



July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
EVERY SUNDAY: 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship 9:45 am Church School 11:00 am Worship Hour					1	2
3	4 Independence Day Observance - Office Closed 	5 7:00 PM Ministry Action Team	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 7:00 PM Board	13	14	15	16
17	18 VBS 	19 7:00 PM Elders	20 6:00 PM Vacation Bible School		21 10:00 AM Oasis	22 23 6:30 PM Pot Luck Supper & Movie Night 
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<h1>God Bless America</h1>					



The West Side Story

Vol. 47
Number 7

West Side Staff:
 Mark E. Poindexter,
 Pastor
 Zach Lowman,
 Youth Director
 Kristen Schafer,
 Music Director
 Trish Barker,
 Office Manager
 Joe Diggs,
 Custodian



West Side Christian Church

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.



PRAYER LIST

Church Members

Maud Hemby, Beth & Amy Branch,
Michael Stevenson, Justin Friberg, Wilma Ingram,
Barbara Powell, Frances Wells, Mary Wyatt

Family & Friends

Dolores Lohr, Mike Wise, Bailey Lowe,
Fred Vroccolo, Maggie Jensen, Lisa Horton,
Ashley Aughtman, Ruth Kay, James Gray,
Farley Family, David Campbell Family, Marcie Shea,
Joan Newsome, Frances Martin, Blake Brown,
Jean Thompson, Angela Powell, Frankie Hall,
Daisha Melchor & family, Eliana Nanni,
Stuart & Amy Emerson, Steve, Renee, Twyla & Zoe
Mitchell, Billie Warren, Mary Grace Thomas,
Kathy & Curtis Nelson, Amber Critzer & Family,
Shirley Jones, Katrina Hastings, Phil Barnes,
Judy Kelly, Ruth Ann Gonzalves, Jordan Lahy

SHUT INS

Ruth Blackman

Lectionary Readings

July 3 **2 Kings 5:1-14**
Psalm 30
Galatians 6:(1-6),
7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10 **Amos 7:7-17**
Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 17 **Amos 8:1-12**
Psalm 52
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 24 **Hosea 1:2-10**
Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-15
(16-19)
Luke 11:1-13

July 31 **Hosea 11:1-11**
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

Sympathy Note ~

*We extend our sincere sympathy
to Mary Pat Ensley & Leah
Greene on the recent loss of
their mother, Wanda Hackler.*



Memorial Donations



Wanda

Hackler

given by
Rita Antonucci
Kathryn Bean

Thomas Thornton
given by
Joyce Thornton



Stewardship Giving for May 2016

Weekly Operating Expenses:
\$ 4,054.00

Beginning balance for May:	\$	(1,451.76)
Received in May:		18,521.62
Expenditures in May:		(17,399.30)
ENDING BALANCE on 4/1/16	\$	(329.44)
		7,304.50



11th	Andrew Wells
13th	Amanda McClelland
15th	Elaina Stidham
18th	Sandy Phillips
19th	William Brown
25th	Joyce Thornton
26th	Jonathan Martell
28th	Billy Powell
29th	Sean Coe



Saturday, July 23

6:30 PM

Please bring 2 dishes to share.

Oasis Social Ministry

Thursday, July 21

10:00 AM

Please sign up on the bulletin board
leading to the Fellowship Center.

Carpooling is available.



**Virginia Disciples Women
Ministries**

2016 Retreat

"Just Breathe"

*- Finding our Sabbath time and being in
the moment with God*

Friday evening, July 15—Sunday morning, July 17

Lynchburg College

Retreat Speaker: Rev. Linda Whitmore

Linda is a Disciples minister and retreat leader from
Atlanta, GA

Retreat Highlights:

- Worship, study, fellowship and FUN with women from all around Virginia!
- Mission Bazaar—sale of items handcrafted by VA Disciple Women to benefit programs fighting human trafficking
- Blessing of Spring Project and Blessing Box donations
- Workshop choices to include spiritual growth, Bible study, crafts and a book discussion of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
- As part of the Mission First! Initiative, a Mission Gathering will be held, to give Virginia Disciple women an opportunity for input in finding the next mission priorities for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for 2020 and beyond

Registration Fee: \$151.00 double/ \$167.75 single

TEAM EFFORT 2016
 YOUTH MISSION TRIP
 JULY 24 - 30
 CHEROKEE NATION

Our Youth have already begun planning their summer mission trip to Cherokee, NC where they will work with the people of the Cherokee Nation Indian Tribe through www.teameffort.org

Located in western North Carolina, the town of Cherokee is home to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Throughout the area are numerous neighborhoods and families in great need. On this youth mission trip, groups will have the chance to reach out to these struggling families by helping with painting and renovations of homes. For this impoverished area, even the smallest amount of help brings new hope. Our youth have an opportunity to put their faith into action through hands-on projects while showing the love of Christ to people who are struggling to survive on the bare minimum.

To learn more about the Cherokee people our youth will serve, go to www.cherokeenc.com

Our youth will stay at Western Carolina University located at the foothills of the Smoky Mountains.

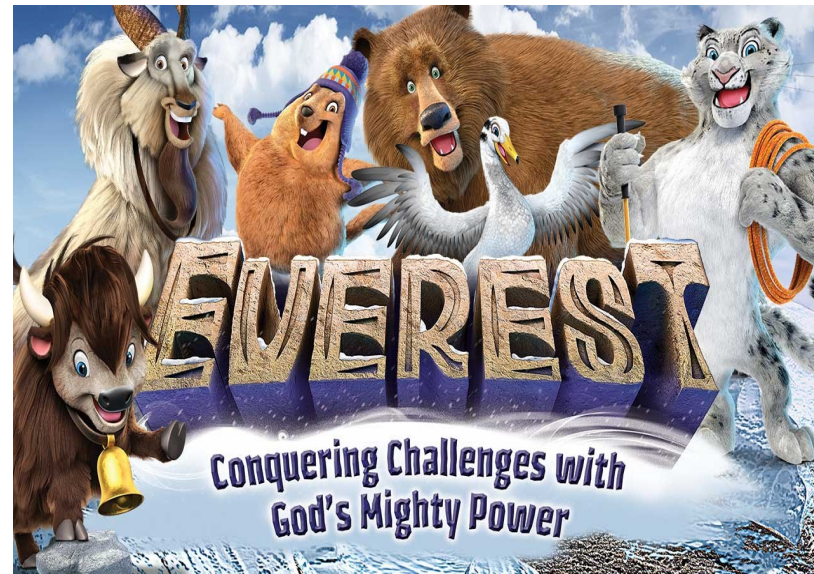
The cost per student is \$349.00



Special Events

Sunday 7/10	Minute for Memories
Sunday 7/17	Minute for Memories
Sunday 7/24	Minute for Memories
Sunday 7/31	Minute for Memories
Sunday 8/7	Dedicate the Display Case
Sunday 8/14	Charter Members Celebration
Sunday 8/21	Presentation of the Last 60 Years
Sunday 8/28	Honor Servants of the Church
Wednesday 9/7	Pot Luck
Supper	
Sunday 9/11	Honor Past Ministers
Saturday 9/17	Church Picnic and Drive-In Movie Night

60TH ANNIVERSARY
 CLOSING WORSHIP
 SUNDAY
 SEPTEMBER 18, 2016
 11:00 AM



Supplies Needed for VBS

Camping/Hiking/Climbing

Gear for cold weather:

- Backpack
- Tent
- Sleeping Bags
- Lantern
- Camp Stove
- Camping Cookware
- Camping Bowls, Cups and Utensils
- Food like dried foods for camping
- Energy bars
- Helmet
- Tarp
- Reflective Blanket
- Map

Compass

- Rope
- Carabineers
- Headlamp
- First Aid Kit
- Water bottle
- Sunglasses or Goggles
- Snow Shoes
- Trekking Poles

Cold weather clothes:

- Waterproof Jacket
- Gloves
- Waterproof Pants
- Fleece Pants
- Winter Hats
- Boots - hiking/climbing boots

West Side
 Vacation Bible School
 July 18 - 22
 6:00 - 8:30 PM
 Ages 3 yrs - 12 yrs.

Interested in helping with VBS, please speak with Carrie Kelly 309-3904

Other:

- Quilt batting (fabric batting) to be used for snow
- Fiberfill (polyester stuffing) to be used for snow
- Small artificial trees
- Christmas decorations appropriate to the Everest theme
- Roll of brown craft paper
- Tibetan art/art objects
- White flat sheets

Please drop off donations by Friday, July 15 so there is ample time to decorate. Please let Carrie know what items you want returned. Thank you so much!

Pastor Mark's Remarks

A Letter to My Children for Father's Day

June 17, 2016

Dear Christopher and Michele,

I wanted to take the opportunity presented by this Father's Day to share a few things with the two of you. Both of you have either told me that my Father's day gift is being made or what it is you want to get me on this day, but I wanted you to know what it is I hope for.

I hope you both know how much you are loved. The two of you are my life's deepest joy. I held you moments after you were born, when your arms and legs weren't much bigger than my fingers. Then you fit into my hands, but you made a journey into my heart and there I still hold you both. Though you are adults now, you are still my children. My love for you began even before you were born and it has only deepened over the years. My parental role and responsibilities have changed as you have become adults, but my great desire to see you thrive in life and my willingness to help you in that pursuit has not lessened in the least. Your life is your own, but remember you are never alone as you seek to live it.

I hope I have taught you well that it is important to work for a world that is just and fair for all people. I hope you have learned that prejudices and stereo-types are products of fear and ignorance and they should have no place in a society that believes in "justice and liberty for all." It does not matter the color of someone's skin, the language of their tongue, the religion of their heart, and it doesn't matter whom they choose to love. Human beings are on a journey together and we need to have respect for the diversity that this world has to offer. I hope I have taught you this in a way that leads you to stand opposed to the forces in this world that would have us fear those who are different.

I hope you know that the violence that is part of our nation, especially gun violence with the death of 93 people every day, is not the way things are supposed to be and we don't have to simply accept it. In a democracy we all have a voice and an ability to make things better than they are today. Never accept that the way things are is the way things have to be. Those who never want to enact changes and accept things the way they are wrong. You have a voice. You have a vote. Use them. You have the power to unite with groups and organizations which are working for a better world. Join them. You have heard me quote Dr. King many times in sermons. Among all the things he taught us was the fact that change can happen. It takes time and persistence, but it can happen. Work, my children, for a better world.

I hope you realize how deeply appreciative I am of the role you both played in helping me through a very difficult time in my life. When I doubted if I could make it another day, you were there to help keep me going. You were my energy when I had none. You were my laughter when I was crying. You were my reasoned thought when I could barely think at all. I never thought I would have to be held up through the good will and efforts of my children, but I was and I will be forever grateful. Life has turned for me and every day is not now a chore to get through, but a gift waiting to be experienced. That you two are part of each day is a wonderful example of the Grace that I think is behind all of life.

Finally, I hope you know that more than any present you could give me for Father's Day is the gift of seeing you passionate about the things that matter – life, love, justice, kindness and peace. Strive for these things and other things will take care of themselves.

I love you both and wish God's deepest blessings upon your lives.

Dad

* To read more of Pastor Mark's writings, go to www.dmergent.org



West Virginia Flood Update

"The main focus is still accounting for everybody; rescue is the first priority now" said one West Virginia pastor on Monday during a conversation with Week of Compassion staff. When over 10 inches of rain fell in a very brief period, rivers and streams breached their banks and deadly flash flooding created a state of emergency in 44 counties. Now, as residents and assessment crews are able to survey the damage, the true scope of the disaster is becoming evident. In Kanawha county alone, almost 1000 homes were affected, of which approximately 400 have been destroyed, according to preliminary reports.

Within 24 hours of the flooding, Week of Compassion was in contact with the West Virginia Regional staff, offering prayers and solidarity along with financial support. "I am grateful for the ways Revs. Allen and Chafin were prepared to respond to this disaster," says Associate Director, Rev. Caroline Hamilton-Arnold. "By the time we spoke, they were already making contact with local pastors and utilizing their connections with the West Virginia VOAD" (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster - a disaster response network with regional, state, and national chapters). These connections, through both local churches and ecumenical partnerships, position Disciples to help identify and meet the needs of our neighbors.

While none of the Disciples churches are aware of congregants who were directly affected, for the churches in the flood zones, everyone knows someone. Disciples congregations are offering support by providing cleaning supplies, water, and helping hands. Friends, relatives, and neighbors have lost their homes and possessions. Communities are grieving for these losses as well as for the 23 individuals who died in the floods, yet the people of West Virginia are resilient and are looking toward rebuilding. Week of Compassion will continue to offer support every step of the way.