

Westview Church of Christ
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**Westview's wireless
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April 12, 2026



The Purpose

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

Commentary from a common Terry *Everything was once new*

Do you remember the first time...

- ⇒ ...you ate at a fancy restaurant?
- ⇒ ...you saw the ocean?
- ⇒ ...you flew?
- ⇒ ...you tasted the best dessert in the world?
- ⇒ ...you met the love of your life?
- ⇒ ...you saw a home computer...or a garage door opener...or a home sprinkler system?
- ⇒ ...you used a cell phone?
- ⇒ ...you learned you'd be a parent?
- ⇒ ...you heard *that* song?
- ⇒ ...you truly felt the presence of the Spirit of God?
- ⇒ ...you realized your spiritual needs?
- ⇒ ...you faced your mortality and the coming eternity?

How many of those things eventually became common instead of amazing? It's what happens with most things. The moment gives way to the passage of time and the repetitive experience. What was once astounding or mind-blowing becomes everyday norms and nothing to give a second thought to.

A very specific challenge for the followers of Jesus is to avoid that trap. The special becomes ordinary. The excitement of salvation gives way to the mundane existence of life under the sun. That stunning teaching or book that "...changed my life..." fades.

Jesus, when dictating those seven letters to John to be relayed to the churches of Asia Minor, had some great things to say about the church in Ephesus. However, Jesus said, "*But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.*" (Revelation 2:4)

How often in the Hebrew's history do we read of excitement that is eventually replaced by complacency or even outright dismissal of God and

His commandments and will? It is a literal over-and-over-and-over-and-over process. Celebration followed by stagnation.

There's an assurance in being comfortable. It's a warm blanket. But it can lead us to satisfaction. Satisfaction doesn't always lead us to the intentional pursuit of growth and anticipation of what's next around life's corners. From there it's a short step from righteousness to self-righteousness. Put simply, we begin to depend on ourselves more than we do on the living and moving Spirit of God He has given us.

The description of the earliest church on Jerusalem after the Day of Pentecost is, *in my opinion*, a description of the church in the very purest form it ever was on this planet. Internally—great! A healthy relationship to the Father—great! Growth—great! Relationship to outsiders who watched and took note—great!

But it changed. External admiration became anger and threats. Internal peace gave way to seemingly petty arguments and conflicts. The intrusion of the Gentiles in to the church created a heartburn for the Jewish Christians that wouldn't stop. All those epistles by Paul, John, Peter, James, Jude, and also the book of Hebrews include both positive teachings and encouragements *and* guidance on how to solve problems (some of them were huge!) within their churches.

We do not simply get ourselves changed once and for all in spirit, thinking, and righteous living and then move on. We must, with determination, humility, and purpose be *renewed* for a lifetime.

Paul told the Romans in 12:2 that as they avoided conformity to the world, they needed to be, "...transformed by the renewal of your mind..." That wasn't a first time instruction to brand new believers. He wrote this to Christians in an established church in Rome. He was *reminding* them of what they should be, not teaching them for the first time.

Renewal is a rare word in the New Testament. It's critical to the spiritual growth and success for every believer. Don't let the "new" fade.

Love one another,

Westview Mom's Group meets this coming Thursday

The next meeting for the *Westview Mom's Group* will be next Thursday, April 16th. You will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship room. If you have any questions, contact Amber Odle. All moms are invited to join the group. You may know a young mom who needs the support and encouragement of this group. Be sure to invite them!

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!

Don't think so much about who is for or against you, rather give all your care, that God be with you in everything you do.

~Thomas à Kempis (15th century theologian, wrote *The Imitation of Christ*)~

The most holy and important practice in the spiritual life is the presence of God—that is, every moment to take great pleasure that God is with you.

~Brother Lawrence (from *The Practice of the Presence of God*, 17th century)~

Today's Order of Worship

Rejoice In the Lord Always
The Steadfast Love of the Lord

Meet & Greet

Announcements & Reminders

We Shall Assemble

Prayer

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Scripture Reading:

Acts 2:42-47

Sermon

The Invasion: He came here

Praise the Lord

The Old Rugged Cross

We Remember Christ's Sacrifice

Contribution Collected

Pierce My Ear

Lord, Reign In Me

Unison Reading:

Revelation 1:5b-6

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

Upcoming events, opportunities, and reminders:

The **MSCH Food Drive** is underway. There is information in the lobby as to what you can bring. There is also a list of items they *do not* need. Let's see those contributions pile up over the next couple of weeks! The last day to donate is Sunday, April 26th, in two weeks.

Sunday morning classes: The fellowship room class is a verse-by-verse textual study, led by Randy and Tom. Today, Tom resumes his study of **John's gospel**.

Terry's class, which meets in room #14, is entitled ***What Am I Supposed To Do?*** We will be in this study for a few more weeks.

The **Wednesday night Bible study group** meets at 6:30 in the fellowship room.

The Kitchen is **CLOSED** this Wednesday, the 15th. We plan on meeting on the 22nd at 11 a.m. at the building to prepare burritos and distribute them at the homeless shelter.

Serenity, Natalie, and Charlee are all three in the University School's production of *James and the Giant Peach*. There is one more performance, today at 2 p.m.. A flyer is in the lobby....

Carley Jo Goggans will be performing in an opera at UNC next Saturday, April 18th, at 7:30 p.m. She will have a solo in ***Opera In Bloom: Opera Gala***, which presents songs from several operas. You should have received an email with ticket information.

Registration for this year's Northern Colorado Christian Camp continues. The camp is early this year, May 31st through June 6th. There is an informational flyer in the lobby.

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

The April Bible study plan guide handout is in the lobby on the table.

Servers for Worship today (12th)

Scripture Reading Tom Odle
Prayer Randy McCrain

Rand Morgan (communion prayers)
Roy Moore (contribution prayers)
Chad Goodwin
Kim Hegarty
Abner Morales
Ian Sebold



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.



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.

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.

Jesus taught that your highest priority must be your relationship with Him. If anything detracts you from that relationship, that activity is not from God. God will not ask you to do something that hinders your relationship with Christ. ~Henry Blackaby~