

Westview Chimes November/December 2024



Do it Anyway *The Paradoxical Commandments*

This poem/prayer was found on the walls of Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta:

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered.
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind,
people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful,
you will win some false friends and some true enemies.
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and truthful,
people may deceive you.
Be honest and truthful anyway.

What you spend years building,
someone could destroy overnight.
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness,
they may be jealous.
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today,
people will often forget tomorrow.
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have,
and it may never be enough.
Give your best anyway.

You see,
in the final analysis, it is between you and God;
it was never between you and them anyway.

This poem was originally written by Kent M. Keith in 1968 as a booklet for student leaders—he had called it *The Paradoxical Commandments- guidelines for finding meaning in the face of adversity*. At the time Kent was just 19 years old, and he had no way of knowing that they'd spread far around the world to over 100 countries. Kent shared, "I went to college during the "student revolution" of the late 1960s. There was conflict and confrontation on many college and high school campuses, but there was also idealism and hope that positive change could be achieved. I worked mostly with high school student leaders during that time traveling the country, giving more than a hundred speeches in eight different states.

What I found disturbing was that so many young people went out to change the world but came back too soon. They gave up because change did not occur quickly, or people did not appreciate what they were trying to do. I urged them to love people, because change takes time, and love is one of the only motivations strong enough to keep you with the people and the process until change is achieved. I also told them that if they do what they believe is right, and good, and true, their actions will be meaningful, and that meaning can sustain them as they continue their work.”

Almost 30 years later, in 1993, Kent learned that Mother Teresa had put a copy of the Paradoxical Commandments up on her wall at her children’s home in Calcutta and he was inspired to continue sharing his message.

At Westview it has not been easy to seek to care for the least in our community by endeavoring to build Recurso de Fuerza homes for the unhoused at our church. Many neighbors have been angry with us about it and two city council members have made it very difficult. Though it will not only compassionately care for those in dire need, it will indeed get people off the streets and make our streets safer. We have listened and sought to care for our neighbors amidst their anxiety. Jesus declared in Matthew 16:33, 28:20 “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world...*I am with you always.*”

Many of you are doing good and spreading love in this world and at times you get pushback, keep loving anyway!

I appreciate you & God bless you,
Pastor Dan

Westview Turned 125 in 2023!

Westview Turned 126 this year!

We will **not be having our Harvest Dinner this year** November 2, 2024.

We **postponed our anniversary celebration & our Harvest Dinner until November 2025.**

Recurso de Fuerza Village

In Santa Barbara high school students help make pancakes for the residents of the unhoused village on Sundays! We are modeling the unhoused village behind Westview after one in Santa Barbara that was so successful they built 4 more in that county. In Santa Barbara, high school students help make pancakes for the residents on Sundays, classrooms and businesses sponsor decorating rooms, and people are delighted that the unhoused are cared for rather than sleeping in their business doorways and parks. People’s lives are being changed, and we hope to do the same! **Recurso de Fuerza village**, “Resource of Strength,” village for the unhoused will be built by Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties behind the church gym hopefully by April 2025. Counselors coordinated by CAB will be on site 24/7 to help the residents heal, plan and then move on to permanent housing. Please be in prayer for the transformation of the lives of those who will get to live and heal at Recurso de Fuerza! **Consider Sponsoring a Room:** Please pray about if you, a club, a classroom, or workplace colleagues would like to sponsor the decoration of one of these 34 rooms with things like a welcome mat, pictures, a flowering plant, bedside lamp, etc., so we can welcome with loving arms these people who have felt like unloved outcasts for far too long. Bless you! (contact Pastor Dan)

Luncheons: We have Social Hour with a light lunch the **1st Sunday of each month** along with cake for Birthdays! Come enjoy!

Live and Zoom Worship Services at Westview!!

Live and Zoom Online Worship Services are being held at Westview Presbyterian Church Sunday at 10 am.!!
Masks are now optional for those attending the Live Worship Service.

To join Westview for **Live Zoom Sunday Online Worship Service** please send Westview an email at westviewpc@gmail.com so you can be added/accepted to our Zoom live recordings and can receive an automatic email reminding you of our upcoming live services. **If you are in need of any assistance with Zoom call Westview at (831) 724-6222 and leave a message.** Someone will call you back as soon as possible.

Guest Speakers: Pastor Mick Erickson – November 10th, December 1st
Pastor Rich Garcia – November 17th, December 29th

Wednesday Zoom Scripture Reflection & Mid-Week Check-In

Wednesdays at 4 pm. The link is emailed out weekly. Please **send Westview an email at westviewpc@gmail.com** if you would like to **automatically be sent a link/reminder on a weekly basis about our Wednesday Mid-Week Check-Ins.**

SonRise Kitchen

Experience the joy! We need volunteers to help with serving breakfast by River Park **M-F 7:30 - 8:15am, & chopping and packaging Wednesdays 9:20am.** We also need donations of cereal, and lightly used: jackets & sweatshirts, sleeping bags, blankets, shoes, & socks. Thank you!

Photos



Photos (from left to right): September Potluck, October Potluck, and last two photos – passing out sweatshirts on a cold fall morning after SonRise breakfast on the Levee.
