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Volume 45, Issue 4 • January 27, 2013

A Preacher's Perspective

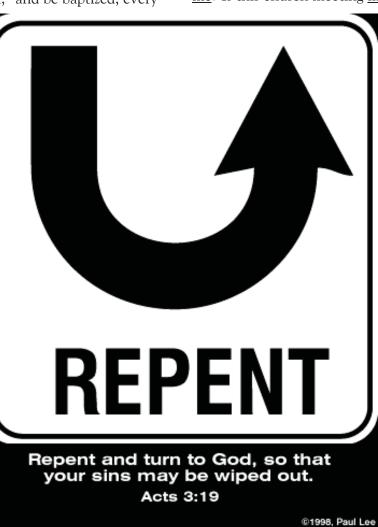
t really just means "change." Turn around. Give control to God. Repent.

It was the prominent first word in the first gospel sermon preached by Peter on the Day of Pentecost. "Repent," he said, "and be baptized, every

one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins."

The repentance required was of their rejection of the Christ and their cruel crucifixion of Him. It was pretty clear in their case just what repentance referred to.

Repentance is a bigger idea, I think, than just the simplicity of "about face." It deals with the enormous human problem of selfwill. Maybe a little deeper idea of repentance comes from one of my favorite texts from Paul's writing: "¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again."



a tall order for us. Selfishness is probably the best oneword definition of sin according to many thinkers. It's just who we are from that moment we first cry after delivery from the womb.

It's all about me

We judge and evaluate everything based on how "I" feel about it. Does the Bible make sense to <u>me</u>? Is this church meeting <u>my</u> needs? You know how I

love the celebrity expression that starts, "I just couldn't serve a God who...." As if God is eager to conform to the media's expectations or the consensus of the talk show panel.

This profound passage from Paul calls us to something entirely different.

Quit living for ourselves and live for Him who died for our sake, and was raised.

Then, and only by His grace, is there a confident hope we have that one day we will be like Him, that we'll be with Him, and that we'll be acceptable to Him.

Are you ready for that challenge to repentance-to live no longer for yourself? I can preach it much better than I can practice it.

2 Corinthians 5:15 (NIV) "No longer live for themselves...." That's quite

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 worshiping 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:

Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship
& Leadership
Worship & Pulpit, Communications,
Outreach, Education, Benevolence
Education, Stewardship & Leadership
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 Bob Jett
Praise Songs Rick Root
John 15:16,17
718 We Shall Assemble
490 It Is Well With My Soul
290 Shine Jesus Shine
1 Corinthians 3:16,17
514 Redeemed
601 My God And I
Communion Message
366 By Christ Redeemed
Prayers, Pass Emblems & Collection
Sermon Chuck Miller
911 Bring Christ Your Broken Life
Prayer Cards
186 Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 2..... Scott Drumheller

Dates to Remember

TODAY Praise Sunday!
January 28 Teen Parent Connection
January 29 Tuesday Ladies Class
January 30 Wednesday Evening Bible Classes
February 1 Mens Prayer & Pancakes
February 3 Community Groups
February 4 Teen Parent Connection
February 5 Tuesday Ladies Class
February 6 Wednesday Evening Bible Classes
February 7 Food Pantry Delivery
February 8 Mens Prayer & Pancakes
February 14-17 Winterfest

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class
Sunday Morning Worship
Contribution\$4,869.26

Nursery Workers Betsy Jett, Jamie Miller

Collection Counters



Scott Drumheller, Mike Henkel

In Our Prayers...

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

Elma Abbott, a former member, passed away this week. She has suffered with Alzheimers for quite a few years. A memorial service will be held here this week.

Kathy, a friend of Dana Howard's, has cancer. Also, continue to pray for Sylvia Atten, Waseem James and her aunt, Pat Johnson.

Lynette Root is having her gall bladder removed on Thursday.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's brother Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root's parents Nancy Brewster Bob & Phyllis Cissne – Cindy Drumheller's parents John Day Al Dorsey Doug Dorsey - Al's son Brad Fowler – Joan Lockett's nephew 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 Sue Lake – Marion's sister-in-law 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, from Rockford Church of Christ 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 Bob York **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



Today is Praise Sunday!

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes

10:30 a.m. Worship

4:30 p.m. Leadership meeting

6:00 p.m. Worship/Singing/Finger-food/dessert fellowship

New Directory

A current directory is posted on the bulletin board.

- 1. Please check your information.
- 2. Mark any changes needed.
- 3. Place an initial next to your name signifying that you have checked your info and everything is OK.

If you are new to our congregation, forms are available to have your information included in the directory. Please include your address, phone number(s), e-mail address, birthdays and anniversaries (including year) and give it to Chuck or Don.

We also need your photograph. Please see Jay, Sally or Rachel Hearn to have your photo taken.

Please note: Let's try to get this completed in the next couple of weeks! And...please don't be camera-shy!

Teen Parent Connection

Teen Parent Connection meetings are starting again tomorrow evening. A group of 12-18 teenagers meets every Monday evening in our fellowship room and we supply and serve the meal. Please let Sally know what Monday you are available to prepare and/or serve the meal. You may give your receipts to Chuck or Don to receive reimbursement for the food you purchase. A chart of meal ideas is posted in the foyer.

Southern Sudan

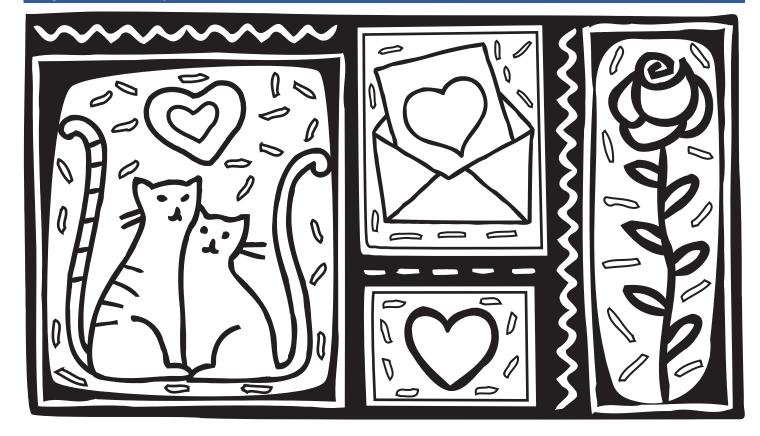
Kelsey Drumheller is collecting funds to provide training for literacy instructors for women in Sudan. The last possible day to donate is Wednesday, February 13. Check the flyer she posted in the foyer and visit the website www.rebuildingsouthernsudan.org.

It's a Boy!

Michael & Eryn Tribble, former members, are the proud parents of **Alister Michael.** He was born on Wednesday, January 23, weighing 6 lbs., 12 oz. and was 19 inches long. They are all doing great,



especially his big sister, Allyah. Congratulations!



Who) Am in Christ

I am Accepted

I am God's child. – John 1:12 I am Christ's friend. – John 15:15 I have been justified. - Romans 5:1 I am united with the Lord, and I am one spirit with Him. - 1 Corinthians 6:17 I have been bought with a price. I belong to God. - 1 Corinthians 12:27 I am a member of Christ's Body. - 1 Corinthians 6:20 I am a saint. – Ephesians 1:1 I have been adopted as God's child. – Ephesians 1:5 I have direct access to God through the Holy Spirit. - Ephesians 2:18 I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins. - Colossians 1:14 I am complete in Christ. - Colossians 2:10

I am Secure

- I am free from condemnation. – Romans 8:1, 2
- I am assured that all things work together for good. – *Romans* 8:28
- I am free from any condemning charges against me. – *Romans* 8:31-34 I cannot be separated from the love
- of God. Romans 8:35-39
- I have been established, anointed and sealed by God.
- 2 Corinthians 1:21, 22
 I am confident that the good work God
- has begun in me will be perfected. *– Philippians 1:6*
- I am a citizen of heaven. – *Philippians* 3:20
- I am hidden with Christ in God. *– Colossians 3:3*I have not been given a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind.
 - 2 Timothy 1:7
- I can find grace and mercy in time of need. – *Hebrews 4:16* I am born of God and the evil one
- cannot touch me. 1 John 5:18

I am Significant

I am the salt and light of the earth. - Matthew 5:13, 14 I am a branch of the true vine, a channel of His life. – John 15:1, 5 I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit. – John 15:16 I am a personal witness of Christ. -Acts 1:8 I am God's temple. – 1 Corinthians 3:16 I am a minister of reconciliation for God. - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 I am God's coworker. – 2 Corinthians 6:1 (see 1 Corinthians 3:9) I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realm. – Ephesians 2:6 I am God's workmanship. - Ephesians 2:10 I may approach God with freedom and confidence. – Ephesians 3:12 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. – Philippians 4:13