



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 39, Issue 31 • August 5, 2007

A Preacher's Perspective

Satan would have us believe that the way of Jesus is impossibly hard and a great burden to be borne. One of the ways our enemy advances this discouragement is in tempting us to try to conform our lives to the will of God without the aid of the power and Spirit of God. In our own strength, it is, of course, impossible to be the men and women and young people which is the dream of our hearts.

So many believers have taken the path of performance and legalism only to be defeated and joyless. Those looking at their walk are hardly inspired to join them on their journey. We should be careful, however, about thinking too harshly about well-meaning achievers.

There is much to be said for those who mightily dedicate themselves to the calling of the Kingdom. We are often put to shame by those whose understanding may be weak, but whose works are awesome. And we don't want to forget that God created us to do the good works which He has prepared beforehand for us to do. (Eph. 2:10)

God doesn't want us to be idle or apathetic in the living out of our Christian faith and life, but it is of great importance that we understand the partnership which we must have with Him in order to work in the power of His will and purpose.

One of the great texts which gives us insight in this matter is **John 15** where Jesus teaches us to bear

fruit by "abiding" in Him. If we remain connected to Him, He will bear fruit through us. It's His work.

Another of the passages which stresses this work partnership between us and Jesus is in **Matthew 11:30** where Jesus offers us the blessing of being yoke-fellows with Him.

Our world has little appreciation for the work advantage of a yoke, but in earlier days when burdens were borne by hand, the appreciation for these devices was great indeed. The yoke allowed distribution of a heavy load and doubled the power of the laborer.

There are many examples of God's men and women who struggled under the load of living godly in the world. Elijah despaired of life even after the great victory at Mt. Carmel over the priests of Baal. Jeremiah groaned under the rejection and bitterness of his own people toward the word which God sent him to proclaim.

But again and again, God renewed and refreshed His servants so that they could accomplish the work to which they were called.

Satan wants us to forget that we are in a covenant of power with the sovereign Lord of all the earth. He wants us to forget that he is a defeated foe and that all the world will bow the knee to worship and do homage to the God of our

yoke.

As the apostle Paul reminds us, "do not grow weary in well-doing" (**Gal. 6:9**). Look to your partner in the yoke to encourage your walk.



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. The adult class which meets in the auditorium is interpreted for the deaf, as well as this morning's worship.

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

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 - Tim Boyd
- Announcements - Kyle Wheeler
- Singing
- Prayer - Mike Mathews
- Singing
- Lord's Supper - Scott Fordyce
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - Chuck Miller
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - Bob Voigts
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - Peter Drumheller

Birthdays & Anniversaries

August 8 Jason Day
 August 10 A.J. Deitrick
 August 11 Cole Livermore

Dates to Remember

August 6-10 Midwest Encampment
 August 15 Seniors Breakfast
 August 19 Parents of Teens Luncheon
 August 24 Family Movie Night
 August 31 RCC Labor Day Retreat
 September 16 WBS Impact Sunday
 September 30 Orphan Sunday

Focus on the Family Bulletins

Focus on the Family Bulletins are available in the foyer, with a new edition each month. Make sure to get a copy and feel free to pass it along to your friends. The Bulletin is full of information and encouragement for parents.



In Our Prayers...

College students are leaving soon: Blake Mullins, Emma Boyd, Katherine Lemley, Cole Livermore, Alyssa Milam, Ashley Pedersen, Kayla, Kileen & Kinton Wheeler.

Taylor Baum, who attends Shelby Root's school, is 9 years old and was diagnosed with leukemia in April. She has been very ill this week and in the hospital with fever and headaches. Pray also for her mother, Tanya.

Bob Czernik, Chris's husband, had surgery this week to remove his stomach because of cancer. He will be in the hospital for another week.

Laura Freed, Elizabeth Griffin's sister, passed away this week. Bob will conduct the funeral. He and Betsy will leave today.

Elizabeth Griffin is slowly recuperating from surgery.

Dana Howard will be having surgery on her toe soon.

Dr. Javier, Mission Lazarus physician, was bitten in his home by a deadly Bushmaster snake. They believe he will survive, but he is in serious condition.

Leveda Manning, Justin Avey and Theresa Link's aunt, had hip replacement surgery this week.

Chuck Miller has a torn muscle which will take 6-8 weeks to heal.

Jack Roberts, Chuck Miller's oldest friend, was in an auto accident and has cracked ribs.

Stephen Stilwell, Bridgett Fordyce's father, had reconstructive surgery on his elbow. Everything went well.

Darrell Vaden is recuperating from knee surgery.

Linda Vantreese is at Pershing Convalescent Home, 3900 Oak Park Ave., Berwyn, 60402. Call her at 244-2416.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Andrea Bailey - a former member from California

Irene Barnes - Lynette Root's aunt

Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's mother

Lisa Beverly - Sandy Boyd's sister who has MS

Bonnie Bingham

Jim Brannon - Pat Brewster's brother-in-law

Mary Brent - Joe Kirts' sister

John Day

Al Dorsey

Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson

Amy Ferguson - a former member from Montana

Jean Gray - Linda Vantreese's sister

Josephine Haggerton

Thomas Haggerton - Josephine's nephew

Sarah Hayden & family - Maria Zeisler's relative

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

Sue Lake - Marion's sister-in-law

Don Lemley

Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece

Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother

Steve Link

Jack Lockett - the father of Charlie, Mike, Shelley,

Julie Chavez, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen

Joan Lockett

Mike Lockett - Joan's son

Laura Mahan - Shirley Rucker's daughter

Steve & Melissa Massie family

Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's niece

Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and the son of

Marion Lake's cousin

Doug Peterson

Melinda Poff - the sister of Jason Willis

Neil & Pat Ronzheimer - Nancy Doggett's sister & brother-in-law

Kay Schrader

Chester & Phyllis Sittler

Bruce Snyder - Bob Voigts cousin

Ollie Taylor - the niece of Lynette Root's friend

Eudie Voigts - Bob's mother

Jim & Jamie Winner

Jeremy & Jim Whitman

Donna Young's parents

Michael Young - Alan's brother

Rick & Gina Zamora - Melissa Massie's brother and sister-in-law

Mothers-to-be:

Natalie Conner - Sally Hearn's niece

Kelly Ieler

Laura Leo - Bob & Betsy Jett's daughter

Tami Urso - Dan & Linda Vantreese's daughter

Gina Zamora

Olivia Zeisler - Maria's daughter-in-law

Armed forces overseas:

Greg Billings - Justin Avey's employee

Evan Boyd - Tim & Sandy's nephew in Afghanistan

Dustin Meritt - Justin Avey's employee

Tyechia (Keesha) Price - a friend from RCC in Iraq

David Teel - Justin Avey's employee

John Tokarewich - the father of Sabrina Link's friend

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

Juan & Roxanna Flores - Honduras

Leonardo Ken & family - Honduras

Keith, Kim, Candace, Laura & John Mark Lango - Brazil

Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria

Shults-Lewis - the teens, their families, the workers

Nursery Workers

Sandy Boyd, Becky Pedersen



Collection Counters

Steve Link, Paul Mullins



Sign Language

Sign language classes will start again in September.

Julie Chavez is teaching a sign language class for elementary school-aged children through the DuPage Center for Independent Living. Check out the flyer/registration form on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Ladies Class

Following is the schedule for the Wednesday Ladies Bible Class. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated with the fellowship/devotional at Franciscan Court last Wednesday. Everyone had a great time!

- Aug. 8: College Student Devotional – Katherine Lemley
- Aug. 15: Service Devotional – Frances Shearer
- Aug. 22: 1 John Devotional – Joanne Johnson (2 weeks)
- Sept. 5: Spiritual Disciplines (17 week study)

Baptism!

Alec Boyd was baptized by his father, Tim at Rockford Christian Camp last week during Junior week.

His proud family are: Tim, Sandy, Emma and Carson. May God richly bless this young man.



WBS Impact Sunday

On Sunday, September 16th, World Bible School is calling for a great partnership effort in reaching out to 465,000 high school age young people with the gospel. We'll be sharing more about this outreach. Look for a flyer on our bulletin board.

Orphan Sunday

Last year we had a great outpouring for the Orphan Sunday project sponsored by Lifeline of Hope. They are doing great work in caring for children all over the world. Many of you got to hear Larry Bertram who spoke here earlier this year (while I was at Pepperdine). The date for Orphan Sunday this year is September 30th. Be praying about your support for this great work.

Scholarship Appeal

Sid Fryer has made us aware of an opportunity to assist a young man from the Rockford church who plans to attend Rochester College to prepare himself to preach. If you would like to make a donation to his support, please give a check or cash donation to Chuck or one of the elders. The good thing is that your donation will be matched by Rochester College, so you'll double your money with this gift!

Samantha Strange Thank-you

Samantha Strange has sent the congregation a letter expressing her thanks for support for her mission trip to Mozambique the past summer. Her letter will be posted on

Youth & Family News

TEENS: Be sure to pick-up a **Loose Change to Loosen Chains** cup from the teen room. This Wednesday night's "Be the Change" discussion will be through the chapter on "Standing Firm."

TEEN PARENTS: Mark your calendar for a luncheon meeting on **Sunday, August 19**, immediately following morning services. This meeting is intended to be an open dialogue between Cliff and parents, to talk about planned activities and studies, answer questions, share ideas, and discuss opportunities for parents to be involved. Teens are welcome to stay and participate.

Family Movie Night is Friday, August 24, at 8:30 p.m. The movie will be *Dreamer* with Kurt Russell and Dakota Fanning. Join us in the side yard and bring a friend!

SENIORS: The seniors breakfast is next Wednesday, August 15, at Colonial Café on Roosevelt Road, in Geneva. Join us from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. for a great time of fellowship!

the bulletin board. We are very proud of Samantha and her love for service to God.

Mission Lazarus Doctor Injured

The physician for Mission Lazarus, Dr. Javier, was bitten in his home by an extremely poisonous and deadly snake, a Bushmaster. The doctor was transported to Tegucigalpa for treatment and is expected to survive. His foot has broken open because of the venom. Please pray for his recovery.

CELEBRATE
The Life of God

CARE
About One Another in Christ

CULTIVATE
Personal Growth in Christ

COMMUNICATE
Christ To Our World