



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 39, Issue 32 • August 12, 2007

A Preacher's Perspective

In the innocent perfection of God's creatures, He has designed qualities which reflect His wisdom and which instruct us. Frequently scripture uses the ways of the animal kingdom to illustrate and instruct the sons of men.

Jeremiah grieved over the failing of God's people to return to Him. The stork, turtledove, swallow and crane all respond to the stirring to return home. The annual journeys of bird migration are amazing reminders of God's design.

But, Jeremiah laments, Israel, the rebellious inhabitants of Judah, felt no inner stirring to return to their God and Father. They do not respond to the "ordinance of the Lord."

Like Judah, our world has greatly lost its migratory instinct toward God. The powers that call to the world of our day are those of pleasure, feelings, experiences and possessions. But God is still calling through the gospel. The Holy Spirit still interacts with the spirit of man which God has placed within him. However, the "thorny soil" of this world often chokes out the whispers of the still, small voice of God by the noise of "the cares of the world and the delight in riches." (Matthew 13:23)

Do you feel the call of migration home to God? In Psalm 84:5, (RSV/NASB) the psalmist writes of

those in whose hearts are "the highways to Zion." To feel those powerful homeward urges we must look for ways to receive the beacon which calls us toward God.

The pursuit of spiritual disciplines is aimed at that goal. In silence and solitude, we may be able to hear above the clamor and clatter of our age. In meditation

on God's word, and in prayer, we may again discover the direction which is a "lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path." (Psalm 119:105)

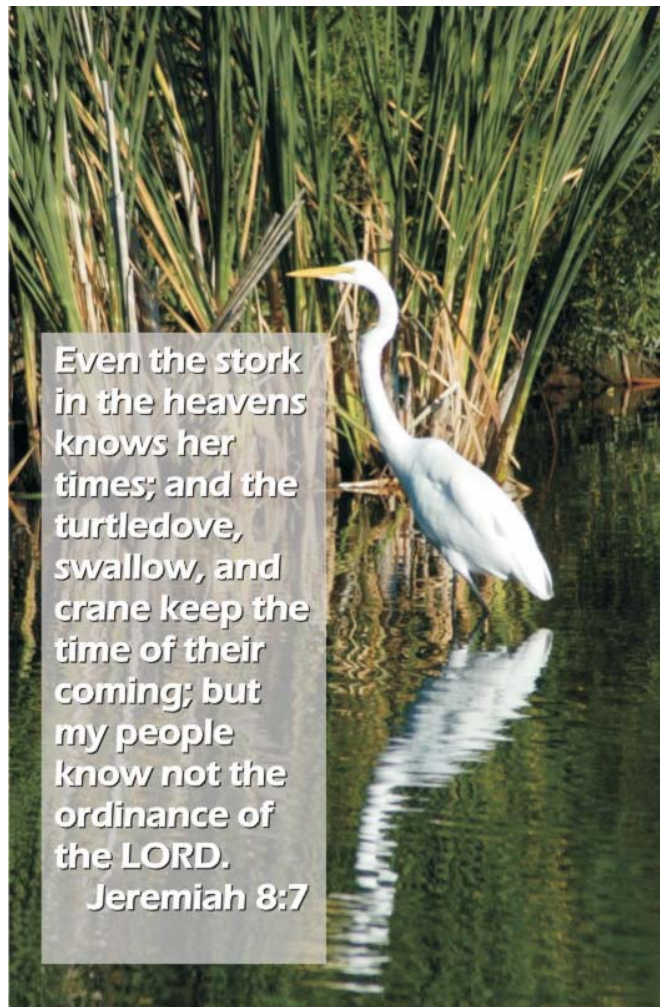
Without a rediscovery of the voice of the One who stands at the door and knocks, we cannot find our way to His salvation, security and fellowship. Jesus promises that whoever asks will receive, that whoever seeks will find, and that whoever knocks will find the door opened to him.

But if we choose to deaden our ears and spirits with endless hours of television, with endless pursuit of more possessions, and with unquenchable desire for excitement and sensation, we may never hear God's call.

One of the wonderful ways that God re-connects with those who have tuned Him out is by bringing them into contact with those who

are reflecting the love, joy and peace of the Spirit. In seeing the blessing of fulfilled lives, the lost are sometimes reminded of the true destination of their souls.

Be available and authentic. A soul may be listening for travel directions.



Even the stork in the heavens knows her times; and the turtledove, swallow, and crane keep the time of their coming; but my people know not the ordinance of the LORD.
Jeremiah 8:7

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. 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 – Jay Hearn
- Announcements – Kyle Wheeler
- Singing
- Prayer – Justin Avey
- 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 – Wes Grandlienard

Birthdays & Anniversaries

August 15..... Wendell Mott, Maria Zeisler,
 Bob & Betsy Jett (anv.)
 August 17 Craig & Bev Livermore (anv.)

Dates to Remember

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.

Website Updates

Check out our newly updated website at www.wcfamily.org. We hope to keep it current. The RCC website, www.rcchome.com, is also updated.

In Our Prayers...

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

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

Taylor Baum, who attends Shelby Root's school, is 9 years old and was diagnosed with leukemia in April. Pray also for her mother, Tanya.

Bob Czernik, Chris's husband, had surgery to remove his stomach because of cancer. He is stable and will be in the hospital a few more days.

Laura Freed, Elizabeth Griffin's sister, passed away a week ago.

Elizabeth Griffin is slowly recuperating from surgery.

Dana Howard will be having surgery soon on her toe.

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

Chuck Miller is doing much better.

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

Roxanne Whitman is having problems with eye infections.

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 Sitrler

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

Missy Kissane, Jackie Robinson



Collection Counters

Steve Link, Paul Mullins



*I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.*

PSALM 34:4

Ladies Class

Following is the schedule for the Wednesday Night Ladies Bible Class. See Joanne Johnson if you are interested in leading or teaching a class for the ladies.

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

Baptisms!

Rachel Hearn and Shelby Root were baptized by their fathers at Rockford Christian Camp last Sunday afternoon. May God richly bless these young ladies.



Pictured above: Jay, Rachel, Sally & Charlie Hearn. Pictured left: Rick, Shelby & Lynette Root.

School Supplies

There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for school supplies that are needed to be donated to Turner Elementary School which is located across the street from the church building. See Lori Plummer with questions.

Chicago Celebration

Mark your calendars for the **Chicago Celebration** to be held on **Sunday, November 11**, at the Tinely Park Convention Center. It is a gathering of Christians from the Chicago area to worship and fellowship.

Sign Language

Sign language classes will start again in September.

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 this **Wednesday, August 15**, at Colonial Café on Roosevelt Road in St. Charles. Join us from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. for a great time of fellowship!

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 Chuck 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 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!

Magi Boxes

The Magi Project is coming up soon. More information will be available in the next couple of weeks. School-type items are a great addition to the boxes, so you might want to buy extra when getting your kids ready for school.