

FOR THE RECORD

Week of March 25th, 2018

Bible Study.....	226
Sunday Worship.....	430
Sunday Evening.....	133
Wednesday.....	270
Weekly Giving.....	\$15,822
Weekly Budget.....	\$17,914
Year-to-Date Giving.....	\$186,745
Year-to-Date Budget.....	\$214,968

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

April 1

Laura Francis & Tiffany Brandon

April 8

Carol Lee & Susan Lewis

April Communion Prep

Linda McMickle

GREETERS

April 1

Bill & Susan Lewis.....North
Larry & Linda Harrell.....West
Alan & Michele Todd.....East

April 8

Steve & Donna Frick.....West
Terry & Sharon Bailey.....East
Donnie & Rena Baker.....North

COMMUNION

April 1 & 8

Table 1: Joe Pitney, John Lee, Glenn Holmes, Ed Lewis, Gary Jernigan

Table 2: Dale Lamberson, Kevin Mason, Ben Janelle, Scott May, Les Howard

RAISING * ARROWS

Children's Ministry Grades K-5. Meets
Sunday at 9AM, and Wed. at 6:30PM

Teachers beginning **March 28** are...

Creator's Canvas

Lenore Tripp

Museum

Janelle Miller

Noah's Arcade

Dale & Christina Brooks

Holy Word Studios

Danny & Kristen Davis

Kids for Christ

Kids for Christ is for ages 2 – 2nd grade, in room #2, and is announced for dismissal during the sermon.

March

Word / Scripture of the Month

Faithfulness / Proverbs 28:20

"A faithful man will be richly blessed."

April 1

2 Year Olds: Beth Donnell

3 & 4 Year Olds: Tara Young

K - 2nd Grade: Amanda Williams

Puppets: Josh Greer, Katie Clem, Emmy May

April 8

2 Year Olds: Beth Donnell

3 & 4 Year Olds: Susan Bratton

K - 2nd Grade: Jessica Davis

Puppets: Josh Greer, Katie Clem, Emmy May

April Helpers

Elizabeth Martin, Wesley Lamberson, Reagan Mitchell, Shelby Brashear

BARABBAS

April 1st, 2018

Britney Austin

When I look back and think about the "Easter Story," or the story of Jesus crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, I often think about the main points: Jesus was arrested in the garden when he was betrayed by Judas, he was denied by Peter, he stood trial, he was led to be crucified and carried his cross, he was hung on the cross and wore a crown of thorns, he surrendered his Spirit and died, was buried, and rose again, revealing himself to multiple people before he ascends into heaven. But when I went back and read it in depth from start to finish, I had one part of the story really jump out at me: Barabbas.

Reading the passage in all four gospels about Barabbas, I realized this was a crucial part of the story, one that is still relatable with today. At this point in the story, Jesus is facing trial. As part of Jewish tradition at Passover, Pilate would release one prisoner of their choosing. Remember, Jesus was being charged as inciting the people to rebellion against Rome, and causing riots, which would lead to a capital punishment of death as the Jewish leaders wanted. Barabbas, too, was arrested and on "death row" for his part in a rebellion against the Roman government, for murder, and insurrection in the city. Pilate brought Barabbas out to be held against Jesus for release, and the people chose Barabbas. The people intentionally chose a murderer, a rebel, a true criminal. They chose the one they knew was a sinner and bad person, over a man they were offended and threatened by for healing, teaching, and claiming to be the Messiah. When I think about this, it is hard to wrap my mind around. The people chose to free the sinner. How could they choose a person like Barabbas over Jesus?

In the story, Pilate tries to free Jesus. He wants nothing to do with the innocent man's death. Pilate questions Jesus, yet Jesus remains silent. Why? Because Jesus knew he was there to complete what the Father sent him there to do. He knew it was his time to sacrifice himself to save the sinners, to save us, to save Barabbas. The more I think about it, the more I realize, I am Barabbas. Jesus kept silent. The people wanted to free the horrible criminal, the rebel, the murderer. Jesus kept silent. *Jesus* wanted to free the horrible criminal, the rebel, the murderer, *ME*. He didn't expect Barabbas to turn around and help him, to owe him anything. Jesus knew that God would have to treat him like the sinner, in order for God to treat the sinner, us, like Jesus. How powerful is that? Jesus knew and could understand what I couldn't about the story. Jesus knew why a man like Barabbas was chosen by the people.

Barabbas means "son of Abba" or "son of a father." Barabbas, son of a father, committed a crime, and he was ultimately set free at Jesus' expense. Wow. Jesus died in Barabbas' place and Barabbas was set free. This part of the story may be short, but make no mistake, it is relevant. We are Barabbas. We are the people that were freed, that put Jesus on that cross. We are the reason Jesus kept silent and took his torturous death on the cross. Because Barabbas was set free, and because Jesus died for us, we can now say, we are the sons and daughters of Abba, father.

STARTING POINT

Welcome to West Side! Are you interested in learning more about us? Be sure to visit the Starting Point room in the back of the auditorium after each Sunday service.

STRONGER MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

Clarksville Church of Christ is hosting a Stronger Marriage Workshop this coming weekend, April 6-7. If you are interested, please register by emailing name and contact information, as well as if you need free childcare, to clarksvillechurchofchrist@yahoo.com or call 479-754-3360.

BAJA MISSION TRIP MEETING

The next Baja Mission Trip meeting will be held April 8 immediately after services in the Rock. Please see Tim Tripp if you have any questions.

SECURITY TRAINING

There will be a security training held Sunday afternoon on April 8 from 2 - 4 pm for anyone involved with the children's ministry. Please plan to attend the training. If you have any further questions, please see Darran Austin or call 870-335-6002.

UPCOMING SHOWERS

-There will be a baby girl shower for Josh and Ashlee Leavell on Saturday, April 14, from 2 - 4 pm in the Rock. They are registered at Amazon, Target and Walmart.

-There will be a wedding shower for Aris Jr and Alexis Ortiz on Sunday, April 15, from 1 - 3 pm in the Rock. They are registered at Millyns, Target, Bed, Bath, & Beyond, Amazon, and Walmart.

-There will be a wedding shower for Savannah Young, the daughter of Ashley and Tara Young, on Saturday, April 21, in the Rock, from 2 - 4 pm. She is registered at Millyns, Amazon, Walmart, and Target.

-There will be a baby boy shower for Craig and Jessica Davis to celebrate the adoption of Bryson into their family on Sunday, April 22, from 1 - 3 pm. (3T clothes, size 6 diapers/3T pull-ups.) Walmart and Kroger gift cards would be appreciated.

-There will be a wedding shower for Maranda Sakowsky and Bryce Cash on Sunday, April 29, from 1 - 3 pm in the Rock. They are registered at Walmart and Millyns.

The Week Ahead...

April 1: Class at 9, Worship at 10! // Friendship Cafe: Sue Ann Jernigan - 3 doz. donuts; Sheri Crosby - 3 doz. donuts; Caroline Bonn - 3 doz. muffins // Share groups at various times and locations.

April 2: MNFTM will meet at 5:45! // CR Ladies Step Study at 7:00.

April 3: Prime Timers at 5:30 in FC. Ben Cross will be the guest speaker. Chicken will be provided. Bring sides and desserts.

April 4: Bible class at 6:30. // CCSC Midweek at 7:00. // CCSC Cookies: Joy Brandon, Deanna Cole, Tondra Taylor, Rena Baker

April 5: Ladies Bible Study at 9:30.

April 6: Celebrate Recovery. Meal at 5:45, worship at 6:30! // Stronger Marriage Workshop

DIOS LE BENDIGA (GOD BLESS YOU)

BY ARIS ORTIZ

I was 21 yrs. Old when I left home; when I left my country. I was not a Christian. It was my first time going away from home. I was in college and I was enjoying my time in school! -the best time of life- Moving from a 100k town-size to a few Million town-size like Houston TX. was a BIG change in my life too! Having invitations to "fun places" was very attractive to a young inexperience man. Not being subject to maternal authority was a plus in freedom to do whatever I wanted to do... I was free!!! But then, so many "voices" started kicking in... those voices of a mother who always was making sure her son will be a person of good, words of a mother guiding, disciplining and stressing for the good behavior. Kicking in those memories when consequences of disobeying the authority or wrong behave will bring painful consequences..., yes, I still "feel" the thickness of a belt in my behinds!!! But I said today to my mother: "thank you mother for applying, for making me "feel" the pain of that belt, (I didn't die by the way) because I need it and I recognize that even today, that was necessary. So, all those memories were there, with me, in the new world, and the new life that I was starting, away from that place that I always called HOME. But not only was those maternal voices, but other voices too, like: uncles, very good friends, those good neighbors; my "TEACHERS" whom they took their time to said a word of advice and encouragement to me and some others that I met for just few moments in my life... strange people who when I think about it, they was there in a specific moment and for specific reason... Now, I perfectly understand the following statement: "it takes a village to raise a child" Well, this is part one... next week will be part 2....

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit an announcement for the bulletin, please contact the office using the email:

office@westsidear.org.

To reach Britney directly, please email:

britney@westsidear.org.

WSYM CORNER

-April 1: No Sunday Night youth group.

-April 7 - 8: Young Christians Weekend in Branson. Details are online.

-April 15: After morning services, lunch with Hispanic Ministry in FC. Bring food to share and get ready to learn new songs.

-For more WSYM events and information, please see westsideyouthministry.org or text/call Mark Hixson at 479-225-2022.