

WESTPORT WITNESS

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October, 2006

October 14
Fall Youth Rally

21st
State Ladies Day

29th
ALL Church Praise Service

31st
Harvest Party

Mike's Message...

WOW! What a great series of revival meetings. Terry Peer did an outstanding job in bringing God's message. The music was good, the fellowship was great, the atmosphere was awesome. It was awesome because God's presence was with us.

Now, I can't speak for everyone but I really needed the revival. It gave me time to think and reflect on some things that I have said or done. It gave me time to evaluate where we are, to look ahead, to try to catch a vision for our future. Yes, I needed that!

But I have to ask, "what about you?" Were the series of messages just that, a series of messages which really had no impact in your life? Was it just some meetings that you felt you had to attend? Did you leave each night tired or did you go away energized? Now, I am not talking about physically energized, but spiritually. I guess what I am asking is, "Did you get revived?"

The theme for the week was "A Life of Commitment" and that is a must. We must be committed to Christ, His teachings, His Church, and His plan of getting people into the kingdom. We must be committed to serving, witnessing and loving the brethren.

You see, I believe that commitment is one of the things that is lacking in so many people's lives. Jobs are lost because of the lack of commitment from the employee. They are late more than they are on time. They steal from the employer because they feel they are being mistreated. Employers have a lack of commitment to the employees because it's all about the bottom line and not about taking care of your workers.

Families are broken up because of the lack of commitment—parents not wanting to be parents. Dads and moms are too worried about what they want instead of taking care of their children. Instead of being the parent, they often want the grandparents to raise the kids so the parents can do what they want. Instead of being the parent, many want to be friends with their children. *Continued inside. . .*

Mike's Message ...continued

They don't understand that they must be parents first and then friends later.

Marriages are broken up because of the lack of commitment. It seems like everything is based on feelings or emotions. I must admit that I get tired of hearing, "Well, we just fell out of love or I just don't love him or her anymore." Where is the commitment—***till death do us part!***

The word commitment means, "dedication to a cause or policy." It carries with it the understanding that no matter what, I'm going to follow through. A *true* relationship to Christ **demand**s commitment. Jesus said in Matthew 24:13 *"But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.* (NASU)

Paul wrote a good definition of commitment when he wrote, *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.* (2 Tim 4:7-8 NASU)

May all of us strive to live a "life of commitment."

Love,
Mike

CALLING ALL YOUTH

If you are involved in some activity at school such as band, drama, sports or some other special event, let me know. Ronda and I would love to come and see you if we can.

For all of our teenagers, there will be a "Fall Youth Rally" October 14th. The location will be the Decatur County Fair Grounds from 1:00-10:00. It will include a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and a dodge ball tournament. The day will conclude with worship and a concert. The cost for the concert will be a canned food item.

If you are wanting to go, please sign the sheet so I will have enough drivers to take everyone.

Now, for those of you who are in the 5th grade and down, we will be having a "Harvest Party" on October 31st from 6:00 to 8:00. This is an alternative to the trick or treating. There are a couple of requirements. First, do not dress up in some strange costume. (As a matter of fact, you don't have to dress up at all.) Secondly, if you come, I am going to ask you to stay the entire time. If you leave, you are **not** allowed to come back. We will have games, food and prizes!

Also, I am working on some special things for us over the Christmas break so, if you have some suggestions, please let me know.

Recently we have been working on some memory work. I will tell you that some of you have really surprised me. I stated at the beginning why it is important to have God's word, do you remember? Well, the writer of Psalm 119 tells us why.

Ps 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. (NIV)

We are to put God's word in our heart and mind so that we will not sin against Him. So we will know how we are to behave. So we will know what is right and wrong. So that we will know the truth!

Later,
Mike

Ladies,

September, was the month of ISTEP for the school kids. Tests. Review... preparation...review some more...prepare more... Then test day arrives. The kids are nervous, the teachers are nervous, the parents are nervous, anyone connected to the school is nervous! That morning at 8:40 the teacher tells the students to open their book, turn to page 5 for test 1. This is where the rubber meets the road. No more time to prepare—to review... All is quiet except for the turning of pages and clicking of pencils. The test has everyone's attention.

This test looms large for the kids but in life there are larger test. Are you in such a test? A friend's mother just found out she has acute leukemia. The doctor give her 3-4 months if she decides not to take radiation treatment. Their faith is being tested. Another friend has been downsized and lost her job. Yet another had had financial changes. Tests come in all sizes and situations.

The ISTEP tries to show the bounds or limits of one's education. Life's test show whether you will continue to choose God—trusting and serving Him—or give up in anger and confusion. Paul reminded us of a great truth when he wrote Romans' "I am persuaded that neither death, not life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, not things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Nothing has the power to separate us from Jesus unless we give it that power. Jesus will never leave us or forsake us.

Are you taking a test right now? If you're in the middle of the test, hold on to Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you remember what you've learned. Make the choices to stay closely linked to God. If you aren't in a test now, then use this time to prepare, to learn from His Word, to seek His face, to walk close to Jesus.

Does this sound like something you've heard before? Be committed to Jesus no matter what—to His person, to His doctrine, to His church, to His mission. Don't be moved away from Jesus by ANYTHINGS!

Ladies, remember your secret sis.

From the Congregation

Mrs. Vickery's Oatmeal Ice Box Cookies
Submitted by Donni Buchanan

2 Cups margerine
2 Cups brown sugar
2 Cups white sugar
4 eggs
2 Tablespoons vanilla
2 Teaspoons soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
3 Cups flour
6 Cups cooking oats.

Sift flour, soda, salt and set aside. Cream margerine and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, stirring well after each. Add vanilla—add flour mixing well. Add oatmeal and mix well.

Form into 2 or 3 long rolls—wrap in foil and chill over night. (Can chill up to a week)

Slice and bake at 350 for 10 to 12 minutes.

Mrs. Vickery was a member of the Westport Christian Church for many years. These cookies are delicious. It has been said that this recipe was one used by the Westport Bakery many years ago.

UP COMING EVENTS

3rd Ladies meeting	7:00
10th Board meeting	7:00
15th ALL church Pitch-In	
16th Elders/Deacons meeting	7:00
18th Hour of Power prayer meeting	6:15
22nd & 29th Morning Breeze	2:30
29th ALL church Praise service	6:00



Westport Christian Church

Biblical Ed class 9:30

Worship 10:30

Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00

Wednesday night 7:00

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Indiana Christian Men's Fellowship Chapel Rock	3 Ladies Meeting Secret Sis revealing	4 Bible Study 7:00	5 Jr.-Sr. High Youth Group 7:00	6	7
8 Skybird Manor 3:00	9	10 Board Meeting 7:00	11 Bible Study 7:00	12 Jr.-Sr. High Youth Group 7:00	13	14 Fall Youth Rally Decatur County Fair Grounds 1:00-10:00
15 ALL Church Pitch-In following worship	16 Elders/Deacons Meeting 7:00	17	18 Prayer Meeting 6:15	19 Jr.-Sr. High Youth Group 7:00	20	21 Ladies Day at Seymour
22 Morning Breeze 2:30	23	24 Men's Meeting	25 Bible Study 7:00	26 Jr.-Sr. High Youth Group 7:00	27	28
29 Morning Breeze 2:30 Praise service	30	31 **Harvest Party** For 5th grade and down				

<p><u>BIRTHDAYS</u> 17th Deric Garris</p>
