



SEPTEMBER 2011

West Side Church of God
August 24, 2011

[Page 11]



Children of Promise Awareness Sunday
September 18
We sponsor two grade-school age boys who live in

Manila Philippines. Information and pictures of Neil and Arnel are in the missions cabinet.



Our missionaries usually have monthly news & updates which you can find at the missions cabinet. Thank you for your prayer and financial support for our missionaries and the missions projects.

- * Sherman & Kay Critser, our Church of God Living Link missionaries to Africa
- * Allison Lucht, our New Tribes missionary to Mexico
- * Entz family our World Impact missionaries in Wichita
- * Union Rescue Mission, Wichita

Top Ten Reasons to Join the Choir

- 1 Friends! You will no longer be able to say "church is so impersonal—I don't know anyone"
- 2 Advance notice of the songs for worship service
- 3 Guaranteed seating when the church is crowded
- 4 Serving others—the congregation really loves it when the choir leads the singing
- 5 Every once in a while, you might catch a glimpse of heaven's choir singing along with you—no kidding
- 6 They don't pass the collection plate in the choir loft
- 7 From the choir loft, you can see who's nodding off and give them grief after worship service
- 8 Wednesday practices are a great mid-week perk-me-up!
- 9 Intellectual stimulation—when you make music, you use both sides of your brain at the same time
- 10 You finally get the joke: "I'm a fermata—hold me!"

Please see Tracie Nice for more information.



Bring your favorite potluck dish to the Family Life Center and share a great time of good friends, good food and good fun!

Operation Christmas Child's mission is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.



We will participate again this fall by collecting gift-filled shoe boxes for children in need around the globe. Informational brochures are at the Welcome Center so you can start watching sales and collecting items for the children. There is a \$7 shipping & handling fee for each shoebox. Shoeboxes will be collected by November 9. Watch for a display table with more information.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

In July, we helped 15 households (51 people)
In August, we helped 25 households (76 people)

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- You may donate any amount of money that you want and it will be used to purchase food for the sacks.
 - You may bring non-perishable food to the pantry. Shopping lists are on the Food Pantry door and at the Welcome Center.
 - You can help when the food pantry is open on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Call the office to volunteer.
 - You may offer your prayer support for this ministry.
- Together, we are helping our neighbors and community!

Save The Date!

Cookie Donations and Adult Volunteers will be needed for the youth concessions stand fund-raiser held at our Family Life Center on **October 28 & 29.**

Annual Meeting - **November 16**

Christmas Candlelight Service will be held Wednesday, **December 21** at 7 pm



AUGUST 2011

West Side Church of God
August 24, 2011

[Page 2]

West Side Church of God

1900 McCormick, Wichita, KS 67213

Phone (316) 264-8133

Website www.westsidecog.org

Rev. Forest Cornwell, Pastor

From the Pastor

Search for Significance

Everyone wants to know that his or her life is meaningful. We want to believe that life has purpose and value; and that we are not just moving along mindlessly or hopelessly. As a result of this, we go in search of meaning and purpose. People will look for it in money, success, work, education, pleasure, religion, trying to be the best, competitiveness, and people. The problem with looking for meaning and purpose in these things is that they just keep us wanting more—they never seem to completely satisfy. Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 12:8 "Vanity of vanity, all is vanity." So, if this is the case, what are people to do? How are we going to find rest for our souls? Where do we find meaning and purpose? The answer is found in God. Solomon goes on to say, "Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all." (Ecclesiastes 12:13 NKJV)

We find purpose and meaning in God through Jesus Christ. Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father but by Me." Jesus is telling us that God is the Author of life; and that only by coming to Him by accepting Jesus' sacrifice for our sins and living for Him, do we find true meaning and purpose for our lives. Our souls become at rest in God. We do not have to chase after something that will be here today and gone tomorrow. The fulfillment found in Jesus lasts for all eternity.

Just think for a minute about all that we have and all that we have had that is now gone. Our cars wear out. Our homes fall apart. We change jobs. Some people change spouses. And when we die, we cannot take any of the money that we have with us. All of our hard work and the things we leave behind will be left for someone else. The good news for us is this: God brings satisfaction to our souls that not only will be with us in eternity, but also right here and right now. All that we have chased after to find some kind of meaning and purpose melts away in knowing that God loves us just as we are. Our value is not wrapped up in what other people think of us, but in knowing God. You see, people want to know who we are and what we do, but God sees us as His. The answer to finding meaning and purpose is not what I do or who I am, but whose I am. And when we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, we are God's children; and we find true fulfillment for life (Romans 8:15-16). We were created to have a relationship with God. Jesus provided the way; now, it is up to us to accept it.

Have you chased after dreams? Do they just seem to disappear? Are you asking yourself what is the purpose in life? Does life have meaning? Maybe you ask yourself who am I? The answer to what you are looking for is found in becoming a child of God. Meaning is not so much about who I am but whose I am. To find rest for our souls is to accept Jesus and His love for us and to live for Him. I encourage you today to accept Jesus and live for God. Only in this will we find the answer that we have been looking for. May God bless you and give you a great week.

In Christ, Pastor Forest

Who am I?
Whose am I?

Not because of who I am
But because of what You've done
Not because of what I've done
But because of who You are
I am Yours

I am
Yours