

## Pray for All in Authority

Paul urged the churches of his day that “prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness” (1 Timothy 2:1-2). If Paul were living in 2005 and addressing the church of today, I suspect that he would be urging us to pray about the selection of the new pope.

The pope is a man “in authority” who influences the thinking of millions of people around the world. He stands for morality and Biblical values in a world where few hold those in high regard. In commenting on the influence of John Paul II, Todd Bouldin (a graduate of Abilene Christian University who is an attorney and also preaches for the Camarillo Church of Christ in California) wrote these words:

*He can be credited along with others for the downfall of communism. He spoke out against genocide in Bosnia, Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia. He interacted with world leaders. Rather than disdain a media culture, he embraced it and brought his message to billions all over the world. What I personally most admired was that he wrote and spoke with consistency and clarity about a “culture of life” in which the church becomes the voice for life in a world of increasing violence, war, and hunger. He championed the cause of the voiceless—the poor, the worker, the hungry, the victims of war. . . . This pope understood that the church must stand on the side of those who are poor, the hungry, and those Jesus called “the least of these” . . . This pope communicated his humanity and authenticity well.*

Our tradition does not agree with many things done and taught in the Roman Catholic Church. Their ways seem strange to us. But when our teacher, Paul, wrote to the Philippians about those who did things he didn’t approve, he urged patience and understanding because “The important thing is that in every way, . . . Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.” As the cardinals gather this week to select their new leader, faithful Christians must pray that the man chosen will hold the line on moral issues and will champion the cause of the poor throughout the world. *G. Crowe*

## Kegger!

Root Beer is really good. I used to drink two at a time when I was a little boy at the Country Buffet after church. Six foot long party subs with bacon are really, really good (anything with bacon is really, really good). Live music by people you know is really, really, really good. A moonwalk that you can jump around in is almost unbelievably good! That is what you will find at our annual Root Beer Kegger this Friday night at 8 PM.

And as good as all of this is, there are a few things that are better. For example, watching students reach out to other students is better than good. That is amazing! Giving students an opportunity to see that there is a great deal of fun that one can have without alcohol. That is amazing! Making new contacts with non-Christians and planting seeds is better than good . . . it is ministry! It is a privilege and a responsibility!

That is what this weekend is about . . . reaching out in ways that speak to students, making a statement about the futility of alcohol for the sake of fun. Please help us make this statement by providing any snack that you can! Cookies are always welcome! If you have a snack for the Kegger, please bring it by the CSC Friday afternoon and leave it in the main kitchen area. Thank you for helping us with this all important ministry! Hope to see you there!

~Dan

# It's a Baby Shower!



This Sunday, April 24, from 2:00 until 4:00 PM, a baby shower will be given for **Veronica & Brandon Hombs** at the home of Gina and Josh Boyd, 225 Duke Lane, Lafayette. Group gift money may be given to the hostesses, Gina, Becky Pitt, Michelle Robson, or Yssa DeWoody.



**Sunday, May 1, 2:00 until 4:00 PM**, is the date for a wedding shower for **Julie (Groves) and Jackson Phillips**. It is a "grocery shower," so bring a bag of groceries and your favorite recipe to share to Phyllis & Farrell Simmerman's home, 415 Oaklawn Dr., Lafayette.

You are cordially invited to a wedding shower for **Michelle Woody** and fiancée, **Ty Lewis**, on **Saturday, May 7th, 10 AM until 1:00 PM**, at the home of Bill and Carol Bell, 216 Jennings Street, West Lafayette. Michelle and Ty are registered at Target and Pier 1. For suggestions or contributions toward a group gift, please see Carol Bell, Sarah McClain, Joyce Mathews, or Sheryl Willison. This is a come-and-go shower. Everyone is invited. Please come, visit, and offer your best wishes.



*Elmwood church family,*

*I don't have much memory of what happened when I was in the hospital. Now I am hearing a lot of stories about what happened to me and also about the people who touched my life in so many ways—visits, food, lots of prayers. I want to thank so many people, but I have no idea how to start, but you know who you are and what you did. Most importantly, God knows. I am grateful to have such a wonderful, loving church family. As the accounts are told, I am amazed at your love and kindness. THANK YOU!!*

*—Andrea Browell*

*Dear Elmwood church family,*

*On behalf of my whole family (Lerrill, Darla, Ronna & Janeil), Cheryl and I and the kids would like to thank you wholeheartedly for your love and care for Dad and Mom during the past couple of months. What a blessing you are! We have enjoyed our visits with Dad and Mom at University Place, and our time with you. We thank God for you!*

*In Christ's love, Bren & Cheryl White*

## Help Needed!

A couple of the food pantry volunteers have had to cut back on their time in the food pantry. Folks who can volunteer for 1 or 2 two-hour shifts per month serving guests and helping them select and bag their food are needed. You will be blessed by this commitment. If you can help, please call Mary Ella King at 742-0634.



**Madeline Edith** was born to **Kevin & Jessie Stewart** on Saturday, April 16, weighing 8 pounds 8 ounces. Congratulations to Kevin & Jessie and grandparents, Cecil & Carol Koons.

## Attention Parents:

Since this Sunday, April 24, is the 4th Sunday of the month, there will be **no Children's Church** for grades 1-5.

*—Joe Ruhl*

## You Can Help

On April 30, the **March of Dimes** fundraiser, **Walk America**, is focusing on premature births. **Chelsea Barnett**, daughter of Jim and Teresa Jones and a Senior Nursing student at Purdue, is looking for sponsors. If you would be willing to contribute to the March of Dimes as her sponsor please contact her at 420-7889 or email her at [cjones@purdue.edu](mailto:cjones@purdue.edu) or contact Jim Jones at 563-3352 or [jones@purdue.edu](mailto:jones@purdue.edu).

**April 17, 2005**

Class: 186 Worship: 285

Contribution: \$7,311

Budget: \$8,100

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## DOES IT REALLY MATTER WHERE I SIT?

I don't remember for sure, but I've probably said something like this before...if I have, please indulge me one more time. There are many reasons for us to sit as near the front as possible and as close together as comfort will allow (I understand there are a few exceptions and special cases). One big reason we should sit together at the front is so our guests don't have to search for a seat. If our row isn't filled in, we can at least sit toward the middle of the pew so guests can just sit down by us. Another reason to sit near the front is because we sing better when we are together. Okay, I don't sing better, but you are able to drown me out better. Yet another reason (the real reason I'm writing today) is that if we sit all spread out, it is very difficult to serve the Lord's Supper. Sunday morning, I watched as our already anxious (public service) men began to pass the trays. From my vantage point (and yes I was among the guilty parties...Sharon and I were on one end and there was another couple at the other end), it looked like the men were trying to solve a mind puzzle or maybe even find their way out of a maze. I am going to do my best to try to remember to move toward the center of the pew if I don't need to get in and out to serve and I am asking you to do the same. This isn't a huge task for any of us, and I know that our servers will really appreciate the effort.

While we are on the subject of seating, I'll address why our teens don't sit together down front. The answer is very simple: worship is and should be a family activity whenever possible. Look at it this way, we have separate classes, separate LIFE Groups (for the most part) and separate activities. I ask the teens to sit with their families during worship so that they can together experience what God is doing in their lives during corporate times of worship. I am sure that some think that I have encouraged the teens to sit with their families so they will behave ...that may be a side benefit, but the truth is, I want the families to hear each other sing, pray, laugh, cry and whatever other reactions may be prompted in our times of loving our Creator. I pray you will understand this and support me in this plea...I believe that a family that worships together is a happier, healthier family. YES IT MATTERS WHERE (YOU AND) I SIT.

## SENIOR SUNDAY

We do not as yet have all the details in place, but you can mark your calendars – Senior Sunday will be Sunday, May 29. This is always a special time for the church family ...this year will be as well!  
-Lee



**Dovie Hurst** is recuperating from a broken foot at Heritage Health Care....**Joe White** continues radiation treatments....**Al & Anna Dale** are struggling with health problems....Continue to pray for **Naomi Hunt**, **Burnell Gulden** (receiving chemotherapy treatments), **Geneva Hamilton** (now at Heritage Health Care), **Terry Pepper**, **Minnie Scott**, **Eunice Whitesell**, **Mark Eddy**, **Ramona Farris**, **Irene Fox**, **Delpha Allen**, and **Bernice Todd**.

Expecting babies in the near future: the **DeWoody**, **Hombs**, **Studebaker**, and **Wilson** families.

Serving in the military: **Josh Hunt** is in Iraq; **Loren Sniffen** is in Afghanistan.

## National Day of Prayer

**Thursday, May 5**, this year's National Day of Prayer, will be an event-filled day in Lafayette/West Lafayette. It will begin with a prayer breakfast at University Inn at 7 AM (tickets are \$10). The noon outdoor observance will be in Riehle Plaza. Then that evening a City-Campus Concert of Prayer will be held in the North Ballroom of the Purdue Memorial Union at 7 PM. The evening will be filled with prayer and music.

During the evening event in the North Ballroom, a combined choir of about 100 voices will be singing. Interested in singing with them? There are no try-outs. Just go to the rehearsal at the Evangelical Covenant Church, 3600 S. 9th St., Lafayette, from 9 AM until noon on Saturday, April 30.



- April 20, 7 PM....Bible Classes for all
- April 23, 6:30 PM....LifeCare Services Pregnancy Center presents speaker, Dr. Alveda King, at their annual support banquet held at the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms
- April 24, 2-4 PM....Baby shower for Veronica & Brandon Hombs at the Boyds' home
- April 24, 6 PM....LIFE Groups meet
- April 30, 7 PM....College Spring Banquet
- May 1, 2-4 PM....Wedding Shower for Julie & Jackson Phillips at the Simmermans' home
- May 5....National Day of Prayer
- May 7, 10 AM-1 PM....Wedding Shower for Michelle Woody and Ty Lewis at the Bells' home
- May 20-21....Promise Keepers in Ft. Wayne
- Oct. 21-22....Men's Retreat at Camp Tecumseh

*Read:*  
Judges 6-16; Luke 23-John 2  
Psalms 95-103;  
Proverbs 14:5-19

# 2005 Spiritual Adventure

## Week 18: May 2-8

I know that scripture is not arranged chronologically and I know that when Luke wrote his gospel account, he was not thinking; "they will be reading the book of John, next." I do find it interesting that Luke closes with Jesus having to identify himself to many who should know him well. John begins describing the one we serve in detail so we won't be mistaken... and yet, would we know him if he physically appeared to us? Reflect a moment on the words of the following song by Wayne Watson: "Would I Know You?"

*Would I know You now? If You walked into the room, if you stilled the crowd, if Your light dispelled the gloom. And if I saw Your wounds, touched Your thorn pierced brow, I wonder if I'd know You now.*

*Would I know You now? If You walked into this place would I cause You shame? Would my games be Your disgrace, or would I worship You full down upon my face? I wonder if I'd know You now.*

*Or have the images I've painted so distorted who You are, that even if the world was looking they could not see You - the real You. Have I changed the true reflection to fulfill my own desires, making You what I want - not showing You for divine - divine?*

*Would I miss You now, if You left and closed the door? Would my flesh cry out, "I don't need You anymore," or would I follow You? - Could I be restored? I wonder, I wonder will I ever learn, I wonder, would I know You now?*

Go back and read the gospel readings for the week, but read John 1, 2 first and then Luke 23-24 and meditate on the life he lived and the death he died for me and for you. Be moved by what you remember. Be driven back to the Word to see what you have forgotten and have taken for granted. Jesus, help us to be able to say with confidence, "Yes, I would and I do know you now!" - Amen

-Lee Porter

 Weekly Schedule	 Elders	 World Missions
<b>Sunday</b> Worship 8:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Life Groups 6:00 p.m. <b>Wednesday</b> Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	Bill Bell 463-1139 Joe Matthews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653	Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99556  Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000
	 Staff	
<b>Elmwood Nursery School &amp; Pre-K</b> Preschool: Tues-Thurs 9-11:30 am Pre-K: Mon-Thurs 9-11:30 am Director, Susan McClain 447-2874	<b>Ministers</b> Gayle Crowe 447-6940 Lee Porter 463-6993 Dan Cooke 743-0954 <b>Office Manager</b> Sherry Marks 447-2874	City of Children Ensenada, Mexico  Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774

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