

Youth Added to the Body – GREAT! But Now What? by David Bishop

Since January of this year and throughout all of 2008, West End has had a record number of youth being added to the Body of Christ (His church) through obedience to the gospel call. That is fantastic news and shows that West End's young people understand the teaching from the pulpit and from home regarding the necessity of becoming a Christian and walking on the path toward eternal and everlasting salvation.

Adult members of the body at West End that are already on that "Right Path" realize quite clearly that staying within God's will is a challenging and often difficult task. Satan lurks at every corner looking to entice us to sin (1 Peter 5:8). Satan only wins with us when we LET him into our lives.

Adult Christians struggle with drinking alcohol, sexual activity and pregnancy outside of the marriage bond, criminal activity, uncontrollable exhibitions of anger, cursing, lying, jealousy, "casual" and addictive drug use, and gossip. These aforementioned things are just those that can be seen by others. There are countless other things with which we struggle that only you and God know. And guess what? West End's young Christians deal with EXACT same things.

Our Youth in Action (YIA) Ministry theme is based on Proverbs 22:6 and training up a child. Parents, it is your primary responsibility as Christians at West End to perform child rearing with prayerful diligence, consistency, and strong resolve. Anything less will allow Satan into the picture and make your work that much harder. There is no "how to be a parent" training manual that covers the wide variety of challenges and situations your children will present to you. Our guide is the written Word. God's Book – the Bible - addresses how to be patient, how not to be lazy (with parenting), how to speak kindly (in the home), how to be strong and not give up (when the kids are disobedient or out of control), etc.

Confide in one another – especially with our older, more mature Christians – to get advice when you are at your wit's end. You will find members that have successfully handled your present situation. Our older men and women are charged with providing insight and training. Seek out the wisest individuals you can; and remain prayerful always. COMMUNICATE with your children on a regular basis. If you were asked, "when was the last time you sat and talked with your child about..." what would be your answer? If they can't or won't talk to you – they will talk to someone else, and get information they don't need.

Coming in March Bible Bowl & Skills Competition

The West End Youth in Action (YIA) Ministry will host a Bible Bowl and Skills Competition on Saturday, March 14, 2009 from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Bible Bowl questions will come from 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, and 3 John. See YIA coordinators Natasha Harty, Jabari Sykes, Anitra Patrick, and Brittany Houston starting today to help with refreshments.

P R A Y E R L I S T

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.

Robin Knox	Phyllis Holmes	Lisa Peay	Rubye Moore & Family
Lee Runnels	Tony Bennett & Family	Mildred Hickson	Betty Hayes
Esther Brown & Family	Charlette Hickson	The Folkes Family	Larry Timberlake

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

Attend the next **Monthly Ladies Fellowship Breakfast** this Saturday at Paschal's Restaurant at Castleberry Hill, from 9 -11 a.m. The food is great but the fellowship is even better! Direct any questions to Sierra Grigsby or Kesha Clinkscale.

The **Golden Voices** will rehearse on Sunday, February 22 approximately one hour after the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Those interested in becoming part of the group are welcomed to attend.

Spanish Class New Day and Time - Tuesdays from 7-8 p.m. Anyone needing tutoring in Spanish should contact Elsa Earlington at 404 761-5995 or speakinginatongue@yahoo.com.

The **Kidney Early Evaluation Program (KEEP)** is a free health screening offered by the National Kidney Foundation for individuals at risk for kidney disease. Get screened if you are 18 years or older and have diabetes, high blood pressure or, relative with these conditions. Screenings will be held on 2/21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 1202 W. Marietta St., Atlanta, GA 30318. Visit the table in the foyer for details.

West Enders wanting to list their business in the **COC Directory**, a national directory of Christian-owned businesses (www.cocdirectory.com), should contact Knox Bates for more information. You can contact Knox at 770-256-0954.

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 February 5. 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.

YOUTH AND SINGLES

Youth Activity on Next Sunday for Grades 6-8 – The Locust Grove CofC (240 Beersheba Church Rd., Locust Grove, GA) is hosting a Youth **"Preach-A-Thon"** on Sunday, February 8 starting at 10 a.m. Guest speakers are West End's own, Brian Clark and Kelvin Teamer from the Bouldercrest congregation. The theme is, "The Pleasures of Sin or the Treasures of God?" Lunch will be served. Transportation to and from this event will be carpools by West End parents, volunteers and chaperones.

February Star Students – Congratulations to the following West End Star Students: **Devin Daniels, Dejae Daniels, DaJaun Mathis, Larisa Bishop, Erin Langford, Lauren Langford, Victoria Glover, Lauren Rausaw, Gordon Glover, and Gabrielle Glover.** These individuals will be recognized as part of our Black History program on February 22.

Bible Bowl Question Writers Needed – West End volunteers are needed to write multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank and "who is" and "where were" type questions. Each volunteer should submit five grade-appropriate questions for the following groups: Grade K-first, 2nd-5th, 6th-8th, and 9-12th. Turn in your questions to Sabrina Matthews, Adrienne Colbert, Toyin Salami, B.L. Davis, Justin Davis, La Tanya Harris, Jabari Sykes, Natasha Hartry, Brittany Houston, or Anitra Patrick.

AREA EVENTS

Attend the **Ladies Day of Edification** on February 21 at the Locust Grove CofC, 240 Beersheba Church Rd., Locust Grove, GA. The guest speaker is West End's own Joyce Hall. The theme is, The Titus "2" Woman. The event starts with breakfast from 8 to 8:45 a.m. The program is from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For additional information call 770-957-6999 or 678-994-4668.

The **Hillcrest CofC** will host an **AIDS Awareness and Action Seminar** on March 28 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration is \$20 and includes materials and lunch. Call AID Atlanta at 404-870-7742.

West End ladies are invited to attend the **Texas Women's Empowerment Conference** on August 28-30. Carole Hamilton from our recent Growing in Christ Empowerment Conference is the coordinator. Visit www.seesayseize.org for details.

West End Ministry Leader Financial Training – TODAY

If you are a 2009 West End zone leader, committee or ministry leader, or coordinator; the West End Accounting Department invites you to attend a 1-hour financial training this afternoon in the educational building immediately following 10:45 services. Elders and deacons are also encouraged to attend. The training will provide an overview of the procedure for obtaining funds for church activities including cash advances and reimbursements. There will also be a brief presentation by the Minister's Vision Committee. Lunch and materials will be provided for all participants. If you have any questions, please see Shaneil Wilkins or William Johnson.

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.

Baptisms

- 1/25 **Chiqita McClendon**
(Atlanta)
- 1/25 **Joy Mitchell**
(Lithonia)
- 1/25 **Carl Huff**
(Stone Mountain)
- 1/25 **Brian Hill** (Atlanta)

Placed Membership

- 1/25 **Isiah Willis, Jr.**
(Marietta)

Training & Development Committee Meeting

The Training and Development Committee will meet next Sunday (2/8/09) at 4:30 p.m. in the Annex building. Members interested in working with the committee are encouraged to attend. For more info, contact Reggie Rowell (770-498-1180) or Michael Wells (404-277-3430).

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

SICK & SHUT-IN

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

Sandra Davis, daughter of Kate Hendrix – Decatur Hospital, Long Term Acute Care Unit, ICU, 5th Floor, 450 N. Candler Street, Decatur, GA 30034; 404-501-6590. **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. **Jessie Davis** – Buckhead Health & Rehabilitation, 54 Peachtree Park Dr., NE, Room 407, Atl., GA 30309. **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**.

BEREAVEMENT

Jacquelyn Alexander mourns the passing of her grandfather in Tampa, Florida. Funeral services were held last week. Jacquelyn can be contacted at 407-716-3692.