

Westmont Christian Church



March 2023

WITNESS

Lent



THE
FORTY
DAYS
of LENT

RETURN
to the
LORD
YOUR
GOD



FROM THE PASTOR

Westmont Family,

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! I am consistently blessed by all the ways God has been moving in our congregation. I am sure you are feeling it too as you come to Westmont and see the ministries and activities that are happening inside and outside of our building.

Scout Sunday was an opportunity to see the many scouts who meet in our building. They blessed us and showed their appreciation by participating in the worship service. They led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, the pledge to the Christian Flag, and helped serve communion. Many of you got to speak with the families and see the impact our church is having on the lives of these kids.

Honoring Marriage Night was a great success. We had Paul and Jodi Blanton lead an amazing cooking team, and there were many other volunteers who helped with crafts, games, singing, and even with the clean-up. We had a total of 26 kids attend, and of that number there were five scout kids and six *Good News Club* kids. Praise God!

We have been blessed to see scout families and *Good News Club* families come into our building to take part in church activities and services. *Scout Sunday* and *Honoring Marriage Night* are two examples, but we have also seen some of those families attend worship services, Wednesday Nights, and even officially join our congregation. Be praying for God to work on their hearts through the use of God's Word and by the power of the Holy Spirit!

It has been very exciting to see all the new energy and enthusiasm on our General Board this year. This will be a building and development year for this group as we pursue finalizing our Constitution and By-Laws. This group will be instrumental in helping to provide a solid foundation for our church for years to come. Be praying for them all, and be praying how you can get more involved in the life of the church.

The addition of new Elders has helped bring new life to the Eldership. I believe the Elders are stronger than ever, especially in their commitment to lead and guide our congregation spiritually. You will be seeing the Elders at all of our events and worship services as they help pray for and direct our body of believers towards God's truth and in walking according to His Word. Be praying for this group and their leadership.

Our new Sunday School class has seen wonderful attendance, and we have great facilitators who are helping to carry along the conversation of studying God's Word in response to the show "The Chosen." This class is the perfect opportunity to try a Sunday School class out. It is designed and intended for people of all knowledge levels of the Bible. Feel free to come and check it out Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on the east side of the Fellowship Hall.

As most of you know, we have started a church-wide prayer initiative. Our Long-Range Planning Committee has brought forth concerns about the financial stability of our church. We only have enough working capital to keep the doors open for little more than two years. This is very concerning, but we are trusting in the Lord for what He is doing. What has come from this committee, thank you to Terri Ralston, is a desire to be bringing all our concerns to God and to seek His will in communal prayer together.

The Elders have decided to help take the lead in guiding the congregation into this prayer initiative for the future of our church. We are asking that everyone take this time of Lent to be intentional in prayer for our church... specifically, our finances, leadership, and direction. Each Sunday, we will have a time of corporate prayer where everyone is invited to pray together before the end of the service. We are seeking to be intentional about pursuing God's will for our body.

All of this will be happening as we prepare for and lead up to Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Resurrection Sunday. This will be a time of great celebration for what God has done for us in Jesus Christ and for what God is doing for the body of Christ here at Westmont through the power of the Holy Spirit. We will celebrate the Gospel, God's Word, and the work of the Holy Spirit in each of us. You will not want to miss out on any of the festivities as we seek to honor God in all we do.

May we all be challenged to walk according to God's truth and according to the fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." May our generosity continue to flow as we trust in God and obey His Word. May we walk by faith in Christ.

God is doing something here at Westmont; there is certainly a glow of the Holy Spirit at work in His people. As we proclaim the Gospel and value God for who God is, God will revive in us a passion, fire and hunger for Him, His Word, for conviction of sin which leads us to repentance, to walk in holiness according to the Spirit, to have the confidence and courage to declare Christ, and have a constant joyful worship.

So pray for this church and the leadership, including your staff, the new Board, and our Eldership. May God continue to bless us as we seek to do His will, to His glory, and for His purposes. It is not about us, but all about His praise, honor, and glory. Let's pray that as the broken sinner comes to our church, they receive life through the Gospel message as the Holy Spirit empowers them to repent of their sin and believe in Christ.

To God be the Glory!

Pastor Jarid McCool



Westmont Serving at Stewart Elementary School

Westmont will take the lead on March 2, 2023 across the street to assist Stewart Elementary for STEM Night. We will serve pizza and bottled water to those in attendance from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Thank you, Jessica Johnson, for your leadership and for all those from WCC who will be volunteering at the school. It is an honor to be able to assist in such meaningful ways as we continue to build our relationship with Stewart Elementary.



Baptism Class for All Interested

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Following Worship

Church Library



Easter's on it's Way!

Consider purchasing a bag or two of individually-wrapped Easter candy. These candy pieces will fill the Easter Eggs for the annual egg hunt on Easter Sunday. Please deliver the candy donations to the church at your convenience and place them in the donation bins outside of the church office. Thank you so much for your sweet donation!



Ladies Luncheon - March 14, 2023

Orlando's on Avenue Q

Meeting Time: 11:45 a.m.



PLEASE JOIN US

CONGREGATIONAL

MEETING

Meeting for Members of Westmont

The members of Westmont will meet on Sunday, March 19, 2023 following worship in the sanctuary for a called Congregational Meeting.

As always, we will be respectful of your time. This meeting will be brief. We thank you for your support of all aspects of the operations of our church, and we thank you for participating in the business also.



Choose Your Time to Pray

On Sunday, March 19, 2023, you will have the opportunity to choose your time to pray during the annual Prayer Vigil that will be held on the weekend of Easter Sunday. Please locate the form on the glass table in the atrium, and choose the time(s) that you would like to come to the sanctuary and pray. This is a very special and meaningful time as our church asks for God's blessings and as we give Him praise for His incredible mercy.



St. Patrick's Day Potato Bar Lunch

The Men of Westmont will host a Potato Bar Lunch on Sunday, March 19, 2023 following worship in Fellowship Hall. This 'donation-basis' meal will be quite delicious, and you will have the opportunity to fellowship with the Westmont Family and guests of our church.

Plan to bring your whole family for this meal, and be sure to express your appreciation to the Men of Westmont for providing this amazing lunch for us!



Westmont Trustees

Larry Anderson	2023
Jonny Ropes	2024
Jim Killion	2025
Cheryl Steelman	2026

The year indicates the end of service or the year the individual must be re-elected by the church to continue serving as a Trustee.

We Hear You.

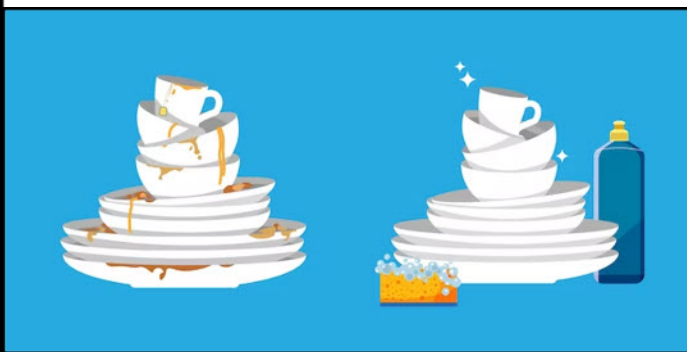


Westmont is acquiring individual Assistive Listening Systems for those who need additional amplification during worship services, Sunday School classes, or any other church gathering. We have begun purchasing these easy-to-use, discreet devices, and they have proven to be quite effective for the listener. If you are in need of assistance, please speak to Casey Cartwright (Media.Tech Associate), and he will be glad to help you. *We are purchasing these one-by-one (on an 'as needed' basis). Know that all who require assistance will have a device. We hear you!



Communion Servers - Your Invitation

Westmont participates in Holy Communion each Sunday morning during the worship service. This is not only an integral part of worship as a member of the Disciples of Christ denomination, but it is a very special moment for all worshippers who honor Christ's sacrifice for us each week. We are currently in need of additional servers to assist during the beautiful moment each Sunday. Consider joining on a rotation basis. Please speak to Rick Cartwright this week to offer your assistance. Thank you, Westmont.



Terrific Tidy-Up Team

Consider joining the 'Tidy-Up Team' at Westmont! This group meets each Wednesday evening following the delicious meal to reset the kitchen and dining area. This allows those who attend musical groups, teach, or participate in classes to be prompt to their commitment. Speak to Jodi Blanton to let her know of your interest today!



April 01	Fellowship Committee Cleaning & Organization Day
April 02	Palm Sunday & Children's Palm Processional
April 05	No Wednesdays@Westmont - Holy Week
April 06	Maundy Thursday Service
April 07-08	Prayer Vigil
April 09	Easter Sunday
April 10	Church Office Closed

Children & Youth Department Update

It is a wonderful time to be involved in our Children and Youth ministry! There are so many amazing kids and fun activities being planned, and we would love for **YOU** to be a part of it. Why should you get involved?

1. Our children represent 30% of our normal church attendance each Sunday. These children are our future, and we need to help them grow and develop a strong relationship with God before they are sent out into the world. Come connect with them!
2. Our parents need the support of the church as they work hard to raise children in a very challenging environment. Let us, as a church, walk with them in this journey.
3. It's fun! Our children are filled with energy, a love for learning and growing in Christ, and an excitement to learn new things. Everyone needs some fun in their life.
4. Our children and soon-to-be youth need godly role models. It is our whole church's responsibility to show these children examples of servants, givers, and lovers of all God's people.

Here is some of what is happening in our Children's Department:

- **New Curriculum starting soon!** This is a great time to join as a volunteer as we set out to start a new direction with our weekly lessons. No experience is needed – just a desire to connect with these little minds that are learning to know and love Jesus.
- **Volunteer Training:** We will be scheduling a volunteer training soon to go over new information and guidelines to standardize various aspects of the Children's Department and to introduce the new curriculum. Keep an eye out for more information!
- **Summer Camp:** Camp is open for children that will be finishing 3rd through 6th grade. We will be traveling to Cedar Hill, Tx to the Mt. Lebanon Camp June 12-16. The cost of this camp is covered by our Children and Youth Fund. If you are interested in sending your child to summer camp, please let Nicole or the church office know as soon as possible to reserve their spot.
- **Vacation Bible School:** Put on your armor! We are tasked to be Keepers of the Kingdom with this year's V.B.S. program that is planned for July 24-28. All children aged 3 through grade 5 are welcome as we learn more about putting on the Armor of God and God's love for us. The planning team will soon be getting started to make this V.B.S. the best one yet!
- **Join our GroupMe!** Information for parents and volunteers is being shared through our new GroupMe account. Please contact Nicole if you want to be included.

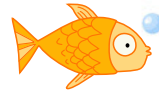
If you have any questions or want to know more about any of the Children and Youth Department activities, please contact Nicole Sanchez.

"All your children will be taught by the Lord, and great will be your children's peace."

Psalm 54:13

Children's Moment Leadership

March 2023



March 05

Canzada Bray

March 12

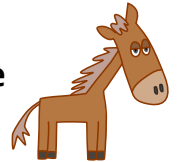
Jan d'Orsay

March 19

Neta Hansen

March 26

Jo Ann Hollie



Volunteers from Westmont and a host of children gather each Tuesday afternoon at Stewart Elementary to learn more about Jesus Christ. This ministry has been a blessing to the students, the adults assisting, and Westmont. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve God and these precious children.

Thank you for your continued support of the *Good News Club*! Your monetary gifts, food & drink donations, and so much more have really supported the ongoing physical needs of the club. We are so grateful to you!

There is a current need of 8 oz water bottles for the snack time each Tuesday. Would you consider purchasing some from the club? If you are able, simply drop them in (or beside) the large donation bins in front of the church office.

Thank you for your ongoing prayer and physical support of these students, volunteers, and the *Good News Club*.

Blessings to you all!

Westmont Staff





JOIN US!



Come and join a small group! Find an opportunity this week at Westmont to learn more about Jesus Christ and His purpose for your life. You are welcome, and we can't wait to see you there!

ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday Morning: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Koinonia Class led by Cynthia McKenney studying the New Testament – Brides/Green Room

Small Group Sunday School Class led by Jan d'Orsay and Canzada Bray studying the book of John – Church Library

The Chosen Class led by Joel Robinett, James Livermore, Brenda Gray & Dahlia Hood studying the first Season of "The Chosen" - East End, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday Morning: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Women's Fresh Air Fellowship led by Jan d'Orsay and Canzada Bray studying a book "The Prayer That Changes Everything" by Stormie Omartian - Church Library

Wednesday Evening: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Jarid's Class studying "American Christianity" - Fellowship Hall

Women's Fresh Air Fellowship led by Canzada Bray and Jan d'Orsay studying a book by James Moore, "If God Has a Refrigerator, It Has Your Name On It." – Church Library (begins at 6:30 p.m.)

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

Sunday Morning:

9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School - Children's wing

10:40 a.m. Junior Worship after communion - Children's wing

Wednesday Evening:

6:00 p.m. Kid's Club - Children's Wing



March Board Meeting

Please note that the Board now meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.



March 21, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

In-Person (library) & Zoom

Board Members, please email your monthly report!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Rylan Speich 03
Bettie Steen 08
Trevin Rose 08
Chris Yoes 08
B.J. D'Orsay 14
Sammie Shaw 14
Fred Steen 17
Aurora Garland 19
Nicholas Camp 20
Cienna Toal 21
Richard Ralston 22
Sara Fitzgerald 23
Casey Cartwright 27

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Fred & Bettie Steen 01
Dalton & Ebba Anderson 06
Ro & Nicole Sanchez 10
Russ & Johnny Ropes 27

Financial Report - January 2023

Actual receipts for January \$22,105

Monthly budget for 2023 \$27,396



Scouts - We Salute You!

Pack 543,

Thank you so very much for your generous donation from the bake sale that followed worship on *Scout Sunday*. Your loving gift of \$222.00 was deposited into Westmont's General Fund.

We appreciate our scouts, and we are truly blessed to have a great relationship with all those who participate. Thank you, one and all.

Bon Appetit

We express our deepest appreciation to Jeanine Reynolds, Katie Hargrove, & Bethany McCool for producing an amazing cookbook for Westmont! It is beautiful in every way. Thank you so much!

Please take advantage on Wednesdays and Sundays to pick up your copy for a donation of \$15. These cookbooks will be a delight for you and your family as you prepare the scrumptious recipes. These will also make great Christmas gifts during the Holiday Season. Pick up your copies this week!

Thank you, Westmont!

Wednesdays@Westmont will be suspended on March 15, 2023 during the week of Spring Break. Wednesday activities will resume on March 22, 2023.

Have a safe and enjoyable school holiday as you travel and rest.



Dear Friends:

Thank you for your 2022 contributions of \$749.78. Your gifts are a blessing to our community and the people we serve. We appreciate your support.

Because of your contributions, we delivered over 230,000 meals to hundreds of homebound people in our community this past year.

Lubbock Meals on Wheels is totally dependent upon the financial support of the community. We are not a *United Way* agency nor do we receive government funding. Your continued contributions are greatly appreciated and are crucial to the future of our program. From us and all our recipients, thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gilliland
Executive Director



Easter Lily Donations in March

During the month of March, our church family will have the opportunity to reserve Easter lilies for Resurrection Sunday for a small donation. These beautiful flowers will adorn the chancel of our sanctuary and provide great beauty for that special service. All profit will be used to support the Children & Youth of our church. Thank you in advance for your generous donations, and may God be glorified as we celebrate His Risen Son on Easter Sunday!



Money Counts

The family and friends of Westmont are appreciated and thanked for their generous gifts given to Westmont. It takes us all to supply the appropriate amount of tithes and offerings to support the ongoing operations of a church like ours. Your faithfulness to this ministry enables the doors of our church to remain open so that many will hear about the saving power of Christ. Thank you, Westmont! Your money counts!



Concerns: Sheila Jones – Continued prayers for my brother, divine healing, me and my family & our church, country, and schools. 03/05

Cynthia McKenney – travel mercies, Cambodia 02/26

Ally Robinett – recovering from medical procedure 2/19

Ebba Anderson – Ebba is in Carillon RM#324 for a couple of weeks. 02/05

Katie Hargrove – prayers for vocal cord healing. 01/29

Missy Jenkins – medical, chemo 02/26

Mary Elkins – Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, taking chemo 02/26

Naxeiah Owens – Bless all those who are sick and continue to pray for Katie's health. Bless this church and the people in it. 02/19

Anne Klein – Steve Groce – surgery 2/19; Martha Hellmann, David Hellmann transplant.

JoAnn Hollie – Holy Spirit, You are welcome here. 03/05


Continued Concern: Jill Watts' Cousin, Debra Thomas, Terry Anglin, David Vartak, Nathan Kraus, Roger Reynolds, Jan Fry, Continued prayers for our family, Country, and our schools. DR Congo Outreach; Gwen Jordan – Windmill Village

Military: Lt. Col., Todd Anderson, M.D.; David & Ja'net Speich, 2 Nephews

Unceasing prayer is in the air!

<u>WORSHIP SERVICE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
February 05	81
February 12	69
February 19	56
February 26	86
February Average	73





Westmont will soon provide an item list through Amazon's Wishlist to support the children and youth of our church. As specific items are needed for this ministry, they will be posted to Wishlist.

Thank you in advance for your support of the children and youth of Westmont. Your generous donations will enable the leadership to minister to the children of our church in effective and meaningful ways.

Thank you, Westmont!



MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Jarid McCool, Senior Minister
Jarid@westmontlubbock.org

Rev. Dean Roy, Associate Minister-Administration & Music
dean@westmontlubbock.org

Neta Hansen, Interim Ministry Assistant
office@westmontlubbock.org

Jessica Johnson, Custodian
Jessica.camp@rocketmail.com

Carolyn Wood, Childcare Provider

Samara Lambright, Childcare Provider

Richard Ralston, Media Lead

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 9:00 a.m. Elders Meeting
- 9:15 a.m. Nursery Opens (birth - 4 years)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- Instrumental & Media Rehearsal
- 10:40 a.m. Worship & Junior Worship

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)

CONTACT & SOCIAL MEDIA

Telephone: (806) 795-2555

Email: office@westmontlubbock.org

Website: www.westmontlubbock.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/westmont.lubbock>

Westmont Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/westmontlubbock/>

Kid's Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/westmontkids/>

Youth Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/westmontyouth/>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkrKlq7h5gte3CmWn9hljvw>

Expressing God's Love

Inspiring God's People

Expanding God's Kingdom