



# The West Side Epistle

Ye are our epistle written in our heart, known and read of all men—II Corinthians 3:2

## THE DEVIL'S BEATITUDES

*Taken from "Seek the old paths" August 2011*

Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend a few hours a week with their fellow Christians. They are my best workers.

Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked. I can use them.

Blessed are the "touchy" who stop going to church. They are my missionaries.

Blessed are the trouble makers. They shall be called my children.

Blessed are the complainers. I'm all ears to them.

Blessed are those who are bored with the minister's mannerisms and mistakes, for they get nothing out of the sermons.

Blessed is the church member who expects to be invited to his own congregation, for he is part of the problem instead of the solution.

Blessed are those who gossip, for they shall cause strife and divisions that please me.

Blessed are those who are easily offended, for they will soon get angry and quit.

Blessed are those who do not give their offering to carry on God's work, for they are my helpers.

Blessed is he who professes to love God but hates his brother and sister, for he shall be with me forever.

Blessed are you who, when you read this, think it *is* about other people and not yourself. I've got you too!

*Author Unknown — must have been a preacher*

### From the Elders' Desk



**West Side  
Church of Christ**  
1705 Starview Drive  
Salem, VA 24153  
540-389-9139

#### Elders:

Jeff Durham  
Eddy Gilpin  
Danny Guard  
Charles Gwaltney

#### Deacons:

Fred Altizer  
Jerry Anderson  
Mike Durham  
Bob Garby  
Jim Harrington  
Lyn Shrader  
Squeaky Valentine

#### Minister:

Eddy Gilpin

#### Associate Minister:

Jerry Anderson

Visit our website at  
[www.westsidcofc-salem.com](http://www.westsidcofc-salem.com)

Sponsors of  
*"House to House/Heart to Heart"*

### Missions

FHU Student Missions;  
*Truth for the World*, Jim Dearman  
(radio);  
*Preaching the Gospel*, James Watkins  
(TV)  
Gospel Broadcasting Network (TV);  
*House to House/Heart to Heart* (print)  
*Voice of Truth International* (print)  
Fishers of Men  
*We'll take a Dozen* – preacher student  
support – Arusha, Tanzania;  
*Gimme \$5 for Tanzania*  
Supporting:  
Ukraine Preacher Training  
Joshua Ankiyah, South Africa;  
Jesse Nelsen, ETSPM  
Burt Jones, Tim Shoulders, Donnie Vick

**Welcome! We Love Visitors!!**  
**You are invited to all our assemblies.**

#### Sunday

Bible classes for all ages  
Worship Services

9:30AM  
10:30AM

#### Wednesday

Midweek Bible Study 7:00PM



## Happy Birthday this week:

December 12- Andrew Becker

December 14- Rosemary Bush

December 17- Dotty Collins

## Anniversaries

George & Bonnie Mellon- Dec. 16

Cha & Danny Guard- Dec. 18

We will have an ongoing series on "Questions and Answers" Sunday nights. The Q&A box is on the table in the foyer for any interested in asking a Biblical question.

## W O W

The WOW group is sponsoring a Dec 31 Congregational Singing to welcome the new year.

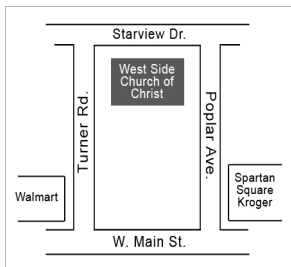
Come and bring your favorite finger food or snack and enjoy fellowship, singing, and fun to welcome in 2012. Time 9:00-12:00

Please sign up on the WOW Bulletin Board.

### Thanks to Jeremy White

for creating a simple map to use for our NewMover Evangelism Postcards.

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### DECEMBER ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS

Poppy seeds, Instant Swiss Mocha sugar-free coffee, Meringue powder

### Monthly Reminder Checklist

- ♦ Lock and hide valuables in your car.
- ♦ Turn off your cell phone.
- ♦ Change the thermostat in the fellowship hall before leaving.
- ♦ If you are the last one out of the building, turn off all lights and close and lock the doors.

## West Side Youth

December 18—Bible Study—Teen Center

December 31— Devotional/Pizza/Game Night

—Fellowship Hall 6:30—9:00 PM

**NINE GOOD MINUTES @ 5:49**

Parents: Remember your pew packer can say the 66 books of the Bible to one of our elders. If he/she misses one, they can study and try again at the next service. They are allowed to "sing" the 66 books. The certificate will be awarded at a later date. It is offered as an encouragement for them to learn the books of the Bible.

If they could accomplish this by the end of 2012, that would be great. "Mr" Jerry.

**WE ARE THE PEW PACKERS!!**

### DOE TODAY Extra change for Children

Potter Children's Home Gleaner Cans due today. Extra cans are available on the foyer table.

Also, the Potter Children's Home gifts are due TODAY.

Thanks to all who are helping with this effort.

### Diane Tucker is coming to town!

December 20, 5:30-8:00

Abuelo's at Valley View Mall

All ladies are invited for dinner, appetizer or just to chat.

Please RSVP to Michele Nikkel by Dec 16

I HAD A DRUG PROBLEM AS A CHILD

I WAS DRUG TO SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY MORNING;  
I WAS DRUG TO CHURCH EVERY SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT;

I WAS DRUG TO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND GOSPEL MEETINGS;  
SOMETIMES I WAS DRUG TO THE WOODSHED.

THOSE DRUGS ARE STILL IN MY VEINS. THEY ARE STRONGER THAN HEROINE OR CRACK. IF WE ALL HAD THIS DRUG PROBLEM, THE WORLD WOULD BE A BETTER PLACE!!

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## TNT –Barnabus Family of Focus

The next TNT meeting will be Dec 20. Our current POF (Person of Focus) is Martha Wood. Here are some ways you can help support our POF: make dinner, phone call, joy basket, invite to lunch, visit, send card/note, sit with during service, give a hug, email. Plan to meet at 6:00 pm for dinner and then stay to help.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT WEST SIDE

December 12—Preachers' Meeting at West Side

December 20— Ladies dinner with Diane Tucker at Abuelos

December 31— Congregational Singing to welcome 2012

January 21— New Members Appreciation Dinner

### AREA EVENTS:

◇ **GREAT SMOKEY MOUNTAIN MARRIAGE RETREAT**

February 15-18, 2012. "A Match Made in Heaven" Pigeon Forge  
Holiday Inn Conference Center. \*\* 2 tracks \*\*

◇ **CENTRAL (HARRISONBURG) Ladies Day -March 24**

◇ **DALE RIDGE Ladies Day –April 28 - Speaker: Celine Sparks**

### NewMover Evangelism:

The big red cards with the children on front have been sent to the 24153 zip code for the October new movers to our community. Please pray that we will move at least one visitor from the 70 new movers in October. Everyone greet our visitors and if any one of them visits because of the NewMover card, let the rest of us know. We are eagerly anticipating our first visitor from this effort. PWG— (plant, water, God) . Jerry "coach A".

### Prayer List Continued

Ruth & Glenn Hartman, Sr.

Sandra Speir

Corey Ryan

Jerry and Jennifer Ogden

Dale Janosik

Keith Ann (Kay) Widener

Mary Ellen Crowe

Jessica White

Lori Stump

Mason & Cole Anderson



Thinking  
of  
you

## Senior Servants

Lynn Anderson	Norma Biller
Betty Buckner	Jim Dorsett
Margaret Kratz	Miriam Majors
Jo Musgrove	Evelyn Scott
Elsie Smith	Ruth Stanton
Evelyn White	WJ Wood
Grace Myers	Al Furrow
	Willard Campbell



- ⇒ Kathleen Soliday, **Sandy Garby's** mom in hospital.
- ⇒ Jean McCracken, **Jeanny Gilpin's** mom, had successful surgery.
- ⇒ Anna Richardson, **Dan Colwell's** sister, is still in RMH room 1039.
- ⇒ **W. J. Wood** had successful cataract surgery Wednesday.
- ⇒ A. W. Martin, **Bob's** brother, has a tumor on his kidney and is scheduled for surgery January 9 to remove the kidney. (5633 Old Mountain Rd., Rke, VA. 24019)
- ⇒ Nelson Gabbard, **Glenn's** brother, has stomach cancer.
- ⇒ **Betty Buckner** has a broken foot.
- ⇒ Brittney Tucker, friend of **David Wilcox**, personal struggles.

### Continue in Prayer

Anne Johnson

Barbara Whitt

Naola McCormick

Kevin Barnard

Danny Edmunds

Melissa Yeager

Terri White

William McClint

Betty Garby

W. J. Wood

Dan Bowman



Announcements: Mike Durham

Song Leader (AM): Charlie Gwaltney

Opening Prayer (AM)  
 12/4/2011 Danny Guard  
 12/11/2011 Gene Benefield  
 12/18/2011 Charlie Maness  
 12/25/2011 Charlie Gwaltney

Preside at Communion: Danny Guard

Serve Table Herman Lowe  
 Bob Martin  
 Phillip Doss  
 Bradford Durham

Closing Prayer (AM):  
 12/4/2011 John Black  
 12/11/2011 Fred Altizer  
 12/18/2011 Wes White  
 12/25/2011 Tom Rogers

Song Leader (PM): Josh Whitlow

Opening Prayer (PM)  
 12/4/2011 Marc Laplante  
 12/11/2011 Paul Mays  
 12/18/2011 Ron White  
 12/25/2011 Jeff Durham

Scripture Reader: Dylan Tyler

Closing Prayer (PM)  
 12/4/2011 Noah Laplante  
 12/11/2011 Mitch Jearls  
 12/18/2011 David Brown  
 12/25/2011 Jeff Durham

Serve Table (PM) Jeremy White  
Sam Valentine

Song Leader (Wed): Jeff Durham  
 Prayer (Wed)  
 12/7/2011 A. C. Janney  
 12/14/2011 Glenn Hartman  
 12/21/2011 Ed Mickens  
 12/28/2011 Jeff Guilliams

Open/Close Bldg: Jerry Anderson

Greeters: Pettits, Jearls  
Myrtle Peverall,

Nursery Attend: Amanda Brown  
Mary Halling

Ushers: Curtis Oakes,  
Squeaky Valentine

Handouts: Garrett Laplante  
Jimmy Harrington

Prepare communion: Cha Guard  
Hazel McFalls

Baptismal Garments: Dorothy Mays  
Cards/Pencils: Caroline Harrington  
McKenzie Doss

Last week's attendance 12/04/11 & 12/07/11

Bible Class- 143      Worship Service-175  
 Sunday PM- 141      Wednesday PM-134  
 Contribution- \$ 8929

December 11, 2011      Number 3203

In December 1997, I preached a sermon entitled "Doing Things Without Thinking." In it we examined some things that we, as Christians, are exposed to on a regular basis that perhaps we participate in without giving a thought to them. One such matter was contributing to the "Salvation Army." Indeed, 'tis the season" for the ringing of the bells and display of the kettles once again. As the holiday season swiftly approaches, let us revisit this subject and ask ourselves if it is acceptable for a Christian to put money in the Salvation Army's coffers.

That the Salvation Army does much good cannot be denied. Their humanitarian efforts are to be commended. A great deal of the money they collect goes to help the downtrodden. However, just because it does good is no reason wholeheartedly (and without examination) to support an organization. Contributing to an organization other than the church per se is not wrong.

However, the Salvation Army is a religious denomination. (Yes, it is a religious organization!) It was founded in London in 1878 by William Booth and his wife, Catherine. It had its beginnings with a small contingency of 10 full-time workers in 1867; and by 1874 was known as "The Christian Mission." Booth himself was the leader and had assumed the title of General Superintendent. His followers simply called him "General." While reading a printer's proof of the 1878 annual report, Booth noticed the statement, "the Christian mission is a volunteer army." He crossed out "volunteer army" and replaced the phrase with "Salvation Army." From that point onward, converts were referred to as soldiers and were known then, as now, as "Salvationists."

-Eddy

