

You Don't Have To Go To Heaven

No one can make you go to heaven. You won't be dragged into heaven against your will kicking and screaming. No matter how hard people try to get you to go, God won't let it happen if you don't want it to.

Many of you would rather sleep an extra hour or two on Sunday morning than worship God. You're an adult. No one can make you acknowledge God's existence against your will. So if you'd rather not get involved in spiritual matters — if you'd rather not worship your Creator — God won't make you. If you'd rather ignore the sacrifice that Jesus made for you when He died for your sins, you can. No one is stopping you. Maybe you had to live by your parents' strict rules when you were younger, but not now. No, no one can make you stop living a sinful life.

That's the thing about serving God — it's completely up to us. It's a choice we're allowed to make. We don't have to do it. God doesn't force anyone to serve Him. In fact, God doesn't force anyone to do anything. He gave humans free will. He allows us to choose what to do with our lives. So if you like cussing, God will let you do it. If you like telling dirty jokes and ripping out vulgar words, God won't stop you from doing it, even though He hates filthy speech.

Your mother may have tried to teach you the Bible when you were young, but you don't have to listen to her anymore. Maybe a preacher has talked to you about your soul, but now that you're grown, you can ignore him. Besides, you probably think it's none of his business what you do with your life. Maybe your spouse has begged you to attend Bible study and worship, or to give up sinful activities. But, hey, you're your own person now.

Heaven is a spiritual place with spiritual activities. Those who go to heaven will spend their time praising God, and that sounds a lot like worship. And there certainly won't be any drinking, womanizing, and carousing in heaven. No filthy language will be allowed.

In Luke 9:24, Jesus sums it up. He says that if we follow our own desires, we'll lose our soul. But if we live completely for Him in this life, we'll gain eternal life. And the choice is up to you. It's up to each of us. Jesus paid the price. The way of salvation has been revealed. Now we have to decide whether we'll live for Him in this life, or whether we'll live for ourselves. No one can make you serve God, and no one can make you go to heaven. But on Judgment Day, will those who tried to get you to live right enter into eternal rest and joy while you descend into everlasting torment and sorrow? Don't let that happen. Choose to serve God now. – copied.

Family & Youth Devotional and Fashion Show August 31 @ 4 p.m.

The August 31 Family \$ Youth Devotional will feature the West End Youth Chorus and a Back-to-School Fashion Show not only for our youth, but for all West Enders that are teachers, counselors, administrators, bus drivers, etc. Come out and show your what you “style” in the classroom (school uniforms too) in the your position in the field of education as a representative for Christ! Sign up directly for the show on the list located in the lower level of the educational building, or see David Bishop.

School Supplies Drive Update

Thanks to everyone that donated school supplies. A number of your youth were able to benefit from your generosity. There are some additional supplies remaining, so see David Bishop if your child needs loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks (1- subject and 5-subject), pens, pencils, crayons, markers, scissors.

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.

Phillips Folkes
Randolph McKinney
Louise Sykes

Octavis Royals & Family
Olympia Billings
George Odom

Alonzo McWilliams
Betty Hayes
Kevin & Joan Smith

WEST END ACTIVITIES & INFO

The **Golden Voices next rehearsal** will be September 7 approximately one hour after 10:45 a.m. worship service

Want to be on the Prayer List? If you want your name to be listed in the bulletin for the Prayer List, you must put your name on the prayer list sheet located on the table in the rear foyer area. All names must be in before 11 a.m. on Mondays. If not, they will be listed the following Sunday.

Baptismal Certificates – If you were recently baptized and have not received your Baptismal Certificate, please see Sony Heyward.

SENIORS

The **2008 Senior Fishing Trip** to Lake Eufaula, AL is set for Saturday, August 23. More details coming soon. See Adam McGill or Verlene Hunter to sign up.

YOUTH AND SINGLES

Youth Hospital Visitation Cancelled – Due to rules and guidelines at Scottish Rite Egelston Hospital, the 7-8 grade girls Bible will be unable to do their planned visitation next Sunday. The letters, however, will still be delivered to the children at the hospital from West Enders. The class is asking that West Enders participate by writing letters of encouragement to the youth patients there. Place your letters in the decorated box in the foyer through this Wednesday evening only.

Sign Up Now for Snellville Church of Christ Youth Outing – The 5-12 Grade Youth Outing to the Snellville Church of Christ will take place on Sunday, August 31. Sign up now on the list located in the lower level of the educational building. See David Bishop with any questions. Each participant needs approx. \$8 for lunch, a Bible and optional change of clothes. Pick up a flyer in the foyer.

AREA EVENTS

United Christian Women of the Churches of Christ Fall Conference

The United Christian Women of the Churches of Christ presents its **5th Fall Conference, September 26-28, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel Atlanta Airport. The registration fee is \$130, and registration forms and flyers are available in the foyer. See West Enders, Dorothy Griffin (404-696-5113) or Sheryl Holland with any questions.**

Southside CofC in Durham, NC hosts the **Southeastern Regional Lecturship** October 6-9 at the Durham Marriott at the Civic Center. The theme is "A Responding Church for a Reaching World." Register at www.sside.org or call 919-688-3535. The registration deadline is September 19.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

West End's Fall Gospel Revival September 14-17

The time for our Fall Gospel Meeting is quickly approaching. The guest speaker will be Cornelius Heyward, minister of the Far Rockaway Church of Christ in Brooklyn, NY. The theme is "The Faith Once Delivered To The Saints." On Sunday, September 14, there will be combined Bible study at 9 a.m. and one morning worship at 10 a.m. followed by an afternoon service at 3 p.m. There will be no 6 p.m. services. The Monday through Wednesday schedule will include group singing from 7 - 7:25 p.m. and preaching at 7:30 p.m.

BEREAVEMENTS

Isacque Nixon mourns the recent passing of an uncle in North Carolina. Former West Ender Ruby Giddens' husband, Eddie Giddens, (also father of David Giddens, former West End deacon) was funeralized in Texas yesterday.

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 Members/New Converts Orientation Class. The class is for two consecutive Sundays and Wednesdays (total of four class sessions) and led by members of West End's leadership. Contact elder, I. David Logan (404-755-1016) with any questions about the orientation class. The class is held in the red brick house located adjacent to the main building, and is held during regular Bible School class times. After taking the class, new converts will be directed to the New Converts Class; new members 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

8/3 **Gabrielle Downs Slappey** (Atlanta)
8/6 **Paige Hicks** (Dallas, GA)
8/10 **Miky & LaToya** Sinaise (Atlanta)
8/10 **Terry Williams** (Atlanta)
8/10 **Elaine McLemore** (Atlanta)
8/10 **Shirley Edwards** (Atlanta)

Placed Membership

Victoria Robinson (Atlanta)
Carlos & Debbie Spencer (Marietta)

New Phone Number

Hattie Roberts – 404-345-0049

New Address

Steve & Sondress Langford
2971 Stream View
Atlanta, GA 30349
770-829-2995

August Youth Activities

TODAY (through 3 p.m.)

Youth Day at Moreland Avenue
CofC

August 31

5-12 Grade Youth Outing to the
Snellville CofC

August 31

Youth Devotional at 4 p.m. for
entire congregation

Familiarize yourselves with and
greet our many new converts.
Visit: [www.thewestender.com/
new_converters.htm](http://www.thewestender.com/new_converters.htm)

SICK & SHUT-IN

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

Amber Freeman was admitted to Piedmont Hospital earlier this week. New Convert, Frederick Hudson, is in Crawford Long Hospital, Room 4139. Ossie Porter (mother of Bill Moore) - A.G. Rhodes Homes, 350 Boulevard, SE., A Wing, Room 102, Atlanta, GA 30312. Willie Babino – 717 Tomahawk Pl., Austell, GA. 30168. 770-726-9299. John White – 359 Westlake Ave. Apt. 311, Atl., GA 30311. 404-406-7427. Corene Woods – A.G. Rhodes Nursing Home, 350 Boulevard, SE, Garden Wing, Room 11, Atl., GA 30312. 404-688-6731. Jessie Davis – Buckhead Health & Rehabilitation, 54 Peachtree Park Dr., NE, Room 407, Atl., GA 30309. Viola Tookes – 396 Thaxton Dr., Atl., GA 30315. 404-627-9360. Athaniel Hill & Julliette Hill – 2276 Leslie Brook Dr., Decatur, GA. 404-286-1038. 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 Morrow – 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. Anreneka Johnson.