



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

Volume 44, Issue 19 • May 6, 2012

A Preacher's Perspective

Vines and branches aren't familiar to many of us in the modern world. But most of us love the beauty of vineyards and of the rich fruit which collects on the vines.

In Jesus' day, agricultural lore was very much a part of the common pool of knowledge. In **John 15**, Jesus draws on that familiarity to teach important kingdom principles:

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

² Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

³ You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you.

⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

⁶ If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned.

⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.

⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.

¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in

my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. **John 15:1-11 (RSV)**

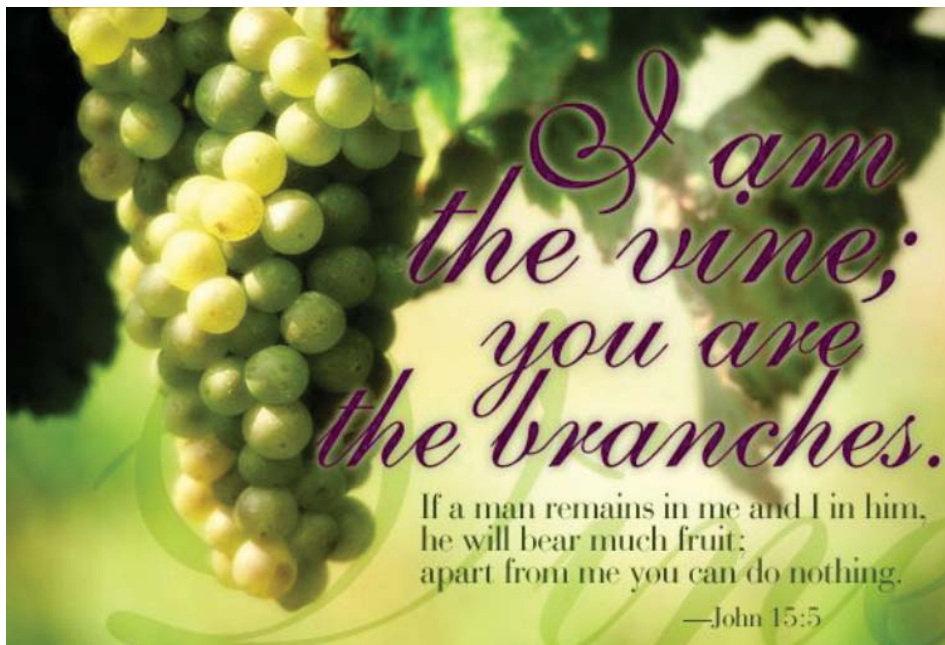
Abide. That's our job in the Divine scheme. God does all the

work of joining our lives with His, with selecting the soil for our planting, and for the creation of new life from His through us.

If we faithfully abide, He will faithfully bear fruit. In that arrangement, He promises to hear and to answer our requests. My sense is that the more deeply and truly we abide in Him, the more perfect and abundant is the fruit we bear.

So, abide in and trust in His life and love coursing through your spirit. Fruit-bearing is inevitable.

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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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, Birthdays *Bob Voigts*
 Kids Connection *Brian Gifford*
 Praise Songs *Dewayne Smith*
 #136 *Love for All*
 #837 *I Need Thee Every Hour*
 #770 *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*
 #382 *Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?*
 #366 *By Christ Redeemed*
 Communion *Don Brewster*
 Prayers & Pass Emblems
 Sermon *Rick Root*
 #381 *Years I Spent in Vanity*
 Prayer Cards *Bob Voigts*
 #749 *The Battle Belongs to the Lord*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May 8 Jon & Tracy Wright (anv.)

Dates to Remember

TODAY Community Group
 May 8 Tuesday Ladies Class
 May 9 Wednesday Bible Class
 May 10 Teen Parent Connection
 May 11 Mens Prayer Breakfast
 May 13 Mother's Day
 May 14 Living Room Café
 May 15 Tuesday Ladies Class
 May 16 Seniors Breakfast, Wednesday Bible Class
 May 17 Teen Parent Connection – Last Meeting
 May 18 Mens Prayer Breakfast
 May 20 Community Group
 May 28 Rachel's Open House

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class 55
 Sunday Morning Worship 89
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class 26
 Contribution \$1,731.46

Nursery Workers Kelly Ieler, Jamie Miller

Collection Counters Justin Avey, Mike Henkel

In Our Prayers...

Carrie Drumheller broke her foot and is on crutches.

Shannon Gifford must take it easy because of Braxton-Hicks contractions. If you can assist them with meals, cleaning or babysitting, please see Sally.

Rachel Jinkerson, a former member and daughter of one of our former elders, had a mass removed from her jaw about a month ago. They did find a rare cancer. Cards may be sent to 1317 Canterbury Drive, Abilene, Texas 79602.

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

Bob & Phyllis Cissne, Cindy Drumheller’s parents

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

John Mark Lango, son of former members Keith & Kim

Debbie Lawrence – Bobbie Whitman’s niece

Don Lemley

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

Kathryn (Lemley) Garner

Shannon Gifford

Christina Voigts

Armed forces:

Josh Aultman – Bobbie Whitman’s grand-nephew

Ryan Gleason – Dana Howard’s nephew

Kristen Hauser – a friend of the Avey’s, Afghanistan

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

Obadiah Doka – Nigeria

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

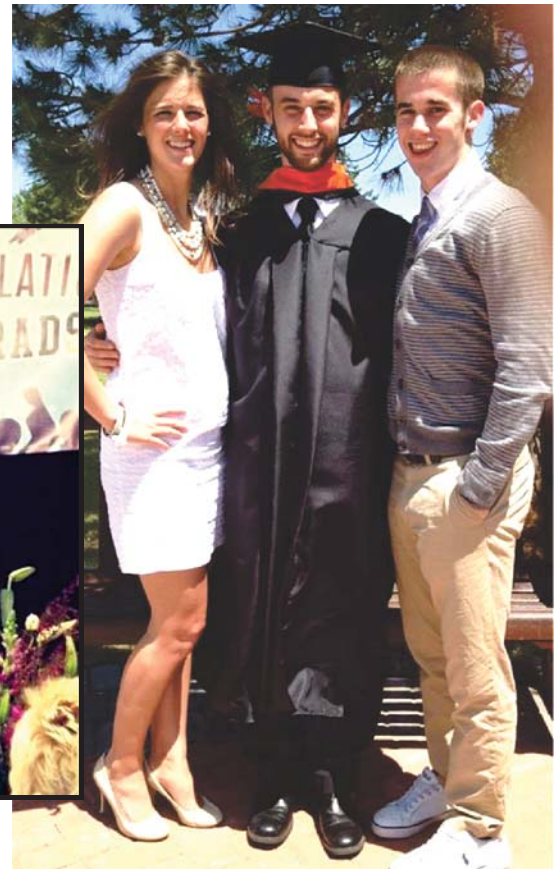
Ayodele Waleola – Nigeria

Congratulations!

Blake Mullins graduated from Oklahoma Christian University on April 27 with a major in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in Spanish. He graduated Summa Cum Laude – highest, distinguished honors. He also received a special award for top Bible Scholar in a non-Bible major and was one of only two people to receive. He has been accepted into the Graduate School of Theology to get a Masters in Divinity.



Blake was chosen by the faculty to speak at graduation.



Today!

Community Groups are scheduled to meet today. Our purpose for the Community Groups is to 1) provide time together in a less structured setting than our Sunday morning worship and 2) grow in love by connecting with others. Some questions to ask yourself, "How can I give more of myself?" and "How is the enemy blinding me to the beauty and goodness of the saints?"



West Chicago Community Groups

Vacation Bible School

There are many ways you can get involved in Vacation Bible School this year. We especially need teachers so that we may keep the class sizes small. If you are interested in helping in any way, please see one of the leaders listed below, Cindy Drumheller or Sally Hearn.

Registration: John and Bev Day
 Education Director: Cindy Drumheller
 Application Station Director: Lisa Henkel
 Decorations: Sally Hearn and Julie Dean
 Dinner & Snacks: Joan Avey and Marion Lake
 Skit Director: Rhonda Triplett
 Devotional Leader: Jon Miller
 Publicity: Sally Hearn

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL "All Aboard the Kingdom Express"

Sunday, June 24, through
 Thursday, June 28.

Can't wait for an awesome summer!



Bible Class Teachers Needed

The next rotation for Bible Class Teachers begins this morning and will last for 8 weeks. We need a teacher for the Grade 3-6 class on Sunday mornings. Also, please sign up on the bulletin board in the foyer to teach the 0-4 class on Wednesday evenings. There is always a need for substitutes. To help, please contact Cindy Drumheller.

Graduation Open House

You are cordially invited to a **Graduation Open House** in honor of Rachel Hearn on **Monday, May 28, from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m.** at the Hearn residence. There will be refreshments throughout the day. Live music performances will begin around 1:30 p.m.



Harding University Night at the Cubs Game is this **Tuesday, May 8**. We'll meet at the building at 3:30 p.m. to go to the pizza party at D'Agostino's Pizza at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$12 per person.

Rockford Christian Camp Memorial Day Retreat is coming up soon. Please register early or contact Jason Willis via Facebook, if you plan to go.

- Senior Week: July 6 - 14
- Intermediate Week: July 14 - 21
- Junior Week: July 21 - 28

Also, consider being a part of the Cabin Keepers Foundation. For more information check www.rockfordchristiancamp.org.



Living Room Café

We will be serving at the **Living Room Café** on **Monday, May 14**. We'll leave the church building around 2:30 p.m. We are also providing the food for the meal that we will be serving. **Please sign up** on the bulletin board in the foyer to bring a portion of the meal.

Special Contribution

The recent special contribution for missions yielded \$7,500. This will be divided appropriately between the two missions trips – Honduras and Mexico. **On May 20th, we will take up a special contribution for Rockford Christian Camp.**

Tuesday Ladies Class

The Tuesday ladies class, led by Pat Brewster, is starting a series of lessons to last through the end of May. She has lesson sheets available if you plan to join us. The class will be on hiatus during the summer months.

Shults-Lewis Annual Day

Shults-Lewis Annual Day is in September, but it's not too soon to think about how you can help. This year we are putting together two baskets to be sold in the auction. Please check the sign-up sheet in the foyer for items to be donated to go into the baskets. Also, quilts and afghans made to be sold in the auction are usually a big money-maker. Please see Lynette Root if you have any questions.