

WESTPORT WITNESS

www.westportchristianchurch.com

January, 2008

ALL Church Praise Service



*Sunday the 27th at 6:00.
Starting planning now to be apart of this
wonderful time of sharing.*

Ministry Outreach



*Come and be part of our ministry outreach
Jan 13th Skybird Manor & Jan 27th Morning Breeze*

Mike's Message...

Happy New Years!! It's incredible to think this is 2008!! What will the new year bring? Now, I don't know what the new year will bring, but I do know that God is working powerfully through this congregation. As I began to think about what to write, my mind kept going back to the accomplishments of last year. Let's take just a moment to reflect, to look back at what God has done in and through the Westport Christian Church.

Here are just a few things. In 2007, we had two baptisms and five transfers. That means we have seven new people here ready to work and serve the Kingdom. That is fantastic in it's self. For the first time since I have been here, we have two elders and two deacons ready to serve. This in turn means we will be able to do more for our congregation as well as in the community for the cause of Christ. God has truly blessed us with the opportunity to make improvements to our building. When those outside the church see things going on in the church, this brings about curiosity. This also informs everyone that we are willing to make changes and improvements in order to serve more.

We were able to send some of our young people to camp and pay their way! That is unheard of for a congregation our size. We gave away free popcorn and popsicle's at the BBQ in the name of Jesus. We have been active in getting 'Christ Driven Teens' off the ground and going. We set a record for money given to missions for VBS. Our women's group put together school supplies for over 30 kids! Our men's breakfast started back up with a great attendance. Our services on Sunday and Wednesday has increased. Throughout 2007, I have been blessed to see many of you grow in your spiritual walk with Christ. This does a preachers heart good! *Continued inside. . .*

Mike's Message continued...

So, again I must ask, 'what will the new year bring?' I guess if I knew the answer to that question, we would all be in trouble. Since I don't know, allow me to share with you some vision as well as suggestions for 2008.

▶ We must continue to learn to lean upon God. This comes about through prayerfully seeking God's face. We must be on our knees, seeking His power, His guidance, and His direction.

▶ More people coming to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Everything we do should be done to bring people into God's Kingdom. Yes, I want more people in the pews, but just getting them in the pews is not fulfilling the Great Commission. We must be focused on making disciples!

▶ Continue to improve our building. As all of you know, our building has been here for many years. (96 years this year!) We must continue updating, yet without taking away the rich heritage and the beautiful characteristics.

▶ Continue to reach out into the community. We should look at having a community wide kids carnival. This could be a type of VBS kick-off or end of summer event. Consider other events or ways of reaching children in our area.

▶ Improve our ministry outreach. As you know, we are currently providing Sunday service for two locations in Greensburg. I think it would be wonderful if we had more people participating so we could do three!

I have no idea what 2008 will bring, however the bottom line is this, we

MUST continue to reach out with Christ love! May God use us in the new year to bring glory to Him!

Serving Him together,

Mike



Ladies,

When does black plus red equal white? It seems impossible, but when the sin-blackened hearts are washed with the sacrifice of the blood of Jesus, those hearts become white as snow. The glistening beauty of fresh fallen snow brings this miracle of grace to our attention. Our hearts are as fresh, white and pure as that snow. Isn't God good?

Just For The Youth

For all you young ladies, T.G.I.F. will be going again this month, so invite a friend to help build our group! As for the guys, I would like to remind you that you are welcome to join everyone for "God's Men Breakfast." Yes, you have to get up early, but the food is well worth it.

The preacher wanted to remind you all that we are planning a trip to the "Creation Museum" next month, so let him know if you are wanting to go.

I would like to take this time to wish all of you a WONDERFUL new year!



Later

6th Christ Driven Teens		6-8
8th Women's meeting		7:00
11th T.G.I.F.		6-8
13th Ministry Outreach	Skybird Manor	3:00
15th Elders/Deacons		6:00

What Ron thinks

It's all the same idea, just different variations of the same theme. Coattails, apron strings, a pedestal. Remember Fred Astaire dancing with long coattails, how grand and important he looked. How do you suppose he glided so easily....So, if I grabbed onto his coattails, what would happen? Would I dance as well? Don't think so, his coattails in no way, shape or form will help me out...and, if I grabbed on, he would not dance gracefully. So, coat tails are out.

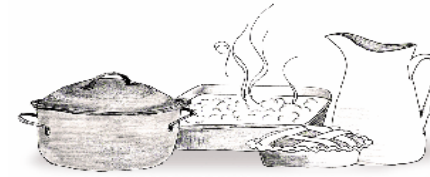
Apron strings... remember you grandmothers wearing aprons? A place for little ones to hide, something to carry eggs in, an apron can be used to wipe tears on. What happens when you grab on? You can only slow the person down. The strings are of no value but to the one wearing the apron. You grabbing on will only slow the two of you down and nothing gets done.

A pedestal is only good for putting someone's plaster head on...or a flower....or some other inanimate object....Not a person. If you are the one on the pedestal, you are in the spotlight-- all blemishes are visible and it gets plain tiring. If you are the one gazing at the pedestal, then sooner or later you are going to be very disappointed with the person that is perching there.

Are you all getting my ideas? Now, however, Mike and a thousand other speakers speak from a raised platform thousands of times a day. The object is for the people to just see them and to hear them better. The goal is not to think the speaker is so wonderful or that his words are so glorious....but simply to see and hear them better. It also lets them see you.

The only point of this exercise is that you be your own person and give yourself back to God. God is not on a pedestal or a raised area....He is so far beyond and so great that He can't fully be measured. There is no one living or dead to whom God can be compared. You cannot ride on his coattails or grab on to his apron strings. God is I AM, and that really says it all. We strive to be like him, accept his mercy, and gratefully give our lives into his hands.

From The Kitchen



Turkey & Apple Breakfast Sausage

1/2 lb. Ground Turkey
2 Tbsp. Soft bread crumbs
1/2 cup shredded apples
1/4 tsp. Leaf sage, crushed

1/8 tsp. Salt
1/8 tsp. Paprika
Dash ground nutmeg
Nonstick spray coating

In a large bowl, combine turkey, bread crumbs, apples, sage, pepper, salt, paprika, and nutmeg. Shape mixture into four 1/2 inch thick patties. Spray the unseated rack of broiler pan with nonstick spray coating. Arrange patties on rack. Broil 4 to 5 inches from the heat about 10 minutes or until no pink remains; turn once. (Or spray a large skillet with nonstick spray coating. Cook sausage over medium heat for 8 to 10 minutes or until no pink remains.) Makes 4 servings.

Low Cholesterol and low sodium.

Enjoy!!

Westport Christian Church

Biblical Ed class 9:30

Worship 10:30

Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00

Wednesday night 7:00

January

		1 New Years Day!!	2 Bible Study 7:00	3	4	5
6 Family Sunday Christ Driven Teens	7	8 Women's Meeting 7:00 at church	9 Bible Study 7:00	10	11 T.G.I.F. 6-8	12
13 Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3:00	14	15 Elder/Deacon 6:00 Board meeting 7:00	16 Prayer meeting 6:15 Bible Study 7:00	17	18	19 God's Men Breakfast 7:30
20 ALL Church Pitch-In	21	22	23 Bible Study 7:00	24	25	26
27 Ministry Out- reach Morning Breeze 2:30	28	29	30 Bible Study 7:00	31		

Birthdays

20th Nina Richardson
28th Nathan Peele

Anniversaries

4th Deric & Teresa
Garris
8th Steve & Pat
Black