

Westport BBQ

Sept. 11, 12, 13.

Our theme for the year is "Impacting our community, one person at a time." With that in mind, we will have a both at the BBQ, to share information about our church. If you can help in that ministry, please see Carolyn Blanton.

Our church will also be sponsoring a concert, free for the community on Friday, 11th.

The Shady Valley Bluegrass Band will begin at 7:00. There will be sandwiches and drinks for sale at the event provided by the local Kiwanis group.

Our ladies group will be holding a yard sale on Saturday from 7:00 to 4:00.

There will be a Southern Gospel Concert by the "Woodsmen Quartet" on Saturday at 6:00.

Let us impact our community by showing our support for our Lord and His church.

Church Work Day

Saturday, September 19.

For more information, see Mike Hardebeck

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WESTPORT WITNESS

www.westportchristianchurch.com

September, 2009

Mike's Message...

Back in the 60's, there was a song called "Times Are A' Changin'." I agree with that statement. Times are changing. Now, I will also agree there are things that have changed I don't like, and I think you all would say the same thing. However, should we not think that things will change? After all, we do want some things to be different from what they used to be, don't we? Through the use of technology, we are able to do things which could never happen before. I am thankful I can call our daughter on the phone and speak to her without waiting weeks or months to get a word back through the mail. I am thankful we can go on the internet and see Claire growing, walking and beginning to talk.

I believe we would all agree there are things which have changed we appreciate—such as, the advancement of medicine—the advancement we have to protect our country—the ability to travel back and forth to work, school or play. There are many things we are grateful for that have changed through the history of this great nation.

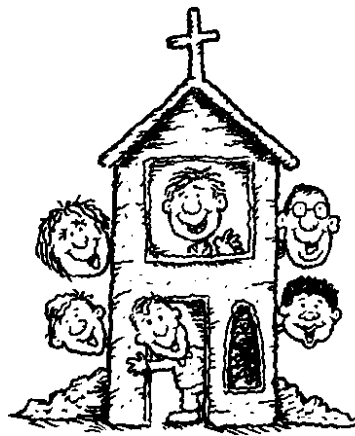
First of all, we must understand this concept: things are changing. With that in mind, I think we often focus on what was instead of what can be! Each and every person likes something from the past we would like to hold onto. But, if we always focus on the past, then we will not be able to live for the future.

Secondly, there always will be things we have NO control over. So, why do we spend so much time and energy complaining or worrying about things we can't control? Again, we should be looking for new ways to impact the changes we don't like or agree with. *Continued inside. . .*

Mike's Message continued . . . What does this have to do with the church? What does this have to do with us here at Westport? The facts are clear; the church must change in order to reach the next generation. Now, I am NOT talking about changing the message. I am NOT talking about being true to the Word and the Lord's command. I am talking about the means or methods which we use. People today, including me and you, have a different take on things compared to our parents and grandparents.

As we continue to grow, and we will, change will come. But there are a few things I am not willing to give up. I am not willing to give up the family bond that this congregation is known for. I am not willing to give up the love that flows throughout this building each and every Lord's day. I am not willing to give up our times of fellowship. I am not willing to give up our motto, "Reaching people with the love of Christ." I am not willing to give up standing on the truths of God's Word. There are many other things I am not willing to give up, but I think you know what I am getting at.

The bottom line is this, we will only lose the things we are willing to give up! Yes, things around are changing, but our Lord NEVER changes. *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."* (Heb 13:8 NASU) Amen!!
Growing together,
Mike



God's People Working Together—The Church

Elders Express

How do we know if we are living within God's will? As we go about our daily lives, we should be following Paul's words in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 when he says for the people to pray without ceasing. We should devote our lives to praying daily for God's direction. We should pray for one another and ask that God will direct and reveal his will to each one of us. It says also in this same passage to seek after what is good for one another. If we do this, but can help each other discover what God's will is for our lives and for one another.

Psalms 139:3-4 says *"You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all."* God does have a plan for our lives and has already written its' path for us to follow. We need to seek his will daily by attempting to follow God's commandments written in his Holy inspired word: THE BIBLE. James informs us that in order to know what it is that God wants us to do we must ask Him. *"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind."*

Do you want to know what God's will is for your life. Ask God what it is! Ask Him knowing that without a doubt He will give you the best answer for your life. He knows what is best for you and He has given us the Comforter (Holy Spirit) to help us discern right from wrong. If we are truly reading His word, praying daily and asking Him to guide us; we will know God's will for our lives.

God Bless!

John

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Women's Business Meeting 7:00	2 Bible Study 7:00	3	4	5
6 Family Sunday Elder's meeting 12:15	7 Labor Day!	8 God's Men 6:15	9 Bible Study 7:00	10 Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7:00	11 Free Concert at the community building—7:00. The Shady Valley Bluegrass Band	12 Ladies yard sale 7:00-4:00 Concert at 6:00 The Woodsmen
					Westport BBQ	
13 Ministry Outreach Skybird 3:00	14 Encouraging Others 6:30 Board Meeting 7:00	15	16 Bible Study 7:00	17	18	19 Workday See Mike Hardebeck for details. Youth Outing. Leave at 4:30
20 All Church Pitch-In following worship	21 Encouraging Others 6:30	22 SCIMCF at Burnsville	23 Bible Study 7:00	24 Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7:00	25	26 Walk for Life Pregnancy Care Center
27 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30	28 Encouraging Others 6:30	29	30 Bible Study 7:00			

Birthdays

3rd Michael Cann
6th Joey Murray
9th Diana McCullough
13th Rita Spencer
19th Michael Garris
20th Gloria Alumbaugh
Joan Sterling
24th Jeff Martin
28th Mike Robbins
30th Mary Jane Barnard

Anniversaries

23rd Jacob & Carla Richards

Dear Sisters in the Lord,

Those who haven't checked out the Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study are really missing something. Our topic of study is "If you Want to Walk on Water, you have to Get Out of the Boat." Twenty-one ladies signed up to participate. WOW! We are definitely being challenged to grow and step out to work for God. Come join us if you dare—it just might change life as you know it. I love getting to know you all better as we talk and study together.

We have a fabulous church family! I want to thank you all for your prayers, loving concern, and help you have given to us this summer. Ron's leg continues to improve and, sometime soon, I hope to be able to tell you it's finally healed! Thank you to all of you who helped in any way with the benefit supper and auction. I can't begin to tell you how blown away we were (and still are) as you continued to show us Christ's love. I know I've said it before, but WOW!

We're so glad you're our brothers and sisters!

Donni (and Ron)

What's Cook'in



Cucumber Salad

3 large cucumber

1/12 cup sour cream

1/2 t black pepper

2 t salt

3 Tablespoons vinegar

3/4 t chives or dill

Wash and peel cucumber, slice very thin. Place in china bowl, sprinkle with salt and allow to stand for one hour. Squeeze cucumber dry then combined remaining ingredients. Pour over cucumbers, mix well and serve.

Enjoy