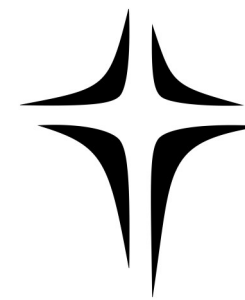


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**Westview's wireless
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Westview Church of Christ Greeley, Colorado

July 26, 2026

The Purpose

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

Commentary from a common Terry *A guilty king*

Perhaps David is so significant and beloved in the Bible narrative, in part, because he was so completely human in his story. At times, he was absolutely outstanding, shining like the star he could be. But then, the star would dim and he'd lose his way, sinning in staggering failure and harming those around him through his choices.

To really appreciate the psalms of David (he wrote nearly half of the 150 psalms recorded in the book of Psalms), we must consider his life. He had reasons for celebration, praise, and worship. But, he also had reasons for depression, anguish, despair, and spiritual emptiness.

Just like us, he was oppressed by forces and dangers he did not cause or invite. Yet, they still came on him, often with a severe vengeance. Just like us, he also brought some misery and struggle on himself because of sinful choices and actions. The guilt he carried at times was inevitably larger than he could bear. These could lead him to melancholic moods or angry outbursts. Just like us.

Three times in particular, the Davidic narrative of II Samuel described a sinful action of David that caused great pain to himself *and others*.

- The careless transport of the Ark of the Covenant
- The affair with Bathsheba and the horrific actions taken to cover it up
- The unlawful, pride-driven census of power

The Ark of the Covenant had been away from Jerusalem for more than 70 years. It was time, in II Samuel 6, for it to return to the city where it belonged. David and his men, some 30,000 of them, went to Baale-Judah to retrieve the Ark. At first glance, it all sounds fine. They placed the Ark on a new cart pulled by oxen. Two men, Uzzah and Ahio, were tasked with guiding the cart. They were the sons of Abinidab, in whose house the Ark had rested for twenty years.

David was celebrating mightily as the Ark was brought to Jerusalem. Yet, all was not well. The Ark was not being transported according to the commands of God. It was not being treated with the respect it should be given. The cart was unsteady. The path was bumpy. The Ark began to fall. Uzzah, either in reflexive instinct, or in full

awareness of the risk he took, reached out and steadied it. *No one* was to touch the Ark like that. Uzzah was struck dead. The account says that David was first angry with God, then afraid of God. II Samuel 6:8-9 It was three months later when David brought the Ark to the city as it should be done—carried with poles by the Levites with sacrifices along the way.

I will not belabor the Bathsheba account in II Samuel 11-12. We know the story. David not only committed the terrible sins of adultery and murder by proxy, but he used his kingly power and authority to advance his own agenda and purpose throughout the story. *The authority and power God had given him became a means of sin.*

He took Bathsheba for himself. A king in the Ancient Near East had the power to do that. He tried, more than once, to manipulate the situation to make it appear that the child she carried belonged to her husband, Uriah. He eventually used his royal command to authorize an action by his military commander, Joab, that would lead to Uriah's death. Stunningly sinful!

The third great sin of David in the scripture is the unlawful census he took to measure his power in the kingdom. In combining the texts of II Samuel 24:1 and I Chronicles 21:1, we learn that it was specifically Satan who provoked David to take a census of his power. As a result, some 70,000 people in the land died by pestilence!

In the first event, one man died (Uzzah). In the second, more died. Uriah, the husband of Bathsheba died. The child died. And, years later, in fulfillment of God's judgment against David, his son Absalom died, as well as several thousand in the battle between father and son. In the third, tens-of-thousands died.

In all three instances, David listened to a voice that put him on the wrong path. In all three, he lost the ability to hear God clearly. There were terrible, bloody consequences. That's a lot to come to terms with, recognizing such calamity by one's own hand and choices.

David had plenty to feel guilty about. So, what did he do? We'll get to that next week.

Love one another,

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!

School backpacks/supplies ministry underway for kids at *Family House*

Westview is again providing backpacks and school supplies for the children of the *Greeley Family House*. This is a ministry to help those who are homeless or in an extremely difficult financial condition. We will be helping 17 children.

You can get a name (or names!) of a student along with the list information of what is needed from Chelsea Adkins and Carley Jo Goggins. As soon as you can, we need those packs and supplies back to the building. You can leave them on the storage containers just inside the lobby doors.

Be sure to have the student's name on the pack. Chelsea's contact info has also been sent to you through email. You can check with Carley Jo today to get a name of a student to help.

Today's Order of Worship

We Praise Thee, O God
Heavenly Sunlight

Meet & Greet

Announcements & Reminders

Scripture Reading:
I Thessalonians 5:16-19

Give Thanks

Prayer

Knowing You

We Remember Christ's Sacrifice

Contribution Collected
Victory In Jesus

Elder blessing/prayer

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Sermon

I'm a Christian. No Apologies.

Faithful Love

When We All Get To Heaven

Unison Reading:
II Corinthians 4:17-18a

Events, opportunities, and reminders:

The adult Bible classes today will be combined.

You will meet in room #14.

NO Men’s Coffee this week

The weekly Westview Men’s Coffee will **NOT** meet this Tuesday, the 28th. We will resume meeting in August, on Tuesday, the 4th.

Young Families Discovery group meets next Sunday, the 2nd

The Young Families Discovery Group will meet next Sunday afternoon, August 2nd, at 5 p.m. in the fellowship room. The menu for next week is Taco Salad. Check with Cory & Katie for more information.

Details for Leonard Thompson memorial

You are all probably aware that Leonard Thompson passed away last Tuesday. A memorial will be held on Wednesday, August 19th. It will be at 11 a.m. at the Westview building. We will provide a meal afterwards. As the time draws closer, we’ll begin planning the details.

The Kitchen is OPEN this week, July 29th

The Kitchen will be **OPEN** this Wednesday, the 29th, at the building as we will prepare burritos and take them to the homeless shelter for distribution. You are encouraged to join us, either helping prepare the burritos or deliver them...or both. We start at 11 a.m.

Registration underway for *Band of Brothers* weekend

We have been promoting the weekend in September for the *Band of Brothers* retreat for men. It will be September 10th—13th in Westcliffe. **Registration is now open.** Check with Doug Blount for more information or if you’d like to register. Also, we do not want cost to be a deciding factor whether you attend or not. If you need some tuition assistance, check with Doug or Terry.

Tuesday night singing/worship every week

The worship leaders meet each Tuesday evening. You are invited to join them from 7 to 8 p.m. at the building. You will sing, worship, learn new songs, treasure the oldies, and improve our overall worship together. Please join us.

Sunday morning classes: The fellowship room class is a verse-by-verse textual study, led by Randy and Tom. The group has started a new study, the book of *Hebrews*. The study will be led by Randy McCrain.

Terry’s class, which meets in room #14, is entitled *The Fortress*. It is built on Psalm 18. Can we actually *experience* the power and protection and guidance of God, moving forward and growing in our faith?

NOTE: this class will not meet this week as Terry is out of town.

Servers for Worship today (26th)

Scripture Reading Cory Newton
Prayer Randy McCrain
Roy Moore (communion prayers)
Rand Morgan (contribution prayers)
Tyler Wade
Tyler Wallace
Dean Weber
Tyler Blount

The **AUGUST** handout for Bible study plans and strategies is on the counter in the lobby.

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



Prayer reminders

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 Westview Men’s Coffee will not meet this coming Tuesday.

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

7/29 – Hayley Gomes

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

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

Philippians 4:6