

SINGLES MINISTRY

Wednesday night bike rides: meet at 5:30pm at IDOT, Lost Bridge Bike Trail (weather permitting).

Singles Volleyball meets Fridays, 7:00pm, in the Gym. There will be no volleyball April 24.

MercyMe, Jeremy Camp, Hawk Nelson, Tenth Avenue North and Addison Road, is Sunday, April 19, 6:00pm, at the Prairie Capitol Convention Center; cost is \$10 at the door.

A Night in Casablanca is Saturday, April 25, 6:00pm, Lakeview Lodge at Lake Springfield Christian Assembly. It will be "an evening of mystery, romance and dancing in 1942 French Morocco." Formal or period attire is suggested but not required. A suggested \$5 donation will help cover the cost of the DJ. Swing dance lessons will be offered Mondays, April 13 and 20, 7:00-8:00pm at LSCA.

Canoe Trip to Meramec State Park, south of Sullivan, MO, is July 17-19. Canoe rental is approximately \$40 per canoe; one person camping is \$8 per person or \$22.50 for a family of 3 or more for 2 nights. Info and sign up in Singles ABF and turn in a \$20 deposit to reserve your spot! Questions? Contact Gary Boner at garyboner777@yahoo.com.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The next Grow! is Friday, April 17, 7:00pm, at the home of John & Becky Minick (2043 Briarcliff Drive). Grow! is a monthly opportunity for young adults to grow deeper in their faith. For more information, contact John Minick at johnm@wschurch.org.

Serve! Special "care packages" for our friends away at college will be assembled on Saturday, April 25, 4:00pm, in E200. If you would like to help by baking cookies and other goodies in advance, or you want to participate in the group project on April 25, contact Amanda Trewartha at amandatree@gmail.com or John Minick at johnm@wschurch.org.

FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry Needs: cereal, canned corn, cream corn, baked

STATISTICS

March 22, 2009 AM Worship: 2126 (2145 avg)
Offering: \$71,537.01 (\$78,858.90 avg)

March 29, 2009 AM Worship: 1824 (2120 avg)
Offering: \$66,759.46 (\$77,928.17 avg)

April 5, 2009 AM Worship: 2131 (2121 average)
Offering: \$100,705.58 (\$79,555.13 avg)

New Members: March 22-April 5, 2009

By Baptism: Allison Baker; Dillon Brown; Lucinda Clark; Adam Hammerlink; Elizabeth Hunter

By Transfer: Ken & Julia Grigsby; Kara Hart

beans, beef stew, peanut butter, jelly, Tuna Helper, Complete Meals, canned pasta, spaghetti, Jell-O, pudding, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner. These items may be left in the large green bins under the staircase near the Main Entrance or at the church office.

MISSIONS

Mexico Missions: West Side is sending a team to the Ninos de Mexico children's home in Mexico City in late May. Our team, led by Deb Knoles, would like to take funds to purchase medicines, clothing and other needs for the children. Checks may be written to West Side and given to Deb Knoles or Steve Stewart. There will also be a designated counter in the Concourse in May for cash contributions.

Mission Trips 2009: For information about the August trip to ProEm Ministries in Poland, contact missions@wschurch.org or Barb Sachtleben at barbs@wschurch.org. The July 6-10 trip to Cookson Hills Christian Mission (open to families as well as individuals) also has space for more. An informational meeting for those interested in the Cookson Hills mission trip will be Monday, April 27, 7:00pm, in E117 (Miss Schroeder's SCS classroom). Questions? Email Tami Schroeder at tamis@wschurch.org.

Mission of Hope: Steve Stewart and Erik Wolle have prepared a one-week presentation of their time on the mission field in Africa and will be sharing good news about West Side's partnership with Mission of Hope as follows: Homebuilders, April 19, 8am, CH1; Beau Knots, April 26, 9:30am, CH2; TLC, May 3, 11:00am, AP; TruthSeekers, May 10, 9:30am, CH1.

THIS 'N THAT

Men's Golf League will play Monday evenings from May 4 through August 17 at The Rail Golf Club. Cost is \$50 for a league member or \$20 as a league substitute. Sign up at a designated counter in the Concourse on April 19 or 26. Contact John Engle at missingkiawah@comcast.net for more information.

Church Library: A monetary gift has been given to the Church Library by the TLC Adult Bible Fellowship in memory of Lorraine Mozley's brother, Albert Stodden.

Lake Springfield Christian Assembly: West Side's PANTRY PROJECT for the summer camp season is **napkins**. Donations may be left at the Welcome Center or church office. The camp is also in need of 2 kitchen helpers for June 18 and July 30; contact Erik Wolle at 787-0477 if you can help.

New Baby: Jim & Judy Bowden proudly announce the birth of their grandson, Nathan Edward, who was born to Todd (former WSCC member) & Aimee Bowden in Sarasota, Florida on Tuesday, April 7. Nathan weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. at birth.

Upward Concessions: Thanks to everyone who made Upward Concessions another great year, because of your donations, WSCC students are able to participate in our summer trip.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ WEST SIDE

A Bi-monthly Publication of West Side Christian Church

April 8, 2009

LEAD ME TO THE CROSS: A Prayer Experience Remembering Jesus' Final Day

• Thursday, April 9, 6:00pm-midnight

• Friday, April 10, 6:00am – 8:00pm

This self-guided prayer experience in the Chapel will provide a way to worship through prayer and reflection on the events of the final 24 hours of Jesus' life.

EASTER SUNDAY ~ April 12

7:45am – Traditional

9:00am, 10:15am, 11:30am – Contemporary

Children's Programming during all worship services; there will be no ABF's on Easter Sunday.

Easter Invite: Send an electronic invitation via our website at www.wschurch.org.

Worship Series: Famous Last Words

April 12 – A Word of Finality

NEW WORSHIP SERIES

WIPEOUT! Profiles in Forgiveness

We've heard a lot about bailouts in recent months...but what about wipeouts? When many of us were kids, a wipeout was a bad fall, a bike wreck, or a car crash. But Acts 3:19 says that God wants to wipe out our sins and refresh us!

No promise in scripture is more comforting than the promise of forgiveness through Jesus Christ. However, forgiveness is not a one-way street. God calls us to be both forgiven and forgiving.

In this series we will examine four biblical people whose lives intersected with forgiveness in one way or another. We will not only explore the depth of God's forgiveness, but also the danger of ignoring it or failing to share it.

April 19 – The Unforgiven

April 26 – The Forgiven

May 3 – The Unforgiving

May 10 – The Forgiving

FOR OUR GUESTS

New to West Side? Visit our website, www.wschurch.org, and click on the "New To West Side" button. Find up-to-date

information that will help you connect to life at West Side.

Welcome Center: Guests are invited to stop by the Welcome Center any Sunday morning to meet some of our staff, grab a gourmet beverage at Guest Perking and receive a gift.

Questions? If you have questions about your faith or WSCC, please contact Robin Pickett at robinp@wschurch.org or 793-2800, ext. 3417.

WEST SIDE 101

NEWER TO WEST SIDE?

Attending West Side 101 is a great way to become familiar with our beliefs, purpose and personality. Led by Lead Minister Eddie Lowen, West Side 101 is ideal for newcomers who desire a clearer understanding of biblical baptism, church membership, and what it means to be a Christ-follower. You can also expect an overview of topics like: *Is it intellectually sound to trust the Bible? Is baptism important for me? Is my previous baptism sufficient? What is West Side's leadership model? How are WSCC members asked to express their commitment?*

The next West Side 101 will be held Sunday, May 3, 4:00-6:30pm, in the All Purpose Room. A light meal will be provided and childcare is available upon request. For either registration or information, please email WS101@wschurch.org or call the church office at 793-2800.

PERSONNEL UPDATE

We are pleased to announce that **Jeremiah Auble** has joined the team at West Side Christian Church. He has accepted the offer to become the new Springfield Christian School Superintendent, effective July 1, 2009, and will also serve as the staff liaison over the Christian Day Care Center. Jeremiah is a graduate of Lincoln Christian College and Illinois State University. He earned his MA in Administrative Leadership from the University of Illinois at Springfield. He brings with him over eight years of teaching and administrative experience at both urban and rural school settings in Illinois.

Jeremiah and his wife, Teresa, were members of West Side in the early 2000's before his career endeavors led them to leave the area. They have two children, Nehemiah and Lydia. They are excited to be able to return to the area and West Side, and to serve in this new and challenging role. Of West Side, Jeremiah said, *"from the first Sunday we walked through West Side's doors, we found an inviting church home filled with a community of people pursuing a deeper relationship with Christ."* He strongly believes in the three R's – rigor, relevance and relationships. It is his stated goal to "constantly keep in mind the importance of preparing students for kingdom service, to meet every child where they are, and to help them to become who God created them to be." We eagerly look forward to the Aubles' arrival.

UPCOMING ELECTIVES

Becoming A Contagious Christian (4 weeks) will meet in the Cafeteria, 9:30am, beginning April 19 through May 10. Register at Contagious@wschurch.org. This class is offered 2-3 times per year and is highly recommended for those newer members or anyone who simply wants to discover their personal style of sharing their faith with others.

Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No, To Take Control of Your Life – This 9-week video study will focus on the life changing book *Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No, To Take Control of Your Life*. In this book, authors Cloud and Townsend show readers how to set reasonable boundaries in order to follow the true path of Christianity. The study will be offered Sundays from May 17 – July 12 at 9:30am in the Cafeteria. Participant guides will be available to purchase for \$8.00. To register or for more information, contact the church office.

GOOD \$ENSE BUDGET COURSE

Good \$ense Budget Course will be held April 17-18, in the All Purpose Room. Register online at www.wschurch.org, click on the ministry link at the upper left. Information is also available at the church office (793-2800). Sessions 1-2 are Friday, April 17, 6:00-9:30pm; Sessions 3-6 are Saturday, April 18, 8:30-1:00pm. Cost is \$25/couple or \$15/single; pre-work is recommended (download online or pick up a copy at the church office).

SMALL GROUPS

Small Group Leader Workshop: Small group leaders or hosts who *did not* attend the April 7 or April 9 workshop, please plan to attend one of the small group leader training workshops scheduled for you on April 28 or April 30 in CH3, 6:30-8:00 pm. Join us for fun, relevant and practical training and discussion on the purpose and plan of small groups centered on how we accomplish both deep, personal connection and spiritual transformation. Snacks and childcare will be provided. RSVP to beckym@wschurch.org. If you need childcare, be sure to include the names and ages of your children.

VOLUNTEERS

Top 5: To view the Top 5 ministry areas currently in greatest need of volunteers, visit www.wschurch.org/serve.

Hey Volunteers, YOU ROCK! The 3rd annual Volunteer Celebration is Friday, April 24, 6:00pm with talented comedian, ventriloquist and musician, Taylor Mason. Childcare and pizza will be provided for birth - age 12, by reservation only. If you're a volunteer at West Side, you're invited to join us! Register online at www.wschurch.org; if you don't have internet access, register by calling the church office, 793-2800. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 20.**

The Early Childhood Ministry is looking for an adult or high school student who has a really fun spirit to help with a new puppet element in West Side's preschool worship environment. If you have a desire to help our preschoolers get to know God and have a silly or animated personality, contact Jessica at jessicas@wschurch.org to find out more about this opportunity.

VIP Sign-up: VIPs help in many areas to keep our building and grounds in excellent condition. Individuals, families and small groups are encouraged to sign up for ONE chore, ONE weekend a month, for ONE year! To sign up, contact Jim Dilley, Building Manager at jimd@wschurch.org or 793-2800, ext. 3415.

FAMILY MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: There's lots of up-to-date information for parents, kids and volunteers at www.westsidekids.org. We are excited to announce that on Sunday, April 26, West Side will launch our new **ELECTRONIC CHECK-IN** for kids birth-5th grade. This will create a few changes for the early childhood and elementary age children. Now ALL children will be given a family ID number (not just those in the ECM department) and all parents will be given a receipt that they will present when they are ready to pick up their child. Please note, only parents will be allowed to use the computer kiosks, so children will not be able to check themselves in. To see more about the new check-in process, please visit www.westsidekids.org.

STUDENT EXPLOSION (Jr. High): *Fuel Service Night* is coming up Wednesday, April 22. Instead of our regular program, our small groups are each doing their own service project. Check www.StudentExplosion.org as the time gets closer for details about plans for your group. **CIY Move Conference** is a trip our High School Ministry is planning this summer from July 26-August 1 and each year they invite the graduating 8th graders to join them. It is the best trip they take all year so you won't want to miss it. Sign up and turn in your \$100 deposit by April 26.

STUDENT LIFE (High School): *Spring Break Service Project- Refuge Ranch*, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 7 & 8, 10:00am-5:30pm and Bonfire Wednesday, April 8, 5:30-7:30pm; come join us! Directions & release forms on church office ledge. **The SPOT: Wild West Road Rally** is April 18; cost is \$5.00, 5:00-9:00pm, meet at WSCC. **CIY MOVE** is July 26-August 1 in Carbondale, IL; cost is \$350. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 and sign-up deadline is April 26; sign up in Connection. **No Connection** Easter Sunday April 12; join us in one of our worship services at 7:45, 9:00, 10:15 or 11:30am.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

The Chosen Ones will be in concert here at West Side on Thursday, May 7, 7:00pm, in the Worship Center. Admission is free; a love offering will be received.