

For the Record...

Bible Study:	Weekly Giving: \$ 14,842
Sunday Worship:	Weekly Budget: \$ 13,820
Sunday Evening:	YTD Giving: \$ 96,049
Wednesday:	YTD Budget: \$ 96,738

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!

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

Sermon Notes



WEST SIDE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship in the Storm

by Tim Tripp

"How are you?" That used to be a question that we considered a courtesy. We answered "Fine, and you?" They answered "good" and we went on with whatever we were doing. In 2021, we have had to consider the context of the question. "You mean in the context of the pandemic or the weather or politics or some other nightmarish misfortune?" Storms have been raging. There have been many storms over the past year and most of them have had nothing to do with weather.

Folks have been through the wringer. We are living in times that are unprecedented in the memories of most people now living. This pandemic has most of us feeling lonely. We are missing our people! We lack motivation. Our passion is waning. Our personal productivity is down. Then on top of that add the stress of the last election and the political turmoil that continues ad nauseum. Then last week we had the largest winter storm of the past 30 years (at least) blow through messing up travel, taking out power and plunging temperatures to record lows. Whew! Enough already!

Through all of this, our prayers are that the God who loves us will make our lives easy, keep our loved ones with us and smooth the way ahead so that nothing tragic or untoward will happen. Unfortunately, that is often not the way it goes. It takes no more than a quick read of the Bible to see that the great men and women of God had lives filled with trouble and tragedy but that is precisely what formed their faith.

Hebrews chapter 11 is the passage we like to call the "Hall of Faith." In it are references to several great characters of the Old Testament. They are men and women who fought through difficult times leaning on God to pull them through. In verse six of this chapter the author says, "And without faith it is impossible to please God." Anyone can say they have faith but it is true that an untested faith is no faith at all. The test is part of the journey. If we want a great faith, we must accept the tests.

Remember in Acts 16 when Paul and Silas were in a Philippian prison? They had been beaten and placed in jail with their feet in stocks. Their punishment was undeserved and mostly due to being Jews who ran afoul of Roman citizens in a Roman city. Scripture says that around midnight Paul and Silas were awake in their prison cell. They were unsure what would happen to them the next day. Yet with their freedom and their very lives at risk, they worshipped God. It could only be that they were men of mature faith because only believers of mature faith would know that worship was the way to cope with hardship. In worship, one does not ask God to resolve the situation in their favor. In worship one is accepting whatever outcome will most benefit the Kingdom. It was the same as Jesus' prayer, "not my will but yours be done."

It is tough when the storms are raging to accept negative, even tragic outcomes trusting that God's choice is the right one. However, when faith is tested it becomes more and more authentic and more dedicated to the will of God.

As the storms of late continue to rage, let us pray that whatever happens, it goes to God's glory even if it is not the outcome for which we hoped. Then worship. Worship the God who loves you. Worship the God who will be with you in the storm and walk beside you through it wherever His path leads.

Dios Le Bendiga! (God Bless You!)

by Aris Ortiz

Welcome back West Side Family!
How normal it is now to see every single person anywhere wearing a mask. Nothing rare or strange about that, because it is the new "normal". Before Coronavirus-19 if you saw someone wearing a mask, you might think: "oh, he/she is dealing with a sickness that is complicated" But now if you see someone not wearing a mask, it's a tendency to think that he/she is not being careful and putting people at risk. And here is a lesson for us to learn: that life can change suddenly, and the "not-normal" can become a "new normal". Forever, good has been good, and bad, always bad. But if you notice in different ways today, some of those bad things are now seen as good, and some of those good, now are seen bad." Well, Satan has always presented "bad" as good and good as "nothing important". The sad thing about this is that we can be immune and passive after so many good are seen bad and so many bad are seen good that we will not feel the difference anymore. What has been good that now is bad? I think we can make our own list. But let the good of God, to continue to be good, and let's not let Satan change in us the good and make us accept his bad as part of a "new normal"
Blessings to you my West Side Family!

Feb.
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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



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

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

Sharon Johnson, Carol White's sister, has been told her cancer is terminal. Chemo has ceased and her symptoms seem hard to control. Please pray for her discomfort to be better controlled, for strength and peace for her husband Garry and their family as they journey with her through this time.

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

Helen Stephens remains in St. Mary's being treated for pneumonia, but is improving. Please continue to pray for her overall condition to improve so she can return to rehab.

Pam Tyree has been moved to a rehab facility and continues to make slow improvements. Please pray for her improvement to rapidly increase.

Ongoing concerns:
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.

You may also visit 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