

## 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](http://www.faithwestwood.com)

---

**PRAYER CHAIN:** [prayers@faithwestwood.com](mailto: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 IS GOD WITH US - December 20, 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:

## Vikki O'Hara, M.Div., Congregational Care Director

I'm here to help you with...

- prayer: prayer chain, bulletin prayer list, worship prayer teams
- pastoral visitation: hospital, pre-surgical, nursing home/home-bound
- funeral officiating, all funeral arrangements; home/apartment blessings
- short-term counseling & referrals in times of challenge and crisis
- financial assistance, food pantry assistance for those in our congregation
- connect/serve with ministry teams: CareCallers, CarePartners, Blanketed with Prayer, Linus, CareMAT-ers, Angels on Wheels, Blessed Beginnings, MealTrain; Gardening Angels, Chancel/Foyer Décor Team, Red Cross blood drives
- connect/serve with support groups: DivorceCare, GriefShare, Single & Parenting, LifeHappens
- Reading Between the Lines and Women of Wisdom (women's book groups)



Contact me at: [vikki.ohara@faithwestwood.com](mailto:vikki.ohara@faithwestwood.com) or 402-650-9489 (cell, preferred)

# Coming Up @ FaithWestwood...

## December 24 - JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING

Shepherds never leave their sheep at night. They have to defend the flock against predators and rustlers. But one night, a band of shepherds slipped away from their sleeping sheep and ran into town. All they found was a baby. Just a baby. But this baby was a promise from God. This baby changes everything.

## December 27 - LOVE IS THE ENEMY - Anthony King, guest speaker

Why does hate exist? Why can't everyone love and accept everyone? Hate exists, and it's powerful and ugly. And it has an enemy.

3D

CHILDREN'S  
**Ministry**

Children's Director: Leah Dinoso  
[leah.dinoso@faithwestwood.com](mailto:leah.dinoso@faithwestwood.com)  
402-895-3394x1002

## Nursery & PreK – Story Sparklers

**Bible Story:** The angels tell about Jesus. The Shepherds • Luke 2:8-20

**Bottom Line:** God gave us Jesus.

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

## Elementary School – Triple Dog Dare

**Bible Story:** How the Lord Gave Christmas (Jesus is born) • Luke 2:1-7

**Bottom Line:** God gave us the greatest gift. What will you give?

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

## Advent Calendar

**December 20th** - MORE ANGELS COME TO CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS-- THEY ARRIVE AT THE SHEPHERD'S FIELD AND BEGIN PRAISING GOD! Donate meals to No Kid Hungry.

**December 21st** - THE SHEPHERDS LEAVE THEIR FLOCKS AND HURRY TO FIND MARY, JOSEPH AND THE BABY WHO IS LYING IN A MANGER. Make ornaments for your neighbors. (Help them deck their halls!)

**December 22nd** - AFTER THEY SEE THE BABY, THE SHEPHERDS EXCITEDLY GO AND TELL EVERYONE THEY RUN INTO THE GOOD NEWS! Donate new, awesome toys to Toys for Tots.

**December 23rd** - THE SHEPHERDS RETURN TO THEIR FLOCKS, PRAISING GOD FOR ALL THEY HAD SEEN AND HEARD. Feed the birds. (A tweet treat!)

**December 24th** - MARY NAMES THE BABY JESUS JUST AS THE ANGEL HAD TOLD HER TO DO. Candy cane bomb the cars in the parking lot.

**December 25th** - GOD HAS SENT HIS SON TO RESCUE US BECAUSE HE LOVES US! Go back to Day 1 and read God's story of compassion from beginning to end. Merry Christmas! God loves you!

MSHS

STUDENT  
**Ministry**

Interim Student Ministry Director: Holly Timberlake  
[holly.timberlake@faithwestwood.com](mailto:holly.timberlake@faithwestwood.com)  
402-895-3394 x 1013

Middle School Program Director: Anthony King  
[anthony.king@faithwestwood.com](mailto:anthony.king@faithwestwood.com)  
402-895-3394 x 1005

Middle School Ministry (Grades 6-8) - Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:30pm  
@ FaithWestwood

High School Ministry (Grades 9-12) - Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:30pm  
@ FaithWestwood

We are currently on holiday break. Come and join us on Wednesday, January 6th!



## Missions

### FaithWorks 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



### Central Middle School Administrative Help – January 8

Central Middle School is looking for 3 volunteers that could help in the office on report card distribution day, Friday, January 8, from 9:30-11:30.

### Supplies for Costa Rica Mission Trip - Ongoing

We will be collecting supplies for the Costa Rica Mission Trip from now until January 15, 2016. A collection box will be located outside the office.

- **Sewing & Craft Items** - Clothing Patterns, notions, knitting, crochet, embroidery supplies, fabric, sewing machines, fabric or glass acrylic paint, brushes.
- **Household Items** - Twin sheet sets and towels.
- **Children’s Items** - Bible crafts, school supplies, and soccer balls.
- **Items for In-Country CFCI Missionaries & Office** - Digital Camera with Video Option like Canon EOS or 32” Monitor, Laptop Computer. If you are interested in donating any of these items please contact Dawn Stock before purchasing to ensure compatibility.

### 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

### Carlos Mestayer

The mission offering this morning will go to support the work of Carlos Mestayer, our Missionary Partner in Costa Rica.

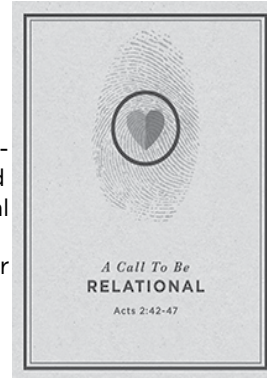


Last week’s offering: Together = \$985.18

### January Series

#### Fingerprints Putting Our Values on Everything We Touch

Your fingerprints are an expression of your uniqueness. At FaithWestwood, our uniqueness finds expression in five values. It’s how we do life in Jesus. The more we know him, the more relational, practical, generational, missional, and invitational we become. Our aim is to put these prints on everything we touch!



### 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



### Christmas Eve Opportunities

Looking for something to do for others on Christmas Eve? We have some wonderful opportunities for families and individuals to serve by ushering or greeting at one of the Christmas Eve services. Stop by the Information Center in the foyer to sign up or contact Jen Stolp at jen.stolp@faithwestwood.com or 402-895-3394 x 1017.

### 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 20, 2015

## Sunday - 9 am

Prelude .....	Handbell Choir
Welcome.....	Pastor Steve Todd
Call to Worship .....	Pastor Steve Todd
Advent Candle Lighting.....	McCullough Family
Song.....	“Waiting, Waiting”
Hymn.....	Hark the Herald Angels Sing, #240
Children’s Time.....	Pastor Steve Todd
Opportunities .....	Brenda Bowers
Offering.....	Handbell Choir
Act of Praise.....	Emmanuel, Emmanuel, #204
Offering Prayer - The Lord’s Prayer .....	Pastor Steve Todd
Hymn.....	O Little Town of Bethlehem, #230
Prayer Blanket Blessing .....	Vikki O’Hara
Scripture: Matthew 1:18-23.....	Terry Lammert
Hymn.....	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, #224
Message .....	Jesus Is God with Us Pastor Steve Todd
Hymn (as time allows).....	In the Bleak Midwinter, #221
Blessing.....	Pastor Steve Todd
Shalom	

