

WESTPORT WITNESS

www.westportchristianchurch.com

March, 2009

REVIVAL

1ST Thru 4th

Theme:

“Games People Play.”

See details in the calendar

March 29th

6:00 PM

ROB HELTON

In

Concert

Mike's Message...

This month, we will hold our spring revival. To many of us, the thought of a revival is nothing new. However, it was brought to my attention that some may not know what a revival is—who it is for—what it is all about. So, I would like to take just a few moments to answer these questions.

What is a revival? One definition of a revival is a series of meetings that are held for a period of days. In this case, we will begin Sunday morning and end on Wednesday night. However, a true revival is what happens after the meetings. It takes place in the heart and mind of those who attend. A true revival is when God's presence is made clear, and the realization of the absence of God in one's life leads that person to a saving faith in Jesus Christ. A true revival also takes place when God's people stop being complacent and come to understand a sense of urgency. Jesus is one day coming again, and it is up to God's people to help bring all people into His glorious kingdom. It is the goal of the leadership for a true REVIVAL to break out and happen because of these meetings.

So, who is the revival for? Well, I already touched on that a bit. A revival is for the church, God's people. The word revive means: restore to or regain life—to restore interest in. It is true that sometimes we need someone to come in and share God's word from a different perspective, to restore us back to life. Not that we have died, but perhaps we have become complacent or comfortable. Revival is for God's people to receive a fresh breath—to be challenged—to be encouraged—to be revived!

Continued inside. . .

Mike's Message continued...

What's it all about? I've already touch on that as well, but allow me to restate it. It's about getting stirred up for the Lord and inviting people to come a see! It's about being refreshed from the living word. It's about our brothers and sisters in the Lord who need our words of encouragement. It's about edifying the body of Christ and having our spiritual batteries charged.

There are many churches today who do not have revival meetings. They claim they don't have them because people won't come. Now, I'm not the sharpest knife in the draw, but it sounds like to me they need **REVIVED!** They need to recommit their life, their ministry back to the Lord.

Holding a revival meeting takes commitment. It takes commitment from the elders and preacher to plan for the meeting--selecting an evangelist--praying for God's guidance and direction--to be there as an example to the rest of the flock. It takes a commitment on behalf of the congregation to plan to be there for each meeting--to rearrange their schedule--to rush around for suppers and other normal things in order to be there. It takes commitment from every member to pray--invite--to prepare.

Great revivals come about because God's people pray, attend to hear what God want them to learn, and allow the real revival to begin when the meetings start, and keep it going long after!

We need a great revival here in Westport. I pray that each of us will do our part in seeing that God's plan is carried out--Reaching one person at a time with the love of Jesus Christ.

Lets Grow together,

Mike

Revive Us Again!

Elders Express: Can you believe we are beginning the third month of the year already? I am excited about the new year and what God has planned for His church at Westport. Many exciting things have happened over the course of this last year. God has great things planned for us if we remain faithful to Him and His word: if we live according to His will.

This month we are going to reflect on Jesus' words of instruction for His Church. There are many things that Jesus said to His disciples that are recorded in the New Testament scriptures, but this month we are going to reflect upon his prayer recorded in the book of John chapter 17.

In John Chapter 17, Jesus was praying for himself just prior to being crucified and then he prays specifically for his disciples. His prayer then turns towards all believers who He says are being sanctified with the truth, which is the word of God. The first thing Jesus prayed for was the unity of all believers. Jesus wanted His church to begin with an attitude of unity. *"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me". (John 17: 20-23)*

As the church was in its infancy, Paul attempts to reinforce this attitude by completely explaining that we are all members of one body in Christ and therefore each have different functions. (Romans 12) We must understand that Jesus established His CHURCH, not different churches. As I have stressed many times, I feel the need to stress it in this month's Express. We need to understand that we are to be united as ONE BODY. We need only to read and study the scriptures to answer our questions about how we are to function. The Bible says they were first called Christians at Antioch. Jesus pleaded for the unity of all believers and we should honor him by being obedient to his words. See you next month.

John

March

Birthdays
 3rd Edna Layton
 Jim Layton
 5th Mary Lou Garrett
 24th Connie Stout
 26th Joshua Riggs
 29th Lauren Clayburn
 Kenny Blanton

Anniversaries
 16th Donnie & Jill
 Sageser
 18th Mike & Alberta
 Robbins
 24th Norman & Mary
 Lou
 Garrett
 31st Keith & Charlene
 Cooley
 31st Mike & Ronda
 Bartlett

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Family Sunday	2	3 Tutoring 3:30-5:15	4	5	6	7 Church Work Day 8:00-?
REVIVAL						
8 Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3:00	9 Encouraging Others 6:30 Board Meeting 6:30	10 Tutoring 3:30-5:15 Women's meeting at Church 7:00 WCC God's men 6:15	11 Bible Study 7:00	12	13	14 Flat Rock Christian Church— Disciple Depot 8:30-2:45
15 ALL Church Pitch-In	16	17	18 Bible Study 7:00	19	20	21 *Family Movie Night Double Feature. Bells of Innocence's & The Judas Project. 6:00
Decatur Co. Spring Break						
Mike on Vacation						
22 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30	23 Good News Club At SDE 3:15-5:15 Encouraging Others 6:30	24 Tutoring 3:30-5:15	25 Bible Study 7:00	26	27	28
29 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30 Rob Helton Concert 6:00	30 Good News Club At SDE 3:15-5:15 Encouraging Others 6:30	31 Tutoring 3:30-5:15	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> **Revival news. The times of our revival will be the same as our regular service for Sunday. Monday-Wednesday we will begin at 7:00. We will also have refreshments after service on Wednesday night. This will be a pitch-in style for desserts. Any questions see Ronda. </div>			

Dear Sisters,

Many years ago I bought a little booklet with a big message. the booklet is long gone now. I can't remember its color or design. I don't remember how I came to buy it or who was with me when I did. The message, though, is still in my heart, and God reminds me of it when I need to hear it (which is fairly often.) Perhaps you need to hear it, too. The booklet was entitled "The Tyranny of the Urgent." There are things in this life that are urgent-- they have to be done often-- washing dishes, making meals, cleaning house, changing diapers, and so on. There's no negotiating; they must be done.

The problem is that we often let the urgent things crowd out the important things. The important things have eternal significance. These are things like our relationship with God, prayer, Jesus, encouragement for our brothers and sisters in Christ and more. We must remember to put important things first or the urgent things will take all our time and energy and leave us empty and exhausted.

Put God first!

See you Sunday, I'll save you a seat!

Donni

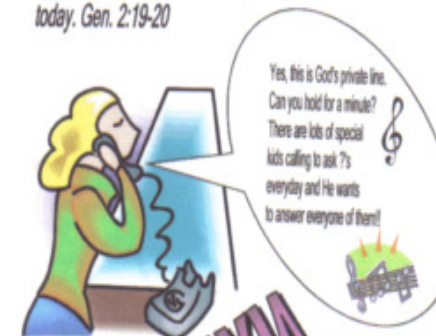
PS There is a Ladies Meeting scheduled for March 10 at the church. I hope I will see you there!!

Westport Christian Church Youth Page

Questions Kids ask God

How did Adam name the animals that god made?

God gave Adam this job just as you would be given the job by your parents. He named all the animals and birds. Adam did not know English so the names may not have been what we use today. Gen. 2:19-20



Why did God make people red, yellow, black and white? Why aren't we all the same color?

How boring would the world be if we all looked the same?! If we were the same height, there would be no girls looking up adoringly at their hero basketball player.

If we had the same eyes, where would all the songs about brown, green and blue eyes go? The good Lord gave us different skin, eyes, shapes, hair and personalities to make us special and individual from each other because He knew He would love us all the same.

Acts 17:26

TRIVIA

Today the trivia is about Noah and his ark

What did God say when Noah told him he wanted to build the ark with bricks?

He said, "No, gopher wood." (go for wood)

This is a joke but gopher wood was used. Gen 6:14

What kind of lights were on the ark?

Flood lights. (another joke,ha-ha)

Where did Noah strike the first nail on the ark?

On the head. (got-cha)

There was a camel born on the ark with no humps, Mrs. Noah named him, wht was his name?

Humphrey! The only name that would fit!

What did God give us to remind us that He would never flood the earth and destroy us again?

Rainbows

