# 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...

Record attendance at Christmas at West Side 2016

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?

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

**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** 

THIS

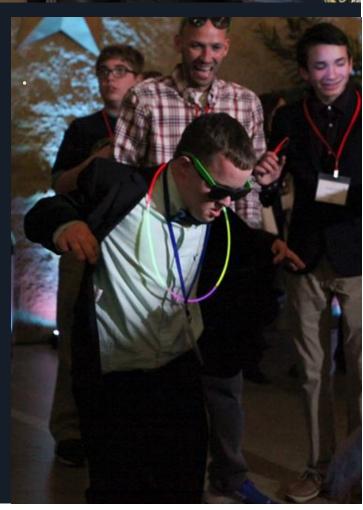
**BRAND NEW!** 

**#WSBAPTISMDAY** 



#### **Special Needs Prom**







2017 was a big year for our partnerships in Kenya.

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

Then, on October 1,
Westsiders came together to collect
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 children in Kenya!





"I'VE ALWAYS STRUGGLED WIT 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 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.

ROOTED

# 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

# INVEST OUR RESOURCES

ME

MOH

KIDS & STUDENTS \$196,250

WORSHIP & TECH ARTS \$131,676

CARE & COMPASSION \$102,850

OTHER MINISTRIES \$140,168

PERSONNEL \$3,475,000

FINANCE & FACILITES \$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!

#### **WSCHURCH.ORG**



WSCHURCH



WSCCSPFLD

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