

The Messenger

Westside Christian Church

November 15, 2011

Parsons, KS

www.westsideatparsons.com

620-421-3533

November 17-20-National Missionary Convention
November 20-Thanksgiving Dinner
November 23-No Wednesday at Westside
November 24-Thanksgiving-office closed
November 25-Office closed
November 27-Prayer Meeting 5:00
November 27-Decorating the church for Christmas 6:00
December 2 & 3-Clothing Exchange
December 2-Living Christmas Tree at OCC
December 4-Soul Kitchen
December 11-Report Meeting
December 14-Christmas Caroling 6:00

Leadership at Westside

Doug Baty 778-3919
Elders
Jeff Ferguson 778-8911
Ralph Heady 421-0447
Joe Moyer 421-2636
Thad Osgood 421-0793
Steve Passwater 421-3534

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Join our group on Facebook



Thanksgiving Dinner



On Sunday we will be having our Thanksgiving Dinner right after church. We have several people signed up to bring turkey so please feel free to bring your favorite side dishes and desserts! Invite your friends!

As we did last year, we will collect non-perishable foods that we can donate to Labette Assistance Center to help the needy in our community as an expression of our thanks to God for all He has blessed us with.

Doug's Desk

I have been preaching from the sermon on the mount and will be through the holidays with some special Christmas presentations. But one thing that I have noticed lately is how some people pay special attention to the "words in red" verses the rest of the Bible.

Are Jesus' words more holy than the other sections? Are Jesus' words more important than the rest of the book? It makes me think and I would like to make a simple and short clarification on the Bible and Jesus words verses Paul's or others' words.

I believe all the Bible is inspired. It is all holy and represents and speaks God's heart and mind. That is certainly what Jesus did when he lived among us, spoke on behalf of God, even as God.

While I realize Paul and Peter and the others were not God, but they were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write and teach and pass on the thoughts of God. God's thoughts are not more important because they came through a certain person over another. God's thoughts and words are unchangeable and perfect whether they come through Paul, Jesus or someone else. I have accepted the 66 books in the Holy Bible as God's words. I would be very cautious to ever let someone else step in as God's mouthpiece. This is why teachers will be judged more strictly than the rest. Teachers have a responsibility to not just know what God's word says, but then pass it on correctly. And Jesus pointed out how many Jewish leaders were not doing that very thing.

Another point I would like to make is that Paul had a different audience than Jesus most of the time. When Paul wrote to someone, he wrote to a church or a Christian person or group. I think Paul had an understanding that his writings were directed to Christians. To use Paul's writings and to beat non-believers over the head with them is a mistake. In contrast, most of what Jesus was saying was new, new to everyone. I guess simply put I see Jesus speaking to non-believers and Paul speaking to believers. However, I do recognize that Peter believed in Jesus in the Christ and so did others, but generally speaking that is the way I look at it, simply.

Paul's words are just as powerful and meaningful as Jesus'. We must remember and step back and recognize the context of each text as we share it and be cautious not to "give our pearls to swine." Yet we do need to share God's word and do it in love and with great gentleness and respect to our recipients.

Let God's word pour into our hearts and pour out of lives. And let us continue to take God at his word.

Your brother in Christ and minister.
Doug

Celebrating the birth of Christ at Westside!

On **November 27th**, after our monthly prayer meeting, we will be decorating the church for the Christmas season. It's important to celebrate God's love and His willingness to send His son to earth for us and this is one way we do that. This is a fun evening for all involved!

On **December 14th at 6:00 pm** we will go caroling as a way of sharing our celebration of His love. If you know someone that would enjoy having our carolers help them celebrate Christmas, let the office know. We'll have cookies and hot chocolate afterward.

Our Christmas program will be on **December 18th at 6:00 pm**. If you would like to share music, a reading or anything else at the Christmas Program, please let the office know by December 1st. Our theme this year is about Christians celebrating Christmas around the world.

There will be no Wednesday at Westside on December 21, 28 or January 4.

December 24th at 6:00 pm will be our Candlelight Christmas Eve service.

December 25th is Christmas Day and it's a Sunday! We'll plan to have our Sunday Morning Worship service that day but no Sunday School.

Community Thanksgiving Service-A Community Thanksgiving Service will be held this coming Sunday night, **November 20th at Wesley United Methodist Church at 6:30 pm**. Doug will be speaking as well as John Bain from First Christian Church. Join the community in thanking God for his provisions to all of us!

Thanksgiving



Monthly prayer meeting-Each month on the 4th Sunday of the month we hold a prayer meeting at 5:00pm. Our next prayer meeting is on **November 27**.

Prayer Concerns

Those with cancer:

- Amy Steig-heart surgery on December 12
- Marcus Jackson
- Walt Keely
- Tammy Naffzinger
- Carol Conway
- Kim Davis
- Mark Fitzgerald
- Doug Heiskell
- David Braden
- Joyce Peterson
- Bob Packard
- Lisa Hays
- Mark Fitzgerald
- Danielle-Mark Fitzgerald's daughter in Florida
- Anna's step-grandmother Wanda

Shut-ins:

- Sherm Morgan
- Connie Gilbert

Missions:

- Scott Springer-missionary/Mexico
- Hidden Haven
- Farrans-New Tribes Missions
- Cookson Hills Christian School
- Melinda Velasquez-Pioneer Bible Translators

Other concerns:

- Brothers and sisters around the word, suffering for their faith
- Hazel Thiessen
- Chris Torte
- Jim Simone
- Rose Olsen-stroke
- Karen Wade-health
- Jennifer-kidney transplant

- Reepie Family-death in the family
- Betty's great-niece Rashal Chickadonz, was in an accident and broke her pelvis, both shoulders and elbow.
- Family of Jeff Ferguson in the death of his father, Elburn, this week.

If you would like prayer requests 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!

