



The West Side Story

VOLUME 39

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2008

STATEMENT OF CALLING

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

A Note from Rev. Brown!



During the season of Eastertide we celebrate the presence of the risen Christ in our world. Because of Jesus' resurrection, we have the assurance of God's presence in our midst. Christ's presence also reminds us that God is advocating, equipping, and empowering the church to carry on Christ's ministry in the world. Therefore, during the Easter season, we not only celebrate the risen Christ, but we also participate in resurrection.

One of the ways that I have seen West Side celebrate and participate in Christ's resurrection is through the spiritual gifts workshops many of you have attended during the last week. By the time you are reading this, some seventy West Siders will have processed their gifts inventories in a workshop.

The final step in the first phase of our visioning plans is to begin connecting your gifts to a ministry in our **church, community, or world**. You will have that opportunity on May 4th at our ministry fair and first Sunday cook-out.

Our worship service on this day will be geared toward celebrating the gifts of West Side Christian church and preparing ourselves to use those gifts in new and creative ways. Stephanie McLemore from the regional office will be with us for this special occasion. The event will not only close out the first action plan of our visioning plans, but it will also end the season of Easter and prepare us for the birth of the church, Pentecost, the following Sunday.

Because of the interest in and overall success of the gifts workshops, we are going to offer one final opportunity to those who may not have had a chance to process their spiritual gifts inventories. This workshop will be held on April 20th following worship.

During Eastertide, we are called to recognize Christ's presence in our lives. Where is Christ resurrecting or renewing your life? How are you being nudged or encouraged into ministry? Are you choosing *not* to see where Christ is present in your life and where he might be calling you?

May we continue to move forward in God's vision for our church with open hearts and minds, recognizing the risen Christ's presence with us on this journey. God is resurrecting the ministry of West Side Christian Church. Will you participate in and celebrate this resurrection in the Easter season?

Peace,

Rev. Nathan Brown

Disciples of Christ



WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

535 CHEROKEE RD.

PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA 23701

(757) 488-0514 • www.westsideccdoc.org

REV. NATHAN BROWN, MINISTER

MARY'S WELLNESS CORNER

Screening 4 Life Program

Did you know...

- Vascular disease is the leading cause of death in America?
- Vascular disease includes heart disease, stroke, aneurysms and peripheral arterial disease?
- Osteoporosis is the leading cause of hospital bed utilization?
- There are safe, painless and accurate test available to identify these diseases before you experience symptoms or warning signs?

Life Line Screening, the nations leading provider of preventive health screening, offers a free Screening 4 Life Program. Most people enjoy this 20-30 minute educational program that will:

- Define vascular disease and osteoporosis in easy to understand terms.
- Discuss the risk factors for these life threatening conditions.
- Talk about the warning signs and symptoms of these diseases.
- Provide information about prevention.

Life Line Screening will donate 2 Free Screening Certificates (value of \$45 each) as door prizes at each program. All program participants will receive a handout including a free bookmarker.

Mark your calendar and join us for this informative and life saving program:

Saturday, April 19th

Breakfast will be served at 8:00 AM

Followed by this program

“May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
1 Thessalonians 5:23

Mary W. Peris, Parish Nurse



CWF Reports:

LYDIA CIRCLE:

No Report Submitted. Their next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, April 3rd at 10:00 AM.

REBEKAH CIRCLE:

No Report Submitted. Their next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, April 3rd at 7:30 PM.

SARAH CIRCLE:

No Report Submitted. Their next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, April 3rd at 7:30



PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

Sharing: Multiplying by Dividing

Linda had been teaching 3-year-olds in Sunday School for nearly 20 years. It was time for her to hand over the reins. In explaining her methods and ideas to the new teacher, a “young adult” taking over the class, she smiled, and gently said, “At this age, all you can really teach is, ‘Jesus loves you,’ and ‘You have to share.’”

That’s not a bad lesson plan for any age group in Sunday School. Adults know, but sometimes forget, the wonders of God’s math. By sharing what we have, dividing it in effect, we actually see it multiply—often with amazing results. This year, through the Pentecost Offering, we have the opportunity to take part in that witness. Through the Pentecost Offering, we support the New Church Ministry of the Disciples throughout the U.S. and Canada, and right here in our region. We help in the recruiting and training of New Church planters, and we share in the fruits of their ministry, bringing God’s message to new places and new communities. We “Share the Chalice,” and multiply the love. Pentecost Offering will be collected May 4th - May 11th.

New Church Ministry
130 E. Washington St.
9th Floor
Indianapolis, IN 46204
800.274.1883

www.newchurchministry.org

Homeless Week

Homeless Week

Homeless week went very well again this year. It was overwhelming to observe how West Side responds to such a great mission. 798 scrumptious meals were served to 468 guests with assistance from River Shore Baptist Church, Benn's Methodist Church and Western Branch Community Church. A total of 845 hours were volunteered during this week. 150 gift bags, 30 dozen cookies/brownies, personal items, bathroom toiletries, and various clothing items were donated to this worthy cause. We also had a total of four nurses attending to the BP of 60 guest.

Dick and Mary Cornwell and their loyal crew prepared 514 delicious meals. These meals included chicken and turkey pot pies, assorted vegetables, hot breads, coffee and tea. The meals prepared and served cost only \$0.74 each. Just another miracle performed by the Cornwell family.

The World Outreach and Christian Service Committee wants to recognize and thank everyone involved with this outreach program. Our sincere thanks for a job Well Done! A special thank you to Chef Cornwell, his devoted wife, Mary, and his loyal crew who volunteered many, many hours preparing these wonderful dinners. It would not have been such a huge success had it not been for their hard work and priceless dedication to this cause.

~Larry Hackler

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to our Homeless Week Sock/Gloves Drive. Our count of items is as follows:

- Rain Ponchos - 105
- Ladies Socks - 117 pairs
- Ladies Underwear - 43
- Ladies Gloves - 28
- Men's Underwear - 50+
- Men's T-shirts - 4
- Men's Socks - 136 pairs
- Men's Gloves - 31
- Hats - 37
- Scarves - 10

Then there were the toiletry items, too many to count... WOW! Each person was given soap, shampoo, wash cloths, socks, underwear and a rain poncho. Most received gloves and hats as well. Everyone were very appreciative for what they were given. Thanks to ALL of you for making this a success!

From Cindy Wallace

CMF News

CMF BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 19th

8:00 AM

Guest Speaker

Lonette Woods

"I Will Be Well"

Screening 4 Life Program

Reservations need to be made by

Wednesday, April 16th

More information can be found in the enclosed flyer or in the Parish Nurse's article

A Moment with Your Board Chair



You may have noticed that the grounds at West Side always look neat and well manicured. This happens because of 1 to 5 dedicated Christians. Sometimes, only one individual shows up to cut grass and trim the entire church yard. They need your help! The church yard has been divided into four sections for grass cutting chores. The front, east, and back. The back being in two sections since it is so large. Sign up sheets, by dates, have been posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. It is available so reservations can be made for any day of the week during the grass cutting season to cut and trim the grass, sidewalks and shrubbery.

Two John Deere riding mowers, a push mower, edger, weed eater, electric hedge trimmers, and other lawn related tools are available to assist in maintaining our church yard. If 5 or more volunteers are working together these tasks should not take more than 2 hours to complete.

If possible, please join these dedicated Christians at 8:00 AM each Thursday during the grass cutting months. Coffee and good fellowship is always in abundance on these days. However, these tasks may be carried out anytime on any day that you are available. Please look over the sign up sheets and find a time and day that best works for you. Take pride in your church yard just as you would your personal home yard.

Weekend of Compassion ~ April 11-13, 2008 Nashville, Tennessee

WeekEnd of Compassion will be a forum for exchanging ideas, empowering each other and inspiring the church. Together, we will celebrate ways Week of Compassion is a catalyst for changing the lives of so many who suffer in the world as well as the lives of those who give. We will explore outreach possibilities across our denomination and revitalize our commitment to mission in the world.

Lay leaders, clergy, youth and seminarians are doing **amazing things** to lift up the mission of Week of Compassion, but rarely get the opportunity to share those creative ideas with others! Please join us in Nashville for a Weekend of dynamic workshops, Bible study, lay-leadership development, storytelling, and innovative worship.

Rev. Brown and Kitty Baker are planning to attend this inspirational weekend. Please pray for them during this weekend.

PASTORAL RELATIONS

Greetings from the Pastoral Relations Committee!

Over the past two months, we have worked on developing goals for our committee in conjunction with Rev. Brown. Of course, our primary focus is to support both the minister and the congregation as we go forward with West Side's Vision Plan. This is a very exciting time in the life of West Side and we want to do everything that we can to support the progress that is being made by so many individuals and groups within the church and actually get involved as the Action Plans unfold at West Side. We are also brainstorming some ideas to support our minister in both his spiritual and personal growth. So, once again, if there is anything you would like to make the committee aware of, either a concern or a recommendation, you can come to us. Below you will find our contact information. Our ears, our minds and our hearts are open to you.

Love in Christ,

Fran Gray Flgrayrn@aol.com 488-7918

Allen Wallace awallace10@cox.net 484-2911

Pam Gibbs pamelagibbs@cox.net 488-4511

~Lectionary Readings for April 2008~

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
April 6th:	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35
April 13th:	Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10
April 20th:	Acts 7:55-90 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14
April 27th:	Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21

Thank You

Dear West Side Family,

We feel so humbled and undeserving of all the love, support, cards, calls, visits and especially your prayers. Never question if your prayers are heard or answered. We believe we have seen evidence that they are both heard and answered. The miracles and unexplained happenstances that took place leading up to, during and after Dick's surgery, we believe, were the result of the many, many prayers lifted up in his behalf.

We are truly blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring church family. We will be forever grateful.

May God Bless Each One of You,

The Cornwell Family

* * * * *

Christian Education would like to say a big thank you to Kelly Terry and Cheryl Jarvis and all those who helped them with this year's Easter egg hunt. The event was well attended and the kids had a blast. Thank you all!!!!

Pam Brown & Kim Powell

Christian Education Co-Chairs

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Doug Tatum	Myrtle Henderson
Carl Loving	Dennis White
Debbie Tibbits	Lorraine Shea
Paul Parker	Bobby Beal
Joe Diggs	Wilma Ingram
Dick Cornwell	Hasting Family
Dawn Price	Jimmy Bracy
Debbie Johnson	Marlene Whitehurst
Betty McCrickard	Ann Hall
Gray Family	Mark Warren
Maureen Powers	Dickie Hayes
Kristin & Anthony	Brenda Lohse
Williams	Herschel Carter
Dawn Weiss	Ron Riffle
Cavanaugh Family	Matthew Davis
Branch Family	Michael & Jessica Gates
Esther Daniel	Wilda Dyer
Sarah Crawford	Christine Bradley
Bobby Ryder	Sandy Phillips
Tara Weinmann	Phillips Family
Masil Jones	Ben Adderholdt
	Joseph Irwin

SHUT - INS

Ruth Blackman	Sylvia Dickens
Rev. Glenn Weaver	Sandy Cotton
Dennis Davenport	Roland Thornton
Al Hemby	

DIACONATE SERVING APRIL

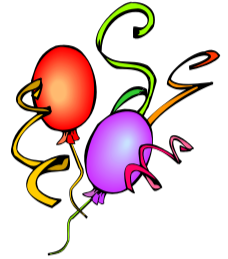
April 6th	William Brown, Jr. Kristen Brown Courtney Brown Pam Brown
April 13th & 20th	Brendon McNelis Wendy McNelis Erin Ripley Brooke Lowman
April 27th	Nina Milam Karen Hartzog Allison Nutting Dudley DeStefano

Ministry Fair

**Come Celebrate !
Food, Gifts and Fellowship**



*West Side Christian Church
May 4, 2008*



It's time to celebrate our gift assessments and bring our gifts into reality. This is your chance to see all of the ministries of our church and to talk with one another about how we can put our gifts to work. Church leaders will be there to answer any questions you may have and for you to share any ideas you have to use your gifts to the glory of God. Stephanie McLemore the Regional Representative, will be here to share in our celebration. This is what all the hard work has been about. Discerning how God has called us, as brothers and sisters in Christ, to be the hands and feet of the Body of Christ.

Rosemary Lahy
Transition Team



Christian Education

Did you know that Craig Springs camps begin June 9th and continue through August 11th? Where will you fit in? Plan to attend our Camp Expo in April! This will be for anyone in our church, young, old, tall or short. Ones with musical abilities, ones who are not -but it's for YOU! Time, place and dates will be announced in upcoming bulletins.

Come find out about what the Christian Church in VA has for you at Craig Springs!

May 26-30 Mission & Ministry Week

July 13-18 CHI-RHO Conference (Grades 6-8)

June 9-13 GAP Conference

July 20-25 CYF Conference

June 15-20 Nature Camp

July 27-Aug 1 Triple Omega

June 22-27 MADD

Aug 3-8 New Covenant (Grades 2-5)

June 29-July 4 Special Camp for Special People

Aug 8-11 Beginner's Retreat

July 6-11 Tripe Alpha (Grades 4-12)

www.ccinva.org/craigsprings or www.ccinva.org

Edna Shearin Scholarship



Every year since its inception, the Edna Shearin Scholarship Fund has awarded a modest scholarship to those members of West Side who are pursuing post high school education. It is our fondest hope that every member who applies will be granted an award. If you are interested in applying for this scholarship, come by the church office to pick up an application or see one of the Christian Education Co-chairs, Kim Powell or Pam Brown

**The deadline for application
submission is
Thursday, May 1, 2008**

**No late applications will be
accepted.**



Calling All Grads!

If you will be graduating this year from high school, college, nursing school, etc., Christian Education wants to hear from you. We will be having our annual Graduation Sunday on June 1st. This service is dedicated to all our graduates and each of you will be honored. We will have a Sunday Luncheon in your honor as well. Even if you can not be present on that Sunday, we still want to honor you.

Please contact Pam Brown (465-0612) or Kim Powell (465-8779), if you are interested. We will let you know what information we need from you. We are planning on a pretty large group this year. I know we have at least 1 college grad and at least 5 high school grads.

Vacation Bible School

Director or Co-Directors Needed

Summer will be here before we know it. Christian Education is desperately in need of a Director or Co-Directors or even a group of individuals to take on the task of holding a VBS program this year. This is a wonderful service that we have always offered in the past. Our past programs have been well attended and have been a blessing to all that helped out and to all that have attended. If you would please take a moment to pray and see if one of your spiritual gifts could be put to use for this program, we would be grateful. We have programs during the day and evening. Usually the day program is better attended. VBS is a very important part of the Christian journey for our younger folks. Please pray on this issue and let Pam or Kim know if you are interested in helping out in any

WELCOME



TO OUR CONGREGATION

**Louise Twine
314 Leonard Road
Portsmouth, VA 23701**

Reminders

WSSC YOUTH

CHI-RHO MEETING DATES

April 13th @ 3:45 PM

April 27th @ 3:45 PM

SERVING LUNCH AT OASIS

Thursday, April 24th

We plan to leave at 9:30 a.m.

A sign up sheet will be posted in the foyer.



- **Administrative Cabinet:**
Sunday, April 6th @ 1:00 PM
- **Transition Team:**
Tuesday, April 8th @ 6:00 PM
- **Pastoral Relations:**
Tuesday, April 15th @ 6:00 PM
- **Official Board:**
Tuesday, April 15th @ 7:00 PM
- **Elders:**
No April Meeting
- **Spiritual Gifts Workshop:**
Sunday, April 20th @ 12:30 PM
- **Transition Team:**
Tuesday, April 22nd @ 6:30 PM

Newsletter Deadline

Monday, April 21st

Life Line
Life Line

Life Line Health Screening
Is scheduled to be at West Side

Friday, May 2, 2008

Fellowship Center

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Further details can be obtained

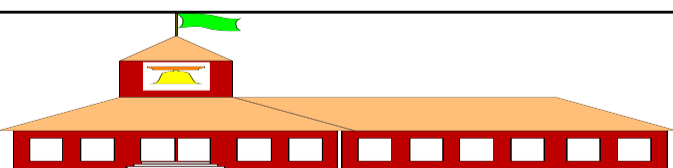
by contacting

Mary Peris

Parish Nurse

April Birthday's

- 1st: Barbara Powell
- 5th: George Pyles
Nathan Brown
- 6th: Brian Hayes
- 7th: Sam Wiseman
- 8th: Allison Nutting
- 14th: Lois Pyles
- 16th: Shannon Stidham
- 17th: Debra Trevino
Brooke Kays
- 18th: Stephen Henderson
- 19th: Jerry Thornton, Jr.
- 20th: Kelly Wallace
- 21st: Nina Milam
- 25th: Brenda Hayth
- 26th: Brooke Lowman



Registration for the 2008-09

Kindergarten & Preschool

has begun.

**See Carrie Kelly or Donna Nutting
for details.**