



The Messenger



Westside Christian Church

April 28th, 2018

Parsons, KS

www.westsideatparsons.com

620-421-3533

Future Events

May 8– Baccalaureate 6 PM

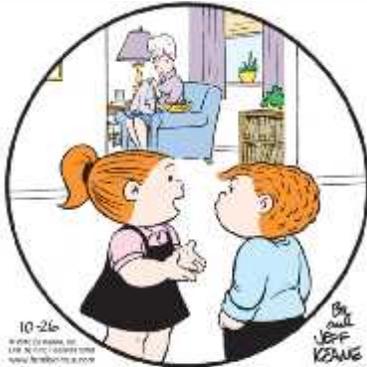
May 12- Mothers Day Lunch After Church

May 19– Elders Meeting 1:30



On May 12th after church we will be having our annual mothers day lunch prepared by the gentlemen of the congregation. Motherhood is one of God's greatest blessings, as are mothers. It is also a great responsibility to raise children up in the way of the Spirit and we should all be grateful for

all our mothers have done for us. If you can, give your mom a hug and extra phone call this month. If you can't encourage another mother you know. **THANK-YOU MOTHERS EVERYWHERE!**



"The two places we know we're always welcome are church and Grandma's house."

Leadership at Westside Ministers

Doug Baty 778-3919
Chris Ferguson 778-4110

Elders

Jeff Ferguson 778-8911
Ralph Heady 421-0447
Thad Osgood 421-0793

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Follow us on Twitter
[@WestsideParsons](https://twitter.com/WestsideParsons)

This mothers day we will be doing a Baby Bottle Fundraiser to help support the Midwest Pregnancy Care Center. Bottles will be available for pick up on Mothers Day. Fill them with your spare change or dollars and bring them back for collection on Fathers day. The Center provides free pregnancy tests, ultra sounds, and helps to support and inform young mothers on their options; Including adoption referral and assisting with information regarding medical care and social services. They also provide counseling, diapers, formula, and clothing. These services are so important in our community and culture. To learn more you can visit www.midwestpcc.com



Graduates, I'm so proud of you guys! Making it through high school and getting ready for the real world. I hope that you all continue going to church, even if it isn't here at Westside. God is so important, and that becomes more obvious as you go out and make your way in the world. There's such a difference! Make sure you are being that difference. –Chris-

DOUG'S DESK

I just listened to the testimony of Sheefa. I am not sure this is the way to spell her name or not, but this is what we are going with. Sheefa was born and raised in Muslim territory and she had a sister that became a Christian. After 5 years of questions and prayer, her sister, with the help of God's spirit won the heart of Sheefa. Sheefa was touched by what Jesus said in John 15:16 where he says "I chose you!" Jesus chose and appointed these men, you and me, to go and bear fruit!

Sheefa lives in the middle east, they were calling it the Levant, and has a hard life. People in that area, which includes Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Iran, target women and Christians to show their power over them. Often these two groups are treated as 2nd class citizens and are kept in submission by force. Open Doors is a missions group that had a live webcast that I was able to be a part of. Sheefa shared her story with those who logged in and she said the two biggest things needed are our prayers and Bibles. Bibles are often confiscated or destroyed to keep Christians from having God's Word.

God's word takes our hearts and melts them, changing our hearts to what God wants us to be. Have you let God get ahold of you and change your heart?

One of Sheefa's favorite stories in the Bible is that of Esther. God used Esther to make a difference. God can use you to make a difference too, but you have to submit to God, let him use you and let his word speak into your mind and heart. Sheefa recognizes that God can use her and her small church of about 70 to make a difference in her community. She wants God's love to be seen and her church to grow.

One of the things God has gotten ahold of me lately is about his cross. So many things have come through the suffering and pain of Jesus. He died that I might live, it shows his love. Jesus showed His commitment to let this disastrous event happen so that in reality it wasn't disastrous at all, at least to us. Jesus saved our souls through the cross. He changed the covenant with the cross and he proved that he was faithful to His word. Jesus redeemed us out of hell and damnation and gives us a chance to live a life more abundantly.

Jesus died out of love and for our redemption and he asked us to die as well. Jesus asked us to die to self, Mt. 16:24. Now that is hard to do.

We live in a very cushy life here in America. We don't worry of bombings or raids on our homes for being a believer. We don't live in a state where it is common for people to persecute Christians openly



from your
**YOUTH
MINISTER**

As we move on from Easter every year, the next holiday we often look to is Mother's Day. I would urge you to first look at what happened next in the Bible. (not saying Mother's Day isn't important, just don't forget this) After Jesus rose, he spent 40 days appearing to people, telling him that he was alive. Notice that he never appeared in the temples, or in front of the Sanhedrin, before Caesar, or in any hugely populated areas. Jesus showed himself to his followers. First his disciples, then various Christians in the area. He didn't need to rub it in the faces of his enemies. Instead, he wanted to comfort his friends. He did this for over a month, then ascended to Heaven. And when he went, he told us to go into all the earth, telling everyone about him. We're to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of God. This was the last commandment of Christ while he was here on earth. How many of us make this our mission? When was the last time you told somebody about Jesus? Invited somebody to church? I realize that Christians aren't exactly seen in a positive light in today's world, but when has that ever stopped us? Now you don't have to be a missionary to fulfill this commandment. "all nations" includes America too. This month I encourage you to talk to somebody about Jesus. Invite somebody to church. After all, we're on a mission.

-Chris-

—Continued from previous column—

and regularly, just because we go to church. We are very fortunate and we should count our blessings.

Sheefa is thankful for her church family and is most thankful for God through Jesus her Savior. She recognizes that many people who try to become Christians from a Muslim background are asked to recant, denounce, and return to their Islamic faith. These converts are often refused Bibles because of their new status.

I can hardly imagine the challenges in these places. I am not worthy of being treated so kindly. I am not worthy of being in such a position as I have. I just pray that God will change my heart and use me, let me be a tool for him in His ministry to you.

Let God change us all with his spirit and his word.

Your brother in Christ and minister, *Doug Baty*

Called to Serve-May

March	5	12	19	26	
Communion Preparation	Paula Weidert	Paula Weidert	Paula Weidert	Paula Weidert	
Greeters	Mary Ruth Allen	Karen Osgood	Clarinda O'Brien	Ferguson's	
Nursery	Shirley Lunday	Randee Baty	Karen Osgood	Clarinda O'Brien	
Communion	Howard Weidert	Thad Osgood	Chris Ferguson	Doug Baty	
Ushers	Joel Ferguson Thad Osgood	Howard Weidert Steve Passwater	Thad Osgood Jeff Ferguson	Steve Passwater Kenneth Lunday	
Serving the Lord's Supper	Chris Ferguson Josh Passwater Steve Passwater Jeff Ferguson	Bill Longfellow Alan Meier Jeff O'Brien Chris Ferguson	Howard Weidert Steve Passwater Joel Ferguson Bill Longfellow	Josh Passwater Seth Weidert Jeff Ferguson Thad Osgood	
Benediction	Tim Ren	Gene Robinson	Ralph Heady	Thad Osgood	
Shut-Ins	Jeff Ferguson	Thad Osgood	Lunday's	Doug Baty	
Nursing Home				Good Samaritan 2:00 Woodridge 2:45	

May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Mothers Day Lunch 	13	14	15 8 Parsons High School @ 6 PM 	16	17	18 Ken Ackerman 
19 Elders Meeting	20	21	22 Bruce Rea 	23	24	25
26 Jayda Pearson 	27 MEMORIAL DAY  Seth Weidert 	28	29	30	31	