

WORSHIP HOURS

Sunday Morning

9:00 AM

Sunday School/
New Life Service

10:00-10:20 AM

Fellowship

10:30 AM

Blended Service/
Sunday School

Sunday Evening

6:30 PM

Worship

Wednesday Evening

7:00 PM

Bible Study

WestSide MiNistRies



3604 15th Ave. W.
Bradenton, FL 34205
Ph. (941) 746-5969
Fax (941) 747-0147

WEB PAGE:
westsidechristianchurch.com
EMAIL: info@westsidechristianchurch.com

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WestSide Ministries

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Ministry Focus

Gary Johnson

This "News Letter" is written for the purpose of familiarizing you with the newest ministry staff. It will also help you understand both our new and old staff positions.

Each staff member has a unique story with unique abilities which enable them to be an invaluable part of the ministry of Westside Christian Church. I hope that this will be a helpful tool for you that will also encourage you to involve yourself in one of the many ministry opportunities at Westside Christian Church.

THREE AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

My main responsibility is to 1) **preach and teach God's Word**. This is coupled with the over-all spiritual well being of the membership at Westside Christian Church. It is my hearts desire that as you grow in your understanding of God's Word you will be drawn to ministry.

An added responsibility is to 2) **coordinate and support the staff**. The elders have given me the charge to insure that each staff member is able to fulfill their ministry to the best of their ability. Then finally it is my responsibility to 3) **effectively communicate with the elders** of Westside Christian Church any needs, concerns and growth opportunities as I see them. This in turn allows them to effectively shepherd the flock.

Westside Christian Church is a "Ministry Driven" church. Meaning it is our goal to encourage each member to find a place of service. There are several ministry opportunities available at Westside Christian Church. If a person desires to start and lead a new ministry team – they will be encouraged to work with me – so I can help them in any way I can to insure, as much as possible, their success.

Ephesians 4:11-16 "It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead speaking truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

Ministry Team Leaders

ELDERS

Eric Banta, Chairman of the Elders
Vice Chairman, Ron Bedel,
Secretary of the Elders, Nathan Cook

SHEPHERDING ELDERS

(Hospital and Shut-ins)

Roy Nicholas
Dr. Bill Baxter

OTHER MINISTRY LEADERS

(The same or similar to Deacons)

Sound Ministry,	Bill Edwards
Weekly collections,	Sid Nehrboss
Women's Ministry,	Mary Obedier
Nursery Ministry,	Bev Banta
Choir Director Adult & Youth,	Nancy Elmore
Hospitality Ministry,	Bill & Renee Sisson
Helping Hands Ministry,	Ann Bartholow
In Touch Ministry,	Isabell Fry
Usher Ministry,	John Bartholow
Mops Coordinator,	Kristi Ogle
Greeting Ministry	Bob & Sue Myers

MINISTRY PURPOSE STATEMENT

It is our desire that each ministry leader will lead, with excellence, the ministry in which they are responsible. Excellence means; fulfilling their ministry with joy, creativity and leading in such a way that God is glorified.

It is also our hope that through their leadership their ministry will expand to include those looking to serve God. We also encourage their independence in ministry yet respectfully keeping in mind the importance of communicating with the senior minister and elders.

We have to keep in mind that we are all reaching up to God so we can reach out to others.

New Employees Biographies



Tarah Van Fossen
Business Manager

I was born in St. Louis Missouri and was transplanted to Florida back in the 80's. I've lived in Bradenton for the past 28 years, a proud graduate Cum Laude from Colorado Technical University earning a Bachelor's of Science in Accounting. I am currently pursuing a Masters of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Phoenix in order to satisfy the Florida State requirements for the CPA exam. I have been working at A Tax Shelter, the family tax and accounting business, for the last 10 years. This past spring I was promoted to partner in the practice. I find joy in my service work and find the accounting/tax field to be challenging and ever changing. In April 2008 I was baptized by Pastor Gary Johnson and became a member of Westside. I have recently started singing with the WCC's Sunday morning praise and worship team. I also sing for a local alternative Christian rock praise and worship team Rising115. I have a sweet 5 year old American Red Nosed Pittbull Terrier named Lex that accompanies me almost everywhere. I have a love of all things train, including volunteering at the local train museum during the holidays for the North Pole Express. I love to travel and have been blessed with the opportunity to travel to Ireland, France, Spain, Morocco and British Columbia.



Inez Trautman
Secretary

I was born and grew up in Tampa, Florida. I was baptized into Christ at the age of 9, December 1941, at Broad Street Christian Church in Tampa. My Great-Grandfather was a Christian Church Minister in Kansas. He moved to Florida and helped start the Christian Church in Brooksville, Florida. I graduated from Hillsborough High School and then attended Atlanta Christian College. I earned a BA Degree in Music and Education in 1954. I married Robert Trautman in August 1954. We have two children, Michael & Kathee, 4 Granddaughters and 5 Great-grandchildren, all living in Tampa. We moved to Palmetto in 1980 and started attending Westside Christian Church in 1981.



Robert Trautman
Custodian

I was born and grew up in Tampa, Florida. My family background is Catholic but I was baptized into Christ at the age of 21 at Broad Street Christian Church in Tampa. I was called to the Korean War at the age of 17, deployed to Korea in 1950. I spent one and a half years in Korea, then came back home and finished my High School education and 2 years of college. I then became a Firefighter for the Tampa Fire Department. I retired in 1979, and moved to Palmetto in 1980. During my first years at Westside Christian Church I was involved in the Building & Grounds Ministry and did a lot of reconstruction of various parts of the building. Then when the long-time Custodians moved away in 1990 I became the Custodian.



Jessica Cook
Children's Director

I was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio and was blessed to be brought up in a loving, Christian home. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior at a young age.

"He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8.

I keep this verse close to my heart and mind as I walk daily with Him. I deeply desire to serve Him and his people in any way he calls me. In order of focus more on our youth and to provide them with a firm foundation the Lord had called me to serve Westside as the Children's director. I have three boys and have been married to my wonderful husband, Nathan for 11 years now. We have lived in Bradenton for eight years and look forward to living and serving here for many years to come.



Rex Ogle Jr.
Worship Leader/Computer Tech.

I was born and raised in East Tennessee, I was raised in the Baptist church. I graduated from high school in 1986, the same year I started dating Kristi, who is my lovely wife today. We got married in 1989 and I started attending Meadowbrook Christian Church. In 1996 our first son, Lex was born and in 1999 our second son, Clint was born. While at Meadowbrook I served in several position; as a Deacon, an Elder, the Treasurer, the Janitor, the Groundskeeper and Youth Minister. We moved to Bradenton, Florida in May of 2007.

My 20 years as a computer programmer helps me with my duties as the computer tech for Westside Christian Church. I maintain all the computer equipment for the church as well as the website and other electronics as needed. In my spare time I am a scuba instructor and enjoy swimming and boating with my family. I am currently a dispatcher with the Holmes Beach Police Department.



Wilceau Bisrette
Haiti Ministry

I was born in LaGonave, Haiti on September 10th, 1963. I was baptized into Christ May 1982. About three years later, I married my wife, Rosette. We have five children, three sons and two daughters. We adopted the two daughters so that we could provide for them. I was a teacher in Haiti from 1982 to 1991. I moved to the U.S. in 1992, the same year I became involved with the First Haitian Baptist Church in Avon Park, FL. A year later I was ordained as a Deacon. In 2002 I went back to Haiti to assist Pastor Samuel in the Haitian Ministry. The pastor and I have a heart for the people of Haiti. In 2006 I started working with Westside to make a difference for Christ in Haiti.



Norm & Doris Gendt
Senior Adult Ministry

We were both raised in the Pittsburgh area and married on August 1, 1951. Norm was drafted into the Army in February 1951 and served two years. In 1955 after a lot of thought & prayer we attended Kentucky Christian University. God blessed us with our first child, Linda, during our time at college. Norm graduated in 1959 and went to our first fulltime church in Bowersville, Ohio where we stayed 4 years. This is where we received our second gift from God, our son, Barton Lee. In 1963, we moved to Sunbury and enjoyed 16 years of ministry and saw the church grow from 45 to 275 in average attendance. Doris was a stay at home mom and worked part time as Norm's secretary. In 1975 she started working for Crown Life Insurance, then with Travelers Insurance Company where she retired. In 1979, Norm resigned from the Sunbury Church and worked for the State of Ohio for 15 years before retiring. During those years he held interim ministries all over central Ohio. After retiring the Gendts began wintering in Bradenton, Florida. Norm and Doris are the proud grandparents of 5 terrific grandsons (pictures and bragging available upon request).