

Empty Pews

Neglect in assembling for worship and study is one of the most prevalent sins in the church today. Check almost any church building and you will note a forty to fifty percent decrease in attendance from Sunday morning to Wednesday night. Why? A few are absent due to age and physical infirmity. However, the majority had rather relax, recreate and be entertained by the Hollywood set.

The empty pew is a display of the Laodicean spirit. The Sunday morning only crowd is characterized by lukewarm devotion. Their thimble-sized capacity for spirituality is quickly filled. Their commitment to things divine is exhausted in an hour per week. Like Israel of old, they view the worship assembly with a spirit of boredom, declaring, "what a weariness it is" (Mal. 1:13). They view themselves as glowing with spiritual health while God regards them as "wretched and miserable, and poor and blind, and naked (Rev. 3:17)

The empty pew is an expression of contempt for the blood of Christ. It points an accusing finger at the spiritually tepid member who has exchanged the cross for a Lazy-Boy recliner and a TV program. Golgatha has completely lost its meaning to once redeemed souls whose spiritual thirst can be quenched in a weekly hour of worship. Develop the attitude of the sister who declared, "I can hardly wait for Sunday, and Wednesday nights."

The assemblies of the church for worship and study are marvelously wonderful occasions. They edify, strengthen and encourage. Something is tragically wrong with members of the church who can neglect them without compunction of conscience. May we all strive to develop the attitude of the sister who declared, "I can hardly wait for Sunday, and Wednesday nights."

Frank Chesser

Memorials

Memory is a great and precious gift from God. We memorialize and pay tribute to noted events and notable people in many ways. We erect statues and monuments in granite, marble, concrete and steel. We name bridges, roads and parks for them. We set aside special days in their honor. Individually, we mark special days, special events and special people from our past in our own unique ways. As we set aside a special day in our nation to remember our fallen heroes, let us never forget the greatest "Hero" of all- our Lord. Let us worship Him regularly and properly and remember Him each day we live. "But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 17).

-Eddy

Lest He Fade from Your Memory

I pressed a flower between two pages,
At some point long ago.
And found it perchance when I opened the book,
For reasons I now don't know.

I wondered about the noted event,
That had caused me to place it there;
But couldn't recall the why, or the when,
Or the how, or the what, or the where.

Then I thought of another flower,
Pressed memorably in a book,
The Rose of Sharon, God's own Son,
Whose life they carelessly took.

And I wonder how many will fail to see,
As they open and find Him there,
The importance of the why, and the when,
And the how, and the what, and the where.

He's on each page of God's great book,
There for His world to see;
So remember Him often and know of His love,
Lest He fade from your memory.

-Eddy Gilpin

Teens

Congratulations to Olivia Valentine for her accomplishments in the State Gymnastics Meet last weekend. She placed 6th on the vault and 14th on floor exercise!! Way to Go!!

Congrats also to Chelsea High for breaking the regional record time in 300m hurdles!!

Registration forms are in the foyer for VCC, Horizons, and the bus. Fill them out and turn them in ASAP!

June/July dates for Teens:

June 7—Teen Bible Study 7:30

June 17-23, 2007 VCC

June 25—Summer Youth Devo at West Side

July 1-6, 2007 Horizons Senior Week

July 8-13, 2007 Horizons Junior Week

Thanks

Thanks to all the teachers who taught our middle school, high school, and adult classes during the Spring quarter! We have an exciting Summer quarter ahead of us. In the auditorium on Sunday morning, Don Pettit will present a series of lessons on “*A Closer Walk with God*”, focusing on spiritual maturity. Wayne Dixon will teach a second Sunday morning adult class in the fellowship room, focusing on “*The 5 Journeys of Paul*”. Danny Guard will be teaching the Sunday morning High School Class, using the new book by Kyle Butt and Stan Butt Jr. called “*Waves of Change*”. Tom Rogers will be teaching the Sunday morning Middle School class about Paul’s “*Prison Epistles*”. Of course on Wednesday evenings we will all meet in the auditorium to hear lessons from some of West Side’s men, as part of our Summer Series.

- Eric Earn-

West Side's Older Workers

There will be a Fun & Fellowship event on June 9 from 2—4 PM at the Simms home on Pennsylvania Avenue. Dinner will follow at K&W Cafeteria. Sign-up sheet is posted on the WOW board.

The regular WOW meeting in June will be in the fellowship hall on June 12 at 10 AM. This will be a combined pancake brunch with Dale Ridge congregation.

Virginia Christian Camp

VCC will begin on June 17. If you have not yet registered your children, do so this week! It is a great week for all kids!! Several members of our congregation will be there as part of the staff.

Velda Gearhart—head cook and bottle washer— needs to have the following items donated for the dining hall:

36 small bottles of Ketchup

Melissa Rogers and Jo Ann Edwards—craft divas—need to have the following items donated for the craft department:

new Knee-High panty hose

small rubber bands

Sharpie Markers (all colors)

small artist paint brushes

masking tape

small tins with lids (i.e. International coffee tins)

409 cleaner

paper towels

Thanks in advance for your contributions!! If you wish to give a monetary donation you may give it to one of the ladies mentioned above or Jerry Anderson.



SICK

Mary Valentine, **Squeaky's** mother, had one of her surgeries on Friday to place pins in her broken bones from a fall she took last week.

Fred Altizer is home recovering after his surgery on Thursday.

Effie Wimmer was to have surgery on Friday.

Jeanny Gilpin will be having surgery on June 1.

Glenna Richardson will be starting her chemo treatments next month.

Evelyn White is scheduled for neck surgery on June 29 at UVA.

Remember the following in prayer: **Luetta Gregory, Larry Phillips, Teresa White, Mabel Walker, Betty Jenkins, Kassidy Foster.**

With Sympathy—Our sympathy is extended to Cindy Hall and family on the death of her father last week.

Happy Birthday this week to:

Therese Parker—5/30

Myrtle Peverall—5/31

Andy Duran—6/2

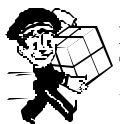
Crawford Keith—6/2

Shree Lowe—6/3



Happy Anniversary to:

Claude & Mary Ellen Crow—5/27



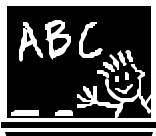
MAY & JUNE ITEMS FOR STAFFORDS:

Tic-Tacs (Cy's fav is green) and low fat microwave popcorn. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!!

Team Leaders—If you have any events going on during the summer please let the office know as soon as possible. Thanks!



Student Accomplishments



On June 17 we will be inserting our yearly Student Accomplishments into our bulletin. Forms are in the foyer by the bulletin basket. Pick one up and turn into the office by June 13.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go out to Mr. & Mrs. Andy Duran who were married yesterday in West Virginia.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

There will be a Vacation Bible School meeting on May 30 after services. All writers, skit leaders and coordinators need to be there.

ADULT CLASS

If you plan on being in Wayne Dixon's class in the fellowship hall next quarter, please bring a Bible you can make a few notations in.

EDP MEETING

The Elders, Deacons and Preachers meeting will be on June 3 at 4:00 in the fellowship hall.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The monthly Men's Breakfast will be on June 9 at 8 AM at Famous Anthony's.

WEST SIDE SUMMER SERIES

West Side Summer Series will be "in-house" this year. Several men of our own congregation will be presenting lessons on Wednesday evenings this summer. First up will be Squeaky Valentine on June 6.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Our **Quarterly Fellowship Meal** will be on June 24. Team 2 will be in charge of set up and clean up.

HOMECOMING/40TH ANNIVERSARY

West Side Church of Christ will celebrate our **40th Anniversary/Homecoming** on September 9, 2007. There will be a golf outing on September 8. Please make plans now to be in attendance.

REGISTRATION FORMS

Please pick up your registration forms for VCC, Horizons, CTS and the Bus Trip. They are located in the foyer.

June 2007

Announcements	Mike Durham
Song Leader (AM)	Eric Earnhart
Opening Prayer (AM)	
6/3	Richard Simms
6/10	Jeff Durham
6/17	Tom Duff
6/24	Jerry Anderson
Preside at Communion	Tom Richardson
Serve Table	Josh Whitlow Roger Mays AC Janney John Black
Closing Prayer	
6/3	Wayne Dixon
6/10	Charlie Gwaltney
6/17	Jim Harrington
6/24	Claude Crowe
Song Leader (PM)	David Brown
Opening Prayer (PM)	
6/3	Paul Mays
6/10	Tom Rogers
6/17	Fred Altizer
6/24	Charlie Maness
Scripture Reader	Shawn Simms
Closing Prayer (PM)	
6/3	Collin Gregory
6/10	Bobby Martin
6/17	Barry White
6/24	Greg Edwards
Serve Table (PM)	Greg Edwards Luke Guard
Song Leader (Wed)	Adam House
Prayer (Wed)	
6/6	Bob Garby
6/13	Gene Benefield
6/20	Charlie Puckett
6/27	George Mellon

Door Man	Danny Guard
Greeters	Altizers McFalls
Nursery Attend	Marsha Cooke Becky Cooke
Ushers	Norris Gearhart Danny Guard
Handouts	Squeaky & Sam Valentine Herb Baker
Alternates	Mark Brooks
Prepare comm.	Jo Ann Edwards Nancy Benefield
Cards & Pencils	Jimmy Harrington Dylan Tyler

Last weeks attendance 5/20&23/07
 Bible Class— 145 Worship Service—179
 Eve. Worship—125 Wed. Service—132
 Contribution—\$6964