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A Preacher's Perspective

inter blahs sap our energy and tempt us to hibernate like groundhogs. Waiting on the Lord is one of the great Bible secrets to overcoming low energy and dry seasons.

You remember the wonderful text from **Isaiah 40:** ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Some translators use the word "hope" (see the graphic) instead of "wait." But I think "wait" serves well the key idea.



answers, but those who learn to wait on the Lord learn to respect God's timing.

Think about God's covenant with Abraham. He promised the land of Canaan to his descendants, but the fulfillment didn't come for over 400 years. David's dream of a temple for God didn't happen in his lifetime, but came to pass through his son, Solomon. And that well-known text from Jeremiah, "I know the plans I have for you...." It was 70 years before that

plan led home again.

It's tempting to feel that God has not heard our prayers and to lose faith.

I had a young man on my prayer list for the sake of his grandmother. I prayed daily for him for about two years. Then, I began to lose heart and pray less.

After about

Men may relate to the idea in football of a runner who waits for his blockers. The protection they offer is as much a part of his success as his native talent and speed.

We try to learn to pray powerfully. Waiting on God's timing and God's answers is an important part of prayer confidence. We've recently talked about George Müller's remarkable record of prayers. But many of those 50,000 answers came after a long period of time. We like the stories of same-day prayer another year had gone by, he called me and asked if he could come to the church to visit with me.

I had been praying that God would open a door for us to meet. It opened a bit more slowly than I had envisioned. Later, I got to watch as he was baptized at camp.

It's not God's faithfulness which is the problem. It's my impatience. Trust Isaiah's counsel: Wait on the Lord.

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, BenevolenceCurt Robinson:Education, Stewardship & LeadershipRick 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.



350 East James Avenue West Chicago, Illinois 60185 (630) 231-2062 wcfamily@wcfamily.org • www.wcfamily.org

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, Anno	uncements, BirthdaysJay Hearn		
Kids Connection	1 Bob Jett		
Praise Songs	Dewayne Smith		
#662	All to Jesus I Surrender		
#647	Soldiers of Christ, Arise		
#639	Rescue the Perishing		
#636	To Love Someone More Dearly		
#337	Hallelujah! What a Savior		
Communion Message Bob Voigts			
Prayers, Pass Emblems & Collection			
#627	There's a Royal Banner		
Sermon	Rick Root		
#926	What Will You Do with Jesus?		
Prayer Cards	Bob Voigts		
#650	Send the Light		

Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 18	Mike Henkel
February 22	Peter Drumheller
February 23	Bev Day, Ezmarelda Urso

Dates to Remember

TODAY Community Groups
Tonight Winterfest Group Returns
February 18 Teen Parent Connection
February 19 Tuesday Ladies Class
February 20 Seniors Breakfast
February 20 Wednesday Evening Bible Classes
February 22 Mens Prayer & Pancakes
February 24 Praise Sunday!
March 7 Food Pantry Delivery

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class
Sunday Morning Worship81
Contribution\$1,964.60

Nursery Workers Joan Avey, Theresa Lemley

Collection Counters

Paul Mullins, Rick Root



In Our Prayers...

The teens, Brian & Shannon Gifford, and Jon Miller are returning home from Winterfesttoday.

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

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

Kathy, a friend of Dana Howard's, has cancer. Also, continue to pray for Sylvia Atten, Waseem James and her aunt, Pat Johnson. Dana's cousin, Keri Johnson, is having tests for chest pain.

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

Freeda Witham, Sally Hearn's mother, is home from the hospital, but is not doing well. She is under hospice care and will be moved to a nursing home very soon. Sally is visiting her today.

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 Schrader 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 Avodele Waleola – Nigeria

Thank You!

We received a call from Joe Chavez on Friday to thank us for the contribution we made for his mission trip. He is very grateful and was amazed when he saw that the money had arrived. He will send us a letter after the trip to give us a report of the work he completes. In case you didn't know, Joe is Joan Lockett's grandson and he attends Harding University.

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.

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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!

Tuesday Ladies Class

The Tuesday Ladies Class begins a new course of study this 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.

Seniors Breakfast

The Senior Citizens Breakfast is this Wednesday, February 20, at 10:00 a.m. We meet at the Colonial Restaurant at the corner of South Tyler and Route 64 in St. Charles. Everyone is welcome!

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
2/20 - 2/27	Acts 6:8-8:1a	Martyrdom of Stephen
2/27 - 3/6	Acts 8:1b-9:31	Preaching, Persecution and
		Conversion of Saul



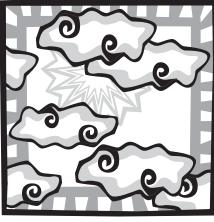
There Is a time



for everything,

and a season for







Ecclesiastes 3:1