



WESTLAKE NEWS

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A Journey of Trust

A verse that I memorized in 5th grade Sunday School that God continues to bring back to me is Proverbs 3:5-6:

***⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall ^[a]direct your paths.*** (NKJV)

No matter what I encounter, I know that:

1. God loves me unconditionally.
2. Out of that love, He allows me to face challenges and trials so that I have an opportunity to deepen my Christ-like character (fruits of the Spirit) in order to broaden my ministry capacity, and more faithfully fulfill Christ's eternal calling. I wish He would skip using the trials, but that is all a part of His plan.
3. He will provide what I need, not necessarily what I want, so my joy will be

grounded *in Him*, and not be driven by the roller-coaster ride of circumstances.

Sometimes, God asks me to take Contentment 101 over again, so that I will better have a grasp of this. Even Paul had to learn contentment, because it did not come naturally: “

...I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”

I have seen many Christians take verse 13 out of context, and become bitter because they think if they have made good plans, live a good life, God somehow “owes” them a prosperous life with few problems.

4. Even though I may not see why things happen as they do, I know He will in *all things*, use them for the good, as I trust him. How might He be using “less than pleasant circumstances” for our good and His glory? This is my final newsletter as the Specialized Transitional Pastor at Westlake Presbyterian Church. Our official journey together (after an interview and several times preaching) began on March 1, 2017; my contract ends on August 31, 2018; my last Sunday with you will be August 26, 2018. I feel truly blessed to have been given the opportunity to have journeyed with you during this time; while there are those I may not see beyond this ending time, I feel that I have made many life-long friendships.

Has my leadership been perfect? No, like every other church I have served, I have been an imperfect pastor with flaws, and despite my best intentions, have fallen short on various occasions. Have things turned out as I had hoped? No. Yet, amidst my failings, I feel I have given my best shot. If you have any concerns or if I have offended /failed you in some way, please contact me.

Many have asked what is next for me on the horizon. I don't fully know. Again, God asks me to trust Him with all my heart, and in His timing He will direct my paths.

It was clear in January; however, He wanted me to start a 501c3 nonprofit called *Transitional and Transformational Ministries (TNT)*. Using free time, vacation time, personal days afforded me in my contract, and a few days granted me by session in my Professional Development

leave, all state and federal filings have been made and approved. God has also gone before me to provide a wonderful ecumenical governing board, advisory board, and what I call an “honorary” board. Anyone can be a part of this “honorary” board, and I would be truly blessed to have any of you sit on this board. The requirements are simply:

- a) *Affirm the mission,*
- b) *Affirm my leadership to fulfill the mission, and*
- c) *Agree to pray for this ministry.*

While I have provided updated information to session, I am willing to provide the rest of you a broader view of what this ministry entails. Text me or call me at 616-443-8504 or email me at rogergrandia@gmail.com and I will send the same document I provided session.

The thumb nail sketch of this is as follows:
TNT Ministry's Mission/Purpose: By God's grace to enable individuals, congregations, and organizations to develop their God-given kingdom potential through the power (dunamis) of the Holy Spirit.

We will seek to accomplish this through:

1. Consulting and Coaching
2. Contracted Specialized Transitional Ministry Services
3. Speaking (individual as well as in seminars and conferences)
4. Mission Trips
5. Establishment of Discipleship Huddles and Missional Communities

6. Encouraging Participation in the ecumenical Michigan (Presbyterian) Pilgrimage,(or other 4th Day renewal weekend like Walk to Emmaus, De Colores, Cursillo, Via De Cristo, etc)
7. An Endowment Fund where monies will be available (through application) for missional endeavors.

While the web domain of: *tntministries.org* has been purchased, the website is yet to be developed. The above will transpire as funds and opportunities become available. I covet your prayers for all of this. (I am hoping in the near future to have another online silent art auction and/or one “live” to help raise funds to go toward the \$1510 monthly health insurance premiums in the TNT Ministries budget, as this is priority

amidst Jill and my health conditions; all money bid above the minimum bid or separate contributions are tax deductible). Let me know if you would like direct notice of these silent art auctions or other fundraising events.

Even as I covet your prayers, be assured I will continue to pray for you individually and as a body that you will:

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and in doing so experience Him: directing your paths.

All To Christ’s Glory,

Pastor Roger

WESTLAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY			
May 31, 2018			
OPERATING BUDGET			
	MONTH	YTD	BUDGET
INCOME	8,085	64,084	134,121
EXPENSES	15,683	69,155	171,771
INCOME VS EXPENSES	(7,598)	(5,071)	

WESTLAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY			
June 30, 2018			
OPERATING BUDGET			
	MONTH	YTD	BUDGET
INCOME	5,522	69,605	134,121
EXPENSES	13,291	82,446	171,771
INCOME VS EXPENSES	(7,769)	(12,840)	

August Celebrations	
<u>Birthdays</u>	
1	Jeremy Bishop
2	Kyle Tharp Sara Paulson
20	Linda Morcombe
21	John Dolbee Joshua Gerber Steve Tharp
24	Laura Bishop
28	Peggy Fettes
30	Larry Gregory
<u>Anniversaries</u>	
5	Steve and Lisa Tharp
16	John and Nicole Kincaid
22	Mike and Linda Morcombe
24	David and Shirlee Burlingame

To Our Fellow Worshipers and Friends at Westlake:

We want to thank you for the warm and faithful welcome we received when we transferred our membership. We came to Westlake mainly because of Pastor Kate and her leadership at that time. We were greatly appreciative of her leadership, her sermons, and her thoroughly coordinated worship services. We were deeply saddened by her departure. However, we have been grateful for the care extended to us through cards, visits by the Christmas Carolers and the passionate care of your members and that of Pastor Roger. We realized during the past few months that we really missed traditional worship services with good old traditional hymns and the thrill of hearing great organ music. Thus, we have decided to return to the First United Methodist Church where we were members for 42 years. The pastor there is retiring and he has been a friend since he began his ministry. Thus, we wanted to return while he could still welcome us back. We will miss all of you and trust that God will continue to bless you as you go forward into the future.

In Christ's Love,

Paul and Carol Reid



Please remember the following members of the congregation in your daily prayers: Marian Jewett, Art and Pat Wickert, Richard Phillips, Larry and Susan Gregory, Grace Taylor, Bill Lang, Tom Lightbody, Roger Cowles, Paul and Martha Yunker, Frank and Bev Crookes, Jill Grandia, Charlotte Flickema, Lorraine Wonderly.

News from the Deacons

How can it already be August! We pray that the summer months have passed peacefully and enjoyably for our church family. Of course, August is still considered summer so there are still many warm days and nights to enjoy. The Deacons continue to reach out to our congregation with love and compassion and also support ongoing mission efforts, even though we also are in the midst of a summer break. Please consider partnering with us to ensure that all in our church family, whether they are able to come to worship on Sunday or not, feel the love of Christ every day and all the time.

Love, Kerri

CURRENT ELDERS

Class of 2018:

Frank Crookes

Tara Dolbee

Class of 2020

Jody Owens (Clerk)

Sara Paulson

Gary Gammons

Jean Smith

CURRENT DEACONS

Class of 2018

Kerri Comai

Karen Patterson

Ceci Porter

Class of 2020

Eleanor Shelley

Shirlee Burlingame

Thera Good

Donna Lang

Linda Morcombe



Presbyterian Women

Nurture Faith, Support Mission, Work for Justice & Peace, & Build Community

PW is so thankful for what you have done to help PW with their missions throughout the year. We continue to do our missions projects and sometimes we are able to add a new one for the year.

Please remember the Jail Ministry – they need Bibles and religious training material.

Our PW meeting is on the 3rd Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. following the circle meeting. This is our planning meeting for the new year and every woman is invited to attend.

Church Women United

**“REACHING FOR WHOLENESS IN
SOLIDARITY WITH GOD’S
CREATION”**

You are invited to the Human Rights Celebration at Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church on Saturday, September 8. Lunch at noon and program begins at 1:00 p.m.

RSVP’s are appreciated.

Contact Jean Smith.

Our mission project during the month of August is our **STAMP MINISTRY**.

What is STAMP MINISTRY? We are a part of Church Women United and they have been connected with the Alliance Women’s Stamp Ministry for a long time. This unique ministry was started in the early 1970’s and it is located at Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Myers, Florida. The volunteers at this community collect, process, and resell used stamps to stamp dealers and collectors. The proceeds go towards overseas missions projects. \$25,000 a year is the average amount collected from this stamp ministry.

Ask your family, friends, and neighbors to save stamps for you. Please bring them to church and put them in the labeled container on the bench in the foyer.

Our recycling will help our brothers and sisters around the world.