



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

Volume 42, Issue 51 • December 19, 2010

A Preacher's Perspective

The Magi were exceptions in their own day, and men like them are exceptions in our own, as well. They represent something very specific: those who are ordained by God to carry forward His eternal purposes. Their journey was motivated and orchestrated by the Sovereign God of the Universe. That journey was not subject to the interference of the brutish Herod nor of the combined conspiracies of all the insecure monarchs of the earth.

A recent manuscript dated relatively early suggests there may have been as many as a dozen of these Magi, and that they may have come from China. The best manuscript, of course, is the New Testament, and Matthew just doesn't give us great detail.

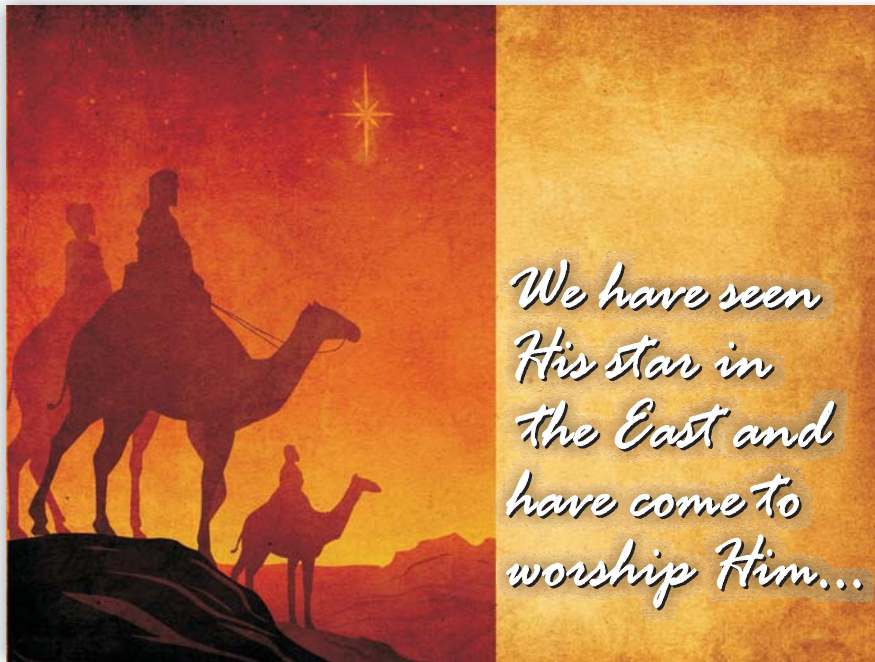
We sometimes wonder how the whole "star" thing worked. Was it just a natural star which was especially bright and put in just the right heavenly position to accomplish the guiding of these worshippers? I tend to think it was a star of some personality and specificity with pinpoint precision and intelligence. An "angel-star" if you will. What's my evidence? I don't really have much, just my inclination.

You see, God just has infinite possibilities in the way He chooses to manifest Himself and to achieve things here on planet earth. There are some marvelous angels described in the book of Revelation. They are big and powerful and beautiful. One of them may well

have been behind the whole "star in the East" phenomenon.

What seems most important about those Eastern kings is that they represent God's certain rule over the whole earth. They come representing the obedient humility of all who live in the illusion of power, or who may even understand power truly. They bow before this infant-king and demonstrate an insight that here is Deity.

They join the shepherds, Anna and Simeon at the Temple, and who knows how many wanderers of the streets of Bethlehem that night. All of them had opportunity to sense that here, in "the dark streets shineth the everlasting light."



*We have seen
His star in
the East and
have come to
worship Him...*

We live in latter days of scepticism and callous rejection of the Lordship of this Bethlehem baby. But the amazing paradox of an infant with infinite power and the governance of the entire world on his tiny shoulders continues to capture the hearts of all those being chosen by the Father to see His star in the East and to come to his manger-crib.

Some day, soon or late, He will come again. The clouds will reveal His glory and the gentle baby, the lamb led to slaughter will be no more. He will come with a robe dipped in blood on a white horse before the hosts of heaven.

All will worship Him. God has decreed it.

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. If you are interested in joining a Community Group, please speak with one of our Deacons.

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

Cliff Plummer: Fellowship, Benevolence, Education

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.



350 East James Avenue
West Chicago, Illinois 60185
(630) 231-2062
wcfamily@wcfamily.org • www.wcfamily.org

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.

Order of Worship

- Welcome Ian Voigts
- Scripture Reading & Prayer Ian Voigts
- Kids Connection Jon Miller
- Praise Songs Rick Root
 - #1017 Away in a Manger
 - #1018 Joy to the World
 - #1002 Angels We Have Heard on High
 - #997 O Come All Ye Faithful
- #334 'Tis Midnight, and On Olive's Brow
- Communion Message Dewayne Smith
- Communion
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon Chuck Miller
- Invitation Song Rick Root
- # O
- Prayer Card Responses and Closing Prayer Bob Voigts
- Closing Song Rick Root
 - #996 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- December 21 . Hannah Bray, Kaylie Ross, Cathy Vaden
- December 21 Wendell & Margaret Mott (anv.)
- December 23 Lynette Root
- December 24 Joyce Eakins

Dates to Remember

- TODAY Community Groups
- December 22 Living Room Café
- December 24 Mens Prayer Breakfast
- December 26 Praise Sunday!
- December 31 New Year's Eve in 3D
- January 2 Community Groups
- January 4 Tuesday Ladies Class
- January 6 Food Pantry Delivery
- January 7 Mens Prayer Breakfast
- January 16 Teen Gathering @ Doggett's

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 42
- Sunday Morning Worship 66
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class 25
- Contribution \$2,363.25

Nursery Workers Missy Day, Jackie Robinson

Collection Counters . Scott Drumheller, Rick Root

In Our Prayers...

Herman Aultman, Bobbie Whitman's brother, had a kidney transplant last Sunday night. Someone who passed away donated organs and he received the kidney. They are very grateful for our prayers and ask for continued prayers that his body doesn't reject the kidney.

Herman Biggers, Josephine Haggerton's brother, had hip replacement surgery and is doing well. Josephine is very grateful for everyone's prayers.

Joyce Eakins has 16 brothers and sisters. Several are suffering with serious health issues: **Hubert** has Alzheimers, **Kathy** has osteoporosis, **Sylvia** has problems with her colon, **Eunice** has cancer, and **Lawrence** was supposed to have surgery.

Dana Howard may be facing some changes to her medications.

Chuck Miller has a prostate biopsy on Tuesday. **Bobbye** is still recuperating with pneumonia.

Kay Schrader has been moved to the third floor at DuPage Convalescence Center. Visitors are very much appreciated!

Phyllis Sitler had partial hip replacement surgery a week ago. She is out of the hospital and back at Geneva Care Center. She is doing well.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Justin Avey
 Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents
 Bonnie Bingham
 Nancy Brewster
 Jim & Julie Chavez
 Dachielle - Blake Mullins's friend
 John Day
 Joyce Duke - Bobbie Whitman's sister
 Brad Fowler - Joan Lockett's nephew
 Josephine Haggerton
 Lauren Helton - Josephine Haggerton's nephew
 Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister
 Mason Hutchins - friend of Alec Boyd & Rourke Mullins
 Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece
 Myrna Levake
 Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother
 Steve Link
 Jack Lockett - father of Charlie, Mike, Julie Chavez, Shelley Prosser, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen
 Mike Lockett - Joan's son
 Jackie Milam, Alyssa's mother
 Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's cousin
 Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and the son of Marion Lake's cousin
 Helen Plummer - Joan Avey and Cliff's mother
 J.D. Potts - the father of Cyndi Perez
 Kay Schrader
 Bruce Snyder & Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts's cousins
 Joe Stone - a friend from Rockford Christian Camp
 Jim Whitman

Moms-to-Be:

Lisa Rentschler & Katie Weishaar - Sally's nieces

Armed forces:

Josh Aultman - Bobbie Whitman's grand-nephew is in Afghanistan

Ryan Gleason - Dana Howard's nephew

Jacob Headtke - U.S. Marines, RCC alumni

Toby Logsdon - Dewayne & Marilyn Smith's son-in-law is in Afghanistan

Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, friend of Lori

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

Jonathon Young - a Warrant Officer in the army

Missionaries:

Mission Lazarus - Honduras

Students of Joe Voigts - China

City of Children - Ensenada, Mexico

Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria

Ayodele Waleola - Nigeria

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

Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan



Sermon on the Mount Series

Our series of lessons on the Sermon on the Mount has a few more installments. If you would like to see videos, please let Chuck know.

Jesus

DEITY
DEPTH
DIMENSION

LOVES YOU!

12.31.2010-1.1.2011

NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT

FRIENDS
PRAISE
SERVICE
FELLOWSHIP
FOOD AND FUN

...of course

3D

EVERYONE is invited to join our New Year's Eve Event - **the more the merrier!!** Please see Jay or Sally if you would like to help or if you have any questions. Following is a preliminary agenda.

7:00 - 9:00

Franciscan Court Supportive Living

Concert: Teens especially, let Jay or Sally know if you would like to be a part of the concert. We will also sing a few carols as a group.

Treat: We will serve the residents a treat.

Bingo: The residents love bingo. We'll mix in and play along!

9:15 - 1:00ish

Church Building

Devotional, games, food, etc.

**Sign Up
in the Foyer!**

Today!

Community Groups are scheduled to meet today! The elders want to encourage everyone to get involved in their Community Group. Why?

- **Get to know** your neighbors – those members who live the closest to you!
- **Keep up-to-date** on church activities, as well as, activities in which the youth of your group are involved.
- **Invite** your friends. What a great way to introduce them to your church family and to Jesus!

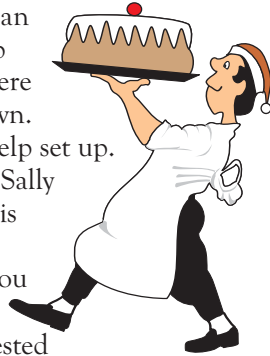
Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. – Galatians 6:2

Living Room Cafe

The Living Room Café is hosting their Christmas Party this Wednesday, December 22, and we are serving. **Please sign up in the foyer if you plan to go.** This is a great opportunity to serve! See Julie Dean with questions. We need people to help cook, serve, socialize and entertain. There will be two different groups driving down.

1. At 2:00 a group will head down to help set up.
2. At 3:00 Cyndi Perez, Rick Root and Sally Hearn will be driving the teens. This group will be the entertainment.

Parents – please see Chuck or Don if you are concerned about safety. **We need singers!** If you plan to go and are interested in singing with carolers, please see Sally!



Tuesday Ladies Class

There will be no Tuesday Ladies Class on December 21 and 28. It will begin on January 4th at 10:00 a.m.

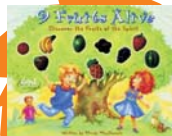
Youth Ministry

EDUCATION:

- **We still need someone** to teach the 0-4 classroom on Wednesday night. Please see Cindy ASAP.
- **Substitutes are needed for every class!**
- **Teacher Workshop:** Please let Cindy Drumheller know if you are interested in attending a Teacher Workshop. She is willing to lead it during your Community Group.

EDUCATION WISHING TREE:

In the hallway downstairs you will find our "Wishing Tree." Each leaf contains the picture and price of an item. To donate, write your name on the leaf and give Sally the appropriate funds and the item will be ordered. You may also take the leaf and purchase the item yourself. Give the item and the leaf to Sally.



YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES:

Please see Sandy Boyd if you are interested in hosting a teen event – devotional, outing or service project.

TEENS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 16	Gathering of the Jesus Freaks at the Doggett's
February 18-20	Winterfest in Gatlinburg Sign up in the Teen hallway!
February 27	Gathering of the Jesus Freaks at the Boyd's

Teen Parent Connection

Volunteers are needed to assist with the Teen Parent Connection meetings held here on Thursday evenings. TPC educates teen parents on the responsibilities of pregnancy and helps teen parents develop parenting skills. We support each of TPC's meetings as we provide, serve and clean up a well-balanced meal for 15-20 people and provide assistance with child-care. **Please sign up in the foyer to provide all or part of a meal or to help serve.** See Chuck or Sally if you have any questions or would like to make a monetary donation for the meals.

Food Pantry!

Item of the month – Donate hats, gloves and hot chocolate mix for the pantry. All sizes and styles of hats and gloves are appreciated!



Family in Need

A family who visits our food pantry has requested Christmas gifts. Please check the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. Please have items to the building by Wednesday, December 22! Thank you!



Merry Christmas