



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 40, Issue 26 • July 6, 2008

A Preacher's Perspective

Celebration is a joyful experience. Our hearts are lifted as we eat good food, visit with good friends, and I personally like the addition of fireworks in these modern times. (I guess they've been around for awhile, haven't they?)

Our national birthday is a good excuse for fireworks and hurrahs. Even a ball game can bring out the razzle dazzle of exploding rockets and color. Bobbye and I enjoyed our pilgrimage to Grant Park this year, except that the weather was so cold we almost froze! Cold nights in July are just not a part of our Southern heritage. We always enjoy the Bartlett celebration also.

One of the great celebrations I think of each year, one which would have been worthy of the maximum fireworks extravaganza, was the Hebrew year of Jubilee.

Jubilee came every 50 years. It was the ultimate "do-over" event. If you were a slave, you were set free when those silver trumpets announced that Jubilee had come. If you had sold land (crops, actually), you got back the full ownership during the Jubilee year.

Jubilee was a kind of picture of the grace of God. God knew that the people would sin, that they would make bad decisions and desperate bargains. And He arranged to remind them, though not too often, that He had not forgotten.

One interesting aspect of Jubilee is the redistribution of wealth to the original tribes. God never meant the ownership of the tribes to change, so long as there were records of who belonged to what family

line. Ron Sider notes that God's property policy seems to have in mind seeing that each one had enough land to support his family.

Due to bad farming skills, laziness, unforeseen bad times or whatever reason, in between Jubilees, things got seriously rearranged. But when Jubilee burst onto the national calendar, everything got set right. (Actually, debts got cancelled every seven years, but Jubilee caught everything up.)

Aren't you grateful for God's "do-over" attitude? That's why we sing about and celebrate the steadfast love of the Lord and how His mercies never come to an end. New. New every morning. Clean slate every fifty years.

But the cross does even better. The blood of Jesus continually cleanses us of our sins. We get to enjoy the blessing that our sins are not even counted against us. Psalm 32 had previewed the idea: "Blessed is the man whose sin does not count against him."

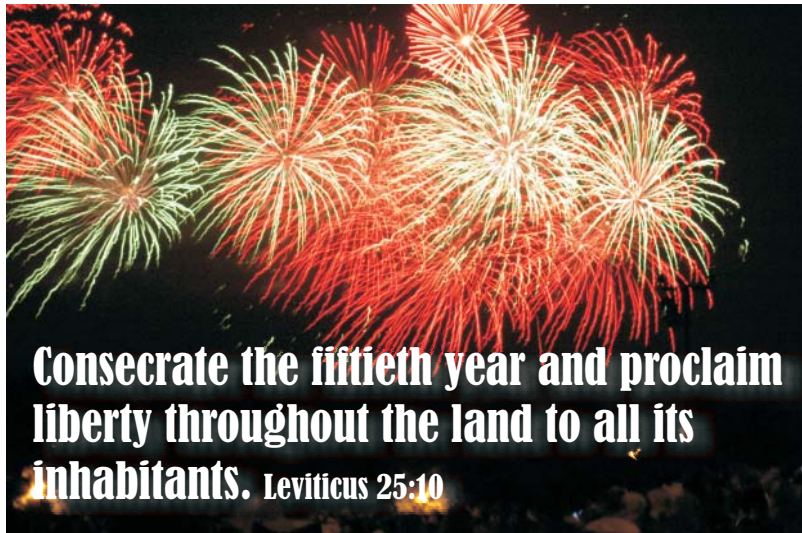
Paul goes on to explain that because we

have been baptized into the death of Jesus, we are no longer under the dominion of the law, but we are under grace. I always liked Jerry Jones' comment, "Unless you have heard grace explained in such a way that it sounds too good to be true, you haven't heard it right!"

So Jubilee is what we get to celebrate every morning. Each week's communion time is a reminder of the truth that all debts are cancelled. We are free, and no one can bring a charge against us.

Hallelujah!

Sound the trumpets!



Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. Leviticus 25:10

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 - Dewayne Smith
- Announcements - Rick Root
- 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 - Steve Link

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- July 6 John Johnson

Dates to Remember

- July 6 Sunday Night Light/Teens
- July 11-19 RCC Senior Week
- July 16 Seniors Breakfast
- July 19-26 RCC Intermediate Week
- July 26-August 2 RCC Junior Week
- July 27 Sunday Night Light/Teens
- August 3-10 Honduras Mission Trip
- August 8-10 RCC Young Adult Retreat
- August 11-15 Greenlake Family Encampment
- September 12 Shults-Lewis Golf Outing
- September 20 Shults-Lewis Annual Day
- October 1 Magi Boxes Due
- October 25-26 Chicago Celebration

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 96
- Sunday Morning Worship 146
- Contribution \$4,087.00



In Our Prayers...

Bob Czernik passed away last weekend. Pray for Chris and her family.

Pray for Marie Hayes and her daughters. **Lisa DeVaney** continues to struggle with several health issues. **Sandy Jones** suffered a heart attack a couple weeks ago.

Pray for our **Honduras mission trip** this August. Travel arrangements are still trying to be arranged due to problems with the Tegucigalpa airport.

Jean Lawrence, Frances Shearer's mother, had a stroke a week ago.

Joe Voigts returned to the U.S. from China this week.

Kenn & Sherry Watson returned from their mission trip to Mexico on Friday.

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

John Day

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 & Bobby'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

Shelley Prosser – Joan Lockett's daughter

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



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14

Honduras Trip

The Honduras Mission Trip is scheduled for Sunday, August 3 to Sunday, August 10. Those going are: Don & Rob Brewster, J.J. Chavez, Bridgette Fordyce, Emily & Cary Gray, Jay, Rachel, Doug & Stacey Hearn, Bev Livermore, Christian Mathews, Molly, Blake, & Caitlin Mullins, Caitlin's friend, Molly, Cliff Plummer, Dan Vantreese, Karissa Wheeler, Chris, Sandy, Charissa & Shane Youssi from Rockford.

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

Rent-A-Teen

Need some work done around your house or yard? Check out the flyer on the bulletin board in the foyer to see who is available. Then, call the teen directly to set up the work. Payment is up to your discretion, but \$7 p/hr., or more dependent on the work, is suggested.



The money the teens earn will be used towards the Honduras mission trip. See Cliff or J.J. with any questions.

Teachers Needed!

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

1. Teaching the teen class on the following Sunday mornings: July 3 & 20 and August 3 & 10.
2. Two male teachers are needed for Rockford Christian Camp Junior Week, July 25 - August 2. See Cliff asap!

Contributions

Please write separate checks when you are making a donation to a specific fund, such as Doka or Honduras. It is very difficult for the men who count the collection to separate checks into different accounts and also follow the church's accounting procedures.

RCC Young Adult Retreat

The RCC Young Adult Retreat will be held from **Friday, August 8, at 4:00 p.m. to Sunday, August 10.** This retreat is for adults who have finished high school and are no older than 35. This is a great opportunity have fun and fellowship with other Christian young adults in the area. Go to www.rcchome.com for registration information.

Youth & Family News

TEENS: There is a **Sunday Night Light** scheduled for **tonight** at the church building. The devotional will be held at the fire pit. Bring \$3 for food and a stick for roasting a hot dog marshmallows.

Don't forget to register for RCC! Payment for Senior week should be mailed as soon as possible and you will need to include a \$15 late fee. Intermediate registrations should be mailed as soon as possible also.

PRE-TEENS: Looking for something to do **this Wednesday (7/9)?** Come to the building **around 4:00** and have fun playing outdoor games like volleyball, kick-ball, basketball, etc. We'll have pizza afterwards, just before Wednesday night Bible class. See J.J. for more information.

VBS Community Corner

You can still donate items for the nursing home bags. Brand name items are very popular prizes at their bingo games. Please **NO** travel sizes or extra large bottles. Items needed are:

Kleenex	Shampoo	Toothpaste
Lotion	Conditioner	Toothbrush
Bar of soap	Deodorant	Body spray

Kids Under Construction

The Wednesday evening kids Bible class will be continuing the "God's Big Backyard" theme throughout the summer. Each Wednesday will have a different leader will consist of a different combination of Bible lesson, craft, service project, game or snack. Adults see Sarah Miller if you'd like to help. **Kids, invite your friends!**



Thank You

A big "thank you" goes out to everyone who participated in the car wash last Sunday. \$741 was raised for the teens going to Honduras this summer.

Green Lake Encampment

The Green Lake Family Encampment will be held August 11-16. Contact Helen Plummer for registration information at hplum15@aol.com.

Nursery Workers

Bev Day, Sabrina Link



Collection Counters

Steve Link, Paul Mullins

