

Prayer Requests

Geraldine Horton, grandmother of Aaron Horton, has been in rehab, and has about another week to go. She could use prayers for her spirit to be refreshed, as she waits to be able to go home.

Margaret Helms is being moved to Baptist Rehab today, praise the Lord. Please continue to pray for her complete healing.

Jennifer Wortham's dad, James Wyatt passed away in Louisiana earlier this week. Please be praying for Jennifer and family to be comforted during this difficult time.

Ongoing

Bob Clark, Tami Robinson, Jarra Family, Oliver Blankenship, George Reed, Mellicent Crain, Dale Lamberson.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our sweet kiddos here at church are putting on a Christmas program called, "Going to Bethlehem" on December 18th during our morning worship. The kids, little and big, are practicing every Sunday during class and KFC, so the teachers have requested that your kids come as much as they can, for them to put together this wonderful program for us to see. For any questions, please contact Susan Taylor or Beth Sorrells.

Dinner Church

Our Dinner Church will continue this month on December 7th and the 14th. We would greatly appreciate donations to help cover the cost of food, \$5/person, or a max of \$20/family. Be sure to make plans to join us for a great night of fellowship! More information coming soon, as we have plans to keep this going throughout the new year.

Volunteers Needed

Aris is looking for some volunteer teachers to help with the Citizenship, English, and Spanish classes starting in January. Please reach out to him via text at 479-970-4548 for more information.

GREAT NEWS! We have had 3 recent baptisms over the last couple of weeks. Angeleah Walters was baptized by her dad, Shannon Walters, Jonathon Spivey was baptized by Kenny Freeman, and Luis Rios was baptized by Aris Ortiz. Congratulations to them on their most wonderful decision!



WAY TO GO! West Side family has filled all of the Arbors Secret Santa slots. Please remember to have your wrapped gifts to the Friendship Cafe by Sunday morning, December 11th. Anyone who can is invited to help distribute the gifts and sing Christmas carols on Friday, December 23rd. Time will be announced soon!



"A SWEET FRIENDSHIP REFRESHES THE SOUL."
PROVERBS 27:9

Sunday December 4th

Brooke Strasser 2 doz donuts

Nancy Preuit 2 doz donuts

Baristas: Cindy Jones, Jenifer Hurt

Sunday December 11th

Jenifer Hurt 2 doz donuts

Paulette Cooper 2 doz donuts

Baristas: Zac and Kathryn Smith



No cookie schedule for the month of December, but will start back up in January.

Sunday Morning Children's 9am Bible Class Winter Quarter Schedule

Cradle Roll/1yr olds - Nursery

2 & 3 Year Olds - Room 16

4 Yr./Pre-K - Room 12

K-2nd Grade - Room 19

3rd-5th Grade - Museum Room

WSYM - 6th-12th grades -

Cornerstone

Sunday Morning Adult 9am Bible Classes Winter Quarter Schedule

Room 2 - Hebrews

Room 3 - Sermon on the Mount



KIDS CORNER

by *Kaitlin McCormick*

We are continuing to build the foundations of our faith by answering the question "who is God?"

This month in KFC, friends Bob Builder and Believer Beaver are helping us learn about our GRACIOUS God.

Main Idea: God is gracious – he gives us gifts we do not deserve.

Bible Verse: "By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God" – Eph.2:8

Song: Away in a manger

Other Scriptures: Exodus 34:6-7

Reminder: We will have a children's Christmas program on December 18th!

Sunday 12/4 Worship Volunteers

Leader: Ron Roberson, Bass: Grayson Taylor, Tenor: Preston Abbott, Alto: Brittany Loudon, Soprano: Nancy Preuit, Opening Prayer: Roy Reeves, Communion Thought: Jerry Yates, Elder/Closing: Jamie Sorrells, Crows Nest: Nick Brown

ONLINE CONNECT CARD

We would love to connect with you! Please fill out our Online Connect Card at...

westsidear.org/connect



Shepherds

James Cole

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Last Week

Class - 104

Worship - 233

Wednesday Night

Bible Study - 96

Giving: \$ 23,051

Weekly Budget:

\$13,380

YTD Giving:\$ 586,393

YTD Budget:\$ 642,258

Ministers

Tim Tripp

Senior Minister

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Mark Hixson

Youth Minister

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Grayson Taylor

Campus Director

College Ministry

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Aris Ortiz

Hispanic Minister

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Welcome to West Side!

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

"MAGNIFICAT"

by Tim Tripp

December 4, 2022

God is a champion of the humble. Over and over in scripture when God has a big job to do, he calls on humble servants to do it. Saul and David were both men of humble means living pedestrian lives before the call of God came to them to become Kings of Israel. Rather than choosing from among the leaders of the people who had already proven themselves or from among the priests and prophets, he searched the ranks of the common man to find his servant. As Samuel went to anoint David as king, he saw one of David's brothers and thought that he was surely the one. God passed him over and told Samuel that God does not look at the things man does. God reminded him that while man looks on the outward appearance, God looks at the heart.

The heart is surely what God attended to as he chose Mary and Joseph to be the earthly parents of his son Jesus. Both were humble servants of God who when asked to do incredible things, simply did them. When the archangel Gabriel told Mary that she would have a son, she asked how that could happen since she was not married. The explanation she received was vague and frightening. She simply replied, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said."

When Joseph learned of his fiancée's pregnancy, he knew he was not the father. Matthew told us that Joseph was thinking of divorcing Mary quietly rather than exposing her to public disgrace," (Matthew 1:19). When he was told in a dream however, that Mary was pregnant by the Holy Spirit, he simply accepted that explanation, married her and brought her into his home. **Simple obedience is the outward sign of a humble heart set on pleasing God.**

When Mary visited Elizabeth and received her blessing, Mary said a prayer of thanks that has been preserved for us as a hymn called the **Magnificat**. It goes as follows:

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior

For he has seen the humble state of his servant.

*From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me
- holy is his name.*

His mercy extends to those who fear him from generation to generation.

*He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their
inmost thoughts.*

He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

*He has helped his servant Israel remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants
forever, even as he has said to our fathers." (Luke 1:46-55)*

God chose two humble young people to be the ones through whom he brought the Savior of the world. They had no special training, were not wealthy or unusually smart. They were very good at at least one thing: hearing and obeying God's will.

That was enough.

LOVE | SHARE | DISCIPLE