



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

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A Preacher's Perspective

The picture is of the Mathare slums of Nairobi. My daughter, Sarah, took the picture a few years ago on a visit when she was working in Tanzania. The Mathare slums are known throughout the world as a place of misery and horror, especially for the children. Gang violence makes even the police fearful of entering. The population of the slums is estimated to be over 500,000.

By comparison, most children in America, even children of poverty, have things better. But it's all relative. God knows of the fear and hunger-deadened hearts of children around the world. Mathare. Mumbai. Tegucigalpa. Chicago. Their pain is a scream to heaven from which God's ears can never escape.

The emphasis throughout scripture of God's great compassion and concern for children is one of the dominant themes of the Word. When we reach out to children, we reflect the very heart and mind of the Lord Jesus. Remember how Jesus consistently welcomed the children and how He made clear to His disciples that these little ones had top priority with Him? One of the strongest statements in that regard is this one: ⁵ "And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.

⁶ But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. **Matthew 18:5-6** (NIV)

We need to be very clear that in our personal lives,

there are few benchmarks which God takes note of more than the way our hearts and our priorities demonstrate a love for His children. I believe the same is true for a church, both locally and world-wide.

We have not made children a priority in our fellowship as we should have, in my opinion. In spite of this, there are some wonderful people and ministries which are making the rescue and reclamation of children a top priority to the best of their abilities.

Most of you are very aware of the years my family spent in working with the ministry at Shults-Lewis in Valparaiso, IN. My son Joe who is worshiping with us now came to be a part of our lives through that work.

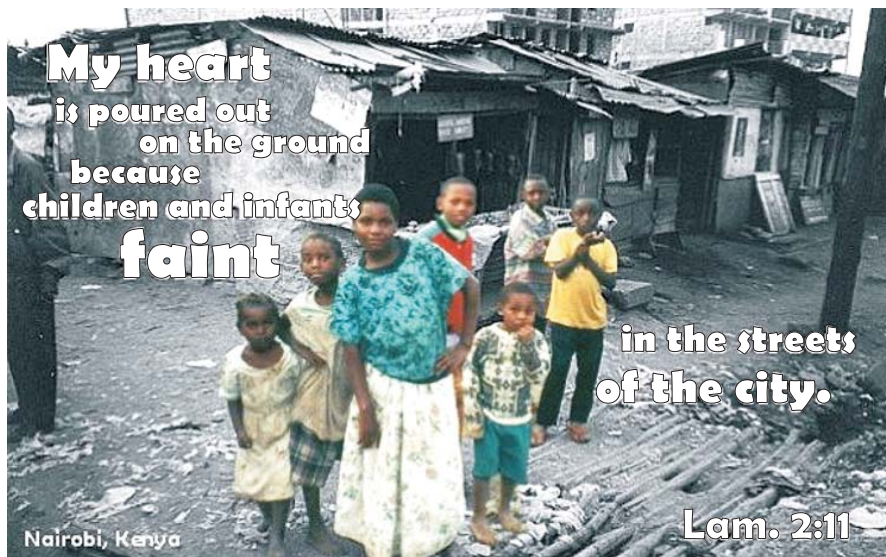
I want to challenge you to make plans to go in person on September 19 to be a part of the Shults-Lewis annual day. Dewayne Smith is the Shults-Lewis board chairman, and Justin Avey serves on the board with him. Pat and Marion Lake have been great supporters of the ministry at Shults-

Lewis, and Joan Avey has headed up the Christmas gift project for years. Kyle Wheeler has also been a key Shults-Lewis support worker, as have many others of you.

If you will go to visit, it will sharpen your focus on the announcements and projects you hear about which relate to that ministry. Being there is a great encouragement to the staff who are working on our behalf with the children.

Be grateful that America does not have a Mathare. Yet. Let's support those who are working to keep it that way. September 19th.

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. Pre-school and elementary-age children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the fellowship room downstairs. Adult classes meet in the auditorium and at the end of the foyer.

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 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
 Chuck Miller

Bob Jett
 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



350 East James Avenue
 West Chicago, Illinois 60185
 (630) 231-2062
 wcfamily@wcfamily.org
 www.wcfamily.org

This Morning ...

Please take a moment this morning to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest. 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 Chuck Miller
 Singing Tim Boyd
 #117 God is the Fountain
 Prayer Updates & Scripture Steve Link
 #490 It is Well
 #813 Jesus Meek and Gentle
 Prayer John Johnson
 #266 Majesty
 #234 Worthy is the Lamb
 Lord's Supper Cliff Plummer
 Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
 Sermon Chuck Miller
 #662 All to Jesus I Surrender
 Prayer Card Responses and Prayer Bob Voigts
 Announcements Steve Link
 #167 Hosanna
 Closing Prayer Jeff Ieler

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September 8 Cindy Drumheller, Lisa Henkel
 September 9 Emily Gray, Mike & Lisa Henkel (anv.)
 September 12 Curt Robinson

Dates to Remember

September 4-7 RCC Teen Retreat
 September 10 Preachers Breakfast
 September 11 Shults-Lewis Golf Outing
 September 12 Elder/Deacon Meeting
 September 12 Dessert Fellowship/Parents of Teens
 September 13 Sunday Night Light/Teens
 September 16 Seniors Breakfast
 September 19 Shults-Lewis Annual Day
 September 20 Small Group Kick-Off Potluck

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class 65
 Sunday Morning Worship 102
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class 28
 Contribution \$29,314.40

Nursery Workers

Carrie Drumheller, Molly Mullins



Collection Counters

Mike Henkel, Paul Mullins



In Our Prayers...

Several of our members and their family and friends are suffering with job issues.

Cile Brown, Jarrod's grandmother, fell and broke her hip earlier this week. They were planning to do surgery. She lives at a nursing home in Houston, Texas. She is 86 years old and suffers from advanced dementia/Alzheimer's.

Cindy Byars is daughter in law to a friend of Chuck and Bobbye. Cindy has cancer.

Dana Logan Freda, a former member, has a disease called Moya Moya which causes oxygen problems to her brain, which in turn causes strokes. She is 30 years old and has suffered two major strokes. She is unable to work and must have someone with her at all times. Stanford and Mayo are review her case.

Marie Hayes is doing better and was grateful to see everyone on the webcast last Sunday. **Her daughter, Sandy Jones**, is still suffering with health issues. **Her daughter, Lisa DeVaney**, and her sons, Jake & Chad, are doing well.

Art Hebert is the father in law of Chuck and Bobbye's foster son, Al, in Milwaukee. He had surgery for colon cancer and seems to be doing well.

Bobbye Miller was in the ER on Friday. She may have had food poisoning. She is better but still very weak.

Chester Sitler wasn't feeling well this week. They think it is his gall bladder. Surgery is not an option at this time.

Cathy Vaden's grandmother fell and broke her hip.

Jim Whitman received results from his tests. The doctors are not going to do any surgical procedure at this time to take care of the small clot he has. They are afraid it may do him more harm than good. They have changed his medication.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Justin Avey
 Herman Aultman - Bobbie Whitman's brother
 Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents
 Lisa Beverly - Sandy Boyd's sister has MS
 Bonnie Bingham
 Jim Brannon - Pat Brewster's brother-in-law
 Don & Pat Brewster
 Nancy Brewster
 Jim & Julie Chavez
 Gail Cole - Lori Plummer's mother
 John Day
 Al Dorsey & his son, Doug
 Joyce Eakins
 Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson
 Sarah Hayden - Maria Zeisler's relative
 Mary Henkel - Mike's mother
 Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister
 Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece
 Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother
 Jack Lockett - father of Charlie, Mike,
 Julie Chavez, Shelley Prosser, Missy Kissane,
 & Becky Pedersen
 Mike Lockett - Joan's son

Bobbye Miller
 Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's cousin
 Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and the son of Marion Lake's cousin
 Doug Peterson
 Pat Ronzheimer
 Stacey Schnaitman - daughter of Bev Scalone, the Johnson's neighbor
 Kay Schrader
 Chester & Phyllis Sitler
 Bruce Snyder and Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts cousin
 Barb Tincher - Jake's mother

Mothers-to-be:

Lauren Avey - Justin & Joan's daughter-in-law
 Lizz Bartalone - Doris Biancalana's daughter
 Bridgette Fordyce - former member

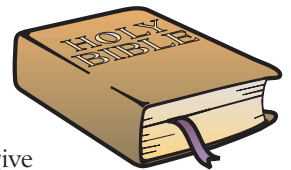
Armed forces:

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew
 Mike Hagan - Doris Biancalana's nephew in Baghdad
 Jacob Headtke - U.S. Marines, RCC alumni
 Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of Lori Plummer
 Joey Wertz - the friend of Lynette Root's friend, Iraq
 Chris Yauch - the husband of Wendell & Margaret Mott's granddaughter, Mallory

Missionaries:

Jarrold, Allison, Soledad & Levi Brown - Honduras (especially the adoption of Soledad)
 Students of Joe Voigts - China
 City of Children - Ensenada, Mexico
 Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria
 Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria
 Ayodele Waleola - Nigeria
 Shults-Lewis - the teens, their families, the workers
 Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan

Stirrup Family Bible



A Bible has been purchased to give to the Stirrup family. It is available in the foyer for you to highlight your favorite verses and write your name in the margin. **The Bible is definitely being shipped at the end of this week, so make sure you mark/sign your favorite verses.** Stirrup's new address: 1802 Grayson Lakes Boulevard, Katy, Texas 77494.

Wednesday Night Bible Classes

Join us on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** for our **Bible classes**. Cindy Drumheller is teaching the children's class and Cliff will be teaching the teens. Then, as before, we will have separate classes for the men and ladies. Hope to see you for this mid-week rejuvenation!

Bible Class Teacher Substitutes

We need people available as substitutes for our Sunday morning Bible classes. Please see Cliff if you are interested.



Small Group Fellowships

There will be a kick-off potluck for the Small Group Fellowships immediately following worship on **Sunday, September 20**. This is a traditional, "bring everything, no theme" potluck. Drinks will be provided.

Small Group sign-up sheets and lesson agenda are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. **We hope everyone gets involved in a Small Group this year!**

Magi Boxes

A Magi Box is a simple shoe box, wrapped in Christmas wrapping and packed with toys, hygiene supplies, and clothing. Through Healing Hands International, members of the Churches of Christ distribute these boxes to children in poverty stricken countries. The boxes we prepare are shipped to Mission Lazarus in Honduras.

1. **Buy** age and gender appropriate items worth \$20-25 for a boy or girl following these age brackets: Baby-2 years, 3-6 years, 7-10 years, 11-14 years. A list of suggested gift items will be available soon.
2. **Wrap** a shoe box with Christmas wrapping. Wrap the lid separate from the bottom so it can be opened easily by customs officers. Plastic shoe boxes can be used and make a great storage container for the child.
3. **Place** items in the box along with \$7 to cover the cost of shipping from Nashville to Honduras.
4. **Cover** the box with the lid and wrap with a rubber band to keep the lid and bottom together.
5. **Complete** a boy/girl label and tape it onto the end of the box.

You may make a monetary donation for boxes to be prepared or for shipping expenses. If you have questions or would like to make a donation see Jay or Sally Hearn.

Our church building is a collection site for this area. Your place of employment, extended family or friends from other churches can put together Magi Boxes. **Healing Hands will pick up the boxes the beginning of October.**



youth & family news

TEENS: Our first **Sunday Night, Light** of the new school year is next Sunday, September 13, after evening services.

Sunday afternoon, September 27, we're going to the **Richardson Corn Maze** way up in Spring Grove! You'll need \$10 for the maze and money for lunch.

TEENS & ADULTS: We have an opportunity to greet and serve guests at **The Bridge on Tuesday night, September 15**. The Bridge is a program of Mission USA, and helps connect ex-inmates with Chicago-area churches. Justin Avey and Kevin Bowman are grilling meat for this meal, we need about 8 people to bring side items, greet guests, and help serve the meal. See the sign-up sheet in the foyer for more information.

We have more opportunities to serve at **The Living Room Café: Monday, September 28, October 5 and October 26**. We'll leave from the building at 2:30 p.m. Sign-up on the sheet in the foyer.

PARENTS: Plan to attend a dessert fellowship for the parents of our teenagers this **Saturday night, September 12, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** Enjoy a time of fellowship with other parents and learn of activities Cliff is planning for our teens. Please contact Cliff if you plan to attend.

Worship Webcasts

We have the ability to present webcasts – a video on the internet. We are planning a weekly webcast of our Sunday morning auditorium class and worship services which begin at 9:30 & 10:30 a.m. central time. Please follow these instructions:

<http://wcfamily.viewnetcam.com>

Username: wcfamily

Password: 6302312062

Click "SINGLE" tab

Allow any Active X controls

Lost Items

The last two Sundays there was a large yellow bowl and a Tupperware cake carrier on the table by the restrooms. Joan Avey is trying to locate the items to return them to Cathy Vaden. If you have any information regarding the dishes, please see Joan Avey or Sally Hearn. Thanks!

Nursery Workers

We could use a few more ladies to help in the nursery during worship on Sunday mornings. Please see Bev Day or Sally Hearn if you would like to be put on the list to help.