



westlake

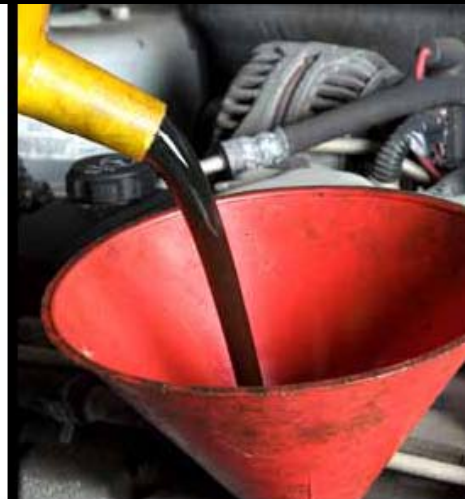
news

Newsletter of the Westlake Community Church of God

Vol. 14 No. 9 September 2011

SINGLE MOM'S DAY

FREE OIL CHANGE
(For Single Mom's)



Saturday September 17

9:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Westlake Church

(Feel free to bring your kids!
We will have lots of fun.....)

**Sign up to help at
the lobby table!**

FROM PASTOR MIKE

Live in the Sunshine

Even when we don't understand our present circumstances, we can walk in the light. As the song says, "Farther along we'll know all about it. Farther along we'll understand why. Cheer up my brother, live in the sunshine. We'll understand it all by and by." That's the whole lesson of the book of Job - Trust Me!

Sunshine in Your Mind

In times of suffering, choose to walk in the light, to "cheer up" and "live in the sunshine." We mind our attitude by minding our thoughts, for as a person thinks in his heart, so is he (Proverbs 23:7). "You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You" (Isaiah 26:3). Jeremiah faced cruel days, but deliberately turned his thoughts to God's unfailing compassion and great faithfulness. "This I recall to mind," he wrote, "therefore I have hope" (Lamentations 3:21-24).

One of the greatest discoveries of psychology is that it's our thoughts which determine our emotions - not feelings which control thoughts. Suppose you found out a friend was treating you to a 2-week vacation. Would that influence your emotions? Or, you learned a loved one was rushed to the hospital, would that affect your feelings?

Suppose you learned that Jesus Christ is the Light, and that in Him is no darkness. Suppose you wrapped your mind around that. It would bring sunshine into the darkest corners of your world.

John quoted Jesus as saying, "I am the light of the world. . . I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness" (John 9:5, 12:46). John later told us to walk in the light (1 John 1:7). That knowledge in our minds brings hope and joy to our souls.

Sunshine in Your Soul

When our minds dwell on Jesus as the light, heavenly sunshine can pour into our souls. Our joy doesn't depend on the events that surround us, but on the hope that's within us. Our real life is with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3). It isn't our external situation, but our internal Savior that determines our attitude in life. "But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head" (Psalm 3:3).

Praise and thanksgiving are not emotions that we fall into, but attitudes we choose to exhibit. Some say praise happens when a certain level of emotional intensity is reached, resulting in an explosion in our spirit. But what do we do when everything's going wrong?

We offer the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord as an act of obedience. We make a decision amidst difficulty that no matter what happens, we'll praise God and walk in the sunshine. That allows attitudes of peace and joy (we could never have engendered in our own strength) to come to our spirits in response to our obedience.

I've had people who have gone through difficult times say to me, "Pastor, I've never loved God more than I do now. I don't know why I'm going through this; but there is such peace in trusting God with the unexplained. I don't understand it, but I sense God's presence in my life more than ever." When we trust God with the unexplained, sunshine floods our minds, our souls, and our faces, too.

Sunshine on Your Face

The Psalmist said, "They looked to Him and were radiant," (Psalm 34:5). The Bible recommends a sunny countenance. Solomon wrote, "A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance," and "A man's wisdom makes his face shine, and the sternness of his face is changed" (Proverbs 15:13; Ecclesiastes 8:1).

D. A. Benton talks about the importance of the countenance in communicating confidence and leadership. She says women who smiled in their college yearbook photos went on to live happier lives with happier marriages and fewer personal setbacks than those who didn't. If you're confused by life, trust God anyway. Read His promises, and remember . . .

Farther along we'll know all about it.

Farther along we'll understand why;

Cheer up my brother live in the sunshine

We'll understand it all by and by.

Love

Pastor Mike

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Only One Service on Labor Day Weekend!
Sunday, September 4 at 10:45 a.m.

On-line Giving is Now Available: Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our ministries. If you are currently giving on a regular basis, you will no longer need to write out a check or prepare envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis to fund our ministries. To set up electronic contributions to any fund, click on the on-line giving logo on the homepage of the church website www.westlakechurchofgod.org.

Westlake is partnering with local schools: We are excited to announce that Westlake is taking CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) into Westlake Elementary School. CEF is an after school program for public schools to teach students the Gospel. There are many opportunities to serve. If you are interested in being involved in this ministry, please contact Randy McPike (grmpcike@att.net or 742-7627).

Bible Drive: Student Ministries is holding a bible drive so that bibles can be available at each of the various homes where student small groups meet. Bring your used or new bibles to church between *September 11 – October 2*. If you are making a purchase, we prefer the NIV Student Bible, but any bible will do! We are also accepting monetary donations. Please drop off all donations at the table in the lobby.

Single Moms Event: Mark your calendar for *Saturday, September 17* from 9 am - 1 pm for an opportunity to reach out to single moms with a free oil change, time of pampering for them, and activities for their children. Please stop by the sign-up lists in the church lobby to find out how you can help with this event. For more information, please contact Ed Hodge (839-4928) or Dee Ludlow (840-3750).

SCRIP

SCRIP has something for everyone: Whether you are just shopping for everyday necessities or planning a project there is SCRIP to purchase to benefit Westlake. By buying gift certificates through SCRIP, you are providing Westlake with additional funding that we can use towards new ministries. Stop by the SCRIP kiosk today to place your order for your everyday needs.

Joining SCRIP: Burlington Coat Factory, \$25 card, (8%)
Einstein Bros. Bagels, \$10 card (10%)

Bonus Contributions: (WCCG receives additional contribution)
Red Robin 2% bonus 8/13 – 9/16 Logan's 2% bonus 8/27 – 9/9
Dell 2% bonus 8/13 – 9/9 L.L. Bean 2% bonus 9/3 – 9/30
Shutterfly 2% bonus 8/13 – 9/9 Best Buy 1% bonus 9/3 – 9/16
Land's End 2% bonus 8/13 – 9/9

MISSIONS

Gleaners on a Thursday? We've set up an additional opportunity to serve at Gleaners each month. We're working on the first Thursday of the month from around 5 - 7 pm. If you or your small group are interested, please contact Mark Fleenor (MDRFLEE@sbcglobal.net or 272-7209) for additional information and directions. Our next Thursday trip will be on *September 1*.

Volunteer at Gleaners Food Bank with the Missions Team and help sort donated items or prepare boxes for the seniors food program. Our next trip is *Saturday, September 17*, at Gleaners' new facility, 3737 Waldemere Ave. We'll work from 9:30 am – noon. Please contact Mark Fleenor for directions (272-7209) or MDRFlee@sbcglobal.net.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Women's Outing: Come join us and bring a friend for an afternoon of relaxation and fun. *Saturday, September 10* join us downtown for an excursion – bike riding, paddle boats, or a movie at the IMAX Theater. We will meet downtown at 4:00 pm (or carpooling at 3:30 pm from the church) for light snacks and fellowship then off we will go for our excursion of choice. Sign up for this event at the lobby table. For further information, please contact Felisia O'Bold (501-4220 or obold@comcast.net).

Festival of Tables: Mark your calendars ladies for the 2nd annual Festival of Tables on *Saturday, October 8*. This evening will be a special dinner for you to relax and enjoy the entertainment with your friends. If you would like to be a hostess of a table this year please contact Cathy Cole at michiana88@aol.com or 317-414-3291 **SOON**. We will then send you more information about the evening. Tickets will be on sale starting in September. This is an event you won't want miss and don't forget to invite your friends!

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Men's Movie Night: Come join us for dinner at BW3's in Avon on *Friday, October 7* at 6:30 pm and then the new movie "Courageous" at the Regal Theater at Shiloh Crossing. This is a very impactful movie from the makers of "Fireproof". You cover your own tab and invite a friend too! Please sign up at the lobby table. For further information, please contact Mike Stultz (745-5782).

Festival of Tables: We are looking for servers to help with the Women's Festival of Tables event on *Saturday, October 8*. Please sign up at the lobby table if you can help. For further information, please contact Mike Stultz (745-5782).



**HAPPY 75th
ANNIVERSARY
to Eddie & Bertie Gillespie!
September 2, 2011**

ATTENDANCE/FINANCIAL REPORT

| | YTD | |
|---|------------|------------|
| July Worship Attendance Average | 383 | |
| July Budget Giving TOTAL | \$ 57,535 | \$372,249 |
| <i>July expenses</i> | \$ 59,313 | \$ 332,642 |
| July Building Fund Total | \$ 17,357 | \$ 89,656 |
| Total Building Fund Pledged (2011 – 2014) | \$ 601,968 | |
| Total Giving toward Campaign (thru 7/31/11) | \$ 47,574 | |
| | | |
| July Faith Promise Total | \$ 3,879 | \$ 16,118 |
| (included in general giving total) | | |

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations!

Isaiah Christian Fall was born to Misty Fall on August 20, 2011 weighing 6 lb 9 oz and measuring 19 1/2 inches long! Congratulations also to grandma - Christy Fall and great-grandma - Geraldine McMullin.

Crew Asher Ford was born to Eric and Ashley Ford on August 25, 2011 weighing 6 lb 12 oz and measuring 20 inches long! Congratulations also to grandparents Steve & Marsha Ford and Dennis & Linda Kinstle.

REMEMBER OUR TROOPS IN PRAYER

** Denotes active duty in the Middle East*

Jason Arnold, Bill Chastain, *Blair Diederich, Dan Gould,
Ben Hughes, Kyle McConnell, Richard Mattingly,
Drew Perez, Adam Rennick

PRAYER REQUESTS

Amy Anders – health concerns
Shelly (co-worker of Tina Yates) - severe depression
Roy Haskett – recovering from hip replacement
Kathleen Lamb & family of Barbra Cunningham – in her passing
Ruth Schoon & family – in the passing of Steve Schoon
Sandy Sowl & family – in the passing of her brother, Kenneth Beeker
Dan Gipe (Lynn Jump’s dad) – surgery to remove kidney stone
Dick & Jean Cunningham (parents of Barbra Cunningham) – health
Audrey Babcock (Pulliam’s 9 yr old niece) - seizures
Tawana Butts (co-worker of Stacey Blake) – depression
Tim Wellbaum – homeless, in program for alcohol abuse, employment
Eric & Ashley Ford – health concerns of baby during pregnancy
Jerry Palmer (friend of Tuckers) – in need of kidney transplant
Ray Trump (Judy Coble’s nephew) – brain aneurism surgery
Aaron & Stephanie Muir (friends of Welniak’s) – lost newborn twins
Ester Columbe (friend of Terry Lewis) – brain cancer, treatments start
Regina Souza (friend of Glaucia Wall) – 8 months pregnant, lost baby
Laura Kinnaman (Jasmine Kinnaman’s grandma) – recovering from fall
Becky Hauref (Judy Coble’s niece) – heart attack
Mary Phillips (Chris Hill’s mom) – spot on lung
Jonathon Cintas (son of friend of Dee Ludlow) – spiritual guidance
Mary Deann Nipple – scoliosis causing intense nerve pain in legs
Stephanie O’Bryan (James Hume’s mom) – health concerns
Zach Jenkins (friend of Brenda Pulliam)/James Pulliam – direction/salv.
Crystal Marshall – health concerns, issues resulting from two surgeries
Dan Montel (Judy Coble’s brother) – health concerns
Mike Nordman (Judy Coble’s nephew) – incarcerated, salvation
Dory Gross (friend of Lynn Jump) – cancer of liver, salvation
Larry Pelletier (Kathleen Lamb’s dad) – salvation
Connie Clark Summe (Deb Iglesias’s stepmom) – ovarian cancer
Wendi (Reed Blair’s sister) – diagnosed with cancer, started chemo
Marc Shoemaker (co-worker of Karla Rigsby) – paralyzed after fall
Gib Buis & family (Ryan McConnell’s grandpa) – salvation
Leo Tussey – heart & kidney failure, months to live
Angie Dowell (Geraldine McMullen’s granddaughter) – liver damage
Diana Fleenor/Sherman & Sarah Bowman/Bert Nixon – health concerns



6696 Rockville Road
Indianapolis, IN 46214

Staff

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Lead Pastor | Mike Cottrell |
| Worship Arts Pastor | James Hume |
| Discipleship & Groups Pastor | Craig Knisley |
| Children’s Pastor | Sherrie Cottrell |
| Youth Pastor | Melissa Chastain |
| Office Administrator | Gail Wills |

Lay Staff

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Executive Pastor | Jim O’Bold |
| Facilities Manager | Tim Ransom |

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