

For the Record...

Bible Study:	Weekly Giving: \$ 13,744
Sunday Worship:	Weekly Budget: \$ 14,818
Sunday Evening:	YTD Giving: \$ 543,438
Wednesday:	YTD Budget: \$ 577,820

Our Ministers

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WELCOME TO WEST SIDE!

For our visitors:
If you have any questions, if you want to get involved with our church, or if you just want to meet some of our leaders, please stop by the Starting Point kiosk in the lobby. We'd love to meet you and answer your questions. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

West Side Church of Christ
2300 West "C" Street
Russellville, AR 72801

Office Information:
Phone: 479-968-1121
Email: office@westsidear.org
Jenifer's hours Mon-Thurs 8:30-3, Fri 8:30-12

Sermon Notes



WEST SIDE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

American Disunity

by Tim Tripp

In American History we can see the rise and fall of unity in the country. The Revolutionary War was an event that brought 13 colonies together to unite around a dream of independence from an oppressive king. The bond of sacrifice for a higher cause brought people in the newly formed United States of America together in a mosaic of people from all over the world working together with the aim of forging a great nation out of many smaller components. That bond held for nearly 100 years when the specter of division raised its head. The issues that led to the civil war polarized the country to the point that made war seem the only way to resolve differences. That war cost the lives of over 618,000 souls. Division is costly.

Coming back together after such huge losses was difficult but the challenges of war in Europe, once in 1915 and again in 1941, forced Americans to rally together again and help to defeat tyrants and restore order and threats to democracy in the world. The 1940's and 50's were times when the nation was somewhat unified again and seemed to be working to expand the nation's economy and increase our influence on people and governments around the world. Though the blight of racial injustice was beginning to be noticed and some spoke out. Voices demanding that something be done started to be heard.

The next two decades were characterized by civil unrest with the war in Viet Nam and the furor over civil rights. Disagreements over just causes seemed irreconcilable. Governments chose force and violence to seek a settlement for both issues. Tolls of death on both sides of the war climbed to over a million with nearly a fourth of that loss accounted for in US military personnel. Civil rights protests and demonstrations were at times met with violence that took the lives of many, the most shocking of which was the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in April of 1968.

The decades of the 80's and 90's saw the rise of terrorism and continued civil rights struggles. Racism may have taken a different shape in those decades but still left a distasteful and unforgettable impression on nearly every black American. A more robust economy and success in a war in the middle east did not seem to ease the division in our country as some prior armed conflicts had done. Politicians berated one another across party lines over whether the Gulf War should have happened. Americans lined up behind their side and allowed a tear in the fabric of American society to deepen while our military servicemen and women were in harm's way.

On September 11, 2001 when terrorists flew planes into the World Trade Center buildings, the nation was devastated. In the months after that we saw a return to faith, a renewed spirit of togetherness as a nation, and the event even catalyzed political parties to draw together. The unity felt good but it was short-lived. We soon fell right back into polarized groups and the beat went on.

Much more could be said than the space for this article will allow. I think what has been said makes it clear that in times of crisis, when great leaders set before the American people a goal of what this country could be at its best, the people came together. John F. Kennedy said it best in his oft quoted line from back in 1961 when he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country." American individualism asks, "what is in this for me," anytime something is put before the nation for a vote or opinion. All of those things will help some and hurt some. As long as Americans think of themselves and their own interests, the nation will be divided. Until we look for the good of others and are willing to sacrifice our own well being for the good of the nation, we will continue to be a nation divided.

Unity starts with me.

Dios Le Bendiga! (God Bless You!)

by Aris Ortiz

Good morning in a new beginning of a new week my West Side Family! (Well, I don't know if you will read this on Sunday, or Monday or Tuesday or when?) And this time, I want to take this with a purpose of finding out who and how many are reading this section in this bulletin every week. How effective or how helpful this bulletin is and for how many of you? I'm sure that will be a good way for me to know the impact this bulletin is having on how many of our church members. To do that, I will request from you if you can send me a short text and share about how often you read the bulletin, and specific for me, will be of great value if you can mention how positive or negative it is for you about my front section. Will be a great way for me to know how I'm doing. I will appreciate your comments. My number is 479-970-4548 and feel free to do that if you are ok.

My prayer is for everyone to have a blessed week. May God bless you my West Side Family!

Children's Ministry Grades K - 5 Meets Sunday at 9 AM and Wednesday at 6:30 PM.

Our Raising Arrows Children's program is currently suspended until further notice in an effort to keep everyone safe and healthy.



Virtual Youth Group

Wednesdays

YOUTH GROUP - ONLINE

Download Zoom app for your device

Link to the meeting will be sent out on Social Media and Remind text.

Hangout and talk

What's going on

Devotional

Prayer requests

Games and Giveaways



College students!

Join us at our weekly events.

Sundays-10:00am House Church at the student center.

Wednesday's-11:00-1:00 free meal.

Wednesday's-RE-Groups times vary.

Adult Bible Classes

Sunday Morning:

Room 2:

Room 3

FC Classroom:

Rock:

Wednesday Night:

Room 3:

FC Classroom:

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

The Elders have decided to postpone the start of share groups from Oct. 4th to a later date. Please be prayerful about these decisions, patient for the outcome, thoughtful about your participation and watchful for new information.

Thank you!

**Please join us
on West Side Church of Christ facebook page
for a new adult class series
"The Letters of John"
Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm.**

Wedding Shower

*Make your plans to participate in a Drive-By
Wedding Shower in honor of Shelby Bryant
and fiancé Corey Hottinger on
Sunday October 11th from 1-2:30pm
at the home of Jamie and Beth Sorrells.
Corey and Shelby are registered at Millyn's,
Amazon and Target.*

Gathering Times

These meeting times are currently suspended

SUNDAY

9:00 AM Bible Class

9:00 AM Clase en Español

10:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Adoración

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM

6:30 PM Clase en Español

7:00 PM

Family Illness and Recovery

Nancy Rentfro, mother of Paul Rentfro, was recently diagnosed with liver cancer and additionally was briefly hospitalized to treat sepsis, pneumonia, and other serious health complications. She is home now (in Vilonia) with hospice care. Please keep Nancy and Paul and Lisa and the rest of the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Larry Harrell is recovering at home following a heart procedure on Wednesday. He is doing well and will be further treated with medication. Continued prayers are appreciated.

Betty Hancock is in Arkansas Hospice River Valley Home following a stroke last Sunday evening. Please lift up all of her family in prayer as they wait with her, especially during the difficult time when Covid restrictions are so limiting.

Note of Thanks:

Dear West Side Family,

We are so grateful for your kindness and love. You are and always have been so supportive of our family, especially lately.

Thank you so much for the gifts, cards, plants, and letters that you have given using your time and money. We appreciate it so much and it has helped us greatly over this tough time for our family.

We are so very blessed by you all!

Love,

Brandon & Lizzy Grice and Erin & Cory Putman

RIVER VALLEY CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

West Side Church of Christ has partnered with Paul Senn of River Valley Christian Counseling to provide high quality, affordable, Christian counseling. Hourly fees are based on the client's income and services will be provided regardless of the income/insurance situation of the client.

If you would like more information, please contact Paul Senn at 479-219-3019 or rvccounseling@gmail.com.

You may also visit www.westsidear.org/rvcc for more information.

Homebound / Nursing Homes

Wanda Bailey - Home

Wayne Nordin - Brookdale 101

Glennette Price - Stella Manor 305

Inez Selby - Stella Manor 315

Don Todd - Russellville Nursing Center - 317

Expectant Mothers

Carlee Schmitt

Kaitlin McCormick

Lacey Hines

Missions

James & Abigail Rucker

WBS Students

Paul & Noemi Crites

Military

Ethan Grace

James Cole, Jr

Micah Hunter

Charles Pitney

Joseph Roberds

Carson Curtis

A Look Ahead...

10/4: Worship at 10am - in person and online -including virtual KFC

10/11: Worship at 10am - in person and online including virtual KFC

--Drive -By Wedding Shower for Shelby Bryant and Corey Hottinger

See details in the What you need to know section