

# Ministry Minute

## Men's Bible Study

### Committed to Learning and Sharing



Sometimes, a Westwood group formed for one purpose reshapes itself a bit as time and interests change.

That's sort of what happened with the Men's Bible Study group at Westwood. Yes, the men still study Bible texts, but they have broadened their scope as Westwood's missions adapt to modern needs and interests and as members face life changes.

"Originally it was formed around the idea of staying active and going deeper in relationship with other church members to become a community. The group of about a dozen older, retired men meets the first and third Wednesday mornings at Westwood," said Sara Moran, Director of Congregational Care for Westwood.

"These days, we mostly read books and discuss them," said Craig Halverson, who helps organize the meetings at Westwood. During COVID, the group met and chatted on Zoom. The books are related to religious topics or topics of particular interest to Westwood. Most recently, the group's discussions have been drawn from "The Planet You Inherit: Letters to My Grandchildren When Uncertainty's a Sure Thing," by Larry L. Rasmussen. The book complemented Westwood's Lenten focus on environmental sustainability (a recently added core value).

"We will be on a book for a couple of months," Halverson said, noting the group has also spent several weeks on a "Moses" series and the search for a Moses for this day and age.



The group goes beyond its interest in faith study, self-improvement, a taste of good morning coffee, and a sweet treat. "It's also social interaction among members that is probably the most significant, but we do appreciate the information that we gain from reading the books and the ideas that are expressed," Halverson said.

"We are not sticklers for sticking to the topic, though. We wander off frequently," he said with a chuckle.



Craig Halverson

