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"Loving God, Loving People, Serving The World In The Name Of Jesus"

A Monthly News Publication For Members And Friends

Choosing God

By Rev. Ralph Kieneker

A lot is happening in the life of West Side right now. We are an active community, involved locally and globally. We are making changes, construction is under way, and bigger construction ideas are on the way. The activity is a sign of life, but this activity can also get in the way of life.

I am truly excited about what's happening in the church right now, but I am also concerned that we keep focused on what is most important—deepening and encouraging our relationship with God.

As I write this, I am at a Discovery conference that seeks to help long-time believers move deeper in their relationship with God. They share a theme that I experience as common in our American context. The church has done well in helping people who are new in their faith, but we struggle to help one another to experience deep intimacy with God.

Talk of our relationship with God, when it actually happens, tends to mean, "What are you doing?" If someone actually asks us to talk about how are we "being" with God, we struggle for words.

But the source and focus of Jesus' life was the relationship He nurtured with His Father. "I can do nothing on my own...I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me" (John 5:30). His doing things for His Father flowed out of His being with the Father. This is what I want to share with each of you. Pursue your relationship with God; don't get so caught up in trying to do things for God, but let what you do flow out of the relationship. If you are asking the question, "How?", then this is the next step for you. Put this at the top of your "To Do" list, explore and be willing to ask help from others in how to deepen this relationship. If you are saying, "But, I don't have time, because of what I am doing for the Lord" then talk with a pastor, elder, or ministry leader.

Wherever you are in your relationship with God, there is room to go deeper. Let this always be your first priority: choosing God. It is sometimes humbling to realize that God doesn't really need us. But it is even more inspiring to know that God loves us for who we are, not for what we can do for Him.

Blessings in Christ, Ralph

FEB
2011



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www.westside1.org

West Side Staff

- Rev. Ralph Kieneker :: Lead Pastor
- Rev. Dan Wodrich :: Assoc. Pastor
- Rev. Faye Serene :: Assoc. Pastor
- Rev. Stuart Strachan :: Assoc. Pastor- Youth & Family Ministries
- Rev. Karel Coppock :: Alpha Ministries, Presbytery
- John Lipp :: Lay Minister- Pastoral Care
- Heather Smith :: Director-Children & Family Ministries
- Colleen Strachan :: Ministry Assoc.- Children & Family Ministries
- Brenda Welsch :: Director-Adult Choir
- Brad Goecke :: Interim Leader- Worship Team
- Sharon Isaacson :: Financial Specialist
- Diane Pratt :: Financial Assistant
- Pat Cassidy :: Administrative Assistant
- Wendy Puz :: Administrative Assistant
- Colette Root :: General Ministry
- Kiet & Ngan Dang :: Custodians
- Izudin Porobic :: WSAC Custodian

West Side Church
615 Wright Ave, Richland, WA 99352
509.946.4656 www.westside1.org



Annual Congregational Meeting

Sun., Jan. 30, 12:30 pm (following the 11:15 service), WSS

Agenda: Approve Elders and Deacons, Presentation of Budget, Terms of Call, Special: For a a Called Position for Children & Family Pastor

Want to receive our newsletter via email?
Contact us at info@westside1.org or call the Church Office.

50 Years Of Trainees!



This summer marks 50 years since the start of the Trainee Ministry at West Side Church. To celebrate, we are hosting a reunion Aug. 6-7, 2011, for all the past Summer Staffers/Trainees and Committee members. If you are, or know anyone who has been, a Trainee or on the Trainee Committee, please let them know about the reunion. Also, if you have any contact information for a former Trainee or Trainee

Committee member, please email it to Rebecca Datin (rdatin@yahoo.com) or give it to Pat Cassidy in the Church Office. Thanks for your help!

Parent Connection - An Opportunity For Young Families



By Heather Smith

Parent Connection is a group for moms and dads of young children, ages infant through kindergarten. We will continue meeting on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 9:15-11:15 am in February. Tues., Feb. 1, is our monthly playgroup. This is a fun time for parents to meet other parents from West Side Church, West Side Preschool and from the community. Parents will stay near their children while they do a Valentine Painting art project and play.



of fellowship.

Please bring a nut-free snack for your child(ren). Tues., Feb. 15, is our enrichment panel discussion on the topic, "Daily Quiet Time with God: Is it possible with young children afoot?" We will have a chance to hear from mothers and learn from their experiences and wisdom. Childcare will be provided. We hope you'll join us for these fun times



UPCOMING EVENTS
DON'T MISS OUT

Tues., Feb. 1-Playgroup (WS North)
Come and make a Valentine with your child!

Sun., Feb. 6-Souper Bowl of Caring Collection
Have your children bring their cans to Sunday School.

Sun., Feb. 13-Pie in the Face (Souper Bowl)
Your child will not want to miss Sunday School to discover what leader will be "pied."

Tues., Feb. 15-Parent Enrichment (WS North)
Come and listen to a panel of mothers share on "Daily Quiet Time with God: Is it possible with young children afoot?"

Wed., Feb. 16-Faith at Home Forum (WS North)
Come and share your ideas for Faith at Home (during BASIC).

Sun., Feb. 20-Faith at Home Forum (WS North)
Come and share your ideas for Faith at Home.

Faith at Home - Make Your Voice Known

By Heather Smith

West Side parents, we want to hear what your Faith at Home needs are for you and your family. Do you desire to know more about when to baptize your child, more resources for Bible reading at home, or how to have your child grow in generosity? These are just a few examples of needs that we have heard. *What are yours?* Whatever your desires and needs are, we want to hear from you so that your voice can help shape the Faith at Home Events and Resources for 2011 and beyond. There are two different ways to contribute your voice. First, in February, you will receive a

Faith at Home survey by mail or email. Please complete and return your survey to Youth, CFM, or Pastor Dan. Second, we will have two opportunities to meet in February to get your feedback and brainstorm ideas in person. Meet us on Wed, Feb 16, from 6:30-8:30 pm (during Basic) or Sun, Feb 20, from 11:15 am-12:30 pm (during our 3rd Worship Service). Choose which one works best for your schedule. Childcare will be available Sunday morning.



Clerk Of Session Report - Dec 2010/Jan 2011

By Ken Swinth

The past months have been a busy time for Session. Originally scheduled for the end of November, that session meeting was delayed until Dec. 7 due to weather. This was followed by a session meeting on Dec. 16 to complete items from the Dec. 7 meeting. In January we had a Session meeting to deal with the budget on Jan. 13 and the regular meeting on Jan. 18. Several items of importance were dealt with.

Session approved sponsorship of Cub Scout Pack 299. This is a functional Cub Pack, but did not have sponsorship or a location for meetings. West Side had one in the past (Pack 237) which dissolved due to lack of interest. Session approved a sabbatical for Rev. Faye Serene at her request. Her four-month sabbatical will be Feb. 8 - Jun. 6. Faye had originally planned it for after her college work was complete, but with the mounting pressures of school felt it would be wise to take it at this earlier time. In January, as part of her counseling education, she will be starting an internship that will continue through the summer. On top of that, in April she will be facing written and verbal comprehensive exams, the National Counseling Exam, as well as regular classes.

Session approved the worship schedule for the coming year and learned that the two candidates recently interviewed at West Side for worship director turned us down. The search for a qualified candidate continues. The church was approached by Marcus Whitman to resume tutoring at West Side after review of test scores showed the positive impact of our efforts (praise the Lord). Session approved the resumption.

Session discussed making the Children's and Families Ministry Directorship, presently occupied by Heather Smith, an ordained position. We expect Heather to continue in this position. It was felt that this would be appropriate and it was moved and passed to bring this before the Congregation for approval at the annual Congregational meeting. After discussion of schedules and conflicts, it was voted to have the Congregational meeting Sun., Jan. 30 following the three services.

The sale of West Side Activity Center to Gather4Him is moving forward with a closing date set for Feb. 28. The delayed closing date has taken some of the pressure off the kitchen upgrade project. Bids were received on the kitchen remodel for West Side. They came in higher than originally anticipated, and Session requested that additional bids be sought on some items; particularly the heating, ventilation and air conditioning bid. This was done at the 12/07 meeting and discussed again at the 12/16 meeting. The information was presented by Paul Dotson (12/16 meeting) on behalf of the Construction Project Team formed at the 12/07 meeting to follow the construction activities. The bids

were felt to be reasonable based on the kitchen needs. Paul also explained the bid process being used: the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) contract. Session moved to recognize their intention to hire Bouten Construction as the general contractor for the kitchen work, but did not approve start of the project pending a financial review. Session also decided to provide the Congregation with a list of items needed for the kitchen and thus help defray costs from the overall budget. Following review of the budget at the 1/13 meeting, the Session decided to step forward in faith and approve the start of the kitchen remodel project. This will require use of operational funds until they can be replaced by sale of the Center or the house at 606 Wright since costs exceed monies that can be used for construction that are presently available in the budget.

We were pleased that we ended the year adding about \$4,000 to our reserves as opposed to depleting them as we had expected. Session praised the Lord in prayer for His faithfulness. The budget did not provide any cost of living adjustments this year, but did provide salary adjustments for some staff members. Session tried to be sensitive to the present state of the economy in making these decisions. More details on the budget will be available at the annual Congregational meeting.

Session heard a proposal for the 2011 deputation trip to Urban Promises Ministries in Camden, NJ. After learning that this best fit the needs for a deputation trip and being assured that it could be conducted safely, Session approved moving forward with the trip. Several other items of business were conducted: thanking the Deacons (and Congregation) for the blessing of the food baskets, planning to again participate in Tri Cities "Sharefest," planning for a Session retreat, etc.

The refresh project was a continual topic of discussion. One of the undertakings was to update some of the WS2000 plans which would have West Side remain at the present location. The architect provided a design for a 600-seat sanctuary that could be placed on the present property. It turned out to be a blessing that present plans for the refresh activities are fully compatible with a new church at the present location. Architect plans for the WSN refresh are complete, but interior modeling and decorating plans are needed. Session approved spending money to get such plans completed by someone familiar with church needs and to develop a model for presentation to the Congregation. We are also obtaining bids for a phased approach to the "refresh" project; realizing it might not be possible to complete the project within available monies. Session wants to move forward with a presentation to the Congregation as soon as possible to allow everyone to share in the excitement of the planned changes and to participate in the process.



McIntosh Memorial Library

Take a little walk . . .

to West Side North and check out the library in its interim location in Room 2-4. It's very quiet in WSN these days, with the Koinonia Kafe closed during kitchen remodeling, but the library is alive and well, just around the corner from its former home. Recent new titles include:

The Ten Commandments for Little Ones, Allia Zobel Nolan

A Place of Healing: Wrestling with the Mysteries of Suffering, Pain and God's Sovereignty,

Joni Eareckson Tada

Choosing to SEE: A Journey of Struggle and Hope,

Mary Beth Chapman

Unshaken: Rising from the Ruins of Haiti's Hotel

Montana, Dan Wooley

Jesus, In His Own Words, Robert Mounce

Family-Based Youth Ministry, Mark DeVries

Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God,

Francis Chan

The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask,

Mark Mittelberg and Lee Strobel

"Madame Blueberry," a classic VeggieTales DVD.

The library is open when Room 2-4 is not being used by other groups and classes. [Closed Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 am, but open before and after that.] Self-check stations are always available.

We welcome your library comments and suggestions. Please talk to Pam Cadd or Susan Carbaugh, or email Library@WestSide1.org.

FYI: Updates

By Rev. Ralph Kieneker

Sale of West Side Activity Center. The Center is in escrow with a local title company. Gather4Him Ministries continues to make progress in their process of receiving a grant from the Murdoch Trust. At this point, we are hoping that the sale will be finished by the end of February..

Kitchen Project. The Kitchen project is moving forward. Even while we await the money from the sale of the Center, the Session identified sufficient and appropriate funds to cover the 163k project. Congregational members contributed over 16k in December towards the kitchen which helped the Session make the decision to begin the project. Bouten Construction has asked that the roof issues be dealt with first, so that the Kitchen project will be finished and not complicated by the leaks in the flat roof.

Leaking Roof. As the Refresh project has been looking at different options of the building, we have waited until conceptual plans were finalized before address-

ing the long-term solution to the leaking roof in the Narthex. While some ideas of addressing the leaking roof were very costly, we have received one bid of 15k and are awaiting two more in the coming week. This is good news. We are also addressing the replacement of roof tiles on the peaked portions of the roof that have lead to other leaks.

Refresh Project. We have hired Meier Engineering and Design to help CFM and Preschool develop their classroom space. The goal is that we improve the multi-purpose functionality of spaces shared by those two ministries. Meier has started to gather information to help with the design. Because this is such a significant part of the project, this is a necessary step in projecting the cost as well as being prepared to seek bids for this project. As we will share in the Jan. 30 Annual Meeting, we are planning the first of a series of informational meetings to share the Refresh ideas in February.



On Sun., Feb. 6, 140 million Americans will tune in to watch the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship, and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm and finding shelter and a warm meal. West Side youth and children will be collecting food donations for 2nd Harvest for the SOUPER Bowl of Caring through Feb. 6. **Adults, drop a can of soup in the large bins in each narthex. Youth and children can donate during Sunday School, Fuel, or Basic.** It's a simple yet significant act of love for our neighbors. Nationwide, 1,567 pounds of food have already been collected by Souper Bowl of Caring participants for local charities. Let's add to the total! On Feb. 13, the group who has donated the most (children, youth, or adults) will have a chance to "pie" the ministry leader they choose. Watch out, pastors!



Camp Ghormley: Mark your calendars NOW!

Primary (gr. 2-4) July 10-13

Mid-High (gr. 6-9)

July 17-23

Junior (gr. 5-6) July 24-28

High School (gr. 9-12) June 26-July 2

Tutoring Program Reinstated

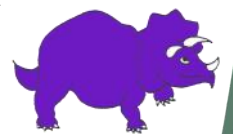
Session has approved the reinstatement of the West Side Tutoring Program. Preparations are underway to have the program up and running on Feb. 15 (there will be an orientation meeting prior to the first tutoring day). Both returning and new volunteers have stepped forward to provide a caring environment in which to assist the Marcus Whitman children in improving their reading skills. The program will take place Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:30-8:30 am. Approximately 40 minutes of tutoring will be followed by breakfast, a story, and a chaperoned walk to Marcus Whitman to start the official school day. It is uncertain how many children we will be serving for the remainder of the school year. Please be in prayer that the Lord will guide as we continue to make the preparations for the commencement of the program, as children are selected to participate, volunteers are



called to serve, and both are matched for the tutoring experience itself. If you have not volunteered, but would like to, contact Sue Hinkle, Phyllis Goecke, or Phyllis Strickler.

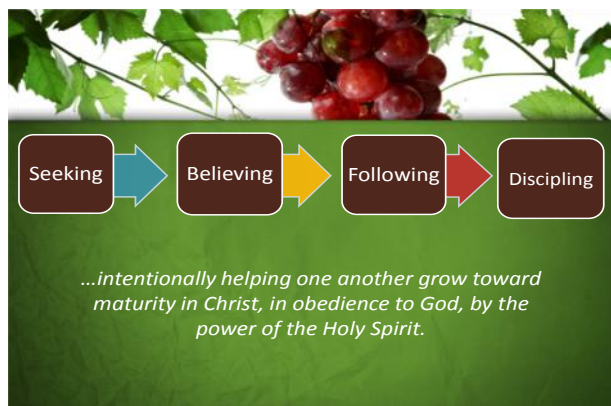
West Side Preschool

Fall 2011 Registration. West Side Preschool will begin registration for the 2011-2012 school year on **Mon., Feb. 28.** Families currently enrolled in the preschool program and/or families with children presently involved at West Side Church may register on that date. Registration will begin at 9:00 am in WS North Fellowship Hall. Doors to the preschool will open at 7:00 am. You may pick up a number at that time and return at 9:00 am to complete registration. Children who turn 2, 3, or 4 on or before Aug. 31, 2011, are eligible to enroll. Morning Pre-K classes usually fill quickly. Public registration will begin the following Mon., Mar. 7, at 9:00 am. Questions - call the Preschool Office (946.4656).



Adult Christian Growth & Discipleship Opportunities - Winter/Spring 2011

(brochures available at the Welcome Stations in each building)



SUNDAY MORNING ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

February 6 thru May 22

9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Knowing Your God — The Doctrine of God in the Pentateuch

Facilitators: Gene Carbaugh, Ashley Case, Jim Morris
WSN Room 18-20
Our knowledge of God lies at the foundation of all faith and right living. The first five books of the Old Testament (the Pentateuch) are where God first revealed himself to man and concentrate on the attributes and character of God that are fundamental to understanding everything else taught in the Bible. Join us as we explore a different and exciting characteristic of God each week.

A Woman's Heart: God's Dwelling Place (Women of the Word)

Facilitators: Diane Pratt, Bertha Rachinski, Marian Holm
WSN Room 2-4
Join us for the latest Beth Moore Bible study. "Perhaps no Old Testament event so dramatically illustrates God's persistent desire to relate to His children as the building of the tabernacle in the wilderness. Through the tabernacle, God initiated a deeper relationship with His Chosen People by bringing reconciliation and revealing His glory. And certainly, no Old Testament event so richly prefigures the coming of the true Tabernacle, Jesus Christ. You will be challenged to prepare your heart, like the holy of holies, to become a home for His love and glory — a dwelling place for the Most High God." Watch for information on new topic in March.

Conversing with a Great Cloud of Witnesses

Facilitator: Rev. Dan Wodrich, Marty Evans, Melanie Saint James
WSS Upper Room
This class will introduce and engage you with present-day Christian seminary and university professors and pastor-teachers via a unique video-series format. Each week, we will watch a half-hour interview with one of these witnesses, who will share their wisdom and in-sight on various topics relevant to Christian faith, theology, and living. During the second half-hour, we will discuss what we've heard, wrestle with questions that arise, and consider implications for our everyday living in the world.

Interviewees will include: Dr. Alan Torrance, Professor of Systematic Theology at University of St. Andrews, Scotland; Dr. Elmer Colyer, Professor of Historical Theology at University of Dubuque Theological Seminary; Dr. Gary Deddo, Senior Editor of Academic Publications at InterVarsity Press; Dr. C. Baxter Kruger, Founder and Director of Perichoresis Ministries, Jackson, MS; Dr. Gerrit Scott Dawson, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Baton Rouge, LA; Dr. Cherith Fee Nordling, Antioch Leadership Network, Grand Rapids, MI; Dr. Christian Kettler, Professor of Religion at Friends University, Kansas; Dr. Trevor Hart, Professor of Divinity at University of St. Andrews, Scotland; et al.

Get Acquainted Place (GAP)

Facilitators: Fred & Pat Reich, Roger & Carol Johnson
WSS Upstairs Room 302 (Green Carpet Room)
The "GAP" is for those seeking Christian fellowship and growth in their faith in Christ. The GAP has been described as "being our family, like a small group but more like a special family." Another says, "I look forward to GAP every Sunday. I've made the discovery I can't go without seeing and being with my family. This is my support. This is my Family". We share what the Bible says about relationships, God, and what that can mean if we are empowered with the Holy Spirit. We use Bible based book studies with different themes changing quarterly. GAP is open to all.

11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

CrossCurrents: Post High School/College/Young Career Food & Fellowship

Facilitators: Rev. Dan Wodrich, Dale & Roz Rodgers, Marty & Amy Evans
WSS Upper Room
Come enjoy some food for body and soul. Come to connect with others and experience what it means to belong to the body of Christ together. Come to get to know and be known. Come to discern with others how God has called you by name, for a purpose. Come to pray with and for one another and others. Come to worship. Come to serve.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDIES

TUESDAYS
10:30 a.m. - Hebrews (open to all)
WSN Sanctuary - with Rev. Ralph Kieneker
7:00 p.m. - Post High-School/College/Young Career
104 Lesa Marie Lane, Kennewick - with Marty & Amy Evans

THURSDAYS
6:10 to 7:15 a.m. - Early Birds (open to all)
1725 Horn Tibbatts' home - with Rev. Bob Schmitt
9:00 to 11:00 a.m. - Morning Glory (women only): I & II Timothy and Titus, I, II, III John
WSN Room 2-4 - with Patty Wilburn & team

SATURDAYS
7:30 to 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast-Bible Study
WSS Upper Room - with Rev. Dan Wodrich & Steve Schlahta



ALPHA

How can I be sure God is there? Does He even care about suffering? What meaning is there in the face of death? Is there more to life?...Come ask your questions and find answers as you explore faith in an open, friendly environment. A tasty meal is followed by a talk and discussion groups, Tuesdays thru May.

Introductory dinner is March 1, 6:15-8:30 p.m., WSS Upper Room.
Contact Karel Coppock 946-4656 for more info and to register.

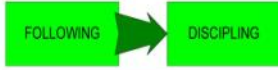
BETA classes, for those who have been thru ALPHA, will follow the same Tuesday evening ALPHA schedule, sharing a meal, then listening to Nicky Gumbel's teaching on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, followed by discussion groups.

Women's ALPHA/BETA meets Thursdays 9 a.m. Contact Julie Coppock 943-5565.



LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups provide an opportunity for believers to grow and mature as a follower of Jesus in community with a small group of other followers — getting to know and be known, to discover the truth of Scripture and to practice living it out with and toward one another — as the Spirit works to deepen one's love for God and for others. Life Groups are normally comprised of 8-12 people who meet weekly in a home for about 2 hours of fellowship, Scripture-based study, and prayer together. New study, "The Prodigal God," begins in March. Contact Laurel Avila 628-2650.



Life Group Leader Training

Upcoming leader equipping events are March 17 and May 19, 5:30 p.m. WSS Upper Room. Light supper included. Contact Laurel Avila 628-2650.

Faith at Home — For Parents of Children and Youth

"Letters from Dad" — A way for men to leave a legacy of faith, hope, and love with their families through the lost art of letter-writing. Information/registration kick-off BBQ Feb. 11, 6-8 p.m. WSS Upper Room. Four Saturday letter-writing workshops, 9-10:30 am — March 5, 19, April 16, May 7. (Alternate/make-up dates — Mondays, 6:30-8 pm — March 7, 21, April 11, May 9). Contact Dave Marsh or Bob Tibbatts for info.

Parent Input Meetings

CFM, Youth Ministry, and Adult Christian Growth leaders are seeking parent input to planning for 2011 and beyond Faith at Home activities. Please come share your thoughts and pray with us. Wednesday, Feb. 16, 6:30-8:30 pm or Sunday, Feb. 20, 11:15 am—12:30 pm. Contact Dan Wodrich for info.

News From Mali - Alpha ESOL Course

For several months now, Missions and Evangelism have teamed together to support a fledgling Alpha course in Bamako, Mali. We have sent funds to cover the food expenses for meals, we have sent a box of Bibles for graduates, and we have prayed. It is thrilling to know that we can be used by God to further evangelism in Mali in this way. Thank you for your support and prayers. Please read the following words from John Clark, pastor of the church in Bamako, in response to our support and questions.



I hope this message finds you well this Holiday season. I trust you had a wonderful Christmas and a good time of celebrating the Lord's birth with friends and family.

I'm writing to thank you again for your involvement and support of our Alpha for ESOL Course in Mali. You are a huge encouragement to us and have really helped enhance our Alpha ministry. The meals you provided have done so much to get our Course started off on the right foot each evening. We had our final course session last night. This is always a bitter/sweet experience. None

of the students wanted it to end. There was a lot of interest in people returning to help host our next course. I also encouraged them to continue a Bible study together.

Our number of guests has dropped considerably the last few weeks. We ended with only five students completing the course. But I'm confident the Lord chose these five very specifically. As the final Alpha session focuses on the rest of our lives and the need for sacrifice, several of the students mentioned during the small group discussions that the class size was reduced significantly because the others weren't willing to make the same sacrifice to come each week. They also spent a considerable amount of time expressing how much the Alpha Course has changed them. How exciting this is!

We had a small graduation ceremony following the class and presented each student with a completion certificate and a Bible. Thank you again for the generous gift of Bibles. All of the students were very excited to receive them. I have attached a photo of our class.

We have an Alpha team coming from the UK next month to do a GAT leadership training in Mali. I'm hoping that Alpha will really take off in Mali in the next few months. Please be praying for this training and for God to raise new Alpha leaders and courses in Mali.

I wish you the best in the New Year. May you experience the Lord in some new and exciting ways in 2011.

Dans l'humble service du Roi de toutes les nations,
John and Julie Clark, YWAM
Bamako, Mali



Bucket Baths

Will you pray during your shower or bath?

Turn your faucet from "taken for granted" to "enjoyed in gratitude". Imagine hauling every gallon--eight pounds each--and never having the luxury of a relaxing soak. Pray our Malian families will all gain access to clean water and improved hygiene, have less malaria and healthier babies.

Alpha Is Coming Soon!

Introductory Dinner - Tues., Mar. 1, 6:15 pm, WS South Upper Room
Classes (with dinner) Begin - Tues., Mar. 8, 6:15 pm, WS South Upper Room

Come for a **great** meal, hear a **fantastic** talk, and learn all about **Alpha** at the Introductory Dinner. Looking for a way to make **friends** at West Side? Wanting to learn about **faith** for the first time or clean off the rusty edges? Want to join a team learning to **pray** ... or even brush up on your cooking skills? Alpha is THE PLACE for you! One guest fall quarter had this to say: "Since coming to Alpha, my daily life has changed; I have a church family, I have a Bible study group, and I attend Sunday services. I know my God is an awesome God!"



Alpha

Opportunities for YOU at Alpha:

- **Small group discussion** (10 weeks) for guests who are unsure about faith, frankly unbelieving, or wish to make connections at West Side in a friendly, non-threatening environment where everyone's ideas are heard.
- **ESOL** - Alpha for **E**nglish **S**peakers of **O**ther **L**anguages. *Live* Alpha talks, given slowly with frequent pauses for discussion designed for those whose first language is not English.
- **Beta discussion** groups for those who've already attended Alpha, teaching "The Sermon on the Mount."
- Separate **prayer** training for those who wish to learn about intercession. Dynamic, weekly teaching with practical small group opportunities.
- Friendly, **fun food prep teams** for those who love to cook with others and enjoy the fun and banter that goes along with it.
- **Clean-up crews** for people with the quiet spirit of service, whose joy is giving that gift to God and to others at Alpha.

Interested? **Reserve your place** at the Introductory Dinner on Mar. 1 by filling out an Alpha card in the pews or narthex on Sunday morning, or contact Karel Coppock (kcoppock@westside1.org or 946.4656).

Senior Adult Ministry

FOF-Folks Over Fifty potluck dinner Fri., Feb. 4, 5:45 pm, WS South Upper Room. Everyone loves a good story and who better to tell one than our master storytellers Donna Jackson and Peggy Markille. Come for a good time of fellowship and bring your own table service and a main dish, salad, or dessert. Questions-George and Edna Sehmel.

Person To Person lunch Mon, Feb. 14 and 28, 12:00 pm, WS Activity Center. Call the church office (946.4656) if you need a ride.

Men's Ministry

Men's Breakfast Bible Study meets Sat., Feb. 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 7:30 am in WS South Upper Room. Join us for breakfast, fellowship, and a Bible study.

Sarah Squares, spouses of Sarah Circle ladies, will meet for lunch on Wed., Feb. 9, 11:30 am, Sterlings Restaurant.

Women's Ministry

Morning Glory. Join us on Thursdays, 9:00-11:00 am, WS North Room 2-4, for women's Bible study, fellowship, prayer, laughter, and enlightenment. Need child-care - contact Faye Serene (946.4656).

Knitter's Group. Wed., Feb. 2, 1:00 pm, WS South Upper Room. All are invited to join and share their projects. Come see our lovely sweaters on Sun., Feb. 6, WS North Narthex before they are sent to World Vision.

Sarah Circle. Wed., Feb. 9., 11:30 am, WS South Upper Room. Join us for delicious food, faith-enriching devotions, and mission outreach programs.

Miriam Circle Lunch Bunch. Tues., Feb. 15, 12:00 pm, Sterlings Restaurant.

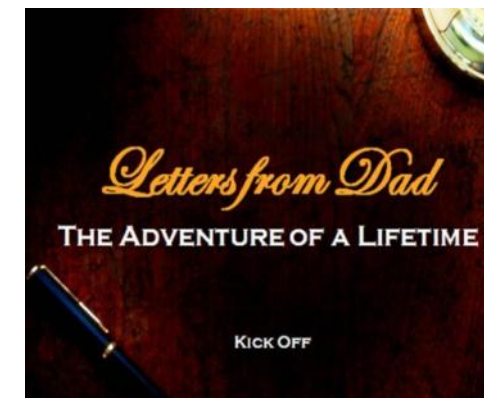
Ladies' Craft and Fellowship Days. Ladies of ALL ages are invited Fri., Feb. 4, 1:00-10:00 pm (we will order pizza for dinner) and Sat., Feb. 5, 9:00 am-9:00 pm (lunch is on your own, but soup will be provided for dinner). Bring sewing, quilting, knitting, cross-stitching, scrapbooking - whatever you would like to work on! Bring snacks to share. If you don't have your own project, come help the Youth Ministry make pillow covers for the Mid-high area on Sat. from 2:00-5:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to build relationships with some of our mid-highers. Questions - call Jodi Hassell (628.1820).



The Bulletin Board

REMINDER: All church events need to be scheduled through the Church Office to avoid conflicting events. Thanks for your help.

New Members/Inquirer's classes start Sun., Mar., 6, 13, and 20. Look for more information in the Sunday bulletins and the March SERVANT.



Mark your calendars for the 2011 Men's Kick-Off BBQ on Fri., Feb. 11, 6:00-8:00 pm, WS South Upper Room. All West Side men (high school age and up) are invited to start-off the New Year sharing a BBQ meal and fellowship together. You'll also get to hear about many of the fellowship, recreation, discipleship, and service activities and ministries currently being planned for the men of our church in 2011.

An activity we are especially excited about is "Letters from Dad" (www.graceproductscorp.com/lettersfromdad/index.php?cPath=22). Jim Clark from Dallas, TX, writes: "The Letters from Dad program has changed my family forever. I can now communicate my love and deep affection as never before. Learning to write letters of blessing to my family is truly a treasured gift." Involvement requires a commitment of the following four 1-1/2 hour guided sessions: 1. Sat., Mar. 5, 9:00-10:30 am OR Mon., Mar. 7, 6:30-8:00 pm; 2. Sat., Mar. 19, 9:00-10:00 am OR Mon., Mar. 21, 6:30-8:00 pm; 3. Sat., Apr. 16, 9:00-10:20 am OR Mon., Apr. 11, 6:30-8:00 pm; 4. Sat., May 7, 9:00-10:30 am OR Mon., May 9, 6:30-8:00 pm. You can register at the BBQ.

Questions - call Dave Marsh, Ron Severtsen, Bob Tibbatts, Ward Hughes, or Dan Wodrich.

