



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

Volume 44, Issue 8 • February 19, 2012

A Preacher's Perspective

I find it very challenging to deal with God's love. In some ways, it's very easy. It's easy to see the beauty of creation, the delicacy of flowers, the innocence and overwhelming joy of children. Seeing relationships of others is moving and rewarding. It's wonderful to reflect on days of courtship, early marriage, and the building of a family.

God's love is so evident in the life of the church. To see "love in one delightful stream" flow among Christians is a rich blessing. Sometimes when we share in our small groups, or in table fellowship when we just reflect on God and explore one another, God's love is clear and feels very present.

Camp life has always been a high point for me in experiencing the love of God. The power of the Spirit in a campfire with beautiful songs of worship is one of the transcendent love experiences of my life. I see the delight of young people and staff for one another and a thousand memories rush in of laughter, of debate, of deeper striving to know God.

I think of mentors of my youth, of comrades with whom I have worked to make God seem more real to thousands of young people. Names flood my mind: Don, Aaron, Frank, Bobby, Jerry, Hugh, J. L. Each one calls to mind great joy in the fellowship of ministry in Christian camping.

Work in Christian child care has been rich in its gifts of love and of showing how God loves. How amazing to see Him call young people with no knowledge of Him to an understanding of His presence, power and grace.

Bobbye and I have been blessed not only with our own children, but with families – children and grandchildren –

who have come to us through our fellowship and partnership at places like Shults-Lewis and Potter Children's Home. The moments of teaching, of sharing, of tears and of great fun remind me of the endless resources of God's love.

But I had said God's love is a challenge to me. It is. I struggle to be able to summon the sweet affection and the filling of my emotional senses with the kind of complete and unrestrained love which He deserves. It's not easy for me. I have often thought and said that the greatest commandment is surely the hardest: to love the Lord with all my heart, soul, mind and strength.



How quickly, for me, high moments of worship and deep feelings of gratitude for His endless gifts to me can fade into self-absorption and pettiness. I love the sentiment of the song "Higher Ground." I want to live there. I just find it very difficult because of the weakness of my resolve.

I think part of my struggle is simply believing that God can really love me. We have talked about it many

times. We look at wonderful texts like that one in **Psalm 103** that reminds us that He removes our sins as far as the east is from the west and that his love is as high as the heavens.

I know it is true.

I cling to the promise of His grace.

I look forward with deep yearning for that time when I will be able to love Him as His beauty and goodness deserve.

I am thankful to all of you for the many ways you remind me of and give me the experience of knowing the sweet love of God.

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. 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:

Justin Avey: Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship & Leadership

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.

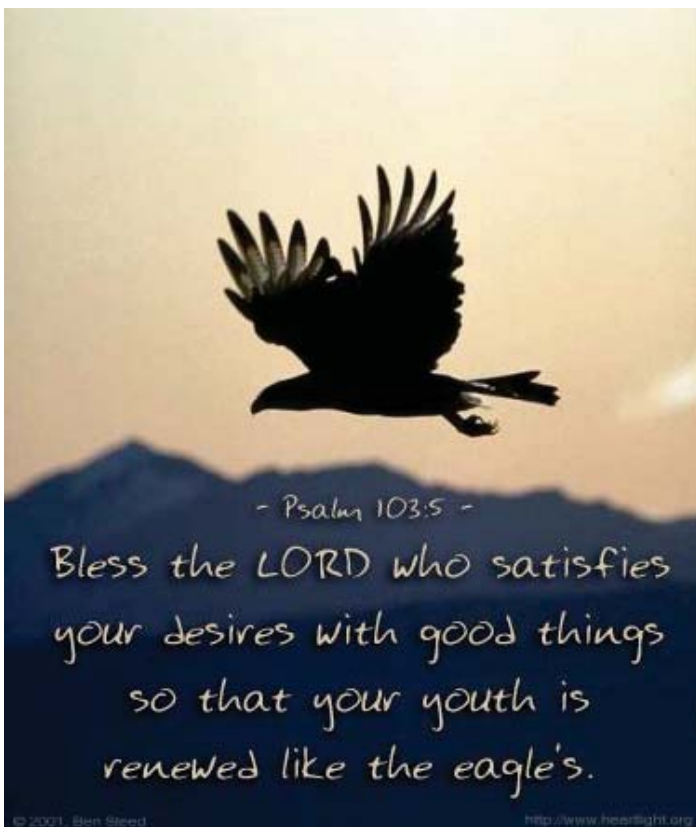


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Today's Order of Worship

Today's worship will include scripture readings and hymn singing, since Chuck went to Winterfest. Please check the last page for a complete program.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 21 Mike Henkel
February 22 Peter Drumheller
February 23 Bev Day, Ezmarelda Urso
February 25 Jon Miller

Dates to Remember

TODAY Community Groups
February 21 Ladies Class
February 23 Teen Parent Connection
February 24 Mens Prayer Breakfast
February 26 Praise Sunday!
February 28 Ladies Class
March 1 Food Pantry Delivery
March 1 Teen Parent Connection
March 2 Mens Prayer Breakfast
March 4 Community Groups
March 6 Ladies Class

Records You Helped Make

Contribution \$3,021.25

Nursery Workers

Kim Sitler, Barb Voigts



Collection Counters

Scott Drumheller, Paul Mullins



In Our Prayers...

Drew Baxman, Dana Howard's cousin, is under hospice care. He lives in Houston, Texas.

Phyllis Cissne, Cindy Drumheller's mother, fell again just after returning home. No bones were broken, but she is very sore from the fall and stiff from resting.

Obadiah Doka and his family in Nigeria are very fearful of the violence happening in northern Nigeria. The Christians have been warned to move out of northern Nigeria by a Islamic group. Pray for their safety and the continuation of his ministry. A newsletter is posted on the bulletin board.

Charlie Hearn is suffering with a stress fracture in one of his vertebrae. He will start physical therapy in a couple of weeks, but is unable to run track this year.

Pat Johnson, Dana Howard's aunt, is in the hospital with pneumonia.

John Mark Lango, the son of former members, Keith & Kim Lango, is having kidney problems, which is leading to breathing issues. He is around ten years old.

Don Lemley has a broken tibia and damage to his knee from a fall.

Chuck Miller will start radiation in February.

J.D. Potts, Cyndi Perez's father, passed away on Friday. Cyndi and her sister, Chris, were by his side.

Rose Stirrup, Kelly Ieler's mother, has melanoma on her lung and will have surgery in March to remove that part of the lung. She also is having tests on the area behind her prosthetic eye. Please check page 4 for her address.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's brother

Justin Avey

Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root's parents

Herman Biggers – Josephine Haggerton's brother

Bonnie Bingham

Nancy Brewster

John Day

Al Dorsey

Doug Dorsey – Al's son

Joyce Duke – Bobbie Whitman's sister

Joyce Eakins's siblings

Brad Fowler – Joan Lockett's nephew

Josephine Haggerton

Lauren Helton – Josephine Haggerton's nephew

Kathy Huml – John Pedersen's sister

Mason Hutchins – friend of Alec Boyd &

Rourke Mullins

Debbie Lawrence – Bobbie Whitman's niece

Myrna Levake

Anne Librande – Joanne Johnson's mother

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

Helen Plummer – the mother of Joan Avey and Cliff

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

Moms-to-Be:

Lauren Avey – Justin & Joan's daughter-in-law

Nana Dukeman – Marion Lake's niece

Shannon Gifford

Jamie Miller

Christina Voigts

Armed forces:

Joe Amato – Bob & Betsy Jett's son-in-law is in Afghanistan until the middle of March.

Josh Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's grand-nephew

Ryan Gleason – Dana Howard's nephew

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

Living Room Café – Chicago

Mission Lazarus – Honduras & Haiti

Shults-Lewis – the teens, their families, the workers

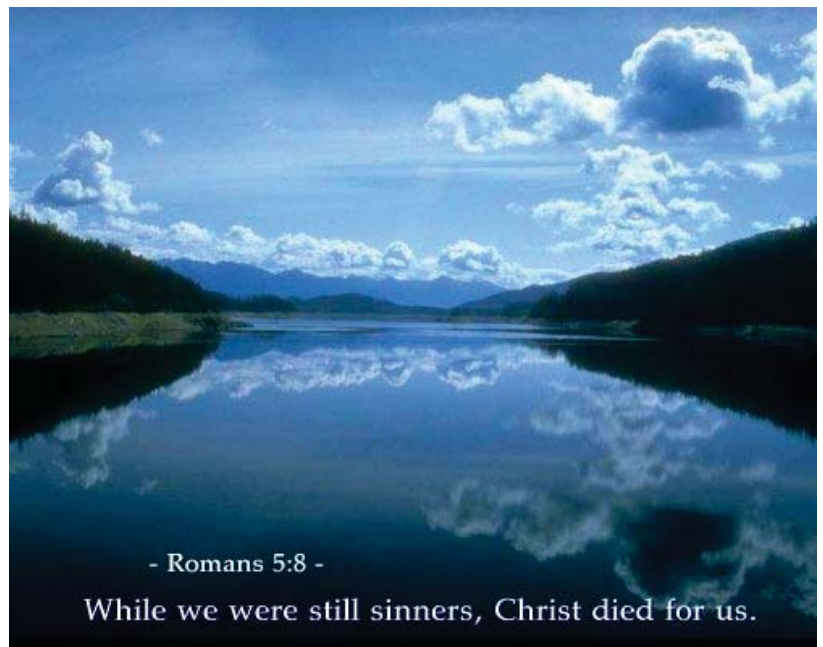
Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt – Taiwan

Teen Parent Connection - West Chicago

Joe & Allison Voigts – Korea

Students of Joe Voigts – China

Ayodele Waleola – Nigeria



- Romans 5:8 -

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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.

Order of Worship

Welcome, Announcements & Prayer *Curt Robinson*

Kids Connection *Bob Jett*

Praise Songs *Tim Boyd*

Psalm 103:1-18

#121 *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing*

Isaiah 54:10-13; Jeremiah 31:31-34

#76 *How Great Thou Art*

Ezekiel 34:25-31; Isaiah 11:6-9

#57 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Malachi 3:16-18; John 14:18-23

#123 *The Steadfast Love of the Lord*

John 17:9-26

#129 *Amazing Grace*

Romans 5:8-11; Romans 8:31-39

#601 *My God and I*

II Corinthians 5:11-21; Ephesians 1:3-6

#48 *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

Communion Message *John Pedersen*

#382 *Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?*

Prayers & Pass Emblems

Prayer Cards *Bob Voigts*

#448 *The Greatest Commands*

Today!

Community Groups
are scheduled to meet

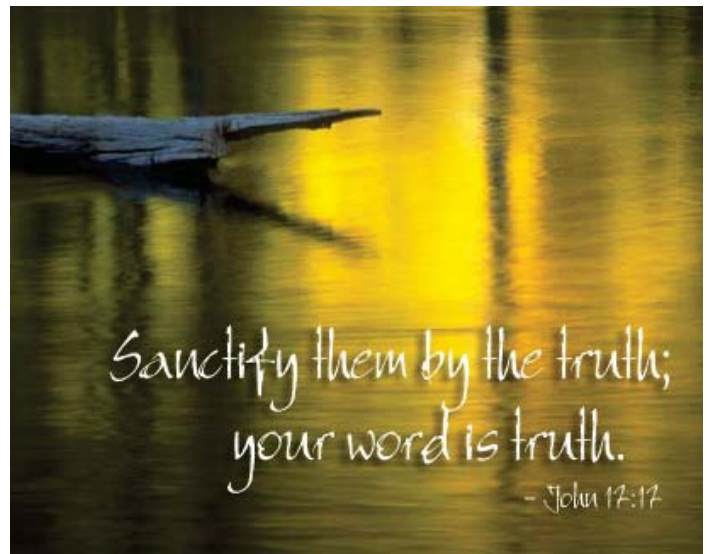
TODAY. Please see Chuck or Don if you do not know the group in which you and your family

belong. "...*They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.* – Acts 2:46-47



Grocery Bags/Sacks

Grocery bags, either paper or plastic, are needed for the food pantry. Target, Wal-Mart and Meijer have the best quality for re-use, but bring any that you have available. Please make sure they are clean and dry and place them by the table next to the restrooms.



Card Ministry

Rose Stirrup, Kelly Ieler's mother, has cancer again. Check her prayer update on page 3. Please note: postage to Canada is 85¢. Her address is:

1025 Richmond Road, Apt. 705

Ottawa, ON Canada

K2B8G8

Dewayne Smith has cards for the men to send to the **Chicago Bears** football player, **Johnny Knox**, who graduated from Abilene Christian University. If you would like to assist making homemade cards to be used for this project, please see Sally.

Bible Class Teachers

Please **sign up** to teach the Wednesday evening 0-4 aged class. A sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Also, we need a list of those who are willing to be substitute teachers. Please contact Cindy Drumheller at cdrum202@comcast.net if you are willing to be included on the list.

City of Children Mission Trip

Please contact Kenn Watson as soon as possible if you are interested in going on the **City of Children mission trip that is scheduled for June 9-15.** The \$400 airfare to Ensenada, Mexico is due by the end of February. Sixty-six people have already signed up for the 70 spots available. Frances Shearer and Thelma Griffin are planning to go from our congregation. Contact Kenn directly at hydrakenn@gmail.com or by calling 630-776-0694.

Immigration Ministry

Bobby Lawson from the Park Forest Church of Christ and Ricardo Barrera from the Elgin Church of Christ were featured in the recent issue of **The Christian Chronicle**. Read the article at www.christianchronicle.org.