



# Family

## West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

Volume 44, Issue 44 • October 28, 2012

## A Preacher's Perspective

There is a general uncertainty among many Christians about what presence of the Holy Spirit can be clearly seen and experienced by the ordinary believer.

I believe that the very real presence of the Holy Spirit which is most clearly seen and experienced in believers is Christian love. I conclude that from a couple of texts, in particular.

In the teaching by Paul in **Romans 5**, he describes a progression of spiritual growth and maturity: “<sup>3</sup> More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.” **Romans 5:3-5 (RSV)**

I think that text suggests to us that the filling of our hearts with love is a function, specifically, of the Holy Spirit.

A second text that suggests a commonality between the Holy Spirit and love is the whole 13th chapter of **1 Corinthians**. At every wedding ceremony, I always stress that the love described in this chapter is God's perfect love, a love to which we aspire but which is not perfect in us.

However, we do experience this “perfect love” at least imperfectly. The love described is clearly Spirit-assisted when it shows up in us, but it does find its way into our lives. Our imperfect human love grows, if we are open to growth, more and more into the perfect love of the spirit. I believe that the growth of our human love

into more perfect divine love is the result of the dwelling in us of the Holy Spirit.

In other words, I believe that in maturing Christians, those who are growing in kindness and love, the presence of the Spirit is making Himself more powerfully manifest and is shaping the personality and character of the Christian into a reflection of the mind of Christ. As Paul describes it in **2 Corinthians**, we are growing from “one degree of glory to another.” He refers in the passage to our lives in partnership with the Holy Spirit.

I think it's a great mistake to separate, in our thinking, the work and presence of the Holy Spirit from our personal lives. That famous phrase of Lincoln, “the better angels of our nature,” I believe correctly suggests that there is within us an “angelic” (read “Spirit”) influence which is calling us to think and to behave according to the Spirit's will.

Yes, we can resist the Spirit.

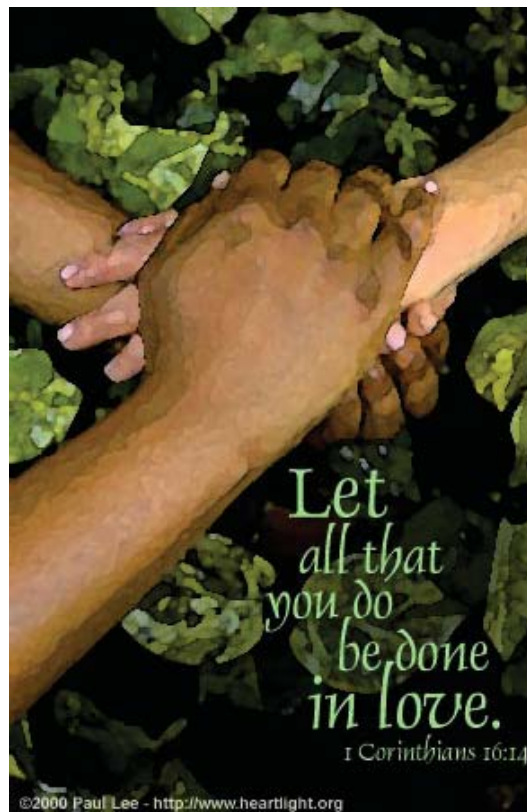
Yes, we can extinguish the Spirit's fire.

But the Spirit in us is the very presence of Christ, our hope of Glory.

In short, I believe that by far the most universal and most common experience of the living Holy Spirit in our lives is seen in the perfect love (described in **1 Corinthians**

**13**) which is growing in us and which is changing our nature and our character. This love is for God, for one another, for the lost world, and even for our enemies. Only the Spirit could change us into humans with such hearts.

<sup>14</sup> *And above all these [things] put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.*  
**Colossians 3:14 (RSV)**



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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. You are an honored guest and we want to thank you for being a part of our worship this morning!

Bible classes begin at 9:30 and 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 teen room at the back of the auditorium. The adult class meets in the fellowship room.

Our Community Groups meet every Sunday throughout the year, except for the last Sunday of each month. The last Sunday of each month, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for a time of praise and fellowship.

A weekly web-cast of our Sunday morning worship services is available by following these instructions:

<http://wcfamily.viewnetcam.com>  
 Username: wcfamily  
 Password: 6302312062  
 Click "SINGLE" tab  
 Allow any Active X controls

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our Elders: Don Brewster Chuck Miller

Our Deacons are:

Justin Avey: Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship & Leadership  
 Jay Hearn: Worship & Pulpit, Communications, Outreach, Education, Benevolence  
 Curt Robinson: Education, Stewardship & Leadership  
 Rick Root: Communications, Education, Stewardship & Leadership

Sunday Morning Bible Class . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening (last Sunday of each month) . . . 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class . . . . . 7:00 p.m.



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## 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.

### Worship Order

Welcome, Announcements, Birthdays . . . . . *Brian Gifford*  
 Kids Connection. . . . . *Jon Miller*  
 Praise Songs . . . . . *Rick Rooft*  
     *Romans 12:14-21*  
     #479 *Peace, Perfect Peace*  
     #480 *Blessed Assurance*  
     #622 *Ring Out the Message*  
     #635 *Freely, Freely*  
     #719 *Love One Another/Angry Words*  
 Communion Message. . . . . *Don Brewster*  
     #346 *He Lives*  
 Prayers, Pass Emblems & Collection  
 Sermon . . . . . *Chuck Miller*  
     #945 *Kneel at the Cross*  
 Prayer Cards . . . . . *Bob Voigts*  
     #490 *It is Well with My Soul*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

November 2 . . . . . Julia Doggett, Tammy Ross  
 November 3 . . . . . Rachel Hearn

## Dates to Remember

TODAY . . . . . Breakfast Reception  
 TODAY . . . . . Leadership Meeting/Praise Sunday!  
 October 29 . . . . . Teen Parent Connection  
 October 30 . . . . . Tuesday Ladies Class  
 October 31 . . . . . Wednesday Bible Class  
 November 1 . . . . . Food Pantry Delivery  
 November 2 . . . . . Mens Prayer & Pancakes  
 November 4 . . . . . Daylight Savings Time Ends/Fall Back  
 November 4 . . . . . Community Groups  
 November 5 . . . . . Teen Parent Connection  
 November 6 . . . . . Tuesday Ladies Class  
 November 7 . . . . . Wednesday Bible Class  
 November 9 . . . . . Mens Prayer & Pancakes  
 November 11 . . . . . Living Room Café  
 November 11 . . . . . Teen Parent Connection

## Records You Helped Make

Contribution . . . . . \$4,574.25

Nursery Workers . . . . . Jamie Miller, Shelby Root

Collection Counters . . . . . Jeff Ieler, Rick Root

## In Our Prayers...

**Daniel Brason, Rick Root's cousin**, passed away from complications due to meningitis. He was 35 and lived in Chicago. He is survived by his wife, Julie, and their two daughters, Emily and Hannah.

**Continue to pray for Doka and his family and friends.** Their situation in northern Nigeria is quite dire with the constant threat of violence and lack of food. A drip-irrigation project is in the works and it will need funding. Please see Chuck if you are interested in actually going to Nigeria to help with this effort.

**Darryl Jinkerson, one of our former elders**, passed away from a heart attack. He and his wife, Cindy, are from Abilene, Texas, as well as, his three grown daughters, Whitney Olsen, Rachel Goodman and Amanda Carpenter. Cindy's address is 1317 Canterbury Drive, Abilene, Texas 79602.

**Sue Lake, Marion's sister-in-law**, needs a liver transplant. If you have type O blood, between the ages of 21 and 50 and in excellent health, see Marion if you are willing to give a portion of your liver.

**Henry Phillips, the youth minister at Rockford Church of Christ and a long-time friend from RCC**, has been diagnosed with liver disease. He is waiting for results from the biopsy he had this week.

**Jose Olman Santeliz, the young man from Mission Lazarus** who was shot several months ago, has completely recuperated.

**Frances Shearer** is having an angiogram on Tuesday. **Those suffering with long-term issues:**

Herman Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's brother  
 Justin Avey  
 Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root's parents  
 Herman Biggers – Josephine Haggerton's brother  
 Nancy Brewster  
 Bob & Phyllis Cissne – Cindy Drumheller's parents  
 Chris Czernik  
 John Day  
 Al Dorsey  
 Doug Dorsey – Al's son  
 Brad Fowler – Joan Lockett's nephew  
 Rachel Goodman (Jinkerson)  
 Josephine Haggerton  
 Cliff Holladay – a friend of the Miller's  
 Lauren Helton – Josephine Haggerton's nephew  
 Kathy Huml – John Pedersen's sister  
 Mason Hutchins – friend of Alec Boyd & Rourke Mullins  
 Pat Johnson – Dana Howard's aunt  
 John Mark Lango, son of former members Keith & Kim  
 Debbie Lawrence – Bobbie Whitman's niece  
 Don Lemley  
 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  
 Joan Mullins – Paul's mother  
 Josh Otte – Chris Czernik's nephew & the son of Marion Lake's cousin  
 Helen Plummer – the mother of Joan Avey and Cliff  
 Scott Robinson – Curt's brother  
 Kay Schrader  
 Phyllis Sitler  
 Bruce Snyder & Cindy Stewart – Bob Voigts' cousins  
 Ernie & Rose Stirrup – Kelly Ieler's parents  
 Jim Whitman



## Today is Praise Sunday!

9:15 a.m. Breakfast Reception  
 10:30 a.m. Worship  
 4:30 p.m. Leadership meeting  
 6:00 p.m. Worship/Singing/Finger-food/dessert fellowship

## Food Pantry Delivery

This Thursday, November 1, we will receive our delivery from the Northern Illinois Food Bank. Please be here around 10:45 to help carry the boxes downstairs, stock the shelves and break-down the boxes.

## Meat Drive

We need meat for our food pantry – ground beef, chicken, pork, bacon, sausage, hot dogs, etc. in 1 to 4 lb. packages. (The food bank had no meat this month.) The pantry will be open before worship the next several weeks for your donation. Put the meat directly into either freezer. See Sally if you would like to make arrangements to bring the meat during the week. Cash is welcome, too! If you write a check, write "meat" in the memo line.



## Bible Class Teachers

Our next rotation for Sunday morning Bible Class teachers begins next Sunday, November 4. Please consider teaching this session to give some of our other teachers a break. Contact Cindy Drumheller if you are interested.

## Shults-Lewis Commodity

This year we are collecting pineapple and snacks for the Shults-Lewis Commodity Drive. Cash donations are also welcome for their meat, milk and produce bill. They will be here the week of December 2 to pick them up.

# Color Page

