



# Family

## West Chicago Church of Christ

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### A Preacher's Perspective

One of the most remarkable people whom I have ever met is Obadiah Abimiku Doka. In the spring of 2000, Jack Plummer called to get some travel help for Doka who was returning to his native Nigeria and was stuck in Chicago. Patty Wilson of Searcy had found Jack's number, and Jack called me to help follow up.

Chester Sitler, Kim and Phyllis provided hospitality for Doka for about a week while his travel plans got sorted out, and we were blessed to hear Doka's amazing story. Many of you know Doka, but some have not heard his story.

Doka was the son of the president of the local witchcraft association in Keffi, northern Nigeria. This is a Muslim-pagan area very hostile to Christianity. Doka was reared part Muslim but with a strong influence from his father's paganism.

While he was in boarding school, a friend named Birtrus Ishimitu O'Malley suffered a seizure. All his friends ran from him, fearing that if they touched him they would die. But Doka could not abandon his friend. He got him to a clinic and then later visited Birtrus in his home.

Just as he was leaving, he saw a piece of paper on the floor. He picked it up to give it to Bitrus, but Bitrus warned him to be quiet. "It is from World Bible School," Bitrus told him. Doka asked to receive a course for himself.

A man named Charles White from Ozark, MO, became Doka's first gospel teacher. When Doka had learned enough, he asked to be baptized but no one would dare to go to Doka's home for fear of violence. So Doka traveled many hours to find a teacher, Etim E. Young, who would baptize him.

Following his baptism, Doka returned to Keffi, but he could tell no one of his new life in Christ. Finally, he shared the news with one of his half brothers who told his father. Doka's father promised death if Doka did not recant his conversion. But Doka stood firm.

The family plotted to murder Doka. His sister Mary

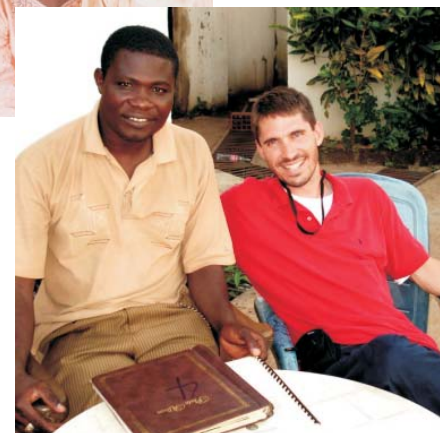
lured him into an intersection where a truck tried to run him down. Doka was injured, and Mary was killed instead.

After the murder attempt, Doka went to Jos where Clarence Wilson lived. Clarence took Doka in while he recovered from his injuries, and Doka became a student of Biblical studies. Doka believes that Clarence is one of the great men in God's kingdom. Clarence's faithfulness, courage, and spiritual example deeply influenced this young man's life.

Eventually, Doka was able to attend Freed-Hardeman University where he received a degree in Bible. Doka returned to Nigeria where he continues to work. He has been very successful in literacy training, receiving government recognition for his outstanding work. He labors in an area still very resistant to the gospel. Alex Bayes, a FH classmate, helps support Doka and has made visits to Nigeria to see him.

We are very blessed today to have with us Clarence and Patty Wilson from Searcy, AR, who were used powerfully by God to bless this courageous servant of the Kingdom.

*Chuck Miller*



Obadiah Doka with Naomi and his family (top); and with Alex Bayes, a fellow-student at Freed-Hardeman University (bottom right).

# 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 - *Cliff Plummer*
- Singing
- Prayer - *Rick Root*
- 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

May 26 . . . . . Paul Mullins  
 May 28 . . . . . Tom & Nancy Doggett (anv.)  
 May 29 . . . . . Chester & Phyllis Sitler (anv.)

## Dates to Remember

May 22-25 . . . . . RCC Teen Retreat  
 May 25 . . . . . Memorial Day  
 June 1 . . . . . Living Room Café Volunteer  
 June 4 . . . . . Food Pantry Delivery  
 June 7 . . . . . Graduation Sunday  
 June 8 . . . . . Living Room Café Volunteer  
 June 13-14 . . . . . Father & Son Retreat  
 June 17 . . . . . Seniors Breakfast  
 June 21 . . . . . Father's Day, Annual Picnic,  
 June 21 . . . . . Up & Out Kick-off  
 June 22 . . . . . The Night Ministry Volunteer  
 June 24 . . . . . Up & Out  
 June 27 - July 3 . . . . . City of Children Mission Trip

## Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class . . . . . 76  
 Sunday Morning Worship . . . . . 134  
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class . . . . . 31  
 Contribution . . . . . \$4,388.00

**Nursery Workers** . . . . . Bev Livermore, Kim Sitler  
**Collection Counters** . . . . . Paul Mullins, Paul Stirrup

## In Our Prayers...

**Herman Aultman, Bobbie Whitman's brother**, is beginning the process of having a kidney transplant. He is very grateful for our prayers.

**Jarrod & Allison Brown** are almost finished with the adoption process of Soledad.

**Marion Kern, Jackie Robinson's mother**, is in a rehabilitation center.

**Dee Phipps, Stacey Hearn's father**, is recuperating from surgery at home. Stacey is Jay and Sally's sister-in-law.

**Chester Sitler** had cataract surgery this week. He is doing very well.

### 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  
 Josephine Haggerton  
 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:

Lauren Avey - Justin & Joan's daughter-in-law  
 Caitlyn Czernik - Chris's daughter-in-law  
 Bridgette Fordyce - former member  
 Cathy Miller - due in June

### Armed forces:

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew  
 Mike Hagan - Doris Biancalana's nephew is in Kuwait and then will go to Iraq  
 Jacob Headtke - U.S. Marines, RCC alumni  
 Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of Lori Plummer  
 Joey Wertz - the friend of Lynette Root's friend is going to Iraq

### Missionaries:

Jarrod, 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](http://www.theknot.com)*



## It's a Boy!

Jon & Jamie Miller are the proud parents of Joshua David! He was born on Thursday, May 21, at 9:51 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs., 3 oz., and was 20.75 inches long. Everyone is doing great, especially Esther! Grandparents are Justin & Joan Avey and Chuck & Bobbye Miller. And, if you look closely you just might see a few smiles! 😊



## Congratulations!

Alyssa Milam graduated from University of Colorado on Friday, May 22, with a B.S. Dental Hygiene.

## Teachers Meeting

If you're planning to teach one of the children's classes next quarter, please plan to attend a meeting on **Saturday morning, May 30, from 10:00 to noon** to get acquainted with our new curriculum.

## Graduation Open Houses

A graduation open house in honor of **Molly Plummer** will be held on Saturday, May 30, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Plummer's home.

A graduation open house in honor of **Carson Boyd** will be held on Saturday, June 6, from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Boyd's home.

A graduation open house in honor of **Caitlin Mullins** will be held on Sunday, June 7, at the Mullins' home.



## Father & Son Retreat

Teenage guys and their dads, we hope you join us for our **Father & Son Retreat**, Saturday, June 13 to Sunday, June 14. Registration forms have been mailed and should be returned to Cliff by June 1.



## 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 Monday night, June 1, and Monday night, June 8. We'll need to leave West Chicago by 2:30. Sign up on the flyer on the bulletin board in the foyer.

## Small Group Surveys

Small Group Fellowship Surveys are available on the bulletin table in the foyer. If you have not already done so, please complete a survey and give it to Don, Cliff or Bob V.



## Up & Out (Vacation Bible School)

Up & Out - Love God, Love Others! Join us for a summer event for all ages!

Through the summer, in place of our usual Wednesday night service, our church family will meet for a fun and active time of fellowship. Each Wednesday night will include an assembly with songs, a Bible drill and a Bible story or skit. Then, depending upon the activity planned for that evening, we will divide into groups to work on a service project, do a craft, play field games, etc.

Each evening will generally run from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., but may start earlier so we can share a meal, or stay later to roast marshmallows in the fire pit.

**We need your help and participation!** Sign up as a family or individuals as a group to organize an Up & Out event! Work together and plan a skit, a service project, activity, or game. Cliff and others are available as resources. Your plans need to be ready and in order a week before the Wednesday you are organizing and need to be OK'd by Cliff at that time.

Our theme for this summer's Up & Out is the Fruit of the Spirit. The kick-off event is Sunday, June 21, at our annual picnic!

## Green Lake Family Encampment

The Green Lake Family Encampment held in Wisconsin, will be **Monday through Friday, August 10-14**. For more information check the bulletin board or contact Helen Plummer, Cliff & Joan's mom, at [hplum15@aol.com](mailto:hplum15@aol.com) or visit [www.greenlakefamilyencampment.com](http://www.greenlakefamilyencampment.com).