



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 40, Issue 20 • May 25, 2008

A Preacher's Perspective

On a marble bench near the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery, these words by Herman Wouk are inscribed: "The beginning of the end of War lies in remembrance." Wouk's fictional character Victor Henry, after the battle of Leyte Gulf, says, "Either war is finished, or we are."

As history advances, as the tools of war become more unthinkable and as the presence of those weapons grows like a shellburst, war becomes more and more a horror. I recently watched a film called "Innocent Voices" about the children of El Salvador who were caught between the army and guerilla forces during a 12-year war. The innocence and joy of their childhood was destroyed.

Nothing personifies the presence of evil and the work of Satan more perfectly than war. More difficult to understand is the expression of God's wrath which is also a factor in war. The final battle, popularly called "Armageddon" will be the advance of the armies of God against Satan and all his demonic hosts. Those whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life will suffer the same fate as God's demonic foes.

Spiritually, it is hard to find anything virtuous in war. Yet, as Americans, we are blessed with security

which much of the world does not enjoy. We have a standard of living which few on the planet can claim. And we owe, at least in the short term, much of the blessing of our liberty, prosperity, and peace to the sacrifice of millions of our fellow-countrymen in war.

We do salute the men and women who stand in harm's way to protect this nation from those who would do us harm. There is a list of names on page three of this bulletin of those who are overseas, or

who soon will be. We especially want to lift up in prayer and gratitude Cathleen Longfellow's sister and brother-in-law. They will be gone 16 months and leave behind a 1-year-old son.

Today, this weekend, we express our gratitude for the courage and commitment of those who have served in our military forces to defend and protect this nation.

Many of you have visited Arlington Cemetery and have been struck by the seemingly endless rows of markers. The effect of that vision is to make it clear that the numbers who have died in order that we may enjoy the blessings of our land is a number beyond imagining.

We express our special thanks to each one of you today who has served this nation in our armed forces. We pray for the day when the swords will be beaten into plowshares.



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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 - Rick Root
- Announcements - Steve Link
- Singing
- Prayer - Cliff Plummer
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - Chuck Miller
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - Bob Voigts
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - Mike Mathews

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- May 26 Paul Mullins
- May 28 Tom & Nancy Doggett (anv.)
- May 29 Chester & Phyllis Sitler (anv.)
- May 31 Esther Miller
- May 31 John & Becky Pedersen (anv.)

Dates to Remember

- May 23-26 RCC Teen Retreat
- June 5 Food Pantry Delivery
- June 7 Leadership Meeting
- June 12 Shults-Lewis Putt-Putt Golf Outing
- June 15 Father's Day
- June 22-26 Vacation Bible School!
- June 29 Annual Picnic

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 102
- Sunday Morning Worship 136
- Contribution \$7,860.61

Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.

Ephesians 6:7-8

In Our Prayers...

Justin Avey has a tumor on his pancreas.

Bob Czernik is very ill and struggling with cancer.

The **Gateway Church of Christ in Southgate, Michigan**, experienced a great loss last weekend. One of their elders, **Dan Tarjeft, and his wife, Jennifer**, the secretary at the church, were killed in a motorcycle accident. Other members, **Aaron Wilmoth** suffered neck injuries and **his wife, Jenn**, lost a leg. **Ron and Nina Hyder, Cathleen Longfellow's cousins**, were involved in the accident but did not sustain any injuries.

Rockford Christian Camp is having a teen retreat this weekend. Pray for everyone's safety and for each camper and staff to be spiritually encouraged.

Margo Smetana, the infant daughter of Steve Link's friend, had a heart transplant several months ago. She is not doing well and may need another transplant.

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

Freda Witham, Sally Hearn's mother, is scheduled to have her gall bladder removed on June 3rd. She was feeling a little better this week.

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
 Josephine Haggerton
 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
 Adonnica Schmittou – the sister-in-law of former
 members Matthew & Debbie Allgood
 Kay Schrader
 Chester & Phyllis Sitler
 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:

Laura Callejo – Cliff Plummer & Joan Avey's niece
 Missy Day
 Amanda Grandlienard – former member

Armed forces overseas:

Greg Billings – Justin Avey's employee, home from Iraq
 Wes Clark – the son-in-law of Lynette Root's friend
 Dustin Meritt – Justin Avey's employee, home from Iraq
 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, Lynette Root



Collection Counters

Justin Avey, Mike Henkel



Honduras Trip

The Honduras Mission Trip is scheduled to depart on Sunday, August 3 (note date change) and will return Sunday, August 10.

The mission group traveling to Honduras will be meeting during Bible class time each Sunday downstairs at the Miller's home.

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.

Missions Prayer Group

~ SUNDAYS ~
8:45 - 9:15 a.m.
Teen Room

Wednesday Kids Class

A teacher is needed for the Wednesday Kids Class in June - the 4th, 11th and 18th. See Cliff to get the materials.

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. The teens raised \$66!

Annual Picnic

Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 29, for our Annual Picnic immediately following morning worship. This is a great event to invite your friends and neighbors for fellowship and fun! Meat and lemonade will be provided. Bring side dishes, lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy an afternoon on the church lawn!



Green Lake Encampment

Check the bulletin board for information about the Green Lake Family Encampment on August 11-16.

Wednesday Ladies Class

Following is the plan for our Ladies Bible Class:
May 14 - June 18: The Epistles of John - Joanne Johnson



Youth & Family News

TEENS: Rockford Christian Camp sessions began this weekend with the Memorial Day Teen Retreat. Other sessions are as follows:

Senior completed grades 9-12 . July 11-19
Intermediate completed grades 6-8 . July 19-26
Junior completed grades 2-5 . July 26-August 2

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.

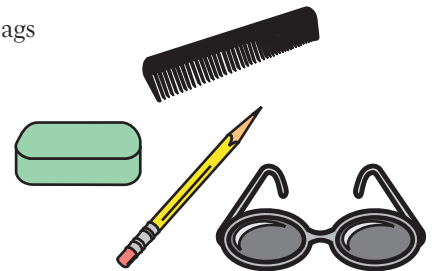
Our next **Sunday Night, Light**, is June 8, after evening services.

Mark your calendars for a **Putt-Putt Golf Outing** on Thursday, June 12, benefitting Shults-Lewis. More information will be in next week's bulletin.

VBS Needs

This year's VBS theme is service. As part of the curriculum, one session the children will be visiting is the Community Corner. The children will be assembling packets of items for our mission team to deliver to children in Honduras. We need 110 of the following items by Sunday, June 15:

- gallon size ziplock bags
- combs
- bars of soap
- wash cloths
- pads of paper
- pencils
- pencil sharpeners
- sunglasses



flip flops - there is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for flip flops of different sizes

Please note: toothpaste and toothbrushes for the packets will be provided.