

Benefit Dinner



For Ron Buchanan
Saturday, August 15.

Food will be served from 5-7.

For more information, see Shelley or Ronda.

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WESTPORT WITNESS

www.westportchristianchurch.com

August, 2009

Mike's Message...

What an awesome VBS! There is no doubt about God working in and through this congregation. Before I go any further, I must say "THANK YOU!" to ALL of you who worked SO hard before and during VBS. Many ladies worked together to make the wonderful outfits for everyone to wear. Many came out to help paint and construct the set. Many prepared their own crafts and had everything they needed. Many got the food prepared and worked hard at making sure everyone got a snack. Many people prayed that God would use us to reach the lives of children and He did! This was not a one or two person project. It takes team effort working together.

Throughout the week, I had many people in our community inquire about our VBS. I heard comments from some I would never have thought would ask anything about the church. I had others state how neat it was to drive by and see so many people in costumes participating here at the church.

We had 56 youth in the program—that is wonderful. We raised more than \$700.00 for Grundy Mountain Mission School. We had 47 adults working together to teach the youth about the love of Jesus Christ—What a success! I had someone ask me if I was disappointed we didn't get 100 kids like I wanted. The answer is no. If we only had one child come to VBS that would be a success. There is no doubt we touched many of these children with the message of Jesus Christ. Who could ask for anything more? *Continued inside. . .*

Mike's Message continued . . . I overheard some already talking about next year. What could we do to improve-- What could we do to make it bigger and better-- What could we do to get more children? It is so important to keep the wheels turning, the ideas flowing, the passion burning.

I must also share with all of you how great it is to be your preacher. I have talked to other preachers who are not as blessed as I am to have such a special group of sheep. God has truly blessed me and I am so thankful He is allowing me to serve here. I am reminded of the words of the apostle Paul. *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.* (Phil 1:2-6 NASU)
Growing together,

Mike

Following God to VBS

My dishes went unwashed today,
I didn't make the bed;
I took God's hand and followed Him—to VBS instead.
Oh, yes, we went adventuring,
The children and I;
Exploring the whole Bible—For truths we can't deny.
My house was sure neglected,
I didn't sweep the stair;
In twenty years no one on earth will know, or even care.
But that I've helped a boy or girl,
To noble adulthood grow,
In twenty years the whole wide world,
May look, and see and know.

—Author unknown

Elders Express

Can you believe we are now in August? School time is extremely important for children as it is time for learning and growing. I think we sometimes forget as we grow older that we need to continue to learn. We need to continue to grow. It is very easy to fall into the trap of being lazy. It is easy to become lazy in our spiritual and daily lives. Is being lazy a sin?

Proverbs 10:4 says “Poor is he who works with a negligent hand, But the hand of the diligent makes rich”

Proverbs 13:4 says “The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, But the soul of the diligent is made fat.”

Proverbs 15:19 says “The way of the lazy is as a hedge of thorns, But the path of the upright is a highway”

It says in Romans 12:10-11 “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;”....

Clearly the Bible teaches that we are rewarded for not being lazy, but is it actually a sin to be lazy? In Ezekiel 16:49 we read that one of Sodom's sins was laziness. They were guilty of not working, but living life void of work. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 says “For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. ¹¹For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.” As we can see, the Bible clearly teaches that it is a sin to be lazy. So be diligent to approve yourselves to be workman, not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15) Have a great month!

God Bless! John

August

Birthdays
1st Cassie Weaver Mike Bartlett
3rd Jill Sageser
9th Susan Bennett
10th Paul Bennett
12th Keith Cooley
14th Ethan Peele
16th Destiny Loizer
21st Donni Buchanan
24th Mike Barnard
25th Dennis Newland
28th Steve Black
30th Tabra Garrity
31st Stanley Hattabugh
Anniversaries
6th Larry & Norma Rowe
10th Wayne & Elizabeth Masters
12th Jack & Marilyn Biddinger

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Family Sunday Hilltop Family Day 12:30-3:00	3 Encouraging Others 6:30	4 Women's business meeting 7:00	5 Bible study 7:00	6	7	8
9 **Youth Day** See details below Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3:00	10 Encouraging Others 6:30	11	12 Bible study 7:00	13 Women Celebrating Christ Bible study 7:00	14 Hilltop Men's Retreat	15 Benefit Dinner for Ron Buchanan. 5:00-7:00
16 Junior Worship Kick-off ALL Church Pitch-In	17 Encouraging Others 6:30	18 God's men 6:15	19 Bible study 7:00	20	21	22 Jr.Sr. High Putt-n-Pizza. Leav- ing church at 10 am.
23 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30	24 Encouraging Others 6:30	25	26 Bible study 7:00	27 Women Celebrating Christ Bible study 7:00	28	29
30 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30	31 Encouraging Others 6:30	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>**Youth Day** We would like to help with back-to-school needs for the youth of our church. Immediately following worship, the youth and their family are invited to go downstairs for refreshments and to pick up school supplies.</p> </div>				

Dear Sisters in the Lord,

This week of Vacation Bible School—"Rome" has been great!

Working with children is a great privilege and responsibility. Think of it—we touched 50 + children with the love of Jesus and planted lots of seed! Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could see the harvest from here?

I was talking "in character" with one of the girls and so seriously, she said, "I like Christians." What a witness to your love and witness this week. I've got to say—I sure do agree with her.

The new Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study will begin on August 13. The study book is John Ortberg's "If You Want To Walk On The Water, You've Got To Get Out Of The Boat."

If you enjoyed our last study, be sure to be a part of this one—it looks just as good. Be prepared to be stretched and challenged!


Change of meeting date The study will be the 2nd and 4th Thursday*

Please sign up at the back table so we can order the books.

See you Sunday!

Donni

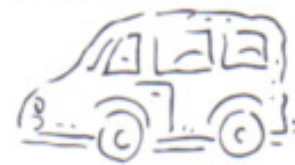
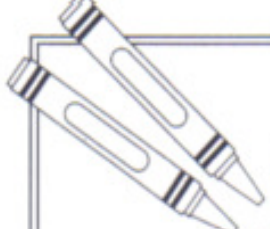
Play an
A-B-C
Game



Number of players:
1 to 2
Equipment: none!

As you travel by car or train or bus look out of the window. The object is to find all the letters of the alphabet in order, starting with A. Find them on signs, license plates, trucks, anywhere! The first player to find them all wins. Or work together just for fun!

Another ABC game to play is to find things that begin with each letter. Find things created by God or made by people through God's guiding hands!





Just for **KIDS**

"We Remember Parents"

In spring and summer, we remember mothers and fathers with special days. Find the parents of these Biblical children. Check the verses given for help.

Joash (2 Kings 11:2)	A
Obed (Matthew 1:5)	B
Joseph (Genesis 35:22-24)	C
John-the disciple (Matthew 4:21)	D
John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)	E
Lo-Ruhamah (Hosea 1:6)	F
Jezreel (Hosea 1:4)	G
Esau (Genesis 25:28)	H
David (1 Samuel 16:19)	I
Jacob (Genesis 25:28)	J
Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)	K
Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)	L
Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)	M
Jesse (Matthew 1:5)	N
Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22)	O
Joseph (Genesis 35:23-24)	P
Isaac (Genesis 21:3)	Q
John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)	R
Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:1)	S
Solomon (1 Kings 2:1)	T
	U
	V
	W
	X
Jesus (Matthew 1:18)	Y
James (Matthew 4:21)	Z



Ahaziah, Boaz, Jacob, Zebedee, Zechariah, Gomer, Hosea, Isaac, Jesse, Rebekah, Elishah, Moses, Hannah, Obed, Zipporah, Rachel, Sarah, Elizabeth, Saul, David, Mary, Zebedee