

# "THE WEST SIDE STORY"

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY  
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## FROM THE PASTOR

In his book, *A Servant's Manual*, Michael Foss discusses the church's purpose today as it relates to mission. He believes that the ministry of the church should be about transformation. He says, "God expects the Christian church to change lives and, by extension, to change the world God loves." Foss asserts that the church is in the business of "transformed lives with confident faith in Jesus Christ...because impassioned followers of Jesus Christ will necessarily be led into the world to, according to the prophet Micah, 'do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with [their] God'" (Micah 6:8).

As we move into the season in which change is evident all around us, we remember the change that is continually taking place within us. Leaves are turning, the days are getting shorter, and a cool crisp wind has begun sweeping through our area. The winds of change are blowing through the doors of West Side Christian Church as well. God is moving within the life of this congregation in order that we might be about transforming people's lives. New opportunities are emerging for ministry both within the walls of our church building and in our surrounding community. However, God has empowered us to be God's agents of ministry, which requires that we use our gifts in contributing to the ministry of the church.

November brings plenty of opportunities for *you* to become involved—to be part of the transformation that God calls us toward. As we prepare for the season of Advent in which we

will await the most transformative gift of all, the presence of Jesus Christ, I invite each of you to discern how God's spirit might be moving within your life. Perhaps God is calling you to begin thinking about leadership within the church, to start a new outreach ministry for our congregation, or to increase your financial tithes to the life of West Side. God is touching each of our lives in special and unique ways in order that we might be the transformative agents of love that God has called us to be.

The season of change is upon us. May we invite that change into our hearts and into the church so that we might move forward with God in spirit and in love. I invite you during the coming weeks to take seriously how God might be transforming the church in order to transform other people's lives.

Peace, Nathan

Sunday, November 20 is **COMMITMENT SUNDAY**. It is on this day that we will be dedicating our pledges to the life of West Side Christian Church for the 2006 year. We hope that you will prayerfully consider re-committing yourself to West Side through your pledge for the upcoming year. This is also an opportunity for those who have not made a pledge to West Side before, to financially commit to the ministry of our church. A letter will soon be arriving in your mailbox asking you to consider a financial commitment this next year and a pledge card will be enclosed. Further instructions will be included in this letter. Please pray for our church as we discern how we might contribute our gifts to the ministry of West Side

## MARY'S WELLNESS CORNER



### **FLU SEASON IS HERE AGAIN. DO NOT HESITATE TO IMMUNIZE!**

The influenza virus is primarily transmitted by airborne droplets. The secondary route of transmission is direct contact with an infected person. It is a proven fact, that frequent, effective hand washing, is the single most important thing you can do, to prevent the spread of influenza. You also want to avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

The second most important thing you can do is avoid close contact with infected persons. Give you body's immune system a boost, by exercising, eating right and getting plenty of sleep. Early detection of the Flu Virus is an essential element, to decrease the spread of the illness. Learn to recognize the signs and symptoms:

**Fever greater than 100, sore throat, headaches, muscle aches and pains, chills, cough, and fatigue.**

If you are sick, keep your distance from others so you won't spread the virus.

Stay home when you are sick. Save those errands and public activities for when you are well.

When coughing or sneezing cover your mouth and nose with a tissue.

Finally, if you do become ill, take care of yourself. Help your body heal. Get plenty of rest, increase your fluid intake, and relieve aches and pains and fever, with non-asprin products. Don't rush back to your normal routine too soon. That may lead to further complications and increase your recovery time. If your symptoms do not improve or they get worse, call your doctor. Ask questions and follow his or her instructions.

Follow the instructions of the Great Physician.  
"Love one another." Jn 15:17 If your neighbor is sick pray for his healing. If you are sick ask your neighbor to pray for your healing.

".....and the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up...." James 5: 15

Mary Peris, Parish Nurse

**OUR CHALICE HYMNAL DRIVE** will begin on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. An insert will be in the bulletin for you to buy a hymnal or pledge to buy a hymnal at the cost of \$15.00. You can buy each

hymnal in honor or memory of someone and include their name on this insert. A name plate will be placed in each hymnal with your name and the person's name in which the hymnal is being purchased. We hope these hymnals will enrich our worship, keep us connected to our denomination, and allow us to commemorate the lives of our loved ones.

## DMF WORK DETAIL

Kitty Baker, Chair of the Official Board, has written an article in this month's Newsletter explaining the need for additional classrooms at WSCC. Please read her article.

In support of Kitty, it was decided at the last breakfast meeting (10/15/05) that the next DMF project would be to support the Property Committee by providing the labor needed in establishing sorely needed classrooms for WSCC. One or more hours of your time is needed to complete this DMF project.

On 11/19/05 at 0800, we will start the day with Chef Cornwell's delicious breakfast. After breakfast, the Property Committee has this project well organized and will assign all work to various parties. Bring your paint brushes, small step ladders, drop cloths, hammers, etc. and be prepared to serve the Lord with your hands.



The main objective is to come and enjoy another great Chef Cornwell's breakfast. We recognize than many cannot stay to assist in this labor of love because of health reasons or other commitments. Nevertheless, we remain hopeful that you will attend and enjoy Dick's scrumptious breakfast. Of course, we need all able bodied men to spend an hour or two or three in this labor of love. We only want/need some of your valuable time. Any time you can spare would be appreciated by all.

## CWF BRUNCH MEETING



CWF will have a meeting on November

11, at 11:00 a.m. After brunch is served L'Reese Morris will speak about her experiences as a minister's wife and church musician. She will also play special piano selections. Ladies, come and join us for this wonderful program and also bring a friend.

Our mission project for November is collecting money for blankets. The blankets are \$8.00 and anyone may contribute if they would like to do so.

Rebekah Group had 8 present. Offering was \$58.00. They read 12 books, 7 Daily Devotions, 2 Disciples, 5 Regional Papers, 2 teaching, 1 leading, 3 cooking/crafts magazines and made 27 calls. November meeting is with Marleen Whitehurst.

Lydia Group had 11 present. Offering was \$66.00 and \$8.00 for blankets. They read 2 books, 2 Disciples, 3 Regional Papers, 5 Daily Devotions, 1 teacher, 1 leader magazines and had 30 cards, calls, and visits. They also contributed food for a funeral.

**OUR SHUT-INS:** Sandy Cotton, Sentara Nursing Center, 4201 Greenwood Dr., (P); Mary Mingis, 4107 Heritage Rd., Richmond, 23227; Ruth Blackman, 1 Bon Secours Way, Cedar Pt. #241, (P); Sylvia Dickens, Autumn Care, 3610 Winchester Dr., (P); Helen McQuade, Maryview Care Center, 4775 Bridge Rd., (S); Sid Price

**OTHERS ON OUR PRAYER LIST:** Sarah Crawford; Betty Lou Fox; Ellen Nelson; Hilda and Glen Weaver; Connie Hutto (cousin of Brenda Hayth); Pete Darden; Sam Waugh (brother-in-law of the Nutting's neighbor); Betty Bryan; Betty Lou Fox; Margie Robinson; Barbara Kauffman (pre-school grandparent).

## “WORSHIP AND WONDER”

The Worship and Wonder committee had its first meeting on Oct 11, 2006. The Worship, Education, Property and Stewardship Committees, along with the Board Chair, were represented. It was determined that in order to provide a classroom to dedicate to the Worship and Wonder program, we must improve on the utilization of the existing classroom spaces. As such, the folding partitions in the newer education wing will be removed and permanent walls will be put up. The Disciple Men's Fellowship has consented to help with this project by providing the manpower and some financial assistance and we greatly appreciate their help. The men have targeted Nov (see article by Larry Hackler) as the kickoff for this project so it is imperative that these areas be made ready. If you have

stored anything in either the Senior High Classroom or the classroom with the game equipment (former Jr. High/coke room), please remove it. This includes puzzles, games, old computer equipment, bins, and contents of the white cabinet (which will be discarded).

Most of the old furniture in these two rooms will also be discarded. Please refrain from adding anything to these rooms! We may have to store some items in other classrooms on a temporary basis, so bear with us.

## ARTICLES FOR DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARE DUE NOVEMBER 13!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Al Hemby, Marla Terry
- 2 Dave Tugwell, Greg Deweese
- 3 Theresa Honeycutt
- 5 Marion Brown
- 6 Mary Wyatt
- 8 Stephen Henderson, Heather Dougherty
- 15 Jane Cherry
- 16 William Brown, Sr.
- 19 Michael Redmon
- 20 Margie Robinson
- 22 Thomas Thornton, Sr.
- 25 Pat Price, David Lowman
- 26 Darryl Phelps
- 28 Roland Thornton
- 29 Mary Lou Williams
- 30 Erin Ehlers

There will be a **MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY DINNER** at Rev. Brown's house on Thursday, November 17, at 6:00 p.m. If you have been attending West Side Christian Church and wish to learn more about our denomination and the ministry at West Side, please come join us. This will be a good opportunity to learn more about the church and what it means to join in discipleship at West Side.

**THANKSGIVING OFFERING**  
Will be received November 13 and 20.



Our goal is \$2,000. Please read in-closed information.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

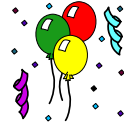
We welcome into our fellowship the following persons who come by way of transfer: Brendon McNelis, 805 Gay Ave., Portsmouth, 23701; Charles Kelly, III, 103 Wyoming Ave., Portsmouth, 23701; Chris and Kelly Terry, 1091 Hodges Ferry Rd., Portsmouth, 23701 (465-4486); Jessica Terry, 1054 Stanley Rd., Portsmouth, 23701 (488-6754); and Bill Loftis, 2913 N. Radcliffe Lane, Chesapeake, 23321. We also welcome Stephen Milam, 109 Kansas Ave., Portsmouth, 23701 and Jimmy Powell, 2425 Lakewood Lane, Chesapeake, 23321, who come by way of confession and baptism.



**FYI:** Rev. Brown will not be in the office Monday mornings due to Disciple Bible Study that will take place every Monday night for the next few months. On Mondays, he will be in and out of the office between 1:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Also, Rev. Brown's sermons are posted on our website for those who would like access to them. Just go to [www.westsidccdoc.org](http://www.westsidccdoc.org) and click on the link "Sermons." Thanks to Tom Larson who posts these sermons each and every week.

held on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Please come out for this special service in which we will prepare our worship space for the Advent Season.



## PARK VIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!

West Side members are invited to join the Centennial Celebration on November 12 and 13. On Saturday there will be guest speakers, music, singing, and a festive Birthday Party. On Sunday, Assoc. Regional Minister, Stephanie McLemore will deliver the message. There will be special music, a film festival of the past, and a Time Capsule will be dedicated. Following the service will be a celebration dinner. Let's have a good turnout of West Siders to help them celebrate!

## THANKSGIVING DINNER

Wednesday, November 16  
6:30 p.m.



Turkey, dressing, gravy, rolls and beverage will be furnished. Please bring two dishes to share and a "thankful heart" as we celebrate this time of year!

## OBCCM THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Olive Branch Cooperative Christian Ministries will hold their community Thanksgiving Service on November 23 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at Holy Communion Lutheran, 6220 Portsmouth Blvd. The speaker will be Rev. Barbara Shefelton, Interim Minister at Simonsdale Presbyterian Church. A food offering will be taken.

**OUR HEARTS WERE SADDENED** to learn of the death of Leona Brodie. Leona was a charter member of West Side and for the past few years had lived in South Carolina near her daughter and son-in-law, Donna and J. Elwood Owens. A funeral service was held at WSCC on October 24.



## HANGING OF THE GREENS

Our Hanging of the Greens service will be

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING,  
NOVEMBER 20 FOLLOWING WORSHIP.**

**WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
535 Cherokee Road  
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Portsmouth, Virginia 23701**

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**Address Service  
Requested**

**Rev. Nathan Brown,  
Minister**

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

