

From the Minister's Desk

Wesley R. Brown

God Does Not Tempt Any Man

These are the words of James, the Lord's servant. "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man." He further adds that man is led astray by his lust and desire for thing forbidden, or off limits. Adam and Eve sinned by desiring that which was forbidden, and off limits. God plainly told them not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of good and evil. They disobeyed God. God did not tempt them - Satan did. He told them that if they ate from that tree, they would be just like God. He deceived them. Many today fall into sin by disobeying God.

God is not willing that any man should perish, but that all might come to repentance. (2 Pet. 3:9) He has done everything possible, and consistent with His will to save the human family. The troubles, hardship, and difficulties comes upon us because we are trying to do our own thing, or somebody else is trying to seduce us to take advantage of us. Listen to Paul, "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple." The Living Bible translates it this way, "Stay away from those who cause divisions and are upsetting people's faith, teaching things about Christ that are contrary to what you have been taught. Such teachers are not working for our Lord Jesus, but only want gain for themselves. They are good speakers, and simple-minded people are often fooled by them."

God allows these difficult and hard things to happen to us that we might learn to trust Him, and know that without Him we are helpless, and frail. He provides the strength to see through the trials of life. Listen to the Word, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Cor. 10:13) God does not tempt us to sin; He gives us the strength to overcome sin. Yield not to temptation for yielding is sin. Yield yourselves to God, and gain the victory over evil.

January Family/Youth Devotional**Building Stronger Spiritual Families, II****with a focus on West End's males****T O D A Y @ 4 P . M .**

Come back today at 4 p.m. for West End's Family & Youth Devotional. Parents with children (especially those with teens) should plan to be in attendance for this second in a series of "Building Stronger West End Families." Our focus is on our males of all ages, and what we all can do to support, nurture, and develop them at home and here in the congregation. If you have not received a flyer today - get one for the details. Our facilitators are Marcel and Stephanie Combs, David Reece, Jabari Sykes, Sis. Joyce Hall, Denise West, Norma Brown, and Sherri Long. Yonita Rowell and Barbara Hall will be hosting a session for our toddlers and young children so our adults and parents can attend the sessions. Also, Star Student awards and singing group S4L.

See you today at 4 p.m.**This is a West End Family Event!**

See the bulletin board or flyers for details.

MINISTRY / COMMITTEE NEWS

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.

Zone Meeting Postponed

The congregational zone meeting originally scheduled for yesterday was postponed due to the funeral of Bro. Frank Roberts. A new date will be announced later.

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

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.

Annual Ladies' Breakfast - This year's breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, February 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. All West End ladies are encouraged to attend. Call or see Barbara Hall (770-449-1324) or Melissa Clements (770-785-9438) to volunteer to bring food items or for clean-up duty.

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.

YOUTH AND SINGLES

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

Youth Outing - All West End 9-12 Graders should sign the list in the foyer for the youth outing to the Bouldercrest Church of Christ. The outing will take place on Sunday, February 5. Only those that sign the list will be contacted for followup with specific information. You'll need \$10 for lunch, and there will be a visitation to a sick and shut-in member prior to returning for evening worship services. At least five chaperones and parents are needed to sign the list too. See David Bishop with any questions.

Is your new year's resolution to manage your money better? Are you set up to live comfortably after you retire?

Well registration is now open for West Ends 2006 Stewardship and Finance Education Program. This program has multiple classes designed to give you the tools you need to better manage your finances in the new year and beyond. Topics to be covered include:

- Finance
- Credit and Debt Management
- Savings, Retirement and Investment
- Budgeting
- Homeownership and Making Major purchases

The classes will teach Christian principles for managing money and special stewardship classes will teach why it is every Christian's responsibility to do so. If you are ready to get your money under control, get out of debt, or simply create the best financial plan for your future these classes are for you. Please sign up at the table in the foyer or see Avery Pitts for further details.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY

There will be a congregational meeting conducted by the elders on Sunday, January 29 following an abbreviated 10:45 a.m. worship service. Hear first-hand what's in store for West End in 2006.

Tonight's Guest Speakers

This evening's sermon message is by Bro. David Wilson, principal of Arlington Christian School (ACS) and Bro. Chris King, campus minister at Arlington. David Wilson is a member of the Douglasville congregation, and Chris King is one of the pulpit ministers at the Cedar Grove congregation in Fairburn, GA. There will be a Q&A session after services for those interested in finding out more about this CofC school, or learning about enrollment and Christian-based education.

Baptism

1/22 **Jeanette C. Harris**
760 North Evelyn Place, Atlanta, GA 30318
404-794-5615 D.O.B. 6/27/53

Placed Membership

1/22 **Terri Betts**
1673 Briarcliff Rd., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
404-885-1982

1/22 Renee Campbell

1250 Spring Creek, SW, Atlanta, GA 30311
404-668-8396

1/22 Patricia Ramey

111 Maddox Rd., Griffin, GA 30224
770-229-4155

New Address

Jeana Johnson
1005 Hondo St., Clovis, New Mexico 88101
505-762-0983

West End 100th Anniversary
DVD/Video Now Available!

See Bro. Clark Brown, David Bishop or Michael Wells for more information concerning this memorable and historical documentary. The cost is \$10 each.

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 now home recovering from recent surgery. 2426 Corner Shoals Dr., Decatur, GA 30034. 404-212-7889. 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. Anrenea Johnson – 2025 Highpoint Trail, Atl., GA 30331. 404-344-1010.

BEREAVEMENT

The congregation mourns the loss of Bro. Frank Roberts at his passing away last Monday. Send condolences to Sis. Hattie Roberts and the family to 2197 Polar Rock Ave., Atl., GA 30315. 404-622-6948.