



# Family

## West Chicago Church of Christ

[www.wcfamily.org](http://www.wcfamily.org)

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## A Preacher's Perspective

The wise men from the east followed a special star to find the baby that had been born to Mary. They probably came hundreds, if not thousands, of miles. Their intention was to worship this new born king, and they brought special gifts.

We know little about them. They may have heard of Jesus' prophecies through rabbis who had migrated to their lands. Or, they may have been given special revelation about the Christ directly by God. We just don't know.

Their encounter with Herod is interesting. From the miraculous leading of the star, it would seem that they didn't really need the directions of Herod. It may be that God used them to give testimony to Herod that there was a new king, and that his evil reign was near an end.

But, we know that they came. And they were led by that same star to the very house where Jesus and his family were staying. God then spoke to them in a dream and warned them to return home by a different route to avoid Herod. With that, they disappear from history.

Most agree that they were Gentiles. This new king born in Bethlehem was not the king only of the

Jews, but of the whole world. The Magi visit reminds us of that.

The wise men of our day are not so perceptive. The great men of the nations of our day are more inclined to unbelief. They don't see miraculous stars and signs. Indeed, they don't look for them.

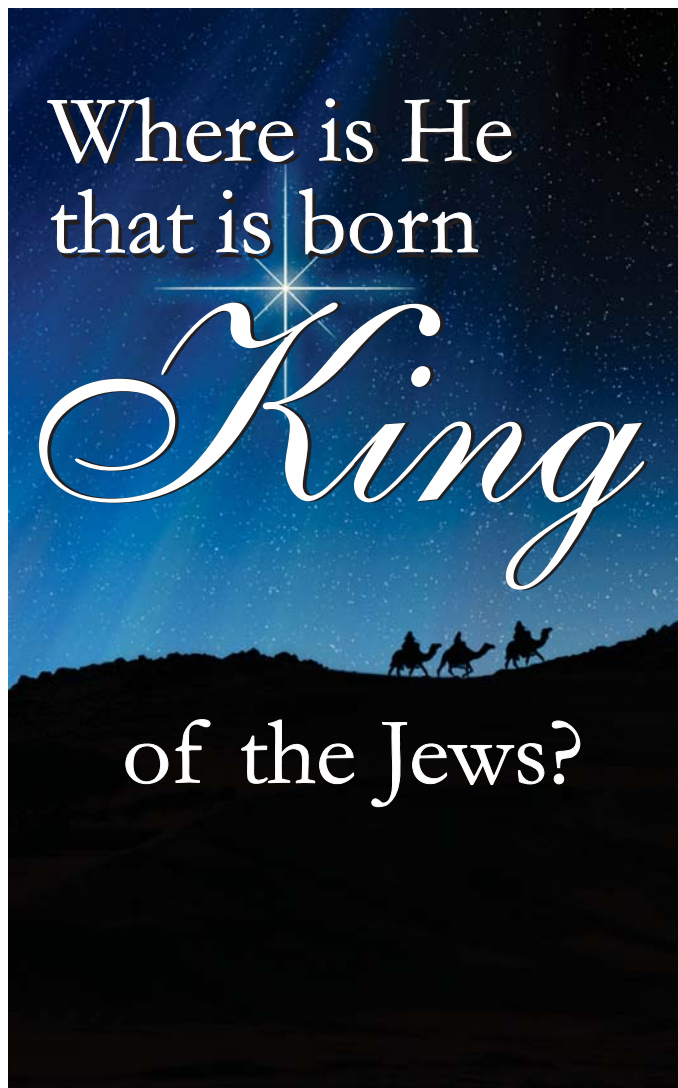
Our wise men are blinded by fears, by greed, by ambition. They have been trained to reject spiritual understanding and knowledge, and they imagine this makes them men of sophistication and great intellect.

The kings of the east saw the sovereign hand of God and knew to follow and to worship. They knew this majesty was one which called for rich gifts.

And they were blessed. We don't know just how. But we see that they were chosen and we assume that God rewarded their pilgrimage of faith as He always rewards those who diligently seek Him.

The Magi remind us of the universal reign of God, of God's promise "I will be exalted among the nations."

The heavenly kingdom is one in which all the nations of the earth will gather around the great white throne to celebrate the Bethlehem-child.



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 . . . . . *Curt Robinson*  
 Kids Connection . . . . . *Brian Gifford*  
 Praise Songs . . . . . *Dewayne Smith*  
     #851      *I'll Fly Away*  
     #23      *Our God, He Is Alive*  
     #47      *Holy, Holy, Holy*  
     #71      *As the Deer*  
     #383     *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*  
 Communion Message . . . . . *Tom Doggett*  
 Prayers, Pass Emblems & Collection  
 Sermon . . . . . *Chuck Miller*  
     #63      *I Will Call Upon the Lord*  
 Prayer Cards . . . . . *Bob Voigts*  
     #1018    *Joy to the World*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

December 11 . . . . . Alec Boyd, Bobbie Whitman  
 December 14 . . . . . Sandy Boyd

## Dates to Remember

TODAY . . . . . Holiday Dinner  
 December 9 . . . . . Teen Christmas Party  
 December 10 . . . . . Teen Parent Connection  
 December 11 . . . . . Tuesday Ladies Class  
 December 12 . . . . . Wednesday Evening Bible Class  
 December 14 . . . . . Mens Prayer & Pancakes  
 December 16 . . . . . Community Groups  
 December 17 . . . . . Teen Parent Connection  
 December 18 . . . . . Tuesday Ladies Class  
 December 19 . . . . . Seniors Breakfast, Living Room Café  
 December 19 . . . . . Wednesday Evening Bible Class  
 December 21 . . . . . Mens Prayer & Pancakes  
 December 25 . . . . . Merry Christmas!

## Records You Helped Make

Contribution . . . . . \$5,248.50

## Nursery Workers

Lynette & Shelby Root



## Collection Counters

Jeff Ieler, Rick Root



## In Our Prayers...

**Continue to pray for our leadership** and the process of appointing additional elders and deacons.

**Bob & Phyllis Cissne, Cindy Drumheller's parents**, need prayers. Her father is suffering with dementia and her mother has MRSA. Bob will be in the hospital for several days to adjust medication.

**Continue to pray for Doka and his family.**

**Linda Barr Fellenbaum, Julie Dean's niece**, was found, as well as one of her children that was missing. They are both OK, but there are no details while the police and FBI are still investigating the reason for her disappearance. Julie and her family are very grateful for our prayers. Please continue to pray for this situation.

**Ken Gill, Josephine Haggerton's father-in-law**, had surgery to remove a tumor in his bladder. It was malignant, so he will start chemotherapy soon.

**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.

**Bobbye Miller** was admitted to CDH on Friday night with pancreatitis. She is in room 274.

### 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  
 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  
 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  
 Henry Phillips, the youth minister at Rockford Church  
 of Christ  
 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

### Moms-to-Be:

Bridgett Fordyce – a former member, inducing 12/17

Eryn Tribble – former member

### Armed forces:

Josh Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's grand-nephew,  
 Afghanistan

Ryan Gleason – Dana Howard's nephew

Kristen Hauser – a friend of the Avey's, Afghanistan

Jacob Headtko – U.S. Marines, RCC alumni

Joey Wertz – the friend of Lynette Root's friend, Iraq

Jonathon Young – a Warrant Officer in the army

### Missions:

City of Children – Ensenada, Mexico

Obadiah Doka – Nigeria

Living Room Café – Chicago

Mission Lazarus – Honduras & Haiti

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

Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt – Taiwan

Teen Parent Connection - West Chicago

Joe & Allison Voigts – Korea

Students of Joe Voigts – China

Ayodele Waleola – Nigeria





## Holiday Dinner Today!

Our **Holiday Dinner** is today immediately following morning worship. If you are visiting with us today, we want to especially invite you to join us in our annual celebration!

*On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."* — John 7:37-38

## Shults-Lewis Items

Shults-Lewis will be picking up the Christmas gifts, commodities, printer cartridges, change cans, Campbell soup labels and Box Tops tomorrow. Please have all of your donations to the church building before noon. Checks are also welcome to cover their meat, milk and produce bill. Make the checks out to Shults-Lewis and give them to Chuck or Don. Let Sally know if you have any questions.

## World Relief



The deadline for winter-wear is extended to next Sunday, December 16. Coats, scarves, hats and gloves in all sizes are welcome. They especially need coats for men in sizes small, medium and large. The winter-wear will be given to refugees that are not used to our Chicago winters.

## Christmas Concert

Charlie Hearn is in the Wind Ensemble at St. Charles East High School. Their **Holiday Concert is this Thursday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m.** The concert is free. Please let Sally know if you plan to attend.

## Living Room Café

The Christmas Party at the Living Room Café is Wednesday, December 19. We will leave the church building at 1:00 p.m. Let Chuck or Julie know if you plan to attend.

## New Directory

We are working on a new directory. If you have moved, changed your phone number or e-mail address, please let Sally know. Also, if you would like to be included in the directory, write down your address, phone number(s), e-mail address, birthdays and anniversaries (including year) and give it to Chuck or Don.



The Gifford's are hosting a **Teen Christmas Party this evening from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.** Dinner will be provided. Bring a "white elephant" gift for a gift exchange.

**Winterfest 2013 is February 15-17.** You may still sign-up if you would like to attend.

**The New Year's Eve Lock-In** will be held from Sunday, December 30, at 8:00 p.m. until Monday, December 31, at 8:00 a.m. at North Park Church of Christ in Rockford. Bring \$20 for laser tag! We will probably plan to leave the church building around 6:30 p.m. to go up together and then be back around 9:30 a.m. Monday morning.

## World Bible School

World Bible School has a website where you can volunteer to be a WBS teacher for a student online or via the traditional postal mail. You can volunteer to teach even one student.



If you are interested, go to the links to log-in or register.

Log-in at [www.worldbibleschool.org/login](http://www.worldbibleschool.org/login)

Register at [www.worldbibleschool.net/register](http://www.worldbibleschool.net/register)

Remember the story of how Doka came to know Jesus through a World Bible School pamphlet!

