

# WEST HEIGHTS

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

745 N Westlink Avenue Wichita, KS 67212 (316) 722-3805 www.westheightsumc.org

**2020** Guide Book & Directory

## **West Heights United Methodist Church**

745 N. Westlink Ave., Wichita, KS 67212 316-722-3805 westheights@westheightsumc.org www.westheightsumc.org

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body–Jews or Greeks, slaves or free–and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many."

(1 Corinthians 12:12-14)

#### Dear Friends,

The Guide Book you have before you is the 2020 edition of our membership directory. It is, however, much more than a list of phone numbers. Included are the many ministries, studies and places for service. We hope through the many programs we have, to connect you to one another. There are several opportunities to interact for children, youth, adults and senior adults.

I also invite you to look over the ministries described here; if you are not already involved, find a place to connect and live out your faith. We are glad you are a part of this community of faith.

Graced to Serve, Pastor Randy Quinn



West Heights UMC is called to Change Lives by Connecting Hearts to Jesus Christ.

## West Heights' Staff

Program Staff	
Randy Quinn	Senior Pastor
Bev Baumgartner	Associate Pastor/Youth Director
Ron Rich	Visitation Pastor
Ellan Muyskens	Director of Music Ministries
Support Staff	
Julie McCargo	Office Manager
Haylee Harris	Childcare Coordinator
Darlene Cornfield	Kitchen Manager
Isaiah Shields	Lead Custodian
Preschool Staff	
Linda Gott	Preschool Director
Music Staff	
Greg Coykendall/Valerie Philips	Pianists
Edna Young	Director of Bell Choir

## Worship at West Heights

#### **Sunday Mornings**

Classic Worship with Communion 8:15 Sunday School 9:15 Café Chapel 10:00 Celebration Worship with Children's Time 10:30

Childcare available for birth to Pre-K in room 008. Children of kindergarten age and older are encouraged to attend worship with their parents and share in our community of faith.

- **Ash Wednesday -** In late winter, this service is to prepare for the beginning of Lent, including the imposition of ashes.
- **Good Friday -** The Service of Tenebrae is held the Friday before Easter Sunday. On this day we commemorate the passion, or suffering, and death on the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Easter Service - Easter Sunday

- **Confirmation Sunday -** odd years in May Confirmation refers to the decision usually a youth makes to respond to God's grace with intentional commitment and reaffirming his or her baptismal vows before the congregation.
- **Worship Caravan Sunday -** Mid June, Caravan Sunday is a youth led worship service. The Caravaners return home from a ten day trip sharing God's Word all across the nation.
- **All Saints Sunday -** Typically the first Sunday in November, we remember those who have passed in the last year.
- **Stan Kenton Sunday -** Typically the first Sunday in December, the Stan Kenton Brass performs Christmas carol arrangements by Stan Kenton.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services -** December 24, 5:30 Family Friendly, 7:30 Family Friendly with Choir, 11:00 Traditional with Communion.

## The Beginning of West Heights The First Leap of Faith Years

The story of West Heights United Methodist Church started on July 22, 1956, at an informal meeting where a group of concerned Methodists considered the need for a new mission church, because there was no organized Methodist congregation west of the new "Floodway."

At that time, the area in which West Heights is now located was not a part of Wichita. Instead there were three separate small communities of Westlink, Rolling Hills, and Country Acres. Soon, however, the whole area was annexed into the city.

After that mid-July meeting, and preliminary surveys done by the Methodist Conference, the first formal morning worship service for the new church was held August 5, 1956, at the Little Red Schoolhouse (Peterson School) on West Central Avenue. Five weeks later, Church School classes for all ages also started at the same location, and continued there for several weeks.

The core group for the new congregation involved 12 families, some formerly affiliated with Trinity Methodist Church, who agreed to "take a leap of faith" and start a new church.

On September 9, 1956, the Rev. Gene S. Seeley assumed his duties as the first full-time minister for West Heights. A month later the West Heights name became official, and the Charter was opened. By the time the Charter was closed on January 6, 1957, there were 54 names on it.

Earlier, on November 5, 1956, an official organizational meeting took place at 9812 Birch Lane, a residential property acquired by the embryo congregation.

The Birch Lane property was used as a temporary meeting place for education and worship for over a year while a more appropriate church building was designed and built on the 3.5 acre site at 745 North Westlink.

In April, 1957, a group of 50 more members joined, including the youth in the church's first Confirmation Class. By the end of the first organized year (November 1957) there were 166 members.

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### **Our Pastors**

Rev. Gene Seely	Sep 1956-Sep 1957
Rev. Irvin A. Unruh	Oct 1957-May 1963
Rev. Charles Curtis	Jun 1963-Jun 1966
Rev. George Gardner	Jun 1966-Jun 1976
Rev. Jim Pohl (Assoc)	Aug 1972-Jul 1975
Rev. Wayne Castle	Jun 1976-Jun 1977
Rev. Jack Ropp	Jun 1977-Sep 1978
Rev. Keith Williamson	Sep 1978-Jun 1979
Rev. Cecil Findley	Sep 1978-Jun 1979
Rev. Sam Muyskens	Jun 1979-Jun 1992
Rev. Wenners Ballard (Assoc)	Jun 1986-Jun 1988
Rev. Judy Castor, Deacon/	
Director of Christian Education	Aug 1986-Dec 2004
Rev. Ken Hathaway	Jul 1992-Jun 1999
Rev. Dave Broddle (Assoc)	Jun 1993-Oct 2003
Rev. John Martin	Jul 1999-Jun 2004
Rev. Rick Thornton (Assoc)	Nov 2003-Jun 2004
Rev. Mehl Cruit (Assoc)	Jul 2004-Jun 2008
Rev. Dan Ferguson	Jun 2005-Jun 2006
Rev. Cindy Watson	Jul 2006-Jun 2016
Rev. Christopher Eshelman (Assoc)	Aug 2008-Jun 2013
Rev. Andrea Beyer (Assoc)	June 2013-Jun 2015
Rev. Brenda Kostner (Assoc)	July 2015-Jun 2016
Rev. Randy Quinn	July 2016-Current
Rev. Bev Baumgartner (Assoc)	July 2017-Current

## **Sunday School**

West Heights offers classes for adults as well as children. All classes are from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. every Sunday.

Family & Faith	E035
New Journeys	
New Horizons	
Pathfinders	E031
Emmaus	E030
High School Youth	Youth Center
Middle School Youth	Activity Center
3 years-5th grade	E013

Classes designated with an E are located on our lower level. Please use the stairs adjacent to the sanctuary or the elevators.





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2405 N. Ridge Rd. | Wichita, KS 67205 | (316) 729-5700

## **Nursery**

### **Adult Ministries**

#### **Book Studies**

- **Tops** Each Monday at 10:00 a.m. and Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference room.
- **Caregivers Support Group –** The 3rd Tuesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel.
- **United Methodist Women -** UMW is made up of morning, afternoon and evening circle groups that also all come together for an occasional meeting.

### **Children's Ministries**

**Club 2:52 - 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. school year Wednesdays**Gather with other K through 5th grade to make new friends and grow in faith. We begin at 5:30 with a free kid-friendly meal in the gym and activities. Check out the children's area on our website for more details.

## Children's Ministries EVENTS

- **Summer JAM -** These camps are a great time to grow in faith and fellowship. Each camp is offered for a morning.
- **Christmas Craft workshop -** This is a family event to make Christmas items.

3rd Grade Bibles - Presented during worship in September.

Blessing of the Backpacks in August

Family Bingo Night - A fun Friday evening event in late January.

#### **MISSIONS**

Children's Ministries participates in different missions each year as chosen by our teachers.

#### New Patch Series From P.R.A.Y.

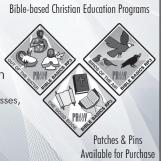
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## **Church Benefactors**

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#### **Tranquillity PT**

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## **Music Opportunities**

#### Adults

**Worship Choir** sings at the 10:30 Sunday service year-round except for the month of July. They meet Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome-no auditions are required.

**Worship Ensemble** is an ensemble of young women and men who assist in leading worship.

**Handbells** meets Wednesdays in E036 from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. They participate in worship services throughout the year.

#### Youth & Children

For more information contact Ellan Muyskens, Director of Music, 316-722-3805.

### **Preschool**

At Our Preschool We Play To Learn!

Children play at preschool, but preschool is designed so that play teaches many things.

- They learn academics and social skills.
- They develop small and large muscles.
- They build confidence, self-esteem, self-help skills and decision making skills.
- They are involved in character education.
- There is a monthly safety emphasis.
- They get to check out library books from the preschool library.
- Special visitors often stop by.
- Drop off and pick up at the car available.

Classes for 2 1/2 to 5 year-olds

Classes meet 2, 3, and 5 mornings a week

Children will say "I played at preschool today!" but they really grew in many ways.

#### **How fun! How important!**

For more information contact: Linda Gott, 316-722-2781 forchildren@westheightsumc.org

## **Shepherd's Center**

Shepherd's Center of West Wichita is a community-based organization providing educational and social enrichment opportunities for adults. Shepherd's Center of West Wichita is a non-profit organization with support through contributions, sponsoring congregations, service provided by volunteers and participant fees.

Programs are offered in two six-week Adventures in Learning sessions held yearly in the fall and spring, and three day trips generally in June, July and August.

## **Adventures in Learning**

Adventures in Learning sessions are held on Thursdays for six weeks. Each morning participants choose between seven topics offered during two one-hour periods. There is a noon luncheon followed by a program. Afternoon opportunities include special interest instruction ranging from computer classes to traditional creative arts.

#### **Summer Day Trips**

The excursions are by first class motor coach to interesting locations in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. Fee charges are based on actual trip expenses.

#### To Participate, Volunteer, Additional Information

The Shepherd's Center office is located near Fellowship Hall at West Heights. Letters/memos can be addressed: Shepherd's Center, West Heights United Methodist Church, 745 N. Westlink Ave., Wichita, KS 67212. Telephone: 721-2208. Email: scwestwichita@sbcglobal.net

## Women's Group United Methodist Women

We are the United Methodist Women of West Heights. Currently we are 118 members strong and would love to add you to our numbers. We are organized into groups called circles. To meet the needs of a variety of schedules, our meeting days and times will give you several choices.

#### UMW Circles

Circle Name	<b>Meeting Time</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>
Ruth	Third Wednesday @ 1:00 p.m.	Sheri Cronn
		213-3415
Mary Martha	Second Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.	Judy Zimbelman
		650-3436
Hannah	Second Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.	Peggy Griswold
		729-8426
Deborah	Third Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.	Denice Robinson
		655-3432
Susanna	Fourth Monday @ 7:00 p.m.	Lana Wyckoff
		721-5827
		Margo Ottman
		617-9629

#### **Purpose**

The organized unit of UMW shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons, through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

#### **Women's Group General Information**

We laugh, share our lives, support each other, and work together on projects around the church and in our community. More than anything else, we do what women do best, we care. As United Methodist Women, we are encouraged to help improve the lives of those around us. To make this possible we sponsor dinners, bake sales and many other events throughout the year. Typically, profits are used for special needs in our church, community and world. Because we are primarily a service organization, we provide comfort in the form of funeral dinners to families at their time of need. Periodically throughout the year, we also assist the kitchen coordinator with maintenance. Helping our church and our world while we enjoy time together gives us great joy.

#### **UMW Reading Program**

The purpose of the Reading Program is to encourage United Methodist Women:

- 1. To expand understanding of and participation in God's mission;
- To increase sensitivity to all human beings-their needs, interests, and concerns;
- 3. To encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today;
- 4. To grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life.
- 5. To enhance self-knowledge and to act from that knowledge;
- 6. To strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

### **Youth Ministries**

We believe in the spiritual development and the empowerment of the youth in our congregation. In order to nurture their faith formation, leadership, talents, and relationships, we offer a wide variety of activities throughout the year. We always love to welcome visitors and new friends into our group, so come join us!

Below is a list of some of our programs. We always have additional activities happening, so for the most accurate information you should contact our Youth Director by calling the Church Office (316-722-3805).

### School Year Activities (mid-August — mid-May)

#### Sunday

- Sunday school from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the foyer outside Cafe Chapel
- Common Meal & UMYF from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Hatfield Family Life Center (Gym) see website for meeting dates

#### Wednesday

- Chat Room meets from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Board of Youth meets once a month from 7:00-7:30 p.m. See website for dates

#### Other School Year Events

- Fundraisers
- Lock-Ins
- Volunteer Projects
- Fellowship Events
- Small Group Bible Studies

### Summer Activities (mid-May – mid-Aug)

**Sunday morning:** Sunday school from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the foyer outside CC

Early June: Caravan Mission trip - see calendar for details

**July:** Middle School Swim – fun opportunity for Middle School students to swim together

July: Youth team with various agencies to do mission work around Wichita.

### **Missions Program**

The West Heights Missions Program exists to provide everyone an opportunity to serve our gracious God by being a Volunteer in Mission. We are passionate about our purpose: "To be the loving hands and feet of Jesus to our world" and to "Give hope, love, comfort and relief" to those in need. We serve wherever we are called to go (local, regional, national and international) and welcome anyone who wishes to express their faith through action. Mission opportunities are offered year-round so that people of all demographics and situations can participate. We hope you will join us! Some of our recent mission events include:

- Habitat for Humanity Build
- Rebuilding Together OKC, providing home repairs for low-income, elderly residents
- CROP Walk
- GraceMed Say Grace Thanksgiving Day 5K Race, supporting healthcare for low-income residents
- ERT (Emergency Response Team) Ice Storm clean-up in McPherson
- Warming Souls, feeding the homeless
- Food 4 Kids, school backpack feeding program at the Kansas Food Bank
- OK UMC Disaster Ministry, repairing two mobile homes damaged by 2015 tornadoes
- Filling The Gap, child lunch program during Spring Break and two weeks before school begins
- Family Promise
- Petersen Bible Club