

# The Messenger

## Westside Christian Church

June 30, 2011

Parsons, KS

[www.westsideatparsons.com](http://www.westsideatparsons.com)

620-421-3533

**July 1 & 2**-Clothing Exchange

**July 4**-Office closed

**July 5-8**-North American Christian Convention-Cincinnati, OH

**July 10**-Report Meeting  
July 10-15-Junior High 2  
July 17-21 Junior 2

**July 24**-Monthly Prayer Meeting

July 24-29-High School Camp

**August 5 & 6**-Clothing Exchange

**August 14**-Report Meeting

Leadership at  
Westside

Doug Baty 778-3919

Elders

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Ralph Heady 421-0447

Joe Moyer 421-2636

Thad Osgood 421-0793

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Join our group on Facebook

### Doug's Desk

We have enormous amount of freedoms in America. Religion, speech, guns, travel, jobs, and so much more. We also have many freedoms in Christ. Where we go to church, how we worship, when we worship, how to pray and when. Freedom in our country and church cross over in prayer. There is a lot of debate and discussion about prayer in government organizations such as school and city councils. I would like to make a couple of points on this matter concerning our freedoms in prayer.

We can pray openly. There are restrictions on prayers in an organized event sponsored by the government, but many have open prayers. I have found our local city commissioners in Parsons a big disappointment when they won't make a decision on the matter of having an "official" prayer before a city commission meeting. But be that as it may, many city commissions across the country have official opening prayers. Altamont has an official opening prayer and so does our Kansas Congress and the US Congress.

However, prayer is a personal responsibility as a Christian and never demanded as a corporate function outside the fellowship of believers. That is, outside the church. People make so much fuss about having public prayers in a school or government functions I think some people have lost their focus as to why we pray. Having public prayers in those places does not make us more of a Christian nation. More importantly, having prayers in these places does NOT negate our personal duty of prayer.

I would like for our city governments and school functions to have an official public prayer. But the fact that they don't does NOT stop me from prayer for these people involved and in fact should give me impetus to pray more. Furthermore, our prayers should be personal and not made for show. Jesus speaks clearly against prayers for show in Matthew chapter 6.

We have a great nation. And I would like for us to keep it that way. Our best front is individual prayer for our nation so we can keep our freedoms. And to pray for our schools that we can keep and have good influences for our children in them.

I thank God for this great nation and its Christian heritage. While may be what has made us great it will not keep us great. What will keep us great is individual prayers and personal commitments by you and me to be a Christian influence on our government and school. I am not saying don't try to have public prayers. I am saying have prayers for our government and the individuals in them and remember prayer is a Christian responsibility and not a public display of our "Christianity". I continue to pray and thank God for the freedoms we have. And I ask that you do the same.

My prayer.... "I thank you dear God for this mighty nation and ask that you guide our President, the Congress, the judges and state leaders to do what is just, right and fair. May your spirit of grace and justice and righteousness work in and through them all and in me and through me. In Jesus' name I ask... Amen. Your brother in Christ and minister, Doug Baty.

### Hidden Haven Christian Camp 2011

Junior High July 10-15  
2

Junior 2 July 17-21

High School July 24-29

Ladies' Retreat September 16-17

Men's Retreat September 23-24

### Ladies' Retreat at Hidden Haven...

The Ladies' Retreat at Hidden Haven will be on September 16 & 17th, hosted by Fontana Christian Church. The theme of the retreat this year is "Back to Basics ABC's." Their theme verse is

"Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God will all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment." Matthew 22:37-38

The retreat begins Friday evening and ends Saturday afternoon. The dorms are air conditioned and comfortable.

### Monthly Prayer Meeting

The Prayer Meeting will be held on **July 24th at 5:00** in the auditorium.

"Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

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Back to School Bash-A group of community members have banded together to plan the third annual "Back to School" event in Forest Park (Parsons) on August 27, 2011 from 4-7 p.m. This event has grown from year-to-year, with crowd estimates of 1,000 last year! This year's even will feature music performances from Christian rock/alternative band Saltbox (<http://www.saltboxjunkies.com>) from Nixa, Mo and Christian rappers SauceRemix (<http://www.SauceRemix.com>) and Tre Cop (<http://www.myspace.com/GPCRecordz>) from Kansas City. Derrick Ellis (<http://www.derrickellismagic.com>) an illusionist, will be performing also. There will also be informational tables set up by community ministries and organizations and a food court area, as well as inflatables and school supply give-aways. The four messages we'd like to share:

1. Please help spread the word--add the event to your calendars, tell your members/employees; more info available at: <http://back2schoolbash.wikispaces.com>, [http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/home.php?sk=group\\_97921539647&ap=1](http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/home.php?sk=group_97921539647&ap=1), or <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/event.php?eid=151812778225835>.
2. All kid/family-oriented non-profit community organizations and churches are welcome to put up their own information tables. You can provide information about your services or ministries, hand out freebies, recruit volunteers, etc.
3. All youth groups or school clubs are welcome to set up informational and/or kid-friendly tables (face-painting, etc.).
4. Everyone is invited to make a tax-deductible donation to defray expenses. If your business or organization would like to be recognized for its contribution, we'd be happy to list you as a sponsor at the event. The Rock Youth Center has agreed to handle the donations and expenditures in order for the contributions to be tax-deductible. If you'd be willing to contribute to the Back to School Bash, send your contributions to:

The Rock Youth Center  
P. O. Box 961  
Parsons, KS 67357

If you're interested in participating in any of the above-mentioned ways, please let Michelle Murray know and you'll be contacted by the person in charge of each respective area. Thank you for your time!

:) Michelle Murray, Chris Wyan, and Leaona Ellis  
Bash Planning Team



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## Future events to remember...

Even though we're in the hot part of the summer, fall will be here before we know it! We are planning for our annual fall and winter events such as the Potluck dinner to celebrate the church's anniversary on September 11, the "Trunk or Treat" on October 31st, and the treat boxes for our emergency workers on New Year's Eve. Mark these on your calendar and start picking up items to use for these events. We always like new ideas so feel free to let the office know if you have one for any of these functions.

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## In case you didn't know...

Melinda Velasquez is in Africa, in connection with her work for Pioneer Bible Translators. If you would like to follow her blog, you can read it at <http://pbtheavylifters.wordpress.com/>.



To make a secure online donation to her ministry with Pioneer Bible Translators, go to <https://dlq4.donating.net/qv10/Donation.aspx?MerchantID=PBT>. Select "Teams" from the dropdown menu, and select "Ministry of Velasquez, Melinda" from the second dropdown menu.

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## Prayer Concerns

### Those with cancer:

Amy Steig  
Doug Heiskell  
Marcus Jackson  
Walt Keely  
Lisa Hays  
Tammy Naffzinger  
Carol Conway  
Verlyn Day

### Shut-ins:

Sherm Morgan  
Connie Gilbert

### Missions:

Scott Springer  
Hidden Haven  
Farrans  
Cookson Hills  
Melinda Velasquez

### Other concerns:

Vida North  
Gene Robinson

If you would like prayer requests printed in the bulletin, please write them down and place them in the offering plate, place them on the desk in the office or email the office.

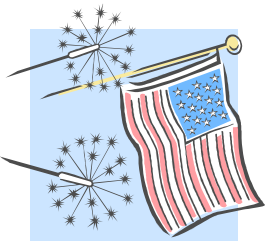
Thanks!

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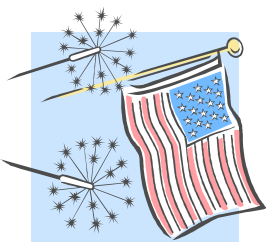
## Safe Haven Outreach Mission could




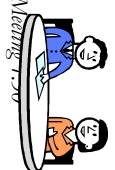

use your help... Safe Haven is the homeless shelter here in Parsons, run by Melissa Brown. She does a great job of reaching out to those in need but the shelter could always use your help! Besides monetary donations, they can always use paper goods, laundry supplies, food, first aid supplies and personal hygiene items. Sometimes the people they serve come to them with nothing, so anything is appreciated. On the table in the foyer is a pink brochure with the on-going needs list of Safe Haven.





# July 2011



					1		2	
					8	Clothing Exchange	9	Clothing Exchange
3	4	5	6	7				
Art Drumm		Juanita Walker		Mike May	Cherie Ferguson			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
Report Meeting 7:30 			Junior High II					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
		Junior II						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Monthly Prayer Meeting 5:00 			High School Camp				Betty Heady	
31								

<b>July 2011</b>	3	10	17	24	31
<b>Communion Preparation</b>	Juanita Walker	Juanita Walker	Juanita Walker	Juanita Walker	Juanita Walker
<b>Children's church</b>					No Children's Church
<b>Elementary En-counter</b>	Shirley Lunday	Shirley Lunday	Shirley Lunday	Shirley Lunday	Shirley Lunday
<b>Greeters: Front Doors Inside Lobby</b>	Gene Robinson Fergusons	Sue Peters Randee Baty	Clarinda O'Brien Nola Fisher	Randee Baty Karen Osgood	Youth
<b>Nursery</b>	Shirley Lunday- Chloe Murray	Terri Stice-Abbie Stice	Karen Osgood- Lucas O'Brien	Sue Peters	Marie Norton
<b>Communion</b>	Howard Weidert	Doug Baty	Thad Osgood	Ralph Heady	Youth
<b>Ushers</b>	Kenneth Lunday Clive Murray	Howard Weidert Thad Osgood	Gene Robinson Steve Passwater	David Stice Bruce Rea	Youth
<b>Serving the Lord's Supper</b>	Ralph Heady Ken Akkerman Bruce Rea Antonio Velasquez	Steve Passwater Ryan Pratt Kenneth Lunday David Baty	Josh Passwater Sam Atherton Clive Murray Thad Osgood	Jeff Ferguson Andrew Passwater Gene Robinson Howard Weidert	Youth
<b>Benediction</b>	Jeff Ferguson	Sam Atherton	Doug Baty	Gene Robinson	Youth
<b>Shut-Ins</b>	Thad Osgood	Lundays	Doug Baty	Jeff Ferguson	Headys
<b>Nursing Home</b>				Good Samaritan 2:00 Woodridge 2:45	