

WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

535 Cherokee Road
Portsmouth, Virginia 23701
www.westsideccdoc.org

**ADDRESS SERVICE
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The West Side Staff

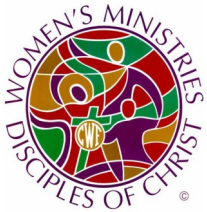
Rev. Cyd Cowgill, Senior Minister

Claudia Moorad, Music Director

Trish Barker, Office Manager

Joe Diggs, Custodial Services

January 2012



Community Prayer Box

(Located near the entrance to the Kitchen)

Drop your needs in here and we will pray for them.

**while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer
and to serving the word?
Acts 6:4 NRSV**



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.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

JANUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 HOLY NAME SUNDAY New Year's Day No Chi-Rho	2 1:00 PM DWF Sarah Office Closed - New Year's Day Observance	3 7:00 PM Administrative Cabinet	4 10:00 AM DWF (Lydia & Rebekah) 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM Choir	5 6:00 PM CYF	6	7 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Kitchen Reserved - DWF 10:00 AM Undecorate Church
8 12:00 PM DWF Soup & Salad Lunch 4:30 PM JYF & Chi-Rho	9 11:00 AM Preschool Chapel	10 7:00 PM Official Board	11 9:00 AM -3:00 PM DWF Prayer Vigil (Sanctuary) 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM Choir	12 6:00 PM CYF 7:00 PM -9:00 PM HPB CLass (Sanctuary)	13	14 8:00 AM FC Reserved (DMF Breakfast)
15 4:30 PM JYF & Chi-Rho	16 Office Closed - MLK Holiday	17 7:00 PM Elders Newsletter Deadline!!	18 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM Choir	19 10:00 AM Oasis 6:00 PM CYF 7:00 PM -9:00 PM HPB CLass (Sanctuary)	20	21
22 4:30 PM JYF & Chi-Rho	23 11:00 AM Preschool Chapel	24 6:30 PM Pot Luck Supper	25 9:00 AM FC & Sanctuary Reserved (Ports. Music Club) 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM Choir	26 6:00 PM CYF 7:00 PM -9:00 PM HPB CLass (Sanctuary)	27	28
29 4:30 PM JYF & Chi-Rho	30	31	SUNDAYS SCHEDULE: 9:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:45 AM Church School 11:00 AM Worship Hour			



The West Side Story

VOLUME 43
NUMBER 1

JANUARY
2012

From the Pastor



It's the morning after, and I still have not come down from my *Twas the Night Before*:
A Christmas Musical high! (Today is December 12!)

The "play," as it's been lovingly referred to around here for weeks, was one of the best, most inspiring, most fun Christmas performances I've ever seen (and I'm not the only one saying so). The large group of performers – adults, children and youth – and the packed Sanctuary and Fellowship Center all told me that Christmas has come to West Side.

And what is Christmas but God-With-Us? The Spirit of God as it descends and is born in us. What a gift to receive! And what a gift to take with us into a new year!

I'm counting West Side's blessings as we go into 2012. There is so much here to celebrate. There's so much here to extend and build on.

I see ministry happening among our people as they form relationships with each through events and activities. I see relationships being formed in the community through the Oasis and Hope House ministries, and our budding new food ministry, Good Faith Food. I'm envisioning what is now possible in our Sanctuary, thanks to our fabulous new screen, and the equally fabulous Technology Team that is making it look so good each week.

Here's the thing about a new year: God is already there, waiting for us to arrive. I love the discipline of New Year's resolutions and goal-setting, planning sessions and list making. Those activities focus us; they help us look squarely on what it is we believe we want. What is also important for us to know is that our God is present, and is holding us through all tasks, through all the seasons of our lives. Knowing that we are going forward into God helps us begin a new year with hope and faith.

My prayer is that God will be your walking partner as you travel the road of 2012. I hope that you will learn new things about yourself and the God who loves you. And I pray that West Side will continue to serve as a Sanctuary for this community by providing consistent welcome and blessing.

From West Side's house to yours, Happy New Year!

Glad to be your pastor,
Cyd

And the Lord added.....

West Side welcomes into membership:

Kaitlyn McNelis

Kaitlyn will be baptized in January.

Disciple Men

Disciple Men will hold their monthly prayer breakfast
Saturday, January 14, 2012
at 8:00 AM

Our guest speaker will be:

Fred Fritts

He will share with us the adventures of his
recent trip to Israel

Please make your breakfast reservation no later
than Wednesday, January 11th.

All are Welcome to attend.



Bread

Ministry

West Side is beginning a new bread ministry this month. Home made bread in fabric bags will be given to each visiting family at the end of the worship service. Nancy Fritts is the coordinator for this ministry and there are West Siders that have agreed to help with this ministry. If you would like to be a part of this, please contact Nancy Fritts.

The History, Policy and Beliefs of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

A Six-week Study Course

lead by

Dr. Paul R. Parker, EDD

Thursdays at West Side

beginning January 12th, 7pm

Registration forms are available on the Foyer tables.

The cost of the course is \$30.

(\$5 per person/per session)

PLUS

CD Study Packets \$5./person

Please mail registration form along with payment

directly to

Dr. Paul R. Parker, EDD

Virginia Beach Christian Church

2225 Rose Hall Drive

Virginia Beach, VA 23454

275-266-1017

paulparker642@yahoo.com

We hope to see many participants from West Side attend..

DISCIPLES WOMEN Fellowship



Soup and Salad First Sunday Lunch January 8, 2012

Sponsored By Disciple Women

Please sign up on sheet in gathering area.



Disciple Women General Meeting
Saturday January 14, 2012 at 11a.m.

Board will meet at 10:30.

Sarah Circle will host.

All women are welcome.



BROWN BAG



Disciple Women will be collecting food during the month of January for those in need. Please pick up a bag and suggestion list in the back of the church and return it filled by Jan-

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

January 31st

January 11, 2012

Prayer Vigil 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Sponsored By Disciple Women

The Sanctuary will be open for prayer.
Informational Material will be available.

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



January 17

SERVING AT OASIS

January
19th

10:00 a.m.

Sign up to





PRAYER LIST

Church Members

Margaret Poole, Eddrie Bradley,
Barbara Nelson, Darryl Phelps, Mary Wyatt,
Marleen Whitehurst

Family & Friends

Dolores Hedgepeth, Nancy Redburn, Amber Rank,
Donna Wharam, Alfred Gray, Jon Brillhart,
Zac Allen, Glennard French,
Rev. Rita Cargill-Brown, Taylor Duke,
Maureen Powers, Sharon McCrickard,
Ruth Ann Gonsalves, Tim Brown, Jordan Lahy,
Gary Reeves, Ida Diggs, Pete Mundy,
Pauline Moseberth, Martha Whitlow,
Brenda Lewis

SHUT INS

Myrtle Henderson, Ruth Blackman,
Catherine Buchanan

Lectionary Readings

January 2012

January 1st:	Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40
January 8th:	Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11
January 15th:	1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20) Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51
January 22nd:	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20
January 29th:	Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 111 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28



Dear West Side Family,

On behalf of the Pyles family, we would like to thank everyone for their love, prayers, phone calls, visits, and support during the recent loss of our mother/grandmother. My mother loved her West Side family and especially her Sunday school class. Thank you for the delicious meal that was prepared for our family and friends, but most of all, thank you for being there for us!

Our love to all,

George & Family

Janet & Family



Memorial Gifts

December 2011

In memory of Freda Pyles, given by
Nedra Lynn Grubel
Ken & Doris Harlan



January Birthdays

1st:	Pam Brown
2nd:	Jamey Corbett
3rd:	Steve Gray
7th:	Kitty Buchanan
8th:	Maud Hemby Zach Lowman
9th:	Chris Terry
14th:	Jimmy Powell
15th:	Michael Phillips
16th:	Shanna Trevino
17th:	Millicent Wise
19th:	Dick Cornwell Ruby Fulcher Stephen Milam Kayleigh McNelis
27th:	Braeden Terry
28th:	Betty Lou Fox
30th:	Wallace Williams Sharon Trevino
31st:	Roy Cherry Michael Stidham,

III



A huge thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Musical. A lot of people stepped out of their comfort zone to sing in front of an audience and it was appreciated.

A special thanks to Claudia Moorad for music, Anne Berk for costumes, and Kim Powell for the reception.

Happy New Year,

Donna Nutting and Marla Terry



The church office will be closed on Monday, January 16th in observance of the Martin Luther King Holiday.

MARY'S WELLNESS CORNER

"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." Proverbs 16:9

As we face the New Year with all of our goals and aspirations, as well as our uncertainties and fears, we can take comfort in knowing that the ultimate guide of all guides, Jesus Christ is always right beside us. We make our plans, but he directs our steps. Even if the path turns rough and dangerous we have nothing to fear because our loving Lord is right beside us. We can trust in him to bring us safely through to our destination.

Please be our guide and companion in the year ahead. Help us to trust in You completely as You direct our steps. In Your name we pray name. AMEN

Deaconess Jeanne Dicke,
Parish Ministry Consultant — Minn., Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services

Your love, God, is my song, and I'll sing it! I'm forever telling everyone how faithful you are. I'll never quit telling the story of your love . . .
(Psalm 89:1-2 The Message)

The Epiphany

"The visit of the wise men is celebrated in many places on January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany. Epiphany, for Western Christians, celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, the Wise Men. "Epiphany" also means "a sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something."

For Mary, perhaps the realization that these foreign dignitaries had traveled and searched for months, maybe even years, to come and worship her child as king of the Jews, was an epiphany for her - a sudden perception into the reality of her child. Even these foreigners, these Gentiles, recognized him. After the newness of it all had worn off, after the shepherds and angels were only memories, these men from a distant land showed up. They rejoiced that they had found the family, declared her child the Christ, worshiped him and left very expensive gifts. After the dust settled, Mary was left again to ponder and perhaps to realize anew exactly who it was she was holding in her arms."

Amy Derrick Credo

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die. Ecclesiastes 3:1

Mary W. Peris, Parish Nurse



Stewardship Resolutions

January is the time for resolutions. Most of us resolve to do something to improve ourselves. We resolve to exercise more, read the bible more, or loose weight. Let's do something different for 2012.

Let's resolve to practice stewardship of time and talent, and let's bless and be thankful for all those who give generously of their time and talents

When you gaze upon the screen during worship, take a minute to appreciate the time and talents used to choose the screen and projection system. Look to the back of the church to the small room that has been created to house the video and sound systems. Realize that every Sunday, some one is working the all the equipment. When you look at the screen, the words and images you see on the screen have been created by a group of volunteers. When you look upon the screen and realize the time and talents that have brought all of this to us, take time to say a prayer of thanksgiving for this gift.

Resolve to appreciate and bless all those stewards who give their time and talents to us. When you take communion, be thankful for the baker of the bread, the preparer of the communion trays, and the stewards that serve communion to us. Bless the Sunday school teachers, the worship and wonder team, the nursery attendants, the choir, the elders, the cooks in our kitchen, the chairman of the board, the team leaders, the property workers, the nurses, the food ministry people, the volunteers to Oasis, and the department head stewards who do the administration of church affairs.

Appreciate the gifts our minister, choir director, secretary, and custodian bring to our church. They all give above and beyond what we ask.

Resolve in 2012, to appreciate and bless those that use their time and talents for us. Resolve to be involved with God's church.

Karen Hartzog