

Westside Community Church

The Gardener and the Vine

It's May, and spring's promise is finally becoming summer's reality. The tentative greens of April are beginning to take hold, and the world is filled with the energy of new growth. It is a season of vitality, but it is also a season of cultivation. Any gardener will tell you that a bountiful harvest isn't an accident; it's the result of a gardener who knows how to prepare the ground and nurture early shoots into fruitful plants.

In our drive to be productive, it is easy to put the weight of spiritual growth on our own shoulders, rather than putting down roots that can't be seen. We often worry about our outward fruitfulness, wondering if we are doing enough or being enough to prove our faith. But the lore of the vineyard tells a different story. Jesus didn't tell His disciples to work harder to produce fruit; He told them to abide. He said, "I am the vine; you are the branches" (John 15:5).

That thought must have blown the disciples' minds. A branch doesn't stress about making grapes; it simply stays attached to the vine and lets the life-force flow through it. We are not self-sufficient wild plants, left to struggle in the elements. We are cultivated and chosen, designed to flourish through our connection to the Source. This month, let's rest in the truth that our growth doesn't happen by our own willpower, but through the Gardener's constant care. We don't have to thrive on our own; Jesus is the vine.

MEN'S BREAKFAST RESCHEDULED

Due to Highway Cleanup, this month's Men's Breakfast will be on May 9th, not May 2nd.

CHANGE YOUTH CONFERENCE

WCC Youth are heading to Calgary, for the Change Conference, May 8-9th. The vision of Change Conference is "for every youth in Canada to hear, respond and live out the message of Jesus in their lives." Change Conference is an affiliate ministry under Youth for Christ Canada,

MAY EVENTS

**Annual Highway
Clean Up**
May 2, 7am-12pm

Let's Jam
May 2, 7-8pm

Men's Breakfast
Humpty's
205 Scenic Dr S
May 9, 8-10am

**Change Youth
Conference**
May 8-9

Young at Heart
May 14,
10:30am-12pm

**Volunteer
Appreciation
Night**
May 3, 7- 9pm

WEEKLY

**Weekly
Prayer Meeting**
Mondays 7-8pm
Fridays 7:30-9am

**Mothers and
Munchkins**
Thursdays
10-11:30am

WCC Youth
Fridays 7-9pm

"Yes, I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in me and I in him shall produce a large crop of fruit. For apart from me you can't do a thing."