



# Family

## West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 40, Issue 6 • February 10, 2008

### A Preacher's Perspective

I am grateful that you are a church who receives the instruction of the Lord that we should be "rich in good deeds." As individuals and as a congregation we are blessed to share with many people the good things God has given to us. For the most part, we may not even be aware how important this is to God and to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus had the wonderful burden and ability to be sensitive to every soul he encountered. He was empowered to hear the cry of blind Bartimaeus and to respond with a healing touch. He was moved to compassion for a hungry multitude who had come to hear his preaching. He fed them all and sent them away filled in spirit and in their bellies.

He also knew the joy of their gratitude, and, I believe, he knew the real result of his compassion. He knew that some would be basically unchanged after receiving his grace. They would return to the lives they had lived.

Others, however, would never forget his mercy, and their lives would join the cloud of witnesses who testify to their search for the things of heaven. There are a number recorded in scripture, such as Mary Magdelene. There are only two individuals we are told of who suffered multiple demons. One was the man called "Legion" and the other is Mary, from whom seven demons were cast out.

Mary's devotion to Jesus is remarkable. She was, in fact, the first commissioned evangelist. At the empty tomb, Jesus gave her the instruction, spoken for the first time, to go tell the disciples that he had risen.

Now, in our lives, we often don't even know who receives help and "a cup of cold water." Some in the

chain of mercy are those who come on Thursdays to unload food and put it on shelves. Sally and volunteers bag the food and deliver it in person to the ones who come for help.

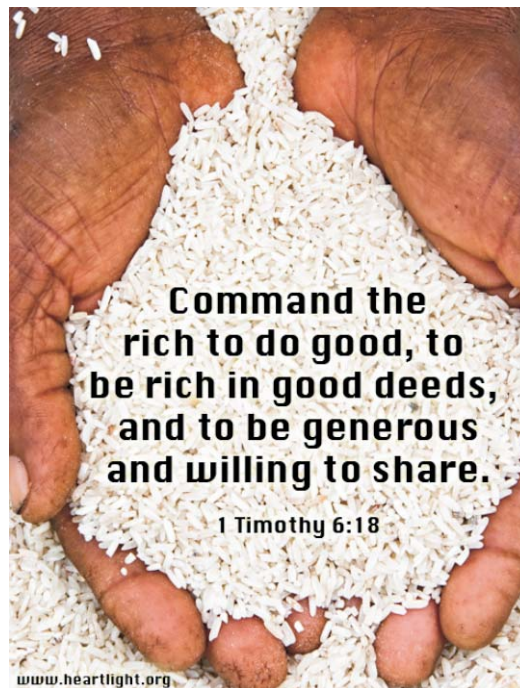
In Honduras, in Africa, at Shults-Lewis, and in all the ministries we partner in, there is a sharing which is powerful and which we never directly see. When Bobbye and I and our family worked as houseparents, we shopped in the campus pantry on a weekly basis. We went down to get our groceries which had come in from generous Christians all over the midwest. We felt grateful and well-provided for without ever knowing which faces sent the eggs and meat and milk.

But God has remarkable accounting systems. He knows how a check sent to Jarrod Brown can lead to discovery of a beautiful little girl who would become Ally and Jarrod's daughter, Soledad.

Doesn't that kind of connection amaze and delight you? If we are wise, we will invest in those treasures in heaven which are not affected by recessions or corruption or inflation. What joy, at eternity's table, to know the fulness of our Father's grace to each of us through his church.

The latest love-scheme for blessing our community is a blood drive. We don't even know how much blood our son Tim received in August and September. I'm sure it was well over 20 units. (The last of his three surgeries used nine units.) Someone had to supply that blood or he could not have lived. We will participate however possible.

For a Christian, there's something especially satisfying about the idea of blood and salvation. Thanks already for the success of this latest act of sharing love. How blessed to be "rich in good deeds."



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. All other children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the teen room, which is also located at the back of the auditorium. Adult classes meet in the auditorium and in the fellowship room downstairs.

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 and is 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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www.wcfamily.org

## This Morning...

Please take a moment to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest this morning. 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 - *Jay Hearn*
- Announcements - *Scott Fordyce*
- Singing
- Prayer - *Jon Miller*
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - *Chuck Miller*
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - *Bob Voigts*
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - *Paul Stirrup*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- February 10 . . . . . Barb Voigts
- February 14 . . . . . Kim Sittler
- February 14 . . . . . Paul & Marianne Stirrup (anv.)

## Dates to Remember

- February 10 . . . . . Valentine's Dinner
- February 10 . . . . . Missions Committee at 4:30
- February 10 . . . . . Sunday Night Light/Teens
- February 14-17 . . . . . Winterfest/Teens
- February 17 . . . . . Small Groups
- February 20 . . . . . Seniors Breakfast
- February 22 . . . . . Friday Fun Night
- February 24 . . . . . Sunday Night Light/Teens
- February 28-March 2 . . . . . Teens visit OCU

## Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class . . . . . 60
- Sunday Morning Worship . . . . . 103
- Contribution . . . . . \$6,820.31

## Items Left at the Building

There are still Bibles and other items left on the table by the restrooms. Please check the table for items that belong to you.

## In Our Prayers...

**Sylvia Atten, Dana Howard's friend**, lost her fiancé unexpectedly from a brain aneurysm.

**Herman Aultman, Bobbie Whitman's brother**, is not doing very well again. He may be going back to the hospital.

**Leona Boston, Lynette Root's aunt**, suffered a stroke this week and is confused and agitated. She is in the hospital going through tests.

**Kevin and Christi Bowman** got home safely last Sunday from Swaziland. You can check his "blog" at [www.kevinjbowman.com](http://www.kevinjbowman.com).

**Elizabeth Griffin** is in the hospital with pneumonia, she is weak and retaining fluids but making some progress toward recovery. Prayers and notes are greatly appreciated, but please no visitors.

**Jason & Jackee Johnston, the stepson & daughter-in-law of Lynette Root's friend**, are going through a difficult pregnancy. The baby has Tetralogy of Fallot (a congenital heart disease) and missing a heart valve. He will need surgery as soon as he is born. They are hoping he will keep gaining in size and will be carried to full term. Jackee is going through many tests, including an amnio.

**Don Lemley** is taking some medications which will hopefully provide some benefit to his recent problems. They hope to avoid surgery.

**Nick Pedersen** has a friend whose father passed away a couple of weeks ago.

**Neal & Pat Ronzheimer** are having health issues. Neal may be put under hospice care. Pat has been in the hospital this week with low blood sugar.

**Fintan Schiltz**, the infant son of Jay & Sally's neighbor, had a heart transplant six weeks ago. He is having problems with his lungs and they are concerned about his kidneys. They are trying to keep from doing more surgery.

**Jeremy McGill, A teacher in China** where Scott and Bridgett worked was seriously gored by an elephant. His condition is critical. There is a fund to help with expenses.

Pray for the **adults and teens** who will be going to Winterfest in Gatlinburg, TN, this week, February 14 - 17.

### Those suffering with long-term issues:

Andrea Bailey - a former member from California  
 Irene Barnes - Lynette Root's aunt  
 Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents  
 Lisa Beverly - Sandy Boyd's sister who has MS  
 Bonnie Bingham  
 Jim Brannon - Pat Brewster's brother-in-law  
 Mary Brent - Joe Kirts' sister  
 Nancy Brewster  
 Jim & Julie Chavez  
 Bob Czernik - Chris's husband  
 John Day  
 Lisa DeVaney - Marie Hayes' daughter  
 Al Dorsey  
 Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson  
 Amy Ferguson - a former member from Montana  
 Jean Gray - Linda Vantreese's sister  
 Sarah Hayden & family - Maria Zeisler's relative

Mary Henkel - Mike's mother  
 Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister  
 Kelly Ieler  
 Amy Kalupski - sister-in-law of Julie Chavez's friend  
 Joe and Star Kuhnle - Chuck & Bobbye's foster son  
 Sue Lake - Marion's sister-in-law  
 Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece  
 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  
 Laura Mahan - Shirley Rucker's daughter  
 Steve & Melissa Massie family  
 Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's niece  
 Tim Miller  
 Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and the son of Marion Lake's cousin  
 Doug Peterson  
 Melinda Poff - the sister of Jason Willis  
 Kay Schrader  
 Chester & Phyllis Sitler  
 Margo Smetana - infant daughter of Steve Link's friend  
 Bruce Snyder - Bob Voigts cousin  
 Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts' cousin  
 Ollie Taylor - the niece of Lynette Root's friend  
 Linda Vantreese  
 Bob Voigts  
 Eudie Voigts - Bob's mother  
 Jim & Jamie Winner  
 Jeremy & Jim Whitman  
 Rick & Gina Zamora

### Mothers-to-be:

Renell Johnston - former member  
 Erin Livermore - Craig & Bev's daughter-in-law

### Armed forces overseas:

Greg Billings - Justin Avey's employee  
 Dustin Meritt - Justin Avey's employee  
 Chris & Jennifer Roberts - Cathleen Longfellow's sister & brother-in-law are going to Iraq for 16 months, they have a 1-year-old daughter  
 Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of Lori Plummer's  
 David Teel - Justin Avey's employee

### Missionaries:

Jarrold, Allison, Soledad & Levi Brown - Honduras (especially for their adoption process of Soledad)  
 Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria  
 Dry Bones Ministry - homeless teens in Denver, CO  
 Juan & Roxanna Flores - Honduras  
 Leonardo Ken & family - Honduras  
 Keith, Kim, Candace, Laura & John Mark Lango - Brazil  
 Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria  
 Shults-Lewis - the teens, their families, the workers  
 Joe Voigts - China - also pray for the churches and all the new Christians

## A Note of Encouragement

Cathleen Longfellow's sister and brother-in-law, Chris & Jennifer Roberts, are in Iraq. Jennifer is having a difficult time and Cathleen thought notes of encouragement would help. If you send a letter or card the postage is still 41¢. Her address is:

SPC Roberts, Jennifer  
HHC 2 BSTB, FOB Liberty  
2 BCT 101st ABN DIV (AASLT)  
Unit #43490  
APO AE 09344-3490

## Nursery Workers

Joan Avey, Jackie Robinson



## Collection Counters

Justin Avey, Mike Henkel



## African Mission News

### August - December 2007

Many faithful Christians in the world are living by faith and not by sight. While others live by what their efforts give, and believe in and for themselves only.

Many developing countries of the world go to bed with one eye closed, and one open because of lack of security, poverty in every home, illiteracy, doses of accidents, heavy immortality, and rapid increase of people dying of HIV/AIDS. Surprised some of these persons live above eighty years, and it is clear that God protects His own.

Therefore we will report the following: Literacy Evangelism and Mission Field News, now let's pick the above one after the other as follows:

### LITERACY EVANGELISM

Our God is faithful, and protective, because for the past seven years some Christians dreamed of an evangelism instrument that will fit the largest Muslim communities of the Northern Nigeria, and today we can humbly say the dream is a reality in Christ Name. Amen.

Based on the statistics in our books and past newsletters, here is a summary of what you have sponsoring from 2000-2007.

1. From 2000-2007 the literacy centers enrolled six thousand five hundred students.
2. Our centers are multi-religious, multi-ethics/tribal, and Christians inclusive.
3. 16th October 2004 first set of the graduated students wrote their final examination.
4. On 20 October 2007 did convocation ceremony for the graduated students, and Alex Bayes was one of the witnesses present. Many gifts were donated to students and staff. About three hundred people attended the occasion. A 76 year old man received his first certificate, and ninety- nine others.

(Continued on Page 5.)

## Youth & Family News

**TEENS:** All of our teens are expected to help prepare, serve, and clean-up after the Valentine's dinner for our Seniors and families today. See Cliff if you'll not be able to help.

We also have a **Sunday Night, Light this evening** at Jon & Jamie's. Joey Chavez is leading our devotional, but we need someone to lead singing. Guys please bring pop, girls bring veggies or a dessert.

**WINTERFEST:** Be sure you have an Info Sheet and Medical Consent Form, you can get these from Cliff. We're meeting at the building at 1:00 this Thursday. You must have the Medical Consent form or you can't go!

**COLLEGE VISIT:** The visit to OC has been cancelled, and may be rescheduled for late March.

## Wednesday Ladies Class

Several of our ladies will be sharing their most favorite, spiritually-uplifting books the next couple of weeks for our Wednesday Evening Ladies Class. The short book reviews will be held in a casual atmosphere with refreshments. Hope you'll join us for this fellowship.

## Mission Committee Meeting

The Mission Committee is meeting today at 4:30. Anyone interested in our mission ministry is welcome to attend this meeting.

## Seniors & Families of Our Teens



*You are invited to a special  
Valentines Dinner Today  
immediately following  
morning services.*

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

5. We employed fifteen facilitators to teach in twelve literacy centers that are functioning in three states of Nigeria.
6. This literacy organization is one of its first kind in Nigeria and recognized by Government agencies.
7. There are twelve Churches established because of these literacy efforts and old churches of Christ in these three states are receiving encouragement or teaching from our facilitators who are worshipping with them.
8. Thanks and honor goes to Christ because there are six hundred baptisms added to these various congregations.
9. In 2006 The Federal Ministry of Education came up with a white paper that every organization that is involved in education must register with Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja. As result of this we applied to our eldership and they approved the fund for this purpose. Now Steward Model School is a registered institution, and African Cooperative Foundation is an adult education department.
10. Steward Model School is situated in ghetto of Kutunku, Gwagwalada Abuja. The populations here are the poorest, illiterates, less privileged, and where there is neither pure drinking water nor power supply. The school has enrolled fifty students and they are receiving free basic education because many of the parents can't afford school fees.
11. The Lord has opened an opportunity for us to reach these children, their parents, teachers, and community with the precious gospel of Christ. For instance on 22nd October 2007 Alex Bayes baptized one of the teachers (Ikutegbere Nwono) of this school and more than half of the staff is Christians worshipping in this same premises.
12. For last seven years we have achieved fourteen campaigns for Christ in these rural communities, Seminars, lectureship, and many programs for edifying the body of Christ here.
13. Several occasions Government Agencies supervised all our literacy centers to make sure that we are doing what we promised to do. On 16 September, 2007 National Commission for mass education visited and gave us 80% grade.



We are grateful to our eldership, sponsors, and Alex Bayes who are encouraging this wonderful instrument for reaching our Islamic, pagan, denominational, and Christian communities of African with gospel through these educational programs.

## MISSION NEWS

This second section of our report is purely programs organized by churches in and around where there are literacy centers, and they are as follows:

1. Church meeting at Kutunku, Gwagwalada held one day seminar on 21 st October 2007 where Alex Bayes taught on youth ministry and representatives of many congregations attended.
  2. Church of Christ. Nyanya organized a day campaign for Christ at military barracks Abuja, and there were ten baptisms. New church has started in this barrack. This day 1st October 2007 many Bibles were distributed, but hymn books are needed for the new church.
  3. The congregation meeting at kuje held seminar titled "successful and strong marriage" on 28 October 2007, and Doka II Abimiku. Obadiah was the guest lecturer. There was two hundred-fifty in attendance.
  4. There were two baptisms during three days (15-17 November 2007. 7th annual Bible lectureship, and the theme "that you may be able to stand" Ephesians 6: 11. Our beloved Obadiah A. Doka II taught on the topic "Heretics: Hindrance to church growth" and there was four hundred fifty people in attendance
  5. Another two day lectureship with the theme "Behold the lamp of God" and Obadiah A. Doka II was among the speakers and he lectured on the topic "Why did Jesus come into this world" Two hundred persons where present on 2-3 November 2007. This took place at the Church of Christ. Angwan Dodo
  6. Church Crises: On 24th November 2007 Some ministers of the gospel met at the Nyanya church to find ways on how to resolve the Karu Church crisis and Doka was among these men of God. The reason for this report is for you to pray for congregations in Nigeria that are going thru serious conflict moments and these preachers meet bi-monthly to consult with each other on various issues affecting the bodies of in Abuja.
- The Challenges facing this evangelical instrument are enormous, but are few:
1. We are occupying rented properties (Land, classes, & offices). We need permanent side of our own
  2. Staff salaries and other allowances
  3. Literacy evangelism equipments:
    - a. Bibles, hymns, pencils, exercise books, text books, and pens
    - b. Black boards, chalks, and furniture
    - c. Overhead projector, Laptops, computers for adult/children
  4. The dreamed African Bible School is need at this appoint in time as soon as possible.

Thanks and God bless all,

YOURS IN HIS SERVICE,

DOKA A. OBADIAH

# SMALL GROUPS

## West Chicago Church of Christ

### Boyd's Group

The families of:

Justin & Joan Avey  
Bonnie Bingham  
\* Tim & Sandy Boyd  
Mike & Lisa Henkel  
Don & Theresa Lemley  
Steve & Melissa Massie  
Jon & Paul Mercer  
Chuck & Bobbye Miller (4 wks)  
Chester & Kim Sitler  
Dewayne & Marilyn Smith  
*\*denotes leader*

### Fordyce's Group

The families of:

John & Bev Day  
Peter Drumheller  
\* Scott & Bridgette Fordyce  
Ryan Heather  
Dana Howard  
John & Joanne Johnson  
Mike Kinder  
Joe & Terrie Kirts  
Marion & Nana Lake  
Cathleen Longfellow  
Bob & Barb Voigts (1st 4 weeks)  
*\*denotes leader*

### Robinson's Group

The families of:

Don & Pat Brewster (1st 4 wks)  
Joan & Charlie Lockett  
Mike Mathews  
John & Eileen Miles  
Paul & Molly Mullins  
John & Becky Pedersen  
\* Curt & Jackie Robinson  
Frances Schearer  
*\*denotes leader*

### Stirrup's Group

The families of:

Mary Barton  
Tom & Nancy Doggett  
Josephine Haggerton  
Marie Hayes  
Jay & Sally Hearn  
Bob & Betsy Jett (1st 4 weeks)  
Nadine McCormick  
Pat Ronzheimer  
Rick & Lynette Root  
Shirley Rucker  
\* Paul & Marianne Stirrup  
Rhonda Triplett  
Kyle & Kelie Wheeler  
*\*denotes leader*

### Plummer's Group

The families of:

Doris Biancalana  
Cindy Drumheller  
Scott & Carrie Drumheller  
Cary & Emily Gray  
Jeff & Kelly Ieler  
Steve & Theresa Link  
Jon & Jamie Miller  
Sarah Miller  
Cyndi & Julian Perez  
\* Cliff & Lori Plummer  
*\*denotes leader*

### Small Group Dates:

January 20 (TODAY)  
February 3      April 6  
February 17     April 20  
March 2          May 4 (Potluck)  
March 16

If you have any questions or would like to participate in the Small Group Fellowship please contact Don Brewster, Cliff Plummer or Bob Voigts.

Remember, there is no Sunday evening worship services on Small Group Sundays.

