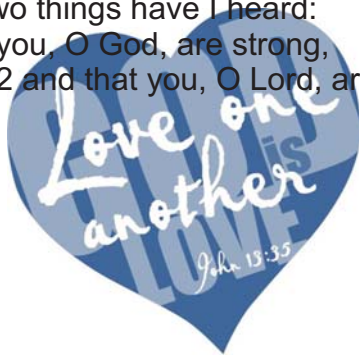


11 One thing God has spoken,
two things have I heard:
that you, O God, are strong,
12 and that you, O Lord, are loving.



West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 41, Issue 17 • April 26, 2009

A Preacher's Perspective

How do you feel about a shower? Do you love to walk in the rain, or do you prefer to sit on the porch and watch? My grandfather in Bradenton, Florida, had what they called a “sleeping porch.” It was a wide screened-in veranda around the front and side of the house. On the side there was a bed. How wonderful it was to lie in the bed and listen to the rain on a warm summer night.

Thunderstorms are another thing. My Bekah hates the thunder. When they are strong and close-by, they can be very intimidating.

Psalm 29 celebrates the God of thunder and lightning:

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O mighty ones, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.

⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic.

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the LORD strikes with flashes of

lightning.

⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the desert; the LORD shakes the Desert of Kadesh.

⁹ The voice of the LORD twists the oaks and strips the forests bare. And in his temple all cry, “Glory!”

¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD is enthroned as King forever.

¹¹ The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.

It can be very challenging to feel peace in the

presence of such power. Peace with a gentle rain is not so difficult, but in the power of tree-splitting bolts of lightning, it's better to have a grandpa nearby and a cozy blanket.

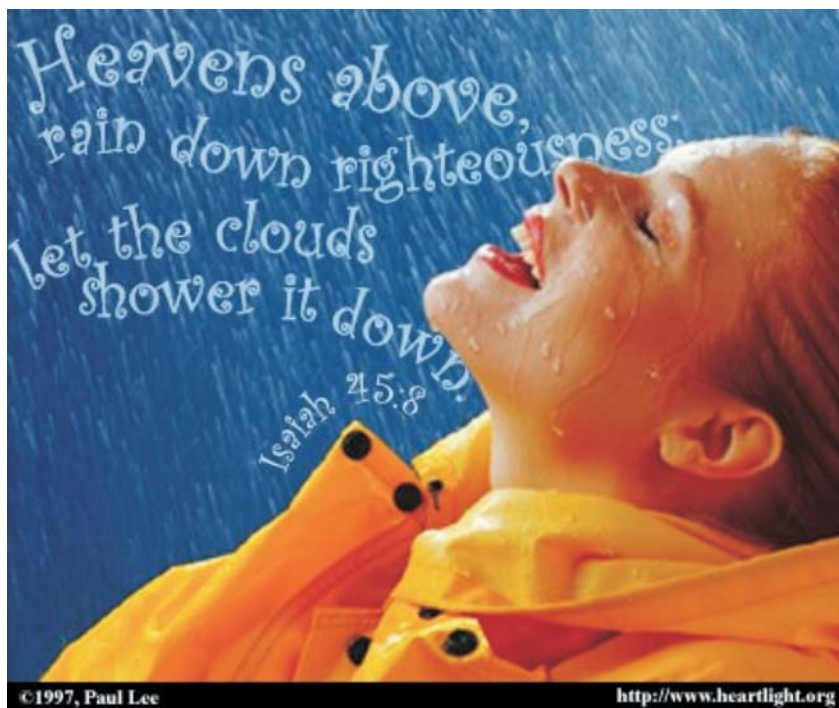
God's power is never disconnected from His love. I like the way it is put in

Psalm 62:

¹¹ One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, O God, are strong,¹² and that you, O Lord, are loving.

“Strong and loving” means that the power of creation is my friend. It means that the cascading thunder of Niagara is under the sure hand of the One who makes a warm bubble bath possible.

I pray that the refreshing of the earth in this season of rebirth will be a joy to your soul. The thunder is our friend.



©1997, Paul Lee

<http://www.heartlight.org>

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 - Rick Root
- Announcements - Bob Jett
- Singing
- Prayer - Cary Gray
- 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 - Kenn Watson

Birthdays & Anniversaries

April 26 Kelsey Drumheller
 April 28 Jeff Ieler
 April 29 Shirley Rucker

Dates to Remember

Tonight . . . Singing Night, Sunday Night Light/Teens
 April 29 VBS Planning Meeting
 May 3 Potluck & Church Family Photo
 May 3 Connection Point @ Park Forest/Teens
 May 7 Food Pantry Delivery
 May 10 Mother's Day
 May 15 Shults-Lewis Golf Outing
 May 17 Lemley/Garner Wedding Shower

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class 74
 Sunday Morning Worship 123
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class 33
 Contribution \$6,754.47

Nursery Workers

Carrie Drumheller, Marianne Stirrup



Collection Counters

Scott Drumheller, Mike Henkel



In Our Prayers...

Loss of loved ones:

Leona Boston, Lynette Root's aunt, passed away.

Rich Kern, Jackie Robinson's father, passed away.

Prayer needs:

Mary Brent, Joe Kirts's sister, is doing much better.

Jerry Gibson, a good friend of RCC from Rockford, had quadruple bypass surgery on Friday. He is doing well.

Lisa Gleason, Dana Howard's sister, will begin therapy.

Josephine Haggerton suffers from chronic back pain.

She will be traveling the next several weeks.

Ed Holman and his son, friends of Cathleen

Longfellow, lost their home and all of the contents due to fire. Their address is 722 Cedar Point Boulevard, # 7, Cedar Point, NC 28584.

Otis Long, Sherry Watson's father, is out of the hospital and doing much better. He will be starting therapy soon and seeing a cardiologist more often.

Terry Peterhans, a friend of Dana Howard's who lives in our neighborhood, will be having open heart surgery.

Bob Voigts is having chemotherapy treatments as a preventative measure.

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

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

Joe and Sky Kuhnle - Chuck & Bobbye's

foster son and granddaughter

Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece

Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother

Jack Lockett - the father of Charlie, Mike, Shelley Prosser,

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

Jim Whitman

Mothers-to-be:

Caitlyn Czernik - Chris's daughter-in-law

Bridgette Fordyce - former member

Shannon (Pedersen) Manny - due first of May

Cathy Miller - due in June

Jamie Miller - due end of May

Armed forces:

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew

Jacob Headtko - U.S. Marines, RCC alumni

Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of Lori Plummer

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



Mr. & Mrs. Donald Lemley, Jr.

and

Dr. & Mrs. Patrick Garner

invite you to the celebration

of the marriage of their children

Katherine Grace

and

Benjamin Ross

on

Saturday, the Twenty-Seventh of June

at

6:30 in the evening

at

Valley Ranch in Rose Bud, Arkansas

Reception to follow.



For more information, search for them at

www.theknot.com

Small Groups

Join us in celebrating our Small Groups program with our pot-luck **next Sunday, May 3rd!** Drinks will be provided. Even if you didn't participate in a Small Group, please stay and enjoy the fellowship.



Photos

We would like to take a group photo of our church family. We are planning to take the photo **after worship next Sunday, May 3, BEFORE the fellowship.** Please try to be here and stay for the photograph.

New directory photos will be taken starting in the next couple of weeks. Look for the "photo studio" at the end of the foyer.

Eagle Scout Presentation

You are invited to the **presentation of Eagle Scout Rank to Ryan Stirrup next Saturday, May 2, at 5:30 p.m.** by the fire pit in the church yard. Dinner reception will follow. If it is raining we will be in the fellowship room. **Please RSVP to Paul or Marianne.**



Ryan Stirrup is one of a five-member team competing in St. Louis at the National Consumers League program, LifeSmarts. West Chicago High School took first place in the Illinois LifeSmarts competition which earned them the chance to go to the national competition. The program tests students' knowledge of financial management, technology, the environment, health and safety and consumer rights.

Congratulations, Ryan!!

Ladies Bible Class Planning Session

All ladies are invited to join a session on **Friday, May 1,** to help plan the Wednesday night ladies classes for the balance of the year. We will meet from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. at the church building. You are welcome to bring your lunch. Coffee and drinks will be provided. If you have questions or cannot attend but have input, please see Joanne Johnson.

Grocery Bags

The food pantry needs grocery bags. Please bring your strong, clean bags, preferably from Target, Wal-Mart and Meijer. Thanks! 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.



You & Family News

TEENS: Our **Sunday Night, Light** tonight is at the Boyd's. Please bring \$3 for pizza and drinks.

There's a Connection Point at Park Forest next Sunday, May 3. We'll leave after the potluck and should return about 7:00 p.m.

It's almost time for camp again! The **Memorial Day Retreat** at RCC is Friday through Monday, May 22-25. Registration forms are available in the Fellowship Room, and should be mailed by May 8th to avoid the \$15 late fee.

Outreach Opportunity

"The Living Room Café" in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood serves restaurant-style meals to homeless men and women. We have an opportunity to help prepare and serve dinner on two Monday nights in June. In order to be downtown on time to prepare the meal, we'll need to leave West Chicago by 2:30. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the foyer and sign-up if you'd like to go.

VBS Meeting

If you are interested in helping plan our "**Vacation Bible School**" program this year, a meeting is scheduled for this **Wednesday, April 29, at 5:30 p.m.** We'll have a different format this year, so come with your ideas. Dinner will be provided, please let Cliff or Sally know if you plan to attend.

Shults-Lewis Golf Outing

The Shults-Lewis Spring Golf Outing is **Friday, May 15,** at Tamarack Golf Club in Naperville. Lunch begins at noon and tee-off is 1:00 p.m. Dinner will follow golf. Shults-Lewis has received a generous gift to cover all golfers expenses, which includes lunch, dinner, greens fees and cart fees. Register at www.shultslewis.org or by calling 1-800-462-0513.

Wedding Shower

Everyone is invited to a wedding shower for **Katherine Lemley and Benjamin Garner on Sunday, May 17.** The "open house" is from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the fellowship room. Cake and punch will be served. They are registered at Crate & Barrel and Target.



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 teenage guys and their dads at RCC. Watch for details!