

## FOR THE RECORD

Week of May 14th, 2017

Bible Study.....	223
Sunday Worship.....	485
Share Groups.....	16
Wednesday.....	198
Weekly Giving.....	\$13,481
Weekly Budget.....	\$17,306
Year-to-Date Giving.....	\$342,212
Year-to-Date Budget.....	\$346,120

## NURSERY ATTENDANTS

### May 21

Kristin Caywer & Christina Betterton

### May 28

Shirley May & Lenore Tripp

## MAY COMMUNION PREP

The Jernigan Family

## GREETERS

### May 21

George & Wanda Reed .....East  
Clay & Candy Reed .....North  
Larry & Judy Holman .....West

### May 28

George & Wanda Reed.....West  
Clay & Candy Reed .....East  
Larry & Judy Holman.....North

## COMMUNION

### May 21 & 28

**Table 1:** Ronnie Russell, Alan McAdams,  
Clay Reed, Bobby Smart, George Reed

**Table 2:** Robyn Richardson, Mike Spurlock,  
Darwin Price, Charles Session, Joe Pitney

## Kids for Christ

Kids for Christ is for ages 2 – 2nd grade, in rooms #17-20 during the sermon time.

### May

#### Word / Scripture of the Month

Truthful / Proverbs 12:17

*An honest witness tells the truth, but a dishonest witness tells lies.*

### May 21

**2 Year Olds:** Jamie Bates

**3-4 Year Olds:** Janelle Miller

**K-2nd Grade:** Amanda Williams

**Puppets:** Brent Ruple

### May 28

**2 Year Olds:** Jamie Bates

**3-4 Year Olds:** Susan Bratton

**K-2nd Grade:** Kelli Lamberson

**Puppets:** Brian Tindell

### May Helpers

Wesley Lamberson, Shanti Asbury, Lashanti Gryner, Jada Parker, Chiane Nesbit

## RAISING \*ARROWS

Bible 1573-5

The Raising Arrows Summer Program for the Children's Ministry begins this Wednesday, May 24th! All children, grades K-5th will meet in the KFC room for Bible class.

**Can you be a teacher or class helper for one Sunday?**

**Please contact...**

Brent & April Ruple (501)920-2026  
Lee & Andrea Henson (479)747-0421  
Dale & Christina Brooks  
(479)692-9510

## BALAAM'S DONKEY

May 21, 2017

by Tim Tripp

In Numbers chapter 22 there is an odd story of a talking donkey. It is in the story of Balaam. In early Bible times, Balaam was a diviner and spiritist of international acclaim. It is clear from scripture that he also had a relationship with the one true God, the God of Israel.

When the Israelites wandered onto the plains of Moab the people who lived there became very concerned. The king of the Moabites at that time was named Balak. He could see that it would be pointless to try to overcome the mass of humanity by military means so he sought someone with spiritual clout to bring the gods over to his side and cause them to move against the massive Hebrew horde. He summoned the biggest name in the field of divination and spiritism - Balaam. Balaam was reluctant at first claiming that the God of Israel told him not to go. After pleading with him time and time again, God finally told Balaam he could go but that he could only say what God told him to say.

Something must have changed in Balaam's resolve as he got underway because for reasons not specifically disclosed in scripture, God became angry with him and sent an angel to oppose him. The angel appeared in the road before Balaam but for some reason only Balaam's donkey could see him. Despite Balaam's extreme displeasure and cruel beatings, three times the donkey took evasive maneuvers. The third time as Balaam was beating him, the Lord opened the donkey's mouth and he spoke. He rebuked and shamed Balaam for the underserved beatings and then Balaam saw the angel. The angel also rebuked Balaam for his actions and remarked that he (the angel) would have killed Balaam if it hadn't been for the donkey.

Responding to the invite of Balak was not the sin of Balaam rather it was considering speaking his own words and representing them as the words of God. God specifically reminded him that he must speak only the words God gave him and there was no flexibility whatsoever in the message.

We too are called to speak the very words of God. We can quote scripture at will but there will always be times where a response will be needed to address a need in our current time and place. We must be in tune with the presence of the Holy Spirit within us so that we can responsibly speak the words of God to a culture that is getting darker by the minute. Words of light, from the very throne room of God, are promised to us through the Holy Spirit but we must be among those who listen and who speak HIS words, even if they are not what others want to hear. We must be determined to speak only the words of God into our culture lest we too are to be lectured by a mule.

## STARTING POINT

Welcome to West Side! Are you interested in learning more about us? Be sure to visit the Starting Point room in the back of the auditorium after each Sunday service.

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Check out our Summer calendar at [westsideyouthministry.org/summer](http://westsideyouthministry.org/summer) for all the summer youth events!

### RAISING ARROWS

We need your help! If you can be a teacher or a helper in the children's church classes one day this summer, let us know via the contact information in the Raising Arrows section of the bulletin.

### MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER

MNFTM is in need of donations such as Little Debbie snack cakes or peanut butter/cheese crackers for homeless meals. They will be meeting once during the summer - date to be decided.

### SUMMER SCHEDULE

We have the lineup for both the Wednesday and Sunday Night schedules for the summer. Be sure to obtain the flyers in the foyer and invite friends in the community to join us!

If you would like an electronic copy of the Wednesday Summer Series flyer to share on your social media accounts, please email the church office.

The Summer Sunday Night schedule can be found at [www.westsidear.org/summersundays](http://www.westsidear.org/summersundays) to view the activities we have planned!

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Darran and Britney Austin on the birth of their 4th child, Ridge Grisham Austin. He made his arrival on May 15th at 6:47am, weighing 6 lbs 3 oz at 19" long. Thank you to the church family for all of your continued prayers for his recovery!

### STELLA MANOR BIRTHDAY

Stella Manor Nursing Home's birthday celebration is this Tuesday, May 23rd. Tami Robinson has signed up to provide the Angel Food cake.

### MOVING DAY

Alan McAdams is moving on Wednesday, May 24, and needs help loading the truck. If you can help, come by his apartment (1707 East O Apt. H) at 9am, or anytime during the day. Find Alan or call him at (501)278-9350 with any questions.

### REYNOLDS SENDOFF BLESSING

Directly following morning services next Sunday, May 28th, we will host a potluck lunch honoring the Reynold's family. Letters, cards, and monetary blessings are appreciated but not expected.

### MEN'S STEP STUDY

A men's Step Study is taking place on Monday nights. Step Studies are an in-depth study of the Twelve Steps, 8 recovery principles and their scriptures as the Biblical model for living your life. A Step Study is a personal journey through each of these steps in a confidential group. It is a long-term commitment to the members of the group, and follows strict guidelines to keep the group's trust and maintain anonymity. The meetings are also gender specific and we will have more information in the future about a Step Study for women. For more information, contact James Clements, Calvin Jones, or email [CR@westsidear.org](mailto:CR@westsidear.org).

## DIOS LE BENDIGA (GOD BLESS YOU)

**BY ARIS ORTIZ**

In life, we will have "in abundance" material things, and some will be more expensive than others; some may not have a great "monetary" value, but will have a sentimental value. In this picture, that's exactly the case. It is of great sentimental value for the owner of those vases and flowers that I was borrowing for a wedding several weeks ago. They were placed in the Family Center in the women's restroom closet for us to get and return to the owner. They were taken from there and we would really appreciate whoever took them to please return them so I can return them to the owner. Thank you very much West Side family!



### PRAYER LIST

#### **Nursing Homes**

Madge Alverson (Atkins #311), Mirl Helms (Stella Manor #221), Imogene Taylor (Brookdale #211), Wayne Nordin (Brookdale #219), Glennette Price (Stella Manor #305), Elizabeth Wyatt (Legacy Heights #43).

#### **Cancer Patients**

Gladys Norwood, Helen Stephens, Mary Grice, Mary King, Tiffany Lutrell, Carla Ford, Jeri Shay, Doug Hart, Jerry Thompson, Julie Session, Ruby Kite, Sherilyn Russell, Kelly Owens, Don Martin, Lavada Gordon, Ray Fullerton, Amy Baker, Delba Parrish, Kirk Benson, Bob Baker, Ali Winters, Debbie Gann, Hobart Summers, Debra Leaming, Lorri Petty, Joyce Gage, Ruth Kelley, Steven Watson, Linda Elkins, Johnetta Hunter, Dianne Skipper, Suzanne Gatewood, Kim Kersh, Richie Schilling, Greg Standridge, Ella Allison, Rex Roberts, Eura Mae Loyd, Maddie Allen, Stephanie Carper

#### **Military**

Dale Nelson, Justin Dollins, Steven Renfrow, Nicholas Randel, James Cole, Jr., Micah Hunter, Steven Cawyer, Charles Pitney, Joseph Roberds

#### **Additional**

Aris Ortiz, Jr., Patsy Parnell, Nora Smith, Jeremiah Martinez, Matt Francis, Loren Hurst, Ridge Austin

#### **Missions**

James & Abigail Rucker-Haiti, WBS Students

## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To submit an announcement for the bulletin, please contact the office using the email: [office@westsidear.org](mailto:office@westsidear.org).

To reach Britney directly, email [britney@westsidear.org](mailto:britney@westsidear.org).