

COMMUNITY CARE

Single Parent Family Ministry: Pizza and Pajama Party is Friday, January 8, 6pm-midnight, in the gym at WSCC. Come in your best pajamas to enjoy some time together as a family. For more information, please contact Kim at rigney@xanadoo.com.

Broken Promise, our divorce recovery ministry for children (ages 4 years up to 8th grade) and their parent, begins Tuesday, February 2, and will meet weekly from 6:45-8:00pm for 13 weeks. If you would like to register, please call the church office at 793-2800 or email Faith at brokenpromise@wschurch.org.

Divorce Care Ministry is a 13-week support group to help individuals recover from the pain of separation and divorce. A new 13-week session will start Thursday, January 14. For more information or to register please contact West Side Christian Church at 793-2800.

Toiletry Saturday is December 19, at 10:00am on the third floor of the church. To volunteer please contact Michelle Davis at michelled@wschurch.org or call 792-2800.

Growing Through Grief: If you, or someone you know, has experienced the loss of a loved one, join us for the spring session of Growing Through Grief. Growing Through Grief is a time of learning and growing together in a Christian environment which encourages caring and sharing to those who have suffered the loss of a loved one. The spring 10-week session will start on February 9. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays from 7-9pm in Conference Room West. For more information, contact the church office at 793-2800.

STATISTICS

December 6, 2009 AM Worship: 2062 (2100 average)
Offering: \$94,078.75 (\$80,713.53 avg)

December 13, 2009 AM Worship: 2090 (2100 average)
Offering: \$111,415.82 (\$81,327.57 avg)

New Members:

December 6-13, 2009

By Baptism: Scott Blakley; Aaron Evans; Emily Higginson; Keegan Maher; Kallie Reavis; Max Scharf

By Transfer: Ryan Janssen; Tom & Sandy Walker

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Communion, Offering, and Homes & Hospital Teams: Looking for a schedule-friendly way to serve? Consider joining this Guest Services team. Volunteers serve once a month, during the service(s) of their choice. To learn more, contact Kira Mulvany, kiram@wschurch.org.

Stephen Ministers Needed. Do you have a compassionate heart for those around you who are hurting? 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.

Broken Promise is in need of volunteers to serve as leaders and classroom helpers during our spring session. The spring session will be held February 2 – April 27. No experience with divorce is necessary, the only requirement is that you love working with children. All leaders and helpers will be trained prior to the spring session starting. For information about this impactful serving opportunity, contact the church office at 217-793-2800 or you can email Faith at brokenpromise@wschurch.org.

FOR OUR GUESTS

New to West Side? Click here 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

Thank you so much for all of the prayers and support at the death of our loved one, LaDonna Pittenger. It means more to us than words can express. *Her Family*

Your many expressions of concern ... prayers, cards, calls, visits, food ... during LaRue's hospitalization and at his death are deeply appreciated. *Dolores Turley & Family*

Congratulations to Jason & Melanie Lesko on the birth of their daughter, Raegan Jae, who was born December 9, weighing 7 lbs. 12 oz. Her big sisters are Rachel (age 9) and Rebekah (age 5).

The Church Office will be closed December 23 (at noon), December 24, and December 25. It will also be closed December 31 (at noon) and January 1.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ WEST SIDE

A Bi-monthly Publication of West Side Christian Church

December 16, 2009

TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT

Christmas Outreach 2009

Join with us this Christmas as we attempt to provide a good night to children both in Springfield and on the other side of the world in our adopted Kenyan community. Funds for these projects will be collected through West Side's Christmas Eve offering, where 100% of contributions will be used to meet the sleep-related needs. Another great way to participate in this year's Christmas outreach is to purchase gift certificates. Gift certificates can be purchased to donate funds as a gift for a neighbor, friend or loved one. To purchase gift certificates you can visit the **To ALL a Good Night** concourse table on Sundays or go to the church office during the week. Gift certificate amounts are listed below:

Triple Decker beds for 3 students	\$260
Mattresses for 3 students	\$65
Blankets for 3 Students	\$45
Bed sheets for 3 students	\$15
Total for beddings for 3 students	\$385
Springfield Project	\$Any amount

CURRENT SERIES—FEAR NOT

Almost every time an angel brought a message to a human being, the conversation began with a word of comfort and calm: **Do not be afraid. Fear not.** This Christmas we will explore the messages the angels delivered to those who had a role in the Christmas story and hear their encouraging truths about fearless living.

December 20 – Don't Be Afraid to Believe

December 27 – Don't Be Afraid to Speak

CHRISTMAS EVE

Invite your friends and family to one of our Christmas Eve services at 2:00, 4:00 or 6:00pm; pick up your invitations at any entrance this Sunday.

2010 FINANCIAL PLAN

2010 MINISTRY FINANCING PLAN NEWSLETTER:

There will be a congregational affirmation of the 2010 Financial Plan on Sunday, January 3, 2010. Copies of the recently mailed Stewardship newsletter will be available Sunday, December 27, in Guest Central and in the acrylic board located near the Main Entrance. Copies are also available at the church office during regular business hours, M-F, 8:00am-4:30pm.

IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION:

The church office will be open regular hours, 8:00am – 4:30pm, December 28, 29 & 30, and will also be open on Thursday, December 31, 8:00am – 12:00 noon, to receive your 2009 year-end contributions. In addition, there will be a receptacle in the office reception area where you can drop off contributions until 6:00pm on that day. IRS regulations require contributions to be delivered (or postmarked, if mailed) by year-end in order to be deductible for 2009 income taxes.

FAMILY MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Visit at www.westsidekids.org to stay connected to opportunities for your child. You can even subscribe to our blog and have the posts sent to you. Visit the blog and subscribe today.

VELOCITY (Jr. High): **Velocity** is our Jr. High event that meets each Sunday for worship, games and interactive teaching at 9:30 in E200. **V-Groups** are on a break for the holidays but will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 13. **Ski Trip sign-ups** are now available in E200 so sign up and join us for all the fun on January 16. **To All A Good Night** is also a big deal for our students this December. Visit www.WestSideVelocity.org for more info on how you can get involved.

FUSION (High School): **Fusion** meets Sundays at 9:30am in E204. **Fuse Groups** meet Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00pm, in homes around town. We kick off for our spring semester on January 13; this is a great time to join and get connected. To be a part of this ministry contact joshr@wschurch.org. **For any other information:** WestSideFusion.org.

A-I-M ~ ADULTS IN MINISTRY 60

Women Without Partners is a group that meets on the third Thursday of each month for food, fellowship and support. Any single woman is welcome to join us at the Golden Corral on Thursday, December 17, 1:00pm.

Prayer Breakfast: On January 16, 9:00am, AIM 60 will gather for a continental breakfast, spend time in prayer about our ministry year, be challenged to serve, and get a picture of what is being planned for 2010. Please call the church office to sign up.

Shut-in Ministry: Please consider how you can encourage those of our church family who are not able to get out to our worship services or monthly fellowship meetings. Are you willing to make a telephone call, send a card, make a visit? At our prayer breakfast on January 16, we will begin recruiting servants to help in this way.

AIM2GO is the name for our AIM 60 mission endeavors. Our goal is to be involved in three mission efforts. We are seeking to create opportunities for every age and ability level. Join us January 21, 6:30pm, in the All Purpose Room to find out how you can serve locally or possibly overseas in fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18).

FINANCIAL CLASS AVAILABLE

Financial Peace University course information and registration opportunities are available in the concourse the Sundays of December 20, 27, and January 3. The course begins January 14 at 5:00pm. Details and online registration are also available on our website www.wschurch.org; the cost is \$99. Questions? E-mail joeoettel@teaminfocus.com or call 793-2800.

Dave Ramsey's website is especially helpful if you are new to Financial Peace University: www.daveramsey.com.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

New Year's Eve Celebration! Help us ring in the new year by attending the Young Adult Ministry New Year's Eve Celebration. Dan and Amanda Trewartha will be hosting the event in their home at 2206 West Road, Springfield, 62711 from 7:00-1:00. Whether you come for a brief visit, or stay the whole time, we hope you will make this a part of your New Year's Eve activities.

Want more information about Young Adult Ministry?

Check out pictures, resources, and upcoming events at <http://youngadults.wschurch.org> You are also invited to join the Facebook group ("WS Young Adults"). For more details about any of our young adult activities, events, and small group opportunities please contact John or Becky Minick at johnm@wschurch.org or beckym@wschurch.org.

SINGLES MINISTRY

Volleyball: Join us in the gym on Fridays at 7:00pm; please note there is no volleyball on December 25.

Singles Christmas Party is Sunday, December 20, 5:00pm, in Centennial Hall. Bring snacks and soda to share as well as a "white elephant" gift suitable for either a male or female for a gift exchange.

Christmas Eve at the Hauser's, 6pm; soup will be provided. Sign up at Singles ABF on Sundays to bring a dish or something to drink.

Singles New Years Eve party 8pm-? in Centennial Hall. Volleyball begins at 10pm. Please bring snacks, soda, and board games to share.

Singles Wisconsin Ski Trip will be February 26-28. Sign-ups will start in January.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Aerobics for Women: Aerobics will resume Monday, January 4. For more information, visit www.wschurch.org/aerobics.

Scrapbooking/Crafts: Those who enjoy scrapbooking and making other crafts are welcome to participate in scrapbooking/craft nights, from 6:30pm – midnight, Centennial Hall 3, on the following Fridays in 2010: January 8, February 5, March 5, April 9, May 7, June 4, July 9, August 6, September 17, October 1, November 5. Participants bring their own supplies and a snack to share. Questions? Contact Joni Colle at 787-6246, 725-6715 or jdcolle@gmail.com.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Father-Daughter Winter Wonderland Banquet: Guys, mark your calendars for the evening of Friday, January 22. You won't want to miss the Father-Daughter Winter Wonderland Banquet. Seize the opportunity to spend some intentional time with your daughter(s), have some fun and make some memories on this daddy-daughter date. This event is for all dads and their daughters, ages 3-83, to enjoy a catered meal and share some time together. Watch upcoming communications for your opportunity to purchase your ticket.

For those of you men who don't have any daughters – don't feel left out. We'll need people to serve in a variety of areas that night to make this a fantastic event for the daughters.

SMALL GROUPS

First Place 4 Health will begin Monday, January 11, E205, 7:00pm and meet weekly for 13 weeks. This Christ-centered weight loss program focuses on all aspects of healthy living: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. For new attendees the cost of the class is approximately \$100, for returning members the cost is \$15. For more information or to register, contact Brenda Reavis at 725-9744 or breavis@fwieng.com.