

Ride the Wave

UPCOMING MESSAGES

March 12	Wipe Out	Acts 5:1–11
March 19	Influential Leadership	Acts 6:1–7
March 26	Interpretation Matters	Acts 6:11–7:53
April 2	Persecuted	Acts 7:54–60
April 9	Prepared to Proclaim	Acts 8:26–40

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

2 PETER 3:18 (NIV)

LENT SERVICES

During the season of Lent, we symbolically journey with Jesus towards the cross, learning from him and drawing closer to him. Join us every Wednesday night through April 5, 6:00–6:30pm. Westwood's teaching pastors will share what we gain, and what we must give up, in order to follow Jesus.

Ride the Wave

A STUDY IN ACTS



westwoodcc.org

Chanhassen • 952.224.7300
Minnetonka • 952.224.7400



March 5, 2017

WELCOME TO WESTWOOD!

Is this your first time here? So glad you came!

Welcome to Westwood! If you are unfamiliar with the flow of our service, here's the scoop: We begin with a few worship songs. The lyrics are found on the big screens. The songs are followed by a couple announcements, a time of prayer and offering. The sermon message is given, and the service typically concludes with a song.



Stop by the Info Spot before or after the service. We'd love to meet you, answer any questions you have, and give you some handy information. For kids and students, we offer great programs specially tailored to their ages. Our Westwood Kids' desk would be glad to help you. Come, let's give our love to God, who first loved us.



COMMUNION TODAY

Today we will experience communion. We invite everyone who is a follower of Jesus to participate. You do not need to be a member of Westwood.

In the morning services, the bread and cup are passed to you as you are seated. Hold each element until everyone has been served—then we eat and drink together. Gluten-free communion bread is available at usher stations.

In the evening service at our Chanhassen campus, we invite you to come forward to the stations at the front of the aisles. The first server will be holding a tray of bread. Choose a piece and move to the second server holding the cup. Dip your bread into the cup, eat and drink before returning to your seat, using the walkways behind the side tiers. Gluten-free communion bread is available at the front of the left side aisle.

WHAT'S NEXT

Do you have questions about Westwood? Wondering how to get plugged in? We can help! Join us for a fun, casual gathering where you can meet other attendees and get to know some of Westwood's staff. We'll help you discover the "what's next" for you! Kids are welcome to be a part of Kids' programs (birth–grade 5).

Chanhassen campus:

Sunday, March 12, 9:30–10:45am

Minnetonka campus:

Sunday, March 12, 11:00am–12:00pm



Ride the Wave

03.05.2017 • For Goodness Sake • Joel K. Johnson

Acts 4:32-36 (NIV)

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

³⁶Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), ³⁷sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

What are signs of a transformed life?

• _____ good

Acts 4:32

• _____ good

Acts 4:33

• _____ good

Acts 4:34-36

Ride the Wave #9
For Goodness Sake

1. Do you have a motto for life? Or do you have life axioms that bring clarity to how you live your life? Share them with each other.
2. Read Acts 4:13-20. After Peter and John were released from jail for preaching about the name of Jesus the Sanhedrin ordered the apostles to stop preaching. Peter and John ignore the order. Is this civil disobedience? Can such a thing be justified? (See 4.19-20)
3. Read Acts 4:32-36. A good motto for the lifestyle of these first Christians seems to be Think Good – Speak Good – Act Good. Answer the following questions related to each.
 - a. Think Good: Acts 4:32. How does unity encourage generosity and how does generosity spur on unity? Give examples in your own life. When Jesus taught about principles for living in the Kingdom of God (the Christian life) he stated many times that that we are to regard material possessions as secondary. The important phrase here is ‘no one claimed his possessions as his own.’ What does this mean? How does it apply to you and how do you view your possessions?
 - b. Speak Good: Acts 4:33. Luke makes sure that we know that these new believers were freshly ‘filled with the Holy spirit.’ The immediate result was that they spoke the Word boldly. They told people about Jesus Christ and his resurrection. They ignored the Sanhedrin’s ban, and their witness was characterized by both boldness and power. Why do many Christians today keep their faith to themselves? When was the last time you shared the gospel with someone? Would you like to share more and what might help you do so? In our 2017 Raise the Risk challenge we encourage you to walk across the room and share your faith. We also invited you to memorize Romans 10:13-15. Someone read this text and answer the question: Why is it important to share the gospel?
 - c. Act Good: Acts 4:34-36. Very few Christians today go as far as to sell their real estate and give the proceeds to the church. What are some of the ways that the same kind of dedication and generosity can be shown?

The Church was growing in quantity (3000 to 15,000 by the time we get to Acts 4 – about a three-month time frame) and quality. Review some of the ways we have seen both of them happen so far in Acts. How do you see it happening at Westwood? How do you see it happening in your own life?