

From the Minister's Desk



Wesley R. Brown

Man's Love For God

Our love for God ought to be stronger, than our love for anyone, or anything else. For He has done so much for us. The world was created by Him for man; man himself was created by God; everything that is good, and excellent was made, and created by God. This ought to open man's heart to God. Time, and time again the scriptures reveal that God is to be loved because He is Love. Since He is love, we should love Him supremely. Notice what Jesus said. "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matt. 22:37 - NKJV).

Man's love for God will cause him to exert every effort to fulfill, and carry out the will of God in his life. Our hearts must honor Him; our souls ought to serve Him; and our minds ought to meditate upon Him. He must be first and foremost in our thoughts, and the way that we walk. Self is nowhere in the picture. Self must be denied. Self is the problem. The selfishness of the human heart is the reason why there are wars, and conflicts in the world. Some believe that all things must be their way, or no one's way at all. God's way is not even considered. Did not James say the same thing, "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God (Jas. 4:1-4).

Man's love for God is demonstrated not by mere words but by obeying, and performing the commandments commanded by God. "Therefore you shall love the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always" (Deut. 11:1 - NKJV). Jesus reinforced this by saying the same thing. "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (Jno. 14:15 - NKJV); He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me" (Jno. 14:24). Love is active; love is not a profession, but a practice. "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth" (1 Jno. 3:18 - NKJV). Man's love for God is seen by man's service, and devotion to God. Thus, when man keeps His commandments he shows that he really loves God. "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous" (1 Jno. 3:15.) This is what the grace of God teaches us.

West End's Spring Gospel Meeting

April 30-May 4

Robert L. Holt, Guest Minister

Senior Minister of the East Glen Park CoFC in Gary Indiana

and son of the late G.P. Holt

Annual Spring Banquet

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Plan now to attend West End's Annual Spring Banquet on April 29 at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel located at 4736 Best Rd., College Park, GA 30337. The event will begin at 6 p.m. Paul Sanders, the minister at the Lithonia CoFC, will be the guest speaker. The Golden Voices are scheduled to perform at this very special event. Tickets are only \$28 and can be purchased from Helen Baker, Barbara Brown, Clemmie Brown, Gayron Johnson, Dorothy Griffin or Cynthia Mitchell.

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

Volunteers needed – Please be reminded to sign up to bring a cooked food item for the Gospel Meeting Sunday April 30. The sign up sheets for the different food items needed are located in the foyer on the information table. Please also remember to sign up for our clean-up crew as we will need your assistant after dinner to clean the building immediately after the dinner has completed. Thank you in advance for your assistance. Direct any questions to Joan Smith.

Calling all Men, young and old, please mark your calendar for Saturday, May 13, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to attend a Men's Luncheon sponsored by the Seniors Committee. Additional details will be provided soon. If you have any questions, please contact Gale Gaines at 770-981-4635 or Josephine Hill at 404-799-0270.

Graduates – All West Enders that are graduating/have graduated from high school, college, vocational school, graduate school, or technical/medical school in 2006 are asked to please sign the Graduate's List located in the foyer. Parents of graduates are directed to sign your children's name on the list. We will be hosting a Graduates Recognition event very soon and need this important information so that no one is left out. See Denise West (404-798-6452) or David Bishop with any questions.

West End Ladies' Retreat – All Ladies who are interested in attending the Ladies' Retreat August 18 and 19 at the Fieldstone Resort & Conference Center in Hiawasee, Ga., Please sign up on the sign up sheet on the greeters table in the foyer.

West End is planning to enter a **golf team** in the 2006 Georgia AGAPE golf fundraiser tournament. The tournament will be held May 15 for the benefit of foster and adopted children hosted by Georgia AGAPE in Atlanta. A good number of West Enders are Georgia AGAPE adoptive and foster parents. If you are interested in participating in this event and want to sign-up, please see Bill Moore.

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

Youth Retreat Rescheduled – Due to scheduling conflicts and facilities availability at Gordon College, an alternative location for the 2006 Youth Retreat is being researched. An update will be announced soon.

West End's **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** is scheduled for June 19-23. Information on the theme for this exciting week will be announced later. See Fred Hall, Bill Moore or Tyrone Jackson if you are interested in being a VBS teacher.

Instructors are needed for study sessions with Singles Ministry. If you want to teach, please contact La Tanya Harris or Steve Langford to be added to our 2006 calendar.

Boys Basketball and Coaches for Grades 7-12 – If you are interested in playing in the Area-Wide Basketball League organized by the Greenbriar congregation, please sign the list in the foyer. Also two coaches are needed to volunteer. See David Bishop with any questions. Play is tentatively set to begin in two weeks, with West End's first game in three weeks. Most games will be on alternating Friday evenings at Paul D. West Middle School in East Point, GA. West End will not accept any newcomers on our team that attend services to just "qualify" to play basketball and then are not seen again after the season ends.

AREA EVENTS

Registration for **Vacation Bible School Camp at Hillcrest CofC** is now underway. The camp runs June 5-9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with before care starting at 7:30 a.m. and after care until 6:30 p.m. For registration information, cost, and other questions call Hillcrest at 404-289-4573.

Attention All Men – The Bouldercrest CofC will host a Men's Empowerment Conference on June 9-11 at the Westin Airport Hotel in Atlanta. The registration fee is \$100 before April 30. Hotel accommodations are available for an inclusive price. For additional information contact Wyndel Harris at 770-806-1090.



WEST END LADIES
INSPIRATIONAL DAY
2006

Saturday, April 22
8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

F E A T U R I N G G U E S T S P E A K E R S

- Sarah Woods, Hayes Glass CofC, Breman, GA
- Claudine Wright, Greenbriar CofC, Atlanta, GA
- KaTasha Sagers-Aguayo, Hillcrest CofC, Decatur, GA
(former Miss Black Georgia)

Theme colors: Pink & Turquoise

All ladies are invited and visitors are welcomed to attend.

Super Students

Congratulations to **Nia Bullock**, a kindergartner at Oak View elementary school. Nia is a West End Star Student based on her exceptional academic work and excellent conduct.

Kiana Brown, a sixth grader at Redan Middle School, is a West End Star Student based on receiving all A's and B's on her recent progress report. Congratulations Kiana!

Larisa Bishop received the MVP trophy for her play in a tournament in Alabama with her AAU basketball team the, Georgia Pearls. Congratulations Larisa!

Carmen Williams' mission trip was to Vienna, Austria; not Australia as printed in last week's bulletin.

Baptisms

4/9 **John W. Clopton**
567 Holderness St., #B
Atlanta, GA 30314
404-246-1871 D.O.B. 9/29/56

Placed Membership

4/9 **Joyce Causey**
5704 Rockaway Dr.
Union City, GA
601-421-6861

4/9 **David Ferguson**
1520 Ember Oaks Cir.
Powder Springs, GA 30127
678-923-2269

West End Centennial Anniversary DVD/Video

See Mike Wells (404-277-3430), Clark Brown (770-222-9550), or Helen Baker (404-349-5698) today to purchase this must-see souvenir historical documentary. The cost is \$10.

3rd Annual Congregational Canvassing

This Saturday April 22
8 a.m. – noon

To promote West End's spring gospel meeting

SICK & SHUT-IN

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

Former West Ender, Woody Wyatt – Oakview Nursing Home, 119 Oakview St., Waverly, GA 31831. Elnora Bethel is in Piedmont Hospital. 3700 Potomac Dr., East Point, GA 30344. Opal Chase – 490 Glenn St., #C272, Atl., GA 30012. Anita Banks – 607 Charlotte Place, Atl., GA 30318. 404-799-5156. Daneka Vickers, daughter of Mack and Sandra Freeman. Willie Mae Morrow – 3060 Continental Colony Pkwy., Apt. 502, Atl., GA 30330. 404-344-9990 Elizabeth Perkins – 1392 Maywood Rd., NW, # 31, Atl. GA 30331. 404-691-0268. Alicia Green – 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. 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.