

Week of
For the Record... December 16, 2018
 Bible Study: 244 Weekly Giving: \$ 23,745
 Sunday Worship: 491 Weekly Budget: \$17,914
 Sunday Evening: 119 YTD Giving: \$843,429
 Wednesday: 165 YTD Budget: \$895,700

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For our visitors:

If you have any questions, if you want to get involved in our church, or if you just want to meet some of our leaders, please stop by the Starting Point room in the back of the auditorium at the end of service. We'd love to meet you and answer your questions!

West Side Church of Christ
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Sign up for WS emails at westsidear.org/subscribe
 To give: Text 84321 or go to westsidear.org/give

Sermon notes from today:

Our Deacons

Dale Brooks	Mark Bryant	Craig Davis
Danny Davis	Lee Henson	Les Howard
Jim Bob Humphrey	Richard Humphreys	Ben Janelle
Richard Loveland	Chad Mitchell	Keith Moore
Chance Nesbitt	Brent Ruple	Ronnie Russell
Phil Sims	Keith Thomas	

A Look Ahead...
 Dec. 23rd: Class at 9, Worship at 10! // NO KFC TODAY! // Bible Bowl will meet at 3 in the FC. // Share groups at various times and locations.
 Dec. 24th: MNFTM will NOT meet this week. // Christmas Eve!
 Dec. 25th: MERRY CHRISTMAS from the West Side Staff and their families!
 Dec. 26th: There will be NO Bible classes OR evening services at the building tonight!
 Dec. 27th: Celebrate Recovery 6 pm in the FC.
 Dec. 24 - Jan. 1: Church office closed. We will reopen January 2.

 **Love. Share. Disciple.**



WEST SIDE
 CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday,
 December 23, 2018

This week's helpers:

- Nursery:
 - Beth Donnell
 - Michele Todd

- KFC:
 2 year olds:
 - No KFC Today
 3 & 4 year olds:
 - No KFC Today

- K - 2nd grade:
 - No KFC Today
 Puppets:
 - No KFC Today

- Greeters:
 North:
 - Judy Lamb
 East:
 - James & Judy Clements
 West:
 - Mark Bryant

- Communion:
 Table 1:
 - Robyn Richardson, Jon Francis, Clay Reed, Eric Jackson, Thom Robinson
 Table 2:
 - Pat Crosby, Allan Reaves, Richard Loveland, Brandon Hurt, Charlie Richards


The Unexpected by Tim Tripp

The night started out in the normal way but became a night like no other. The shepherds were doing their normal thing. The people of Bethlehem were going through their bedtime routine. The sheep and the donkeys and camels were settling down for the night. A baby had been born to a young couple passing through town to register for the tax they would have to pay to the emperor. The registration was a symbol of bondage, of military conquest, of forced subservience. The Jews were anticipating a Messiah to come and save them from the bondage of Roman oppression. They were awaiting a King who would strike terror into the hearts of their enemies and make them a sovereign nation once again. They imagined that their Messiah would reign over them in peace and would silence all challengers as did their own King David in times past. They imagined a Messiah who would come with pomp and circumstance; one who would be born to privilege, raised in royalty and emerge a natural leader.

What they got was unexpected. The child born that night was indeed the Messiah but he did not arrive in the manner of a king. He wasn't born in a palace, he was born among common people (and common animals) and laid in a feed trough. His birth was not heralded by royal messengers on horseback but by angels on wings from heaven. While dignitaries of his own people rejected him and tried to kill him, dignitaries from afar followed his star and paid him homage. He was not born into privilege but into poverty. Another thing that was unexpected: Jesus didn't come to free people from political oppression. He came to earth to save people from spiritual oppression. Political oppression is merely a sometimes pawn of the spiritual forces of darkness. We can look at world history and see that many times before Jesus and many times after that Satan has used evil politicians and rulers (and at times evil religious people) to accomplish his bigoted, murderous ends. Jesus came to rescue people from the power of Satan and of his dark spiritual forces. Political oppression limits and abuses select groups of people during their lives. Spiritual oppression affects not only people's lives but also their eternity. Satan's ultimate goal is not just to ruin the lives of people but to claim them as his own for all eternity. Sin is Satan's weapon because it drives a wedge between God and man. Jesus came to remove that wedge, to reconcile God to his children and grant mercy and grace in the place of judgement and condemnation.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of all was that the Messiah didn't just come for Jews. He came to save the world. Since Jesus, all those who believe are welcomed into His kingdom, regardless of race and ethnicity, where they can be forgiven, washed clean from every sin and given hope for an eternity with God in heaven. Before Jesus it was only the family lineage of Abraham who were benefactors of the promise of God. Since Jesus, all who believe in him have the right to become his children and gain an inheritance into his kingdom. Praise God for the child born that night and praise Him for the unexpected.

DIOS LE BENDIGA! (God Bless You!)
 by Aris Ortiz
 I remember waiting so anxious for Christmas time when I was a little boy, the best part: I will be wearing new clothes and new shoes!!(that was the only time of the year that I will have new clothes and new shoes) a lot of joy and happiness in the house. A lot of food and more food all day, all night. Next, firecrackers, a lot, from the smallest to the BIG ones! So powerful that they will make the house shake. A lot of people coming and going, friends of my mother, friends of my sister, family from far and those close to our house. Spanish Christmas songs all day and night. A lot of laughing, talking, a lot of noises. That night, the big dinner! All the family and friends at my mother's house, dancing in the living room enjoying one another, enjoying the time and waiting for midnight, counting to 12' O'clock!
 And then, we grow up, and so may things change and a lot of joy fade away for many reasons. But as a Christian, I have a new joy, not because the birth of Jesus, but for his death and resurrection that gives me hope that makes me joyful every day of the year and one day I will go for my eternity.
 Let us be joyful every day of the year my West Side Family...and "Merry Christmas!"
 DIOS LE BENDIGA.

 **Love. Share. Disciple.**

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

RAISING ARROWS
Current Raising Arrows Rotation:

All kids ages K - 5th grade will meet in the KFC as a combined class for Sunday morning classes today, the 23, and next Sunday, the 30.

We are creating teaching teams for each classroom in the Raising Arrows ministry. We are looking for 3 additional teachers per room to include with our team leaders. If you are interested, please see the team leader listed below for the classroom of your interest:

Holy Word Studios: Lee and Andrea Henson
Noah's Arcade: Dale and Christina Brooks
Museum: Brent and April Ruple
Creator's Canvas: Darran and Britney Austin

Christmas 2018

Let us be reminded of the physical and Spiritual gifts we received in 2018. These gifts might not appear as gifts. In Luke 1:39-30, Mary was given a gift that would bless the world for eternity but at the moment society might not have viewed it as such. As you reflect on this season remember Spiritual gifts sometimes can be inconvenient and socially unacceptable.

Have a Merry Christmas.

upNext

December 26: No Classes

January 6th: WSYM - Share Group 5:00PM cornerstone

January 18 - 20: Winterfest - Arlington, TX

Hello West Side Family!

As many of you know, our big Gulf Coast Getaway trip is quickly approaching! If you would be interested in providing a sponsorship for this event, please let us know. As always your generosity helps change lives, and our hope is that no student who wants to participate will have to stay behind.

For more information on becoming a sponsor, see Jake or Krysta.

Gulf Coast Getaway - a Christian conference for college students - is coming up Jan. 18-21. For more info on how to register, visit ccscatu.org/gcg.

You don't want to miss this!

Want to receive text updates?

Text @ccscatu to 81010

Adult Bible Classes

Sunday Morning Adult Classes:

Room 2: Church on Mission, Tripp Rotation
Room 3: Old Testament Characters, Reed Rotation
FC Classroom: Nehemiah, Janelle Rotation
Rock: Galatians, Clements Rotation

Wednesday Night Adult Class(es):

Room 2: Gospel of John (Part two)
Room 3: Digging Deeper
FC Classroom: A Joyful Journey Ladies Class
Room 34: Hispanic

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Holiday Schedule

NO evening services on Wednesday, December 26. Please enjoy this time with your family.

The office will be closed December 24 through January 1. It will reopen on January 2.

Prime Timers

Will not meet in January. Will meet again Feb. 5, 2019.

MNFTM

Will not meet December 24 or 31. We will meet again January 7, 2019!

West Side Skate Party

West Side Skate Party for people of ALL ages at the Russellville skating rink on Saturday, January 12, from 2 - 4 pm. Let's join together and have a fun skate party!

Merry Christmas from the Office Staff!

We hope you all have a great week with family and friends and a time of many blessings and Joy!

Gathering Times

SUNDAY

9:00 AM Bible Class
9:00 AM Clase en Español
10:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Adoración
5:00 PM Share Groups

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM Classes
6:30 PM Clase en Español
7:00 Midweek at CCSC

Family Illness and Recovery

Rylann Ausin: Had her tonsils and adenoids out 12/13.

Paul Bailey: Is in St. Mary's for congestive heart failure. Please keep Paul and Wanda in your prayers during this time of illness.

DeVaughn Bullard: Infant son of Lashard and Jolynda Bullard is still recovering from pneumonia.

Ralph Harrell: Recovering from a stroke and complications from a fall resulting from the stroke. No visitors please. Cards and prayers are welcomed.

Bill Lewis: He is home from the hospital and they are waiting on a surgery date for him.

Candy Reed: Had back surgery on 12/19. Please pray for a quick and easy recovery.

Ron Reid: In the hospital at St. Mary's. He is needing a pacemaker to help strengthen his heart.

Pierce Taylor: Is doing well after having his tonsils and adenoids removed on 12/18.

Sympathy:

Dear West Side family, several of our members have recently suffered great loss. We want to extend our deepest condolences to these families and we ask that you keep them in your prayers for peace and comfort during this painful time of loss.

The family of Bill Hancock (Dec. 15th). Pray for his wife Betty and daughter Brooke (Tim) Yeaman.

The family of Charles Baker (Dec. 17th). Pray for his sisters Vicki (Jim) Betterton and Margaret (Bill) Grant.

The family of James Ramsay (Dec. 12th). Pray for his wife Kathy and daughter Jessica.

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 to the River Valley. 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.

Southern Christian Children's Home items especially needed: Cream of Chicken and Mushroom, Pecans, Shaving Cream, Tylenol

Prayer List

Names will be printed on this list for up to 4 weeks at a time unless further updates are received in the church office.

Mary Grice: Continued prayers for effective treatment.

Marcia Hunter: Her back surgery was successful. She is home recovering.

Connie & Ted Koerner: Both are recovering from surgery. Please pray for their overall health.

Fred Taylor: Tracy Taylor's father, has been moved to Johnson County Health and Rehab.

Harding Jackson: Nancy Freeman's dad, aggressive Esophageal cancer.

Lloyd Freeman: Kenny Freeman's dad, broken pelvis and dementia.

Missions

James and Abigail Rucker

WBS Students

Paul & Noemi Crites

Ongoing Concerns

Ridge Austin - Overall health

Bill Davis- Health

Lloyd Freeman - broken pelvis

Betty Humphrey - Back pain

Patti Page - Achilles tendon

Patsy Parnell - Health

Charlie Richards - Back pain

Homebound/ Nursing Homes

Madge Alverson - Atkins 311
Mirl Helms - Stella Manor 221
Kirby Larsen - Brookdale 209
Wayne Nordin - Brookdale 219
Glennette Price - Stella Manor 305
Betty Spears-Brookdale 316

Military

Ethan Grace - Navy

James Cole, Jr - Navy

Micah Hunter - Navy

Charles Pitney - Air Force

Joseph Roberds - Air Force

Expectant Mothers

Sarah Beth Amack

Lauren Pipkin

Battling Cancer

Cindy Beck

Mary Grice

Mark Helms

Truman Hill

Harding Jackson

Gladys Norwood

Darwin Price

Helen Stephens