



West Chicago Church of Christ

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A Preacher's Perspective

I'm not much of a gardener, but I have had some accidental success with my Clematis vine. I planted it six or seven years ago. Things did not go well, at first. For the first couple of years, the little vines got cut with the weed whip. I thought they were done for. Then, when they showed they would survive, all that happened was that some greenery would appear. It didn't amount to much, just some green on the front of the trellis.

Then, about three years ago, I saw some big purple flowers, about four of them. I was pretty excited.

The next year, there were a dozen or more. Then fifty. And this year, there are dozens, well over a hundred!

Wow, not bad for a gardener who didn't have a clue what to do

and who attacked his plants more than cultivated them. My testimony is to the hardiness of the Clematis and to its determination to thrive in the face of all adversity. (You really need to see the online color version of this article to appreciate the success I'm describing: www.wcfamily.org. Go to the link for bulletins to see the article and picture.)

You who are intentional and successful in your efforts at flowers and vines will understand my unexpected joy at having beautiful flowers which seem to be scheduling a return appearance for years to come.

God, you know, is the architect behind it all. He works directly with the brain of the Clematis to engineer beauty and color and delight for the human eye. And, as in all of creation, there are lessons for the soul in it all.

Jesus used vines and branches to teach His disciples about Himself. His special instructions to us in **John 15** remind us how simple is the secret to success. It is found in one single word: "abide."

We don't do the planting. We don't do the pruning. We don't bear the fruit (at least not directly).

We are simply to stay connected, to "abide" in Him.

All the nutrients flow through Him. All the blessings and feeding of sunshine and rain are the work of His hands.

The choice of color, and spacing, and texture and all the things that make the flowering Clematis or the

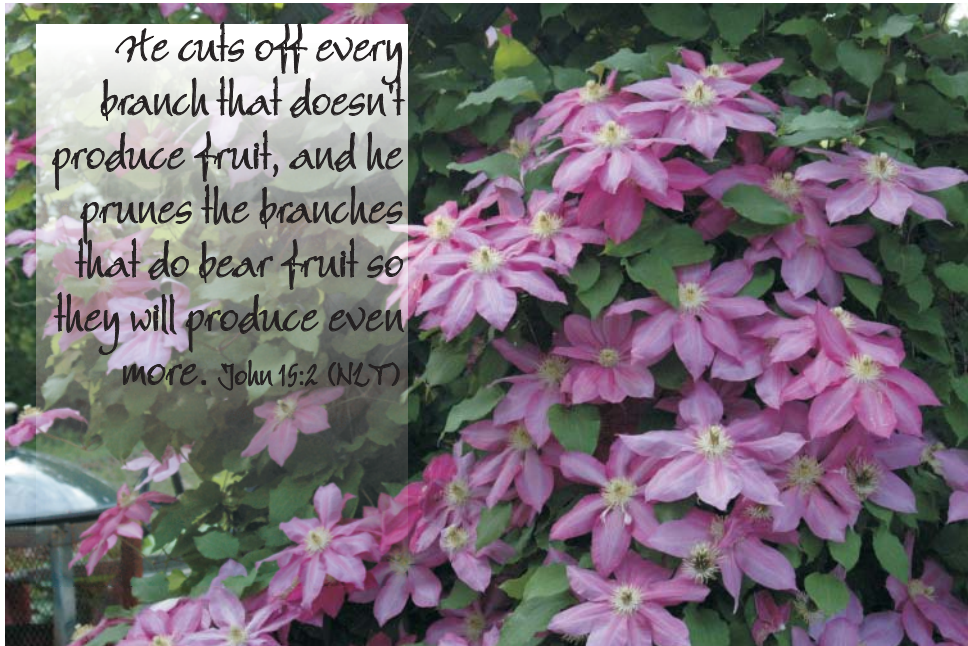
vine of the vineyard successful are according to the Divine nature which has so ordained it.

All we have to do is allow His life to flow through us as we cling to Him.

The glory is all His. The fruit is all His.

The partnership we have with Him in bringing forth new life and seeing good and beautiful things from our efforts is one of the miracles of our experience. What a team we make, God and I!

Are you ready for Him to make your thumb green?



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 - *Jay Hearn*
- Announcements - *Curt Robinson*
- Singing
- Prayer - *Steve Link*
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - *Chuck Miller*
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - *Bob Voigts*
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - *Peter Drumheller*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- June 8 Joan Lockett
- June 9 Chester Sitler
- June 10 Charlie Lockett
- June 12 Cliff & Lori Plummer (anv.)
- June 13 John & Joanne Johnson (anv.)
- June 14 Cary & Emily Gray (anv.)
- June 14 Theresa Lemley, Nick Pedersen

Dates to Remember

- June 12 Shults-Lewis Putt-Putt Golf Outing
- June 15 Father's Day
- June 18 Seniors Breakfast
- June 22-26 Vacation Bible School!
- June 29 Annual Picnic
- July 11-19 RCC Senior Week
- July 19-26 RCC Intermediate Week
- July 26-August 2 RCC Junior Week

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 73
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class 45
- Contribution \$6,572.66

Classes Changing Rooms

The teens will meet in the Teen Room.
The 5th & 6th graders will meet in a room downstairs.

In Our Prayers...

Bob Czernik is very ill and struggling with cancer.

Don and Janet Derke, the brother and wife of Sandy Root's sister-in-law, were in a car accident last Sunday night. Janet was killed instantly and Don is in the hospital and may need his spleen removed. They have 4 children.

Maxine Garon, one of our deaf interpreters, will have her gall bladder removed on June 12.

Pray for our Honduras mission trip this August.

Dennis Jentsch, a friend of Julie Chavez, had received good test results from possible cancer in his kidney. He found out this week that his results were confused with another patient. He does have cancer and is facing chemotherapy treatments.

Kay Schrader has been in the hospital this week with pneumonia. She is recuperating at home.

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.

Jim Whitman is recuperating at home after being in the hospital a week ago with blood clots in his leg, the same leg as several years ago.

Freeda Witham, Sally Hearn's mother, has had her surgery postponed until she can have some tests done.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman - Bobbie Whitman's brother

Sylvia Atten - Dana Howard's friend

Justin Avey

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

Bob Czernik

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

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:

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

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, Joan Avey



Collection Counters

Jeff Ieler, Rick Root



Graduation Open House

You are invited to an Open House to celebrate the high school graduation of **J.J. Chavez** this **Saturday, June 14**, beginning at **7:00 p.m.** at their home, 2 S 330 Hart Road in Batavia.



Congratulations!

Ashley Pedersen graduated from Augustana College on May 25 with a degree in accounting. Congratulations!

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

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!

Teachers Needed!

There are several opportunities for Bible teachers. Please see Cliff if you are interested:

1. Teaching the teen class on Sunday mornings in July and August.
2. Teachers are needed for Rockford Christian Camp Junior Week, July 25 - August 2.

Green Lake Encampment

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

Clothing & Shoes Needed

A couple of families who visit our food pantry need clothing and shoes for their children. Let Sally know if you can help:

1. boy, 4 years old, clothing - size 5, shoes - size 12
2. girl, 6 years old, clothing - size 7, shoes - size 14
3. flip flops for 10 children/teens - sizes: 1, 3, 5, 5, 6, 7, 7, 8, 9, 10

Youth & Family News

TEENS: There is a **Sunday Night, Light**, tonight after evening services here at the church building. We are working on the "teen-led" Sunday morning worship service on June 15. Guys bring drinks; girls bring veggies or dessert.

PRE-TEENS & TEENS: The **Annual Youth Putt-Putt Golf Tournament**, benefitting Shults-Lewis, is this Thursday, June 12. The cost is \$15 (including lunch). We'll leave from the building about 8:30 a.m., and return after lunch. **Sign up today** on the sheet outside the Teen Room.

Don't forget to register for RCC!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Register your kids for VBS as soon as possible. You can register online at www.wcfamily.org or you can use the registration forms available in the foyer.

Take registration forms to your friends!

Sign up to help with VBS! There are many ways you can get involved! Check out the display in the foyer.

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.

...cookies, brownies and cupcakes. Please see Joan Avey, Marion or Nana Lake if you can help out.



...items for decorations - see Sally if you have the following lawn ornaments (however, don't bring your favorite lawn gnome) bright, unusual clothing for a clothes line

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)