



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 40, Issue 17 • May 4, 2008

A Preacher's Perspective

How grateful we are to be home. We had a wonderful trip to Pepperdine. The lectures were focused on the Sermon on the Mount, so we had powerful reminders to think about our Lord Jesus and to hear Him speak to us.

As Bobbye and I were eating on Friday evening with some friends, I was remembering that just a few days previously, she had been in the hospital in great discomfort. How gracious is our God in answering our prayers. Thank you all for your prayers on her behalf.

Another special joy which blessed our trip this year was that our son Tim was able to join us. He had never been to California, and it was fun to help him get a taste of the west coast. But even more joyful was just getting to share the spiritual experience with him and to have long talks about God. Bobbye and I loved hearing him sing "Just a Little Talk with Jesus" in the praise time on Wednesday night. It was powerfully led by a black brother and Tim sang with all his heart.

We couldn't help, again, but remember the horrible days of last August when his life was in the balance. Praise God for your prayers and for His wonderful gifts. We are so grateful for Tim, Jon and Sarah, for our sons Al, JJ, and Joe. And we are so blessed that you have allowed us to join our lives with yours in this sweet fellowship.

Today we will enjoy a special fellowship meal together as a kind of wrap-up of another year of small group times. I want to thank Don Brewster, especially,

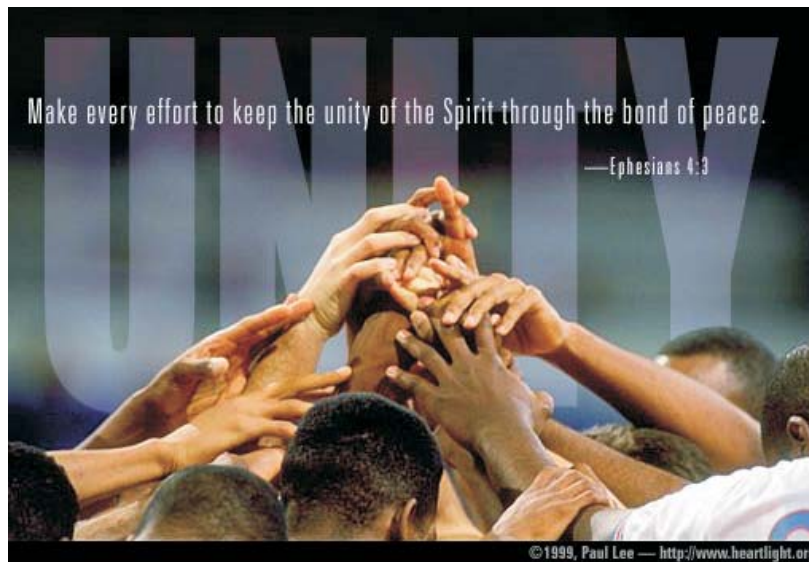
for his work in developing materials for the groups. He has done a great job and has poured his love into his efforts. Thanks also to Cliff and Bob Voigts and to others who have worked to plan and organize our small group experiences.

Special thanks should also be given to our wonderful hosts, our group leaders. I know from our own experiences with Tim Boyd's group, and I hear from comments about the other groups, that these opportunities to share our hearts and to share our vision and love for God have been a great blessing. Be sure to thank your group leaders.

Jesus' church and our relationships are powerfully described by Paul in 2 Cor. 3. He calls the Corinthians his "living letters." We are messages to one another and from God and our lives and love reflect the passion of God for His children. We are designed, personally, and as the church, to embrace, to enjoy, to encourage, and to edify one another.

I just want to challenge any of you who have missed out on these very powerful gatherings to try to arrange your schedules to include them when we resume. We cannot have the fulness of fellowship which God has intended if you are not a part of the experience. No one except you can bring your insights, your love and your life perspective to our partnership. Think about it. We need you.

God's goodness is our great treasure and the sweetest joy of our souls. God's church is the treasure house of the good gifts He pours out on us and on the world.



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. All other children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the teen room, which is also located at the back of the auditorium. Adult classes meet in the auditorium and in the fellowship room downstairs.

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 and is 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 to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest this morning. 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 - *Steve Link*
- Singing
- Prayer - *Jeff Ieler*
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - *Chuck Miller*
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - *Bob Voigts*
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - *Justin Avey*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- May 6 Olivia Plummer
- May 8 Jon & Tracy Wright (anv.)

Dates to Remember

- May 4 Small Groups Potluck
- May 8 Preachers Breakfast
- May 10 Leadership Meeting
- May 11 Mother's Day
- May 16 Shults-Lewis Golf Outing
- May 17 RCC Work Day
- May 18 Connection Point @ Park Forest
- May 21 Seniors Breakfast
- May 23-26 RCC Teen Retreat

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 76
- Sunday Morning Worship 116
- Sunday Evening Worship 42
- Contribution \$6,168.00

Wednesday Ladies Class

Following is the plan for our Ladies Bible Class:
 April 30 - May 7: The Rich Man and Lazarus - Sandy Boyd
 May 14 - June 18: The Epistles of John - Joanne Johnson

In Our Prayers...

Justin Avey is having some gall bladder problems.

Bob Czernik is very ill and struggling with cancer.

Guillermina Diaz, the sister-in-law of Fernando Diaz, disappeared in Mexico City, Mexico on March 29. Fernando is the minister at the church in Waukegan.

Emily Gray is home from the hospital after having an abdominal cyst removed on Wednesday.

Josephine Haggerton is recuperating from a virus. She has had tests done for several health issues.

Angela Henderson, a former member who moved to Nevada, fell a week ago and broke her cheek bone. She had out-patient surgery yesterday and is doing much better.

Kelly Ieler's blood clot is completely gone! She will get results in the next couple of weeks about her heart.

Brad Jurek's friend is in a coma.

Adonnica Schmittou, the sister-in-law of former members Matthew & Debbie Allgood, has been diagnosed with colon cancer. Pray for her and her family.

Troy, the stepson of Lynette Root's friend, had a kidney transplant a few years ago. He is back in the hospital with possible kidney failure.

Bob Voigts has completed his chemo treatments. He is cancer free!

Freeda Witham, Sally Hearn's mother, has been in the hospital this week with pneumonia.

Vacation Bible School is in the planning and coordinating stages. Pray that we can be a light to each other and to our community.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman - Bobbie Whitman's brother

Sylvia Atten - Dana Howard's friend

Andrea Bailey - a former member from California

Irene Barnes - Lynette Root's aunt

Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents

Lisa Beverly - Sandy Boyd's sister who has MS

Bonnie Bingham

Leona Boston - Lynette Root's aunt

Jim Brannon - Pat Brewster's brother-in-law

Mary Brent - Joe Kirts's sister

Nancy Brewster

Jim & Julie Chavez

John Day

Lisa DeVaney - Marie Hayes' daughter

Al Dorsey

Doug Dorsey - Al's son

Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson

Amy Ferguson - a former member from Montana

Jean Gray - Linda Vantreese's sister

Elizabeth Griffin

Sarah Hayden & family - Maria Zeisler's relative

Mary Henkel - Mike's mother

Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister

Amy Kalupski - sister-in-law of Julie Chavez's friend

Joe and Star 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

Laura Mahan - Shirley Rucker's daughter

Steve & Melissa Massie family

Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's niece

Tim Miller

Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and the son of Marion Lake's cousin

Doug Peterson

Pat Ronzheimer

Kay Schrader

Chester & Phyllis Sitrler

Bruce Snyder - Bob Voigts cousin

Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts' cousin

Ollie Taylor - the niece of Lynette Root's friend

Linda Vantreese

Eudie Voigts - Bob's mother

Jim & Jamie Winner

Jim & Jeremy Whitman

Rick & Gina Zamora

Mothers-to-be:

Missy Day

Armed forces overseas:

Greg Billings - Justin Avey's employee

Wes Clark - the son-in-law of Lynette Root's friend

Dustin Meritt - Justin Avey's employee

Chris & Jennifer Roberts - Cathleen Longfellow's sister & brother-in-law are going to Iraq for 16 months, they have a 1-year-old daughter

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

Missionaries:

Jarrold, Allison, Soledad & Levi Brown - Honduras (especially for their adoption process of Soledad)

Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria

Dry Bones Ministry - homeless teens in Denver, CO

Keith, Kim, Candace, Laura & John Mark Lango - Brazil

Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria

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

Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan - check the bulletin board for a current newsletter

Joe Voigts - China - also pray for the churches and all the new Christians - Joe will be home in July

Nursery Workers

Bev Day, Molly Mullins



Collection Counters

Justin Avey, Mike Henkel



Small Group Potluck

This Small Group session ends **TODAY** with an **all-church potluck luncheon** in the fellowship room. Hope everyone can join us for this time of fellowship. There will be no worship tonight.



Honduras Trip

The Honduras Mission Trip is scheduled to depart on Saturday, August 2 and will return Sunday, August 10. For more information, see Emily Gray.

Starting next Sunday, May 11, Honduras travelers will meet during Bible class to prepare for the trip.

If you would like to provide financial support to help those who are making the trip, see one of the elders, or give cash or a check and clearly indicate it is to support the trip.

Thank You!

Hello, my name is Jeremy McGill. I was recently attacked by four wild elephants while doing the Lord's work in Asia. This letter will be sent to more than 200 families as a way of showing my gratitude for prayers, cards, and contributions to my health. The words on this paper cannot fully express how my heart has changed from the love you have shown. There are many moments when I feel your prayers and breakdown into tears. The love of Jesus who connects us all is very overwhelming. I have only been a Christian for about a year and a half. The love that brought me into this family of believers, now sustains my faith and shows a deeper meaning. You have encouraged me in a way you can never know, but believe me, I truly feel the love of Christ in you. I want to be a part of your life, as you have been a part of my life and have helped me to grow physically, mentally, and most importantly, spiritually.

As of now, I am able to walk and get about pretty good. I have an MRI scheduled on my left arm, shoulder, and back. This might possibly result in more surgery, but everyone expects for a full-recovery. This would not be possible without your prayers and the Great Healer answering our hearts' crying request. I have learned so many things from this incident, patience being the hardest lesson of all, and true Christian love being the warmest feeling one could ever experience. I hope to cross paths with you and to hug your necks and to thank you personally. I still have a long ways to go and seemingly a lot of time to reflect, pray, and grow. The next few months will be a trying time for me, as I have many limitations and many milestones before me. Yet, I know the love of God and His people will abound. I plan to write another book, and to give the testimony of Christian love to all who live in His earth, for this light has brought me out of the darkness and should be shined on all mankind.

I thank you for everything you do for me and for the Father; our rewards await us, as His blood saves us.

Sincerely, Jeremy McGill

Youth & Family News

TEENS: Mark your calendars for a **Connection Point** at Park Forest on Sunday, May 18.

Rockford Christian Camp sessions are beginning with the Memorial Day Teen Retreat, May 23 - 26. Teens, who have completed grades 7-12, need to register by May 9 for no late fee. Applications and information are available on-line or see Cliff.

To support the Wednesday Evening Kids Class, Karissa Wheeler is **challenging us to match their collection of about \$60**. Bring your money to class and put it in one of the yellow LC2LC cups.

PARENTS: Please note RCC retreat fees are \$75 and camp fees are \$150. Be sure to register two weeks prior to any camp session to forego late fees.

Wednesday Kids Class

The Wednesday Evening Kids Class has been collecting money to give to a worthy cause, around \$60. If you would like to help match their donation, see Cyndi Perez.

Benevolence Need

A few of our families are experiencing financial difficulties. If you'd like to make a special contribution, see Justin Avey, Jay Hearn, Cliff Plummer or Bob Voigts.

Also, we know of a family that needs a twin or toddler mattress/bed. Please see Sally if you have one to donate.



Vacation Bible School

June 22-26
Sunday through Thursday

Sunday, June 22, is Family Night!

Join us at 5:00-9:00 p.m.

for a picnic & family activities

Monday-Thursday from 6:30-9:00 p.m.
(Completed K-6th Grade)

Register online: www.wcfamily.org

We still need leaders and volunteers. Let Cliff know if you'd like to be involved and help plan this year's VBS. Volunteers, as well as children, can register online at www.wcfamily.org. And, don't forget...

INVITE your friends and neighbors to VBS!