



THE WIND OF THE SPIRIT AT WEST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

WEST WINDS

Peabody, Massachusetts

May, 2017

PARTICIPATING IN THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017

The Theme: The leadership of the National Day of Prayer Task Force has selected the theme for this year, **For Your Great Name's Sake! Hear Us... Forgive Us...Heal Us!** Taken from Daniel 9:19, which says, "O Lord, Listen! O Lord, Forgive! O Lord, Hear and Act! For Your Sake, O My God..."



The Mission: The mission of the National Day of Prayer Task Force is to mobilize prayer in America and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture.

The Vision: In accordance with Biblical truth, the National Day of Prayer Task Force seeks to:

- Mobilize and encourage personal and corporate prayer, regardless of current issues and positions
- Preserve America's Christian heritage and defend the religious freedoms granted by the Constitution
- Emphasize prayer for America and its leadership in the seven centers of power: Government, Military, Media, Business, Education, Church and Family (I Timothy 2:1-6)
- Foster unity within the Christian Church

Topics for Prayer

- Confession of personal sin and sins of the nation
- Praise God for His Grace and Mercy and ask Him to be merciful to America
- Pray for the Seven Centers of Power
 1. Government:
 - Executive Branch: President, Vice-President, and Cabinet
 - Judicial Branch: Supreme Court, Regional Circuit Courts to uphold constitution
 - Legislative Branch: righteous laws, fiscal responsibility
 - Commonwealth of Massachusetts, City of Peabody
 2. Military/Police/Fire: Safety, War on Terror
 3. Media: Balance view, morality and righteousness
 4. Business: Jobs, Economy, ethics
 5. Education: Teach truth, preparing students to live and work,
 6. Church: repentance, renewal and awakening, not tamper with God's Word
 7. Family: Stability, upholding God's ordained order for Families
- Other topics as the Holy Spirit gives you guidance

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO GATHER AND PRAY ON THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017

1. THE LEATHER CITY COMMONS, 25 Lowell St. Peabody, (Park on Railroad Ave) 7:30-8:15 AM
2. THE WEST CHURCH SANCTUARY, 27 Johnson St. Peabody, 7:00-8:00 PM



Sincerely In Christ, Pastor Rick



PIONEER GIRLS NEWS

Spring is finally here and with it comes the GRAND FINALE to the Pioneer Girls' calendar year: **Final Awards Night and the Sleepover...** combined!

We cordially invite all Pioneer Girl parents, Gal Pals, friends and families to join us on Friday, May 12 at 7:00 pm for our Awards Night Celebration.

We look forward to celebrating with the girls all they've accomplished throughout the year. At the conclusion of the Awards Night, Gal Pals, friends and family members will say "good night" and leave their Pioneer Girls at church to enjoy the annual Sleepover. Be prepared for a night full of our "Be strong and courageous" theme, games, crafts, snacks, laughter and surprises! Saturday morning, May 13th, after a delicious pancake breakfast, the girls will be ready to be picked up **bright and early at 8:00am**. It will be a fantastic way to end a truly wonderful year of Pioneer Girls!

On Wednesday, May 17, all PG Leaders and Committee members will meet for our final Appreciation and Evaluation Social from 7:00 to 8:30pm at a special location that will be disclosed soon.

Please continue to pray for the Pioneer Girl ministry as we begin to wrap up our year together. God has blessed us all year long and we know He will continue to do so!

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



Eligible student applicants must be graduating high school in 2017, active in West Church, and entering college or training school in the fall. Applications will be available in the church office the first Sunday in April and must be submitted by Sunday, May 7.

CHURCH SOFTBALL TEAM

The 2017 Softball season begins in May. Our team is open to both men and women, and young people at least 16 years old. If you are interested in joining in on the fun, fellowship and recreation, please contact the office.

Games are Monday evenings at 6:30 pm.

- May 1: Gallow Hill, Salem
- May 8: Farnham Park, Peabody
- May 15: O'Connor Park, Peabody
- May 22: Farnham Park, Peabody
- May 29: Mattos Field, Gloucester

VBS SNACK DONATIONS

VBS is searching for snacks! An important part of every VBS day is snack time! As you can imagine, it takes a lot of snack supplies to provide snack for 150 hungry stargazers!

Can you help us with our shopping? If you are able, choose an item or two from the list of snacks below, and pick it up the next time you're grocery shopping. You can leave all VBS snack donations in the box labeled "VBS" in the lower narthex.

- *Space themed Goldfish
- *Fruity Cheerios
- *Kix Cereal
- *Rice Krispies
- *Market Basket brand Magic Stars cereal

Thanks for all the ways you're making this Galactic Adventure possible!



GAIN 2017 SHORT TERM MISSIONS TRIP JUNE 20-24

Do you have a desire to get involved in something bigger than yourself and engage personally in world missions? If so, then this opportunity may be just for you!

GAIN (Global Aid Network) is a Christian organization committed to providing humanitarian aid and relief in the name and love of Jesus Christ to peoples around the world. At their Lancaster, Pennsylvania Logistics Center, GAIN operates year-round to receive, process, pack, and ship humanitarian supplies to people in need around the globe.



West Church has been a long-time supporter of this fantastic ministry. This year from June 20-24, those interested from West will be volunteering with GAIN in Pennsylvania in order to make a difference in the lives of refugees, orphans, and poverty-stricken families by packing food, blankets, clothing, and other aid which will be shipped to GAIN's international ministry partners around the world. GAIN's international ministry partners work in the toughest places on earth to use items we as volunteers pack to express the love of Jesus by relieving suffering, restoring dignity, and revealing hope. Your help makes it possible to carry out this very important ministry!

The warehouse has jobs geared to all ages and ability levels. We will be driving down Tuesday June 20, working in the warehouse Wednesday through Friday, and returning home Saturday, June 24. If you are interested in ministering for the Lord on this short term missions trip, please contact the office. The deadline for trip registration is **Sunday, May 21, 2017.**

We look forward to having you join us!

Warehouse Hours:

Daily, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 pm

Also Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Lunch and snacks are included.

Gain Website: www.gainusa.org



SPRING QUARTER ADULT CLASS

Course #1 Eternity 103 (Women's Class)

Upper room

Facilitators: Various West Church Women

This course is a continuation of Eternity 102.

Have you ever wondered . . . What Heaven is really going to be like? We will be watching and discussing the teaching of Heaven on a DVD course called Eternity 101 taught by Randy Alcorn.

Course #2 The Pillars of Christian Character

Lyons Hall

Teacher: Pastor McDonnell

The class will be following the book *The Pillars of Christian Character: Essential Attitudes of Living Faith* by John MacArthur. The study will consist of looking at foundational inner attitudes of the heart that are marks or evidences of a true believer. Pillars such as faith, obedience, humility, love, forgiveness, self-discipline, gratitude, and worship will be covered. Having the book is not required for the class, but encouraged. The goal will be to stir one another to be more like Jesus Christ. The class format will include lectures, class discussions and times of group prayer.

FLOWERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to have flowers in the chancel on a Sunday to celebrate an occasion that is special to you, please sign the Flower Chart on the bulletin board across from the office. Many Sundays are still available in 2017. The cost of each arrangement is \$35, which may be included in your offering envelope or pew envelope and designate "flowers" under the heading "Other."

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 10-14 | 9am – 12:30pm

Grab your telescope and get ready for Galactic Starveyors VBS!

Against the backdrop of the final frontier, kids will search the skies, encounter amazing things designed by a Creator who is even bigger than the vastness of His creation, and discover that the God who created everything there is wants a relationship with them! At **Galactic Starveyors**, we'll spend a life-changing week *Searching the Visible and Discovering the Invisible*.

Registration for West Church and VBS Crew families begins May 1st. Registration is open to the Community on June 1st. Help us spread the word!

God is putting together a galactically dynamic VBS Crew. We are only 13 people away from being fully staffed! If you are interested in journeying into the galaxies with us, let us know! Here are some of the positions still available:

- Kindergarten Assistant Teacher – 1
- 1st and 2nd Grade Teachers – 2
- 3rd and 4th Grade Teachers – 3
- 5th and 6th Grade Teachers – 2
- Craft Helpers – 4
- Assistant to Snack Coordinator – 1

All **Galactic Starveyors Crew**, as you look ahead in your calendar, please add these important VBS dates:

- **Thursday, May 25 @ 7pm** – 1st Crew Meeting Teacher books and T-Shirts distributed, Music CDs available, Sneak Peek of Crafts and Galactic Décor. ***This meeting is for ALL adult VBS Crew Members (Teen Helpers do not need to attend).***
- **Tuesday, June 27 @ 7pm** – 2nd Crew Meeting Teacher Training, Crew Expectations, remaining teaching materials distributed, breakout session for various ministry areas. ***This meeting is for ALL VBS Crew Members, including Teen Helpers.***
- **Sunday, July 9** – VBS Crew Dedication during worship service followed by Crew Set Up & Pizza Party (approximately noon to 3pm).

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

SATURDAY, MAY 20, | 7 AM - NOON

West Church will be sponsoring the 4th annual Complimentary Refreshment Table at the Citizens Inn Family Yard Sale, 40 Washington St, Peabody. Two volunteers are needed to serve coffee and offer "Christ-centered hospitality" to all who come. For more information contact the office.

CHURCH SPRING WORK DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 20 | 8 AM – 11 AM

Both outdoor and indoor workers are needed. For outdoor work, please bring rakes, blowers, brooms, etc. Indoor workers will need pails & cleaning rags. We NEED everyone's help: men, women and youth.

LOOKING AHEAD

- NS Christian Men's Choir Concert: June 3
- Meet, Greet, and Eat: June 9
- Sunday School Closing Program: June 11
- Summer Schedule Begins: June 18
- GAiN Trip to Pennsylvania: June 20-24
- Young at Heart Talent Night: June 23
- Vacation Bible School: July 10-14

MEET, GREET AND EAT

JUNE 9

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

If you are new to West Church within the last three years, come to this ice cream social to connect with us.



TALENT NIGHT | JUNE 23 AT 7:00 PM

You don't want to be saying, "I wish I had gone!"

So mark your calendars now for this fun night of fellowship and entertainment.

Hope to see you there, and oh by the way, there is still time if you want to participate. Contact the office to be added to the list of performers.

