

## For the Record...

|                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Bible Study:    | Weekly Giving: \$ 12,765 |
| Sunday Worship: | Weekly Budget: \$ 13,820 |
| Sunday Evening: | YTD Giving: \$ 81,207    |
| Wednesday:      | YTD Budget: \$ 82,918    |

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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

## Altar Worship

by Tim Tripp

In the world of the patriarchs, temples were relatively unknown. Starting with Abraham, many were nomadic people who did not set down roots in a certain place. They traveled until they found a place where there was food and water to sustain the people and their animals in their tribe and stayed there until the resources ran out or until there was a threat to their safety or unless somewhere better was discovered. They carried everything they needed for life with them.

Until the time of Moses and the wilderness wanderings, people didn't have a place to worship. Some carried portable items for worship (ex. Idols) around with them and others made or built idols or shrines in each place where they stopped for any length of time. The patriarchs during this time built altars.

Altars were built out of the materials and resources that the people found around them. In the hills and mountains of what came to be known as Palestine, rocks were the abundant resource. The patriarchs likely piled stones up in a large pile perhaps bordered by wood from downed trees. Altars were often used to present burnt offerings to God but sometimes seemed to be a monument to remember a visit from God or marking something amazing that God had done. Noah built an altar after leaving the ark and offered some of the clean animals on it to thank God for providing a safe transport to spare his family from the flood.

Abraham built several altars in places where he lived to serve as a platform on which to make sacrifices to God. He also built an altar, in obedience to God, on which he planned to sacrifice his son Isaac before an angel prevented him from doing so.

Later in Genesis 26, Isaac moved his family to what would be the southern border of Judah in the time of King David. In fact, Isaac was the one who named the place "Shibah" that would become "Beersheba." God appeared to him there and reminded him of the promise he made to his father Abraham. Isaac marked that spot with an altar "and called upon the name of the Lord," (Genesis 26:25).

I love the concept of an altar that marks the spot and reminds of an encounter with God. Where might you have built those in your life? I imagine that I would have put one at an intersection where I almost got into a terrible accident but God saved me from it. I would put one around my parent's home in Ohio where God's voice was very clear to me and pointed me in directions that have been formative for me. I might have put one along a highway in Pennsylvania where the van I was driving with my family in it hydroplaned and nearly hit several guard rails and other vehicles. God's angels were around us then. These are just some of the places my altars would be built.

Obviously, we do not need to make burnt offerings on an altar. Jesus was the one sacrifice for all that took away the need for anymore to be made. But I challenge you, at least in your mind to think of the encounters you have had with God. Worship him for those "altar sites" in your life. Even better, take someone with you to one of those places where you might build an altar. Share with them the story of your encounter. You might even pile up a few stones and while standing over them worship God together thanking him for that encounter.

We may not have altars in our buildings but we may benefit from them beyond the building in everyday places where we encounter the almighty.

### Dios Le Bendiga! (God Bless You!)

by Aris Ortiz

Dios le bendiga my West Side Family!

Thinking about how things were in the past (because now everything looks different, after the Pandemic) usually, you would be reading this bulletin on Sunday, at church, sitting in your own place in the auditorium. But now, that is a thing of the past and you are reading this, on your own time. God loves you and me! That message has not changed and is even better now, because that love has extended so much with his patience and when we read in the Bible about that love, that still reaches us after two thousand years and it's effective. That my friend, that is power of God! Mercy from above! And the best part: it never ends! Let us encourage one another to keep believing and obeying the Word of God, and to be ready to do whatever is asked of us, for the Lord. Even when life changes -like now- or things are not the way we want, we still need to push forward to that goal: Eternal Life in heaven. Our days are numbered. Our time in this life is limited, life is short. God expects us, in these days that he is giving us, to obey him and glorify him. Make every day count my West Side Family!

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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



CHURCH OF CHRIST STUDENT CENTER · ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

College students! Find a place to belong! Join us for any and all of our regular events this semester!

House Church - 10A Sundays at the Student Center  
Free Meal - 11A-1P Wednesdays at the Student Center  
Midweek Multiplied - Jan 27, various times  
Midweek - Feb 3, 7P at the Student Center

For more info visit [renewatu.org](http://renewatu.org)

## Adult Bible Classes

### Sunday Morning:

Room 2:

Room 3

FC Classroom:

Rock:

### Wednesday Night:

Room 3:

FC Classroom:

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

### New Bible Study Resource!!

A team of 6 of our adult teachers has begun an experiment of recording a series of panel discussions focused on chapters 13 through 17 from the gospel of John. Each segment is about an hour in length and can be viewed at your leisure. Be looking for these in the near future on our Website as well as our Facebook and YouTube pages. They are very suitable for small group discussions as well as for individuals. They are intended to be thought provoking, encouraging, and challenging. As you watch them, please feel free to respond with comments and questions as the panel would like your feedback as well as attempt to address any questions that arise.

## Gathering Times

*Please see the website for updated service times*

### 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

Mary Powell has been having a difficult time with Parkinson's disease. Prayers for strength and comfort for both Randy and Mary are appreciated.

Helen Stephens is battling pneumonia. Currently she is in St. Mary's. Please continue to pray for her overall condition to improve so she can return to rehab.

James Strother is home and doing well following colon surgery. Please continue to pray for his recovery.

Ongoing concerns:  
Pam Tyree - covid related complications

Sharon Johnson -cancer  
Chris Johnson -cancer  
Niles Raines- cancer  
Maynette Stroud - cancer

## 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](mailto:rvccounseling@gmail.com).

You may also visit [www.westsidear.org/rvcc](http://www.westsidear.org/rvcc) for more information.

### Those in Nursing Homes / Retirement Centers

Wayne Nordin - Brookdale - Rm 101

Glennette Price - Stella Manor - Rm 305

Joe Pitney - The Arbors - Apt. 308

### Missions

James & Abigail Rucker

WBS Students

Paul & Noemi Crites

### Military

Ethan Grace

James Cole, Jr

Micah Hunter

Charles Pitney

Carson Curtis

### Expectant Mothers

Shelby Burke

Jolynda Bullard

## A Look Ahead...

Sunday evenings - 6:30 class on Zoom

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm - West Side Church of Christ Facebook page.

WSYM - Wednesdays 6:30 pm Zoom