

March 2009 West Wind
West Side Church of God
February 27, 2009

Annual Meeting March 4 at 7 pm

Meeting Held in the Sanctuary

*Election of Leaders for 2009, 2008 Annual Reports Given
2008 Year in Pictures*



MISSIONS

Faith Promise Missions Weekend March 7 & 8

Our Special Guest is Aaron Varner
Career Missionary Apprentice-Elect to Germany



Saturday, March 7th

11:30 am - 1:00 pm Youth Pizza in Bartlett

5:30 pm Missions Banquet in FLC

*German Meal with Meat (brats, sausage, wieners)
and Sauerkraut Provided*

Sunday, March 8th 10:40 am Worship Service
Aaron Varner bringing the Message



**Leaders Meeting
Council & Trustees
Sunday, March 29
5:30 pm
Bartlett Hall**
(No CELL Groups on March 29)

Opportunity

Something happened on Sunday, February 22, 2009 that shows the great opportunity West Side has in store for our future. West Side embarked on a new journey. We started a new direction. We installed a new pastor. But even more than all of that, West Side has shown just how much potential we have to reach people. In my six years here, we have not had 225 people at our church until last Sunday. West Side has great potential to reach people for Jesus Christ, and that is what we should be about.

In order to accomplish this, it is going to take all of us coming together under a single vision, focused on the mission of bringing hope to people by telling them of the love of God in Jesus Christ. There are three things that can help us understand and remain focused on this mission: *Encounter, Encourage, and Express*. We want to *Encounter* God in our lives and lead others to do the same. We must *Encourage* each other on this journey of life. We are to *Express* our faith by being compassionate, serving and telling others the reason for our faith. As we work out the “three Es” in our lives, we will find ways to reach new people.

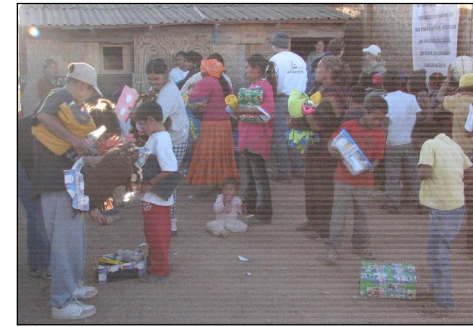
One reason we were able to draw a crowd last Sunday is because we are already working these things out. We show week after week how service is a part of who we are. I am amazed and excited how you all came together to do everything for the celebration on Sunday. You did a fabulous job, and that was seen by all of our visitors. You *Expressed* your faith and that expression will lead people to want to know more about why we do what we do. It will lead them to an *Encounter* with God. Your faith is *Encouraging*.

West Side can take advantage of some great opportunities. We started in a new direction. I am glad, humbled, and challenged for the opportunity to lead West Side in this new direction. As we work together, people will come to see our faith and we will reach our potential. We have a great opportunity and an incredible abundance of potential. Let's go for it!

In Christ, Pastor Forest

FROM OUR MISSIONARY

Allison Lucht, 10101 Dellwood Dr., El Paso, TX 79924



This is a very belated thank you for your gift back in December.

The Lord provided abundantly for us to be able to bless the people of the Brickyard. Blankets came in from 4 different sources,

Samaritan's Purse sent gift boxes for the children (*see picture above*), some missionary kids knitted scarves and hats. The puppet team presented the Gospel message, reminding the people of the greatest Christmas gift ever, the Lord Jesus Christ. Your gifts enable me to continue to serve the people of the Brickyard and to minister through puppets. My Greek class is going well and is something I look forward to every week. Please keep me in your prayers—I can't keep going without your support. Allison
Allison's postcard with this picture is posted by the Missions Cabinet.



Looking Ahead

April 1 – Don & Chris Smith at our Midweek Service

April 6 – Secret Pal Party

April 5 Palm Sunday

Easter Cantata “*On a Hill Too Far Away*”

April 9 Maundy Thursday

Soup Supper & Maundy Thursday Service

April 12 Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service & Breakfast

Morning Worship Service

Middle School CAMP (6th, 7th, 8th graders) **June 8-12**

Junior CAMP (3rd, 4th, 5th grade graduates) **June 15-19**

High School CAMP (9th – 12th graders) **June 22-26**