



The Messenger



Westside Christian Church

April 30, 2017

Parsons, KS

www.westsideatparsons.com

620-421-3533

Future Events

May 2-4-Kiamichi Men's Clinic
May 5-6-Clothing Exchange
May 14-Mother's Day Luncheon after morning service
May 21-Elder's Meeting
May 28-Prayer Meeting
May 29-Office closed for Memorial Day

June 2-3 Clothing Exchange
June 4-9 Junior High 1 Camp at Hidden Haven
June 11 Elder's Meeting
June 11-15 Junior 1 at Hidden Haven
June 18 Father's Day Lunch after morning service
June 18-20 Get Acquainted Camp at Hidden Haven

Leadership at Westside

Ministers

Doug Baty 778-3919
 Chris Ferguson 778-4110

Elders

Jeff Ferguson 778-8911
 Ralph Heady 421-0447
 Steve Passwater 421-3534

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Mother's Day Luncheon
Sunday, May 14th
After Morning Worship
Service

Prepared by the men of the
 church for the ladies

Everyone is welcome!

Doug's Desk

The freedom we have in Christ is a wonderful gift of God, coming from his grace and faithfulness. God promised the Jews that one day they would be a light to the Gentiles and that they (Jews) would bring the news of his salvation around the world. This is the prophecy of Isaiah 49:6. When the Jews were jealous of Paul getting a lot of attention from his preaching to the crowds, Paul pointed to this verse and reminded them that he and Barnabas had preached to them, but they didn't want to receive salvation, so God sent them to the Gentiles. For the full story of this read Acts 13:42-49.

Paul recognized the freedom we have in Christ through our faith in Jesus and when we work in tandem with God's spirit we will flourish. Jesus died to set us free from this present world, (Gal. 1:4, Rom. 8:2). The freedom Jesus has given us came through a free woman, Sarah, and it is for freedom that Christ set us free (Gal. 5:1).

Paul gives quite an illustration of how we got this freedom through Sarah and not through Hagar, the slave woman. We are children of freedom through and through. Take a look at Galatians 4:21-5:1 to get the full version of this illustration.

The freedom that you and I have in Christ came at a great price, Jesus suffered a lot, and died. We review this story every year around Easter and it reminds us of the terrible death, and awful torment Jesus endured. However, it was worth it he says, for the joy set before Him (Hebrews 12:2). Jesus died for you and me so that we live for righteousness (1 Pet. 2:24) and in the end reign with him eternally (2 Tim. 2:12).

While freedom did come at a severe price, it also has some responsibility attached to it on our end. We can't abuse our freedoms and use it as a license to do the wicked things we once did (Gal.5:13, 2Pe.2:16). So let us work out our salvation with fear and trembling and let God work in us so that he might work in us activity that brings him glory! A Doug Baty paraphrase of Phil. 2:12-13.

As a child of freedom I am able to be a friend of my savior (Jn. 15:15), be free from the shackles of sin, (Rom. 6:18), be reconciled to God (2Cor. 5:18), a partaker of the heavenly calling, (Heb. 3:1), be a new creation (2Cor. 5:17), and be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. (Mt. 5:13-14). Wow, what freedom and thanks be to God for this grace!

Now let us live like free men and not as people who are enslaved by sin.

Your brother in Christ and minister, Doug Baty



Time for Camp at Hidden Haven!

Register online at www.hiddenhaven.org.

Junior High 1	June 4-9
Junior 1	June 11-15
Get Acquainted	June 18-20
Overnighter	June 21-22
Junior High 2	July 9-14
Junior 2	July 16-20
High School	July 23-28



We have prayer meeting the fourth Sunday of the month at 4:00. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. The next meeting will be May 28.

Prayer Concerns

Health Concerns:

- J Duane Ewert
- J Loretta Ball
- J Rocky Read
- J Nell Ball
- J Dennis King
- J Janelle Houk
- J Jane Rea
- J Tonya Atherton
- J Isaiah Wade
- J Bob Brandenburg
- J Urcer Mac
- J Gene Robinson
- J Matthew and Darren
- J Dale Owen
- J Kip Fentress
- J Bev Huffman
- J Gray Smith
- J Rachel Velasquez
- J Wilma Ren-Tim's mother

Missions:

- J Scott Springer
- J Hidden Haven
- J Farrans-New Tribes
- J Cookson Hills
- J Melinda Velasquez-PBT

Other Concerns:

- J President Trump
- J National leaders
- J State leaders
- J Troops around the world
- J The lost in Parsons
- J Juanita Walker
- J Family of Jason Adams in the death of his father.



We're pleased to announce...

We're pleased to announce that Chris Ferguson has been hired to be the youth minister here at Westside Christian Church. Chris will be writing for the Messenger each month

from your
**YOUTH
MINISTER**

First of all, I want to say that I am grateful for the chance to serve! A lot of you already know me, but for those who don't I would like to take this chance to tell you a bit about myself. I grew up in this church. My family has been attending since I was 3 years old. After high school and a couple years of community college, I moved to Joplin and studied the Bible at Ozark Christian college. I had a lot of fun there and feel that I learned a lot. During my time there, I found a small church called West Side Christian Church. Ironic, huh? I liked that church and began serving with the youth. I taught lessons, played games with the kids, it was a lot of fun. In December of 2015, I met my wife on an online dating site. She asked me to see Star Wars with her, and the relationship took off. We became engaged a few months later. It was then I decided that I didn't want to raise a family in Joplin. So I moved back to Parsons and began to fix up my childhood home. Or rather, my dad started to. I'll admit I'm not handy. Liz and I got married in this church last September. We are now expecting a child, and I couldn't be happier with our lives. As Youth Minister, I want to focus on growing the hearts and minds of the kids we have here, as well as increasing the overall size! This will be accomplished by teaching biblical principles and having lots of fun things for them to do. I'm looking forward to working with the kids and hope to be an effective minister of His word.

Chris

This month's **Clothing Exchange** is May 5-6th.

Please consider volunteering with this important outreach. The other dates for this year are:

June 2-3	October 6-7
August 4-5	November 3-4
September 1-2	December 1-2

Called to Serve-May

	7	14	21	28
Communion Preparation	Paula Weidert	Paula Weidert	Paula Weidert	Paula Weidert
Greeters:	Gene Robinson Karen Osgood	Judy Wells Annette Robinson	Meiers	Fergusons
Nursery	Clarinda O'Brien	Randee Baty	Shirley Lunday	Karen Osgood
Communion	Chris Ferguson	Joe Moyer	Thad Osgood	Doug Baty
Ushers	Thad Osgood Kenneth Lunday	Bruce Rea Howard Weidert	Ralph Heady Joe Moyer	Jeff Ferguson Steve Passwater
Serving the Lord's Supper	Jeff Ferguson Bruce Rea Jason Adams Alan Meier	Thad Osgood Jeff O'Brien Patrick O'Brien Joe Hills	Chris Ferguson Howard Weidert Seth Weidert Steve Passwater	Bill Longfellow Josh Passwater Joel Ferguson David Baty
Benediction	Thad Osgood	Joe Moyer	Jeff Ferguson	Doug Baty
Shut-Ins	Jeff Ferguson	Headys	Lundays	Joe Moyer
Nursing Home				Good Samaritan 2:00 Woodridge 2:45

MAY 2017

	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Kathryn Pearson	Kia maiehi Men's Clinic			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Bruce Rea					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Seth Weidert	Jayda Pearson	
28	29	30	31			
						