

Have you been asking yourself is there anything new going on at the PORT?

**ALWAYS!**

Coming in **OCTOBER**

## THE PORT FISH FRY!

On Oct 1st at 5pm bring a covered dish to share with the meal.

October 2nd is

## Congregational Meeting

Afterwards we are having a

## Sundae Sunday

Oh YUM!

### FALL

## COMMUNITY DAY OF SERVICE

October 8th starting time is 9am till 3pm

Here's our chance to be servants for Jesus.

Don't miss your opportunity!

October 9th **Friends Day**

Let's fill our church with friends and family!

## MEN'S OVERNIGHTER

October 14th at Ron Moore's home.

Starting October 18th

Mike will be starting an eight week

## Marriage Enrichment Class

at the Port from 7-8:30pm

This is open to the community.

(DVD's and CD's of the class can be provided.)

Westport Christian Church

is hosting a

## Craft Fair

October 22nd from 9-3pm.

## ALL CHURCH PRAISE SERVICE

Come be with us as we praise and adore our King!

October 30 at 6pm

## Trunk or Treat

at THE PORT will be on  
October 31st 5:30-8:30pm

### DON'T FORGET about our SPIRITUAL GIFTS CLASS

We are meeting in the basement on Sunday mornings. This is a great opportunity to know how we can apply our gifts to Christ's Church! It's never to late, Join us!

With so many things going on besides Sunday and Wed. Night classes for K-5 and adults. Plus Youth group meeting on Sundays and Thursdays. Also Encouraging others on Tuesdays, Women celebrating Christ Bible study Thursdays, on Fridays First Place at Karin Tichenor's. There has to be somewhere you can plug in and be apart of the Port! Come on don't wait, get started!

## WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# THE PORT IMPACTING LIVES

[www.westportchristianchurch.com](http://www.westportchristianchurch.com)



## FRIEND DAY!

Bring a friend to The PORT  
on Oct. 9th

## OCTOBER 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 -

(334)-618-4135

Kenny Blanton -663-7919

Dennis Newland -591-3528

Don Ritchey -591-0908

Mike's Message,  
WOW! What an awesome response we have had for the Biblical Education class on "Spiritual Gifts." In case you haven't been joining us, you still have time. We have been having a wonderful time but it would be even more wonderful if you'd joined us.

I know for the last several years, October has been set aside as a time of appreciation for ministers. With that in mind, I would like to let you ALL know how much I appreciate each and every one of you. It is because of your prayers and support, Westport Christian Church is able to do the things She is doing. I truly mean it when I tell you that I am honored to be here and be part of what God is doing through YOU! I need to also let you know that I tell many people around the world about your love for the Lord and the wonderful work that you are doing for the glory of God.

I pray that you will join me in letting our elders know how much we love and appreciate them. Dennis, Kenny and Don are doing a wonderful job in leading this congregation in the way of the Lord. These men meet each week spending much time in prayer and study to be the leaders that God is calling them to be. As a matter of fact, a couple of months ago the leadership went on a 'leadership retreat.' When we returned, some of you saw them and said, "I don't know what kind of retreat it was, but I wouldn't want to go to it!" It was a working time, NOT a retreat in the sense of lying around in the sun. It is hard work to be a

shepherd and do it correctly. So, please join me in saying thank you to our shepherds.

I would be amiss if I didn't say thank you to the wives of our elders. Being the wife of an elder can be at times a difficult thing. They are gone many times, spending time in meetings and calling and simply doing the work of a shepherd. So ladies, THANK YOU, for allowing your husband to be the man that God has called him to be.

I must also take this time to say thank you to my wonderful wife Ronda. It is because of your support and encouragement that I am able to minister. Thank you for being so understanding, supportive, and caring as well as giving up much of our time together so that I may serve.

In case you all didn't know, I have read and been told it is an extremely hard thing to be a preacher's wife. As a matter of fact, recently I heard about a man that was fired because his wife didn't attend a function at the church. The ones that were at the function felt like the preacher's wife snubbed them. They complained to the leaders, and they fired the preacher.

Thank you for taking care of my wife and I would like to ask that you shower her with your prayers because I know it is a difficult thing to live with me!

I'm reminded of the words of the apostle Paul when writing to the church at Ephesus, "*For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among*

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Mike's message continued from page 2  
*you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.*

*I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.*"(Eph. 1:15-21NASU) Thank you! May God continue to pour out His blessings upon "The Port."

Growing Together, Mike

## JOURNEY with JASON

"If anyone's name was not found written in the Book of Life, He was thrown into the lake of fire." (Rev. 20:15) Hell . . . The Final Frontier . . . The last stop of the voyage on the Ship Humanity . . . The fiery melting pot of broken dreams, shattered hopes and rebellion. Here's one of the most important questions you could ever be asked: **How do you picture hell?** Do you imagine it as a party, with sex, drugs and rock-n-roll? Or do you have in mind a place of mental anguish? Do you think of hell as having an almost cartoonish atmosphere where horned demons stick you with pitchforks? You might want to think again, because the Bible

speaks of hell as a very different place than you might imagine. Jesus, paints a picture of hell with fire and brimstone, pain and torture. It is described as a very real place with very real torment. The Bible also describes hell as being eternal. Speaking of it's inhabitant, the apostle John wrote: "And the smoke of their torment rises forever and ever. There is no rest day or night . . ." (Rev. 14:11) Notice the words "forever and ever." Hell is an eternal torture chamber for those who refuse Christ. There is no bail, no parole, and no "get out of jail free" card. Stop right now and think of someone you know who hasn't trusted in Christ. Imagine them never hearing the Gospel message. Picture them in the midst of the lake of fire, surrounded by hopelessness for ever and ever. Am I trying to scare you? ABSOLUTELY. There are some things we should be afraid of; and hell is one of them. It represents the Holy side of God's character, and the eternal destiny of those who rejected Him. Hell burns forever because God's hatred of sin burns forever. I believe that it is easy to forget that the same God who fashioned the paradise of heaven also created an inescapable hell. Jude reminds us to "Snatch others from the fire and save them. . ." You and I are on a life saving mission from God to grab people from the grips of Hell and bring them safely to the Gate of Heaven, sound difficult? Not really. All we need to do is share with them the message of the cross, and the rest is up to them. Remember, God is so Holy that He made an eternal hell to pour out His anger on those who sin. God is so loving that He sent His only Son to earth to die on the cross and absorb His holy anger for our sin, God is so compassionate that He made us ambassadors of Hope to a hell-bound world. Will you share that message to your hell-bound friends? If not now, when? Grace and Peace Jason  
Youth October events  
22nd 5-8pm Game/pizza night K-6th  
29th 5-8pm Game/pizza night 7-12th  
(bring games & your friends!)