



# The Messenger



January 28, 2017

Westside Christian Church

Parsons, KS

620-421-3533

## Future Events

- February 2 & 3-**  
Clothing Exchange
- February 4-**High School Super Bowl Party 5:00
- February 11-**  
Spaghetti Dinner/Dessert Auction after church
- February 11-**Elder's Meeting 1:30
- February 19-**Office closed for President's Day
- February 19 thru 21-**Preaching-Teaching Convention
- February 21-W@W** dismissed for P-T.
- February 23-**Elementary Youth Game Night-6:00

## 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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## Youth Events in February!

Along with Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:30 and Aftershock on Wednesday nights at 6:30, our youth are having a number of special events this month. Ask Chris for further details on any of these fun events for our youth!



February 4-5:00  
High School Super Bowl Party



February 11-after morning service  
Spaghetti Dinner/Dessert Auction Fundraiser



February 23-6:00

Elementary Game Night



## Ozark Christian College February 19-21

### On Stage:

Rick Atchley	Jon Kehrer
Drew Moore	Mark Moore
Shawn Palmer	Drew Sherman
David Rutherford	

We will dismiss our adult Bible Study on the 21st so that those who wish to attend the evening session of the Preaching-Teaching Convention may do so.

# Doug's Desk

## The Love of God

Love is often seen as the theme of February, Valentine's Day has a huge hold on our society. But I am pretty convinced that the love talked about by most in this month is not the same love as portrayed in the Bible. So, many may ponder about what love is and what love God's Word so often talks about.

Love means a lot of things to many different people. But to be clear, the love of Valentine's Day is not the love of the Bible. The love of Vday has many different connotations, but it is mostly about how one feels towards another. The love of February is more about feelings and romance and less about commitment and providing for needs.

When people first fall in love with their spouse or mate, love is used as a word packed with emotion and sexual (romantic) overtones. But the Bible uses this word very differently. When "God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whoever believes on him would be saved," love does not portray a feeling or indicate romance. It shows a deep felt desire for mankind that cannot earn their way back to God, so he has provided a way. This is done as a result of his love for them, (us, all humans).

Our love for our kids parallel God's love for us. We protect our children, change their diapers, provide for their needs and more. We discipline them to keep them safe from harm and from evil people. We discipline them through training, preparing them for better things in their life as they grow up and move on. We do this all out of our love for them. To clarify, our feelings for them come from our love for them, not the other way around.

We don't discipline those we don't love and we don't provide for those we don't love or know. But those we do love, we care for, and we have feelings for. Those we love we help and encourage. We give them what they need and spur them on to maturity. This is also the way God loves us, but it is not Vday's love.

God loves us whether we love him back or not. He loves us so much he wants us to be with him eternally, so he provides for us an opportunity to be with him through faith in his son. If His offer is rejected, he still loves through provision and discipline. His love toward us is unconditional, unbreakable. We are his kids, he created us in his image and he loves no matter. God loves us the way he asks us to love one another, through patience, kindness, gentleness, giving second chances over and over, and by not giving up.

Unfortunately, some people give up on others. It is sad to see and hear about. God's love never fails, it lasts. God's love is faithful and is concerned about others, it is un failing and God's love comforts and builds up, it does not tear down.

This is the Biblical love we are called to emulate and the love we don't hear about from the world. I pray this is the love you work on and let live in your life. May God's love rule in all our lives.

Your brother in Christ and minister – Doug Baty



I am so excited about CIY! The theme for the lessons this year will be Contrast, how we should be different from the world. Lessons will be exploring what should be different about us, and how we of the light should have nothing to do with the darkness. CIY can be a truly life changing event for students, so I can't wait to take them. I don't have an exact number yet, but there should be 3-5 students attending this year. Unfortunately, this great event does cost money. About \$300 per student. That covers meals, housing, and the cost of the programming. That's why we will be doing fundraising, so that we can cover the cost for our students. We will be starting with our Spaghetti dinner/ dessert auction on February 11th. You will be served dinner by the students that wish to attend, and then be able to buy desserts in an auction led by Sam Atherton. Whether or not we do additional fundraisers will be determined by the results of this one. I really don't like asking for money, but CIY is so worth it. I remember when I went to CIY in high school. We went to Durango, Colorado. We climbed the Rocky Mountains, went white-water rafting(that part was terrifying for me), and most importantly we all drew closer to God. The worship sessions were amazing, the lessons were impactful, and the experience was unforgettable. That's what I want to give the students this summer: an unforgettable experience with God.

*Choris*

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## Prayer Requests

### **Health Issues**

JLoretta Ball  
JNell Ball  
JDennis King  
JTonya Atherton  
JMatthew and Darren  
Burkes  
JDale Owen  
JKip Fentress  
JMelissa Forbes  
JMaggie Jackson  
JBilly Brown  
JStephanie Wells  
JGene Robinson  
JRachelle  
JRich Proehl

### **Missions:**

JScott Springer  
JHidden Haven  
JFarrans  
JCookson Hills  
JMelinda Velasquez  
JKiamichi Mountain  
Mission

### **Other concerns:**

JPresident Trump  
JNational Leaders  
JState Leaders  
JTroops around the  
world  
JThe lost in Parsons



# Called to Serve

<b>February</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Communion Preparation</b>	Clarinda O'Brien	Clarinda O'Brien	Clarinda O'Brien	Clarinda O'Brien
<b>Greeters: Front Doors Inside Lobby</b>	Mary Ruth Allen Nola Fisher	Clarinda O'Brien Karen Osgood	Robinsons	Judy Wells
<b>Nursery</b>	Shirley Lunday	Randee Baty	Karen Osgood	Clarinda O'Brien
<b>Communion</b>	Tim Ren	Jeff Ferguson	Chris Ferguson	Thad Osgood
<b>Ushers</b>	Ralph Heady Jeff Ferguson	Steve Passwater Thad Osgood	Kenneth Lunday Ralph Heady	Jeff Ferguson Steve Passwater
<b>Serving the Lord's Supper</b>	Chris Ferguson Seth Weidert Joel Ferguson Bill Longfellow	Josh Passwater Ralph Heady David Baty Alan Meier	Steve Passwater Jeff Ferguson Thad Osgood Jeff O'Brien	Joe Hills Chris Ferguson Seth Weidert Joel Ferguson
<b>Benediction</b>	Jeff Ferguson	Thad Osgood	Doug Baty	Tim Ren
<b>Shut-Ins</b>	Jeff Ferguson	Lundays	Headys	Thad Osgood
<b>Nursing Home</b>				Good Samaritan 2:00 Woodridge 2:45