

Pastor's Note



Dear West Haven family,

Thanks for being a faithful and loving church. You embody Christ in so many ways. I am overwhelmingly pleased to be your pastor. I'm glad God called Tara and me here. I want to share with you some personal thoughts this morning. Hopefully you will find encouragement and comfort.

I know you know of my health struggles. You've walked with me through them and been patient with me. Thank you. Many of you know that my oldest son and my daughter also have severe Crohn's Disease. We've dealt with my disease for three decades, my son's for 17 years and my daughter's for about five. After a while, pain and suffering take a mental, physical and emotional toll. This past week I've seen my son's intense suffering, experienced lingering effects from my hospitalization and discovered our health insurance this year is not what we thought it was. Many of you are experiencing suffering in an entirely different realm yet with a very similar pain.

There is a Biblical word for this: brokenness. Unbrokenness is marked by prayerlessness, busyness, pridefulness, and apathy. The sacred is considered to be boring. The secular is considered to be exciting. When I am unbroken, I lack the time or desire to pray. I am too busy. I am too prideful. And I know others are lost but the need does not arrest me.

But when I am broken, God has my rapt attention. And the deepest hunger of my life is to draw close to Him. Salvation means loving nothing more than God Himself. When creature comforts, worldly security, and temporal amusements are replaced by discomfort, insecurity and melancholy, you find yourself left with God. Your value system becomes completely inverted. In fact, you no longer understand how you were so enamored by the world and so lukewarm toward Jesus. This is evidence that God is breaking you. And through that breaking process, He purges sin from you. One author wrote that brokenness "eradicates sin from our lives and produces a single-minded love for and dependence upon God." Romans 5:3-5 says, "we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."

Brokenness is incredibly painful yet God uses it to produce a quality of life in us that I do not believe can be achieved otherwise. And praise Him that suffering does not have the final say. As the old hymn beautifully says:

*When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound,
And time shall be no more,
And the morning breaks eternal, bright and fair.
When the saints on earth shall gather
Over on the other shore,
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.*

Today we continue in the Sermon on the Plain. Jesus challenges us to embody the Father in these verses. And in each verse we see the gospel. You who have received mercy, be merciful. You who have not been judged, do not judge. You have not been condemned so don't condemn. You have been forgiven so forgive others. Lord, raise each of us to new heights today as we seek to walk in obedience to Your Word.

Bro. Mike

Connect

New to West Haven?

- Thanks for coming! I hope to meet you today! – Pastor Mike
- There is a cry room located in the southwest corner inside the worship center. It is equipped with recliners, a changing table, a few necessities, and a TV that broadcasts the service.
- The nursery is located at the north end of the lower level. You can leave your infants or preschoolers in a warm, caring and well-supervised environment. After drop-off you will be contacted via text message if needed.
- Children's Church for children K-2nd grade is located on the north side of the lower level in Room 103.

Membership

- Church membership is valued at West Haven. It is a formal commitment to a local church for divinely given purposes: receiving and giving instruction in God's Word (1 Tim 4:13; 2 Tim 4:2), serving and edifying one another (Rom 12:3-8; 1 Co. 12:4-31; 1 Pet 4:10-11), participating in the ordinances, and proclaiming the gospel (Matt 28:18-20). It requires a system of leadership, direction, teaching, discipline, an agreed theology and a set of values directing how the church will carry out life together.
- The biblical basis of membership is seen in examples such as the early church (Acts 2:41, 47; 5:14; 16:5), the establishment of church government (1 & 2 Tim, Titus), the context of epistles, and the exhortation to church discipline (1 Cor 5, Titus 3:10-11). You can explore membership by contacting Pastor Mike at mike@westhavenbaptist.org or Pastor Ryon at ryon@westhavenbaptist.org. We'll meet with you on an individual basis, answer your questions and explain more about West Haven. The way to join is by being baptized by immersion upon your profession of faith, by transferring your membership from another Southern Baptist Church (Acts 18:27, Rom 16:1) or by a statement of faith having been baptized by immersion in a church like belief.

Subscribing to Text Service

One way we keep in touch with members is through texting. To hear about cancellations and other church activities, sign up through the free text messaging system by logging online at www.westhavenbaptist.org. Once on the website, click on "Resources" then "Texting Service" then double-click on the blue lettering "West Haven Baptist Church". Fill out the form with your name, address, and phone number as priority. Agree to the terms & conditions. Hit "Subscribe". You should receive a confirmation message. Remember to reply "Yes" to the request via your phone, so you can receive text message updates. If you have questions, you can call the church office at (913) 369-9422.

Connect

Creative Arts Team Forming

A Creative Arts Team is forming under the leadership of Nathan LaFave. If you have technological skills, we could use your help! There are a number of things we can do to enhance worship and ministry of West Haven. For example, we would like to see if it's worth developing "YouVersion Events." We could use help with graphic design, website updating, computer troubleshooting and more. If you would like to help and have any of these skills, please contact Nathan at nathan@westhavenbaptist.org or Pastor Mike at mike@westhavenbaptist.org. Thanks!

The Storehouse

"The Storehouse" contains groceries that are no longer carried, are in damaged packages, or are past the "sell-by" date. These groceries are available to you or to your neighbors, courtesy of West Haven Baptist Church and Brothers' Market. They are located in the closet on the south end of the foyer. Feel free to take what you want. Feel free to take some for someone you know. Feel free to buy groceries and add them to "The Storehouse." We want to bless you and this community in the name of Jesus. You can use them to open an evangelistic door to a neighbor or friend. The only restriction we have is that the closet is only open on Sundays immediately after church and during activities on Wednesdays. Please help us keep the closet neat and clean. Thanks to Chris Small for the idea and for stocking the shelves!

This Week

Monday, Feb. 20
President's Day—No School

Tuesday, Feb. 21
6 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 22
6:15 p.m. AWANA
6:30 p.m. Student Ministry
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, Feb. 23
9:30 a.m. WOW Group Meets

Friday, Feb. 24
6:00 p.m. Student Ministry Family
Game & Movie Night

Saturday, Feb. 25
9:30-11:30 a.m. Marriage
Conference at TCC

Tuesday, Feb. 28
6 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Student Ministry

Friday, February 24

Student Ministry Family Game/Movie Night - 6 p.m. in the Train Station. Contact Nathan LaFave for details.

Saturday, March 11

Assist at City Union Mission. Contact Nathan LaFave for details.

Marriage Conference

A marriage conference will be held on **February 25, 2017** from **9:30-11:30 a.m.** at Tonganoxie Christian Church. It will be hosted by Steve Howell an Associate Minister at TCC. The focus is on building our marriages through reviewing and strengthening our vows. If you have interest, please contact Brian Klamm by phone or text at: (913) 680-8421 or email Brian at: bjklamm@sbcglobal.net.

Our Staff

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Office Phone (913) 369-9422

Budget Information

Weekly Budget Requirement: \$8,714.81

Month to Date Budget Requirement: \$17,429.62

General Fund Receipts: \$5,772.32

Month to Date Giving: \$20,188.32

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 1

6:15 p.m. AWANA
6:30 p.m. Student Ministry
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Sunday, March 5

Lord's Supper Observed
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting (Train Station)

Thursday, March 2

9:30 a.m. WOW Group Meets

Get our most current calendar at www.westhavenbaptist.org.

Facebook



Like our pages on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/pages/westhavenbaptistchurch
www.facebook.com/pages/westhavenstudentministries
www.facebook.com/westhavenawana

Learning Mercy
Luke 6:36-42
Feb. 19, 2017
Pastor Mike Bronson

1. _____ A _____ DISPOSITION

2. _____ A _____ DISPOSITION

A. Avoid _____ Judgment

1. _____ - _____

2. _____

3. _____ - _____

B. Avoid _____ Judgment

3. _____ A _____ DISPOSITION

A. There Is An _____

B. There Is A _____



BAPTIST CHURCH
WWW.WESTHAVENBAPTIST.ORG
February 19, 2017

