

WESTPORT WITNESS

www.westportchristianchurch.com

August, 2007



All Church
Praise Service
August 26 at 6:00

Mike's Message...

Not to long ago there was quite a stir going on in Indianapolis. It seemed the school board had voted on requiring school uniforms. I listen to arguments from sides, those who were in favor of and those opposed. Those in favor, shared that schools from other areas that had implemented this type of program had seen a dramatic reduction in violence, bullying and fighting. Those that were opposed stated it was forcing their children to wear the type of clothing the kids didn't like. They also stated that it would stifle their child's opportunity to express themselves. Whatever your stance is on this subject, I feel that it is important to keep our children safe and have a healthy environment in which to learn.

Now, this article is not about dress code in the school system, it's about our dress code in life. When we become a Christian, then our dress should be different. I'm not talking about the clothes you wear, but about what you have on! In the book of Galatians, Paul talks about putting on Christ. Galatians 3:27 says, "*For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*" (ESV)

You see, people can often identify someone by the clothes or uniform they wear. Take, for example, a soldier. You can not only tell that a person is in the military, but what branch of the military they are in. When you see a man standing in a court house with a black robe on, you know he is the judge. We often can tell some things about people simply by the way they are dressed.

Paul states that if you have surrendered your life to the Lord Jesus Christ and have put on Christ in the waters of baptism, then people should be able to tell you are a Christian. When we put on Christ, it **must** change our appearance. Again, I am not talking about the things you put on your body.

Continued inside. . .

Mike's Message continued...

Yes, I think we should be aware of what we wear. It should fit appropriate and not revealing. It should be clean and not promote the things of this world, yet the issue of physical dress is a heart thing.

Paul wants us to see that when we put on Christ, it should change our actions, our behavior--It should change the way we think and act--It should change us because we no longer have the things of this world on, but the things of Christ!

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual act of worship." (Rom. 12:1 ESV)

What is it that you have on?

Love to all,
Mike



Ronda and I would like to say thank you to all who help with VBS.
We could not have done it without YOU!
VBS Appreciation Dinner for ALL workers.
August 16th at 6:30
Please let Ronda know if you can make it.

Ladies,

Vacation Bible School has come and gone. Church camp is over. The effects of both linger, but how can we make them stay even longer? Don't let those weeks fade away and disappear. Here's a few ideas to use with yourself and your family:

*Remember the "splash points" (Plunge into Obedience, Faith, Courage, and so on.)--talk about them with your kids. Get a tape of the songs and play them in your car or at home. Pray for the church in Zimbabwe and for the missionaries there. Pray for the kids who came to VBS that don't go to church. Be ready to reach out to them when possible.

*Take your kids to Family Day at Hilltop. Let them get familiar with the place and the people. Make sure your kids know that you value the time at camp. Start now to make plans for your kids to be involved in a week of camp next summer.

Summer's coming to an end, but we can hold onto the things God's been teaching us. Let's obey God with courage and faith at our jobs and everywhere we go this fall.

See you this Sunday!



5th Hilltop Family Day	
12th Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor	3:00
13th Elder/Deacon meeting	7:00
14th Board meeting	7:00
16th VBS Workers Appreciation Dinner	6:30
17th Hilltop Men's Retreat	
19th ALL Church Pitch-In	
26th Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze	2:30
26th ALL Church Praise service	6:00

CALLING ALL YOUTH

What a GREAT VBS, it was AWESOME! Ronda informed me that we had 49 different students here for the week, which is fantastic. We also set a new ALL time high for money raised for our missions. You raised over \$600.00 for "Hearing and Receiving Christ." Praise the Lord! We also received a "Thank You" note from Monica and Christy, who wanted to thank you for doing such a great job not only raising the money, but learning about the children in Zimbabwe Africa.

Well, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but school will be starting soon. Now, that is only bad news if you don't see school for what it truly is: a chance to become whatever you would like! Growing up I never thought much of school. I never really listened to all the people who told me to take advantage of the opportunities that I had. I thought I had EVERYTHING figured out. (Surly none of you do?) Boy, was I ever wrong! Don't be like I was. See this time as a chance to learn all you can. Remember, you have your whole life ahead of you so enjoy this time and learn as much as you can!

Okay, enough of that for now. On Wednesday August 1st we will have our "Back to School Splash!" We will be going to CERA land for a GREAT time, leaving the church at 11:00 and return by 3:30. There will be swimming, Put-Put golf, as well as other activities along with some good, grilled food! When we return back to church at 3:30, every student will receive some back to school supplies. This is the churches way of saying, "We want you to do the best you can."

This is for our Jr./Sr. High: I would like you to be thinking about our winter time missions trip. I am working on a couple of dates and activities that we will be able to participate in that could have a big impact in the life of someone outside of Christ. So please, be praying that God will be able to use us to touch the heart of someone for Him.

Later

From The Kitchen Crock-Pot Beef Stew

1 1/4 Lb. Stew meat

4 Slices of bacon (Cut into 1" pieces)

1- 18oz Jar Brown gravy

1-14.5oz Diced Tomato (undrained)

1 tsp. Thyme leaves

1/2 tsp. Salt

1/4 tsp. Pepper

1 lb. Baby Carrots

8 Potatoes cut up

1- 8oz whole mushrooms

Brown beef and bacon together. Pour into slow cooker and then add remaining ingredients. Cook on low for 8-10 hours.

ENJOY!!

Westport Christian Church

Biblical Ed class 9:30

Worship 10:30

Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00

Wednesday night 7:00

August

			1 Back to School Youth Outing	2	3	4
5 Family Sunday *Hilltop Family Day* See flyer on bulletin board	6	7 Women's meeting 7:00 at church	8 Bible Study 7:00	9	10 T.G.I.F. 6-8	11
12 Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3:00	13 Elder/Deacon 7:00	14 Board Meeting 7:00	15 Bible Study 7:00	16 VBS Appreciation Dinner 6:30	17 Hilltop Men's Retreat	18
19 All Church Pitch-In	20	21	22 Bible Study 7:00	23	24	25
26 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30 ALL Church Praise Service	27	28	29 Bible Study 7:00	30	31	

<p>Birthdays 1st Cassie Weaver Mike Bartlett 3rd Jill Sageser 14th Ethan Peele 28th Steve Black</p> <p>Anniversaries 6th Larry & Norma Rowe</p>
