



# The West Side Story

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July 2007

## A Note from Rev. Brown!

As I write this article, I am on a “spiritual high,” having just come from the closing program for West Side Christian Church’s Vacation Bible School. Over the course of the week, we consistently hosted fifty to sixty children in our church building. They learned the stories of the Bible, played games, created crafts, and sang songs. My spiritual high, in this moment, is because of one particular song I heard the children sing at the closing program: “Peace like a River.”

One of my favorite church camp songs is “Peace like a River.” The song conjures up memories of being on the Disciple’s church camp grounds in Barbee, Indiana as an adolescent. The peacefulness of those sacred grounds will always be etched deep in my memory. Even in the midst of water balloon fights, relay races, egg throwing contests, and throwing pies in the faces of our camp counselors, surprisingly, a sense of peace filled the time I spent at camp.

At times, this week, it seemed ironic that the teachers chose the song, “Peace Like a River,” to be sung by the children at VBS. There were moments as I worked on my sermon that nothing seemed very peaceful. Chaos seemed to be brewing outside my office door as children laughed, cried, and sang in the hallways of the church. While I was taken back to the peacefulness of church camp as the children sang that song at the closing program, I was also taken back to the chaos of church camp, as I listened to young people run through the hallways, scream at the top of their lungs, and make themselves at home in God’s church building.

That is the irony of the life Christ calls us to live. Even in the midst of what seems to be disorder, children’s lives are touched by the love of God through Vacation Bible School. Lives that attempt to follow Christ live perpetually in this strange irony. Chaos can be all around us and our lives can seem to be spinning out of control, to the point that we feel helpless. However, those who follow Christ know that in the midst of the chaos, God is still with us. No matter what kind of circumstances life might bring, we are promised, in the resurrection, that God will never forsake us. In other words, even in our troubles, we can still have “Peace like a River.”

When talking with many of you about the difficulties that come with living faithful lives, I am constantly using the phrase, “Life is like a roller coaster.” It sounds simple, but I believe it to be true. Our faith journeys are full of spiritual highs and spiritual lows. Nevertheless, in the midst of this chaotic journey, we call faith, we can still have a sense of peace knowing that God pours out to us “love like an ocean” through a comforting and ever-abiding presence. As a result, my your continued Christian journey bring you “joy like a fountain.....”

*Peace,*

*Rev. Nathan Brown*

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Disciples of Christ

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Rev. Nathan Brown, Minister

## MARY'S WELLNESS CORNER

*God knew the specific purpose you were born to fulfill, so He provided all the gifts you'd need, including the environment required to put it all together. Then He looked at you and said, "Very good." Can you say that too? It's important that you can. Why? Because others will treat you according to how you treat yourself! This is not pride, it's just healthy self-esteem based on God's opinion of you as revealed in His Word. When you have it, it affects every area of your life. Truth be told, it determines how far you'll go in life."*

~ Bob Gass ~

### Nurse's Notes

#### July 1: True or False

1. Children should never light or play with fireworks.
2. Adults should always keep a bucket of water handy in case of malfunction or fire.
3. Adults should read and follow all instructions before using sparklers, caps, etc.
4. Adults should be sure all people are out of range before lighting items.
5. Sparklers burn at high enough temperatures that can cause serious burns.

(All answers are true)

**July 8: Did you know ....** That hand sanitizers contain a high concentration of alcohol? With their fruit scents, these can pose great danger to children or toddlers who may lick the product off their hands. Ingesting the cleanser can lead to illness and require a trip to the Emergency Room!

**July 15:** It is that time of year when fresh produce abounds! Be careful and wash all fruits and vegetables thoroughly with cold running water. Do not use soap or chlorine mixtures in attempts to clean the produce.

**July 22:** The combination of warm weather and sweaty shoes and socks provide perfect breeding ground for athlete's foot. After bathing, be sure to dry feet thoroughly, particularly between toes (you can even use your hair dryer on low heat). If possible, wearing sandals may be best!

**July 29:** Follow this shadow rule for sun protection in the summer: If your shadow is shorter than your height, it's sunburn time! In most parts of the country, this test will show that you can still get burned between the hours of 3 p.m and 4 p.m. The sun is closest when directly overhead – and therefore strongest – about 1 p.m. (Daylight Saving Time). Protect yourself with sunscreen and clothing during the three hours before and after this peak time. (*Wellness Made Easy, UCLA, Berkeley, 2005*)

Mary W. Peris, Parish Nurse

## CWF Reports

**LYDIA CIRCLE:** The Lydia Circle met on June 7th with 7 members present. They collected an offering of \$27.00 and used their talents with 1 teaching and 1 leading. Lydia also provided outreach by contacting 34 through cards, calls and visits. They also read 3 Daily Devotionals, 2 books and 2 Regional Papers. Their next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 7th at 10:00 a.m. in the church fellowship center.

**REBEKAH CIRCLE:** The Rebekah Circle met in June with 7 members and 3 guests present. They collected an offering of \$58.00 and used their talents with 2 leading and 2 teaching. They provided outreach by contacting 3 through cooking and crafts and 30 through calls. Rebekah read 7 books, 6 Regional Papers, 5 Daily Devotionals and 2 Disciple Papers. Their July meeting will be on Thursday, July 5th at 7:30 PM.

**SARAH CIRCLE:** The Sarah group met on June 7th with Brenda Hayth as our Hostess. She served us dinner...our favorite, PIZZA & KEY LIME PIE! She led the study of Women in the Bible. There were 5 members present. The group will meet twice in this month, on July 12th and July 26th. We will be having lunch with women in our church...guess who? It might be you!

### CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

#### A.K.A. DISCIPLES WOMEN

Both of the names above are politically correct. Either name is appropriate for our women in the **Disciples' churches. It is confusing because it is new. But both mean the same thing.... women of the church.** If you are not attending or active in a **women's group at West Side, I encourage you to come to the General Meeting on July 8th at 6:00 PM for our Salad Supper and Program.** The Sarah Group will be preparing the salads, but we sure would like to see some new and familiar faces at our meeting. Our **study for the year is entitled "Come to the Table". Won't you join us at the table of fellowship on July 8th?** We will be studying the book of Mark throughout the year and the country of South Korea. **Yes, it is in the news just about every week...so read and listen. Also, Fran & Steve Gray's daughter, Emily and her husband are now stationed there.** We will be learning about our sisters and brothers in the Korean Church from the women who participated in the Women-to-Women Worldwide Trip in 2005. We cannot just be content with our little corner of the world, but learn, study, and serve in the way Christ did. **Come to the table.....all are welcome!**

*Cheryl Jarvis, President CWF*



## 2007 GRADUATE

Kelly Wallace graduated from Tidewater Community College's Nursing Program and received her Associate in Applied Sciences and her R.N. degree on May 11, 2007. She plans to begin her career at Maryview Hospital in the Labor & Delivery Department. Kelly is the daughter of Allen and Cindy Wallace.

## SEEKER'S NEWS

The Seekers class decided to kick the summer off by spending the day outside of the classroom. We ventured to Busch Gardens for a fun filled day of fellowship. We even had a few new additions to join the group. Everyone had a fabulous time and can't wait to do it again.

Our trip was made special with the help of Mary Redmon, Mary Cornwell, Kitty Baker and Marla Terry. These ladies volunteered their entire day to taking care of our children. Dick Cornwell even helped by preparing meals and snacks for the children. We are blessed to have such a wonderful group of people to lend a helping hand.

Beginning Sunday, July 1st, Brendon & Wendy McNelis will be leading our class. They are prepared to begin a series of studies of various religions. These include Catholicism, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Scientology, Mormon, Methodist and Baptist and of course Disciples of Christ. Each week will be an in-depth study of the background, culture, and beliefs of each religion along with a class discussion.

We begin our class at 10:00 AM, so grab a donut and meet us in class for a profound lesson. If you have any questions contact Kelly Terry at 532-5554.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

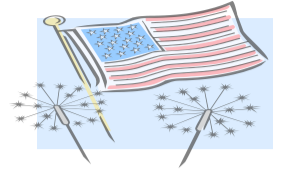
Interest session for Disciple I & II,  
Sunday, August 12th  
following worship service.



Coming this Fall is the return of Disciple Bible Study, a 34 week journey through the Bible. Enough notice is being given, so that YOU might plan to participate in this life-changing study. Rev. Brown will be facilitating the study once again. The study will begin in late August or early September. An interest session will be held August 12th for those thinking of participating. Also, for those who participated in Disciple Bible Study I, a Disciple II class (Into the Word, Into the World) will be offered this fall. This class is designed to take a more in-depth look at the books of the Bible and is intended for those who have completed Disciple I. If you have completed Disciple I and are willing to consider facilitating a Disciple II class, please let Rev. Brown know as soon as possible.



The church choir will  
not practice during  
the month of July



Church Office  
will be closed  
on  
Wednesday,  
July 4th

## SERVING LUNCH AT OASIS

Thursday, July 19th  
9:30 am—2:00 pm  
Meet at West Side



When we think about sharing a feast, our thoughts turn to good food and drink, and towards a variety of tables— Communion, dinner, picnic, formal and informal. As Disciples, we think of the bread and cup, because Communion is central to our theology.

Picture if you will, hundreds of chalices of various sizes and colors, all gathered together on one banquet table. Smell the sweetness of the grape juice, the tantalizing aroma of the fresh bread. Now imagine sharing Communion with seven to eight thousands of your sisters and brothers in the faith. This is a mighty, powerful image, and one that will be lived out at the 2007 General Assembly in Fort Worth, Texas.

On Sunday, July 15th, West Side Christian Church will partake of the Lord's Supper with the chalice we will be exchanging with another church at General Assembly. During the service, we will also be commissioning Rev. Brown to be the church's representative at our denominational gathering. Please try to attend worship on July 15th to be connected to this powerful spiritual experience.

## Visioning Team Brief

West Side Christian Church is a faithful and caring church family committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ in our church, our community, and our world.

CHURCH: *Equip* our church family through spiritual growth and leadership development.

COMMUNITY: *Share* the love of Christ through service.

WORLD: *Witness through support of Disciples' missions.*

The proposed Statement of Calling (sometimes called a mission statement) has received positive comments. Please let the Visioning Team know what you think about it. We are at the point in the process of taking the Ministry Opportunities voted on at the Congregational information meeting March 28th and developing action plans from those. **Then we'll build specific tasks and timelines for those 3-8 items to be accomplished over a 1-3 year time frame.** This process should be done in late July or early August. We are already discussing the report format and how to make the report short, to the point, and a tool which will be used constantly and not put on the shelf to collect dust. We continue to be enthusiastic and excited about where God is leading us.

Please pray for the process and for the Visioning Team. The success of the plan will require some effort from all the members at West Side - young, middle age, mature and everyone in-between. **This isn't a plan to be done by the Cabinet or the Board.** It invites, and in reality, requires the enthusiastic and God led participation of all of us! Pray for us to Claim God's Vision for our church.

~Jimmy Jarvis

### Team Members:

Nathan Brown	Dave McCrickard
Jimmy Jarvis	Mary Redmon
Mary Cornwall	Tom Larson
Brendon McNelis	Erin Ripley
Fran Gray	



[vision@westsideccdoc.org](mailto:vision@westsideccdoc.org)

## Prayer Requests

The Elders of your church pray for you on a regular basis. Specifically, during our elder meetings, we lift up individual names on our **"prayer concern list" printed in the bulletin** each week. As your elders, we also want to be able to respond to concerns by sending cards and making phone calls when appropriate. However, in order to effectively shepherd **God's church, we need more information** from you.

Of late, more of the names on our list are unfamiliar. This is great! We welcome any and all prayer concerns you might have. On the other hand, too often we have no way of determining how the individual is doing and when it is appropriate to take them off the list. So, we need YOUR help!

When you call or leave a note for Trish to add someone to the Prayer Concern List, please provide your name, your relationship to the individual, the type of concern (where permissible), such as surgery, a death, etc, and, if deemed appropriate, a phone number for the individual.

**Also, if you'd like us to send cards of** reassurance and support, please provide Trish with an address of the individual/family. All of this information will be maintained with the strictest confidence. However, as your Elders we feel we can do a better shepherding job of all those on the list if we have this information.

**Don't forget too, we have prayer cards in** the pews and a prayer team. If it is more convenient to fill out a prayer card, please do so and place it in the box on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Additionally, if you or someone you know is in need of immediate prayer, please call the church office and ask for your concern to be given to the prayer team. The chain will begin promptly thereafter.

If you have any other questions or comments about prayer requests, please contact your elder or Rev. Brown.

## Elder's Journal

*Do you have the faith to be an Elder?*

*The Elder is no different from any other church member in that we are all called to develop and grow in faith, through prayer, worship, sacraments, and learning. The call to Eldership is a renewed call to these things as well. So, the faith required is the same faith that makes us a Christian.*

*We all feel inadequate in our various callings and service to the Church. I know I do, but I feel I have the support of my Church family in what ever I decide to do at West Side.*

*It has been a wonderful learning experience for me serving as an Elder. The table is set for all of us.*

*In Christian Love,*

*Debbie Ripley*

## IN NEED OF PRAYER

Joy White	David McCrickard
Cavanaugh Family	Dick Oliver
Nancy Fritts	Juanita Gray
Gloria Metzger	Sandy Phillips
Connie Klyver	Joyce Tippen
Jimmy McRae	Phelps Family
Orid Graves	Pat Price
Rev. Dick Laslo	Phillips Family
Wilma Ingram	Ruby Fulcher
Roland Thornton	Charles Wheeler
Vinson Family	Jim White
Logan Osborn	Judy Kelly
Branch Family	Margaret Bacon
Margie Robinson	Ben Adderholdt
Myrtle Henderson	Pat Henderson
Leo Gibbs	JoAnna Best
Esther Daniel	Powell Family
Melodie Bronson	Joseph Irwin
Edith Ross	J.T. Joyner
Elnora Phillips	Frankie Louer
Kathryn Bean	Ellen Nelson
Sarah Crawford	Masil Jones
Bobby Ryder	Connie Hutto
Bill Wagner	Jordan Blount
Chris Louer	Jay Naclerio
Tate Weinmann	Huddle Family

## OUR SHUT-INS

Ruth Blackman	Sylvia Dickens
Rev. Glenn Weaver	Sandy Cotton
Dennis Davenport	

~Lectionary Readings for July 2007~

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
July 1st:	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Luke 9:51-62
July 8th:	2 Kings 5:1-14 Psalm 30 Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 15th:	Amos 7:7-17 Psalm 82 Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37
July 22nd:	Amos 8:1-12, Psalms 52 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42
July 29th:	Hosea 1:2-10 Psalm 85 Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19) Luke 11:1-13

## »» Thank You ««

*Dear West Side,*

*This past year has been a long and difficult time for us. Mother's Day 2006, began with Myrtle's illness and subsequent surgeries followed by her fall and a broken neck. November 2006, began Pat's journey with this heart surgery completed in April 2007. We are very thankful for the loving family we have here at West Side. Without the calls, cards, visits, food and prayers, we would not have made it through this past year. God has truly blessed us with a wonderful church family. We will be forever grateful.*

*Our Christian Love to All,  
Pat and Myrtle Henderson*

\* \* \* \* \*

To Our West Side Family,

Thank you for the many cards, calls and gifts of food at the loss of my father, Bobby Phelps. Your love and kindness has helped tremendously in this difficult time.

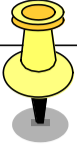
In Christian Love,  
Darryl Phelps and Family

\* \* \* \* \*

*Dear West Side Members,*

*Thank you to all of those who were so kind to send cards, come by for visits and especially for praying for me during my recent hospital stay and extended recover.*

*In Christ,  
Dick Oliver*



### REMINDERS

- Administrative Cabinet  
Sunday, July 1st @ 1:30 PM
- Official Board  
Tuesday, July 10th @ 7:00 PM
- Pastoral Relations  
Tuesday, July 17th @ 6:00 PM
- **Elder's**  
Tuesday, July 17th @ 7:30 PM



The Property Committee would like to extend a special thank-you to the following individuals who have been so faithful in keeping the church grounds maintained this summer.

Bubba Jenson - Cecil Dillon

Jimmy Jarvis - Norman Dickens

Additional help is always appreciated!!

*William Brown, Jr. - Property Chairman*

## July Birthday's



- 7th : Jake Widener
- 8th: Dennis Davenport
- 10th: Joy Wikoff  
Treavor Gardner
- 12th: Gary Edens
- 14th: Debbie Ripley
- 18th: Martha Gray  
Sandy Phillips
- 19th: Bobby Beal  
William Brown, Jr.  
Jacky Edens
- 25th: Joyce Thornton
- 28th: Billy Powell  
Doug Jenson
- 29th: Hervey Gray, Jr.

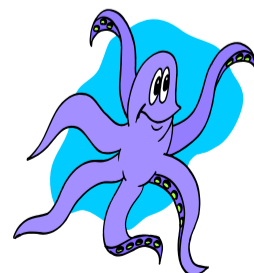
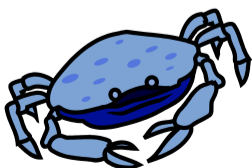


### The Great Bible Reef was this year's theme for

Vacation Bible School here at West Side.

The week was full of excitement, joy and lots of challenging experiences. There was a total attendance of 66 children who so generously gave a total offering of \$235.01.

Thank you to all of those who volunteered of their time to make **sure this year's program was a success.**



Very Special Thanks to  
Jennifer Larson, Assistant Director  
Dick & Mary Cornwell, Chefs  
and most of all  
*Jessica Terry, VBS Director*



Tuesday, July 17th at 7:15 PM

## All Faith Night at Harbor Park

With a group of 25 or more, the church can purchase tickets for \$6.50.

Please contact Kitty Baker by July 5th if you would like to go.

She must have the ticket money by July 8th.

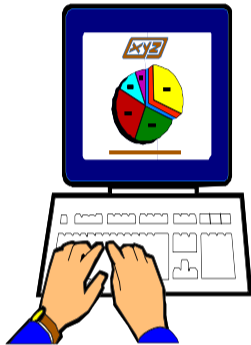
**Let's all go to the ballgame and show our support for West Side Christian Church !**

The West Side website has grown and become a good outreach and evangelism tool.

We have people from all over the world visiting our website.

It is time to make this a GREAT ministry too.

If you are interested in helping shape the website, contact Tom Larson for more information.



Check us out at . . . [www.westsidccdoc.org](http://www.westsidccdoc.org)

## Staff Schedules

Joe Diggs: July 5 - 9  
(vacation)

Trish Barker: July 15 - 22  
(vacation)

(Volunteers are needed to fill in for Trish, please call her or sign up on the bulletin board)

Rev. Brown: July 21 - 25  
(General Assembly - Ft. Worth, TX)

July 30 - Aug 5  
(vacation)

# Night at the Drive-In

## WSSC Movie Night

Bring the family, bring the car, or just bring a blanket and a lawn chair because shortly following the sunset on July 28<sup>th</sup> Westside Christian Church Theatres will proudly present our "Night at the Drive-In". We will have a great refreshment combo deal which includes a Drink and a Bag of Popcorn for only \$1.00. The matinee movie will be Night at the Museum starring Ben Stiller, Dick Van Dyke, and Robin Williams. Ben Stiller is a newly recruited night security guard at the Museum of Natural History where he soon discovers that an ancient curse causes the animals and exhibits on display to come to life and wreak havoc. The movie will be great fun and even greater fellowship so please watch for sign-up sheets in your bulletin and let us know if you plan to attend.

