



# Family

## West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 41, Issue 14 • April 5, 2009

### A Preacher's Perspective

**S**ons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. Surely this is one of the most amazing propositions ever submitted to man for his consideration.

Faith: A trusting belief in the heart which acknowledges Jesus as our Lord and which is the controlling force in our lives from that time on. Is that a workable expression of it for you? I think it's pretty close to the New Testament idea.

But just consider what is promised as a result of that faith: We are sons of God. That means we have all the inheritance and blessing and relationship of membership in the household of the Most High. It means we enter into relationship with the Trinity!

We are so unable to act or behave in a way which could achieve or accomplish this amazing status. It's difficult even to comprehend what it means, much less to think we could earn or achieve it.

I won't try to resolve or completely explain the challenge of understanding the balance between what we hold to in our hearts compared to what we do in our actions. I do know this: my actions

are completely out of proportion with what my heart understands to be the proper response to this grace. The more I understand about God's gift to me, to us, His church, the more convicted I am of offending that grace every day.

His love and gift of Fatherhood does make me want to live a more holy life, one which is consistent

with the love He has for all those whom I encounter. His love makes me desire to be more loving to you, His church and to serve you so that you feel His love for you more clearly.

I also want to grow more in understanding the difference between "faith" and "faith in Christ Jesus." I have tended to think of faith as something of an isolated action of the heart.

I believe it is very important to always think of "faith in Christ Jesus," understanding that all our hopes, our gifts, and our redemption is in the man, Jesus Christ. How difficult it is for me to visualize Him, to walk with Him in companionship as I believe He desires.

Just meditate on it.

We are sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

*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 - *Tim Boyd*
- Announcements - *Bob Jett*
- Singing
- Prayer - *Paul Mullins*
- Singing
- Lord's Supper - *John Johnson*
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - *Chuck Miller*
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - *Bob Voigts*
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - *John Pedersen*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Today . . . . . Anne Librande  
 . . . . . Kayla Wheeler  
 . . . . . Kileen Wheeler  
 . . . . . Klinton Wheeler  
 April 10 . . . . . Kyle Wheeler

## Dates to Remember

Today . . . . . Small Groups  
 April 9 . . . . . Preachers Breakfast  
 April 11 . . . . . Elder/Deacon Meeting  
 April 12 . . . . . Easter  
 April 15 . . . . . Seniors Breakfast

## Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class . . . . . 53  
 Sunday Morning Worship . . . . . 81  
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class . . . . . 26  
 Contribution . . . . . \$3,427

## Nursery Workers

Sabrina Link, Jamie Miller



## Collection Counters

Scott Drumheller, Mike Henkel



## In Our Prayers...

**Aaron, friend of Marion Lake and Chris Czernik,** overdosed and is waiting for space in a rehab center.

**Heaven Alcorn, Chris Czernik's daughter,** had a miscarriage.

**Herman Aultman, Bobbie Whitman's brother,** is back in the hospital. They are hoping he will get strong enough for a kidney transplant.

**Lisa Gleason, Dana Howard's sister,** had surgery on her back and neck this week.

**Josephine Haggerton** was given new medication for bone loss. She received good reports from her eye doctor.

**Steve Link** has been suffering from severe migraines.

**Rick Root's aunt Helen** has been fighting an infection. Rick's mother, Sandy, cares for her.

**Jim Whitman** will be having tests this week.

### Those suffering with long-term issues:

Justin Avey

Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents

Lisa Beverly - Sandy Boyd's sister has MS

Bonnie Bingham

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 & Bobby's foster son and granddaughter

Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece

Don Lemley

Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother

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

Avery Sternberg - the daughter of Jay Hearn's cousin

Bruce Snyder and Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts cousin

Barb Tincher - Jake's mother

Dan & Linda Vantreese

### Mothers-to-be:

Caitlyn Czernik - Chris's daughter-in-law

Jamie Holtin - Joe & Terrie's daughter

Shannon (Pedersen) Manny - due first of May

Cathy Miller

Jamie Miller

### Armed forces:

Ryan Gleason - is in Maryland for more auto mechanic training

Jacob Headtke - U.S. Marines, RCC alumni

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

Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria

Ayodele Waleola - Nigeria

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

Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan

## And God Said "No"

(Submitted by Margaret Mott)

I asked God to take away my pride, and God said "No."  
He said it was not for Him to take away, but for me to give up.

I asked God to grant me patience, and God said "No."  
He said that patience is a by-product of tribulation. It isn't granted, it's earned.

I asked God to give me happiness, and God said "No."  
He said He gives blessings. Happiness is up to me.

I asked God to spare me pain, and God said "No."  
He said, "Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to Me."

I asked God to make my spirit grow, and God said "No."  
He said I must grow on my own, but He would prune me and make me fruitful.

I asked God to help me love others as much as He loves me,  
and God said,  
"Ah, finally, you have the right idea."

*Claudia Minden Weisz*

## Monthly Outreach Meeting



The Watson's are inviting everyone again to their home on Saturday, April 25, at 4:00 p.m. to talk about Local Outreach. March was another great meeting, and we would like to continue the momentum! Some success from the first three meetings:

- A volunteer day at Lazarus House! Three current volunteers actively engaged at Lazarus!
- Sixteen people signed up for our Mexico Mission! (Our team is now meeting separately, please pray for us.)
- Good opportunities...New Focus Financial Training, Pray4Chicago, Ronald McDonald House, and more!

This meeting will be a fellowship with fun and food.

The idea is to get us all together, get to know each other and find ways to serve and love our community. Please bring ideas you have to get us involved. Please RSVP and invite anyone you would like.

If the weather is nice we will try to be outside and have some activities for kids and adults alike. We will grill burgers and dogs so bring a side dish, etc. We hope by doing it later in the day it works better with weekend schedules.

## Birthday Open House

Joanne Johnson's mother, Anne Librande, is celebrating her 80th birthday TODAY! You are invited to drop-in at the Johnson's anytime this afternoon from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. for finger foods and cake. In lieu of gifts, Anne is accepting a small donation for the St. Charles Food Bank.



## Father/Son Retreat

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 13, through Sunday, June 14, for our first annual Father/Son Retreat. This spiritual retreat is being planned for our teen guys and their dads at RCC. Watch for details!

## Thanks!

Thank you, Rob Brewster, for taking down the old cribs in the nursery, and putting-up the new storage bins!

## Clothing Needed

A family from our community needs clothing for their six children. Please sign up for items on the bulletin board in the foyer. A couple of outfits per child would be nice, new or gently used. If you have clothes to donate, please see Sally.



## Giving Garden

When you plan your vegetable garden this spring, plant an extra row to donate to our food pantry. Families appreciate getting fresh vegetables, fruit, and herbs.



Your attitude should be the same as that of

# Christ Jesus

WHO, BEING IN VERY NATURE GOD,

did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

**BUT MADE HIMSELF NOTHING,**

taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

*And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself*

*and became obedient to death --*

**even death on a cross!**

- Philippians 2:5-8

HEARTLIGHT

<http://www.heartlight.org>

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## Small Group Fellowships

Today is our Small Group fellowship. There is no evening worship, but a small group meets at the building at 5:30 p.m. A "grand finale" potluck is scheduled for May 3.



## Youth & Family News

**TEENS:** Continue to work on memorizing our verse for this quarter, Philippians 2:3-11. How will you demonstrate "others first" at school this week?

**Pray4Chicago** is Saturday, April 18th. There is room for two of our teens to go. See Cliff if you're interested. (go to: [pray4chicago.wikispaces.com](http://pray4chicago.wikispaces.com))

A **Sunday Night, Light** is scheduled for the end of this month, on Sunday, April 26. Are you interested in leading the devotional? Talk to Cliff.

**GUYS:** Mark your calendars for our first annual Father/Son Retreat at RCC, June 13-14.

**SENIORS:** You're invited to attend our monthly time of fellowship at our Seniors Breakfast on Wednesday, April 15 at 10:00. We meet at the Colonial Restaurant on Rt. 38 in St. Charles.