

December 2008 West Wind

West Side Church of God

November 25, 2008



Women of all ages are invited to the annual SILVER TEA. Monday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m. in Bartlett Hall. Bring a \$5 gift if you'd like to participate in a gift exchange; please label it with adult or child. Bring a Christmas treat to share.



The MEN'S Advent Gathering is Thursday, December 11th 6:00 p.m. at Bishop's Family Restaurant at 4200 W. Kellogg (in front of Kmart). All You Can Eat Buffet cost is \$8.60 (tax & drink included). Bring a \$5 gift if you'd like to participate in a gift exchange.



PARENTS DAY OUT

Saturday, December 6th – 12 noon to 5 pm
Parents give yourself a break and let us watch your kids, for FREE! Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 3: get a permission slip at the Welcome Center, or call 264-8133, or by e-mail: wscg@wscg.kscoxmail.com.



December 14th 10:40 am

Join us for a very special worship service to **Celebrate Christ, His Light & His Love!**

There will be music and drama and something for everyone! This would be a great Sunday to invite a friend, co-worker, or relative!



Your Christmas Story

What is your Christmas story? What does it include? What memories bring good feelings as you think about Christmas with your family? Our Christmas story is full of memories. My wife has one memory that has been a part of her life for as long as she has been alive—the living Nativity. She was born the year it began; and I cannot imagine what it will be like for her this year as she begins Christmas without it. It will be that way for many of you. Christ's Living Nativity is something in your mind that goes with Christmas. It is not separate and surely will bring some tears as you have Christmas this year without it. The good news is that we have many memories to draw on that will bring joy to our hearts—like the construction of the set, the characters we played, the people involved, the food before we got dressed, the recording of John Denver singing Silent Night and all the people who came to watch. We will not have the Nativity this year, but it does not mean that it is gone. It is in our hearts.

What else does your Christmas story contain? I remember getting a football every year I asked for one (and that was many). If I got a bike for Christmas, because the weather is mild in Louisiana, I could ride it that day. We always went to my mamaw's and papaw's house. And there was always lots and lots of food. One year my dog chewed up one of my Star Wars toys on Christmas day. I am sure many of us can think of memories like this about past Christmases. But there is one story that makes all of these memories possible. It is the birth of Jesus Christ.

Without Jesus, December 25 is just another day. We do not have a day off. No Christmas trees. No carols. Not even gifts. Why give a gift on a special day? Christmas is a day of celebrating the birth of Christ and a day to remember why He came. When we give gifts, we give them as an act of what God did by giving His Son for you and me. It is so much a celebration that we sing songs about it. Jesus Christ is the Christmas story. Is He a part of your Christmas story?

In Christ, Forest



CHRISTMAS CARD DISTRIBUTION BEGINS Dec. 7th

It's that time again for the Christmas Card Distribution to the church families ONLY. The adult class boxes will be available with a class roster in front of each box. A separate box will be available for those who do not attend Sunday School, but who attend West Side. This box will also be for TEACHERS of the children and youth classes. Please SORT your cards and place them in the correct boxes. If you have a problem sorting your cards, please leave them on the table with a rubber band and someone will sort them for you. Teachers or class representatives will see that the cards are picked up and distributed to class members. Someone will be available at the table to assist those needing help. Please do not remove the boxes from the table, thanks.

F. Y. I.

The Board of Worship & Arts will be getting **poinsettias** to decorate the sanctuary. Watch for more information.

The **Annual Business Meeting** (2008 Financial Reports & 2009 Budget) will be Sunday, January 11th.

CELL Groups will resume on January 18, 2009. What a great way to start the new year with a small group!

DECEMBER 24



Candlelight Service 6:00 pm
in the Sanctuary

Nativity Party 7:00 pm
in Bartlett Hall

Watch for More Information



Silent Night, Holy Night