



THE WEST WIND

A publication of St. James West United Methodist Church

JANUARY 2018

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 1



Gene Backes, Pastor

Different, Yet the Same

2017 in the rearview mirror, 2018 in the front windshield, open road ahead of us. Where will the open road take us this year? What new things will we experience this year? What will be a repeat of last year? Certainly we will experience much of the same, and yet, there will be some surprises. I hope and pray that God will richly bless you this coming New Year.

In my position in life, I have the opportunity to share in many varied situations. One day last week I spent some time with an individual in our church family who is experiencing some difficulties. Facing homelessness, in debt, no car, no real

hope that things will improve—a bleak future. I did my best to offer some possibilities, some hope.

Then a couple of hours later that day I was invited to a Christmas party at a local bank. Great food, and many of the richest people in Evansville in attendance. Everyone was happy, well fed, prosperous. Yet what I have learned is that all of us experience the same basic emotions. We all experience fear. We all experience unmet desires. We all question inequalities; contradictions between belief and actions. We all deal with feelings of insecurity. We all wonder what the future holds. We all deal with health issues and concerns about the welfare of loved ones.

In 1943, Abraham Maslow published a paper titled, “A Theory of Human Motivation.” Commonly known as “Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs,” his theory gained wide acceptance because of the universal human condition. Even though we are different, we are the same. Poor, rich. We are all the same, experiencing the same basic human emotions. We might look different, or live in different houses. Some of us eat at home, or at a 5-star restaurant, or the shelter. But we all desire the same things. Most of all, we all want to be loved and accepted. That is what Jesus Christ offers to us. We are all the same; in need of a Savior. Praise God that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is offered to all of us. And that makes us brothers and sisters! **-Blessings this New Year, Gene**

JANUARY Birthdays

- 1
Caden Bailey, Kyle Fleener, Ray Mahrenholz, Travis Nolan, Jerry Peckenpaugh
- 3
Kirsten Bailey
- 4
Linda Wilson
- 7
Kurt Raleigh, Johnny West
- 8
Michael Hall, Chad Wytovak
- 9
Gary Cummings, Bill Shoultz
- 10
Gerald Fitts
- 11
Chase Bailey, Diana Effinger
- 12
Kathi Goen, Joshua Goldy, Kelsey Wytovak
- 13
Pat Fuquay, Courtney Giesman, Megan Stewart
- 14
Makayla Wiseman
- 16
Emalyn Bailey
- 17
Kaylea Gibson, Julie Lamble
- 18
Lori West
- 20
Hannah Martin
- 21
Taylor Babbs-Browning
- 23
Kimberly Layman
- 26
Karen Foreman, Andrea Smith
- 27
Cameron Decker
- 28
Sid Nelson, Jani Reisinger
- 30
Jeffery Shoultz, Jennah West
- 31
Gayle Bailey, Doug Lindenberg, Clay Reisinger

St. James West Church Chicks present

Sparkling Winter Gala

Saturday, January 27, 2018

5:30 p.m..... Doors open

6:00 p.m..... Dinner by Marx BBQ
 Entrée choice of smoked pork chop or
 grilled chicken, with side dishes, drinks, & desserts

7:30 p.m..... Dancing & Music by the F.J. Reitz High School Band

Tickets \$10/each on sale January 7th ❄️ Open to the public!

JANUARY Worship Volunteers

January 7

9:00 a.m. Greeters
Ron Hall

9:00 a.m. Ushers
Bruce & Missy Backes

10:30 a.m. Greeters
Mike & Nancy Bass

10:30 a.m. Ushers
*Mike & Diana Effinger,
Jody & Kathy Peckenpaugh*

Card Angel
Christy Mitchell

January 14

Donut Hosts
TBD

9:00 a.m. Greeters
Debi Doninger

9:00 a.m. Ushers
Ron Hall, Debi Doninger

10:30 a.m. Greeters
Vicki Wilson, Kathy Webster

10:30 a.m. Ushers
*Don & Linda Temme,
Larry & Carol Peckenpaugh*

Card Angel
Debbie West

January 21

9:00 a.m. Greeters
Kurt Buck

9:00 a.m. Ushers
Bob & Cathy Willis

10:30 a.m. Greeters
Pappy & Connie Mabee

10:30 a.m. Ushers
*Sandy Mahrenholz, Vicki Wilson,
Andy Moore, Bob Smith*

Card Angel
Marian Kissel

January 28

9:00 a.m. Greeters
Marian Kissel

9:00 a.m. Ushers
Marian Kissel, Ron Hall

10:30 a.m. Greeters
Larry & Carol Peckenpaugh

10:30 a.m. Ushers
*Gary & Debi Doninger,
Pappy & Connie Mabee*

Card Angel
Kelli Shoobridge

A story from our brother in Christ: *Kurt Buck*

When I went on a “Walk to Emmaus” many years ago, I was in a group of 20 or so. We were called Pilgrims, and completely new to the concept. For three days we prayed, praised, ate like kings, and enjoyed Jesus’ and another’s company. I never realized there was a mountaintop at the Methodist campground, but there we were!

We were all different. Different ages, denominations, backgrounds. That’s what made it great. One new friend (another pilgrim) I’ll never forget looked like a Hank Williams, Jr. trademark. “Country boy can survive,” that was him. He knew his way around a carburetor, or how to fix a squirrel just right.

On our last day, we could say what this weekend had meant to us. Did we see Jesus in other people, their agape love, their sacrifices on our behalf, their food, their songs? Had we met Him face-to-face?

My new country-fried friend said something I’ll never forget. He didn’t speak like a PhD from seminary. He simply said, “You know how a new puppy plays? They love rough-and-tumble. They chew on your socks and rough house constantly. But sometimes enough is enough. Those little teeth are sharp, and they don’t understand ‘no.’ When I have a pup get that wound up I simply lay my foot on him. He can’t bite me through that boot. I’m not hurting him, just holding him still until he behaves.”

He went on to say, “For a while now, I’ve been nipping, snapping, and misbehaving. But this weekend I’ve calmed down. I know who my master is. And I feel like a little puppy. God has raised his boot (my discipline) and lifted me up to sit in his lap and just be His.”

Praise God for second chances. **-Kurt**

2 Corinthians 5:17

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!



In Memoriam

Shirley Baughn : 12/09/17. Shirley is the grandmother of Emily English.

Joyce Hayden: 12/14/17. Joyce attended St. James West.

St. James West *By the Numbers*

Apportionment

(January-November 2017)

Conference.....\$19,464.00

District \$2,324.00

General Fund

(Year-to-date weekly average)

2016 \$4,072.00

2017..... \$3,895.00

% Change -4%

Comparative Stewardship

Weekly Average	November 2016	November 2017	% Change
Worship Attendance	249	223	-10%
General Fund	\$3,983.00	\$4,793.00	+20%

JANUARY 2018

Sundays:
 9:00 a.m. Praise & Worship
 Adult Small Groups (AMEN Group 9:15 a.m.)
 10:30 a.m. Praise & Worship
 Lifeguard Ministry (Preschool-5th grade), Adult Small Groups

Mondays:
 6:00-6:45 p.m. Mondays With God meal
 6:30-8:00 p.m. Student Ministry (6th-12th grade)
 7:00 p.m. Mondays With God Bible Study
 Lifeguard Ministry (Kindergarten-5th grade)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed NO Mondays With God	2 5:30a Men's Group 4-9p CFC Reserved	3 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 3-5p Reitz Cheer (CFC) 6-7:30p Church Chicks Mtg. (ADR)	4 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved 7-8p Bible study (ADR)	5	6 12-4p CFC Reserved
7 Communion 10-10:30a Trustee Mtg. (FH) 12-5p Crusaders' Class Party	8 Communion 6-6:45p Mondays With God meal (CFC) 6:30-8p Student Ministry (CFC 2nd floor) 7-8p Mondays With God Bible Study 7-9p AA Mtg. (FH)	9 5:30a Men's Group 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved 6:30-8p Administrative Council Mtg. (ADR)	10 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 3-5p Reitz Cheer (CFC) 7-8:30p Neighborhood Watch Mtg. (CFC)	11 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved 6-8p Cub Scouts (FH) 7-8p Bible study (ADR)	12	13 8-9:30a United Caring Shelters breakfast volunteers
14 Donuts/ Fellowship 12-4 Church Chicks/ Youth Group Sewing Day	15 6-6:45p Mondays With God meal (CFC) 6:30-8p Student Ministry (CFC 2nd floor) 7-8p Mondays With God Bible Study 7-9p AA Mtg. (FH)	16 5:30a Men's Group 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved	17 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 3-5p Reitz Cheer (CFC)	18 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved 7-8p Bible study (ADR)	19 February 2018 West Wind article deadline Youth Revival Weekend	20 Youth Revival Weekend
21 Food Pantry Donations Youth Revival Weekend	22 6-6:45p Mondays With God meal (CFC) 6:30-8p Student Ministry (CFC 2nd floor) 7-8p Mondays With God Bible Study 7-9p AA Mtg. (FH)	23 5:30a Men's Group 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved	24 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 3-5p Reitz Cheer (CFC)	25 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved 6-8p Cub Scouts (FH) 7-8p Bible study (ADR)	26 5-10p CFC Reserved	27 5:30p Church Chicks Sparkling Winter Gala
28	29 6-6:45p Mondays With God meal (CFC) 6:30-8p Student Ministry (CFC 2nd floor) 7-8p Mondays With God Bible Study 7-9p AA Mtg. (FH)	30 5:30a Men's Group 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 4-9p CFC Reserved	31 8:30-11:30a PS/MMO 3-5p Reitz Cheer (CFC)	Key: ADR—Alpha Domus Room CFC—Christian Family Center FH—Fellowship Hall MMO—Mother's Morning Out PS—Preschool		



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January 2018

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We're on the Web!
www.stjameswest.com

Looking Ahead...

Church Chicks/ Youth Group Sewing Day

January 14th

Youth Revival Weekend

January 19th-21st

Vendor & Craft Fair

February 3rd



Staff

Gene Backes, Pastor

Gene@stjameswest.com

Rick Poelhuis, Music Director

Music@stjameswest.com

*Dustin & Kelsey Biever,
Directors of Student Ministries*

Kids@stjameswest.com

*Cindy Hicks, Director
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Beth Nelson, Office Manager

Beth@stjameswest.com

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Worship Coordinators

*Sid Nelson
Worship Leader*

*Ron Hall, Jr.
Lead Greeter*

*Tech Team
Jeremy Hoesli, Coordinator
TechTeam@stjameswest.com*