



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 41, Issue 3 • January 18, 2009

A Preacher's Perspective

How closely are you willing to look? Do you really want to know the results of the tests? I'm sure many of us have waited in fear for the results of a lab test to come in. Truth sometimes feels more like an enemy to be avoided than a friend to be welcomed.

It's a bold request that David makes before God in **Psalm 139**: "Search me and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts..."

That's the Great Physician we're petitioning for a complete examination. He's the One who finds every hidden thought, who knows every idle word and who sees all that we are—and all that we are not.

But I always loved this idea: "The one who knows me best loves me most."

The request of David for the searching scrutiny of God is an expression of trust. He had come to know this God and he knew that there was nothing to fear from opening his life to total transparency.

How tenderly God deals with our secret fears and the darkness of the closets of our minds. His washing and cleansing and disinfecting work is like the gentle touch of a skilled healer who knows just where the

pain is and who knows how to minimize the ordeal of repair and restoration.

I, for one, am grateful for the work of anaesthesia. It is very much a blessing to be in deep sleep when the probing and traumatic work of the surgeon is underway. Yet God knows that sometimes it is necessary that we experience suffering. The writer of **Hebrews 12** reminds us that without discipline, without pain, we are not legitimate sons.

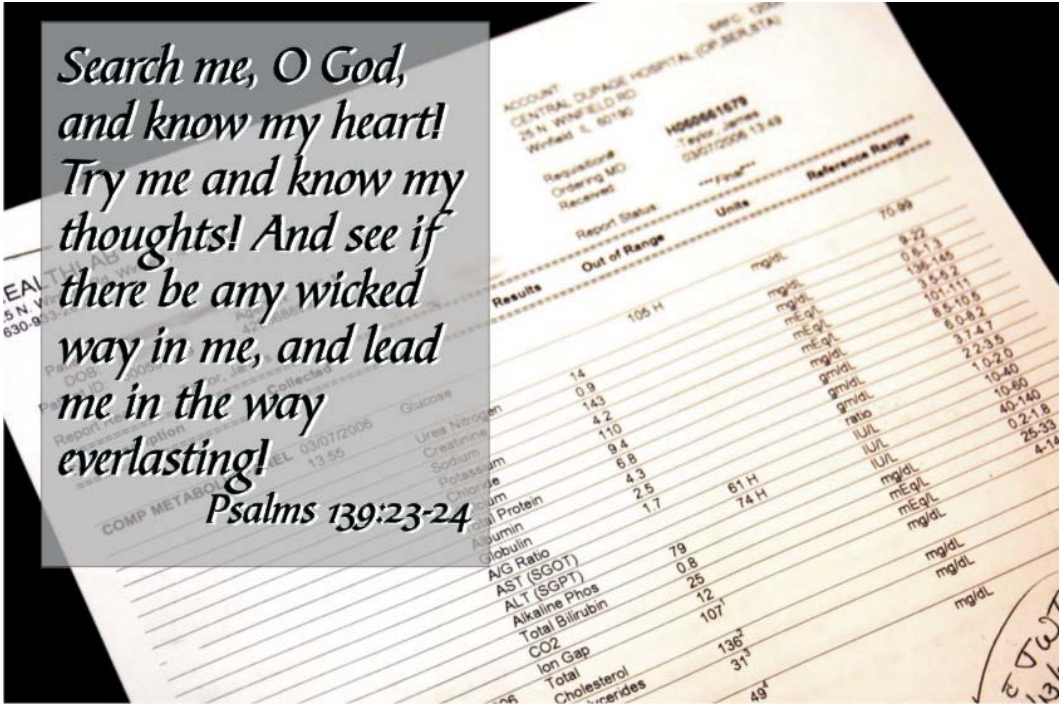
Paul teaches us that the joy of Holy Spirit love only comes at the end of a process of suffering, endurance, and character development.

But how sweet to get a good report! What a burden is lifted when the results show a sound body and freedom from disease.

When redemption has done its mighty work, when the blood has washed away every stain of

sin and when we have been given a clean bill of health from the Creator Himself, we can rejoice because we have been fully known and we have been made acceptable and perfect through the loving agency of our Savior.

We can trust His report. We must listen attentively to the refining word of Scripture. We must hone our ears to the whisper of conscience. We must listen to the warnings and direction of the Holy Spirit. Truth will make us free.



Chuck Miller

Welcome to the West Chicago Church of Christ

If you are visiting with us, we especially want to welcome you. We pray our time together worshipping our Father in heaven will be uplifting and encouraging.

Bible classes are available for all ages. Babies can be taken to the nursery located at the back of the auditorium. Pre-school and elementary-age children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the fellowship room downstairs. Adult classes meet in the auditorium and at the end of the foyer.

Our Small Group Fellowship program takes place during the fall, winter and spring months and is on the first and third Sundays of each month in lieu of the Sunday evening worship. The Small Group Fellowship schedule does change occasionally due to holidays.

You are an honored guest and we want to thank you for being a part of our worship this morning!

Sunday Morning Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
 (The Sunday Morning Worship is interpreted for the deaf.)
 Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
 (No evening worship on Small Group Fellowship Sundays)
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our elders.

Elders:

Don Brewster **Bob Jett**
Chuck Miller **Bob Voigts**

Deacons:

Justin Avey: Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship & Leadership

Jay Hearn: Worship & Pulpit, Communications, Outreach, Education, Benevolence

Cliff Plummer: Fellowship, Benevolence, Education

Curt Robinson: Education, Stewardship & Leadership

Rick Root: Communications, Education, Stewardship & Leadership

Paul Stirrup: Stewardship & Leadership, Benevolence



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This Morning...

Please take a moment this morning to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest. Please pass them to the aisle to be picked up before the sermon. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack. You may choose to have prayers by the elders, a prayer warrior or by the whole church family. If you choose "whole church family" it will be announced following the sermon.

Order of Worship

- Welcome
- Singing - *Dewayne Smith*
- Announcements - *Steve Link*
- Singing
- Prayer - *Kyle Wheeler*
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - *Chuck Miller*
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - *Bob Voigts*
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - *Ryan Heather*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January 23 Tom Doggett

Dates to Remember

January 18 Small Groups
 January 21 Seniors Breakfast
 January 24 NIFB Volunteer Day/Teens
 January 25 Connection Point/Teens
 February 19-22 Winterfest/Teens

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class 81
 Sunday Morning Worship 130
 Contribution \$2,540.30

Nursery Workers

Bev Day, Sandy Boyd



Collection Counters

Paul Mullins, Paul Stirrup



In Our Prayers...

Dennis Jentsch, a friend of the Chavez family, passed away unexpectedly while on vacation with his family.

Bev Johnston, Sally Hearn's aunt, passed away last weekend after a long battle with cancer.

A friend of the Root's has a nine-year-old niece who was diagnosed with leukemia recently. She was taken to the doctor for flu-like symptoms and after ten days she didn't improve. They took her back to the doctor and she was admitted to the hospital immediately and given two chemotherapy treatments within 24 hours.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman - Bobbie Whitman's brother
 Justin Avey
 Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents
 Lisa Beverly - Sandy Boyd's sister who has MS
 Bonnie Bingham
 Leona Boston - Lynette Root's aunt
 Jim Brannon - Pat Brewster's brother-in-law
 Don & Pat Brewster
 Nancy Brewster
 Jim & Julie Chavez
 Gail Cole - Lori Plummer's mother
 John Day
 Lisa DeVaney - Marie Hayes's daughter
 Al Dorsey and his son Doug
 Joyce Eakins
 Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson
 Amy Ferguson - a former member from Montana
 Sarah Hayden & family - Maria Zeisler's relative
 Marie Hayes
 Mary Henkel - Mike's mother
 Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister
 Sandy Jones - Marie Hayes's daughter
 Amy Kalupski - sister-in-law of Julie Chavez's friend
 Rich Kern - Jackie Robinson's father has leukemia
 Joe, Star and Sky Kuhnle - Chuck & Bobby's foster son
 Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece
 Don Lemley
 Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother
 Steve Link
 Jack Lockett - the father of Charlie, Mike, Shelley,
 Julie Chavez, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen
 Mike Lockett - Joan's son
 Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's niece
 Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and
 the son of Marion Lake's cousin
 Doug Peterson
 Pat Ronzheimer
 Stacey Schnaitman - daughter of Bev Scalone, the
 Johnson's neighbor
 Kay Schrader
 Chester & Phyllis Sitler
 Bruce Snyder and Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts cousin

Mothers-to-be:

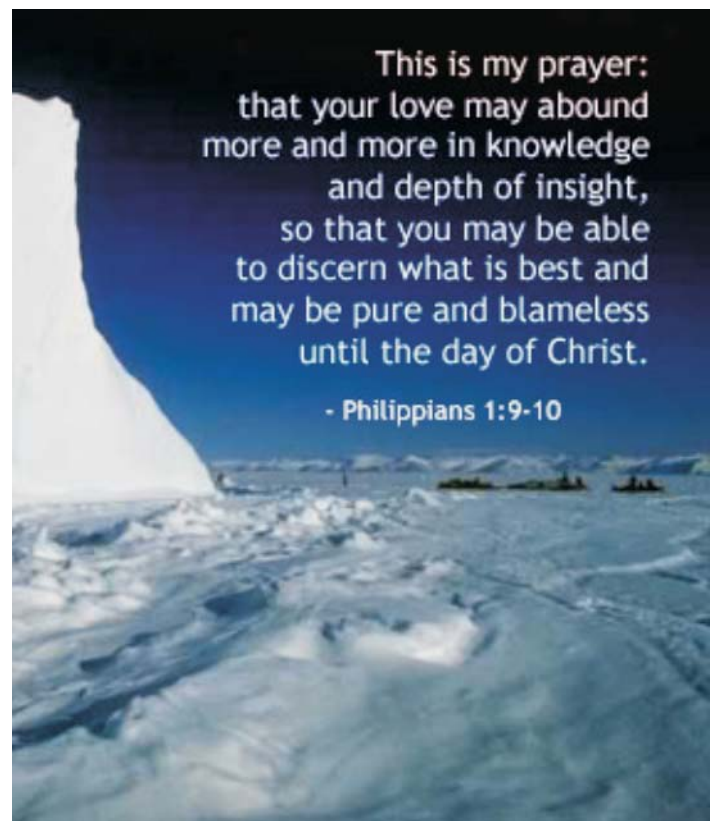
Heaven Alcorn - Chris Czernik's daughter
 Caitlyn Czernik - Chris's daughter-in-law
 Jamie Holtin - Joe & Terrie's daughter
 Jenn Kirts - Joe & Terrie's daughter-in-law
 Shannon (Pedersen) Manny
 Cathy Miller
 Jamie Miller
 Jennifer (Doggett) Piehl
 Shelley Prosser - Joan Lockett's daughter

Armed forces:

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew is in
 basic training in Oklahoma
 Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of
 Lori Plummer
 Nathan & Angie Stilwell - Bridgette Fordyce's brother
 & sister-in-law went to Japan with the Air Force for
 3 years with their two small children

Missionaries:

Jarrold, Allison, Soledad & Levi Brown -
 Honduras (especially the adoption of Soledad)
 Students of Joe Voigts - China
 Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria
 Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria
 Ayodele Waleola - Nigeria
 Shults-Lewis - the teens, their families, the workers
 Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan



Small Group Fellowships

TODAY is Small Group Fellowships! Remember there is NO evening worship on Small Group Sundays. A small group meets at the building Sunday evenings at 5:30.



Gift for Scott & Bridgette

There is a Bible in the foyer that will be sent to Scott & Bridgette Fordyce. Find your favorite verses, highlight them with the colored pencils and write your name in the margin. We will send the Bible to Scott & Bridgette in a few weeks.



Directories

Please check your phone and addresses that are posted in the foyer to make sure they are the correct information. The plan is for new directories to be published this week.

Children's Library



We are looking for elementary Christian books to create a library for the children. If parents want to donate their used books that their kids have outgrown, they can give the books to either Joan Avey or Cindy Drumheller.

Ladies Class

This month Barb Voigts is leading a discussion on refreshing and rejuvenation for weary women.



Winterfest "Sponsors"

Many of our teens who are going to Winterfest will be earning their own money to pay their way. If you have odd jobs around the house that need to be done, you can "hire" one of our teens to do it for you!

Also, if you'd like to help "sponsor" one of the kids, you can make a special contribution to the youth account. See Cliff if you're interested.

2008 Pepperdine Lectureship

Recordings of the 2008 Pepperdine Lectureship, **The Upside Down Kingdom: Living the Sermon on the Mount** are available for you to check out. Please use the clipboard chart to sign out each disk. The disks are located on the missions table in the foyer. Some of the disks are audio and some are video. If you have any of the disks from 2007, please return them to Sally when you are finished.

Youth & Family News

TEENS: We have a service project next Saturday, **January 24**, sorting food at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in St. Charles. The food bank has a huge warehouse that collects food from various sources and distributes it to agencies, like our food pantry, throughout northern Illinois. **Sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you plan to attend.** We'll meet at the church building at 8:30 a.m., and should return around noon.

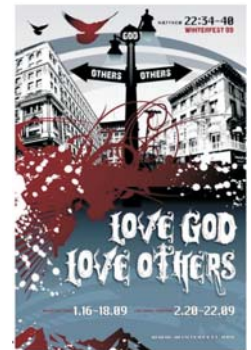
Connection Point is next Sunday, January 25th, at Cardinal Drive! Plan to have lunch together, then leave from the building at 2:00.



The Teens are hosting a **Valentine's dinner** for seniors and parents of teens on Sunday, February 10. This tradition has always been a fun way to serve our congregation. See Cliff or Lori if you'd like to help plan the event.

Today is the last day to sign-up for Winterfest, and a \$25 deposit is due today!

The dates for Winterfest are Thursday, February 19, through Sunday, February 22. The cost will be around \$100, so start earning and saving your money! Additional information will be available in a couple of weeks. Sign-up on the sheet in the foyer.



SENIORS: This Wednesday, January 21, is the Seniors Breakfast. We meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Colonial Restaurant on Route 38 by Randall Road. Hope to see you there!

Seniors & Families of Our Teens



*You are invited to a special
Valentines Dinner
on
Sunday, February 8
following morning services.*

*Enjoy fellowship and a wonderful meal
provided by our Teens.*