

FALL/WINTER 2022 CATALOG



JOURNEY INWARD *to*  
JOURNEY OUTWARD

**WESTWOOD**

# WHAT IS WESTWOOD U?

*Welcome to Westwood U!*

*Westwood U offers people of all ages the opportunity to gather for education, faith development, and mutual growth-*

*kids, parents, grandparents, friends..*

*Everyone is invited!*

*The purpose is to move beyond education to formation and transformation.*

*Westwood U is a way to nurture a whole culture – an ecosystem – of faith formation at Westwood.*

*We believe that heart and hands must accompany head in one's faith journey, so addition to the classroom, Westwood U will create opportunities for faith mentoring, faith socializing, and even faith surfing by tapping into life experience of multiple generations, because we operate under the conviction that the content of faith has no traction outside of faith-based relationships.*

*Westwood U offers flexibility and choice of study topics and class times as well as intergenerational learning and growing.*

*This catalog includes course information October– March courses. Every course is open to the entire congregation but there will be different registration periods. Another course catalog will go out early next year for April-September elective choices.*

*Confirmation students: This catalog also includes important registration information and requirements for participation in Westwood's Confirmation ministry.*

*We hope that you will be as excited as we are to step into a new ecosystem of learning and growing together as people of God!*

# HOW DOES IT WORK?

**What courses are offered?**

**There are 3 categories for the courses offered at Westwood U. Several courses from each category are offered throughout the year.**

**They are:**

**Know- hands on learning**

**Live- service to our neighbor and congregation**

**Grow- fellowship and faith nurturing experiences**

**How many of each should I take?**

**While completing the required number of Westwood U courses, students will need to take a minimum number of 3 courses in each category. Of the 15 credits, 3 in each of the 3 categories will be required. The remaining 6 credits are up to you!**

**Example:**

**Year 1: 5 courses and Bible Milestone**

**Year 2: 5 courses and Vocation of Family mini retreat**

**Year 3: 5 courses, mentoring and a faith statement.**

**If you are beginning this model as a 2nd year confirmation student you will have 10 courses to complete.**

**If you are beginning this model as a 3rd year confirmation student, you will have 5 courses to complete over the next year and a half.**

**We heard you loud and clear about flexibility, so you may take any combination of courses at any time, so for instance, if you are an 8th grader, you can take 8 electives this year and 3 next year. However you get to the number needed is up to you!**

**Choose your own adventure!**

# HOW TO REGISTER

An email will be sent to you during the open registration period and you will also find the registration link in the e-news.

September 22-25 for confirmation students

September 26-30 for congregation

Visit the registration page, (linked on the website and in an email) when you are there you will:

- Fill in your **FULL** name
- Give us an email address where the “professor” can reach you to let you know about any details, supplies, announcements and/or costs that may accompany your elective. Please make sure it is an email you will check regularly!
- Choose an elective for each month, and if you are opting out of a particular month, please choose “none” so that we know you have bypassed an elective for that period. Each question is “required” to answer, so be sure to choose none to move forward.
- If you see “\_\_\_\_\_ is full, please choose another” that means that it has filled, and we will repeat those electives in the next course catalog. Please choose an alternate option.
- When you are finished choosing an elective for each month, click submit and your registration will be cataloged with us.
- Be sure to check all the dates listed for your elective, some go outside the “month” they are listed under. To receive confirmation credit you may only have one absence for any given course.





# OCTOBER ELECTIVES

## **Community Meal (Live)** Wednesdays from 5-7p

Westwood provides a community meal each Wednesday night that is both an internal and external outreach and fellowship opportunity for all who gather! As you can imagine, it takes a great team to pull off a meal for 250+ people each week, come learn about this ministry and be a part of the team!



**None to Run (Grow)** Elective runs 4 weeks on Tuesdays from Oct 4 to Oct 25 at 5:30pm and will culminate with the Monster Dash Race October 29<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Are you a runner? A walker, or somewhere in between? This elective is aimed at getting our bodies moving and having great fellowship and conversation along the way! A training plan will be given with a weekly walk/run schedule.

The cost for the race will be communicated upon sign up.

**Senior High Youtherans (Grow)** Open to 9-12th graders and meets weekly from 8-9pm in the youth room.

## **Wednesday Worship Hosts (Live)** Wednesday worship 6:00-7:15p.

Become an integral part of worship life here at Westwood! We will talk about what worship means, why we do some of the things we do, and some of the roles that make us a worshipping community. We will be training in people to be ushers, communion servers, lectors, PowerPoint operators and more. Commitment involves a training event and then engaging in the area of your choice during a worship service one time per month for four months or more if you choose!



**Food Packing 100,000 Meals (Live)** Friday, October 14 and/or Saturday, October 15, 2022 (multiple shifts available on registration page) Join people of all ages as they gather in Good Shepherd Hall for the annual food packing event. With the help of many volunteers, we manage to package more than 100,000 meals and have fun doing so. Your 2-hour commitment will get you a bird's eye view of the packing operation and opportunity to help participants at each table fill the bags and pack the boxes of food that will eventually be delivered to our partner church in Dodoma, Tanzania, the Arusha Road Parish.



**Trunk or Treat Host (Live)** Saturday, October 29 from 10:30-12noon in the Westwood parking lot.

The parking lot will be lined with cars and decorated trunks that younger members of the congregation can "trick-or-treat" at. It makes Halloween fun, safe, and accessible especially for young family members who can't take as many steps. Please register! You can use any theme to decorate and the more decorations, the better! Nut-free candy only.

## **Small Engine Training with Gas, Oil, Wrenches and Conversation**

**(Know)** Thursday, November 10th 6:30-8pm at Westwood.

Learn to service your lawn mower or snow blower as we chat about the many members but one body/many parts but one machine. Course will include internal combustion engine basics, basic seasonal service training. Bring your own lawn mower or snow blower (or use one of mine) and we will spend the afternoon sharing our stories while we get ready for winter. Expect to get a little dirty so wear appropriate clothing. You will need to provide your own safety glasses/goggles. Tools, supplies and a warm, dry spot provided for the evening.

## **Wednesday Worship Hosts (Live)** Wednesday worship 6:00-7:15p.

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**Senior High Youtherans (Grow)** Open to 9-12th graders and meets weekly from 8-9pm in the youth room.

# NOVEMBER ELECTIVES



## **Community Meal (Live)** Wednesdays from 5-7p

Westwood provides a community meal each Wednesday night that is both an internal and external outreach and fellowship opportunity for all who gather! As you can imagine, it takes a great team to pull off a meal for 250+ people each week, come learn about this ministry and be a part of the team!

## **Holiday Fair (Live)** Saturday, November 2 from 9:30-1:30

Annually the Westwood Holiday Fair raises +\$20,000 to give back to the community! It takes lots of help from both youth and adults to make this amazing outreach and fundraising event happen. See how we recycle and reuse to obtain funds to give away. Clearing dishes, packing and taking items out to customer's cars, and helping in the Children's Shoppe are just a few of the ways you can serve to make this event a success. (You might also shop!)

## **L.I.F.T. (Living in faith together) (Grow)** Wednesdays from 5:30-8p

Join us for fellowship, learning and fun in the youth room on Wednesdays, there'll be a learning or project each week, games, snacks and more. There will be opportunities for leadership and ways for you to help shape the time for our younger members!



*join us in any or  
all of these fun  
opportunities!*



**Digital course- Selma (Know)** A chronicle of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965. As we head into an election year, wonder as you watch, is the world the same or different in 2022? Have we moved? History matters. If you decide this course is for you, sign up and then watch it whenever is convenient for you by downloading it from Netflix, Amazon prime video or YouTube starting at \$2.99. When you sign up, you'll be emailed the discussion guide for this movie.

**Community Meal (Live)** Wednesdays 5-7p

Westwood provides a community meal each Wednesday night that is both an internal and external outreach and fellowship opportunity for all who gather! As you can imagine, it takes a great team to pull off a meal for 250+ people each week, come learn about this ministry and be a part of the team!

**Senior High Youtherans (Grow)** Open to 9-12th graders and meets twice a month from 8-9:15pm in the youth room.

**Reverse Advent Calendar (Live)** Each day in the month of December, add an item to a box or bag and donate the contents to STEP or your community's food bank on Christmas Eve. The Advent Calendar will be sent to you in late November. To complete this elective, send a photo of you/your family with your donations being dropped off!

**Wednesday Worship Hosts (Live)** Wednesday worship 6:00-7:15p. Become an integral part of worship life here at Westwood! We will talk about what worship means, why we do some of the things we do, and some of the roles that make us a worshipping community. We will be training in people to be ushers, communion servers, lectors, PowerPoint operators and more. Commitment involves a training event and then engaging in the area of your choice during a worship service one time per month for four months or more if you choose!

**Sing Your Faith (Know) Wednesday evenings.**  
**5:15-6:00pm**

Do you enjoy singing or playing an instrument? Join Westwood's growing youth music ensemble called Cantemus for a month of weekly rehearsals leading up to special music in worship. Rehearsals will take place in the choir room at Westwood under the direction of Elsa Lee and Phillip Schultz.

**L.I.F.T. (Living in faith together) (Grow)** see Nov. for course description

**Sunday morning Westwood U: Advent Spiritual Practices (Grow)** Sunday mornings from 10-10:45 a  
Are you curious about how to listen for God's voice? Come to experience some ancient and new spiritual practices deepening our relationship with God and exploring spirituality in various ways.

# DECEMBER ELECTIVES





**Westwood U**  
**is a way to nurture a whole culture**  
**— an ecosystem —**  
**of faith formation at Westwood.**

**Join in this fun way of learning and**  
**growing together as people of God!**

