



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 39, Issue 39 • September 30, 2007

A Preacher's Perspective

I first became aware of the importance to God of concern for children without parents through the teaching of Ira North. Ira was minister for our largest congregation, the Madison Church of Christ near Nashville, TN, and I was a teenager when I heard him speak.

As I grew older, I was drawn to the compassionate outreach of churches to help children. But I heard little of this vision for children, widows, and the alien in the pulpits of our churches.

As I studied scripture, I found an emphasis for social justice in virtually every division of the Bible.

It was established and endorsed during the time of the patriarchs in the life and example of that wise man Job. (Job 29-31) Later, Moses would

include provisions such as the Gleaners Law which allowed the poor to take a share of the crops of the wealthy. God identified Himself as God of "the widow, the fatherless and the alien." (Deut. 10:18ff)

The prophets are full of emphasis that to be pleasing to God it was essential to show mercy to one another. **Isaiah 58** is a powerful example as are many passages from the minor prophets.

Psalms and Proverbs give many insights into God's compassion, and our responsibilities, to the poor and the fatherless, such as **Psalm 68**: "Father of the

fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

God gives the desolate a home to dwell in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity; but the rebellious dwell in a parched land." **Psalms 68:5-6 (RSV)**

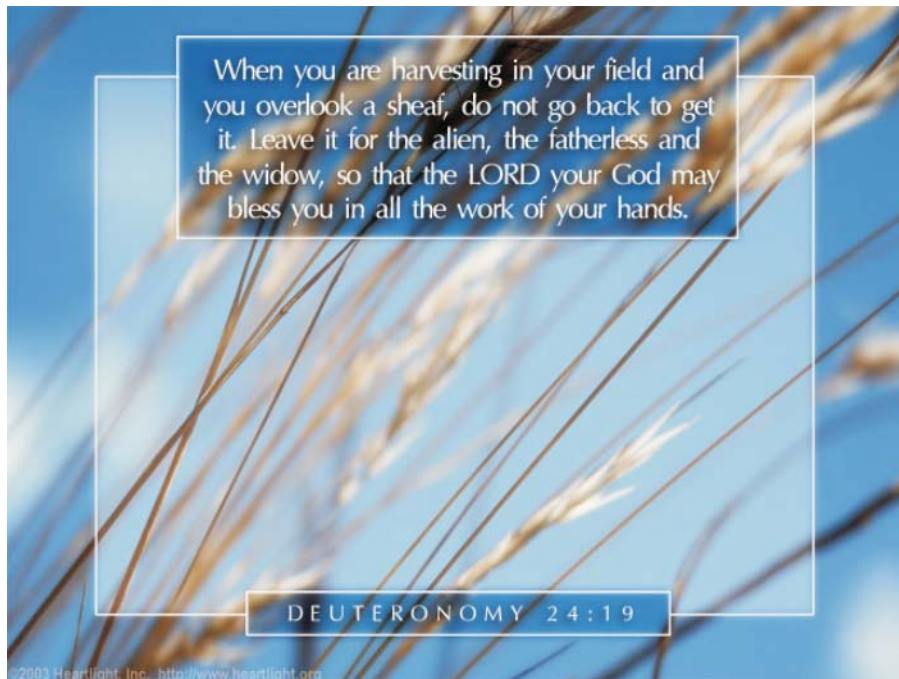
In the ministry of Jesus, concern for the poor is a major theme, especially in the Gospel of Luke. His call in **Matt. 11:28** captures His heart's concern for all who are burdened: "Come unto Me all you who labor and are heavy-laden...." As my friend Bill Brumit would say concerning the great judgment scene in **Matt. 25**,

either help the poor or you'll go to hell. The final test was not doctrine, but compassionate service.

The New Testament epistles are also strong for the importance of mercy and compassion. James describes pure religion as including concern for the "widow and orphan," and John argues we can't love God if we don't love our brother.

For decades the eyes of our churches were blinded to this overarching theme of social justice. There seems to have been a reawakening in our recent years. Young people are drawn more and more to the hearts of the hurting.

We need ministries like Shults-Lewis and Lifeline of Hope and Mission Lazarus to help us remember what is important to the heart of God.



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.
- 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 - Cary Gray
- Announcements - Curt Robinson
- Singing
- Prayer - Kyle Wheeler
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - Chuck Miller
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - Bob Voigts
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - Paul Mercer

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- October 1 Chuck Miller
- October 2 Joan Avey
- October 4 Don Brewster, Chris Czernik
- October 5 Jim & Vicki Whitman (anv.)
- October 6 Jay & Sally Hearn (anv.)

Dates to Remember

- September 30 Orphan Sunday
- September 30 Crop Walk
- September 30 Sunday Night Light
- October 4 Food Pantry Delivery
- October 5-8 RCC Columbus Day Retreat
- October 7 Small Group Fellowship
- October 11 Preachers Breakfast
- October 13 Elder/Deacon Meeting
- October 14 VBS Planning Meeting
- October 14 Sunday Night Light/Teens
- October 17 Seniors Breakfast
- October 19 Mobile Market

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 87
- Sunday Morning Worship 113
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class 55
- Contribution \$3,755.50
- World Bible School Contribution \$100.00

In Our Prayers...

Loss of loved one:

Thomas Haggerton, Josephine's nephew, passed away Wednesday from cancer. He was an elder at a Baptist church in New Mexico. Josephine's family is very grateful for all of our prayers.

Updates:

Bob Czernik, Chris's husband, is going to begin chemotherapy and radiation treatments soon.

Al Keating, an employee of the Henkel's, had a softball-sized cyst in his neck which was removed by surgery, as well as lymph nodes and the thyroid. He does have cancer and they are discussing his treatment.

Norval McCord, Shelby Root's grandfather, suffered a stroke a couple of weeks ago. He is getting stronger and they are making more long-term arrangements for him.

Tim Miller received good reports from his tests. All of his levels are normal and his broken bones are healing well.

Phyllis Sitler is going to have outpatient surgery on October 3 to remove a skin cancer spot on her face.

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

Bob Voigts has some lymph nodes that need to be monitored. He will be going in for tests every three months.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Andrea Bailey – a former member from California
 Irene Barnes – Lynette Root's aunt
 Taylor Baum – attends Shelby Root's school
 Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root's parents
 Lisa Beverly – Sandy Boyd's sister who has MS
 Bonnie Bingham
 Jim Brannon – Pat Brewster's brother-in-law
 Mary Brent – Joe Kirts' sister
 Nancy Brewster
 Julie Chavez
 John Day
 Al Dorsey
 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
 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 Sitler
 Bruce Snyder – Bob Voigts cousin
 Cindy Stewart – 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

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
 Toby Logsdon – Dewayne & Marilyn Smith's son-in-law
 in Iraq along the Iranian border
 Dustin Meritt – Justin Avey's employee
 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
 Joe Voigts – China

Nursery Workers

Joan Avey, Carrie Drumheller



Collection Counters

Scott Drumheller, Paul Stirrup



Loose Change to Loose Chains

Keep collecting your change for Loose Change to Loosen Chains. The deadline for donations is Sunday, October 28th.

If you would like more information read the book, *Be the Change*, by Zach Hunter or go to www.lc2lc.org.

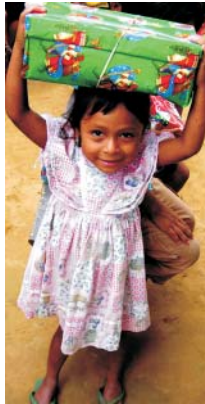


Magi Boxes

What is a Magi Box? The Magi Box Project was started by Healing Hands International and its objective is to send Christmas gifts to children around the world.

A Magi Box is prepared by YOU and will be sent to Jarrod Brown to distribute to the children of Honduras.

To begin, pick up a label in the foyer. Choose a boy or girl and then decide the age of child in which you will purchase gifts. Purchase age-appropriate toys, schools supplies, picture books (be language sensitive), hygiene items, and clothes. Take a shoe box and wrap the lid and bottom separately with Christmas wrapping paper. Enclose the gifts and \$5, if possible, into each box to cover the cost of shipping the boxes from Nashville to Honduras. Secure the lid with a rubber band and attach the label to the end of the box with tape.



Plastic storage boxes were decorated during VBS and are still available in the foyer for you to use. These do not need wrapped, however you might want to line the box with tissue paper, so the contents can be kept secret. Please see Jay or Sally Hearn if you have questions.

The deadline is October 7. We want to challenge each person of our church family to prepare a box. But, certainly don't limit yourself to just one!

On a side note: if anyone is planning a trip to Nashville, TN soon after the Magi Box deadline, let Jay or Sally know. God has always blessed us with transportation of the boxes to Healing Hands International in Nashville.

T-Mill Prayer Warriors

The North Park congregation has purchased "T-Mill Prayer Warrior" wristbands to help with Tim Miller's medical bills. The minimum donation is \$2, but donations of \$5, \$10, \$20 or more are certainly welcome! See Cliff or Lori if you'd like one of the wristbands. (Checks can be made payable to the "North Park Church of Christ.")

Food Pantry Donations

The pantry needs spaghetti and breakfast cereals. Place your donations in the container by the restrooms.

Youth & Family News

TEENS: Those of you planning to walk in the **Crop Walk today**, meet at the front of the auditorium immediately after this morning services.

Sunday Night, Light is tonight here at the building following evening worship - 7:00-9:00. Everyone bring \$3 for pizza and either a 2 liter of pop or a dessert.

The **RCC Columbus Day Retreat** is next weekend, October 5 - 7 (please note: the camp is ending Sunday evening). Cliff will not be able to take kids up to camp, but can provide rides home. Please contact him if you need a ride home.

PARENTS: If you'd like to host a Sunday Night, Light, please let Cliff know.

SENIORS: A senior's outing is planned for **Wednesday, October 3**, to see a special art exhibit at Wheaton College's Billy Graham Center, followed with lunch at Baker's Square. See the bulletin board for details and to sign-up.

Kids Under Construction

Parents, please take your children with you to the auditorium for the devotional period before Bible class on Wednesday evenings this fall. The "Kids Under Construction" program, for pre-school and elementary-age children, will begin at 7:15 p.m.

Chicago Celebration

Mark your calendars for the **Chicago Celebration** scheduled for **Sunday, November 11**, at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Registration is from 2:30 - 3:00 and worship begins at 3:00 p.m. It is a gathering of Christians from the Chicago area to worship and fellowship.



"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these..."
Mark 10:14

TODAY!

Orphan Sunday

The Lifeline of Hope's Orphan Sunday is today. There will be a special collection taken during worship this morning.



Lifeline of Hope is a non-profit organization that has been aiding and supporting orphans and homeless children in several countries for more than five years. For more information check www.lifelineofhope.org.

West Chicago Crop Walk

The West Chicago Crop Walk is today! Walkers, please meet at the front of the auditorium immediately after this morning's services. The walk starts at 1:00 at the railroad station downtown West Chicago. The path weaves around the neighborhood to our church building and then back to the railroad station. Just for your information, a 5K walk is around 3 miles and takes about 1 hour at a moderate to easy pace according to www.walk.about.com.

The funds raised today will be used by local agencies, as well as, international agencies for hunger relief.

Food Pantry Delivery

This Thursday, October 4, is the day we stock the food pantry. The Northern Illinois Food Bank truck delivers the food and we'll need volunteers at 10:00 a.m. to carry boxes downstairs, empty the boxes and stock the shelves. We usually finish in about an hour and we have a lot of fun! Hope you can join us!

VBS Planning Meeting

We always say, "let's start early planning VBS!" Well, we're getting started early. Come to a **VBS Planning Meeting on Sunday, October 14**, immediately following morning worship in the fellowship room. We'll brainstorm ideas and start looking at curriculum. *Bring your own lunch!*

www.wcfamily.org

Check out our updated website: www.wcfamily.org. It is a great way to tell your friends about our church family.

Directories & Photographs

New directories are going to be published soon. Please give any address/phone number updates to Sally as soon as possible. If you would like an updated photograph for the directory, please see Jon and Paul Mercer. Smile!

Fall Fest

Saturday, October 27

2:00 p.m.: Games/Activities

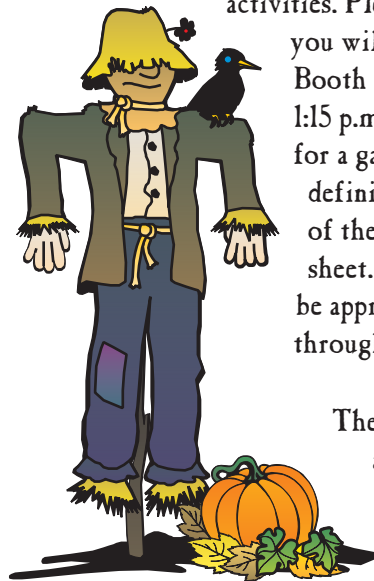
4:00 p.m.: Hotdog/Marshmallow Roast

Entrance "fee": a can or box of food for the food pantry (veggies, spaghetti or a dry mix)

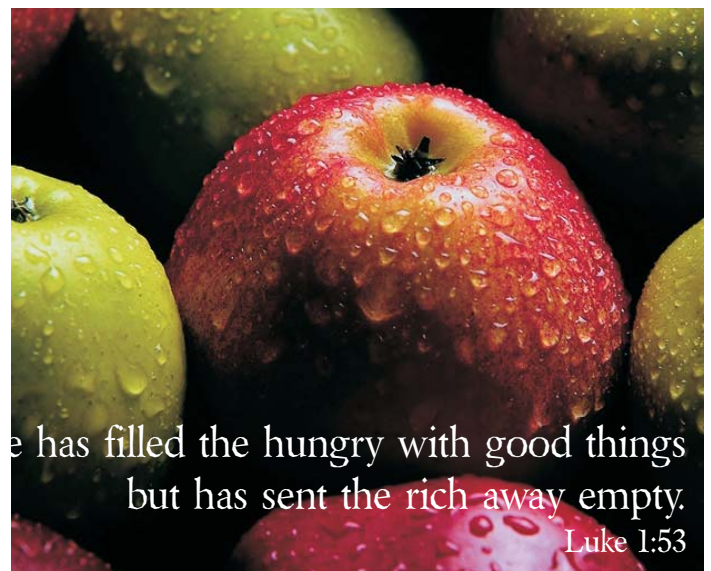
Families come join the fun!

Volunteers are needed to make this a great event for everyone! A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the foyer that includes a list of "ideas" for games and activities. Please sign up for the booth

you will set-up, supply and run. Booth set-up time will begin at 1:15 p.m. If you have your own idea for a game or activity, it is definitely welcome, just fill in one of the "other" lines on the sign-up sheet. Games & activities should be appropriate for preschoolers through 6th graders.



The Plummers and the Stirrups are coordinating the event and will help you, if needed.



He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.

Luke 1:53

SMALL GROUPS

West Chicago Church of Christ

Group 1

The families of:

Justin & Joan Avey
Mike & Lisa Henkel
* Jeff & Kelly Ieler
John & Joanne Johnson
Cyndi Perez
**denotes leader*
This group is meeting on Saturday evenings.

Group 2

The families of:

Josephine Haggerton
Joe & Terrie Kirts
Sarah Miller
* Rick & Lynette Root
Dewayne & Marilyn Smith
Kyle & Kelie Wheeler
**denotes leader*

Group 3

The families of:

Bonnie Bingham
* Tim & Sandy Boyd
Don & Theresa Lemley
Steve & Melissa Massie
Jon & Paul Mercer
Chester & Kim Sitler
**denotes leader*

Group 4

The families of:

Tom & Nancy Doggett
Marie Hayes
Jay & Sally Hearn
Shirley Rucker
Pat Ronzheimer
* Paul & Marianne Stirrup
**denotes leader*

Group 5

The families of:

John & Bev Day
Peter Drumheller
* Scott & Bridgette Fordyce
Ryan Heather
Dana Howard
Marion & Nana Lake
Rhonda Triplett
**denotes leader*

Group 6

The families of:

Doris Biancalana
Scott & Carrie Drumheller
Cary & Emily Gray
Steve & Theresa Link
Jon & Jamie Miller
* Cliff & Lori Plummer
**denotes leader*

Group 7

The families of:

Joan & Charlie Lockett
Mike Mathews
Paul & Molly Mullins
John & Becky Pedersen
* Curt & Jackie Robinson
Frances Schearer
**denotes leader*
This group is meeting on Sunday evenings.

Small Group Meeting Dates this Fall:

Oct. 7
Oct. 21
Nov. 4
Nov. 18

These group lists are subject to change. While we did not get a survey from all of our members, we tried to accommodate everyone's preferences from those surveys that were returned. If you need to change groups, please contact Don Brewster, Cliff Plummer or Bob Voigts.

If you do not find your name on one of these lists and would like to participate in the Small Groups program, please contact Don, Cliff or Bob V.

