

First Place 4 Health class will begin Monday, August 24, E205, 7:00pm. This Christ-centered weight loss program focuses on all aspects of healthy living: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. For more information, contact Brenda Reavis at 725-9744 or visit <http://firstplace4health.wschurch.org>.

COMMUNITY CARE

Stephen Ministers - Finding Stephen Ministers is the next step for our congregation's Stephen Ministry. We are praying for the individuals God is calling to serve. Interested persons should attend Caring Like Christ - An Introduction to Stephen Ministry (August 2 - September 6, 11:00am, CHI). For more information, plan to attend the Stephen Ministry informational meeting, Sunday, September 13, following 3rd service. A light lunch will be served.

West Side's Food Pantry Needs: Because of congregational donations, West Side is able to help feed 12 families each week. Items needed this week include: boxed cereal, canned pasta, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, tuna helper, tuna, canned fruit, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes. These items may be left in the black bins under the staircase near the Main Entrance.

MISSIONS

CHRISTMAS IN JULY allows West Side members and friends to purchase Christmas gifts for our missionaries and demonstrates our love and support in a personal way. Thank you to those who have taken tags to purchase gifts or to help with postage expense; there are LOTS of gift tags left. Tags will be available in ABF's through August 9, or by contacting Steve Stewart at missions@wschurch.org.

Very important reminder: When taking a tag, please cut off the bottom portion and leave it at the counter. This provides the Missions Ministry Team with important documentation for

STATISTICS

July 12, 2009 AM Worship – 1940 (2131 average)
Offering – \$62,444.32 (\$78,885.40 average)

July 19, 2009 AM Worship – 2030 (2127 average)
Offering - \$85,824.27 (\$79,124.67 average)

New Members: July 12-19, 2009

By Baptism: Montana Maurer

By Transfer: Jeremiah & Teresa Auble, Heather Crocker, Josh & Allyn Ryder

each gift. Keep the top of the tag and the instruction sheet for future reference.

Please follow the instructions carefully, as each tag is slightly different. For example, U.S. gifts may be wrapped, but overseas gifts must NOT be wrapped. Also, check writing directions vary depending on the missionary. Gifts should be returned by August 15 to the church office (second level) on Sundays or throughout the week. We want to make sure they reach the missionaries in time for Christmas.

ELECTIVES

Bible Basics (3 weeks) August 2, 9, 16 at 9:30am in the SCS Library with Melissa Sandel. Register at BibleBasics@wschurch.org.

Beyond Bible Basics (3 weeks) August 23, 30 and September 6 at 9:30am in the SCS Library with Patrick Barnthson. Register online electives@wschurch.org

Caring Like Christ (an intro to Stephen Ministry) ~ 6 weeks ~ August 2-September 6 at 11:00am in CHI with Shirley Henninger. No registration necessary.

FOR OUR GUESTS

New to West Side? Visit www.wschurch.org, and click on the "New to West Side" button. There, you will 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 email guestinfo@wschurch.org.

THIS 'N THAT

ENHANCING CHURCH SECURITY: You may notice an increased security presence on the church property. We want to enhance the safety of the church, and ensure that the church campus is used only for authorized activities.

THANKYOU NOTE: We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and many acts of kindness to our family during my recent surgery and recovery. God has blessed us and watched over us with his loving care. – Elaine Owens, Dan & Erica Luce & Family

LAKE SPRINGFIELD CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 70th anniversary celebration is Sunday, August 23, 2:00-6:00pm, with Lynn Laughlin as the guest speaker. Check out the website for more information: www.lscacamp.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ WEST SIDE

A Bi-monthly Publication of West Side Christian Church

July 22, 2009

CURRENT TEACHING SERIES

West Side's summer teaching series is an adventure of biblical proportions! **Around the Word in 80 Days** is guiding us through the Bible on an exploration of its major personalities and themes. Whether you need to develop a basic understanding of the Bible, or add to what you know, our summer series will help.

Bible Reading Plans. Pick up a passport reading plan at the resource table in the concourse.

Twitter Us! If you're going on the journey, tweet your progress with hashtag #WSATW to let us know where you are! You can also follow WSAroundtheWord for updates.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VIP Volunteers: From cleaning handrails to vacuuming the carpets, ONE chore done ONE time each month does indeed make a big difference. To learn more about this team, contact WSCC Building Manager, Jim Dille (jimd@wschurch.org).

Video Camera Operators Needed! The Technical Arts & Media Ministry is launching IMAG – a technology that allows our entire service to be displayed on the large screens as well as in other areas throughout the building. Several camera operators will be needed each and every week. Both stationary and mobile cameras will be used. No camera experience needed. Gabe Rutledge will provide hands on training beginning this Spring. If you are ready to plug in, or need additional information, contact Gabe at gaber@wschurch.org.

Stephen Ministers Needed: Stephen Ministry is a one-on-one ministry to those who are experiencing a crisis and need someone to meet with once a week for encouragement and prayer. To learn more about becoming a trained Stephen Minister, contact the church office at 793-2800.

Parking Area Greeters have a great opportunity to offer parking assistance to new guests. Stationed in the parking areas, greeters help point guests in the right direction, offer an informational brochure and greet them warmly. PA Greeters serve one Sunday a month for the few minutes leading up to the 9:30 & 11:00 services. To join us, or for more information, contact Jonathan & Tammy Lackland at 793-9532.

Elementary Sunday School Volunteers are needed to teach and assist in various elementary Sunday school classes. To learn more about this exciting opportunity to serve please contact Missy Farley at missyf@wschurch.org

PowerHouse Small Group Volunteers: Spend time with our kids one Sunday per month in PowerHouse, our worship service for elementary kids. For more information about serving in PowerHouse at the 11:00 hour, contact Brigette Green at bridgetteg@wschurch.org.

Broken Promise Leaders are needed to serve during our fall session (August 18 – November 24). No experience with divorce is necessary, the only requirement is that you love working with children. All leaders will be trained prior to the fall session starting. For more information about this impactful serving opportunity, contact the church office at 217-793-2800 or you can email Faith at brokenpromise@wschurch.org.

SCHOOLPALOOZA: An Out-of-the-Ordinary School Supply Drive

This summer, West Side Christian Church is partnering with Springfield School District #186 in an effort to provide school supplies for 200 under-resourced students in our community. We'll engage in creative efforts to bless 100 teachers as they get ready for another school year by giving them materials and offering some teachers hands-on-assistance in their classroom.

We need your help to make this \$10,000 project a reality. Your involvement in Schoolapalooza will allow these students and teachers to begin their school year with confidence.

For information about how you can get involved, stop by the Schoolapalooza Concourse Counter this Sunday, July 26, to sign up!

FAMILY MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Save our blog to your list of favorite links! There's lots of up-to-date information for parents about VBX, Summer Play Days and lots more. Check it out at www.westsidekids.org. If you are on Twitter, follow [westsidekids](https://twitter.com/westsidekids) to stay connected and be the first to know what's coming next!

West Side Kids: Thanks to the 300+ volunteers who made VBX 2009 a success! It has been an amazing week so far, seeing our team work together to give our kids a life-changing week. Way to go! We encourage our West Side family to check out our nightly VBX updates at www.westsidekids.org

Firefly Finale is Friday, July 24, at 6:30pm. Our West Side Family is invited to come celebrate the close of VBX with us!

STUDENT EXPLOSION (Jr. High): *Just Add Power* is our summer project to raise over \$10,000 and provide electricity for a Jr. High school in Kenya. Thanks to everyone who helped out with the sale last week, we are now up to \$7,800 so far. Visit www.JustAddPower.org for lots of great ways you can help us reach our goal. **Our next fundraiser night** is Monday, August 3, 4:00-9:00pm, at Kick's.

STUDENT LIFE (High School): *Connection* meets Sundays at 9:30am in E204. *CIY Move* is July 26-August 1 in Carbondale, IL. *CIY Move Mandatory Prep Day* is July 25, WSCC gym, 4:00-6:00pm; parents are required to attend the first half hour. Please pray for Josh Ryder and our high school volunteers who will accompany our students to Carbondale, Illinois next week for a Christ in Youth (CIY) Conference.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Six Flags! West Side Young Adults will be carpooling to St. Louis on Thursday, July 30, for a full day of wild rides and fun times. Deadline for purchasing discount tickets is July 23. After July 23rd, tickets will be full price purchased at the gate. Contact chris.stroisch@hotmail.com for tickets and trip information.

Agers 18-22! The new small group for anyone age 18-22 is going great! This "summer only" group meets at 7:00 each Wednesday through the rest of July. To participate, contact the co-leaders Elizabeth Wenzel at elizabethw@wschurch.org or Christi Minick at Christi.Minick@comcast.net.

Want more information about Young Adult Ministry? Check out the young adult web site (www.wschurch.org/youngadults) and our Facebook group ("WS Young Adults"). For more details about young adult activities and small group opportunities contact johnm@wschurch.org.

SINGLES MINISTRY

Wednesday night bike rides: meet at 5:30pm at the Chatham Post Office. On Saturdays, the group meets at 10:30am behind Sonic on Wabash.

Singles Volleyball meets Fridays, 7:00pm, in the Gym; however, please note there will be NO VOLLEYBALL on July 31.

Summer Study at Washington Park: Led by Rick Matchett, this study by Rick Warren is entitled *Growing to Be Like Christ*. Meet in front of the carillon at 6:30pm and bring a lawn chair. The next study is Tuesday, July 28, "Entering God's Presence."

Single Men's Small Group is Saturday, July 25, at Ron Gentry's house, starting with breakfast at 9:00am. Contact Mike Wilhelm at mfw2101@yahoo.com for details and directions.

Holy Ground Cookout: Singles will be grilling hot dogs at Holy Ground to serve at Holy Ground Coffee House on Saturday, July 25, 11:00am – 4:00pm. There will be music, food, games, prizes and fun! Sign up in Singles ABF to bring soda, chips, cookies, cake, or brownies. Holy Ground is located at 306 ½ - 304 W. Allen (grilling will take place in the rear parking lot).

Ski & Canoe at LSCA on Sunday, July 26, 1:30pm. There will be a boat for water skiing or you can rent a canoe. Rental cost is \$20 for all their canoes; so the more people who canoe, the cheaper the cost.

Cookout at Washington Park will be held Friday, July 31, 6:30pm. The meat will be provided, just bring a side dish and soda to share, as well as a lawn chair or blanket. Bring your bike, walking shoes, or a Frisbee or other games.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Scrapbooking/Craft Night is Friday, August 7, 6:30pm – midnight in Centennial Hall 3. Participants bring their own supplies and a snack to share. Questions? Contact Joni Colle at 787-6246, 725-6715 or jdcolle@gmail.com.

SENIOR ADULTS

Charlie's "Angels", a part of the West Side Senior Adult Ministry, will meet Thursday, August 27, 6:00pm in Centennial Hall. Dinner tickets are \$6 by August 24 and \$8 after that date. Tickets will be available in U & I, Beau Knots and TNT Adult Bible Fellowships, as well as the Welcome Center, on August 16 and 23. The program will be a concert by True Blue Barbershop Quartet.

Seniors' Day Out at Lake Springfield Christian Assembly is Wednesday, September 23, 10:00am – 2:00pm (coffee at 9:30am). Darryl Bolen from Greenville First Christian Church will be speaking; the Melton Family Singers will share special music. Cost is \$10 by September 14; \$12 after that date. Registration forms are available at the church office.

SMALL GROUPS

Around the WORD in 80 Days Group Experience

If you are newer to West Side, looking to meet other people, and want to dive in to what we're learning on Sunday mornings, join us for the *Around the WORD in 80 Days* Group Experience. Our next 3-week session begins THIS Sunday, July 26, 6:30 – 7:30pm in E205. Dessert and childcare are provided. (No Bible experience needed, and don't worry about missing a night due to vacations and other summer plans. Our time together will be relaxed, casual, and meaningful.) Stop by the concourse counter this Sunday to sign up, or contact Kira Mulvaney or Andrew Fitzgibbon.