

January 2010

# THE MESSENGER



## Life Is Short *Make Yours Count*

The beginning of a new year often signifies a fresh start, new directions and a wide-open new year. After the rush of Christmas and the other holidays, it is easy to allow these next few months to go by without much accomplishment with a sense that there will always be time for this or that.

I want to urge you to seize upon the moments God has graciously given to you. ***Live Life With Urgency!*** I remind you what God teaches us in James chapter four:

“You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.”

**Life Is Short, Make Yours Count** is our church theme for 2010 and we will be encouraging you to meet needs, make an impact for Christ and live with purpose. It is my prayer for each of us, that if God gives us another full year of life, we will look back at 2010 as the most productive year we have ever lived!

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### TO SAVE A LIFE TO SAVE A FAMILY

**Church-Wide Campaign**

*Starting January 31st*



There are too many individuals living a life of desperation and too many families that are in crisis for the church to turn a blind eye. Find hope and direction for these challenging times during Sunday mornings, January 31st - March 7th.

The Messenger is a monthly publication of

**Westside Baptist Church**

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# Youth News

-Greetings and Salutations:

Happy 2010! It sounds almost ridiculous to say and even more awkward to write but the second decade of the twenty-first century is upon us. For some perspective on the situation consider that there is currently a 4th grader sitting in a school somewhere nearby who never saw the 1900's. A sobering thought for many of us and a reminder of just how quickly time can pass. It seems that in the blink of an eye we've gone from being wide-eyed ten year olds to teenagers, senior citizens of perhaps even semi-responsible adults.

However there is a link between us all that binds us together as a congregation but even on a larger scale as people. We are connected through the commonality of experience. Each one of us can relate in some way to the 4th grader sitting in their classroom because all of us at one time or another have been there. We understand each other because we've lived similar experiences.

From our perspective what a blessing to be able to have children around with their entire lives ahead of them, full of endless possibilities with potential for greatness ingrained in each of them. From their perspective what a gift to have the resources of so many people who have gone through these experiences and gained great wisdom and understanding that they can share.

How sad would it be then if each young one's future was left to be shaped only by their sole efforts, their lessons learned only from trial and error. How sad would it be if each older one's wisdom and experience faded away without a fresh eager mind to impacted or encouraged.

The unfortunate fact is that these scenarios occur all too frequently. Our young people are left to feel alone and overwhelmed when the very thing they may need to buoy them is an encouraging word or helpful advice from us who have indeed "been there before."

What better time of year to make a radical shift in our lives. A shift from focusing on living life alone, isolated, and cut off from others to living life openly, together and in community with one another. Each one using their experiences and lessons gained along the way to strengthen another. Let's make our lives count. No more sitting on the sidelines. It's time to get in the game.

For more information on how you can use your experiences as a mentor or adult leader/ encourager to our young people (youth and children) contact me anytime @ jaultman@westsidebc.info or give me a call. Together we can make a huge difference in the lives of young people in our community.

In Christ,

Justin Aultman  
Youth Pastor  
Westside Baptist Church

## Weekly Service Schedule

### Sundays

9:45am - Sunday School for all ages  
11:00am - Morning Worship  
6:00pm - Evening Bible Study for Youth and Adults; Children's Choir

### Wednesdays

6:15pm - Church Family Supper  
7:00pm - Mid-Week Bible Study for Youth, Adults & Children

## Prayer Requests

Pastor Mark & Family  
Justin Aultman  
Howard & Joan Morales  
Jim & Yvonne Allegood  
Allen & Laurie Aultman  
Herb Blackwell  
Al & Linda Chao  
Greg & Kim Allegood  
David & Magen Schlechter  
Tony & Shelly Wilson & Family  
Joe & Beverly Petrini  
Scott & Rhonda Register  
Neil & Jodi Barden  
Betty Bryant  
Lois Carlson  
Jeremy Lee  
MaryAnn Ely & Family  
Muriel Jackson & Family  
Bill Stern, Carol McBee's Nephew  
George Summeral  
Gretchen Boden

### Our Shut Ins

Audrey Adams  
Stayton & Alice Bradish  
Vernie Chao  
Ruth DeArmin  
Marian Dickerson  
Evelyn Kinser & Family  
Wyonna Lambert  
Ruth Rebar  
Bob McCormack  
Woodrow & Mary Maples  
Lilly Stanley

### Our Troops

Darren Cooksey  
Bret Petriskie, Tammy Grannis' Son

### Our Youth

### Our Nation's Leaders

President Obama  
Vice President Biden

To add a prayer request to the prayer chain please contact  
**BETTY BRYANT 782-6875**

# Woman to Woman

"Hear my cry, O God; attend to my prayer. From the end of the earth I will cry to You, when my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the rock that is higher than I" (Psalm 61:1-2). This has been my cry for some time now. I have found myself in a place, like David, where peace was elusive, hope was slim, and the light at the end of the way was quite dim indeed. I have also found rest in the arms of my Savior. I have found a quiet, when all around was clamor. But I know too well, that unless I am deliberate about seeking Him, I can get lost in pain, in worry, in fear. What about you, dear sister? Have you reached the end of your endurance even as we begin a brand new year? As I read the story of Jephthah, a Judge in Israel, God allowed some parallels to settle in my heart- great victories, redemption, great joy...and great pain.

Jephthah had made a vow to God. In return for victory over the people of Ammon, Jephthah promised to offer to God, as an offering, the first thing that greeted him on his return home. He was victorious. He was greeted by his daughter, his only child. His heart was overwhelmed. As much as he might not have wanted to keep his word, he did. He gave back to God what wasn't his anyway. His daughter went to serve God as a virgin, which meant, for Jephthah, an end to his family line- something that was very serious and tragic for an Israelite. Later, in Hebrews 11:32-34, he was commended for running the race with endurance. It is said that out of his weakness, he was made strong. May that be said of you and me.

I wrote in my journal not long ago of all the things that I tried not to think about. Things connected to an abusive childhood, the death of my first husband, and especially the death of my son right before my eyes. I am not a stranger to pain; yet neither am I stranger to joy and laughter. I have been hope-less, but I have known great hope. I have felt a soul-deep tiredness, but I have also danced with abandon (quite gracelessly, I might add). I have felt the cold, lonely ache of grief, but I have also known the sweetness of God's comfort. I am making it through the dark nights, slowly, painstakingly, but the dawn beckons. I am weak....ah, but I'll be made strong, for His strength is made perfect in my weakness.

I will gaze on a bright new day, and with the crystalline sparkle of tears in my eyes, I will dance. Undignified though I may be, I will dance before my Lord.

Blessings,  
Shelly Wilson



# JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Pie & Coffee Social - Bring Pie To Share! <i>Immediately following the evening service</i>	4	5	6 7:00-9:00am Coffee Connection 6:15pm Family Night Supper 7:00pm- Bible Study for all ages	7 6:00am - Men's Fraternity	8	9
10	11 6:00-9:00pm Ladies Game Night	12 11:30am - 1:30pm - Senior Adult Pot Luck	13 7:00-9:00am Coffee Connection 6:15pm Family Night Supper 7:00pm- <u>Business Meeting</u>	14 6:00am - Men's Fraternity	15	16
17	18	19	20 7:00-9:00am Coffee Connection 6:15pm Family Night Supper 7:00pm- Bible Study for all Ages	21 6:00am - Men's Fraternity	22	23
24	25	26	27 7:00-9:00am Coffee Connection 6:15pm Family Night Supper 7:00pm- Bible Study for all Ages	28	29	30
31 11:00am Communion						

## January Birthdays

Travis Barden	4th
Brandon Register	10th
Bill Cutler	13th
Susan Hall	16th
David Schlechter	16th
Wyonna Lambert	19th
Yvonne Allegood	20th
Melody Parks	23rd
Brianna Barringer	28th
Darren Cooksey	29th
Ben Hill	29th
Christine Schmidt	30th

## January Anniversaries

There Are  
No Anniversaries  
This Month!

## YOUTH CORNER

Fuel Bible Study  
Sunday Evenings at 5:45pm  
Youth Bible Stud  
Wednesday Nights 7:00

