

July 2nd

**ALL Church Fish Fry 5:30**  
Bring a covered dish and  
**ENJOY!**

**Southern Gospel Concert**  
July 22 at 7:30  
**The Singing Evangelists**

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# WESTPORT WITNESS

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

July, 2005

## Mike's Message...

Today is the longest day of the year! I was watching the news on TV when the meteorologist made the comment that this week is the longest week of the year. I had never really thought about that, have you? I mean, I knew that the first day of summer was the longest, but I never stopped to think about the whole week. After this week, the day-time hours start getting shorter. I would like to bring one thing to your attention. There are still the same amount of hours in each day. So, the question is what are we doing with the time that we have?

There are millions of things that we all could do with our time. Yes, some of us would enjoy spending as much of it on the water, in the woods, out shopping, or just relaxing and watching the world go by as we can. Many of the things that we enjoy are positive, but are they meaningful? I could be the first to argue that the time I use fishing is very meaningful. Yes, there is some much needed value to doing what we enjoy.

Nowhere in the Bible does it say that we should not enjoy ourselves. Nowhere does it say that we shouldn't spend some time doing things we enjoy, unless the things you enjoy are sin. Most people work hard and they should go on a vacation, visit family and friends, and do the things they enjoy. However, many times people **only** want to do the things they want to do.

Solomon, in all of his great wisdom, writes in chapter three of Ecclesiastes that there is a time for everything. Time is the one thing that ALL of us have the same amount of each day. Psalm 34:12 *Who is the man who desires life, and loves length of days that he may see good?* Time was invented for man because God is not bound by time. Time was invented by God, for man, to constitute the use of it for God's glory. *"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil."* (Eph 5:15-16)

*continued inside..*

*You say, "I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing." But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from me . . . salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. Revelation 3:17-18 NIV*

Judy noticed that her husband Steve was having a hard time reading at night. "Don't you need an eye exam," she chided. " You have had those old glasses for years and I think you might need bifocals" "I don't need new glasses," Steve defensively stated. "I see fine at night. It's just that my eyes are tired." Steve's problems continued and in spite of the embarrassment he refused to get an eye exam. One day his son accidentally broke his dad's old glasses. Not having any other recourse, Steve had to get an eye exam to get a new pair of glasses. "I am amazed that someone at your age is still using single vision lenses," the optometrist admitted. "You are in denial. You should have been fitted with bifocals five years ago!" Steve ended up getting a pair of blended lenses and sees just fine now at night!

How are the eyes of your soul? Do you see just fine? Don't fool yourself. Spiritual insight and discernment only come from the Lord to people who know their need. It's no sin to be in need of God. It's only wrong when you refuse his help. Ask the Lord to touch your eyes. You'll be amazed how clear things will look when you do.

*The call to humility is a call to serve God with sober minds-- with full awareness of our gifts and limitations. Gordon Smith*

## CALLING ALL YOUTH

Do you have a hard time doing devotions? Does it seem like a chore? Are your devotions enjoyable? Or, are they non-existent? I have, on occasion, had a hard time being motivated to do my devotions as well, so I know how you may feel.

You might ask – ‘why have devotions?’ – There are several answers to this question:

*First, doing devotions helps us get closer to God. Finding out new things and new ideas about God is what makes devotions exciting.*

*Second, studying the Bible gives us clues on how to live the Christian life. Not doing devotions is like trying to pass a test without even taking the class.*

*Third, quiet time set apart for God helps to calm our fears and worries.*

### **How do I do devotions?**

1. *Set apart at least 15 minutes a day for devotions. Try to get in the habit of doing it at the same time every day preferably, when you first get out of bed.*
2. *Take time to read the Bible, and other devotional study aids. Some people like to do their devotions online! Try: Campus Journal, Our Daily Bread, or, one that Katrina likes to use, “My Utmost for His Highest”*
3. *Take time to reflect – Be quiet, think about what you just read. Some people like to use a journal to write down their thoughts.*
4. *Take time to Respond – Make a decision about the material you have studied. For example – share what you have learned with someone.*
5. *Take time to Pray – Thank God for what He has done for you; ask God for forgiveness; ask Him for what you need and what He wants you to do; and take time to listen for His response.*

**Remember: SEVEN DAYS WITHOUT GOD MAKES ONE WEAK !**

Kevin

Mike's message continued...

Mike's continued)

I often hear people talk about tithing, how much they should be giving, but I wonder, "why doesn't anyone talk about tithing time?" We all make different amounts of money, but have the same amount of time. If we went with the ten percent for a tithe, then each of us should be giving 16.8 hours a week for the work of the Lord! Something to think about, is it not? So, let each of us strive to improve the use of our time for the work of the Kingdom!

Until next **time**,  
Mike

What If God...

What if God wouldn't take the time to bless us today because we didn't take time to thank Him yesterday?

What if God decided to stop leading us tomorrow because we didn't follow Him today?

What if we never saw another flower bloom because we grumbled when God sent rain?

What if God took away the Bible tomorrow because we would not read it today?

What if God took away His message because we failed to listen to His messenger?

What if God hadn't sent His only Son because He wanted us to pay the price of sin?

What if the door of the church was closed because we didn't open the door to our hearts?

What if God stopped loving and caring for us because we failed to live and care for others?

What if God would not hear us today because we would not listen to Him?

What if God answered our prayers the way we answer His call to service?

What if God met our needs the way we give Him of our lives?

What if God...

Author Unknown

*Ladies for the Lord,*

Ron and I thought, when our house was completed, we were out of the construction zone. Little did we understand how easily you enter the zone again.

Saturday we came home to over 100 gallons of water on the floor-saturated carpet, flooded laundry room, closet, bedroom, bathroom and kitchen. Wet vacs, friends, towels and lots of work-we finally looked at clean wet floors, set up lots of noisy fans and thought "whew! All done!"

But there was a stain where the water had been. I called to find out what to do to remove the stain. The lady said, "Oh, honey, the stain is the least of your problems. What you've done won't get the carpet pad dry." Ugh! I needed professional help-help in a hurry! Permanent damage (translate: expensive) could happen.

Life is like that. We see problems from outside-what someone looks like, how they act. We may even try to fix the situation we see. But our "fix" is temporary, they need more than we can give, more than we can do. They need the ultimate stain remover, Jesus! It takes God in their lives to provide the powerful, lasting help needed.

God provides salvation from sin, unconditional love, help in any situation, and more. WOW!

Let's get in the construction zone with God. Let Him fix the real problem in your life and make all the stains left by sin gone. You'll be a brand new again!

***Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Cor 5:17***

Thanks to all who have helped send kids to camp. These experiences will change their lives.

Secret sisters-remember your sister!

See you Sunday!!

## UP COMING EVENTS

2nd ALL Church Fish Fry

5th Women's meeting at Wilma's

11th Hour of POWER

14th Board Meeting

17th ALL church Pitch-In

22nd Southern Gospel Concert-The Singing Evangelists

24th & 31st Morning Breeze

31st Praise Service

5:30

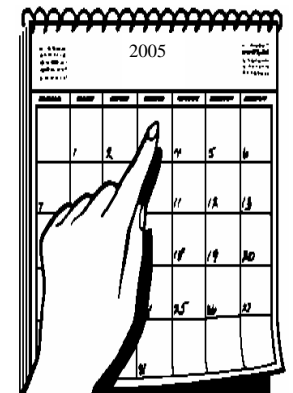
7:00

7:00

6:00

7:30

6:00



Westport Christian Church

Biblical Ed class 9:30

Worship 10:30

Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00

Wednesday night 7:00

# July 2005

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1	2 All Church Fish fry 5:30 Bring a dish for the fish!! 
	3 Family Sunday No WEE-Worship	4	5 Women's meeting Wilma's	6 Bible Study 7:00	7	8	9
<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>  9th Katrina Coryell 18th Rosa Hermann 20th Pat Black 29th Carolyn Blanton Terry Glover	10	11 Hour of POWER 7:00	12	13 Bible Study 7:00	14 Board Meeting 6:00	15	16 Elders Meeting 7:00
	17 ALL Church Pitch-In	18	19	20 Bible Study 7:00	21	22 <b>**Concert**</b> Southern Gospel The Singing Evan- gels 7:30	23
	24 Morning Breeze 2:30	25	26	27 Bible Study 7:00	28	29	30
<b>ANNIVERSIARES</b>  31st Terry & Debbie Glover	31 Morning Breeze 2:30 Praise Service 6:00						