



August  
1st

S  
U  
N  
D  
A  
Y

2  
0  
2  
1

### The Last, Last Supper

by Tim Tripp

The Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples gets a lot of focus and rightly so. Combining the story from the different gospels, Jesus gathered with them in an upper room to celebrate the Passover meal. He washed their feet, he confronted Judas, he shared private thoughts with John. But in that time, they ate. Jesus broke the bread and poured the wine. He encouraged them to do “this” in remembrance of him. What is “this” by which we are supposed to remember? We have traditionally interpreted that to mean the partaking of the bread and wine to remember his body and blood. Certainly, those are the essential elements as Jesus placed the memorial attachments with them. However, I wonder if we miss something by separating these essential elements from the meal itself?

It seems clear that when the church in the New Testament celebrated the Lord’s Supper, they did it as a part of a meal. In several places where the New Testament states that Christians “broke bread” together and where it does there has been confusion as to whether it means that they ate together or took communion together. It very well could be that it meant one and the same. It probably means that whenever Christians in the early church came together to share a meal, when they served the bread and the wine, they remembered.

At the last supper, Jesus remarked that he would not eat and drink with them again until he did so in the Kingdom. Then after his resurrection, most of his appearances involved a meal. He appeared to them in a room where they were gathered and he said, “*What is there to eat?*” (Luke 24:40-43). He met up with some guys on the road to Emmaus who did not recognize him. They talked along the way and the travelers invited Jesus to eat with them. It wasn’t until he broke the bread that they recognized him. There is no way to be sure, but in what I like to call the “last, Last Supper,” The disciples had decided to do some night fishing and had no luck (I feel their pain on that one!). The next morning, Jesus stood on the beach and called to them but they did not recognize him. He told them to cast the net on the other side of the boat and, reminiscent of an earlier miracle, when they did their nets filled with fish. At once, they knew it was Jesus. They hurried to the shore, dragging a full net behind them and joined Jesus on the beach. He had a fire going and some bread and fish cooking over the fire (John 21:1-14). I don’t know that this was the last time they ate together but it strikes me as appropriate that the last, last supper might have been a picnic on the beach with the mountains and lake as a backdrop to share food and drink with the one who had created them all.

It makes me wonder how we can capture the magic of the meal in our taking of the Lord’s Supper. The magic of the meal lies in sharing something of essence together. It lies in enjoying a blessing of God together with thanksgiving. It lies in remembering together the crazy love that God has for each of us. I know there are no easy answers in a congregation of several hundred people. Perhaps an initial target for movement would be to change the way we observe the memorial in our own solemn silos. Perhaps if we looked at each other and reminded one another of God’s love it would add some meaningful impact to the event turning a solemn observance into fellowship around a feast of remembrance, a somber vigil into a picnic at the lake with the creator.

### DIOS LE BENDIGA! (God Bless You!)

by Aris Ortiz

Hello my West Side Family!

We are in a new week, and we don’t have any idea of what is coming to us this week. Most of the time, I think to myself: life can change in a blink of an eye, from a moment to another, from one day to another, everything can turn either for good or for the bad. As believers, we know that God is always in control and nothing happens without his knowledge, approval or disapproval. He is in control. Our faith makes us firm when tribulations are present and according to our standing and relationship with him, we will feel strong or weak to confront what is now, no idea what is coming in front of us... Let us keep that faith as big as the mustard seed that the Lord was talking about, and we will move mountains! May God bless you richly my West Side Family!

## Gathering Times

Sunday Morning 10 Am Worship  
& Kids for Christ  
ages 1yr-5th grade

In- Person Adult/Teen Bible Study  
Wednesdays 6:30pm - Room 3

Friendship Cafe and Conversational Christianity  
Sunday Mornings at 8:45

In- person Adult Bible Study on Ephesians  
Sunday Mornings at 9am

## West Side News

### Basket Showers

We are hosting a basket shower for Joshua and Shelby Burke in honor of their new daughter Jacelynn Patricia.

They are registered at Walmart and Amazon

We are also hosting a basket shower for Matt and Brooke Strasser in honor of their son Asher Jordan who will be coming soon.

They are registerd at babylist.com

Items can be left in the baskets on the table in the main hallway until Sunday Aug. 15th.

### Upcoming Showers:

Baby Shower for Tasha Greer in honor of Epperly Lynn will be Sunday Aug. 22 from 2-4pm in the Rock. They are registered at Target and Amazon.

Wedding Shower for

Tanner and Tori (Thomas) Woodhull

Sunday Aug. 29th in the Rock from 1:30-3:30pm

**August 14 & 21** will be clean - up work days **at West Side!**

More details coming soon.

Sign up for WS emails at  
[westsidear.org/subscribe](http://westsidear.org/subscribe)

Week of: 7-25-2021

Weekly Giving: \$ 10,512

Attendance

Weekly Budget:\$ 13,820

Sunday AM - 346

YTD Giving: \$ 414,592

Wednesday PM - 74

YTD Budget: \$ 414,002

## Family Illness and Recovery

Carol White's sister Sharon has entered an inpatient Hospice House in Asheville, NC. Please pray for Sharon and her husband Garry as well as Carol and the rest of the family during this difficult time.

Amy Vanderheiden is doing well following knee surgery last Monday. Please continue to keep her in your prayers as she recovers.

Wendell Loyd, 2 year old grandson of Marian and Bobby Loyd, who was seriously injured in a farm accident last weekend, remains in critical condition at Arkansas Children's hospital. Please continue to pray for his family as well as for his little body to remain strong and that he will continue to reach milestones in his recovery.

Danny Davis is doing well following foot surgery. Please pray for a rapid recovery.

Please continue to keep Lydia Franklin in your prayers for overall health improvement.

### Sympathy:

We extend our sympathy to Patsy Parnell in the recent loss of her sister Sissy Duvall. Please keep Patsy and family in your prayers during this difficult time.

We extend our sympathy to Brad and Tammy Wooten in the recent loss of Brad's brother - in- law. Please pray for strength and peace for the family in their time of loss.

## Other News

Beth Sorrells is collecting money and gift cards for gas and food for the family of Wendell Loyd.

See Beth for more information and to donate.

### Baptism

Congratulations to Kennedee Wilson who was baptized last Sunday afternoon!

Love. Share. Disciple.