



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 40, Issue 48 • December 7, 2008

A Preacher's Perspective

Someone in the crowd meant to honor Jesus' mother. He called her "blessed." Jesus' reply seems a little strange to us. Instead, He said, "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

On reflection, as with all Jesus says, His words convey deep meaning. Jesus was not concerned with fixing "historical significance" on those of His immediate family or His circle of friends. Today, as the world of tours and pilgrims flocks to the Holy Lands, we would love to find a spot which we could identify with some event or person in the life of Jesus. Great income potential.

But Jesus was not looking to establish shrines, door plaques, or historical overlooks. He came to the world to bring a real-time, all-time, end-time necessity-salvation. His whole mission in life was to call the lost to redemption. His sermons, His miracles, and His friendships were all secondary to the purpose of discovering those who were called to the Kingdom.

He came to find them in the most unlikely places, and they were an unlikely lot. Lawyers, lepers, Pharisees, prostitutes, priests and publicans. They were young and old. Rich and poor. Male and female. Jew and Gentile. Even Samaritans.

But one quality defined them all. All who were being saved were willing to receive the truth of scripture and to conform their own wills to the will of God in obedient submission.

The applause of the crowd meant nothing to Jesus. Their excitement over multiplied loaves left Him unimpressed. "Not those," He said at the end of the Sermon on the Mount, "who say to me 'Lord, Lord' will inherit the kingdom, but those who do the will of the Father."

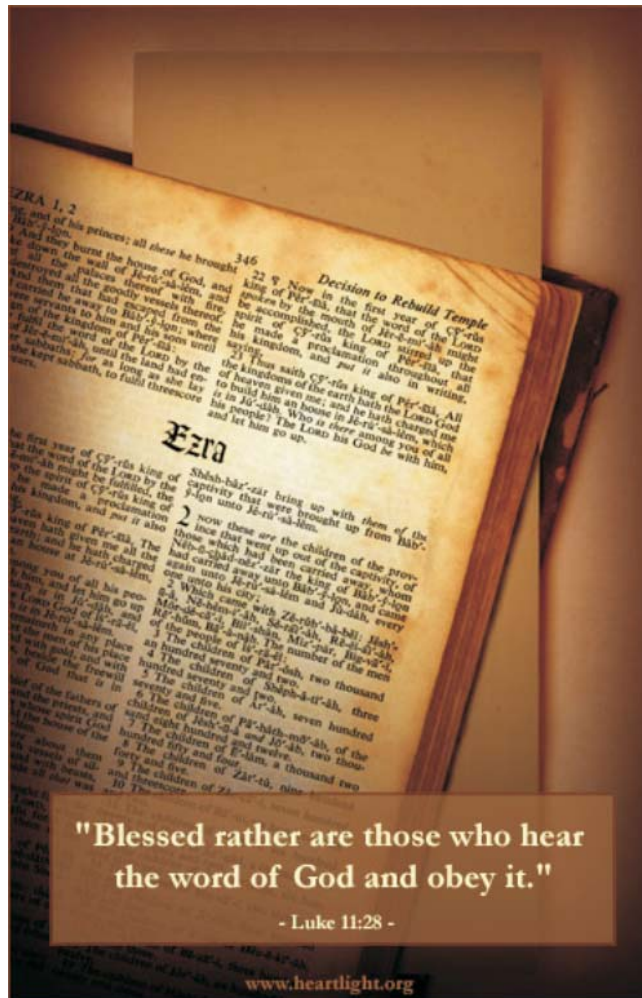
"Trust and obey, for there's no other way/ to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey." I do love that song. Just as Jesus' words to that listener in the crowd turn us back to the Word, so does that song remind us that there is work for us to do.

This is the season for applause and acknowledgment. The brass choirs serenade the shoppers and the churches are full of special liturgy and lights. We love to celebrate and be filled with the elegance of seasonal piety.

But what Jesus has always been looking for is for those who actually practice what He preached. We find the path He would have us walk

in the pages of the ancient book.

Check it out and give serious consideration to doing what it calls us to do.



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.
 (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 **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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 wcfamily@wcfamily.org
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This Morning...

Please take a moment this morning to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest. 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 - Paul Mercer
- Singing
- Prayer - Don Brewster
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - Chuck Miller
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - Bob Voigts
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - Steve Massie

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- December 8 John Pedersen
- December 9 Donna Young
- December 10 Ethan Stirrup
- December 11 Alec Boyd, Bobbie Whitman
- December 13 Jim & Maria Zeisler (anv.)

Dates to Remember

- December 7 Shults-Lewis Items Due
- December 7 Small Groups
- December 11 Preachers Breakfast
- December 13 Moms In School Breakfast
- December 13 Franciscan Court Bake Sale
- December 14 Holiday Dinner
- December 17 Seniors Breakfast
- December 21 Caroling!
- December 22 Teen Christmas Party
- December 25 Merry Christmas!
- December 28 Sunday Night Light/Teens
- December 31 New Year's Eve Lock-In/Teens

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Worship 130
- Contribution \$8,586.38

That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil - this is the gift of God.
Ecclesiastes 3:13

In Our Prayers...

Loss of loved ones:

Irene Barnes, Lynette Root's aunt, passed away last week. Please continue to pray for Lynette's Mom and Irene's husband, Don.

John Watson, Cleta's husband and Kenn's father, passed away last Sunday. He was living at Geneva Care Center and suffered with Alzheimers.

Prayer needs:

Herman Aultman, Bobbie Whitman's brother, is home from the hospital and is on new medication.

Don & Pat Brewster are still recuperating from their health issues.

Gail Cole, Lori Plummer's mother, is suffering with some health issues.

Emily Gray is traveling to Honduras.

Rich Kern, Jackie Robinson's father, has been diagnosed with leukemia.

Charlie Lockett is recuperating from a upper arm and shoulder injury. He does not need surgery.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Justin Avey

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

Joyce Eakins

Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson

Amy Ferguson - a former member from Montana

Sarah Hayden & family - Maria Zeisler's relative

Marie Hayes

Mary Henkel - Mike's mother

Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister

Sandy Jones - Marie Hayes's daughter

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 cousin

Mothers-to-be:

Jamie Holtin - Joe & Terrie's daughter

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

Shannon (Pedersen) Manny

Cathy Miller

Jamie Miller

Jennifer (Doggett) Piehl

Shelley Prosser - Joan Lockett's daughter

Armed forces:

Joseph Amato - Bob & Betsy Jett's son-in-law is in the Illinois Air Force National Guard. He has been deployed to Afghanistan for 60 days.

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew is in basic training in Oklahoma

Chris & Jennifer Roberts - Cathleen Longfellow's sister & brother-in-law are home from Iraq.

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 is in Army basic training - his info:

Pvt. Klinton Wheeler

BCO2154 In, Rn 254

8775 Albanese Drive

Fort Benning, GA 31905-4931

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, Betsy Jett



Collection Counters

Scott Drumheller, Mike Henkel



Small Group Fellowships

Today is a Small Group Fellowship! Remember there is NO evening worship on Small Group Sundays. There is a small group that meets at the building Sunday evenings at 5:30. If you have any questions or would still like to join a group, see Don, Cliff or Bob V.

Teacher Needed

There is no teacher for the Preschool - Kindergarten class on Sunday mornings beginning next Sunday. Please see Cliff or Curt if you are interested.

Holiday Dinner

Our annual Holiday Dinner is next Sunday, December 14.

Be sure to join us for this wonderful celebration with our church family! Ham and turkey will be provided. *Please sign-up in the foyer to bring side dishes, condiments, breads or desserts.*



Shults-Lewis Donations

If you signed up to give a Shults-Lewis gift, please have it to the church building TODAY. Wrap the gift and attach a Christmas gift card writing the person's name it is for and that it is from you. Also, attach a post-it note that includes what is in the gift. See Joan Avey with questions.

Have commodity items to the building TODAY. The Sunday morning Bible classes are assigned the following items - collection boxes are located in the foyer. **The class that brings the most will win donuts.**

Adults - auditorium: Toilet bowl cleaner

Adults - foyer: Bathroom cleaner

Teens: Cascade dishwasher detergent

4th - 6th graders: Glass cleaner

1st - 3rd graders: Dishwashing liquid

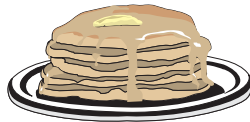
Nursery - Preschool - Kindergarten: Paper towels

Also, don't forget to bring in your used printer cartridges and filled change cans or you may make a donation to their "electronic change can" by going to their website - www.shultslewis.org - and clicking on the "Support," then "Financial" tabs.



Moms In School Breakfast with Santa

The 10th Annual Moms In School Breakfast with Santa is next Saturday, December 13, from 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist and Congregational Church, 643 East Washington Street - West Chicago (west of Walgreens). Tickets are \$3 for Children (12 and under); \$6 for Adults; and \$15 for a Family. Pictures with Santa are \$5.00. If you would like more information about Moms In School go to www.firstumcucc.org/momsinschool.htm.



Franciscan Court Bake Sale

Franciscan Court is owned by our former members, Zack & Rene Caulkins. They are having a bake sale next Saturday, December 13, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. to raise money for their entertainment fund. They would like the baked items by Thursday, December 11. If you would like to donate some home-made goods, please see Sally.

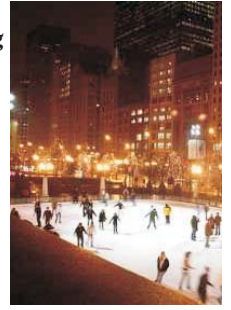
Children's Library

We are looking for elementary Christian books to create a library for the children. If parents want to donate their used books that their kids have outgrown, they can give the books to either Joan Avey or Cindy Drumheller.

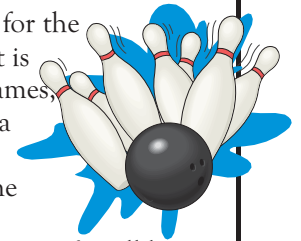


Youth & Family News

TEENS: We're going ice skating at Millenium Park again this year for our Christmas Party. The date is Monday, December 22, and we'll meet at the building at 12:15. (Eat lunch before you get here because we won't be eating until after ice skating.) We'll skate, eat dinner downtown, and see some of the Christmas decorations before heading back home. The cost is \$24, including skate rental, train and bus fares (you'll need singles). Sign-up in the downstairs classroom if you plan to go.



Sign-up on the sheet downstairs for the annual New Years Eve Lock-In. Cost is \$28, and includes bowling, arcade games, laser tag, pizza and drinks. We need a good 2-person team so that we can keep the "King Pin" trophy! Get some practice time in before the lock-in!



Winterfest is February 19-22, 2009. Info will be available soon.

PARENTS/ADULTS: I need one or two more chaperones for ice skating downtown on December 22. We're meeting at the building at 12:15 and will be back sometime after dinner (not late). See Cliff if you can go.

For the New Years Eve Lock-In we're meeting at the building at 10:30 pm. You can pick-up your exhausted son/daughter at the Brunswick Zone (corner of Gary & North Aves.) at 6:00 a.m. Cliff needs an extra driver or two to transport kids from the building to the bowling center at midnight.

I'll need a couple guys for chaperones at Winterfest, February 19-22, 2009. Are you interested? See Cliff.

Caroling

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 21, to go caroling. Plans will probably include eating lunch after worship, caroling at Franciscan Court, and then visiting shut-ins and some of our seniors. See Jay or Sally with any questions.



Ladies Class

Following is a list of topics for the Wednesday evening Ladies Bible Class in the coming months. Barb Voigts will be leading the discussion.

December: Daily focus on God for handling life struggles
January: Refreshing and rejuvenation for weary women.