

WORSHIP & ARTS

Dinner Theatre, February 26-28, featuring the West Side Christian Church Drama Team: If hilarious dialogue, outrageous characters and a plot with more twists than a London road map is your cup of tea, you'll love this year's dinner theatre, "**Madam's Been Murdered, Tea Will Be Late.**"

A tempting meal of Parmesan Chicken, Fettuccine Alfredo, Italian Green Beans, Roll, Salad and Dessert will be served at 6:30pm on Friday and Saturday nights. A vegetarian option is also available. The Sunday matinee at 4pm features delectable desserts. Tickets are \$15 for the dinner shows and \$8 for the dessert matinee.

The dinner theatre will be held at Knights of Columbus on West Iles Ave. Doors open 30 minutes prior to meal time. For tickets, call the church office at 793-2800 between 8am and 4pm, Monday through Friday, or stop by the ticket counter in the concourse on Sunday mornings.

COMMUNITY CARE

Community Care Groups are starting their spring sessions. If you would like information regarding the following groups, please contact the church office at 793-2800.

- **Growing Through Grief** will begin February 9 and meets every Tuesday for 10 weeks from 7:00-9:00pm.
- **12-Step Recovery** meets every Thursday from 7:00 -9:00pm. Call for location information.
- **Single Parent Family Ministry** meets every Sunday from 9:30-10:30am in Conference Room East.

West Side Food Pantry items needed are: Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper and cereal. Donations may be placed in the black bins under the stairs by the main entrance.

Going through a tough time - - emotionally or spiritually?
A Stephen Minister is a member of our congregation who is trained

STATISTICS

January 24, 2010 AM Worship – 2186 (2136 avg)
Offering - \$68,746.85 (\$77,738.19 avg)

January 31, 2010 AM Worship – 2313 (2172 avg)
Offering – \$96,732.03 (\$81,536.95 avg)

New Members: January 24 & 31, 2010

By Baptism: Casey Davis, Alexya Garner, AugustAnna Garner, Cassidy Garner, Andy Graham, DJ Gunderson, Jessica Jeffers, Susan Lucas, Elizabeth Oxier

By Transfer: Rob Lucas, Mike Oxier

to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. It's confidential, free, and very helpful. Please call Stephanie, Director of Community Care, 793-2800 with questions.

Be a part of West Side's new Nursing Home Ministry!

West Side is currently in the process of developing a formal Nursing Home Ministry. Through these future efforts, West Siders receiving nursing home care will receive on-on-one visits from volunteer leaders. Interested in assisting with this ministry? Contact Stephanie Dugan at stephanied@wschurch.org or call the church office.

MISSIONS

Dominican Republic Mission Trip is April 5-10. Approximate cost (including food) is \$950 or less. The trip will include assisting with a construction project as well as conducting a 3-day VBS in La Romana. For more information, please contact Gary Winkleman at garyw@wschurch.org or (217)793-2800.

THIS 'N THAT

New Babies: Congratulations to Andrew & Emily Brashear on the birth of their daughter, **TORIN EMMA**, who was born January 28, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. Proud West Side grandparents are Gary & Gloria Brashear.

Anthony & Nicole Rottinghaus proudly announce the birth of **ALENA CLAIRE** on January 31, weighing in at 8 lbs. 9 oz.; her sisters are Morgan (age 10) and Tessa (age 8). Alena's West Side grandparents are Wayne & Jane Rottinghaus.

Need Prayer? Email requests to prayer@wschurch.org.

Upward Concessions offers the students of West Side the opportunity to raise funds to offset the expense of summer trips. Stop by the Upward table in the Concourse this Sunday and pick up a card that lists a concession item needed, price, and location where it can be picked up.

SCS/PTF Dinner Auction is Friday, March 12, at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Silent Auction begins at 5:30pm; dinner is served at 6:45pm. Tickets (\$30/person) are available online at www.springfieldchristianschool.org or by calling the SCS Office at 698-1933. Donation items for the auction are still needed. Contact Candi Scheuermann at 519-2131 or candi51@gmail.com.

Seek God for the City 2010 is a 40-day prayer initiative many people will be doing all across America leading into Palm Sunday for spiritual awakening throughout one's community. You are encouraged to participate in this by using a special 60+ page booklet equipped with vivid, relevant prayers from promises of scripture. Booklets will be available in the concourse on Sunday, February 14 or in the church office by signing for it. Suggested donation for the booklet is \$1; there is a limited number available.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ WEST SIDE

A Bi-monthly Publication of West Side Christian Church

February 3, 2010

MESSAGE SERIES

What Would Jesus Hate?

Jesus possessed the full range of human and divine emotion. He loved his friends. He had compassion for the sick. He demonstrated concern for the poor. He grieved when those he loved experienced loss. He displayed the type of gentleness and kindness that attracted children. There were occasions when Jesus was "full of joy."

But Jesus also revealed negative emotions that might surprise those who are not familiar with his life. He displayed anger and disappointment. He famously "went off" on the money changers and skewered corrupt religious leaders. He scolded his closest followers. Jesus made threats of judgment against those who mistreated the helpless. It's not too much to say that there are some things that Jesus hated.

If there are actions or attitudes that Jesus hates, you and I should be sure to avoid them.

February 7 – Obstructing a Seeker

February 14 – Judging a Brother

February 21 – Ignoring the Needy

WEST SIDE VOLUNTEERS, SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, April 30, 2010 ... the West Side Staff is going to let you "OFF THE HOOK" for a night with our 2010 pirate-inspired Volunteer Celebration! Be watching for more information in the next issue of THRIVE as well as our website and other publications! But for now... MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Children's Ministry: Visit www.westsidekids.org to help our families stay connected to opportunities for their child. You can even subscribe to our blog and have the posts sent to you. Visit the blog and subscribe today.

Elementary youth groups meet Sundays, 4:30-5:30pm, in the following locations: Kindergarten, E103/E105; 1st-3rd grades, Cafeteria/Gym; 4th-5th grades, CH 1 & 2.

VELOCITY (Jr. High): **Velocity** is our Jr. High event that meets each Sunday for worship, games and interactive teaching at 9:30am in E200. **V-Groups** meet in the Gym each Wednesday from 6:30-8:00pm. Don't miss our **V-Group Pancake night** on February 17 or Dodge Ball Tournament on February 24. **Believe** is our biggest trip of the year on March 5-6 in St. Louis. Stop at the concourse table for more details or to sign up. Make sure you sign up and pay by THIS Sunday, February 7, so you don't miss out! Visit <http://westsidevelocity.com> for more info.

FUSION (High School) meets Sundays at 9:30am in E204; make hanging out and worshipping with friends part of your week. **Fuse Groups** meet every Wednesday, 7:30-9:00pm, for fellowship and snacks. Email josh@wschurch.org to get plugged in. Remember to wake up early for **Morning Mojo** on Thursday, February 18. We'll be holding a few events designed for your friends soon: Movie Night here at West Side, February 19, 7-10pm. Also our first **Pack the Place Morning** is February 21. For more info, check out www.WestSideFusion.org

Upward Concessions: Every February and March the students of West Side have an opportunity to raise funds to offset the expense of summer trips by working the Upward concession stand on Friday nights and Saturdays. In the past, students have averaged about \$10 an hour toward their trips. If students would like to help with concessions this spring, there are opportunities to sign up at the Upward counter in the Concourse.

PARENTING MINISTRY: *The Toddlerhood Transitions:* This Thursday night parenting class addresses children 18 to 36 months of age and covers specific toddler issues that will help your child be ready for moral, social and intellectual achievement. The nine-week session begins February 25, 6:30-8:30pm, and concludes April 29 with a week off for Easter break. Cost is \$30 per couple or \$15 for single parent family. The class will be conducted at West Side with childcare provided. Please register for the class online and contact the church office to reserve childcare. Email us at Parenting@wschurch.org with questions.

A-I-M ~ ADULTS IN MINISTRY 60+

Coffee Break @ WSCC for everyone 60+ will be Wednesday, February 10. Join us at Guest Central at 9:30am for a great time of fellowship and coffee.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The Young Adult Ministry Super Bowl party will be held at 144 Nottingham Rd. in Springfield, the home of Theo and Kristen Spilman, on Sunday, February 7 at 4:30pm; guests are asked to bring soda and snacks to share. Board games and other activities will be available for those not watching the game.

Second Sunday Lunch: West Side Young Adults are gathering for lunch immediately after the 11:00 service on February 14. No need to cook, just go to CHI and enjoy a meal while meeting other West Side Young Adults.

GROW! The next GROW! is Saturday, February 20, 6:40pm, at the home of John & Becky Minick (2043 Briarcliff Drive). Our guest teacher will be Andrew "Fitz" Fitzgibbon, speaking on the topic **Dealing With Difficult People**. GROW! is a monthly opportunity for young adults to grow deeper in their faith. This is a unique time to gather in an interactive environment that is bigger than a small group and more intimate than a Sunday Service. The lesson and discussion time will be informal and enjoyable.

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

Super Bowl Party (Men's Appreciation Night) is February 7, 4:00pm, in West Side's cafeteria. Watch the game on a big screen TV or come to play volleyball in the gym. Ladies will provide appetizers; guys are to bring chips and soda.

Late Night Volleyball is Friday, February 12, in the Gym, 9:15-11:30pm. There will be NO VOLLEYBALL during Upward Basketball.

Single Men's Bible Study: Single Men's Small Group will meet February 13 at the home of Mike Wilhelm at 9am (breakfast first). For directions to his home, email Mike at mfw2101@yahoo.com.

Ladies Night Out at West Side is February 14, 6:00pm, with the guys cooking and serving the ladies a delicious meal and providing great entertainment. Gals, sign up in Singles ABF to attend.

Wisconsin Ski Weekend in the Cascades is February 26-28. A \$50 deposit (non-refundable after February 7) is required to hold your reservation. All money for the motel (\$109/room/night) must be paid in full by Sunday, February 14. If you have no interest in cold weather activities, there are plenty of other attractions in the Dells.

Simple Cooking 101: Learn how to make quick, simple and delicious recipes on Friday, February 19, 6pm, in CHI. This class is great for men and women who are inexperienced in the kitchen or who want to get some great, simple cooking ideas. Sign up in Singles so we know how much food to prepare; \$5 suggested donation.

Card Night is Saturday, February 20, 6pm, at the home of Gerry Delano (address/directions available at Singles ABF); bring snacks and soda to share.

Marriage Roundtable Discussion is Sunday, February 21, 1pm; bring your lunch and meet in E205 to watch a video sermon from Mark Driscoll, the preaching and speaking pastor for Mars Hill in Seattle. The first sermon is entitled Marriage for Women. The other video, Marriage for Men, will be viewed at a future date.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Well: Join us for a new Women's Ministry gathering for mothers with children birth – high school. The Well is a place for moms to connect with other moms, be refreshed by God's Word, and thrive on their spiritual journey. The Well gathers once a month on Thursday evenings. The next session is Thursday, February 11, 7-9pm, Centennial Hall. To join us, RSVP to TheWell@wschurch.org, or 793-2800.

Alive With Christ is currently meeting (Mondays, 6:30-8:30pm or Tuesdays, 9:00-11:00am); workbook for A Study of David is \$13. To register, call 793-2800. Childcare is provided; indicate childcare needs when you register.

Women In Study is currently meeting (continuing their study from Romans) through March 17 (Wednesdays, 9-11am or 6:30-8pm) in the All Purpose Room. Questions? E-mail or call Cindy: cindy@wschurch.org or 793-2800, ext. 3422.

Aerobics for Women: Ladies, join us for aerobics on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30pm in E205. Bring a water bottle, floor mat or towel. Some hand weights are available. 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: February 5, March 5, April 9, May 7, June 4, July 9, August 6, September 10, October 1, November 5. Participants bring their own supplies and a snack to share. Questions? Contact Joni Colle at 787-6246, 725-6715 or jcolle@gmail.com.

MEN'S MINISTRY

The Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference is coming back to Springfield again this year. It will be hosted by First United Methodist church on Saturday, March 13, from 8am-5pm, with Dan Erickson and Stu Weber headlining the event. Cost is \$39/person, \$29/student ages 13-22, if you register before March 3. Sign up in the concourse on Sunday February 21 or 28. You can also register at the Thursday morning Men's Breakfast and Bible Study.

Thursday Morning Breakfast and Bible Study: On February 18 we'll begin a consecutive 5-week study of *The Heart of a Godly Man*. We'll meet at 6:15am in Centennial Hall and dismiss by 7:30am.