

From the Minister's Desk



Orpheus Heyward

Who Are You When Nobody is Looking?

We are certainly grateful for your presence this Lord's day. It is our prayer that the Word of God will bless you today that you might find yourself in the right relationship with God. Both of this morning's lessons are an important subject for the individual Christian. It is a subject that is very much necessary. As a matter of fact, these lessons call for individuals to be honest with themselves. Today's subject is "Who Are You When Nobody Is Looking".

When we are under the microscope of human eyes, we often put on a costume that we might hide our true selves. The truth of the matter is that each of us must confront the real person within us in order to experience true positive change. Many times we spend more time grooming our outward behaviors without truly changing our inward character. This is because we often are more concerned with what man thinks, rather than what God thinks. However, through the Word of God, I would like to provoke those of us who are here to take an introspective look at

who we really are. The true you is not necessarily manifested when you are seen. The true you is often manifested when you are not seen. This is the me that must be confronted. Today we will look at the you that is within. The measure of our spiritual success is dependent on the measure of our character.

Have you ever asked questions like, "why am I still stuck in this place?" "Why can't I seem to move forward?" What has you trapped and handcuffed to the degree that you cannot make progress? Our first instinct is to blame someone other than ourselves. Let me suggest this morning that true change and progress begins with an inward revolution. Therefore we will look at the "you" that is within. That is the you that is manifested when nobody is looking. Come with me into the text that we might receive a word from the King.

Ring in the New Year @ West End

Make plans now to attend West End's New Year's Eve Program on Wednesday, December 31 at 9 p.m.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Bible Trivia Game (7-8:45 p.m.)

Highlights from 2008

Dynamic Congregational Singing

Recognition Rewards

Poetry Readings

Group Singing by West End Groups

Powerful Preaching By Guest Speakers

Minister Keynote Address

Come out and enjoy the evening.

Bible Classes for New Year's Eve

Regular Wednesday evening Bible classes will not be held on Dec. 31. The New Year's Eve program will start at 9 p.m. The Wednesday Morning adult's class will be held as usual on New Year's Eve day.

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

Family Forum Bible Study – Each first Sunday West End's leadership will hold Family Forum Bible Study in the main building auditorium. The purpose of this study is to gather as a collective church family in order to study and improve the dynamics within our own immediate families in the home, which will in turn improve those of the Body of Christ.

The next **Marriage Enrichment/Dynamic Marriages course** will be held starting January 26, 2009 for eight weeks. See Robert and Stella Wilson to sign up or visit www.MarriagesMadeStronger.com.

The **2009 Marriage Retreat** will be held August 20-23 at the Winshape Conference Center on the campus of Berry College in Rome, GA. The cost is \$470 per couple and includes all meals and lodging. Payment plan is as follows: \$125 on February 1, then pay monthly. See Robert and Stella Wilson with any questions.

The "**Becoming One**" **marriage class** will be held for six weeks starting on February 5, 2009. This course is for all graduates of the Marriage Enrichment Class from any year. Cost is \$50 per couple and includes all materials. See Robert and Stella Wilson to sign up.

Fine-tune your Bible skills by attending West End's one-hour weekly seminar "**How To Study the Bible**". It is held EVERY TUESDAY from 7-8 p.m., and is specifically designed to improve your Bible knowledge through hands on, instructor-led, proven techniques. Orpheus Heyward conducts the class.

Men of Valor – The Men of Valor Men's Bible Study Class will not be held until a date announced in January. Listen for information from Bro. Heyward for when this class will resume.

Baptismal Certificates – If you were recently baptized and have not received your baptismal certificate, please see or contact Sony Heyward.

YOUTH AND SINGLES

Youth Registration Continues – All West Enders with children are asked to stop at Youth Registration table in the foyer to register your child for upcoming youth activities. Registration continues through the end of the New Years Eve program on December 31.

Youth Chorus Practices Increased youth chorus practices in preparation for the New Year's Eve Program – will include some Saturdays and consecutive Sunday afternoon practice sessions. Chorus members and parents are asked to listen for call-and-post phone messages with specific details.

YOUTH AND SINGLES

Help raise funds for **Southwestern Christian College** by attending the play, *The Black Nativity*, at the True Colors Theatre Company. See Jeannette James (404-392-0017), Curtis Daniel, Lorraine Jackson, Viola Tookes, or Bernice Barnes to secure your \$30 tickets.

AREA EVENTS

Ministers' Institute Conference in Ft. Lauderdale – Registration is underway for the 33rd Annual Ministers' Institute Conference set for January 17-22, 2009, and is sponsored by W.F. Washington and the Golden Heights CofC in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Visit www.MinistersInstituteConference.com for details and to register.

PRAYER LIST

If you have a desire for prayer, or know someone who does, please forward your request to dhmor30331@yahoo.com, or call Doris Morgan at 404-346-1372. You can also contact Esther Brown at 404-696-3941, Angela Dillard (midnite626@yahoo.com), Nettie Fanning at 404-696-9104, or Tonya Sykes at 678-469-9105 (tmsykes2003@yahoo.com). In order to avoid duplication, names that are currently listed on the Sick and Shut-In list will not be added to the Prayer List.

The Grogan Family
Rubye Moore & Family

Lazelle Jones, Jr.
Brad Harris

Phillip Folkes
Betty Hayes

Exciting New Yearbook Style Pictorial Directory in Progress

**Only half of West Enders have taken a photo!
It costs nothing to take a photo.**

LAST DAY FOR PHOTOS IS DECEMBER 28

The main complaint of past directories is that not all members are included. We need YOUR participation to make this the best directory it can be. Please sign up today for the pictorial directory and walk over to the brick annex building to see if you or you and your family can walk up and take your directory photo. Sign-up sheets and helpful are in the foyer. Direct any questions to Cassandra Arnold, Johnnie Sawyer, and Gwen Williams. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Got Baptized or Placed Membership from Another Church of Christ?

All individuals and families placing membership with West End from another Church of Christ, or those that have been baptized here should attend our New Converts class with Orpheus Heyward or the our Orientation Class respectively. Those placing membership are strongly urged to attend the Orientation class led by members of West End's leadership. Contact elder, I. David Logan (404-755-1016) with any questions about the Orientation Class. Both classes are held in the red brick house located adjacent to the main building during regular Bible School class times. Those placing membership will be advised of the classes available for them and their families. Contact minister Orpheus Heyward (678-592-3397) or any elder or deacon with any questions.

Placed Membership

11/30 – **The Jamison Family**
(Eric and Lisa, Eric Jr., Shadé)
2297 Dodson Dr.
East Point, GA 30344
404-346-0540

MINISTER APPRECIATION

The elders announced last Lord's Day morning that in appreciation for the work of efforts of our minister, Orpheus Heyward, a special collection will be taken up following the regular collection at all of today's services.

SICK & SHUT-IN

To be included or to have someone included or removed from this listing please contact Gayron Johnson at the church office.

Robert Wilburn suffered a mild stroke last weekend. He was hospitalized and released late last week. 770-808-6093. **Tallulah Latham** was admitted to Crawford Long Hospital, Room 6113. **Sandra Davis**, daughter of Kate Hendrix, is in DeKalb Medical Center at Hillandale. **Ossie Porter** (mother of Bill Moore) – A.G. Rhodes Homes, 350 Boulevard, SE., A Wing, Room 102, Atl., GA 30312. **John White** – Reliable Health and Rehabilitation, 3301 Lakewood Ave., Room 115, Atl., GA 30310; 404-406-7427. **Corene Woods** – A.G. Rhodes Nursing Home, 350 Boulevard, SE, Garden Wing, Room 11, Atl., GA 30312. 404-688-6731. **Jessie Davis** – Buckhead Health & Rehabilitation, 54 Peachtree Park Dr., NE, Room 407, Atl., GA 30309. **Viola Tookes** – 396 Thaxton Dr., Atl., GA 30315. 404-627-9360. **Joyce Mapp** – 3371 Hyland Dr., Decatur, GA 30032. **Cressie Lawson** – 450 Fairburn Rd, SW, #14, Atl., GA 30331. 404-696-2548. **Annie Glaze** – A.G. Rhodes Home at Wesley Woods, Room 421, 1819 Clifton Rd., NE, Atl., GA 30329. **Barbara Edgerton** – 2469 Baywood Dr., S, Atl., GA 30315; 404-438-6659. **Tallulah Latham** – 320 Fairburn Rd., Apt H-6, Atl., GA 30331. 404-505-1581. **Willie Mae Marrow** – 3060 Continental Colony Pkwy., Apt. 502, Atl., GA 30330. 404-344-9990. **Elizabeth Perkins** – 2748 Donald Lee Hollowell Pkwy., Apt. 121, Atl., GA 30318. 404-792-9115. **Elnora Bethel** – 3700 Potomac Dr., East Point, GA 30344. **Daneka Vickers**, daughter of Mack and Sandra Freeman. **Annie McArthur** – 751 Fairburn Rd., SW #2212, Atl., GA, 30331. 404-699-2939. **Anrenea Johnson**.