



The Sanctuary

April 27, 2025

2nd Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Allegretto
Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Peter Fennema

WORDS OF WELCOME

Molly Vetter

May the peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

HYMN

Please stand as you are able.

This Is My Father's World

**United Methodist Hymnal
No. 144**

1. This is my Fa-ther's world and to my lis-tening ears all
2. This is my Mo-ther's world the birds their car - ols raise, the
3. This is my Mak-er's world. O let me ne'er for - get that

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
morn - ing light, the flow - ers bright, de - clare their Mak-er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ru - ler yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world: I rest me in the thought of
This is my Mo-ther's world: she shines in all that's fair; in the
This is my Mak-er's world: why should my heart be sad? The

rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.
rust - ling grass I hear her pass; she speaks to me ev ery where.
heav - ens ring; let na - ture sing. God reigns, let the earth be glad!

WORDS: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901
MUSIC: TERRA BEATA; Trad. English melody; adapt. by Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915
Used with permission. OneLicense.net #A-712504

MORNING PRAYER

Dick Sun

Please be seated.

A prayer for our earth:

*All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.*

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

*Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.*

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

*O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.*

*Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.*

*Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.*

*Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.*

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

~from "Laudato Si," Pope Francis, 2015

CHILDREN'S TIME

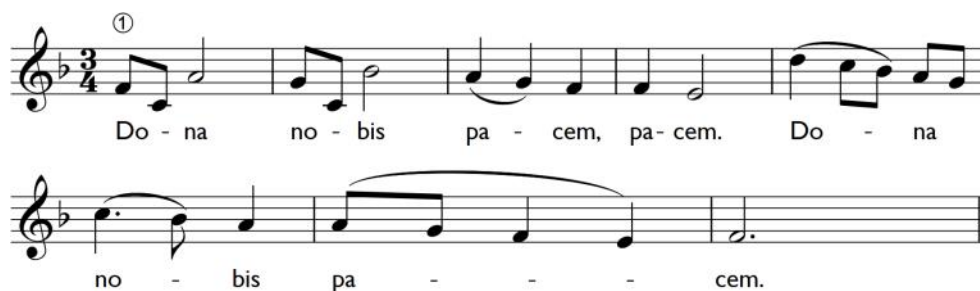
Molly Vetter

THE COMMUNITY INTERACTS WITH THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN

Dona Nobis Pacem

United Methodist Hymnal
No. 376



WORDS: Trad. Latin
MUSIC: DONA NOBIS PACEM, Trad.
Used by permission, OneLicense.net #A-712504

*Hear this, you who trample on the needy and destroy
the poor of the land, saying,
“When will the new moon
be over so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath
so that we may offer wheat for sale,
make the ephah smaller, enlarge the shekel,
and deceive with false balances,
in order to buy the needy for silver
and the helpless for sandals,
and sell garbage as grain?”*

*The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget what they have done.
Will not the land tremble on this account,
and all who live in it mourn,
as it rises and overflows like the Nile,
and then falls again, like the River of Egypt?*

*On that day, says the Lord God,
I will make the sun go down at noon,
and I will darken the earth in broad daylight.
I will turn your feasts into sad affairs
and all your singing into a funeral song;
I will make people wear mourning clothes
and shave their heads;
I will make it like the loss of an only child,
and the end of it like a bitter day.
The days are surely coming, says the Lord God,
when I will send hunger and thirst on the land;
neither a hunger for bread, nor a thirst for water,
but of hearing the Lord’s words.
They will wander from sea to sea,
and from north to east;
they will roam all around, seeking the Lord’s word,
but they won’t find it.
On that day the beautiful young women and the young men
will faint with thirst.
Those who swear by the guilt of Samaria,
and say, “As your god lives, Dan,”
and, “As the way of Beer-sheba lives”—
even they will fall and never rise again.*

-Common English Bible

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Soprano/Alto - sing through sections 1 & 2**Tenor/Bass** - sing section 1, 2x (two times)

WORDS: Trad. Latin
MUSIC: DONA NOBIS PACEM, Trad.
Used by permission, OneLicense.net #A-712504

SCRIPTURE READING**Exodus 16:1-8****Christopher Carter**

The whole Israelite community set out from Elim and came to the Sin desert, which is located between Elim and Sinai. They set out on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had left the land of Egypt. The whole Israelite community complained against Moses and Aaron in the desert. The Israelites said to them, "Oh, how we wish that the Lord had just put us to death while we were still in the land of Egypt. There we could sit by the pots cooking meat and eat our fill of bread. Instead, you've brought us out into this desert to starve this whole assembly to death."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I'm going to make bread rain down from the sky for you. The people will go out each day and gather just enough for that day. In this way, I'll test them to see whether or not they follow my Instruction. On the sixth day, when they measure out what they have collected, it will be twice as much as they collected on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "This evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you will see the Lord's glorious presence, because your complaints against the Lord have been heard. Who are we? Why blame us?" Moses continued, "The Lord will give you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning because the Lord heard the complaints you made against him. Who are we? Your complaints aren't against us but against the Lord."

-Common English Bible

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN**Dona Nobis Pacem****United Methodist Hymnal
No. 376****Altos** - sing through sections 1, 2, & 3**Sopranos** - sing sections 1 & 2, repeat section 2**Tenor/bass** - sing section 1, 3x (three times)

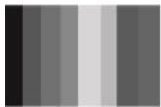
①
Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem. Do - na

②
no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

③
Do - na no - bis pa - cem. Do - na

no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

WORDS: Trad. Latin
MUSIC: DONA NOBIS PACEM, Trad.
Used by permission, OneLicense.net #A-712504

SERMON**Leaving Egypt Behind****Christopher Carter****THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD****CALL TO PRAYER****O Day of God Draw Nigh****Sanctuary Singers**

from United Methodist Hymnal, No. 730

*O day of God, draw nigh
in beauty and in power;
come with thy timeless judgment now
to match our present hour.*

*Bring to our troubled minds,
uncertain and afraid,
the quiet of a steadfast faith,
calm of a call obeyed.*

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND THE WORLD**Molly Vetter**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Molly Vetter

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND LIVES

GIVING BACK TO GOD

We are thankful for all that God has blessed us with, and we consider financial giving an act of worship. We invite you to express your worship by becoming a faithful giver to support God's work through Westwood Church. To make a one-time or recurring donation, **use the QR code** or visit **www.WestwoodUMC.org/Give**.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Earth Adorned
Waldemar Åhlén (1894-1982)

Chancel Choir

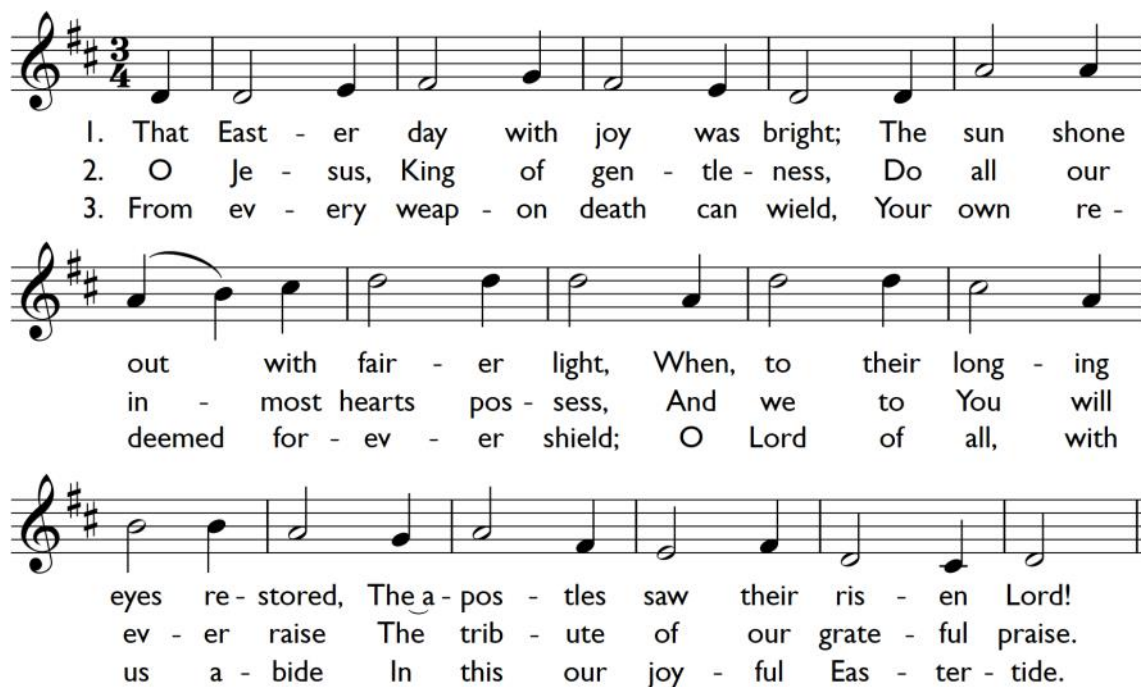
*The earth adorned in verdant robe
sends praises upward surging,
while soft winds breathe on fragrant flowers
from winter now emerging.
The sunshine bright gives warmth and light
to budding blossoms tender,
proclaiming summer splendor.*

*From out the wood, the birds now sing
and each its song now raises,
to join with all the universe
in voicing thankful praises.
With hope and joy their songs employ
a rapturous exultation
in praise of God's creation.*

*O God, amid these joys of life,
creation's glory beaming,
grant us the grace to keep your word
and live in love redeeming.
All flesh is grass, the flowers fade,
and time is fleeting ever;
God's word remains forever.*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow***UM Hymnal***Please stand as you are able.***No. 95**

Words: Doxology, adapted by Neil Weatherhogg © 1990
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, "Genevan Psalter", 1551
Used by permission, OneLicense.net #A-712504

PRAYER OF DEDICATION**Molly Vetter****THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GOES OUT TO SERVE****HYMN***That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright***Presbyterian Hymnal***Please remain standing as you are able.***No. 121**

WORDS: Trier ms., 15th century; Latin 5th C; tr. by John M. Neale, 1852, alt.
MUSIC: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, adapt. by Michael Praetorius, 1609; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1910
Used with permission. OneLicense.net #A-712504

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

Molly Vetter

BENEDICTION

Christopher Carter

POSTLUDE

Please remain seated.

Antiphon

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Peter Fennema

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter (he/him) - Preaching
Associate Pastor/Pastor of The Loft

Rev. Molly Vetter (she/her), *Senior Pastor*

Sanctuary Music Leadership

Dr. Andrew Schultz (he/him), *Dir. of Sanctuary Music*
Peter Fennema (he/him), *Organist*

Chancel Choir Section Leaders

Carmen Edano (she/her), *alto*
Taylor Jacobs (he/him), *tenor*
Byron Jones (he/him), *bass*
Jeremy Sarmiento (he/him), *choral scholar*

Liturgists

Nancy Price (she/her)
Dick Sun (he/him)

Production Team

Richard An (he/him), *Videography & Sound*
Guillermo Gonzalez (he/him), *Videography*
Eli Reynolds (he/him), *Videography*

Altar Flowers

The Bamgbose Family: *In celebration of Yinka Bamgbose's 70th Birthday. Given with love to a wonderful Mother, Sister, Aunt, and Grandmother of four beautiful grandchildren!*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The following people have requested prayer, or others have requested prayers for them:

New Requests

- For families and friends of Jackie Ray and Jackie Vincent.
- For all the international students in California and the US.

Ongoing Prayer Requests

- Eunice, a friend of Nancy Griffin
- Allison Arnold
- Beverly Clajus' brother-in-law
- Bette Caldwell
- Charles, Sabrina, and Ruby Simmons
- Penny Gipson & Family
- Joyce Wu & Michael Javalera
- Gregg Hesling
- Sherry Burch
- Rhonda K. Lawrence
- Laquetta Willis
- Beverly & Brydon Shirk
- Nancy Hill
- Bonnie Crouch
- Coral Moore
- Jim Agee
- Christina Stevens & Family
- All those affected by the recent wildfires in Pacific Palisades and Eaton Canyon
- The people of Russia, Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, Myanmar, and the Sudan.
- For our country as it faces turmoil.

These requests are held in prayer by the pastoral staff and by the prayer chain. You are encouraged to join in praying for them by name.

TODAY AT WESTWOOD CHURCH



THE LOFT - "Creation Care & The Wilderness Economy" - Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter Today, April 27th (10"30am) The Loft

This Sunday, we're celebrating Earth Day by reflecting on and reimagining our relationship with the land. After their escape from slavery and bondage, the Israelites are given the opportunity to build new economies that run counter to the Imperial Domination System they had seen within the Egyptian Kingdom. Against this social background, the wilderness narrative reveals the struggle of a people charged with cultivating a radically different way of living in community on the land.



WISDOM AT WESTWOOD: SPIRITUALITY FOR THE EARTH Today, April 27th (11am) Wesley Room and via Zoom

Pastor Molly Vetter will teach about how our faith gives us tools to better care for the earth, and how our care for the earth can help better practice our faith. This class continues our church celebration of Earth Day, and builds on our ongoing commitment to care for our planet.



AUTISM INTERACTIONS SOLUTIONS TRAINING Today, April 27th (12noon) Upper Helms Hall

Come learn about working with and alongside neurodivergent people to help make Westwood a more welcoming and accessible place for all of us! Autism Interaction Solutions is an organization dedicated to providing engaging, hands-on training to assist communities in becoming better places for neurodivergent people. Join us and be a part of embracing diversity and inclusion at Westwood! This training is open to anyone interested. To RSVP or get more information, contact Everest Harvey at everest@westwoodumc.org.

Westwood UMC Mission Statement

Westwood Church is a Christian community that welcomes all people and focuses on becoming and making disciples committed to justice, kindness and walking humbly with God. We welcome and affirm our ministry with all persons, regardless of age, race, ethnic origin, economic status, ability, gender, marital status or sexual orientation, from first-time visitor to lifetime member.

We seek to understand and carry out God's will, bearing witness to Christ's compassion and embracing the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We foster spiritual growth in all persons - children, youth, and adults; through individual and corporate prayer and study, worship of God, nurturing relationships, and participating in ministries of justice and mercy at home and in the global community. ALL ministries of Westwood UMC are available to ALL people.

A Reconciling Church: We, the faith community of Westwood Church, affirm that a God-filled perspective understands and embraces diversity and radical inclusivity; for that reason we embrace and affirm the full inclusion of everyone regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We explicitly welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people who have been marginalized and diminished within the larger United Methodist tradition. We commit to embracing the responsibility of pushing for a more open and inclusive United Methodist Church.

You are welcome here. You are supported here. You are included here.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



JOIN US IN MAY FOR "REVELATION OF HOPE."

The apocalyptic book of Revelation startles us with its vivid imagery. And while preachers and artists have frequently borrowed its images and themes to invoke fear, this Easter season we find someone wildly different: hope.

Join us on **Sundays at 9:30am in The Sanctuary** for a five-week series as Pastor Molly Vetter helps us disarm coercive and harmful theologies, and take up the power of hope in this biblical revelation of God's resurrection power.

May 4th - Revelation of Hope - The Alpha and Omega

May 11th - Revelation of Hope - Worthy is the Lamb

May 18th - Revelation of Hope - Forever and ever. Amen.

May 25th - Revelation of Hope - All things new.

June 1st - Revelation of Hope - Come, Lord Jesus!

2 BEASTS, 7 SEALS, and 1 SLAIN LAMB



WISDOM AT WESTWOOD: 2 BEASTS, 7 SEALS, & 1 SLAIN LAMB THE BOOK OF REVELATION with Rev. Dr. John Holbert

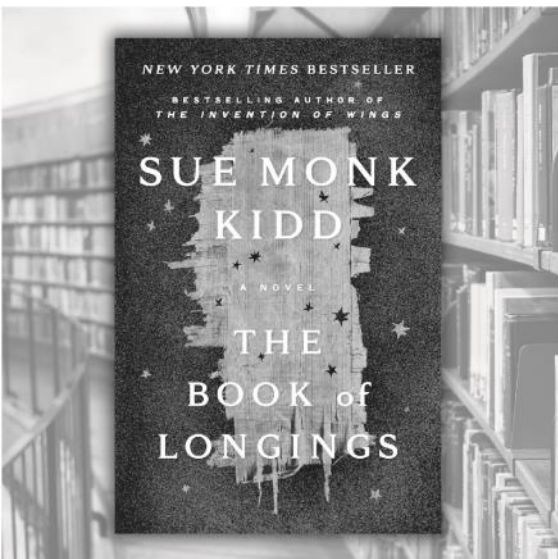
The Book of Revelation has been consistently and erroneously used as a New Testament writing to terrify the reader and to affirm the few faithful who will "escape the tribulation." This characterization is wrong on both counts. John wrote his imaginative narrative both to denounce imperial Rome and to announce the universal mercy of God, employing both harsh and compassionate language. His book, as strange as it may at first sound, holds valuable insights for his own time and for ours.

May 4th - Introduction: Approaches to Revelation (Rev. 1)

May 11th - The Messages to the 7 Churches (Rev. 2-3)

May 18th - The Vision of the Scroll (Rev. 4) and
The Woman, the Dragon, & 2 Beasts (Rev. 12-13)

May 25th - The Fall of Babylon/Rome (Rev. 18) and
The New Jerusalem (Rev. 21-22)



NEW BOOK GROUP: THE BOOK OF LONGINGS

Tuesdays starting April 22nd (12:30-1:30pm) Westwood UMC

Wednesdays starting April 23rd (7:30-8:30pm) Zoom

The plan is to cover about 100 pages per week and aim for a four-week book group. We will be using discussion questions found at the back of the teacher's edition as a starting point for our conversations. All are welcome to participate. To sign up, contact Dr. Carter at christopher@theloftla.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



QUEER GROUP

2nd & 4th Sundays (12noon) Church Courtyard

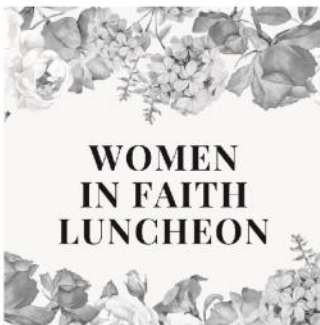
Join a community of spiritually engaged queer folks seeking conversation, connection, and growth together. For any questions or to learn more, contact Everest Harvey at everest@westwoodumc.org.



LA CIVICS PARTY

Sunday, May 18th (12noon) Wesley Room

Feeling overwhelmed by the state of politics and unsure about what YOU can do? Join the Westwood LA Voice Organizing Team to learn about political organizing, the power of community, and engaging in local politics in a meaningful way. To join our LA Civics Lesson and engagement opportunity or for information about joining the Westwood Organizing Team, contact Everest at everest@westwoodumc.org.



WOMEN IN FAITH LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 24th (11am) Helms Hall

Join us for a Women In Faith potluck luncheon as we enjoy a short program and then lunch. Please let us know if you'll need childcare when you RSVP. Don't forget to include your child(ren)'s age(s) as well. Deadline to RSVP is Sunday, May 18th. Please RSVP to Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org.



2025 ORGAN CONCERT SERIES AT WESTWOOD UMC

Join us in person at Westwood UMC or via YouTube livestream for three 60-minute concerts performed on the landmark Shaffer Memorial Organ.

Peter Fennema - Sunday, June 15th (3pm)

Dr. Emma Whitten - Sunday, June 29th (3pm)

Jason Klein-Mendoza - Sunday, July 13th (3pm)

For more info and opportunities to provide financial support for the series, visit www.WestwoodUMC.org/OrganConcerts.



SPONSOR SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

Ever thought about sponsoring the flowers on the altar? It's a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one, celebrate a special event or milestone, or just make the Sanctuary space more beautiful! Cost is \$95. You can even partner with a friend, committee, or other church group to help defray the cost. For more info or to sign up for a specific Sunday, please contact Sabrina Simmons at sabrina@westwoodumc.org or 310.474.4511.

WESTWOOD CHURCH

Rev. Molly Vetter.....Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter.....Associate Pastor/Pastor of The Loft
Dr. Deanna Edwards.....Director of Children & Families
Everest Harvey.....Director of Youth & Social Justice Ministries
Deaconess Jeanne Roe Smith.....Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation Serving UCLA
Dr. Andrew Schultz.....Sanctuary Music Director
Peter Fennema.....Organist
Carmen Edano, Taylor Jacobs, Byron Jones.....Chancel Choir Section Leaders
Sabrina Simmons.....Office Manager
Pablo Jauregui.....Facilities Manager
Julia Black.....Loft Music and Worship Director
Westley Garcia.....Director of Loft Connections
Hsin-Hua Wang.....Director of Children/Youth Choirs
Jaime Top.....Facilities Assistant
David Trotter.....Communications
Youth and Children's Ministry Staff: Maiya Aleman, Beverly Bell, Lesley Castillo, Fozieh Karimi, Ashley Kishibay, Emily Kishibay, Eva Hooten, and Uriya Simeon

West District Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi
California-Pacific Annual Conference Bishop: Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank



Today's Worship Guide

To access a digital version, use the QR code or visit www.WestwoodUMC.org/Livestream.

The Sanctuary – 9:30am

A sacred gathering with traditional liturgy, a thoughtful message, and resounding organ.

More info: www.WestwoodUMC.org

The Loft – 10:30am

An innovative gathering with spiritual conversation, creativity, coffee, and music.

More info: www.TheLoftLA.org

Westwood Kids

Westwood Church has a vibrant Sunday morning Children's Ministry. Integrating biblical stories, music, art, and play, we are able to explore God's world using multiple teaching approaches. Join us in The Sanctuary at 9:30am with the children's choir following, and at 10:45am our biblical story time. Join our Westwood Kids email by contacting Deanna Edwards at deanna@westwoodumc.org.

Grapple Group

The Grapple Group provides a spiritual community for big questions for young people in grades 6-12. For more information, contact Everest Harvey, Director of Youth & Social Justice Ministries, at everest@westwoodumc.org.

Westwood Church

10497 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
(9am - 1pm)

Contact Us

wumc@westwoodumc.org
310.474.4511