

## From the Minister's Desk



Wesley R. Brown

### Cisterns Which Can Hold No Water

Naturally the question might be asked what is a cistern? A cistern is a receptacle for holding water or other liquid, especially a tank for catching and storing rainwater - a pot, a pan, or a bowl. Jeremiah uses this illustration to show how foolish Israel was for turning to idols as their god.

God, the true God, had blessed them as He had no other nation. Nevertheless, Israel was not true to Him, but turned their attention, and their devotion to man-made gods. They wanted to be like the other nations who did such things. This is what Jeremiah said about them, "For my people have committed two evils: They have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns--broken cisterns that can hold no water" (Jer. 2:13 - NKJV).

Listen to Jeremiah as he acknowledges their sin. "As the thief is ashamed when he is found out, so is the house of Israel ashamed; They and their kings and their princes, and their priests and their prophets, Saying to a tree, 'You are my father,' And to a stone, 'You gave birth to me. For they have turned their back to Me, and not their face'(Jer. 2:26, 27). What we call here broken cisterns, means more properly such vessels as were poorly made, not staunch; poorly put together, so that the water leaked through them.

The lesson is that when we turn away from God and seek help from any other source, we are putting water in leaking vessels. We store it hoping to retrieve it when needed only to discover that the water has leaked out. If your faith is in the thoughts, plans, ideas, and designs of men for salvation; you will then know that your labor and your confidence is in vain. Our hope is in God, and His word.

Trusting man for salvation is like a cracked vessel that can hold no water. Trusting in Christ, and Christ alone is the best way to happiness, and joy. There is no other name given under heaven whereby we might be saved (Acts 4:11,12). Jesus Christ is the only Savior of the world. Trusting in any other person is like putting water in a broken vessel. Man is broke, and cannot pay for his redemption. He cannot save himself. Only Jesus Christ can repair the damage done by Satan. Only Jesus Christ can repair or replace a broken cistern. Only Jesus Christ can and will save humanity. Doubt Him and die; Trust in Him, and live.

## West End Ladies Inspirational Day 2006

*"The Journey of a Christian Woman"*

Saturday, April 2 • 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER

*Sis. Sarah Woods*

Theme colors: Pink & Turquoise

All ladies are invited and visitors are welcomed!

## UPCOMING CANVASSING EVENTS

SPONSORED BY THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

**Apr 8**

10 a.m. - noon

**Special Canvassing Initiative**

To share the gospel with those attending a highly promoted conference centered on women and the Church

**Apr 22**

8 a.m. - noon

**3rd Annual Congregational Canvassing**

To promote West End's spring gospel meeting

*Be Commissioned To Go!*

## MINISTRY / COMMITTEE NEWS

*We are in need of good and faithful members to serve on the **Foodservice Committee** for 2006. If you are interested and would like to know more about the duties of this committee please see Joan Smith. You may sign up to give your dedication and service to your fellow brothers and sisters for one year on the sign up sheet in the foyer. **The deadline to give your good and faithful service for this new committee this year is today.***

### ZONE 4 MEETING

This month's Zone 4 meeting will be held at the home of Ed and Gale Gaines on Saturday, April 15 from 2- 4 p.m. For food items, please call 770-981-4635.

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### WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

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**Donation of cribs and other children furniture** are needed, for several members who will be providing homes to foster children in the near future. If you have anything you can donate, please call Anita or Tyrone Jamison at 770-603-0649.

West End is planning to enter a golf **team** in the 2006 Georgia AGAPE golf fund raiser 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.

**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.

**Health and Safety Professionals Needed** – The Training & Development committee is looking for any members of the congregation with skills related to Health, Wellness, Nutrition and Safety to speak and/or conduct workshops on various topics at an upcoming church Health Fair. If you are able to assist in any way, please contact Michael Wells at 404-277-3430 or Robin Knox at 678-479-9525.

Classes continue on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until noon for West End's 2006 **Stewardship and Finance Education Program**. This program features multiple classes designed to provide the tools you need to better manage your finances. See Avery Pitts (404-328-9090) or Mike Wells (404-277-3430) for further details.

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.

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### YOUTH AND SINGLES

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**Youth Activities Guidelines** – Effective immediately and for the purpose of promoting fellowship and spiritual enhancement all youth participating on trips and events with West End (monthly youth outings, youth rallies, youth devotionals, visitations overnight trips, retreats, etc.), all participants will be required to leave all CD players, iPods, headphones and earbuds at home. Having the devices in your pockets, but not using them is not permitted. Cell phones are permitted, but they must be set to vibrate or turned off. Please direct any questions to David Bishop.

**West End's Annual Youth Retreat** – Four teens and four adults are needed to be on the youth retreat planning committee. If you are interested, please see David Bishop today. You will be committing to a great deal of work over a period of several weeks.

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### AREA EVENTS

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The **Southwestern Christian College National Dinner Day** is scheduled for Saturday, April 15 at 6 p.m. at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel. The cost is \$75.

# 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 and 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.

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## 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

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### Baptisms

3/26 **Debbie Payne**  
1920 Calvary Hill Ct.  
Marietta, GA 30008  
678-309-0064  
D.O.B 2-28-67

3/26 **Arnold H. Carson**  
802 Ashley Lake Dr.  
Norcross, GA 30092  
678-314-9823  
D.O.B. 5/7/60

### New Address

**Terri Betts**  
3038 Clairmont Rd., NE #E  
Atlanta GA 30329  
404-486-9900

### Placed Membership

3/26 **Carolyn Fairchild**  
**Ronnie Fairchild** (son)  
1561 Briarfield Way  
Marietta, GA 30066  
770-354-6994

3-26 **Dawn Daugherty**  
1369 Sagewood Circle  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083  
404-297-2032

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## 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.

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## 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, is in St. Francis Hospital, Room 303 in Columbus, GA, 706-596-4000. He will be released to 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.

## BEREAVEMENT

Steve Langford mourns the loss of his brother in Chicago. Send condolences Steve and Sondress at 1500 Versailles Dr., Atlanta, GA 30331. 404-349-5419.