

A Parent's Primary Task

Children are one of the most precious commodities in our society. The Lord our God instructs parents to train them up in the way they should go (Proverbs 22:6). This responsibility is one of the primary tasks of parents, and it is also the responsibility of those interacting with young people to help lead, guide, and direct them properly. The family here at West End is one of the finest in the brotherhood. It is a congregation that strives not for lukewarm mediocrity that the Lord hates, but one that looks and acts to please The Master in every way. Minister Heyward, as part of his sermon last Sunday evening, touched on the importance of parents nurturing, loving, and directing the course and spiritual growth of our young people.

West End's families consist of a wide variety of family units. We have traditional married two-parent families, blended families where either the mother or father is a step-parent, single-dad families, single-mom families, homes where a grandparent or aunt is leading the home without a mother or father, and children that are shuttled between homes where the biological mother and father are live in separate locations. Whatever the situation, God desires us to raise our children in admonition of the Lord.

It is extremely important for a young person being raised in any of the aforementioned environments to understand that it is the adult's (especially the West End Christian adults) responsibility to "run the show" and "call the shots" in the home. A young person allowed to dishonor the adults in the home harms not only themselves, but the entire West End family. Parents should not abdicate parenting or provide inadequate supervision and discipline at any time. Your home, our West End family, and society will suffer as a result.

In the book of 1 Samuel, we read about Eli and the negative results he experienced for not disciplining his two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, when they sinned against the Lord. Eli was told that he would die and that his two sons would also die. We LEARN in part from these Old Testament passages that properly raising children is not something to be taken lightly. With gangs, drugs, rampant casual sexual activity, and more bombarding our young people, each of us has a mandate to protect, discipline, and correct the life paths of our children. Doing nothing will lead to trouble, stress, and grief.

Let us look to the Lord, pray and do those things required to ensure our children's success and spiritual consciousness. The Lord WILL bless your efforts. Talk is cheap. The hard part is DOING what is required. We cannot faint in this great task!

A child that knows and understands to respect and parents and all adults is a blessing to us all.

P R A Y E R L I S T

Phillip Folkes
 Randolph McKinney
 Ruth Moneke & Family
 Wynn & Marcus Robinson
 Rubye Moore & Family
 Olympia Billings
 Orlande Bryd
 George Odom

Lonnie McWilliams
 Octavis Royals
 Johnny Ross Family
 Schyla Jackson & Family
 Cynthia Mitchell & Family
 Maxine Jones & Family
 Betty Hayes
 Robin Knox

Beulah King
 Tony Bennett & Family
 Susan Hodge & Family
 Jerome & Vanessa Hodge
 Terry Almond
 Monique & Terrell Hodge

Prayer Ministry – 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 Johnnie Stephens at 404-243-1139, Esther Brown at 404-696-3941, Angela Dillard (midnite626@yahoo.com), or Nettie Fanning at 404-696-9104. 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.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT WEST END

Be prepared to bring in the New Year on Monday, December 31 at West End. A great program is being planned with a night of singing, gospel preaching, special presentations and more. Invite your friends, relatives and neighbors to join us.

There is no better place to be to start of 2008 than the West End Church of Christ!

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

Quiet and Cleared Out Please – During West End's 8 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 6 p.m. worship services, all are expected to be in the auditorium. Please keep the foyer clear during worship services, and be courteous to the deacons that request you to move. Collection and Lord's Supper will not be served in the foyer. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

The **Membership to Discipleship** group will not meet on December 25 and January 1, 2008. We will resume our weekly meetings on January 8, 2008.

YOUTH AND SINGLES

Youth Outing Sign Up Ends TODAY - Sign up ends today for the 5-8 and 9-12 Grade Combined Youth Outing Next Sunday to the Chestnut Drive Church of Christ in Doraville, GA. Sign up in the lower level of the Educational Building. Parents, please make sure to discuss your children's participation before signing them up. Please print clearly and put your phone number. Transportation will be provided, but some parent chaperones/drivers will be needed. See David Bishop with any questions.

It's Star Students Time – Turn in your report cards to David Bishop to be recognized as a West End Star Student or Rising Star. Star Students are those with all A's and B's on report cards or progress reports. Rising Stars are those that have shown an improvement in grades from a previous report card or progress report. Also, conduct, behavior, and work habits in all classes must be top-notch. So far we have four Star Students for December - Nia Bullock, a student at Hooper Alexander Elementary School; LaDarion Lewis, Campbell Middle School; T'ara Tripp, Stoneview Elementary School; and Taja Smith, Stoneview Middle School. A brief presentation is planned to be made during our New Year's Eve program. Congratulations to everyone.

Youth Nite with the Atlanta Hawks – All youth and parents interested in attending the Hawks vs. Cleveland Cavaliers on Friday, Feb. 8, 2008 should sign the list in the lower level of the educational building starting today. Tickets are \$10 each. See David Bishop with any questions.

AREA EVENTS

Make plans now to attend the **Annual Ministers' Institute Conference (MIC)** January 19-24, 2008 at the Coral Springs Marriott Hotel, Golf Club & Convention Center at 11775 Heron Bay Blvd. in Coral Springs, FL. This event is sponsored by the New Golden Heights CofC in Ft. Lauderdale, FL where W.F. Washington is the minister. Details, prices, and online registration is at www.MinistersInstituteConference.com.

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 Members/New Converts Orientation Class. The class is for two consecutive Sundays and Wednesdays (total of four class sessions) and led by members of West End's leadership. Contact elder, I. David Logan (404-755-1016) with any questions about the orientation class. The class is held in the red brick house located adjacent to the main building, and is held during regular Bible School class times. After taking the class, new converts will be directed to the New Converts Class; new members 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.

Baptisms

12/9 - Wesley R. Allen
1640 Stokes Ave.
Atlanta, GA 30310
678-799-7190
wallen31@yahoo.com

12/9 - Jackie M. Wright
585 Parkway Drive, Rm. 417
Atlanta, GA 30308
404-607-1010
DOB: 9/22/63

12/9 - Jacqueline M. Wright
585 Parkway Drive, Rm. 417
Atlanta, GA 30308
404-607-2020
DOB: 1/4/95

New Address
Natasha Y. Hartry
1102 Cobb Crossing
Smyrna, GA 30080

Reminder to Parents and Adult Bible School Teachers

Parents with children in Bible classes should either be excused from class by the teacher and/or make efforts to leave class no later than 10 minutes before the end of class time to pick up your children in a timely manner.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IS TODAY

There will be a congregational today following our combined 10:00 a.m. worship services to update everyone on plans for 2008, the building program progress and more. Please remain seated following the closing prayer.

Children's Bible Hour

Children's Bible Hour for ages 2 through 6 is held during the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Parents may sign in their children by reporting to Room 14 upstairs in the Educational Building. **Parents should leave the auditorium immediately following Lord's Supper to pick up your children. Waiting until the end of service significantly delays the volunteers from being able to leave.** Thank you. See Shona Nixon or Tina Clark with any questions.

SICK & SHUT-IN

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

Corene Woods, Arbor Terrace Assisted Living Center at Cascade, 1001 Research Center Atlanta Drive, Atlanta, GA 30331, 404-696-0432. Leonard Walton, 17, is in Egleston Children's Hospital at Emory, 1405 Clifton Road in Room 374. Visitors are welcome, but please do not bring live flowers or fruit baskets. Carrie Henderson – 1258 Windsor Pkwy, Atl., GA 30319. 404-255-1210. The father of Robin Knox, Mr. James Knox, is in the Heartland Rehabilitation Center in Charleston, SC. Send encouragements and cards to Robin's address for proper forwarding and delivery to 643 Hynds Springs Dr., Jonesboro, GA 30238. William Johnson, Jr., son of William and Gayron Johnson. Cressie Lawson – 450 Fairburn Rd, SW, #14, Atlanta, GA 30331. 404-696-2548. The mother of Isacque Nixon is recovering at home from open heart surgery. Thomas Chase is in Crestview Nursing Home located at 2800 Springdale Rd., Atl., GA 30315, 404-616-8100. Visitors are welcomed. Lillie Tyler – 419 Crossing Dr, Lithia Springs, GA 30122, 770-732-8914. Annie Glaze – A.G. Rhodes Home at Wesley Woods, Room 421, 1819 Clifton Rd., NE, Atl., GA 30329. Barbara Edgerton is at home ill. Tallulah Latham – 320 Fairburn Rd., Apt H-6, Atl., GA 30331, 404-505-1581. Willie Mae Morrow – 3060 Continental Colony Pkwy., Apt. 502, Atl., GA 30330. 404-344-9990. Elizabeth Perkins – 1392 Maynard Rd., NW, #31, Atl., GA 30331. 404-691-0268. 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. Anreneka Johnson.

SORRY, NO CHANGE

As you cheerfully give as you prosper this Lord's Day, please be prepared with the exact amount you have determined to contribute. Our ushers are unable to "make change" during the collection or afterwards. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.