

YOUTH MINISTRY

Jason Shemanski has agreed to join Westport Christian Church to

Live Like Jesus by. . .

Seeking the lost

Making disciples

Showing Compassion

Jason will be traveling from Manheim, Pennsylvania in Lancaster Co. to arrive here on July 1st. His main concern will be our youth and to help lead us to teach and mature our young people to know and rely on their Savior.

It's been such a wonderful opportunity to see God's love for us as we prayed for that one special person to come and help the Port with our Youth. Now it is our turn to make a difference and help Jason. There are three important ingredients to help the youth.

First we must have a leader: Jason

Second we must have the Kids.

Third we must have willing participating adults to do what is needed.

Please be ready to say: "Yes, I will help".

It could be a small way, by just providing a snack or larger by helping Jason if he needs us.

Let's continue to help make our children of the church, the community and surrounding area a priority. Thank you for all you do and for all you will do.



WESTPORT'S BIRTHDAY

175th

CELEBRATION

Saturday July 23rd

The Port will have a booth set up starting at 10:30am and also is making plans to build a float for the parade starting at 10am.

If you are interested in helping with the float please talk to Steve or Jenn Hodgson

Also a sign up sheet is on the back table in church for the booth with a block of time for one hour.

Some Activities include *Art Show

*Talent Show *Parade *Street Vendors

*Bands *Breakfast *Basketball Tourney

*Co-Ed Softball Tournament

*Historically recorded photos

*Dinner *Little Miss Westport Contest

*Evening Bands at the Westport Community Building Shelter House.

So lets help show how the Port supports our community. Get involved!

More information call or talk to Steve & Jenn

Or you can also go on line at

Westport 175.com

Congregational Meeting

July 24 at 6pm

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE PORT IMPACTING LIVES

www.westportchristianchurch.com

Westport Christian Church's

INDEPENDANCE DAY

CELEBRATION

Richard & Louise Klerk's home

Sunday, July 3 - 6pm dinner

**Providing hotdogs, table service
and drinks.**

**Bring your favorite side dish fixed
to share, YUM can't wait!**

Bible Study at 8pm

FIREWORKS AT DARK!

Don't forget your lawn chairs!

JULY 2011

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
Jason Shemanski -
Kenny Blanton -663-7919
Dennis Newland -591-3528
Don Ritchey -591-0908

Mike's Message,

As we continue to grow and develop into what God would have us to be, things change. I know that most people do not like change and to let you in on a secret, sometimes I don't like it either. I have learned however if a person or congregation doesn't direct the change, it still happens.

Allow me to give you an example. Several years ago a preacher I know was hired by a church who claimed they wanted to grow and serve the Lord. He had big plans going into this ministry and knew that God was ready to bless this congregation with much needed growth. You see, the area around this congregation had changed over several years. There was a new industrial park that was built that brought new people to the area which led to a new housing development, which brought in more new people to the community.

This congregation was located right in the middle of this new expansion and had the potential to become a huge impact in the community, but they refused to change. Now, I am not talking about changing their stance upon any of their beliefs, their teachings, or any important position they had about Christ and His Church. I mean they didn't want to change anything. They didn't want to change the color of the paint on the walls which had been there 50 years, because Sister Sue picked that out before she died, 50 years ago. They didn't want to change the order of service as they called it because that is the way it had always been since that congregation was founded. They didn't want to change anything including the toilet paper because if it was good enough 100 years ago it was good enough now!

Within five years, the preacher left upset and disgusted enough to leave the ministry. He had the feeling he failed at what God had called him to do. One of the reasons he felt like he failed was the community had grown more than 2,500 people within that time and not one new person became a member of the congregation. As a matter of fact, two years after he had left they closed the door, never to become the light God had called them to be!

He shared with me what he thought was the greatest hindrance in reaching the lost and it was simply this, the people within the church! You see the first year was great. He spent most of that year visiting and getting to know the people in the congregation. He was feeling good about everything and the people were happy and enjoying it as well. Most of the second year went well also, but then it started. Some of the people in the congregation got upset because the preacher had changed. He wasn't coming over like he did at first. He didn't have time to make it to every birthday party or ball game. He wasn't even able to go fishing or hunting with some of the men like he had, he CHANGED!

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Mike's message continued from page 2

The truth is he hadn't changed. His goal at the beginning was to build relationships within the congregation and to help lead some of them to the path of service. Now, his focus was on the things needed to reach the lost in the community. To help the congregation to become what God desired—"a light in a dark world." Can you guess what happened? That's right, some in the congregation started complaining because the preacher didn't hang around with them anymore. Some of them even stopped going to Bible Study and found other things to do on Sunday mornings instead of going to worship and some even left because the preacher didn't care anymore! He was too focused on new people!

Yes, things have changed and to be honest I can't come to every one's house like I use to a few years ago, but praise God! Praise God that He has revealed to the leaders of this congregation that we need to be "A Port" and a shining light in our community! Praise God that He is using us to reach out to the lost! Praise God that He has found us worthy to serve Him!

Growing Together, Mike

NO EXCUSE SUNDAY?

To make it possible for everyone to attend church, how about having a special No Excuse Sunday?

* Cots will be placed in the foyer for those who say "Sunday is my only day to sleep in."

* There will be a special section with lounge chairs for those who feel that our pews are too hard.

* Eye drops will be available for those with tired eyes from watching TV late Saturday night.

* We will have steel helmets for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church."

* Blankets will be furnished for those who think the church is too cold, and fans for those who say it is too hot.

* Scorecards will be available for those who wish to list the hypocrites present.

* Relatives and friends will be in attendance for those who can't go to church and cook dinner, too.

* We will distribute Stamp Out Stewardship buttons for those that feel the church is always asking for money.

* One section will be devoted to trees and grass for those who like to seek God in nature.

* Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who plan to be sick on Sunday.

* The sanctuary will be decorated with both Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who never have seen the church without them.

* We will provide hearing aids for those who can't hear the preacher and cotton for those who can.

(Yes, this is funny, but what are your excuses? I know I have used some of these and a few others not mentioned. Please God help me to change, no more excuses. I have no control over when I die or how I will die but I do have control over how I will live. Help me to use your divine moments for YOU!)

Written by GB

Praise, learn and grow at the PORT!

Sunday Morning		Sunday Evening	
Morning prayer/fellowship	9:00	Adults Evening Study & K-5	6:00
Biblical Ed. Classes	9:30	Wednesday night	
Worship	10:30	Adult Biblical Ed.	



JULY 2011

Birthdays	
2nd	Jacob Richards
5th	Claire Arbuckle
9th	AJ Creech Chris Glover
11th	Sue Bundren
15th	Yang Kim
23rd	Malory Finchum
27th	Mason Nugent
28th	Shirley Collins Ron Tobias
29th	Carolyn Blanton Terry Glover
31st	Michael Stone Steve Smith
Anniversaries	
13th	Jim & Wilma Parish
27th	Jim & Shirley Collins
31st	Terry & Debbie Glover

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
No Skybird Manor service until further notice.						
3. Family Sunday  INDEPENDENCE DAY celebration at the Klerk's 6pm!	4  Happy 4TH C JULY R.O. with the Klerk's	5 <i>Encouraging Others 10am</i> Ladies for the LORD 6pm Vickie/Carolyn	6 <i>Biblical Ed. Class 7pm</i> Praise Team practice	7 <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	1 First Place for Health 7pm Karin Tichenor's home	2
10 Hilltop Ice Breaker	11. 10-12pm & 5-7pm Community Food Give away	12 <i>Encouraging Others 10am</i> GOD'S MEN 6PM Wilderness	13 <i>Biblical Ed. Class 7pm</i> Praise Team practice	14 ELDER'S Mtg. 6pm <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	15 First Place for Health 7pm Karin Tichenor's home	16
17 ALL PORT PREVIEW	18 10-12pm & 5-7pm Community Food Give away	19 <i>Encouraging Others 10am</i>	20 <i>Biblical Ed. Class 7pm</i> Praise Team practice	21 <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	22 First Place for Health 7pm Karin Tichenor's home	23 175th Celebration of WESTPORT!
24 Morning Breeze 2:30 Congregational Meeting 6pm	25 10-12pm & 5-7pm Community Food Give away	26 <i>Encouraging Others 10am</i> S.C.I.C.M.F. <i>First C.C. of Columbus</i>	27 <i>Biblical Ed. Class 7pm</i> Praise Team practice	28 <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	29 First Place for Health 7pm Karin Tichenor's home	30
31 Morning Breeze 2:30						