
THIS YEAR AT WEST SIDE 2017



TOTALLY DEPENDENT

West of Baton Rouge, the Atchafalaya River runs through southern Louisiana for 137 miles. It could not be more important to the region. It drives the economy, nourishes everything that lives, and offers scenic beauty.

However, the Atchafalaya is a distributary, which means it depends entirely on a source other than itself. Without the Mighty Mississippi feeding it, the Atchafalaya would not exist, at all. And those who benefit from the river would be desperate.

The pages ahead contain inspiring stories and important numbers. As you read, I hope you smile, praise God and anticipate the future. Our church impacts many people (which explains the parking lot on Sundays).

But don't misunderstand – the info ahead is celebration, not swag. The message we preach? It did not originate with us. The resources we contribute? *The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.* Any wisdom we share? Same. Honestly, we can't even love God on our own (1 John 4:19): *First we were loved, now we love. He loved us first.*

Jesus said we are branches on a vine that can only be productive *for* him when we are connected *to* him. So, let's become fully rooted in Christ and draw life from him!

Eddie Lowen
lead guy



A SINGLE INVITE CAN CHANGE A LIFE...

6378 Record attendance at
Christmas at West Side 2016

3891 At the Movies Kickoff
Attendance LARGEST NON-EASTER SUNDAY
ATTENDANCE IN WEST SIDE HISTORY

85 Baptisms on 8.27.17

"It was like a new me came up
from out of that water. God helped
me do a 180."

RUSS ARMOUR

Russ was invited to Christmas at
West Side in 2016, returned for
At the Movies series in January
and surrendered to Jesus on
Baptism Sunday, 2017!

**A single invite changed Russ' life
forever! Whom will you invite this
Christmas?**



A NIGHT OF STARS

Special Needs Prom

On Friday, April 7, **500** volunteers and **23** business partners came together and invested **\$25,000+** and **hundreds of hours** to give **482** prom guests and their caregivers a night they'll never forget!



KENYA



2017 was a big year for our partnerships in Kenya.


99 Westsiders served together in the slums of Nairobi from June 6-16.

Then, on October 1, Westsiders came together to collect **62,684** books, **50,000** of which were donated in the first **12 hours!**

These books will be used to build several libraries in Kenya early next year.

To date, Westsiders sponsor **647** children in Kenya!





**ROOTED: AN 11-WEEK
DISCIPLESHIP EXPERIENCE.
REGISTER AT
WSCHURCH.ORG/ROOTED**



It's not just a Bible study or small group. Rooted is an experience that will boost you toward a deeper and more meaningful life, provoke conversations between imperfect people and launch each of us out of our comfort zones into a life with Jesus unlike anything we've ever experienced.



"I'VE ALWAYS STRUGGLED WITH TRUST AND FAMILY ISSUES. WEST SIDE INCORPORATES ANYONE WHO IS LOST OR DOESN'T KNOW WHERE THEY BELONG. THROUGH ROOTED, WE FOUND A FAMILY WE DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE CAPABLE OF HAVING."

**ZAYIN
BROWN**



BAPTISMS

New Life
In Jesus

In 2017, more than 180 Westsiders said yes to Jesus through Baptism, **85 of which happened on ONE Day!**

"THIS YEAR AT WEST SIDE, I LED MY MOM CLOSER TO CHRIST. WHEN I SAW MY MOM START COMING TO CHURCH AND ACCEPTING LOVE FROM GOD AND FROM OUR FAMILY, I WAS AMAZED."

"BEFORE COMING TO WEST SIDE, I STRUGGLED WITH ADDICTION FOR ABOUT 10 YEARS. I THOUGHT I WAS AT THE END OF MY ROPE, BUT TESSLA NEVER GAVE UP ON ME. I'M NOW TWO YEARS CLEAN THANKS TO GOD AND MY DAUGHTER."

TESSLA SICILIA ANGELA SICILIA



MINISTRY FINANCING PLAN

Your generous giving will help fuel ministry in 2018 and beyond. Through your generosity, we're able to connect EVERYONE to Jesus and his mission.

Questions may be directed to Director of Operations, Dave Miller, 217.793.2800.

The 2018 Ministry Financing Plan will be affirmed on December 31, 2017

**TOTAL 2018
MINISTRY FINANCING PLAN:
\$7,200,000**

HOW WE INVEST OUR RESOURCES

KIDS & STUDENTS
\$196,250

WORSHIP & TECH ARTS
\$131,676

CARE & COMPASSION
\$102,850

OTHER MINISTRIES
\$140,168

PERSONNEL
\$3,475,000

FINANCE & FACILITIES
\$1,828,056

IT & OFFICE
\$181,000

MISSIONS
\$695,000

SPFLD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
\$200,000

DEFERRED CONTINGENCY
\$250,000

TWO WAYS TO MAKE A YEAR END GIFT

TEXT TO GIVE



Text the word GIVE to
217.718.2043

You'll receive a link to securely make your gift.

ENCLOSED ENVELOPE



Place your gift in the enclosed envelope.
Then, place it in the mail or in the offering
buckets during worship.

**YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE, YEAR-END GIFTS IN THE
MONTH OF DECEMBER WILL HELP FUEL SEVERAL 2018
PROJECTS DESIGNED TO CONNECT EVERYONE TO
JESUS AND HIS MISSION!**

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To view our
2017 Celebration Video,
visit: wschurch.org/2017