

ATTENTION VBS HELPERS

April 10th at 5:00pm VBS will have a meeting to continue planning for June 12-17th

Don't forget to Memorize:

Show me your way, O Lord,
teach me your paths;
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God, my Savior,
and my hope is in you all day long.

Psalms 25:4-5

Women Celebrating Christ

Bible study

Will be starting a new study book titled "Walking with Christ." We will be studying five important aspects of our life with Him:

- ◆ Maturing in Christ
- ◆ The Lordship of Christ
- ◆ Faith and the Promises of God
- ◆ Knowing God's Will
- ◆ Walking As a Servant

We meet on Thursdays at 7pm and welcome you to join us!

Westport Christian Church's Food Pantry has been open to the community every Monday from 10-12pm & 5-7pm since March 7th for giving away fresh fruits, vegetables and bakery items. It has been a huge success, many families are taking advantage of this opportunity.

Men don't forget about **GOD'S MEN** Bible study on the second Tuesday of every month!

Hilltop Women's Retreat

April 29-10, 2011

"Singing in the Rain"

"...yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior" Habakkuk 3:18

Speaker: Kay Eaton

Kay is from Elberton Christian Church, Georgia

Schedule

Friday - Check-in begins at 6:15pm

7-8:30pm Speaker—Kay Eaton

8:30-9:30pm Snacks

9:30pm Campfire followed by late night

Café/Free time

Saturday—Workshops begin at 8am

7:15-8am Continental Breakfast

8-1130am—Workshops

11:30-12:30pm Lunch

12:30-1:30pm Workshops

1:30-3pm Speaker/Closing—Kay Eaton

Please note Registrations will not be confirmed by mail. The Postmark Deadline for registration is April 25. Registration fee of \$25.00 is transferable but not refundable

Workshop topics:

Showers of Praises

Downpour of Love

Splashing through the Mud

Shelter in Life's Storms

Are you Drowning in the Rain?

Springs of Living Water

More information will be on the table as you come into church.

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE PORT

IMPACTING LIVES

www.westportchristianchurch.com

April 2011

Jesus' Last Week

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|---------|
| April 17 | Prayer | 9:00am |
| | Biblical Ed. Classes | 9:30am |
| | Palm Sunday Worship | 10:30am |
| | All Port Pitch-in | |
| April 21 | Communion Service | 7:00pm |
| April 24 | Sunrise Service | 7:00am |
| | Sunrise Breakfast | |
| | Prayer | 9:00am |
| | Biblical Ed. Classes | 9:30am |
| | Resurrection Worship | 10:30am |

HE'S ALIVE!

OUR VISION

A Place Where Jesus is **IMPACTING LIVES**

OUR MISSION

THE PORT IS MADE UP OF PEOPLE WHO

Live Like Jesus by...
Seeking the lost
Making disciples
Showing Compassion

OUR CORE VALUES BY GOD'S GRACE...

The Bible is THE final authority.
We are a holy people.
We are culturally relevant.
We are faithful stewards.
Striving for Excellence.

The Port 591-3807

Shepherds:
Mike Bartlett
591-2913
Kenny Blanton
663-7919
Don Ritchey
591-0908
Dennis Newland
591-3528

Mike's Message

A while back I was talking to someone about worship. He wanted to know what style of worship we have here. I was concerned about his question not because I have not been asked that before, but this time the question seemed different. I had this sense he was looking for a reason to leave where he was attending because they were not meeting his needs when it came to worship.

As most of you know I am NOT a sheep stealer. However, I agree one hundred percent if a person is not in a Bible teaching, Bible preaching congregation in which they are not being fed the word of God, and not being challenge to serve the Lord, then maybe they should look for a place to be fed and challenged. Unfortunately, we have allowed consumerism to take precedence in the church. In other words, when we go to worship it has become what do you have to offer me?

I would like to share a part of an article by Adam Dooley.

“We would never be guilty of making worship more about ourselves than God, would we? How many times have you left a worship service only to complain, “I didn’t get anything out of it today!” We make statements that are saturated with self as if worship is all about us:

- “Why can’t we sing more of the songs that I like?”
- “I don’t think the preacher should talk about this or that!”
- “I can’t believe so-and-so didn’t talk to me today!”
- “No one ever notices what I do in the church.”

Here is the problem: Worship is not about getting anything; **it’s about giving everything to God!** The above attitudes make us idle judges of activity rather than active participants in adoration toward a holy God. Christian consumerism defines the quality of our worship by the number of ministries for people, the size and quality of our buildings, the popularity of our pastors, the style of our music and an obvious determination to make people happy. One concern emerges as primary: “What have you done for me lately?”

Unfortunately, we still fall short of making everyone happy, and God is disgusted with our obvious worship of and preoccupation with ourselves. Our efforts to be seeker-sensitive and self-sensitive have made us insensitive to the Divine Presence who is to be the focus of our worship. Or, as the apostle Paul said, we have “exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator” (Rom. 1:25, NASB).

Continued on page 5

Personal struggles, selfish ambitions, bickering among God’s people and worship wars are all indications that we desperately need to return to the heart of worship. Doing so, requires recognizing who we are in light of who God is and seeking to exalt Him to His rightful place in our lives, our families and our church.”

Jesus said, *“But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.”* (John 4:23NASU) Nowhere in this passage or any other passage do we read where God wants His people to gather together for self-gratification. Our time together for worship must be a time when we stop focusing on self and focus ALL our attention on the One who not only said He was the resurrection and the life, but proved it!

May we gather together to worship Him!

Growing together,
Mike

Asking God

I used to ask God
If he would come and help me.
And then I asked God
If I might come and help him.
And then I ended by asking God
To do his own work through me.
—James Herbert

If you want to be spiritually fed, go to church with a good appetite, not with a bad attitude.

—Our Daily Bread

Working to please God

When we throw ourselves into religious activities without having made our life one of prayer, we run into danger. Our days and nights are filled with teaching or printing a newsletter, working in outreach programs or a food bank, an inner-city rehabilitation project or on lobbying efforts. We feel we are doing the Lord’s work, and perhaps we are. But we will never know unless we take the time to listen to his voice and be certain we are following his promptings and not ambitious ones that start in self. We must always ask ourselves whether we are working to please God or to satisfy our own need for achieving results.

—Judith C. Lechman

Just for KIDS!

April holds several special days for Christians. On the 17th, we have Palm Sunday, which is the day Jesus made His Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem. When the people saw Jesus entering the city they threw their cloaks down onto the ground for the colt He was riding to walk over. They also waved palm branches and ran before him shouting "Hosanna!"

On the 21st, we have Maundy Thursday, the day we remember is The Last Supper Jesus had with His disciples by taking communion together. The 22nd is Good Friday and this is the day when we remember Jesus hanging on the cross and dying for our sins. The 24th is the best day, I think, because it is Resurrection Sunday. On this day, we remember that the women bringing spices to Jesus' tomb found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. He had risen on the third day just like He promised!

The Good News Club starts April 11th and runs through May 16th. We will be studying the life of Jesus from His Triumphant Entry, Betrayal, Crucifixion and Resurrection, to His Ascension to Heaven. The memory verses for this session are;

April 11th Zechariah 9:9;
April 18th I Corinthians 15:58,
April 25th I Peter 3:18,
May 2nd Isaiah 53:6,
May 9th Matthew 28:6
May 16th I John 2:28.

Adults we still need someone to take the kids on Wednesday nights. It can be someone who is willing to do it all the time or it can be several people each taking turns. If God is leading you this way, please let me know. Love in Christ,

Jill

Plant a tree!

Who is the Master Gardener?

You will need:

- * Seeds from a grapefruit, orange, lemon or tangerine
- * A flower pot
- * Soil

How to: Soak the seeds in water overnight.

Fill the flower pot with soil.

Plant 3 or 4 seeds about half an inch deep.

Keep soil moist. Water once or twice a week. Keep pot in a warm, bright place.

The seedlings will sprout in about 8 weeks. Leave only the strongest plant in the pot. It will grow into a little tree with dark, shiny leaves.

Praise, learn and grow at the **PORT!**

Sunday Morning

Morning prayer/fellowship 9:00
 Biblical Ed. Classes 9:30
 Worship 10:30

Sunday Evening

Adults Evening Study & K-5 6:00
Wednesday night
 Adult Biblical Ed.



April 2011

Resurrection is the proof that evil men never have the last word about the things of God.

| | Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Birthdays | | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 rd Faye Klipsch 9 th Gwen Baute 10 th Alberta Robbins Shelby Robbins Jane Smith 14 th Jenn Hodgson 22 nd Roseann Haines 24 th Jenny Hardebeck 25 th Bill Peele Debbie Glover 26 th John Richards 29 th Ron Moore Jim Collins Danny Sabastian | 3 Family Sunday No Jr. Worship | 4 10-12pm & 5-7pm Community Food Give-away at the Port | 5 Encouraging Others 10am Women's Business mtg 6pm Laura | 6 Biblical Ed. Classes 7pm Praise Team practice | 7 Women celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm | 8 | 9 |
| | 10 Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3pm VBS meeting @ 5pm | 11 10-12pm & 5-7pm Community Food Give-away at the Port Good News Club S.D.E.S. 3:00pm | 12 Encouraging Others 10am GOD'S MEN 6PM | 13 Biblical Ed. Classes 7pm Praise Team practice | 14 Elders meeting 6pm / Women celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm | 15 | 16 Basement reserved for 4pm |
| Who being loved, is poor? | 17 Palm Sunday All PORT Pitch-in | 18 10-12pm & 5-7pm Community Food Give-away at the Port Good News Club 3:00pm | 19 Encouraging Others 10am | 20 Biblical Ed. Classes 7pm Praise Team practice | 21 Communion Service 7pm | 22 Good Friday Community Service 7pm at Sardinia Baptist Church | 23 |
| Anniversaries 23 rd Jim & Edna Layton | 24* Sunrise Service 7am Sunrise Breakfast following 7am service Resurrection Worship 10:30am Morning Breeze 2:30pm No Evening Service | 25 10-12pm & 5-7pm Community Food Give-away at the Port Good News Club 3:00pm | 26 Encouraging Others 10am S.C.I.C.M.F. meet at church 5:30 to go to Garden City C. C. | 27 Biblical Ed. Classes 7pm Praise Team practice | 28 Women celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm | 29 | 30 Hilltop Women's Retreat April 29-30 "Singing in the Rain" Speaker: Kay Eaton Friday check-in begins at 6:15pm Saturday workshops begin at 8am More info in Newsletter |