



FEARLESS UPDATE

OCTOBER 2019

In This Season

I'm a lawn guy. I suspect it ties back to my childhood when I pushed a mower over many bare and weed-infested patches. I recall thinking, "*Someday I'll have a decent lawn.*"

I've learned to assess the health of the Lowen lawn from a second-floor window of our house. From above, I can see any brown or thin spots. I admit that I survey my lawn almost daily from the second-floor window... is that weird? (I hope to avoid becoming the old man who yells at kids to get off his lawn!)

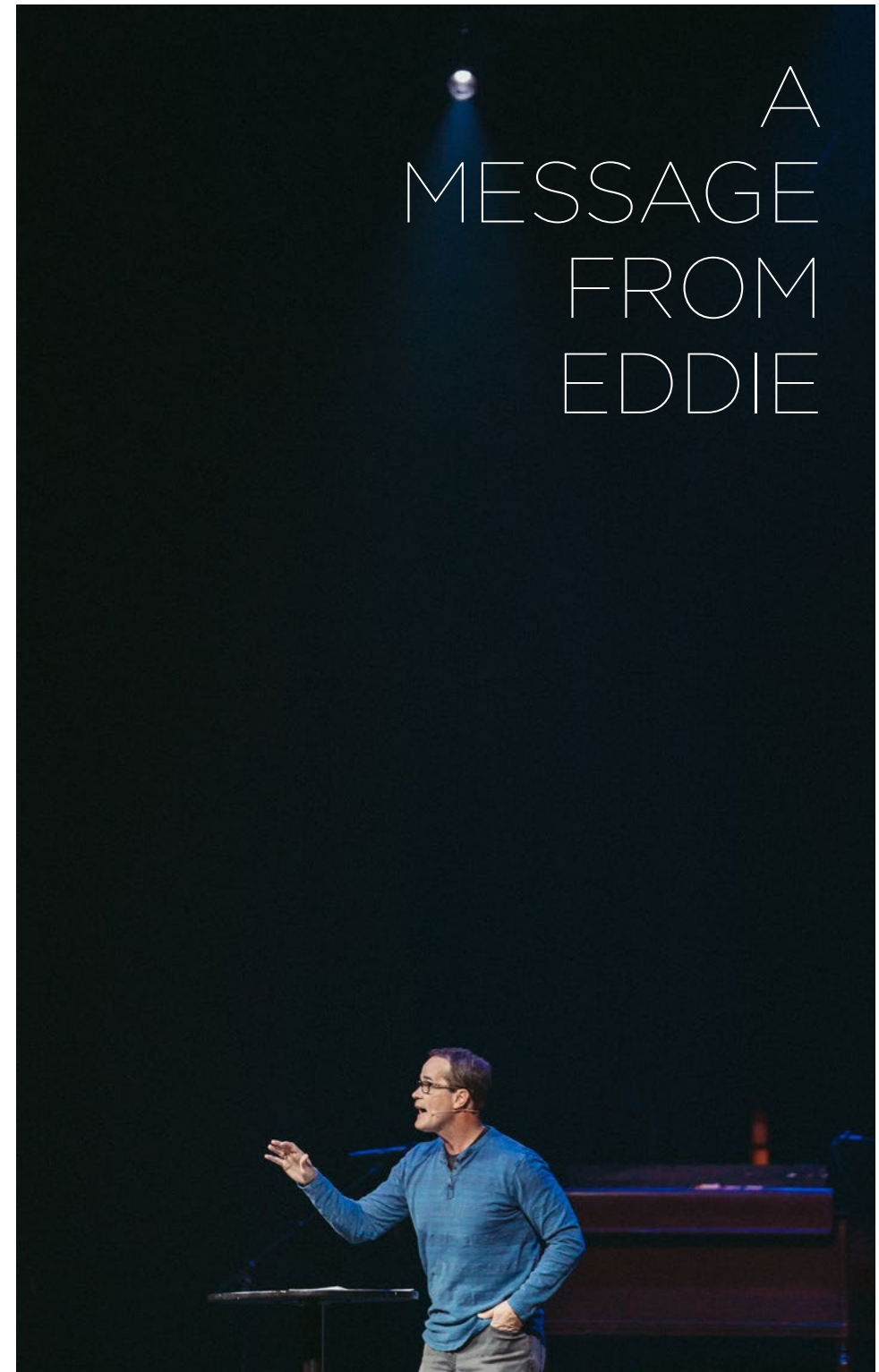
A few days ago, I glanced out of the second-floor window and saw *them*. Leaves. Brown and curled at the edges, there were about 20 of them under an oak. Though the temperature was summer-like, it was a sign – a new season is near.

Whether life is tough or awesome, realizing it unfolds in seasons improves our perspective. Solomon said, "*...there is a season for **every** activity under heaven*" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Solomon is saying, "Think of life in seasons. Discern what season you're in. Expect that a different type of season will come."

As a church, we are in a season of opportunity and challenge. As individual stewards and givers, you and I are in a season of growth through greater generosity and self-denial. May God watch over you, me and West Side. May his will be done for his own sake. And may we discover all he'd have us learn about Him and ourselves... in this season.



EDDIE LOWEN, West Side's Lead Guy





KENYA | June 2019

Last summer, a team of Westsiders shared the love of Jesus with those living in the Mathare Valley. While in Kenya, this team served alongside our partners at Missions of Hope International. A Vacation Bible School event and 10,000 fluoride treatments were all part of the fun! **#BOLDCOMPASSION**



DOMINICAN MISSION TRIP | August 2019

In partnership with Christian Dominican Medical Mission, this group of Westsiders served in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic in August of 2019. The team assisted Dominican churches by hosting VBS events, completing building projects and leading other initiatives based on the specialized skills of team members. **#BOLDCOMPASSION**

ST. LOUIS MISSION TRIP | June 2019

West Side junior high and high school students served alongside LoveTheLou and Oasis International (non-profit ministries based in St. Louis, MO) to bring the love of Christ to refugees and inner-city students. **#BOLDCOMPASSION**



SERVE SPRINGFIELD | August 2019

On Saturday, August 10, hundreds of Westsiders headed into our community to serve alongside ten local organizations. Volunteers brought a wave of help and hope through painting, landscaping, cleaning, organizing and more. Serving sites included Contact Ministries, Harvard Park Elementary School, Helping Hands, Hope Learning Campus, Inner City Mission, Jefferson Middle School, Mary Bryant Home, Refuge Ranch, The Outlet and Washington Street Mission. **#BOLDCOMPASSION**



CIY MOVE | July 2019

200+ West Side students experienced the BEST week of their summer at CIY MOVE, a 5-day event for high schoolers designed to amplify the call of Christ on their lives. Students grew in their relationship with Christ alongside hundreds of other teens from across the country. **#BOLDDISCIPLESHIP**



BAPTISMS | September 2019

169 Westsiders have found new life in Jesus through baptism so far in 2019. Baptism Day alone allowed us to celebrate **79** new lives in Christ! **#BOLDDISCIPLESHIP**

CIY MIX | July 2019

6th-8th graders from West Side had a blast at CIY Mix! What's better than blacklight dodgeball, fantastic food, zip lines, giant water slides and floating icebergs? Combining these experiences with worship, small groups and a chance to connect with God made MIX a summer highlight for West Side's Jr. High Ministry. **#BOLDDISCIPLESHIP**



CONSTRUCTION | October 2019

We are entering the final phases of construction on our new kids wing and main entrance, which are scheduled for completion in late 2019. **#BOLDGROWTH**





“

I WANT TO
GIVE BACK
TO GOD
THROUGH
FEARLESS
BECAUSE GOD
HAS GIVEN SO
MUCH TO ME,
FIRST.

- Fiona

Meet Fiona. Three years ago, after beginning her first semester of nursing school, Fiona was displaced from her home and living in a domestic abuse shelter with her two young children. Today, she's a college graduate with a great nursing job and has purchased her own home! How did she do it? **God's provision and persistent faith.**

"I don't understand how it worked. I just know God had my back the entire time."

To hear Fiona's full story, visit
wschurch.org/Fearless/Stories

100% ENGAGEMENT

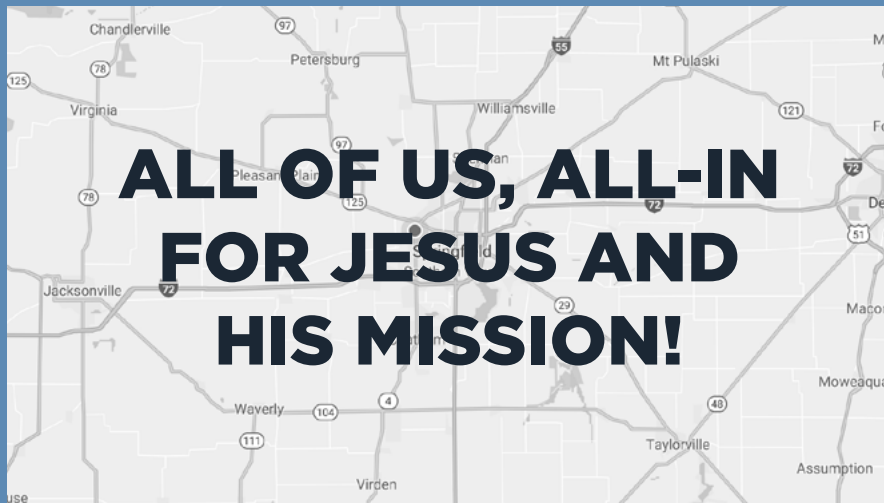
We want **EVERY** Westsider to fearlessly take his or her next steps in both devotion and generosity to Jesus and his mission.

1,965 HOUSEHOLDS

have given to Fearless from December 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

BRINGING HELP & HOPE TO EVERYONE

We won't stop until every person within our reach has the opportunity to know Jesus and connect to a healthy, vibrant church.



GIVING UPDATE

\$27,063,579

COMMITTED

\$9,572,384

TOTAL GIVEN

December 1, 2018 - September 15, 2019

If you have questions regarding your giving record, contact West Side's Director of Finance, Brenda Lavin at:

BrendaL@wschurch.org or **217.793.2800**

Set up a consistent weekly or monthly giving schedule at wschurch.org/Give



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