more new donations on these shelves. You will find resources for many of your classes and studies as you take time to pursue what it means to spend time with our Lord, especially during Lent.

### *For Kids*

The many books for children are always ready for you to borrow and enjoy on the south wall of the library. We have these arranged with books for the youngest on the bottom left, moving to Bible and older youth on the right with parent titles on the top shelves. Please contact Ruth Grey for further information.

## Pathfinders March 18

*(a small group for women)*

After seeing what the Gospels have to say about the character of Jesus, we move on to other books that Paul wrote before going to other writings. Each year we now have the opportunity to study different issues written by different authors for all women of faith.

Join us as we share in discussion and prayer on Saturday, March 18. Easter will bring a break during April. We meet in the WPC Library from 8:30 to 10:30 on the third Saturday of the month whenever possible. Contact Ruth Grey for further information.



*Join a Women's Bible Study!*

## Ladies of Westminster

A reminder about the *Women on Wednesday* Bible Study! We are now in the Lenten season of our Christian calendar and many of us are thus perhaps more intently contemplating the sacrifice of our risen Lord. Supplement this by coming and further reflecting on the blessings of our Savior as we study the verses from the "Book of Revelation" every Wednesday evening at 7 pm in the WPC Library.

We would love to have you join us in pleasant friendship. Our contact person is Sue Minihan (805.373-1432).

## Summer Student Mission Internships Available

What is Westminster Student Mission Internship (WSMI)? It is a unique 6-week internship designed specifically for college students who have shown a serious interest in mission. You will join a team of up to four college students and travel to Chestnut Ridge, WV. The team will serve the ministry of New Vision and build relationships in the area while preparing and serving the SYF mission team when they arrive. WSMI will consist of three components: education, service and mission.

### **WHAT WILL I BE DOING?**

The internship will begin in late June with a week of training. Then the team will travel to WV. As interns, the team will seek to represent Christ and WPC as team members for New Vision. Jobs may include construction, youth ministry, sports, serving VBS, preparing renewable energy devices, relating to local youth, churches and neighbors. The team will serve under New Vision's umbrella in terms of supervision and compensation. Their local staff will instruct and encourage our team members during their significant learning curve.

If you are interested in applying for an internship, please visit ministries/students on the WPC website, or contact J. R. Robertson or Pastor Steve.

Join Us for “A Night in the Light”

## Annual Benefit Dinner for Bridges\*

*What happens when you build bridges of relationship outside the walls of the church?*

Join us for dinner, instrumental music, and an evening of story telling from the field as we come together to support Bridge Leaders across the U.S. who are having an astonishing impact among diverse sub-cultures and networks outside church culture. Following Jesus’ example of going and joining people where they’re at, these leaders are helping to transform their own networks and neighborhoods by making disciples, starting ministries, and forming Christ-following communities.

- ▷ When: Sunday, April 2nd, 5pm
- ▷ Where: Brookside Golf Club, 1133 Rosemont Avenue, Pasadena
- ▷ Register Online (cost \$25): [www.BridgesUS.org](http://www.BridgesUS.org)
- ▷ Or RSVP: [NightInTheLight@BridgesUS.org](mailto:NightInTheLight@BridgesUS.org)

\*Bridges is a non-profit based in La Canada that has been partnering with the San Fernando and San Gabriel Presbyteries to provide training to local congregations in Missional Skills.



*Sign Up This Sunday!*

## Saturday Suppers Resume

If you enjoy good food and meeting new friends, Saturday Suppers are for you! These themed meals take place in homes, for 7 - 9 people, on the first Saturday of the month. To host a meal or be a guest, please contact Julie Martin ([julie@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:julie@wpcwestlake.org) or 818.889-1491 extension 28).

**Enjoy one evening, or attend all three!**

March 4	The Ides of March: Lean, Mean and Green
April 1	April Fools’ Day: Breakfast for Dinner
May 6	Mexican Madness: Cinco de Mayo Fare

## Bookworms

Thursday, March 9, 2 pm in the WPC Library

Our choice for March’s review and discussion is *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger. A copy is available in our church library. Please join us!

*KFC (Kids Fellowship Club) Continues through Lent*

## Making Room

**MAKING ROOM FOR LOVE, FOR KINDNESS, FOR JUSTICE  
TUESDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 28**

*Lessons • Art • Games • Dinner*

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to KFC, where they experience the Lenten story through simple activities, making room for God and following the teachings of Christ. Each five-week session ends with a family dinner. Registration forms available at church and on our website.

# Why Our Youth Go to Winter Camp

*It's a long drive for a short stay, so why bother?*

Each year JYF and SYF (Junior Youth Fellowship for middle school students and Senior Youth Fellowship for high school students) go to Forest Home which is off Highway 38 up in the mountains beyond Redlands. We go for 2 nights and one full day of Winter Camp. JYF, consisting of 15 middle school students and 4 advisors, was there the weekend of January 27, and SYF will be heading there the weekend of March 3.



Students are asked to leave school early to get to the church so we can depart by 2:45 to TRY to beat the traffic, but there is always traffic. The 2 1/2 hour drive typically takes 4 to 4 1/2 hours, and we're late to dinner. Parents help with the transportation, and pay a handsome fee for their child(ren) to attend. If someone can't afford it, we and the camp have scholarships.

It's dark when we arrive, getting all the gear to the cabins is a hassle, the bunks aren't the most comfortable—it's no 4-star resort, needless to say—and there certainly is no room service.

SO, why DO we go? It's because God can and does do a lot in a short period of time. Friendships form in the 4+ hours in the cars, and conversations occur. This year there was 2 feet of snow everywhere upon arrival, and snowballs flew all weekend. The food isn't gourmet, but it's very tasty and filling when you are hungry and ready to eat after a long drive or a busy day.

There are entire camp gatherings in Hormel Hall (about 400 people altogether) with fun games, contests, videos, a live band and worship with a speaker both nights and both mornings. After these, each group returns to their cabin for "cabin conversations" to review what was talked about in a smaller group. Sure, 12 middle school boys meeting for an hour to "talk"? You have got to be kidding—but *this IS why we go*.

Saturday night the time allocated for the conversation was about an hour before Late Night Options—a dance, more tubing down a snow run, game room fun, or TRYING to consume an Adventure Mountain Sundae (25 scoops of ice cream with 4–5 huge cookies and what seems like gallons of chocolate and caramel syrup covered with whipped cream, by the way our group ate about 1/2 of the TWO we provided, but we shared with another group and there was NONE LEFT).

After "When do we get to go?" was the most repeated question on Friday night and Saturday morning, by Saturday night an hour was not enough—and the group never noticed. They talked, shared, asked questions—like "How do I know choosing Christianity is the right choice?"—and prayed. Yes, when it was over, they ran out to the next adventure and threw snowballs along the way, some returning for the jacket left behind, but whether we get just five minutes of good conversation or more than hour, that's why we go. We try to sow the seeds that will some day grow into the framework of strong disciples. That's why we go.

*Mike Booser*



*The*  
**Communicant**

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS & FRIENDS  
OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*March 2017*

THE COMMUNICANT IS PUBLISHED BY  
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
32111 WATERGATE, WESTLAKE VILLAGE  
818.889-1491

[www.wpcwestlake.org](http://www.wpcwestlake.org)

Material for the April 2017 issue needs to be in the  
office or sent by March 10 to

[Kathy@wpcwestlake.org](mailto:Kathy@wpcwestlake.org)

To submit late photos call Kathy Dahms.