

# WESTPORT WITNESS

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

November, 2005

Sunday  
November 20th

ALL CHURCH  
Pitch-In

THANKSGIVING SUPPER  
5:00

Please come and share in the  
blessings  
God has  
Provided!

## Mike's Message...

The other day as I was driving back from Louisville Kentucky, the sun was shining, the sky was clear, the air was crisp. As I came around a curve, the sun light was striking a group of trees in such a way that the colors were so brilliant it looked like they were on fire. It was one of those awesome moments that you wish you had a camera. It was almost like God was saying, "check this out!"

As I looked at the wonderful color while trying to keep my eye on the road, I began to think what is it that God wants me to get out of this. I mean, there must be a message here because of the way it seemed to jump out at me. Then, two things came to my mind in reference to that thought. The first was change is okay. Now, before you start thinking I have went off the deep in, let me explain. Change for the sake of change is not good, but change to bring about a new idea to reach people with the Gospel is good. Change to bring about a fresh thought or a new program is good. Change to help us see things from a different view is good. Do you understand where I am coming from? I understand that not everyone likes changing. I agree that there are some things that must NEVER change and some thing that NEVER will change. The gospel message is the same and must never be changed. If we try to change the gospel then Paul states that we are not sharing the message of Christ. Christ Himself never changes. Hebrews 13:8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.* (NASU) God's love to save mankind never changes. The purpose of the Church should never change. To seek and save the lost, and to bring souls into the Kingdom. The purpose statement for this church since I have been here has been, "Reaching people with the LOVE of Christ." We can all agree there are some things that must never change.

However, as the active growing body of Christ that we are, there will be, and must be some changes. Some of these changes all of us will enjoy. Some of the changes will be tough, but must be done in order to continue to grow and reach out. Some changes will require some sacrifice, while other changes will go unnoticed.

*(continued inside)*

Ladies For The Lord,

Ladies, sometimes we lose sight of how good we have it. Here's ten reasons to be part of the Westport Christian Church. Feel free to use them when inviting your friends or to remind yourself it's time to gather together with your Jesus-family.

Reason #10. The beautiful building. The fabulous stained glass windows are perfect for a sunny Sunday morning. The sun's rays make the greens, blues and other colors vibrate with life. New –lights upstairs and down and a lovely coat of paint in the basement make it easier to study and worship

Reason #9. Good food at our monthly pitch-ins. Homemade noodles, vegetables, cakes, pies, jello salads, loaded potato soup and much, much more shows up on the serving tables. But even more appreciated than the food is the good company around the tables. It's a chance to get to know your Jesus-family.

Reason #8. Interesting Bible study lessons. Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night grab your Bible—it's time to learn more about this sword of the Spirit God gave us.

Reason #7. A blend of old and new songs and hymns. If you love to worship Jesus, we pull out old hymns and new worship songs to the traditional piano music and also keyboard and guitar. The praise group is always a joy when they lead in the final praise session.

Reason #6. Opportunities to serve. Want to be a part of something bigger than yourself that will have a far-reaching effect? Meaningful service that will touch lives for eternity is just the answer.

Reason #5. Friendly people who want you for part of the family. You can develop relationships that will last a lifetime and on into heaven.

Reason #4. Hugs. They calm the soul. We give away lots of them every Sunday.

Reason #3. Great sermons from a loving preacher. Mike spends lots of time each week studying and praying to bring us God's message each Lord's day.

Reason #2. Communion. We celebrate communion each week to remember His sacrifice, His love and His imminent return. Communion has a vertical and horizontal emphasis—we must reach out to each other and to God.

Reason #1. The number one reason to come to Westport Christian Church is God is HERE. "Whenever two or three are gathered He is in the midst." . . .

Join us Sunday and make up your own ten reasons list. (I'll be looking for you.) *Thanks to ALL the Secret Sisters who brightened the lives of other these past months. We're taking a brake and will begin in January. (More info later.)*

*Mike's message continued)*

Just like the changing of the leaves we should see God's hand at work as we allow Him to change us in accordance to His will.

The other thing I noticed about those trees was how different each was. There were reds, yellows, oranges, gold, etc. As I look at all of us, I see how different we are. Some of us have the gift of hospitality. Some the gift of teaching, some the gift of evangelism, and so on. However, when we *ALL* work together for the same purpose, I think God looks down on us and says, "look how beautiful this group of believers is." All of us are different in many ways and that is good. That is why it is so important that each of us serve to the best of our ability because that is where you fit, that is where you belong. God has sent you here to serve Him and make a difference in Westport Indiana for the cause of Christ. When we work together, what a beautiful sight it must be to God!

At the end of this month, Ronda and I have been here ministering to all of you for seven years. It is hard for us to comprehend it has been that long. It has truly been a blessing in many ways. There have been a lot of changes on our part as well as all of you. There have been a few rough spots that we have worked through along with many, many great times. I am excited about the up coming year and I'm looking forward to seeing how God is going to use all of us as we minister here. I truly see it as an honor to **serve** as your minister.

From Ronda and me, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the words and expressions of encouragement that you have given to us. May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you as we serve Him together.

Love to all,

*Mike*

## TASTEE TREATS TO SHARE

This is for those of who enjoy cooking! You should have known the preacher would put in one for chicken. Try it and enjoy!

### Angel Wings

*Number served:* 6

*Preparation time:* 10 minutes

*Temperature:* 350 degrees

*Cook time:* Cook: 40 minutes

#### *Ingredients:*

6 skinless and boneless chicken breast halves

3 T. butter

salt & pepper

1-1/4 c. chicken broth

3/4 c. chopped onion

1 clove garlic, minced

2-4 T. jalapenos, diced

1 T. flour

1/2 c. whipping cream

1/2 c. shredded sharp cheddar cheese

*Instructions:* Brown the chicken with 1/2 the butter in a skillet. Season with salt & pepper. Lay the chicken in a single layer in a greased baking dish. Pour 1/4 c. of the broth in the pan; cover and bake 20 minutes. While the chicken is baking, saute the onion and garlic in the remaining butter until tender. Do not let it brown. Add the jalapenos and 1 T. flour. Stir and cook 2 minutes. Stir in 1 c. of the broth; heat on low until smooth and thickened. Pour into blender and puree. Return to the skillet and add whipping cream. Adjust seasonings, and pour the sauce over the chicken. Sprinkle with cheese and bake 20 minutes more or until the chicken is tender and the cheese is melted and bubbly. Serve with rice, if desired."

## CALLING ALL YOUTH!!

When the first Sunday in November rolls around this year, it will have been one year since I have been with the Youth group. I look back at this year and remember the times that we have shared. Some have been good, some have been not so good, but none would I trade away for anything. I look at the growth physically, emotionally, and Spiritually that all of you have exhibited. I look at our growth in the numbers of our youth group. I see the friendships that are developing with each other, and with myself. I look at everything that we have come through together, and like the Apostle Paul, I thank God for you daily.

I know that I usually use this article to teach you a lesson or challenge or just to say something to be funny, to cheer you all up. This month I want to just say-- **THANK YOU !** Thank you for letting me share this last year with you I hope, with God to share many more.

Remember as we tackle this next year that we are SPIES, Serving Proudly In Every Situation. Congratulations to all who memorized the Scripture Verse last month. If I remember correctly, we had 5 or 6 who accomplished this. This month will be the same

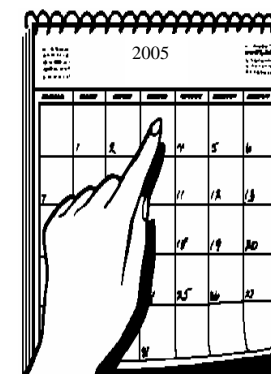
*II Timothy 2:23 Don't have anything to do with foolish and **stupid arguments**, because you know they produce quarrels.*

Any youth who wants to memorize this verse will get a prize. This is open to even the 5<sup>th</sup> grade down. The first time that you can quote **IS** November 6<sup>th</sup>, last day to quote is November 13<sup>th</sup> .

In Christ, Kevin

### UP COMING EVENTS

1st Ladies meeting at the parsonage.	7:00
10th Board meeting.	6:00
20th ALL Church pitch-in <i>supper</i>	<b>5:00</b>
21st Hour of POWER	7:00
22nd Community Thanksgiving service at the Methodist church.	7:00
27th ALL church praise service	



Westport Christian Church  
 Biblical Ed class 9:30  
 Worship 10:30  
 Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00  
 Wednesday night 7:00

# November 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bible Study 7:00	3 Women's meeting Parsonage 7:00	4	5
6 Family Sunday No Wee-Worship	7	8	9 Bible Study 7:00	10 Board Meeting 6:00	11	12
13	14	15	16 Bible Study 7:00	17	18	19
20 **All Church Pitch-in Thanksgiv- ing Supper 5:00 See details below	21	22 *Community Thanksgiving service 7:00 Westport Methodist Church*	23 Bible Study 7:00	24 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	25	26
27 Morning Breeze 2:30 <u>All Church Praise</u> Service 6:00	28	29	30 Bible Study 7:00			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>**We will have an ALL Church Pitch-In Thanksgiving supper. We will eat at 5:00 then have a <i>short</i> service upstairs. We will not have our regular services that evening. If you have any questions please see Mike.</p> </div>						

**BIRTHDAYS**  
 30th Margaret Wiley

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
 17th Bill and Debbie  
 Peele