



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 41, Issue 9 • March 1, 2009

A Preacher's Perspective

I always liked the question Joshua asked that most formidable looking warrior he met as they prepared to attack Jericho: "Are you with us or with our enemies?"

When you're about to enter into a battle, when you don't know if you have the power or resources to win, it's good to have allies come to your aid.

From the day that Israel left Egypt, they had needed special help. For many decades they had been slaves. They spent their time mixing mud and straw to make bricks for Egyptian building projects. And even though they left Egypt loaded down with the gold and treasures of their neighbors, they were not a military force.

Their first victory in battle against the Amalekites was not the result of their strategy or skill at war. It was a "training wheels" battle. God simply required that they prop up Moses' arms. So long as Moses hands were in the air, the Israelites won. Moses named that place "Jehovah Nissi: The Lord is my banner."

Throughout the history of God's dealing with His nation people, He is always the key to their victories (and sometimes, their defeats). They came to know that their relationship with Him was the critical issue of any battle.

America, I think, used to believe that we had

special security in God's favor. Perhaps we were right. We certainly have acquired wealth and power in such a way that it is reasonable to ascribe those blessings to God, though we also have been guilty of great sins and injustices.

I do not believe that our nation as a whole puts any real hope in the blessing of God for our land. We do not feel powerful because we have His "terrible swift sword" unsheathed on our behalf. Today, we are a

country of diversity.

We find it narrow and offensive to look to the Lord God. We must share our prayers with pagan deities and with secular atheism itself. Our hopes are based on better missiles, more devastating armament and the latest weapons

Then I said to you, "Do not be terrified; do not be afraid of them. The LORD your God, who is going before you, will fight for you, as he did for you in Egypt, before your very eyes." Deuteronomy 1:29-30



technology.

I long for the security of a nation whose hope is based on righteousness, justice and mercy. A nation whose God is the Lord. I pray that God would look on us and decide to fight for us with His own right arm. But I know that He is no respecter of people or nations, except as they are people and nations who fear His name and practice His precepts.

We might want to notice the answer to Joshua's question: "Neither, but as commander of the army of the Lord I have come."

That answer seemed to give comfort to Joshua. Does it give comfort to you?

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 - Jay Hearn
- Announcements - Rick Root
- Singing
- Prayer - Paul Stirrup
- Singing
- Lord's Supper - Steve Link
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - Chuck Miller
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - Bob Voigts
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - Steve Massie

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- March 3 Paul & Molly Mullins (anv.)
- March 5 Quinten Link
- March 6 Christian Mathews
- March 7 Daniel Henkel

Dates to Remember

- March 1 Small Groups
- March 5 Food Pantry Delivery
- March 7 Ronald McDonald House/Teens
- March 8 Elder/Deacon Meeting
- March 8 Sunday Night Light/Teens
- March 10 Flower & Garden Show @ Navy Pier
- March 12 Preachers Breakfast
- March 15 Small Groups

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 46
- Sunday Morning Worship 91
- Contribution \$3,147.05

Nursery Workers

Bev Day, Lynette Root



Collection Counters

Justin Avey, Jeff Ieler



In Our Prayers...

Aaron, friend of Marion and Christ, overdosed. Please pray for him.

Jed Bruer's nephew Arthur (4 mos.) is having respiratory problems.

Bob Jett has had blurred vision in the aftermath of cataract surgery. He was better on Friday night.

Gena Richardson, the wife of an elder at Park Forest Church of Christ, passed away after struggling with cancer.

Avery Sternberg, the 3-year-old daughter of Jay Hearn's cousin, is having problems with acid reflux and very poor appetite. She is having tests and new medications.

Barb Tincher, Jake's mom, has a serious bacterial lung infection which will take about two years to treat.

Barb Voigts's sister, Caron, had surgery for kidney stones and **her aunt, Joan**, has pancreatic cancer.

Eudie Voigts had one bypass and heart valve replacement surgery, this week. She is doing well.

Cleta Watson's sister-in-law Faye has had several minor strokes.

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 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 and Sky Kuhnle - Chuck & Bobbye'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

Mike & Beth Stiger - Chuck & Bobbye's nephew

Mothers-to-be:

Heaven Alcorn - Chris Czernik's daughter

Caitlyn Czernik - Chris's daughter-in-law

Jamie Holtin - Joe & Terrie's daughter

Shannon (Pedersen) Manny - due first of May

Cathy Miller

Jamie Miller

Jennifer (Doggett) Piehl - due this week!

Armed forces:

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew has graduated basic training and is moving to Maryland for more training

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



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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 Sundays at 5:30 p.m.



Pop Can Tabs

Bring tabs from your empty pop cans by this Wednesday and place them in the box under the bulletin table. The teens will take them to the Ronald McDonald House this Saturday, March 7th.

Ladies Class

The Wednesday Evening Ladies Bible Class has started lessons on how we got the Bible. To receive class notes send an e-mail to: joanie.m.johnson@comcast.net. If you are interested in leading a class or have topic ideas for the class, please contact Joanne Johnson.

Library

The library has been organized to some degree. There is a clipboard to sign out books on the honor system.

Food Pantry Shop & Drop

Wondering where you're going to do with the case of salsa you bought at your local wholesale club? What about that "buy 1 get 1 free" sale for the 64 oz. bottle of ketchup? Are you buying large quantities of items to get a better deal but running out of room at home? **Bring it to the pantry!**

The pantry can always use:

Canned fruit, vegetables, tuna, & soup
 Boxed dinners "Hamburger Helper"
 Crackers, Cookies
 Cereal, breakfast bars and "Pop-Tarts"
 Condiments, pickles, olives, relishes
 Cake, brownie, muffin and cookie mixes and frosting
 Laundry detergent, cleaning products, paper towel
 Bath and personal hygiene items, toilet paper, diapers



Moms In School

Moms In School has a fund-raising opportunity. Eat at **Augustino's**, located at the corner of Route 59 and North Avenue, this **Thursday, March 5**, from **4:00 - 8:00 p.m.** and Moms In School will receive 15% of your bill. Make sure to take a "coupon" which is available in the foyer.

Food Pantry Delivery

This **Thursday, March 5**, is our regularly scheduled delivery for the food pantry from the Northern Illinois Food Bank. We need volunteers to carry boxes downstairs, unload the boxes, stock the shelves and break-down the boxes. **We'll start working at 10:00 a.m.** and are usually finished in an hour.

Youth & Family News

TEENS: The theme at Winterfest was "Love God, Love Others" taken from Matthew 22:34-40. This month we have several opportunities to practice some "L1" and "L2"...

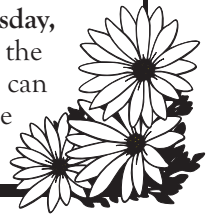
L² We're going to the **Ronald McDonald House** this **Saturday, March 7th**, to cook lunch and help clean. We'll meet at the building at 9:45 a.m. and should return by 4:00 a.m. Sign up TODAY on the sheet in the foyer so Cliff knows how many people to expect.

L¹ We have a **Sunday Night Light** next Sunday night, March 8, after evening services. Bring \$3 for food. (Another SN,L is planned for March 22.)

L¹ There's a **Connection Point at North Park** on Sunday afternoon, March 29.

L² Sign-up to volunteer at the **Northern Illinois Food Bank** on Saturday, March 28th, from 9 to 11 a.m. We'll work in the warehouse cleaning, sorting, and repackaging food and other products for distribution to area food pantries (like ours).

SENIORS: The **Flower Show** is this **Tuesday, March 10**, at Navy Pier. We'll plan to meet at the building at 8:30 a.m. Tickets are \$12, but you can get a \$2 discount from a Diet Pepsi can. Please sign up TODAY on the sheet in the foyer.



Mexico Mission Trip

There is an opportunity for 8 more of our members to go on a mission trip to **The City of Children, Ensenada, Mexico** with Kenn & Sherry Watson. Seven of our members are already planning to go. We will be joining teams from Arlington, TX and Western Hills, TN.

The trip is scheduled from **Saturday, June 27, to Friday, July 3**, and the cost is \$200.00 plus the price of airfare (approx. \$300.00 O'Hare to San Diego Non-Stop). Please contact Kenn or Sherry Watson with questions or to sign up! **March 15 is the deadline.** Their contact information: hydrakenn@gmail.com; watsonsherry@gmail.com, Kenn's Cell: 630-776-0694. The City of Children website is: www.cityofchildren.com.

RCC Junior Camp

Cliff will be looking for adults to teach at RCC Junior Camp this summer, July 25 to August 1. Please prayerfully consider if this is something the Lord is leading you to do.

VBS

We'll be considering some different options for our Vacation Bible School program this year. Are you interested in helping plan this special summer-time event? Please talk to Cliff if you're interested.