

**News & Prayers**

**West U Members:**

We praise God that **Allan Jenkins** has been hired as a full-time chaplain for Hermann Memorial Hospital in the medical center.  
**Ingrid Drugan** is continuing to recover. Please continue to pray for her.  
**Jim Ledbetter** is at Open Door Mission and will be there another 6 1/2 months. The address is 5803 Harrisburg Blvd. Houston, 77011-4323.  
**Joan Galvan** is suffering from multiple sclerosis.  
**Minister Search**, please pray for the search for an associate minister.  
**Melissa Deaver** is pregnant and is considered high risk.  
**Justine Rivoire** is very ill and in hospice care.  
**David & Addell Delony**, pray for strength.

**Expectant Mothers:** Melissa Deaver

**Home Bound Members:** Please pray for our home bound family: **Elizabeth Barnes, Justine Rivoire, Nancy Taylor, Mary Broome, and Richard Barnes.**

**Family & Friends:**

**Benigno Pena**, Estela Rivera's father, 83, is in hospice care in Corpus Christi.  
**Norris**, Verne Ragle's brother, is facing serious medical problems. He lives in Abilene.

**Cancer Prayers:**

**Peggy Haynes** asked for prayer for her daughter, Pam Haynes. She has cancer and is here at MD Anderson.  
**Carnell Whitley** asked for prayer as she goes through a difficult time with her illness at MD Anderson.  
**Jeremy Cotham** is continuing to get good reports from his doctors. Please continue to pray for his full recovery.  
**Mechelle Henderson** asked for prayer for "no cancer soon."  
**Barbara Hill** has been coming to MD Anderson for 2 1/2 years. The cancer has returned as inflammatory breast cancer.

**Church Apartment Tenants:**

**Beth Smith** and her husband Herald of Colmesneil, TX. Beth recently received a Lung Transplant at Methodist Hospital.  
**Young Park** and her husband, Joon, from Arlington, TX. Young was receiving treatment for head and neck cancer at MD Anderson, but was sent home for hospice

care. Please pray for the Park family during this difficult time.  
**Bobby McWilliams** and his wife Peggy from Helena, AR. Bobby will be receiving a bone marrow transplant at MD Anderson for treatment of his leukemia.  
**Cherie King** of W. Monroe, LA is receiving treatment for leukemia. She is staying in one of the church apartments during this time.

**A Special Thank You**  
 Thank you for the beautiful flowers. I appreciate your kindness to me during my hospitalization and recovery.  
 - Elizabeth Smith

**Congratulation to the Kemps**  
 Jared and Danielle Kemp have accepted a new assignment as a Youth Minister in Malakoff, Texas. He starts his new assignment on January 1st.



West University  
 Church of Christ

**December 11, 2011**

*Discovering and Sharing God's Love*

**Welcome to West U**

*We're glad you're here to join us in worshipping God.*

- \*Please register on one of the cards in the pew racks and place it in the offering tray. We do not make unannounced visits but we would like to write you and call you to welcome you and answer any questions that you might have.
- \*Please write your prayer requests on a Prayer Request card and place it in the offering tray.
- \*For your convenience, we have an attended nursery west of the foyer for babies.
- \*During the assembly, we invite your children up to the age of eight to participate in a learning time on their level.
- \*This evening, attend one of our Life Groups. For more information see the graphic inside this bulletin.
- \*You are invited to attend our Wednesday evening Bible Studies at 6:30.



**Holiday Food Drive**

Goal  
500



64

Please bring can goods or non-perishable items and place them outside the auditorium doors.

Thanks for your generosity on feeding the hungry this holiday season. I know this is a crazy time of year and there's much to be done so, if you would like the teens to go purchase items for you, see Jay Roberts about giving a tax-deductible donation for the holiday food drive. Please make sure the items you purchase will not expire in the next 60 days; the food distribution center at Impact cannot give out food item beyond their expiration date.

I have been asked what type of items are needed so, I got this list of things that are in high demand right now. Please understand that all non-perishable, non-expired food items are needed; this list is just some of the items that move quickly:

- ◆ Protein Items (canned tuna or chicken - packed in water)
- ◆ Peanut butter
- ◆ Canned fruits (in light syrup)
- ◆ Juice (single served cans or boxes)
- ◆ Canned vegetables and tomato sauces
- ◆ Canned soups (with meat and/or beans)
- ◆ Bags of pasta (spaghetti, macaroni, noodles)

As we continue to do the will of our Lord, let us not forget what He told us in Matthew 5:14-16; and leave empty spots in that children's song we all know so well and love: "This little light of mine, I'm gonna \_\_\_ it \_\_\_."

- Jay Roberts

**Welcome & Call to Worship**

#869 *We're Marching to Zion*  
 #537 *Here We Are but Straying Pilgrims*  
 #569 *Sweeter Than All*

**Prayer**

#361 *Nailed to the Cross*

**Communion**

*All Christians are invited to commune with us.*

**Offering**

*Guests are not expected to participate in the offering.  
 This is a voluntary offering.*

#666 *I Am Thine, O Lord*

*(Children are dismissed to Little Lambs or God's Flock during this song)*

**Scripture**

Joshua 1:1-9

**Message**

"God's Big Story: The Promised Land"

*(Screen Only) His Way With Thee*

**Shepherd's Prayer & Benediction - Hilton Merritt**

"Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ."  
 Ephesians 6:23-24 NRSV

#878 *The Sweet By and By*

Elders			
Kelly Rushing Jim Taylor	kelly.rushing@ubs.com jtaylor@brsfirm.com	Ralph Arnold Hilton Merritt	ralpharnold@pdq.net ahmerritt@yahoo.com
Deacons			
Worship Children Finance Transportation, Adult Ed Care of the Elderly, Belmont Village	John Fletcher Brad Hinrichs Roger Rue Cameron Bird Ryan McDonald	John Fletcher Brad Hinrichs Roger Rue Cameron Bird Ryan McDonald	jrf8729@sbcglobal.net jabb1@peoplepc.com yzwoo@pdq.net cambird1979@yahoo.com ryanmcdonald321@yahoo.com
Family Apartments & Med Center Building and Grounds, Men Hospitality Finance Greeting, Personal Evangelism	Kerry Lackey Brian Deaver Terry Scarborough Randy Bullard Al Richey Raul De La Garza	Kerry Lackey Brian Deaver Terry Scarborough Randy Bullard Al Richey Raul De La Garza	kerry_lackey@hotmail.com Brian.deaver@gmail.com tescar50@gmail.com Lynn.bullard@aliefisd.net alrichey@pdq.net rauldelagarzajr@yahoo.com
Staff			
Pulpit Minister Youth Minister Business Manager Footsteps Director Custodian Administrative Assistant	Dr. Calvin Warpula Jay Roberts Christy McDonald Reni Burns Mark Rue Janet Cockerham	Dr. Calvin Warpula Jay Roberts Christy McDonald Reni Burns Mark Rue Janet Cockerham	cwarpula@westchurch.com jayroberts86@yahoo.com mcdonald.christy@gmail.com famofburns@sbcglobal.net themarkrue@yahoo.com office@westchurch.com

Coming Events
December 17 - Secret Sister Breakfast
December 18 - Corporate Sunday
December 25 - Christmas Day
December 26 - Office Closed
January 1 - New Year's Day
January 2 - Office Closed
January 8 - Church-Wide "Happy New Year" Fellowship Meal

Last Week's Record		
A.M. Worship – 143	Contribution - \$7,427.23	Coins for Christ - \$17.00

**WEST UNIVERSITY  
 CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 3407 Bissonnet Houston, TX 77005  
 713.666.3535  
 Footsteps (Mothers Day Out) 713.666.9403  
 office@westchurch.com www.westchurch.com

SERVICES TIMES		
Sunday	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Evening	Bible Classes for All Ages Worship Service Life Groups Meet
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Mid-Week Service



### Upcoming Sunday Morning Sermon Topics:

Today - God's Big Story: The Promised Land  
December 18 - God's Big Story: The Judges  
December 25 - God's Big Story: The Miracle of Jesus



**This evening,  
you are invited to meet with any of these LIFE groups.  
Please call the leader if you would like  
more information or need directions.**

1. North Houston Area meets at 5:00 p.m., led by Jim Taylor/Brad Hinrichs, 1328 Sue Barnett Dr., Houston, 77018 713-695-1443
2. West University Area meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall here at the church building. 713-669-0137
3. Pearland/South Houston Area meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Lackey's home, 2220 Crystal Reef Ln, Pearland, TX 77584. 281-380-8552 What you need to bring?: Bible, \$10 per family for food (or \$5 if you are by yourself).
4. Young Professionals meets at 6 p.m., led by Curtis Neveu, 2111 Holly Hall, apartment 1609. The access code is 1208. Curtis' cell phone is 918-770-3436.

### Church Directory Available Today

An updated church directory is available today. Please see Calvin after service if you need a copy. Updated directories are always available via email. If you would like to receive a copy via email, contact Janet at office@westuchurch.com



To Aryssa Gonzales for winning first place in Westbury Christian School's Christmas card competition. Her design will be used to represent the school.



### You Are Invited to a Fellowship Luncheon on Dec. 18

Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, following our morning service, all guests and members are invited to a Fellowship Luncheon hosted by the Warpula small group. This will be an enjoyable time of eating together and making friends. All members who wish to join us please bring a covered dish to share if you can. This is an ideal opportunity to invite friends and family to church and to stay for the luncheon.



### Welcome Our New Member



**Susan Parker**  
5807 Beverly Hill #8  
Houston, TX 77057  
Phone: 713-822-6438  
Email: susan.parker@citihomestx.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

We invite you to visit [www.westuchurch.com](http://www.westuchurch.com):  
🔗 Sermon Transcripts  
🔗 Sermon Audios

You may also find links to follow us on



(Sermon CDs available through the office.)

### Sunday Classes at 9:30 a.m.

1. **College/Young Professionals**—Jim Taylor teaches the book of Exodus in the Community Room.
2. **Women's class**—Beverly Arnold is teaching the book of Revelation in the library.
3. **Fellowship Hall**—Raul De La Garza teaches "Reaching Others with the Gospel".
4. **Auditorium**—Calvin Warpula teaches "The Book of Romans".

### Wednesday Night Classes at 6:30 p.m.

- \* **Ladies Class** - in the library studying "The Character of Mary, the Mother of Jesus" - Taught by Alicia Hinrichs.
- \* **Calvin's Class** - in the fellowship hall is studying 1 Timothy.

### New Study Begins In Wednesday Ladies Class

The Wednesday Ladies Class will be looking into the "Character of Mary, the Mother of Jesus" for the next two weeks.

A new study on the book of Philippians will begin January 4, 2012. Study books are available. See Alicia Hinrichs for your copy.

Please note that the Wednesday night ladies class will not meet on Wednesday, December 28th.

### Count Your Blessings

A church in North Carolina sent a mission team to a leper colony on the Caribbean island of Tobago. The team met a lot of sad patients afflicted with leprosy. One memorable experience was a worship service they held in the campus chapel.

The lepers came in and took their seats on the pews, and the mission team led them in hymns. Jack, the leader of the group, noticed there was one leper on the back row who was facing in the opposite direction. All the rest of the lepers were facing the song leader.

Jack announced, "We have time for one more hymn. Does anyone have a favorite?" About this time the leprous lady on the back row turned around and for the first time faced the song leader. Jack said that it was the most hideous site he had ever seen in a human being. She had no nose or lips. Her head was almost like a skull. When she raised her arm in the air, she had no hand. It was just a nub.

The leprous lady said, "Could we sing 'Count Your Many Blessings'?" It was at that point the whole mission team experienced something they had never experienced before. Here was a lady, with relatively nothing to be thankful for, asking to sing "Count Your Many Blessings." At first, they couldn't even lead the song, and then they sang it with new meaning:

"When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done."

If a leprous lady on the island of Tobago had as her favorite song "Count Your Many Blessings," how much more should we not just sing the song, but do what it says?

We can't count high enough to list all of our blessings.

(This story by John Ed Mathison which appeared in a recent blog post was published in [www.preaching.com/sermon-illustrations](http://www.preaching.com/sermon-illustrations))



### A Big Thank You

To everyone who helped with our Children's Christmas Party and Service Project by bringing goodies, helping the children or any other way. Your assistance made our party fun and successful.

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**Secret Sisters Meet for Breakfast**

The Secret Sisters group will meet for breakfast on Sat., Dec. 17th at 9 a.m. at The Egg & I Restaurant, 4938 Beechnut, 77096.

We will exchange our final gifts and meet our secret sister. For questions, please contact Christy McDonald at [mcdonald.christy@gmail.com](mailto:mcdonald.christy@gmail.com).

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