

## From the Minister's Desk



Wesley R. Brown

### The Things We Owe God

**N**ow that a New Year has arrived, we must consider our future in the light of God's word. We must "Give God His Due In 2006! He is our Maker, our Father, our Creator and our God. It is in Him that we move, and have our existence. We did not make ourselves, nor did we evolve from some microscopic organism. God created us in His own image. Therefore, we owe Him our love, our loyalty, and our life.

We must love Him supremely. Listen to the Son, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." (Mk. 12:30) We love Him because He loved us first by creating us, and then by redeeming us from eternal self-destruction. He sent Jesus Christ to rescue us from the power of darkness. And we show our love by keeping His commandments. Jesus said to His servants, "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." (Jno. 14:21) Give God His due by observing His commandments.

We owe Him our loyalty. This means that we must be faithful to Him. He has given us His word, or His commandments through Jesus. Even though we are not under the law of Moses, we are under the law of Christ. Paul knew this and told the Galatians that we must bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2) The idea that we can ignore the teachings of the Savior, and be recipients of the grace of God is ludicrous. True Christians are doers of the word. (Jas. 1:21-24).

We owe God our lives. This means that we must live for Him. We are not our own. Those who try to formulate their lives according to the commandments, and doctrines of men are doomed to failure. The disciple of Christ formulates his life according to the doctrine of Christ. This is how he gives God His due in the new year. Remember the words of John, "Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son." (2 Jno. 9)

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY

**There will be a congregational meeting conducted by the elders on Sunday, January 29 following an abbreviated 10:45 a.m. worship service. Please make the appropriate adjustments in your schedule for this event and plan to be in attendance so that you may know first-hand what's in store for West End in 2006.**

## COMBINED ZONE MEETING For All West Enders – This Saturday 12 - 2 p.m.



There will be a combined Zone Meeting at West End this Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. Come to meet and greet the many new faces at West End and learn about the events that the Zone Committee has planned for this year.

## MINISTRY / COMMITTEE NEWS

- ① The **Singles Committee** meeting will be held today after the 10:45 a.m. service in the brick house. Only committee members are expected to attend.

**Evangelism Committee News** – Join us as we fulfill the great commission and take the gospel to the streets of Atlanta! West End will be canvassing the second Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon. Fishers of Men and all West End members are encouraged to participate. Contact April Howze or Kesha Clinkscale for more information.

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### WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

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The next **Dynamic Marriages Class** begins tomorrow at West End. Contact facilitators, Robert and Stella Wilson at 404-766-0774. See them in person today to sign up. You can also sign up at [www.marriagesmadestronger.com](http://www.marriagesmadestronger.com). The class will last for approximately eight weeks.

**Marriage Enrichment Cruise to Bermuda** – Make plans today to sail away Sunday, October 15, 2006 through Friday, October 20, 2006. Enjoy five nights of exciting fun, relaxation, and rejuvenation in exotic Bermuda. For more details, pick up the flyers in the foyer or see Stella Wilson or Yonita Rowell.

The **Membership to Discipleship** group meets each Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in the brick annex. See J.P. Collier, I. David Logan, or Dorothy Reed for more information.

**Bulletin Announcements** – If you want an announcement in the Sunday bulletin, your information must be e-mailed by noon on Monday to [announcements@thewestender.com](mailto:announcements@thewestender.com). E-mailing is the preferred method. Written or telephoned announcements should be directed to Tawania Thigpen (770-363-6100), Cynthia Mitchell (770-322-1072) or David Bishop (770-306-7462). Please plan in advance so your information won't be left out.

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### YOUTH AND SINGLES

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**Attention All Single Ladies** – Proverbs 31 Women (P31) will host a meeting for current and new members on Saturday, January 28, at 3:30 p.m. Come out to fellowship with your sisters in Christ and learn more about P31. For more details contact Mea Camp (404-993- 8289) or Shaneil Wilkins (803-322-3249).

**A West End Riddle** - What do Takeshia Johnson, Parys Grigsby, and Jonathan Bishop all have in common. Find out during evening worship service on January 29.

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### AREA NEWS & EVENTS

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**Locust Grove CofC-Downtown**, 112 Peachtree St., Jackson, GA 30233, will host a Gospel Meeting February 26 - March 1. The speaker will be Calvin Willis from Manchester, GA. The schedule of services are as follow: Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; bible class at 9:45 a.m.; Monday through Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Please call 770-775-4443 for more information.

### West End Seminar Postponed

The **Within Thy Walls** 3-day relationship abuse seminar originally scheduled for February 10-12 has been postponed and will be rescheduled for a later date. See J.P. Collier for more information.

# January Family/Youth Devotional

Building Stronger Spiritual Families, II  
with a focus on West End's males

**NEXT SUNDAY @ 4 P.M.**

Star Students/Rising Stars

The following West End Youth will be recognized at this month's Family/Youth Devotional: Jonathan Bishop, Khaliya Ross, LaDarion Lewis, Briana Wilburn, Langston Hines, Myers Hines, Nia Bullock, Tiana Smith, Brianna Smith, Lauren Langford, Erin Langford, Blake Mitchell, Joy Mitchell, Kendall Glover, Darius Glover, Reginald McKinney and Larisa Bishop, based on the progress reports and report cards submitted thus far. If your grades have improved (not necessarily A's or B's), or you have A's and B's see David Bishop with your report cards for recognition at the February devotional.

## Teachers Urgently Needed!

New teachers are urgently needed for the 3 and 4 year-old class.  
If interested, please see Fred Hall, Shaneil Wilkins, or Mea Camp ASAP.

### Placed Membership

1/15 **Nicole McClain**  
1211 Vinings Pkwy., SE  
Smyrna, GA 30080 770-437-8518

### New Addresses

**Julia & Nelson Brooker**  
366 Roundtree Rd.  
Riverdale, GA 30274

**Jeana Johnson**  
1005 Hondo Street  
Clovis, NM 88101

**Shane & Ebony Tolbert**  
6226- H Nile Place  
Greensboro, NC 27409

### Military Addresses

**SPC Anthony B. Grogan**  
4th PLT 233rd Trans  
Camp ARIFJAN, Kuwait  
APO, AE 09366  
email: shawtylo@yahoo.com

### **SGT Deirdre Ryan is scheduled to return home soon!**

Please do not send any mail or care packages to the previously published address.  
deirdrepryan@hotmail.com  
Deirdre.ryan@us.army.mil

## SICK & SHUT-IN

To be included in this listing contact Gayron Johnson at the church office.

Esther Brown is in Atlanta Medical Center. 2610 MLK Dr., SW, Apt. 502, Atl. GA 30311. 404-696-3941. Elizabeth Perkins is at home recovering from a stroke – 1392 Maywood Rd., NW, # 31, Atl. GA 30331. 404-691-0268. Alicia Green is in Grady Hospital. 2426 Corner Shoals Dr., Decatur, GA 30034. 404-212-7889. Frank Roberts – 2197 Polar Rock Ave., Atl., GA 30315. 404-622-6948. Debra Harding – 2599 Chesterbrooke Dr., Lithia Springs, GA 30122. 770-577-0044. Annie McArthur – 751 Fairburn Rd., SW #2212, Atl., GA, 30331. 404-699-2939. Ollie Burton – 2426 Corner Shoals Rd., Decatur, GA 30034. 404-212-7889. Continued prayers for Daneka Vickers, daughter of Mack and Sandra Freeman. Annie Glaze c/o Wesley Woods Nursing Home, 1825 Clifton Rd., Apt. #517, Atl., GA 30329. 404-486-1191. Anreneka Johnson – 2025 Highpoint Trail, Atl., GA 30331. 404-344-1010.

## BEREAVEMENT

Gwen (Moore) Williams mourns the passing of her mother, Mattie Bivins on January 15. Condolences to 5860 Bearing Way, College Park, GA 30348. 404-767-7097