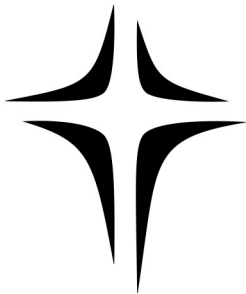


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Westview Church of Christ Greeley, Colorado

September 13, 2026

The Purpose

From here to heaven... Following God wherever He leads us.

Commentary from a common Terry 25 years

You can mention something significant to me that happened a year ago and I might remember it. I might not. I may get the details right or they be blurred or altered. Roll it back a long time ago, and its even more difficult. In a couple weeks we will go to a memorial for my aunt in Texas. She is the last of the aunts and uncles. I'll visit with several cousins. As is always the case, there will be some moments of, "Remember when...." And that will be followed by, "That's not what happened. Here's what happened." And then, "No, that wasn't me that did that, it was...."

But the memories of 25 years ago this past Friday? Etched in stone for all of us. Those few hours that everyone remembers, everyone puts in context not just with information but with where we were when we heard, they are significant. Three in particular in modern U.S history. December 7, 1941—the attack on Pearl Harbor. November 22, 1963—the assassination of President Kennedy.

And last Friday—September 11th. The very words—*nine-eleven*—are all that is needed to resurrect memories and emotions...for most of us, but not for all of us. Did you know that 9-11 has been long enough ago that about 30% of the current population in the United States weren't born when the attacks came? And that percentage bumps close to 40% of the population that is 30-years-old or younger. That means they would have been no more than five-years-old on that Tuesday, probably too young to be aware of much that could become a part of the fabric of their memories.

With each passing year, an event becomes less intimate and more historical. Think about it, a person that was six-years-old when Pearl Harbor was attacked will be in his or her early 90's now. The videos, photos, historical documentation, and various movies and media presentations keep it preserved, but the raw emotion inevitably fades. So, on Friday, there were ceremonies. And they weren't only in New York City, at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and in a field in Pennsylvania. They were nation wide. The mantra of "...lest we forget" rings true with each passing year. We don't want to forget the victims, nearly 3,000 people. We need to feel sympathy for their families. We

feel a compulsion to revisit the trauma...lest we forget. To lose the feelings is to reach a "swipe left" erasure of our collective experience. It becomes less intimate and more historical.

We witnessed and experienced what happens when evil in this world acts out on the largest stage with the worst intentions. We need to remember what happens when evil gets its way. The words of the old apostle John in his first letter are a precise truth nearly two thousand years after he wrote them. *We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.* 1 John 5:19 We must remember where 9-11 came from, where the attack on Pearl Harbor came from, where the assassination of JFK came from, where Columbine and countless other mass shootings came from—the world is evil.

But we are from God. To remember the worst of humanity is to search for what makes us best. The answer to the Holocaust is not hatred, but the desire to belong to the One Who lifts us above the inevitable mess. Even though it's a dark, dark world, sometimes seemingly pitch black, we, right in the middle of it, are to *"...shine as lights in the world."* Philippians 2:25

We need to remember the evil that brought about a pitch black Tuesday some 25 years ago. To allow the awareness of evil to fade is to pave the way for a diminished need to find our ultimate answer in the God who delivers us.

Very briefly, that also happened after 9-11. Too briefly. Church buildings were visited. Spontaneous prayer vigils were held. That Tuesday evening, about 150 members of Congress (from both the House and the Senate and from both parties) stood on the east front steps of the U.S. Capitol building and sang *God Bless America*.

But it wasn't long before it was politics as usual. Some memories don't last long.

Let's remember this—because there is evil, there is the need, the necessity for a Deliverer from that evil. We remember darkness. We also remember that the light pierced it.

Don't ever forget that!

Love one another,

Terry

Women's Bible Study group meets on Tuesday

The next meeting for the Westview *Women's Bible Study* group will be this Wednesday, September 15th. We meet at 10 a.m. in the home of Barb Henderson (you can get the address from the church office). All the ladies are encouraged to join us. The group meets every first and third Friday of the month.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are thankful you are with us today as we worship our God and Savior. Our prayer is that you will encounter Him today.

A nursery for small children is available in the east hall off the lobby.

What will you experience at Westview?

- **Praise through song.** It is the tradition of our heritage to sing a cappella (without instruments) as we encourage everyone to be involved in uplifting praise.
- We value the **Bible**. You will hear God's Word read and all sermons will give the utmost respect and priority to Scripture.
- We share the **Lord's Supper** every week remembering Christ's sacrifice that provides us forgiveness as we celebrate our salvation through Him.
- **We do not expect our guests to give financially** to our work. We depend on the generous and godly giving of all Westview members to provide the funds needed to implement God's plans for this church.

We invite you to stay for Bible classes following our worship time. We hope you have been blessed today!

Today's Order of Worship

*Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty
The Steadfast Love of the Lord*

Meet & Greet

Announcements & Reminders

O To Be Like Thee

Prayer

Be Unto Your Name

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 59:1-2

Sermon

The Invasion:

*The belly of the beast (2)
Get spiritual!*

Be Exalted, O God

Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?

We Remember Christ's Sacrifice

Contribution Collected

In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified

Elder blessing/prayer

Praise the Lord

Unison Reading:

Isaiah 60:19

News, updates, events, opportunities, and reminders:

Families Discovery Group meets next Sunday

The next get-together for the Families Discovery Group will be next Sunday, the 20th, at 5 p.m. We'll meet in the fellowship room at the building. The menu will be Italian. Check with Cory & Katie for more information.

The MSCH Fall Food Drive is underway

We have received information from the Mountain States Children's Home for their fall food drive. That info is printed and in the lobby. You can leave your donation in the lobby in and around the storage bins. We will be collecting through mid-October.

Tuesday night singing with the worship leaders—7 p.m. at the building

Shep's schedule continues to fluctuate and is unpredictable. We are going to put a hold on plans for *The Kitchen* until we know more. We'll announce when we will resume.

Sunday morning classes: The fellowship room class is a verse-by-verse textual study, led by Randy and Tom. Randy is currently leading a study of the book of **Hebrews**.

Terry's class, which meets in room #14, has started a new study. It is *Great Words and Themes of the Bible*. It will not necessarily look at the very most dominant overarching themes of scripture, but those key teachings and words that emerge from them. Our first theme is *Overcome*.

Cards for you to use are in the lobby

We have printed small cards (business card size) that have general information about Westview on them. These are for you to use and distribute. Take a few—maybe three to five at a time—and give them out. This is an easy way to let people know about your church family and extend an invitation to people to come visit us. They are on the counter under the TV screen. (One side is English and the other side is in Spanish.)

Servers for Worship today (13th)

Scripture Reading Cory Newton
Prayer James Pascoe
Tom Odle (communion prayers)
Roy Moore (contribution prayer)
Dan Esposito
Chad Goodwin
Kim Hegarty
Abner Morales

The Wednesday night study group meets at 6:30 in the fellowship room (studying James).



The Westview Men's Coffee is every Tuesday morning from 6 to 8 a.m. in the fellowship room.

The Westview Women's Coffee is every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. in the fellowship room.

The September Daily Bible Reading plan is in the lobby.



Prayer reminders

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

As you read through that list, check for any information that needs to be updated and let Terry know.

We do not include personal information, such as the prayer list in our online bulletin. If you would like that information, it is available in the hard copy bulletin at the building. Or, you can contact the church office to receive a copy.

The kids' worship handout is on the table at the back of the auditorium.

Quotes from David Jeremiah (Evangelical Christian author, 20th—21st century)

This is a time when all of God's people need to keep their eyes and their Bible wide open. We must ask God for discernment as never before. (from *Until Christ Returns*)

We can find ourselves in the middle of God's perfect will and in the middle of a perfect storm at the same time! (from *What Are You Afraid Of?*)

Storms are not punishment for lack of obedience; oftentimes they are the result of obedience. (from *What Are You Afraid Of?*)