



The West Side Story

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West Side Christian Church

A Note from Rev. Brown!

About this time of year, the word “stewardship” seems to come up in most churches. The annual stewardship drive begins with a call to the congregation to consider their financial commitment to the ministry of the church. As individuals, we think about what it means to tithe to the church. Talk of budgets and financial planning go on at board meetings and cabinet meetings. This larger conversation about stewardship planning is vital to the overall ministry of the church.

Here at West Side, we will do the same. Sometime this month, you will be receiving a letter from me about your financial commitment to the ministry of this church for the upcoming year. I hope you will begin praying about what you might be able to financially contribute to our ministry here at West Side.

However, in your prayerful consideration, I hope you also consider your *overall* giving to the ministry of our congregation. Stewardship is about much more than our financial gifts. It is about a way of life. It is about assessing all the gifts we have in order to meet the needs of not only our congregation, but also our community. These gifts include our time, talents, energy, and passions.

We give not out of obligation, guilt, or duty, we give to God because God has given to us. For Christians, giving is not a matter of paying the bills of the church; rather, it is a response to the grace of God in Jesus Christ that has given abundant life. When we become receivers, when we receive the gift of God in our lives, giving (sharing) becomes a natural part of who we are. Our giving is a natural function of our Christian life. As the apostle Paul says, we give enthusiastically because we can do no other (Corinthians 9:7).¹

God provides each community of faith with the gifts necessary to do the ministry to which God is calling that particular community. It is up to the church to discern the ministry to which God is calling us and assess the gifts we have to contribute to this ministry. I pray that you will take time as individuals, families, and as a community of faith to reflect on what gifts you might be willing to contribute to the life of this congregation.

Faithful stewardship requires that we spend time praying, reflecting, and conversing about the ministry in which we believe and the gifts we have for the continuation of that ministry. Thank you for your commitment to the ministry of West Side Christian Church.

Peace.

¹ Joiner, Donald. *Creating a Climate for Giving*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2001. Pg. 6.

OCTOBER
2006

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Disciples of Christ

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REV. NATHAN BROWN, MINISTER

MARY'S WELLNESS CORNER

HEALTH AND SAFETY TIPS

- October 1** Here is a unique exercise to help strengthen your forearm, wrist and ability to grip. Stretch out your arm. Hold a corner of a single newspaper page. Now crumble it up into a ball...as fast as you can...using only that hand. Repeat a few times, several times a week.
- October 8** Remove drawstrings from hoods and necks of children's clothing. Drawstrings can get caught on playground equipment, fences, bus doors and pose a serious safety hazard!
- October 15** Don't take any over-the-counter pain reliever for more than the number of days listed on the bottle, unless advised by your doctor. Aspirin, Ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil), and naproxen (Aleve) can cause bleeding in the stomach, intestines and ulcers. High doses of acetaminophen (Tylenol) can damage the liver. Risks are even higher in those who drink alcohol or who have kidney disease.
- October 22** It seems like more foods are being "topped with bacon and cheese"! This can add at least 250 calories - plus more saturated fat and cholesterol!
- October 29** As the weather gets chillier, we turn more towards hot drinks, but beware the extra calories. A 16oz. "mocha grande" can contain nearly 400 calories and 25 grams of fat! Even the mere "tall caffe latte" (12oz.) with whole milk has 180 calories and 10 grams of fat!

~ ~ ~ ~ R E M I N D E R ~ ~ ~ ~

Blood Drive
October 14th
10am-2pm

*"...pray for each other so that you may be healed.
The prayer of a righteous man is powerful
and effective."
(James 5:16 NIV)*

Mary W. Peris, Parish Nurse

~ Hurricane Plans ~

~Submitted by Cheryl Jarvis~

All of us have seen the devastation Mother Nature can cause, and we suggest you prepare a household emergency kit in the event that a disaster touches the Hampton Roads area.

As a first responder in disaster situations, your Foodbank and its 210 sister food banks (network members of America's Second Harvest—The Nation's Food Bank Network) across the Nation are poised and ready to respond if an emergency ensues. Listed below are the top ten most needed food items in case of weather emergency.

- **Water (5 Gallons per person)**
- **Canned Juice**
- **Snack Foods (breakfast bars, cereal, etc.)**
- **Shelf Stable Milk (powdered or canned)**
- **Canned Vegetables**
- **Canned or Dried Fruits**
- **Canned Meats**
- **Canned Soups**
- **Spreads (peanut butter, jelly, etc.)**

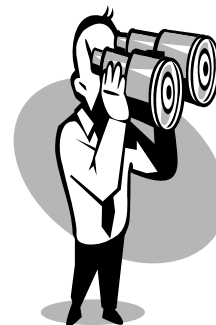
Additionally, you should have a personal evacuation plan in place and ready to go. Identify ahead of time where you could go if you are told to evacuate. Choose several places, a friend's home in another town, a motel, or a shelter. Make sure you keep handy the telephone numbers of these places as well as a road map of your locality. You may need to take alternative or unfamiliar routes if major roads are closed or clogged. Keep your radio tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, local radio or TV stations for evacuation instructions. If advised to evacuate, do so **immediately**. More information can be found at www.redcross.org.

Visioning Team

A Visioning Team has been formed to look at the future of WSCC's ministry and how we might be more faithful in serving each other and our community in the name of Jesus Christ. The Team will begin meeting on Oct. 2nd, at 7:30PM. Your prayers, support, input and assistance as they complete this exciting and challenging task is greatly appreciated. The Congregation will receive ongoing updates from the Team, including periodic "Town Meetings" to receive input and answer questions. The Team will ask for the Congregation's endorsement and commissioning at the Congregational Meeting on Nov. 19, 2006.

Team Members

Mary Cornwell
Jimmy Jarvis
Fran Gray
Brendon McNelis
Tom Larson
Dave McCrickard
Nathan Brown
Mary Redmon (2007 Board Chair)
One Youth (TBD)



CWF Reports

LYDIA CIRCLE had 12 present in September with an offering of \$53.00. Lydia used their talents with 2 teaching and 2 leading. Further, Lydia provided outreach by contacting 59 through calls, cards, crafts/cooking. Lydia also read 5 books, 4 Daily Devotionals and 3 Regional Papers.

REBEKAH CIRCLE had 7 present in September with an offering of \$61.00. Rebekah used their talents with 2 teaching and 2 leading. They also provided outreach by making 34 calls, and 3 crafts/cooking. Rebekah also read 6 Daily Devotionals, 2 Disciples Readings, 6 Regional Papers and 8 books. The October meeting will be with Mary Cornwell.

SARAH CIRCLE met on September 6th with Brenda Hayth. We enjoyed having fellowship with 3 members. Our offering was \$45.00 Our next meeting will be October 5th @ 7:30pm with Mary Peris.

CMF News

OCTOBER CMF MEETING ALL ARE INVITED!

CMF invites all WSCC members to attend its next meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 21, 2006 @ 8:00a.m. Our feature speaker is none other than Rick Cornwell. For those who may not know Rick, he is the son of Dick and Mary Cornwell and a brother to Mary Redmon and Marla Terry. He grew up in our church and is a Charter member of WSCC.

Richard T. (Rick) Cornwell is Director-Governmental Relations and External Affairs for Verizon Communications Corporation. In his capacity, Rick represents Verizon's companies before Congress and state government. Rick's subject will be "Richmond, Washington and the November's Election."

Please make a reservation so Chef Cornwell will have a good estimate of how much food needs to be purchased and ultimately prepared.

Submitted by Larry Hackler

Disciples Women News & Events!



The CWF will be sponsoring their annual "Talents for Missions and Spaghetti Dinner" on October 28th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The talents are crafts, homemade cakes, fudge, cookies, pickles, etc., jewelry, crocheted or knitted items, anything that you can contribute to our tables. Please price your talents that you donate.

Tickets for the dinner will go on sale October 1st. You may purchase them from any CWF member. They will be available each Sunday morning in the Fellowship Center or you may pick them up at the office during the week. The cost is \$7.00 for adults, \$3.50 for children 12 & under. Remember that half of the proceeds will be going to our Disciples Mission Fund and the other to local missions. This is a great time to invite friends and family and have a great dinner at West Side.

Cheryl Jarvis and Jennifer Larson will be attending the CWF Blackstone Retreat October 13-15. The theme is "Called to Share God's Blessings". Jennifer will be leading an interest group. Please pray for all women of our Religion as "we work together in the Christian Women's Fellowship".

Don't forget the "Food Pantry" in the Communion Room. If each family just brought one canned food or dry food each month.....our pantry would be overflowing. This food is donated to the Portsmouth Social Services each month. Thanks to those who participate in this mission.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

November General Meeting will be held in the Fellowship Center, Saturday, November 11th @ 11:00 a.m. for Brunch. We will be making Chrismon decorations.

Submitted by Cheryl Jarvis, CWF President

MEALS ON WHEELS!

On the 4th Thursday of every month a group from West Side helps with the Meals on Wheels program. We are in need of more volunteers for this important part of our church outreach. We could especially use some younger, retired volunteers. Please contact Barbara White if interested at (757) 986-3201. Thank you!



October Member Spotlight

This month's member spotlight are the Thorntons, Thomas and Joyce, members of the famous Thornton Clan of Scott's Creek. But that's another story for another time! Joyce and Thomas met while Thomas was serving in the Army in Atlanta. They just celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary this May as well as celebrating 50 years of worshipping at West Side. Yes, Joyce and Thomas are charter members! Joyce and Thomas have two children, a daughter, Terry Olson, of Portsmouth and son, Thomas, Jr., who holds the distinction of being the first baby born at the newly formed West Side Christian Church! They also have three grown granddaughters, Crystal, Anna, and Corey, all of whom live in other states.

After his stint with the Army, Thomas returned to Portsmouth with his bride and became a fire-fighter. Thomas spent his first 15 years as a fire-fighter serving downtown Portsmouth and the last 15 years at Station number 7 in Grove Park where he retired as Battalion Chief. Always an avid sailor, Thomas and Joyce opened "Sails Unlimited", where he sold sailboats and did motor repairs. The shop was in Portsmouth on Race Street. They ran this business for 18 years before retiring, with Thomas working one day for the fire department and one day at the shop. It was a true family operation as Joyce says she did everything from cleaning the toilets to buying the merchandise! But just because the shop has closed doesn't mean Thomas has giving up sailing. He and Terry and Tommy, Jr. are out on the water every chance they get and they compete in local races.

Joyce and Thomas reside in a wonderful high rise on Crawford Parkway where they and many of the Thornton clan have witnessed many a fireworks display and lots of high water from nor'easters and hurricanes. Joyce says she can't help but laugh at the folks who drive through the salt water in their new cars. I'm sure she's seen stranger things than that from her lofty perch, but she's too discreet to share! Joyce has been a loyal member of Lydia Circle and served as Class President for the Disciples Class for 20 years before just recently "retiring" from this post".

No mention of the Thorntons is complete without talking about the importance of family. Thomas is one of what were originally 12 siblings. There are currently 5 brothers, one "adopted brother" (aka Bobby Beal), and one sister remaining, all but one of which is a member of West Side. Sister Barbara Powell only recently transferred her membership to a church on the Middle Peninsula where she now resides. And if this wasn't a large enough family base, Thomas's father's sister married into the Gray family which is another many-limbed family here at West Side. If you've ever been told everyone at West Side is related, you'd better believe it! Before Thomas's mother died he promised her he would do everything in his power to keep the family together and he has been a man of his word. For 34 years he has spearheaded the Thornton Family Christmas Party. It began a small affair in his home with just the brother and sisters and has grown to include multiple generations in a rented hall. The party is so large that even Santa makes an annual appearance. And every week, on Wednesday, they hold a "Brothers Meeting."

The most recent Thornton Family project is participation in a project sponsored by the City, to construct a brick pathway from the Navy Yard to Effingham Street. Families can purchase bricks that form the walkway. The main brick will be inscribed as the "Thornton's of Scotts Creek," and individual family units will add their family's brick(s) to the block of bricks, commemorating, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. With their many generations, the Thornton's could become a city block! Next time you take off to see the Wizard, you can follow the "Thornton Brick Road.", at least in Portsmouth anyway.

(Submitted By: Kitty Baker, Membership Chair)

October Birthdays!

2nd:	Dave McCrickard
7th:	Bob Nutting
8th:	Kevin Hyatt Garland Cook
12th:	Mary Peris
14th:	Emily Nutting
15th:	Courtney Brown Kristen Brown
16th:	Mary Bond
19th:	Joe Antonucci
23rd:	David Kays
24th:	Ruth Blackman Bubba Jenson
26th:	Masil Jones
27th:	Tom Larson
28th:	DeeAnn Acors
31st:	Benjamin Jarvis



PRAYER TEAM

The Prayer Team's one and only meeting to organize and begin addressing prayer concerns will be held on Monday, October 9th at 6:30 PM. If you signed up, please try to be in attendance.

Rev. Brown

**SERVING LUNCH AT OASIS!**

In order to extend our feeding of the homeless ministry, a small group of people have organized serving lunch at the Oasis. The time commitment is from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. The date for October will be determined. If you are interested and able to participate in this ministry, please sign up on the information board outside of the sanctuary. We will meet at the church and car pool together. Contact Rev. Brown with any questions.

Faithful Dialogue

October 30, 2006

7:00 PM

Chapters 3 & 4

"A Servant's Manual"

**ADMINISTRATIVE CABINET!**

Administrative Cabinet will meet on Sunday, October 8th, 1:30pm at the church. Please have your committee reports to Trish by October 4th.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please mark your calendar for our church's annual congregational meeting, scheduled for November 19th. Business to be approved includes the annual budget, upcoming year's slate of church officers and a commissioning of the Visioning Team. Please plan to attend this meeting immediately following worship service.

~Lectionary Readings for Oct. 2006~

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
October 1:	<i>Esther 7:1-6,9-10; 9:20-22</i> <i>Psalm 124</i> <i>James 5:13-20</i> <i>Mark 9:38-50</i>
October 8:	<i>Job 1:1; 2:1-10</i> <i>Psalm 26</i> <i>Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12</i> <i>Mark 10:2-16</i>
October 15:	<i>Job 23:1-9, 16-17</i> <i>Psalm 22:1-15</i> <i>Hebrews 4:12-16</i> <i>Mark 10:17-31</i>
October 22:	<i>Job 38:1-7, (34-41)</i> <i>Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c</i> <i>Hebrews 5:1-10</i> <i>Mark 10:35-45</i>
October 29:	<i>Job 42:1-6, 10-17</i> <i>Psalms 34:1-8, (19-22)</i> <i>Hebrews 7:23-28</i> <i>Mark 10:46-52</i>

IN NEED OF PRAYER:

Barbara Nelson	Martha Hewitt
Thomas Thornton	Emily Nutting
Juanita Gray	Myrtle Henderson
Margie Robinson	Mike Johnson
Edith Ross	Phil Phillips
Sarah Crawford	Roland Thornton
Betty Lou Fox	Masil Jones
Connie Hutto	Sid Price
Kathryn Bean	Esther Daniel
Tata Weinmann	Ellen Nelson
Bobby Ryder	Melodie Bronson
Bill Wagner	Jordan Blount
Chris Louer	Ted Gibson
	Frankie Louer

ALSO PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS:

Ruth Blackman	Sylvia Dickens
Rev. Glenn	Sandy Cotton



DISTRICT VIII ASSEMBLY

The District VIII Assembly for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia is scheduled for Sunday, November 5th at Olive Branch Christian Church. The Assembly will begin at 3:00 PM and will include a backyard barbecue, business and worship. Each church will also have the opportunity to showcase a particular mission or ministry of their church. Olive Branch Christian Church is located in Norge, Virginia. Therefore, car pooling may be appropriate for those who wish to attend. Let's support our district and our denomination by attending this year's assembly. Please sign up on the information board located outside the sanctuary if you are planning to attend. Please direct any further questions to Rev. Brown or Tom Larson.

Anniversary Pictures Available!

Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of the group anniversary picture, please contact Pam Gibbs at (757) 488-4511 or pamelagibbs@disciples.org

YOUTH SUNDAY

Our Youth are Our Future

Please make a special effort to attend worship Sunday, October 29th @ 11:00am, as our young people will be conducting the Worship Service. Show our youth we support their dedication to our church and our faith.

Reminder



October 28th Set your clocks back



Softball Schedule

Come support your West Side Softball Team! All games are played on Tuesday nights and are double-headers. Below is the October schedule.

- October 3rd 6:30pm & 7:30pm Highland Biltmore
- October 10th 6:45pm & 7:45pm Highland Biltmore
- October 17th 8:30pm & 9:30pm Highland Biltmore
- October 24th 6:45pm & 7:45pm Highland Biltmore



FELLOWSHIP DINNER



Make plans now to join us on Wednesday, October 18th @ 6:30 PM for a delicious Pot Luck Fellowship Dinner. WSCC's own Louisiana Mission Team will be present to share their stories, photographs, personal experiences and answer all your questions. It will be a night to remember so mark your calendars now and bring along your favorite dish.



You are invited to an **OPEN HOUSE** for West Side Christian Church at the home of Nathan & Marion Brown. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, October 15th from 3:00pm-6:00pm. Nathan and Marion live at 713 Mashie Court in Newport News. You may call the Church Office for directions. Please drop in for food and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you there.

Fall Bazaar

Park View Christian Church
October 7, 2006
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
3201 Western Branch Blvd.
Chesapeake
484-1776

The beautiful "Knockout" Rose bushes planted in front of the church are in loving memory of Berry Brown, donated by his family for all to enjoy.

Congratulations

To

Kelly Wallace

and

Harry Lewis

On their Engagement!

The Wedding Day will be

September 8, 2007



We wish to extend our deepest Christian Sympathy to the family of Helen McQuade who passed away on August 30, 2006.

A Letter of Thanks

I want to thank my West Side Christian Church family for the care and concern you have shown me through your continuous prayers. You have inspired and uplifted me by your phone calls, cards, notes, visits and conversations during my chemo, surgeries and illness. It has been very comforting to receive this love from people I have known since I was a little girl at Park View Christian Church and later when we moved to the cow pasture that was to become our new church home - West Side Christian Church. Thank you all for being there for me and my family.

Love, Betty Lou Fox

Welcome to WSCC

You may have heard, Trish Barker has joined our staff as our new Office Manager. Some of you already know "Ms. Trish" as she was an assistant teacher for 10 years in our Preschool.

Trish grew up in Portsmouth just a few short blocks from West Side. She still lives close by with her husband Mark and their daughters, Kristin and Kelly.

They attend Pinecrest Baptist Church and enjoy spending as much time as possible in the Outer Banks.

Trish believes God has placed her here with us to honor and glorify His name through her talents and dedicated service. She will be in the office Monday through Friday from 9am-2pm.

Come by and welcome her back.

Thank You

Words cannot express my thanks and gratitude to each person at West Side who touched me in their own special way during my time working there. When I started in the Office Manager's position in January, I had no idea what was in store for me. The last words Barbara Brown emphatically said to me when she left me to do this job were "take care of these people". She said it with such sincerity, and now I know why. You all had your own special way of reaching out to make me feel welcome. Whether it was a knock on my office door each day, a joke to lighten up the mood, or offering to help out my family when we needed it the most, West Side was always there. Thank you for your outpouring of well wishes, cards, gifts and also for the beautiful reception for my family on September 17th. As I said in the reception, I would have loved to have remained at West Side longer if it were possible. I will miss you all!!! Starting in October, we will be spending a month with family in Michigan before the big move to Florida. Effective November 1st - May 15th our contact information will be:

Shannon, Tracy and Hannah Adams

13817 Perdido Key Drive

Condo # 501

Pensacola, FL 32507

(623) 341-4763

tracybooadams@yahoo.com

Please keep in touch!