



Choosing Life

By Rev. Ralph Kieneker

There are few places in the Scriptures that better capture the main thrust of the biblical message than these words of Moses given to the Israelites as the nation prepares to enter the Promise Land. *"This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. The Lord is your life..."* (Deut. 30:19-20).

As the nation of Israel was preparing to make a transition from wandering nomadic tribe to a settled nation, Moses reminds them of the core of their identity. They belong to God. In the end, it is their relationship with God that will determine everything else. And as is always true of Biblical faith, God provides the way of life, but we must also choose it.

There is no doubt in Moses' mind of how we are to choose life. His simplest explanation would be this: Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. If you were to ask him what does it mean to love God, Moses would have pointed to the two stone tablets—what we have come to call the Ten Commandments.

While they are indeed commands and not mere sentimental suggestions on how to live, when God first gave these words to Moses on Mount Sinai he did not refer to them as commandments. Instead, they were simply the ten words. Here is the way of love. Here is the way of life. If you want to live than follow these words. If you want to die, depart from these ten words. God

sets before us life and death, so choose life.

Over the next couple of months, we are going to be studying these Ten Words of Life. We are going to be doing this through Sermons, Life Group lessons, and even children and youth ministries will be studying the Ten Commandments. It is our hope that by providing a way for the entire congregation to be engaged together in the study of these Ten Words of life, it can help us grow closer to God and one another. It is our hope that families and friends will be able to discuss and share about how we are being stretched towards growth in our faith through our study and application of God's word.

I have three further hopes as we focus on these Ten Words. First, that all of us will come away from our time studying these Ten Words with a deeper appreciation of the place of the Ten Commandments in our life. It is easy for us to hear these Words as restricting, but they have been graciously given to lead us into life. Second, it is my hope that if you are not in a Life Group, you would consider joining one so you can study these Ten Words with others. Part of the gift of Christian community is to be a source of encouragement in learning and applying God's Word—this is an opportunity for just such an experience. [If you would like to join a Life Group, please contact Laurel Avila or Dan Wodrich.] Finally, I hope that we grow in our ability to choose life. For following Christ is all about choosing life.

Blessings in Christ, Ralph

JAN
2011



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Parent Connection - An Opportunity For Young Families

By Heather Smith

We had a great time of fellowship last month at our December Playgroup where ten moms and many children from the church and community gathered together. And we would love to have you come join us Tues., Jan. 4, 9:15-11:15 am for our next Playgroup. We will make a snowman craft together, and then have a time of play and conversation. Your child will stay with you during the Playgroup, and we will have activity stations set up for your children. Please bring a nut-free snack for your child/ren; we will have coffee and tea available for you.



On Tues., Jan. 18, join us for our first Enrichment morning. Drop your child off in the Infant/Toddler Room between 9:15-9:30 am, and then join us for a time of fellowship and equipping. Rev. Faye Serene will share with us on Attachment Theory. Come learn about the environment you can create to help provide your child with a solid emotional and spiritual foundation for healthy relationships.

Parent Connection is a ministry for parents of young children.



Sun., Jan. 2-Sunday School Resumes
Promised Land kids begin learning about the 10 Commandments.

Tues., Jan. 4-Playgroup (WS North)
Come and make a snowman craft with your child!

Sun., Jan. 16-Kingdom Care Training (WS North)
All volunteers come and join us for lunch and equipping.

Tues., Jan. 18-Parent Enrichment (WS North)
Pastor Faye Serene will share on Attachment Theory.

Kingdom Care - Training For Volunteers

By Heather Smith

We have a fabulous multi-generational group of men and women who serve our children in Kingdom Care. Each week they play, care, and present an interactive Bible story to your children so that no matter what service a family attends, their child will hear the Word of God presented in a manner they can relate to and enjoy. And we know to help transition your child, consistency is important; therefore, we offer training in the key elements of Kingdom Care to all our providers.

We will have our next training Sun., Jan. 16, for all of our Kingdom Care providers. All volun-

teers are invited to lunch at 12:30 pm in WS North, and training will begin at 1:00 pm. We will focus on how to help children transition from their parents and answer many of your questions on, "What do I do with those 2 year olds?" We have many youth who serve in Kingdom Care, and we will have a special Youth Training class this day for all of our Mid-High and High School volunteers. We will end the time together in ministry teams.

Please come and join us!



Coming Soon – Women's Alpha!

Alpha – An Opportunity to Explore the Meaning of Life

- How can I be sure God is there?
- What is the meaning of life?
- What happens when we die?
- What relevance does Jesus have for our lives?

Come ask your questions and find answers as you explore faith in an open, friendly environment. A tasty brunch is followed by a talk and discussion groups every Thursday morning beginning January 6 for 12 weeks.



Alpha

Come and join us for the introductory brunch and bring a friend!

**Thursday, January 6, 2011, 9:15-11:30 am,
West Side South Upper Room**

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., Jan. 5, 1:00 pm, WS South Upper Room. Anyone is invited to join and share their projects with others

Sarah Circle. Wed., Jan. 12., 11:30 am, WS South Upper Room. Join us for delicious food, faith-enriching devotions, and mission outreach programs. Mary Jo Moen will share highlights of her trip to Turkey. Our fellowship is heart-warming.

Miriam Circle Lunch Bunch. Tues., Jan. 18., 12:00 pm, Sterlings Restaurant.

Senior Adult Ministry

Person To Person lunch Mon, Jan. 3 and 17, 12:00 pm, WS Activity Center. Call the church office (946.4656) if you need a ride.

FOF-Folks Over Fifty potluck dinner Fri., Jan. 7, 5:45 pm, WS South Upper Room. Start the New Year with our hilarious white elephant gift exchange (bring at least one gift each).. You might want to try a new or healthy main dish, salad, or dessert as well. Don't forget your table service. Questions-George and Edna Sehmel.

Men's Ministry

Men's Breakfast Bible Study meets Sat., Jan. 8, 15, 22, and 29 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., Jan. 12, 11:30 am, Sterlings Restaurant.

Attention Men of West Side Church

The Men's Ministry Team is planning to start conducting four sessions called, "Letters From Dad" which will involve writing letters to our families (children, wife, parents, and future family) starting the last week in January. In order to prepare for this activity, there is a required training session Sat., Jan. 8, at West Side Church. We need approximately 6-8 men to attend the training session so we can adequately facilitate the session at the end of January and the three following sessions later this spring. If you are interested in attending the Jan. 8 training and volunteering to be a facilitator, please contact Dave Marsh (627.4162 or dnemash@gmail.com) or Dan Wodrich (946.4656 or dwodrich@westside1.org). Thank you in advance to all of you who sign up to assist. We will provide additional information as necessary.



The Life Of Faith - Mentoring Our Youth

By Rev. Stuart Strachan

Many of us that care for youth have spent countless hours praying, thinking, and considering what it takes for students to develop a vibrant faith that doesn't get left at the door the day they graduate high school. We want to know that they won't travel the roads of life alone, abandoning God and the church altogether. A lot of different "programs" have been developed with this issue in mind: glitzy youth groups, rockin' worship teams, etc., and while there may be advantages to each of these approaches, many of them have fallen flat on their faces, with students "dropping out" of the church at even higher numbers than before the modern "youth group" came into existence. Out of this milieu, a study came to one startling conclusion: 90% of students who had a half-dozen "mentors" in their lives grew up to be healthy, engaged members of the church. It wasn't being a student leader, playing in the worship band, or attending youth group regularly. Instead, it was positive adult figures who modeled what a healthy, balanced, and God-seeking life looked like. Personally, I couldn't agree more with the study's results.



When I was in high school, I was definitely mentored not only by my youth pastors and older students, but also parents of many of my friends.

While they weren't perfect, they seemed to have something that I knew I wanted later in life. And while many of them probably didn't know it at the time, they had a profound impact on my spiritual development. According to the research, I potentially make up 1/5 of the adult mentors needed for students to grow up as the next generation of the church (and that is only if they connect with me!). The other four or five members are out there, and they might be YOU!

As you consider changes in your upcoming year, why not consider how you might mentor the students that you already know. This doesn't necessarily mean long-winded conversations explaining the meaning of life and so on; what it might mean is interacting with students, asking them how they are doing, sharing what's going on in your own life and faith. The more opportunities students get to peer into a Christian's life down the road, the more likely they will continue the life of faith.

In Christ, Rev. Stu

Youth Life Groups

By Steve and Sandra Critchlow



With the beginning of the school year, High School young adults began four new Life Groups similar to those other church members have enjoyed. This is a way to more personally connect with Bible study within a caring fellowship of five to eight students who meet weekly in the homes of youth leaders. Biblical truths are applied to real world situations during honest discussion.

The Life Group experience is a HUGE blessing to us. We have been involved with small groups in the past through Refinery and had a great experience with that. However, the value of spending time in our living room with these amazing

young people have brought us a new-found intimacy and caring. There is a desire to connect and focus on each other without the distractions of other groups down the hall. Our group was concerned about the time commitment a Life Group would require, but they arrive early and often stay well past the set ending time to talk with us and each other as they are growing in faith and relationship!

This is a heritage of West Side Church: establishing life-long relationships that will carry them through the coming years of college and into career, marriage, and families, with a sound, sustaining, Christ-centered perspective.

FYI: Project Updates

By Rev. Ralph Kieneker

Refresh Project. Last June the congregation overwhelming supported the proposal to Refresh the buildings on our Main Campus. The Session shared we would be looking to hire an Architect to help us look at our buildings and campus and determine a solution that would benefit the ministries of our church and maximize usage of space.

Randy Benedict, an Architect from a prestigious Seattle firm, who also grew up attending West Side, has volunteered his services in working with our Ministry Staff and leaders to come up with this plan. Having mapped out usage and needs, Randy put together a creative and practical campus-wide proposal. He presented these plans to the Session which were well received. The Property Committee is working on the pieces of a presentation so we can offer an information meeting in January to share the progress we have made.

We also hired Bill McQue, who drew up the original WS2000 plans, to relook at those plans. He has put together a proposal that would en-

fold the Refresh project into a long-term solution for this site. This will be one of the items we will share at the informational meetings.

Finally, in getting ready to seek bids for this project, we have hired Meier Architect and Engineering to work with CFM and Preschool to come up with multi-purpose solutions for the new classrooms.

Next steps include informational meetings, completing the interior designs of the classrooms, and soliciting bids on the project so we can move to a Congregational Meeting.

Sale of West Side Activity Center. After the congregation approved selling the West Side Activity Center (WSAC), Gather4Him Ministries (G4H) were quick in responding. Currently, the WSAC is in escrow. G4H was approved for a grant from the Murdock Trust and are awaiting the grant funding so we can complete the sale of WSAC. While G4H originally had hoped to occupy WSAC as of Jan. 31, they were told it may take a few more months to process the grant.

Kitchen Project. The Session has approved Steve Critchlow, Manny DeLeon, Paul Dotson, Dave Marsh, and Vic Parish as the Project Team who will represent the congregation in working with the General Contractor. Paul Dotson, who does this professionally, will be the lead.

In formulating a strategy for completion of this project, the team identified two approaches. One was to hire an Architect to implement design, specifying solutions, and soliciting bids from contractors. The second was to hire a General Contractor under a Gross Maximum Price (GMP) contract to implement our design and solicit bids from sub-contractors. With the size and scope of this project, the willingness of Bouten Construction to take it on, and an open book analysis of the bid, the Project Team recommended and Session moved to hire Bouten.

One of the unforeseen issues of this kitchen remodel was the discovery it was not tied into the HVAC system, so we are going to be installing both a furnace and air conditioning system along with the required venting and duct work. This is the single largest item in the entire Bouten bid. In promoting this job, Bouten has graciously represented the

congregation well, reminding contractors of a church's beneficial role in the community. This has led to both the donation of time and materials by some contractors.

The GMP for this project is \$137k. There is another approx. \$25k in materials, appliances, and items outside of this contract which we will procure and they will install. Under a GMP, the process won't go up, but can possibly decrease. We have asked our General Contractor to solicit more bids for HVAC and plumbing. HVAC alternatives were of poor design and rejected by the Project Team. We are still waiting on alternative plumbing bids. What this means is the project will not exceed, and could be a little less than, this amount.

When complete, this will replace the functions and abilities of the WSAC kitchen, to serve meals up to 250 people. Designs of this kitchen are hung in both narthexes.

Next steps include a Jan. Session meeting to determine the status of project expenses funding. Once this is established, Session acts on behalf of the congregation to approve Bouten to begin construction, projected at about six weeks.

Questions about Refresh or Sale of WSAC - contact Mary Kay Britton.

Questions about the Kitchen Project - contact Paul Dotson, Dave Marsh, Manny DeLeon, or other Project Team members.

January

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

<p>Worship: 2 CS & Children's Church 8:15am-WSS CS & Sunday School 9:45am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Youth Worship 4:30pm-WSS</p>	<p>Person to Person 12:00pm 3 -WSAC</p>	<p>Playgroup 9:15am-WSN 4 Adult Bible Study 10:30am -WSN ESL/Citizenship Classes 6:30pm-WSN College/Young Career Bible Study 7:00pm-Evans' Worship Mtg 7:00pm-WSN</p>	<p>Knitters Group 1:00pm -WSS 5 Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN Youth Worship 4:00pm-WSS Deacons 7:00pm-WSN</p>	<p>Early Birds Bible 6:10am-Tibbat Morning Glory 9 Women's Alpha Adult Choir 7:00 Worship Team 7</p>
<p>Worship: 9 CS & Children's Church 8:15am-WSS CS & Sunday School 9:45am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Youth Worship 4:30pm-WSS Fuel (HS) 7:00pm-WSS</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Adult Bible Study 11 10:30am-WSN ESL/Citizenship Classes 6:30pm-WSN College/Young Career Bible Study 7:00pm-Evans'</p>	<p>Sarah Circle 11:30am-WSS 12 Sarah Squares 11:30am -Sterlings (Richland) Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN Youth Worship 4:00pm-WSS BASIC (MS) 6:30pm-WSS</p> <p>PRESCHOOL CLEAN-UP NIGHT - WSN </p>	<p>Early Birds Bible 6:10am-Tibbat Morning Glory 9 Women's Alpha Missions Council Session 6:30pm- Adult Choir 7:00 Worship Team 7</p>
<p>Worship: 16 CS & Children's Church 8:15am-WSS CS & Sunday School 9:45am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Kingdom Care Training 12:30pm Youth Worship 4:30pm-WSS Fuel (HS) 7:00pm-WSS</p>	<p>Person to Person 12:00pm 17 -WSAC</p>	<p>Parent Enrichment 9:15am 18 -WSN Adult Bible Study 10:30am -WSN Miriam Circle 12:00pm-Sterlings ESL/Citizenship Classes 6:30pm Session 6:30pm-WSN College/Young Career Bible Study 7:00pm-Evans'</p>	<p>Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN 19 Youth Worship 4:00pm-WSS BASIC (MS) 6:30pm-WSS</p>	<p>Early Birds Bible S 6:10am-Tibbat Morning Glory 9 Women's Alpha Life Group Lead Adult Choir 7:00 Worship Team 7:</p>
<p>Worship: 23 CS & Children's Church 8:15am-WSS CS & Sunday School 9:45am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Youth Worship 4:30pm-WSS Fuel (HS) 7:00pm-WSS</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>Adult Bible Study 25 10:30am-WSN ESL/Citizenship Classes 6:30pm-WSN College/Young Career Bible Study 7:00pm-Evans'</p>	<p>Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN 26 Youth Worship 4:00pm-WSS BASIC (MS) 6:30pm-WSS</p>	<p>Early Birds Bible S 6:10am-Tibbat Morning Glory 9 Women's Alpha Missions Prayer 6 Adult Choir 7:00 Worship Team 7:</p>
<p>Worship: 30 CS & Children's Church 8:15am-WSS CS & Sunday School 9:45am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Annual Mtg 12:30pm-WSS Youth Worship 4:30pm-WSS Fuel (HS) 7:00pm-WSS</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Annual Congregational Meeting - Sun., Jan. 30, 12:30pm</p> <p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Approve Elders and Deacons ▶ Presentation of Budget ▶ Terms of Call ▶ Special: For a a Called Position for C 		

Christian Growth & Discipleship

By Rev. Dan Wodrich

Recall with me the diagram (below) which was introduced to our church family during the September 2010 sermon series on “Adventuring Together” with Christ. It depicts “steps” that many come to experience and recognize in their walk with Jesus. Experientially, many identify their “first step” as that of “SEEKING” answers to questions about the meaning of life, about God and Jesus Christ. [Later, many come to realize that God had already been seeking them first!] Subsequently, a person is born anew by the Holy Spirit to step forward in “BELIEVING” in Jesus as Savior and then “FOLLOWING” Him as Lord of their life. As we follow Jesus, His Spirit works to get our focus off of ourselves and sends us out to participate in His life and loving ministry of service to others and His mission to the world. He involves us in “DISCIPLING” others, baptizing them in His Triune Name, and teaching and encouraging them to join us in obeying Him and our Heavenly Father.



Our Christian Growth Committee is partnering with other committees and ministries of the church to focus time, energy, and resources on those ministries and activities which we hope and pray will help people walk these “steps” in community with others, rather than “alone.” For example, our **ALPHA** ministry is for folks who are “SEEKING.” ALPHA provides companions for seekers – people with whom questions can safely and honestly be asked and answers sought – so as to assist persons toward the step of “BELIEVING.” If you are a seeker interested in participating in ALPHA or if you are feeling

called to serve in this ministry, please contact Rev. Karel Coppock or Elder Rick Grandy.

Our **Life Groups** ministry is aimed at helping folks step forward from “BELIEVING” in Jesus to “FOLLOWING” Him in their everyday living. Participation in a LIFE GROUP is highly encouraged as a way for believers to connect and “walk” personally and deeply with a small community of Jesus’ followers—to grow and mature together in healthy practices of regular fellowship, Bible study, prayer, and personal service and care for each other and others. If you would like to participate in a Life Group or you sense the Lord may be calling you to be trained and equipped to lead a Life Group, please contact Laurel Avila or Rev. Dan Wodrich.

West Side Church has a long and fruitful history of quality Christian education and equipping of the saints for service and mission. The Christian Growth Committee is working with other West Side committees and ministries to collaborate on the identification, development, and implementation of integrated and intentional Christian Growth & Discipleship activities which will serve as the “meat on the bones” of the

School of Discipleship and **Felt Needs**

ministry elements, depicted in the diagram to the left. These elements will encompass such activities as Sunday and mid-week Adult Christian Education classes, Bible studies, seminars, workshops, retreats, and intentional mentoring relationships. Regular training and equipping of ALPHA and Life Group leaders is already taking place, as one example of intentional efforts to encourage and equip people in the “DISCIPLING” of others. Regular “Faith at Home” events and activities are aimed at encouraging and equipping parents for their “DISCIPLING” of their children and youth in their homes. Other “felt needs” classes and retreats are being periodically offered to enrich marriages, to help with family money management, and to encourage and provide accountability for men struggling with issues of sexual integrity and purity. The Christian Growth Committee hopes to identify other topics and season-of-life issues and needs toward which intentional education and equipping activities might be aimed.

For a descriptive listing of “Sunday Morning Adult Christian Education Classes” planned for the New Year, refer to the article on page 11. Later in January, look for a brochure identifying and describing all of the Christian Growth & Discipleship activities underway and planned for the months ahead.

In closing, I want to commend to you a good book on growing and maturing as disciples of Jesus. It is entitled, *“Mansions of the Heart: Exploring the Seven Stages of Spiritual Growth”*, written by R. Thomas Ashbrook. It is based on a description of our Christian journey written by Teresa of Avila, Spain, in the 1500’s. Several members of our Christian Growth Committee and our pastoral staff have been blessed, encouraged, and challenged by wisdom and insights in this book. Our entire pastoral staff and Session elders will be discussing and reflecting on the book at retreats to be held in late

January and February, respectively. If you’re interested in checking out or purchasing a copy of the book, please contact Pam Cadd, church librarian.

As always, should you have comments or suggestions regarding our Christian Growth and Discipleship strategy, plans, and/or activities—please don’t hesitate to contact me or Elders Duke Rauh and Jeff Stevenson. We’re in this adventure of following Jesus together with you, and we are seeking the Lord’s wisdom in and through the community at West Side. We also ask that you continue in prayer with us and for us—that our Lord would have His way with us and that the way we go about seeking, believing, following, and discipling would be brought into congruence with His Way by His Spirit—for the sake of the world and for the glory of His Name.

Amen.

The Bulletin Board

The 2011 Summer Trainee Application is now online! If you know of a college-aged Christian who would be a good fit for our Trainee program, please encourage them to go to www.westsidel.org to learn more. Applications are due Mar. 31.

Thank you for blessing me with your encouragement, prayers, and financial gifts through the recent Thanksgiving Offering. Your giving has advanced me significantly closer to being able to begin my work in Orlando, having reached 83% of my monthly budget needs and 99% of my one-time needs. How privileged we are to be a part of the greatest acceleration of the pace of Bible Translation in history. May His name be made known among all the nations! -Amy Schammert

The Christmas Mailbox will remain open until after Epiphany. Sun., Jan. 9, will be the last time to pick up your cards. They can still be mailed through Jan. 9 for a suggested postal “donation” of 10¢ per card. “Postage” from the mailbox will go to Amy Schammert as she prepares to move to her new position at Wycliffe Ministries in Florida.

Thank You from the Deacons. Thanks for all your support of donations of food to Christmas Food Baskets for the needy and for all of the Angel Tree gifts. This year we provided 33 food baskets and 136 Angel Tree gifts. Also thank you to those members that volunteered to deliver baskets and gifts. We could not have helped all of these people without your support and generosity. Your partnership in caring for others is a great blessing.

McIntosh Memorial Library

NEW! Order Your Books Through The Library

The library is offering a new resource for individuals and small groups. By placing your book order through the library, you can get any book available on Amazon in just a few days—with no shipping cost. Here's how it works:

- Availability & Cost - You can order any new book available on Amazon. Total is Amazon price plus 8.3% tax.
- How To Order - Send an email to library@westside1.org with your name and the title and author of the book. If you don't have email, call Pam Cadd (366.9841).
- Picking Up Your Book - You will be notified when your book is ready to pick up. It will take about three weekdays (that is, longer if a weekend intervenes). Book orders will be held in the library by the checkout computer, marked with your name and the amount due.

You can enclose payment in the envelope provided (cash or check payable to "Pam Cadd"), then drop it in the book return slot.



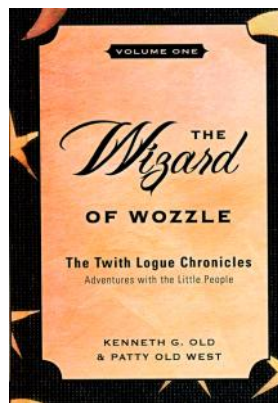
Winter, Prime Time For Reading!

The library is located in its interim home in Room 2-4 (just around the corner from its previous location). Some of the collection has been put into storage, but we're continuing to add new books for you to enjoy.

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.

The Wizard Of Wozzle - Do You Have Your Copy?



Ken Old told these fantasy stories about Little People only half a thumb high to children of West Side Church. There are twelve of these stories with the first one, "The Wizard of Wozzle" available now. It is a hardback book which Patty West is selling for \$20 each (copies in the church office). They make perfect gifts for children (and adults) of all ages.



Wise Bambara Proverb

Farama bé nyon gou kin yoro olon.
in Bambara translates to
"Alligators know where
to hurt each other".

Mt 5:44 says, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you". Though others deeply hurt us, and we know how to wound them in retaliation, God wants us to love, forgive, and seek the best for each other instead. Will you pray this for our Malian families and for our own?



Sunday Morning Adult Christian Education & Discipleship Classes

NEW in Jan.: Christianity – The First 400 Years

Teacher: Rev. Karel Coppock
WSS Upper Room – 9:45 to 10:45 am
(5 Sundays – Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30)

The story of the rise of the Christianity is one of the most riveting in history. Come hear how a handful of believers in Jerusalem, without the help of sword or political power, spread their faith from Gaul to India, forever changing the way the world thinks. We will also be looking at various “heresies” that arose within the Church, forcing its leaders to think more clearly about “Him who for their sakes died and was raised” and that “faith, once and for all delivered to the saints”. Included will be discussions of the Great Councils of the Church in the 4th and 5th centuries and their relevance for us today.

NEW in Feb.! Food for Thought: Conversing with a Great Cloud of Witnesses

Facilitators: Rev. Dan Wodrich & Marty Evans
WSS Upper Room – 9:45 to 10:45 am
(beginning Feb. 6-May 22)

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 insight 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.

Selections from the Gospel of Luke

Facilitators: Rev. Karel & Julie Coppock
WSN Room 7 – 9:45 to 10:45 am
(Jan. 2-May 22)

This read-through class is especially designed for people who are new to the Christian faith. It is not aca-

demically. The purpose is to familiarize participants with this Gospel and discover how God speaks to each of us through His Spirit as we meditate on His Word. [Julie will lead this class in January.]

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

Facilitators: Diane Pratt, Bertha Rachinski, & Marian Holm
WSN Room 2-4 – 9:45 to 10:45 am
(resumes Jan. 9-May 22)

Join us as we continue 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.”

Get Acquainted Place (GAP)

Facilitators: Fred & Pat Reich, Roger & Carol Johnson
WSS Upstairs Room 302 (Green Carpet Room) – 9:45 to 10:45 am

The “GAP” is a friendly place for newcomers to become familiar with West Side and to get to know other believers. We are about building Christian relationships and supporting one another through prayer, Bible and book study, and personal sharing.

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

Facilitators: Rev. Dan Wodrich, Dale & Roz Rodgers, Marty & Amy Evans
WSS Upper Room – 11:15 am to 12:15 pm
(Jan. 2-May 22)

Come enjoy some food for body and soul. Connect with others and experience what it means to belong to the body of Christ together. Get to know and be known. Discern with others how God has called you by name, for a purpose. Listen with others to God's Word in Scripture. Pray with and for one another and others. Come to worship. Come to serve. Come!



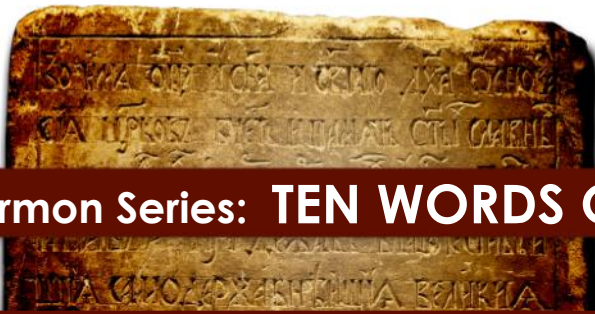


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| Jan. 2 - God (1st Commandment) | Feb. 6 - No [No Murder] (6th Commandment) |
| Jan. 9 - Worship (2nd Commandment) | Feb. 13 - Faithfulness (7th Commandment) |
| Jan. 16 - Power (3rd Commandment) | Feb. 20 - Honesty (8th Commandment) |
| Jan. 23 - Sabbath (4th Commandment) | Feb. 27 - Truth (9th Commandment) |
| Jan. 30 - Honor (5th Commandment) | Mar. 6 - Worship (10th Commandment) |



New Sermon Series: TEN WORDS OF LIFE

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

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

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