

## For the Record...

Bible Study:	Weekly Giving: \$ 10,933
Sunday Worship:	Weekly Budget: \$ 13,820
Sunday Evening:	YTD Giving: \$ 139,543
Wednesday:	YTD Budget: \$ 138,197

### Our Ministers

Zac George  
Worship & Outreach Minister  
zac@westsidear.org

Jake Greer  
College Minister  
jake@westsidear.org

Mark Hixson  
Youth Minister  
mark@westsidear.org

Aris Ortiz  
Hispanic Minister  
aris@westsidear.org

Tim Tripp  
Senior Minister  
tim@westsidear.org

### Our Shepherds

James Cole  
jamescolesr@gmail.com

Mike Cooper  
coopdent@suddenlinkmail.com

Bill Grant  
mbgrant@suddenlink.net

Darol Harrison  
dh@buildeng.net

Jamie Sorrells  
js@sorrellsent.com

Tracy Taylor  
jamestaylor728@outlook.com

Shannon Walters  
swmt633@gmail.com

### Our Staff

Krysta Allen  
College Ministry Assistant  
krysta@westsidear.org

Jenifer Hurt  
Ministry Assistant  
jenifer@westsidear.org

### Our Deacons

Dale Brooks  
rdbrooks80@gmail.com

Richard Humphreys  
rlhumphreys@yahoo.com

Mark Bryant  
mbryant22@centurylink.net

Ben Janelle  
ben\_janelle@yahoo.com

Craig Davis  
jcd1983@gmail.com

Richard Loveland  
rlovela@entergy.com

Danny Davis  
derrettdavis@gmail.com

Keith Moore  
j.keith.moore@gmail.com

Lee Henson  
lee@campcaudle.org

Brent Ruple  
brentruple@gmail.com

Les Howard  
l-howard@suddenlink.net

Ronnie Russell  
russell62@suddenlink.net

Jim Bob Humphrey  
jimbob@humphreyfuneral.com

Keith Thomas  
thomas.electric@hotmail.com

## 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

## The Opportunity to Hope

by Tim Tripp

"Every challenge brings both a threat and an opportunity." Most counselors know this proverb by heart. It is one we not only encourage others to remember but also need to apply to our own lives as well. If true that with every problem comes both a threat and an opportunity, how does that help us?

There are some who become Christians thinking that a Christian does not have any serious problems and that God will protect them from all the hard stuff in life. It is an unfortunate fallacy because while that seems to be the message from some Christians and even some groups of Christians, that message is not biblical. For sure, there are biblical passages that speak of God's love and care for his people (Romans 8:37-39). There are also promises of God's protection from harm (Joshua 1:9) within. While God is true to his promises, his assurance of love and protection should never be interpreted as a guarantee that there will never be difficult, frightening, heart-breaking and painful times in life.

Think about the fact that every major Bible character experienced loss, trials, temptation, injury, and/or defeat. Abraham's wife couldn't have a child. Jacob lost his son Joseph. Moses was threatened with death several times. Samson was captured and had his eyes gouged out. Joshua was defeated at Ai. Ruth left her home to be with her mother-in-law in a land where she was a foreigner. David conquered many enemies but fell to temptation. John the Baptist was beheaded. Jesus Crucified. Peter imprisoned. Paul executed, and the list could go on and on.

Suffice to say, serving God does not mean everything will go well and that Christians will get what they want in this life. In fact, in most cases the opposite is true. Jesus himself told his followers that those who follow him would need to pick up their crosses (sufferings) daily and follow him (Luke 9:23).

So, if indeed 'every problem brings both a threat and an opportunity,' what are we to do with that? To be real, that is going to depend on whether a person focuses on the threat or the opportunity. The threat (or at least part of it) usually lies within the realm of emotion and imagination. The threat part is scary and usually brings to mind the phrase that begins with "what if." "What if I owe a lot of taxes this year?" "What if I can't pay my taxes and get penalized or audited?" "What if I go so deeply into debt that I have to declare bankruptcy?" The spiral kinds of works like that. It begins with an unlikely but possible threat and then accelerates right into the disaster scenario. The threat is never neutralized or even mitigated by worrying. Rather than worrying, one should take what steps they can to neutralize the threat. In the tax example, it might mean making an appointment to see a tax professional. Let them help you neutralize the threat rather than worry about it. Then move on to the opportunity.

With the tax scenario, the opportunity may involve increasing the level of organization around taxes so that when tax time comes you have a better idea of what will be required. The opportunity side is usually growth oriented, new experience oriented and behavior change oriented. All those things are painful but they add growth. Growth leads to hope. Hope is what God is all about. Trials are purposeful if we let them be. They give us the opportunity to hope.

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

by Aris Ortiz

Blessings my West Side Family!

How are you doing? How is your life? Are you doing ok? Those are some of the questions that you and I will ask often to everyone around us every day. But what is the answer? An honest answer or an answer to make me think that all is ok? I know that we all have problems, difficulties and concerns. Most of the time, we don't want everybody to know that "we are not ok" and we think that people don't have to know about our problems, and that is perfectly fine, because in reality, we don't trust everybody to be telling all of our problems. In fact, we probably have few persons, friends or family that we trust, and that is happening everywhere. The only one who knows perfectly our heart, is God. He knows what we are thinking, saying and doing every minute of our life. He knows what's going on in our life, how we are and how we feel. Beautiful words we read in Psalms 37:3 "Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture" If we want to be ok all the time, we need to let God take control of our life and then we will be responding all the time: "I'm being blessed" Blessings my West Side Family!

March  
14th

S  
U  
N  
D  
A  
Y

2

0

2

1

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.*



### HEY TEENS!!

Bring a friend and join us on Wednesday nights for WSYM at 6:30 in the Cornerstone!  
Masks required. Safe social distance.

Fireside devos outside at the firepit as weather permits.

Hangout and talk | What's going on  
Devotional | Prayer requests



CHURCH OF CHRIST STUDENT CENTER · ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

### Pork Butt Fundraiser!!

For \$35 you receive a smoked 8+ lb pork butt ready to eat or freeze.  
Ready for pickup the afternoon of April 18 @ the Student Center!  
(more info about pickup closer to time)

Order on our website ([renewatu.org/porkbutt](http://renewatu.org/porkbutt))  
or by calling 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:

### Annual Pie Auction and Chili Lunch benefiting Camp Caudle 2021 Summer Camp Scholarships

Although we are a little later than usual we will have our Pie Auction and Chili Lunch on **Sunday March 28th**. It's going to look a bit different than in the past due to social distancing and covid restrictions but it is sure to be a great time!

Following our Sunday Morning Worship service, we will meet in the parking lot adjacent to the family center for our Chili (& more) lunch followed by a paddle-style Pie Auction. Bring your lawn chairs and wallets and come prepared to have a good time! In the event of poor weather conditions, all activities will be moved inside in keeping with CDC guidelines.

Please register online for this event. Registration is open and the process is the same as it is for our Sunday In-person gatherings. For help with registration, or for monetary donations contact Jenifer Hurt at 501-425-5208 (call or text) or through the church office at 479-968-1121.

Camp Caudle Christian Camp needs this extra boost so those who cannot afford to go to camp still have an opportunity to attend.

### Note of Thanks

Dear church family, I was truly overwhelmed by all the uplifting words during this difficult time. The peace lily is beautiful and will remind me of your loving kindness. I am truly blessed to be a part of West Side!  
In Christian Love, Cheri Russell

## 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

Britney Austin is recovering following a brief second hospitalization due to infection after surgery. Please keep her in your prayers for a complete and rapid recovery.

Paulette Cooper is recovering at home from recent eye surgery. Please pray for complete and rapid healing with no complications.

Eli Thomas will be traveling to St. Louis to see a specialist this week. Please pray for safe travel and more answers that could bring complete healing.

Richard Humphreys is currently in St. Vincent hospital in LR. Please pray for his health to be restored.

Niles Raines, father of Kristen Davis, is undergoing cancer treatment again. Please pray that his body will tolerate the treatments and reverse the cancer.

Zane Grant is home following recent hospitalization after an ATV accident. Please continue to pray for his recovery.

Please keep Trish Bailey's sister and her family in your prayers. The family is facing an enormous amount of illness and potential illness. Pray for strength and healing as well as comfort for them all.

### Sympathy:

We extend our sympathy to Joel and Ginger Tippit and family in the recent loss of Joel's mother, June Tippit. Please pray for comfort and peace in the days and weeks ahead.

We extend sympathy also to Boyd and Brenda Foster in the recent loss of Boyd's sister-in-law Diane Burris. Please keep the Foster and Burris families in your prayers during this time of loss.

### Welcome Baby!

Congratulations to TJ & Rachel Sizemore on the birth of Vaughn Carter Sizemore. Baby Vaughn has had a rough start but is doing much better. Please continue to keep him in your prayers. Congratulations also to proud Grandparents Shannon and Kim Walters.

## 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

Lauren Pipkin  
Brooke Strasser  
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 in the Cornerstone*