A Preacher’s Perspective

What a profile, this Savior of ours has! He bore the brunt of payment for our sins. He was despised and rejected. He became sin, who knew no sin. He was spat upon and reviled. The creation which should have honored Him with praise and glory mocked Him and clamored for His cruel execution.

Is that how you would have arranged things if you were God? I'm quite sure I would not have planned those experiences for myself.

However, His concern, unlike mine would have been, was not for Himself, but for me, and you. He understood that without the loving redemption of a savior, we had no hope of escape from Satan's wicked heart. Proverbs 24 describes “... those being led away to death... those staggering to slaughter.” That would have been our fate if the Shepherd had not intervened.

I believe David wrote Psalm 119. At the end he cries, “I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant....”

What is suggested in this sheep-shepherd relationship? So many of the familiar passages simply describe Jesus as the Good Shepherd and scripture often calls His people His sheep.

So, in God’s view, that’s who we are.

How interesting that God, who is the ultimate figure of power and might, so often describes Himself in terms of tenderness and compassion. (David, himself, is very paradoxical as a man of war and violence whose heart is full of tenderness, worship and praise.)

I love to remember the tenderness of God toward us in Hosea 11: 1 It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed them.

4 I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love; I lifted the yoke from their neck and bent down to feed them.

The God of “the widow, the fatherless and the alien” defines Himself by mercy and compassion. This is His highest glory, and it should be our true ambition.

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 worshiping our Father in heaven will be uplifting and encouraging. You are an honored guest and we want to thank you for being a part of our worship this morning!

Bible classes begin at 9:30 and 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 teen room at the back of the auditorium. The adult class meets in the fellowship room.

Our Community Groups meet every Sunday throughout the year, except for the last Sunday of each month. The last Sunday of each month, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for a time of praise and fellowship.

A weekly web-cast of our Sunday morning worship services is available by following these instructions:

http://wcfamily.viewnetcam.com
Username: wcfamily
Password: 6302312062
Click “SINGLE” tab
Allow any Active X controls

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our Elders:

Don Brewster
Chuck Miller

Our Deacons are:

Jay Hearn: Worship & Pulpit, Communications, Outreach, Education, Benevolence
Curt Robinson: Education, Stewardship & Leadership
Rick Root: Communications, Education, Stewardship & Leadership

Sunday Morning Bible Class ......................... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship ............................ 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening (last Sunday of each month) ... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Class .................... 7:00 p.m.

This Morning ...

Please take a moment this morning to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest. 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.

Worship Order

Welcome, Announcements, Birthdays . . . Curt Robinson
Kids Connection ................................. Brian Gifford
Praise Songs ................................. Jay Heam
  #226  Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
  #288  Fairest Lord Jesus
  #202  Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
  #873  The Spacious Firmament On High
  #318  O Sacred Head
Communion Message ....................... John Johnson
Prayers, Pass Emblems & Collection
Sermon ........................................ Chuck Miller
  #876  Where He Leads Me I Will Follow
Prayer Cards ................................. Bob Voigts
  #710  The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 10 ......................... Barb Voigts
February 13 .......................... Cory Dean
February 14 .......................... Kim Sitler
February 16 .......................... Terri Bray

Dates to Remember

TODAY ............................ Community Groups
February 11 ....................... Living Room Cafe
February 11 .................... Teen Parent Connection
February 12 ....................... Tuesday Ladies Class
February 13 ....................... Wednesday Evening Bible Classes
February 15 .................... Mens Prayer & Pancakes
February 14-17 ..................... Winterfest
February 17 ....................... Community Groups

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class ............................ 57
Sunday Morning Worship .................................. 72
Contribution ............................................. $11,745.00

Nursery Workers . . Carrie Drumheller, Kelly Ieler

Collection Counters

Paul Mullins, Rick Root
In Our Prayers...

The teens, Brian & Shannon Gifford, Cyndi Perez and Jon Miller are going to Winterfest in Gatlinburg, TN. They are meeting at the church building at 2:45 p.m. and plan to leave by 3:30 p.m. this Thursday, February 14, and will return 9:00 p.m. Sunday, February 17. Please pray for their safety.

Continue to pray for our leadership and the process of appointing additional elders and deacons.

Betsy, Bob Voigts's supervisor, is undergoing chemotherapy treatments.

Nelson Cunningham, a friend of the Triplett's, had surgery last week for cancer on his tongue.

Kathy, a friend of Dana Howard's, has cancer. Also, continue to pray for Sylvia Atten, Waseem James and her aunt, Pat Johnson.

Liz Pritchett, the wife of a college friend of Joe Voigts, has cancer.

Frances Shearer has been suffering with several health issues for the last few weeks.

Freeda Witham, Sally Hearn's mother, was in the hospital this week with a kidney infection and pneumonia.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's brother
Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root's parents
Nancy Brewster
Bob & Phyllis Cissne – Cindy Drumheller's parents
John Day
Al Dorsey
Doug Dorsey – Al's son
Brad Fowler – Joan Lockett’s nephew
Josephine Haggerton
Cliff Holladay – a friend of the Miller's
Lauren Helton – Josephine Haggerton's nephew
Kathy Huml – John Pedersen's sister
Mason Hutchins – friend of Alec Boyd & Rourke Mullins
Sue Lake – Marion's sister-in-law
John Mark Lango, son of former members Keith & Kim
Debbie Lawrence – Bobbie Whitman’s niece
Don Lemley
Jack Lockett – father of Charlie, Mike, Julie Chavez, Shelley Prosser, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen
Mike Lockett – Joan's son
Joan Mullins – Paul’s mother

Josh Otte – Chris Czernik’s nephew & the son of Marion Lake’s cousin
Henry Phillips, from Rockford Church of Christ
Scott Robinson – Curt’s brother
Kay Scharader
Phyllis Sitler
Bruce Snyder & Cindy Stewart – Bob Voigts’ cousins
Ernie & Rose Stirrup – Kelly Ieler’s parents
Jim Whitman
Bob York

Mom-to-be:

Sarah Rentschler – Sally Hearn's niece

Armed forces:

Josh Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's grand-nephew, Afghanistan
Ryan Gleason – Dana Howard's nephew
Kristen Hauser – a friend of the Avey's, Afghanistan
Jacob Headtke – U.S. Marines, RCC alumni
Joey Wertz – the friend of Lynette Root’s friend, Iraq
Jonathon Young – a Warrant Officer in the army

Missions:

City of Children – Ensenada, Mexico
Obadiah Doka – Nigeria
Living Room Café – Chicago
Mission Lazarus – Honduras & Haiti
Shults-Lewis – the teens, their families, the workers
Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt – Taiwan
Teen Parent Connection - West Chicago
Joe & Allison Voigts – Korea
Students of Joe Voigts – China
Ayodele Waleola – Nigeria

"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call.” – Acts 2:38

Today!

Community Groups are scheduled to meet TODAY. “…They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. – Acts 2:46-47

New Directory

Please get your photo taken today for the church directory that will be distributed soon. Jay, Sally or Rachel Hearn are prepared to take your photo this morning.

If you are new to our congregation, please have your photo taken this morning, too. Forms are available in the foyer for your information to be included in the directory. Please include your address, phone number(s), e-mail address(es), birthdays and anniversaries (including year) and give it to Chuck or Don.

Let’s try to get this completed as soon as possible! And please...don’t be camera-shy!

Living Room Café

We are serving at the Living Room Café tomorrow, Monday, February 11. The volunteers will leave the church building around 2:30 p.m. and arrive back around 8:30 p.m. Please let Chuck or Don know if you plan to go.

Tuesday Ladies Class

The Tuesday Ladies Class will begin a new course of study next week, February 19. The ladies meet every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship room. Please see Pat Brewster if you are interested.

Southern Sudan

Kelsey Drumheller is collecting funds to provide training for literacy instructors for women in Sudan. The last possible day to donate is this Wednesday, February 13. Check the flyer she posted in the foyer and visit the website www.rebuildsouthernsudan.org.

Winterfest 2013

Winterfest 2013 is this week! Brian e-mailed an itinerary which includes a “Medical Consent Form.” You MUST have this form completed to go on the trip! Let Brian or Sally know if you did not receive the e-mail and they will provide a paper copy. Please be at the church building by 2:45 on Thursday so we can leave by 3:30!

Wednesday Evening Class

Plan to meet with the combined Men’s and Women’s classes on Wednesday evening. The study is “The Growth of the Church” and we will be using the Chronological Daily Bible as a guide starting with the book of Acts. However, you do not need the Chronological Daily Bible to follow the study. Please see Don if you are not receiving the e-mails regarding the class or if you would like paper copies of the hand-outs.

Reading Dates | Scriptures | Title, Theme
---|---|---
2/6 – 2/13 | Acts 3-4 | Growth of the Church
2/13 - 2/20 | Acts 5-6:7 | Trouble Within & Without

Sinners Anonymous

Do you struggle with anger, resentment, unforgiveness, anxiety, substance abuse, food, fear, loneliness, depression?

Is Jesus Christ your higher power?

Would you like to study God’s Word and the 12 Steps together?

If your answer is yes, join us in a Christian-based recovery group.

We meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. at the West Chicago Church of Christ

For more information see Dan Vantreese or Bob Voigts. Flyers are posted and available in the foyer.