

Our Mission:

Making disciples of Jesus Christ



RELATIONAL

We share life with one another in loving, challenging, Spirit-led community.



PRACTICAL

We apply the Bible to daily life and build Christ-centered homes.



GENERATIONAL

We bring children, students, and adults together as we follow Jesus.



INVITATIONAL

We invite others into our lives and into a relationship with God.



MISSIONAL

We love Jesus by feeding, befriending, and blessing those in need.

Stay
CONNECTED

www.faithwestwood.com

PRAYER CHAIN: prayers@faithwestwood.com
WORSHIP SERVICES: Sundays @ 9 & 10:45 a.m.
LEAD PASTOR Steve Todd, Lead Pastor

4814 Oaks Lane x Omaha, NE 68137
Office Hours: 8 am - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

PHONE 402-895-3394 x **FAX** 402-895-3393

SENT

JESUS SETS US FREE - December 6, 2015



Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

Welcome!

If this is your first time at FaithWestwood, we want you to know how glad we are you came. We also know it can be a little scary coming to a new church. That's why we want to do everything we can to help you feel at home, find new friends, and take the next step in your faith.

Green shirts, green sheets, green bags

If you have questions, ask anyone wearing a green FaithWestwood polo this morning. Or leave us a note on the green sign-in sheet in your bulletin, which will be collected with the offering. We also invite our new guests to pick up one of our "little green bags" in the foyer. Inside you'll find a little info and a small gift.

We hope that what you experience this morning brings you back next weekend. We'd love to see you again soon!

Meet Our Staff...

Each week we will introduce you to one of our staff members:

Dave Uhrich, Director of Business Administration

I'm here to serve the senior pastor, ministry directors and congregation...

- By ensuring we have well maintained and equipped facilities that are welcoming to guests and support our various ministries.
- By providing support and implementing the policies of the board of trustees, finance committee and church council.
- By overseeing the operation of the Love and Learn Child Development Center.



Contact me at 402-895-3394x1009 | dave.uhrich@faithwestwood.com

Coming Up @ FaithWestwood...

SENT: DELIVERING THE GIFT OF HOPE AT CHRISTMAS

December is huge for delivery companies. Hundreds of millions of packages are sent across the country, and some will arrive late. But when the time was right, God sent his Son. Through him the world discovers life, love, and hope. And Jesus prayed to his Father, "As you sent me into the world, I have sent them" Jesus was sent, and so are you.

December 20 - JESUS IS GOD WITH US

Humans are social creatures. We were not meant to be alone. When we're alone, our pain grows deeper. When we're alone, our waiting drags longer, our fear feels greater. Even our happiness seems shallow. But we are not alone. God sent his Son to share in our humanness - every moment of it.

3D

CHILDREN'S
Ministry

Children's Director: Leah Dinoso
leah.dinoso@faithwestwood.com
402-895-3394x1002

Nursery & PreK - Story Sparklers

Bible Story: God told us He would give us Jesus. The Angel and Mary • Luke 1:26-33, 38, 46-49

Bottom Line: God gave us Jesus.

Memory Verse: "God has given a Son to us." Isaiah 9:6, NCV

Elementary - Triple Dog Dare: A Challenge in Compassion

Bible Story: God Loves Us, Everyone (God showed His love) • 1 John 4:9-12

Bottom Line: God loved you first. How will you love others?

Memory Verse: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Any one who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16, NIV

ADVENT CALENDAR

Gather around and READ God's story of compassion one day at a time. Then go and DO the suggested activities and write your own story of compassion as a family.

December 6: GABRIEL SHARES MORE DETAILS OF GOD'S PLAN WITH MARY: "JESUS WILL BE GREAT AND WILL BE CALLED GOD'S VERY OWN SON!"

Donate scrumptious food to your food bank.

December 7: MARY DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HOW SHE CAN HAVE A BABY WITHOUT BEING MARRIED, BUT THE ANGEL GABRIEL ASSURES HER OF A GREAT TRUTH: NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD.

Donate pet supplies to an animal shelter. (You'll make a puppy's day!)

December 8: "I SERVE GOD WITH MY LIFE AND WANT ALL THAT YOU HAVE SAID TO HAPPEN," MARY TELLS THE ANGEL, AND HE LEAVES.

Help someone do a chore or other job. (And sing Christmas carols while you work!)

December 9: MARY VISITS HER COUSIN ELIZABETH AND IS SO OVER-WHELMED WITH GOD'S GOODNESS THAT SHE SINGS A SONG OF PRAISE.

Do yard work or shovel snow for a neighbor. (And sing more carols!)

December 10: CAESAR AUGUSTUS WANTS TO KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE IN HIS EMPIRE, SO HE TELLS ALL THE PEOPLE TO GO BACK TO THEIR HOMETOWN TO BE REGISTERED AND COUNTED.

Donate books you no longer need. (You'll be giving the stories a second life!)

December 11: JOSEPH TAKES MARY, WHO IS PREGNANT, TO HIS HOMETOWN OF BETHLEHEM TO BE COUNTED.

Pick up litter. (It'll help the reindeer to have a safer journey!)

December 12: WHILE JOSEPH AND MARY ARE IN BETHLEHEM, THE TIME COMES FOR THE BABY TO BE BORN.

Offer free babysitting for a family so they can do some Christmas shopping.

Missions

FaithWorks Pantry - Ongoing

The Pantry continues to see a larger than usual need this holiday season. Donations of oatmeal, cereal, and fruit, as well as paper products would be greatly appreciated.



Pantry Volunteers – 4th Saturday

The pantry is looking for a few new volunteers for the 4th Saturday of each month from 9:30-noon, starting in January. We assign volunteers 3-4 months out in advance. We prefer to have 3-4 people to help carry bags out to patrons vehicles, two people to stand at the “misc table” to help hand out the toiletries and extra items available, and then one person at the sign-in table. If this is something you, or your small group, would be willing to commit to on a rotating basis, please contact Deb Koopmans at Deb.Koopmans1010@gmail.com

Mission Follow-Up – Central Middle School

We made an initial delivery of coats to Central Middle School along with many hats and scarves made by those in our congregation. Thanks to all for your generosity.

Contact Information

For additional information or questions on these or other Mission Projects please contact Dawn Stock, dawn.stock@faithwestwood.com or 402-895-3394 ext. 1012

Mission Offerings

The Mundy Family

The Mission Offering today will go towards Jay and Susan Mundy who are Missionaries from our church serving through Aim Air in East and Central Africa. See the attached insert for an update letter from Jay.

Last week’s offering: United Methodist Student Sunday = \$361.66

ATTENTION SENIORS: Review Your Medicare Advantage/Part D Drug Plans through Dec. 7th.

Even if you are satisfied with your current Medicare Advantage or Part D drug plan, you should check to see if there is another plan that will offer better health and/or drug coverage for less. Medicare Part D drug plans change medications and prices every year. Schedule a private review here at church by calling Barb Strominger, a congregation member and trained Part D Medicare counselor, at 402-689-7641. Our congregation members who met with Barb last year were very pleased with the information and savings she was able to provide them.

Hospital and Pre-Surgical Visitation

Our goal is to visit those in our congregation when you are hospitalized and to pray with you at the hospital before any surgeries you may require. These visits are made based upon a specific request from you or an immediate family member who lets us know that you have been, or will be, hospitalized. Our Congregational Care Director can be contacted 24/7 at 402-650-9489 or vikki.ohara@faithwestwood.com and is available to be there at any time of the day or night.

New Home? Home Blessings Available

FaithWestwood will now be offering the United Methodist “Service of Home Blessing.” This brief service may be done at any time but is especially appropriate when you have recently moved to a new home or apartment. Some families combine this with a “house warming” or “open house,” while others include close friends and family, and others just immediate family. To arrange a home blessing, contact Vikki O’Hara, M.Div., Congregational Care Director, at vikki.ohara@faithwestwood.com or 402-650-9489. When your house is blessed you will receive a special plaque to display in your home.

Expecting a Baby? Please let us know!

Please let our Blessed Beginnings ministry know as soon as you are pregnant! We have a gift for you to use throughout your pregnancy and want to be able to walk with you and pray for you, your family and your baby during your pregnancy! We also arrange for pastoral visitation when you are hospitalized and deliver your baby. To make the ministry team aware of your pregnancy, please contact Vikki O’Hara, M.Div., Congregational Care Director, at vikki.ohara@faithwestwood.com or 402-650-9489.

What’s Happening

Amazing Grays

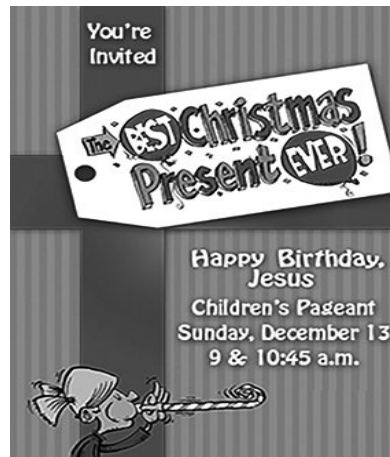
The Amazing Grays will meet Tuesday, Decemeber 15 at 12:00 noon. Reservations for lunch should be made by Monday, December 14 by either signing the attendance card on Sunday morning, or calling Howard and Carolyn Rhoten at 402-895-3530. Jill Anderson will present our Christmas program.

Interested in membership?

Contact Holly Timberlake at holly.timberlake@faithwestwood.com or 402-895-3394 x 1013.

Baptism Orientation

Interested in baptism? Our next Baptism Orientation is on Wednesday, January 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. Register with Jen Stolp at jen.stolp@faithwestwood.com or 402-895-3394 x 1017.



Severe Weather Policy

Taking into consideration any Millard School closures, cancellation of Church activities due to severe weather conditions will be initiated and/or confirmed by the Senior Pastor and/or Director of Business Administration. In general, the Church will remain open, unless conditions present a safety concern for staff and/or groups scheduled to meet at the Church.

When the decision is made to close the church, an announcement will be placed on the church’s phone system and on the church’s homepage (www.faithwestwood.com). All scheduled daytime and evening events (meetings, small groups, bible studies, support groups, etc.) will be cancelled and the church office will be closed (unless staff is notified otherwise).

Please note the Child Development Center (CDC) has a separate policy with regard to severe weather. Generally, the CDC closes only when UNO closes

DECEMBER 6, 2015

Sunday - 9 am

Prelude

Welcome.....Pastor Steve Todd

Hymn.....“Signs of the Endings”

Advent Candle Lighting.....Buss Family

Song.....“Waiting, Waiting”

Little Angels..... “This is the Night of Love”
Sue Hamilton, director

Children’s Time..... Leah Dinoso

OpportunitiesBrenda Bowers

Offering..... “The Yearning”
Chancel Choir, Jill Anderson, director

Act of Praise..... His Name is Wonderful, #174

Offering PrayerPastor Steve Todd

Hymn..... Freely, Freely, #389

Scripture: Luke 4:16-19Gary Jones

MessageJesus Sets Us Free
Pastor Steve Todd

Prayer of Confession - The Great Thanksgiving - The Lord’s Prayer

Communion.....There’s a Song in the Air, #249
.....I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, #206
..... O Come, O Come Emmanuel, #211
..... Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming, #216
..... Take Our Bread, #640
..... They’ll Know We Are Christians, #2223 (FWS*)

Blessing.....Pastor Steve Todd

Shalom

***This hymn is from The Faith We Sing book, which is different from our hymnal. Please read the lyrics from the screen.**

