



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 40, Issue 39 • October 5, 2008

A Preacher's Perspective

The time of harvest is here. This week the leaves will begin in earnest their work of decorating the world before the darkness of winter. It's a time of glory. Colors are brilliant. The air is cool and our steps have a quickness. Seasonal festivals and sports get us outside to enjoy creation.

From time's beginning, people have rejoiced at harvest. The bounty of the earth prepares the world for the time of cold and waiting until planting to begin the cycle of life once again.

We live in a land of amazing plenty and of harvests that feed the whole world. It has been many generations since our land has really known privation. Even in a land of plenty, however, there is want. Cliff's project for the homeless reminds us that in our own community there are thousands living with only bare necessities.

The children of poverty are those most vulnerable. It is they who often feel the most pain. There is little they can do to change the circumstances of their lives. The compassion and alertness of caring neighbors is the great hope of these young ones.

Make note of the Sleep Out Saturday information in the bulletin and ask Cliff about ways you may help.

Another important project of this harvest time is Melissa Massie's Coats 4Kids. She is collecting coats,

boots, hats, and gloves for children. (See page 3) These items will be distributed through the local elementary schools. You can bring good quality clothing items, new things, or you can give money to Melissa, or write a check with Coats 4Kids on the memo line. We are thankful to Melissa for providing the leadership and energy for this great program.

One of the sad ironies of our world is that some of the most affluent live in the greatest poverty. A new movie of the season mocks those who are "foolish enough" to believe in God. Our universities and

culturally elite have more and more disdain for faith and for a genuine reverence for the God who gave us the blessings of a powerful and wealthy nation.

But harvest is coming.

The Lord will not be mocked, and nations sow what they reap. God's favor and generous gifts may be turned away. Our "gates" may be given to foreigners and our land may come to know humiliation and what it is like to be surpassed by others.

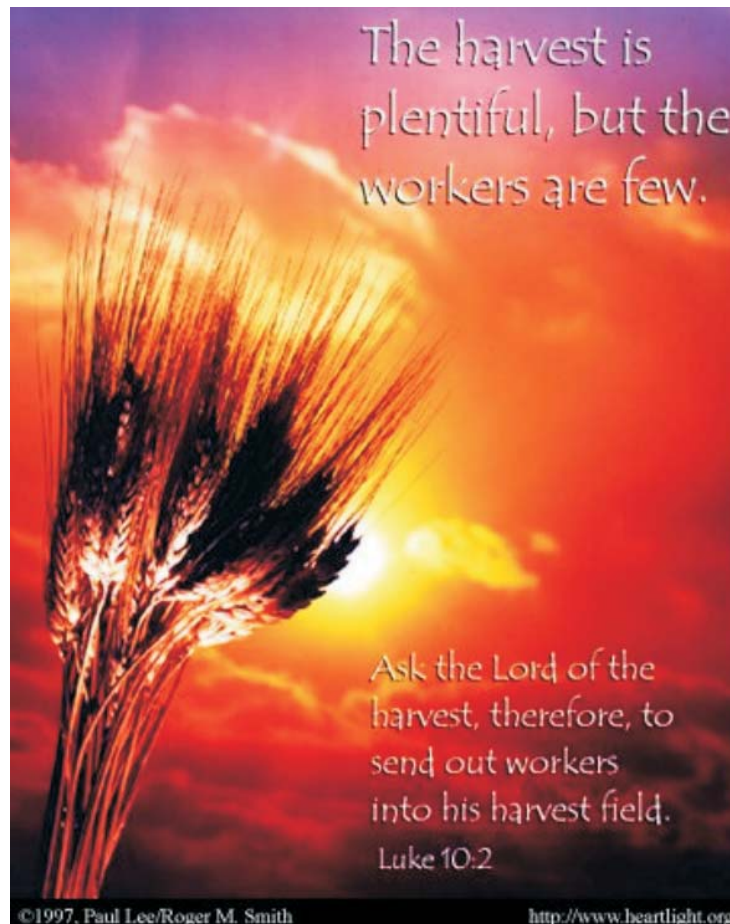
God's counsel to Solomon should stir the spirits of the believers of our generation:

"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked

ways then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and will heal their land." **2 Chron. 7:14**

Lord, give us a harvest of righteousness.

Chuck Miller



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<http://www.heartlight.org>

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
 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

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 - *Cliff Plummer*
- Singing
- Prayer - *Steve Link*
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - *Chuck Miller*
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - *Bob Voigts*
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - *Justin Avey*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- October 5 Jim & Vicki Whitman (anv.)
- October 6 Jay & Sally Hearn (anv.)
- October 8 Nancy Doggett
- October 9 Rob Brewster
- October 10 Roxanne Whitman
- October 11 Cary Gray

Dates to Remember

- October 5 Small Groups
- October 8 Magi Boxes Due
- October 9 Preachers Breakfast
- October 10-12 RCC Labor Day Retreat
- October 15 Seniors Breakfast
- October 18 Shults-Lewis Youth Rally
- October 19 Small Groups
- October 25-26 Chicago Celebration
- November 1 Mobile Pantry/Connection Point

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 85
- Sunday Morning Worship 108
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class 42
- Contribution \$3,863.17

Did You Know: \$8,000 is the average annual salary for a family of three living in extreme poverty. There are over 17,000 DuPage county residents living in extreme poverty.

In Our Prayers...

Mary Brent, Joe Kirts's sister, is doing very well after her kidney and liver transplants. They are very thankful for our prayers.

Harold Carter, the father-in-law of Lynette Root's sister, is in the hospital for tests.

David Kumer, one of our former deacons, passed away last week. He had been in a health care facility in Kentucky. There will be a memorial service next Saturday, October 11, at 1:00 p.m. at the Hippach Chapel, Chapel Hills Memorial Cemetery in Oakbrook Terrace.

Marie Hayes was in the hospital last week for tests. She is home and recuperating from a kidney infection.

Sandy Jones, Marie Hayes's daughter, continues to suffer with several health issues.

Laura Mahan, Shirley Rucker's daughter, and her family are moving to Ohio. Continue to pray for her health and that they have a safe, easy transition.

Judy Phipps, Marion Lake's sister, is in the hospital with heart problems.

Bob Odum, father of Patrick Odum, will have prostate surgery soon.

Sandy Root, Rick's mother, had extensive dental work done last week. One of the technicians used latex gloves and Sandy had an allergic reaction. She is on medication and continues to recuperate.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman - Bobbie Whitman's brother

Sylvia Atten - Dana Howard's friend

Justin Avey

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

Nancy Brewster

Jim & Julie Chavez

John Day

Lisa DeVaney - Marie Hayes's daughter

Al Dorsey and his son Doug

Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson

Amy Ferguson - a former member from Montana

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, Star and Sky Kuhnle - Chuck & Bobbye'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

Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's niece

Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and

the son of Marion Lake's cousin

Doug Peterson

Pat Ronzheimer

Kay Schrader

Chester & Phyllis Sitler

Bruce Snyder and Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts cousins

Mothers-to-be:

Laura Callejo - Cliff Plummer & Joan Avey's niece

Missy Day

Amanda Grandlienard - former member

Jamie Holtin - Joe & Terrie's daughter

Jenn Kirts - Joe & Terrie's daughter-in-law

Shannon (Pedersen) Manny

Jennifer (Doggett) Piehl

Shelley Prosser - Joan Lockett's daughter

Armed forces:

Wes Clark - the son-in-law of Lynette Root's friend, returned from Iraq

Chris & Jennifer Roberts - Cathleen Longfellow's sister & brother-in-law are in Iraq, they have a

1-year-old daughter. They will be moving to

Germany very soon and will be there 3 years.

Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of

Lori Plummer

Nathan & Angie Stilwell - Bridgette Fordyce's brother

& sister-in-law went to Japan with the Air Force for

3 years with their two small children

Klinton Wheeler will be in Georgia for

12 weeks of basic training in the Army

Missionaries:

Jarrold, Allison, Soledad & Levi Brown -

Honduras (especially the adoption of Soledad)

Students of Joe Voigts - China

Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria

Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria

Ayodele Waleola - Nigeria

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

Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan

Nursery Workers

Bev Day, Carrie Drumheller



Collection Counters

Rick Root, Paul Stirrup



Coats 4 Kids

Melissa Massie has started a project to distribute coats, hats, gloves and boots to needy children through local elementary schools - Coats 4 Kids. The goal is for the coats to be delivered by the beginning of November. The schools are requesting new items. Ways you can help:

- 1. Purchase** a coat, hat, gloves and boots for a child. Enclose it in a bag and label it with gender and size. Place it in a box that will be located in the foyer.
- 2. Give a monetary donation** to Melissa Massie or write a check to the church and write "Coats 4 Kids" in the memo line.



Magi Boxes

The deadline to have your Magi Boxes to the church building is this Wednesday, October 8.

1. **Buy** items for a boy or girl following these age brackets: Baby-2 years, 3-6 years, 7-10 years, and 11-14 years
2. **Wrap** a shoe box with Christmas wrapping. Wrap the lid separate from the bottom so it can be opened.
3. **Place** items in the box and, if possible, include \$7 to cover the cost of shipping from Nashville to Honduras. Please note: this fee has increased since last year.
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 available on the bulletin board and tape it onto the end of the box.



You may make a monetary donation for boxes to be prepared or for shipping fees. Questions, see Jay or Sally.

Teacher Needed

Joan Avey is teaching the Preschool through Kindergarten class on Sunday mornings. Contact her if you can fill in for her a few Sundays this quarter.

Mobile Market

We're hosting a Mobile Market on Saturday, November 1, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. This is a large truck of food purchased from the Northern Illinois Food Bank, that we'll distribute to our community. Sign-up to help on the sheet in the foyer. (Volunteers should plan to be here between 3:00 and 3:30 pm.)

Chicago Celebration

The 2nd Annual Gathering of Chicago Area Churches of Christ will be Saturday, October 25, and Sunday, October 26 at the UIC Forum in Chicago. **Saturday events include** a leadership breakfast for men, a women's program and a teen event. Bobbye Miller will be leading a prayer for the women's program. **Worship will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday** and will be followed by food and fellowship at 4:30 and a song fest at 5:30. Tim Boyd will be leading some of the singing at the worship.

Planning to attend? Follow these instructions:

1. Please make sure your family fills out the survey located in the foyer.
2. Register on-line at www.chicagocelebration.org before October 10th. If you need assistance registering, see Chuck, Cliff or Sally.



Youth & Family News

TEENS: The last camp session of the year is next weekend! Registration forms for the **Columbus Day Retreat**, October 10 - 12, are available in the Teen Room and downstairs class area.

There's a special program for Teens on Saturday night of **Chicago Celebration**, October 25. We'll leave from the building at 4:00 and return about 10:30. Sign-up in the downstairs class area if you plan to go. We're also looking for some guys to help serve communion in the Sunday afternoon service. Sign-up on the sheet being passed around in class today.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 1. Help distribute food from the **NIFB Mobile Market**, then plan to experience a night of homelessness at **Sleep Out Saturday**. Watch for details.

Sleep Out Saturday

Based in Glen Ellyn, Bridge Communities offers housing and support services to homeless families living in DuPage County. Working with local faith-based and community groups, they provide mentors, educational and vocational training, and financial support to homeless families.

Sleep Out Saturday is an awareness and fundraising event of Bridge Communities. Our teens, and other area teens, will participate in activities intended to help them experience a night of homelessness.

We Need Your Help!

1. We'll need a couple of **adult volunteers** willing to spend the night outdoors with our teens.
2. We need tents, tarps, large appliance boxes or similar materials that can be used for **building shelters**.
3. We need **clothing** following several criteria:
 - a) men and women adult sizes;
 - b) warm, long sleeves, long pants, coats, hats, scarves;
 - c) freshly laundered;
 - d) the clothing will be donated to Rockford Church of Christ following this event.

If you have any questions about this event, see Cliff Plummer. If you have questions regarding the clothing see Marianne Stirrup or Theresa Link. Questions about the shelter materials can be directed to Paul Stirrup.

Small Group Fellowships

Today is our first Small Group Sunday! You may still sign up in the foyer to be a part of a group. Each group should include 12-14 adults. **Remember there is NO evening worship on Small Group Sundays.** There is a small group meeting at the building Sunday evenings at 5:30. Please see Don Brewster, Cliff Plummer or Bob Voigts with any questions.

