



Chosen for Service

Two men whose heads were covered with hoods stormed into a church service carrying submachine guns. A loud, commanding voice shouted out, "Anyone willing to take a bullet for Christ remain where you are!" The mad scramble that followed rocked the building. The crowd of 2,000 was quickly trimmed to about 20. When the last person was out, the assailants removed their hoods, put down their guns, smiled, and said, "OK, Pastor, I got rid of the hypocrites—now you may begin your service. Have a nice day."

From a source now forgotten, that apocryphal story reminds us of a serious truth: it's funny how many people say they want to go to heaven, but how few are willing to take a stand for Christ. How easy to come to worship on Sunday, maybe even serve the church in highly visible roles, but then become invisible to the cause of Christ the rest of the week.

Interesting, isn't it, how God brings people into his service? Sometimes it's through trauma (the threat of a submachine gun blast would qualify), though usually it's through more subtle means. Nehemiah 11 tells the story of the early days of the return to Judea from Exile in Babylon. When the people returned they homesteaded tracts of land on which to raise crops to support their families. After a time Nehemiah called them together and said, "Somebody—somebody—has to live in Jerusalem. City life has its limitations over country living, but somebody's got to do it because the country needs a strong, fortified city." So "they cast lots to bring one out of ten to live in Jerusalem." But then also some simply volunteered to live in the city, and these were given special commendations (Nehemiah 11:1-2).

Martin Luther wrote, "God created the world out of nothing, and so long as we are nothing, he can make something of us." God is not looking for accomplished people; he is looking for willing people who offer themselves for his service. "Offering themselves" may mean taking a bullet for Jesus, or it may mean rearranging one's schedule to host a Life Group. We may be drafted, or we may volunteer. Either way, God is in the business of making something of each of us. That's good.

G. Crowe

A Brand New Year

There are a few things you need to know about the CSC this year. The CSC is being used already in some major ways here at Purdue. We had a cookout Monday night and had a number of new faces there. Some were freshman, some returning students. But all were excited to be at the CSC and interacting with each other with the idea of being a part of a new faith journey here at the CSC. Another change is the CSC itself. The house is clean, top to bottom. Students all pitched in and made it spotless.

But that is not where the change is taking place that I am talking about. The change is taking place in the hearts of students. The way the students treat each other is different; it is more Spirit-filled than before. And with God's grace, next week they will treat each other better than this week because living a Spirit-filled life is a growth process.

Bottom line: we are growing. We want you to be a part of that growth. Through adopted student ministries, service projects, Bible studies, collective worship experiences and more, we want you to grow with us.

There really is something going on over here that I can try to explain to you all day long. But you really ought to see this for your yourself. You will drive up, walk in, and you will recognize it immediately. It is the familiar face of Christ living in His people.

~Dan



Marie DeWoody has been diagnosed with a rare chromosomal disorder that is associated with seizures and an increased risk of infection....**Art Raugette**, Dovie Hurst's son-in-law, has been in ICU at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis for over a week. Problems with his heart, kidneys, and emphysema are compounding....**Nancy Moyer**, grandmother of Nichole Porter, was just released from the hospital after a brief stay for respiratory problems associated with cancer...Continue to pray for **Joe White, Rose Hunt, Lloyd Burrows, Merville Zinn, Dana Fee** (*undergoing more tests*), **Geneva Hamilton, Nancy Little** (*cancer*), **Phyllis Broft, Terry Pepper, Anna Dale, Eunice Whitesell, Mark Eddy, Irene Fox, Ramona Farris, and Delpha Allen**. Those in Rosewalk Village: **Paul & Ruth Marks, Minnie Scott, and Burnell Gulden**.

Serving in the military: **Josh Hunt** is in Iraq.



Everyone is invited to a couples' come 'n go wedding shower for **Sarah McClain & Mark Bird** at the home of Carol & Bill Bell, 216 Jennings St., West Lafayette (*note change of location*), this **Sunday, August 28**, from **2:00 until 4:00 PM**. Contributions for a group gift may be given to Carol, Mindy Hart, Jenny Sipe, or Sherry Marks.

Mark the date on your calendar! On **September 11, 3:00 until 5:00 PM**, there will be a baby shower for **Tammy & Jesse Studebaker** and baby daughter, **Eryn**. More details later.



Eric & Michelle Clowdus will be moving to Farmington, Missouri, where Eric will begin work with Playpower. His first day of work will be September 12.

Voice of the Martyrs Sunday Night!

In over 40 nations of the world, Christians remain a persecuted people. Most of them have little to nothing of this world's treasures, yet they praise God for his faithfulness.

Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) is an organization that has been a "voice" for Christians enduring persecution. Sunday night at 6 PM, Robert Brock, a representative of VOM, will speak at Elmwood to inform us of the plight of persecuted Christians. Just last week he returned from another trip to Indonesia, so his news is fresh. He writes, "I have traveled to restricted nations such as Pakistan, Sudan, China, Myanmar/Burma, Laos, Vietnam, Iran, Indonesia, and the Koreas. In each of these places I have met with Christian brothers and sisters who daily face persecution, suffering, and even death for their faith, yet count it joy to suffer for Christ. I have been challenged and encouraged as they exhibit and express their trust in God."

You will profit from Robert Brock's words and his PowerPoint presentation this Sunday night. Invite friends to join you!

Thank You!

Dear Elmwood family,
We are blessed by your care and concern at the death of Betty's father, Bill Andrews. The flowers, visits, cards, and prayers are deeply appreciated. Thank you.

-Betty & Chuck Brown



Clyde Chappell, 90, brother of **Anna Dale**, died Sunday after a long illness. His funeral will be later this week in Knoxville, Tennessee. Our sympathies to **Anna & Alvin** and their family.

Away at College



Kelsey Sutherlin LU 0367
3901 Granny White Pike
Nashville, TN 37204-3951
email:
sutherlikl@lipscomb.edu



Like to sing? **Josh and Gina Boyd** are hosting an old-fashioned hymn singing at their home-225 Duke Ln. (*south*) Lafayette-this **Friday, August 26 at 7:00 PM**. Everyone is welcome!

August 21, 2005
Class: 230 Worship: 315
Contribution: \$7,088
Budget: \$8,100

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Teachers Needed

Yes, I was here Sunday night and I heard Kermit Wilson say that Elmwood was trying to move beyond the need to make announcements like, "we need teachers for..." The truth is, we are trying to get to that point, but we just are not there yet. As a side note, if you were not here on Sunday night, Kermit's lesson was recorded and you can get a copy by calling the church office; I highly recommend it. Anyway, I would love for this to be the last time for us to have to say something like this, but we really do need some teachers for this Fall quarter. Right now, it looks like we need teachers and helpers for the 4 & 5 year olds (Bumble Bee's) and the Kindergarten class on Sunday morning. In addition, we need a teacher and helper for the 4 and 5 year olds on Wednesday nights. This is a precious group of children (they all are!) and I know someone meant to sign up and just forgot, but it is crunch time, so please let me know if you are willing and able to help these children grow in their knowledge of God and their awareness of how much they are valued in this church family. Thanks in advance for taking care of this need.

Promotion Day

Our official promotion day for classes is Sunday, September 4 (Labor Day weekend). Parents of younger children, please check with your child's teacher to be sure before you switch classes. Some of the children have already been moved and a couple of classes may not be ready for the switch as yet. As far as 6th graders go, I hope you remember that you have been welcome in the youth classes ever since the last day of school. We don't push that too hard because we don't want to interrupt the flow of classes, but we really do hope and expect to see you at the house next door on September 4. Along those lines, I know that many of you are still in Challengers and I would like to make a couple of observations. First, some time ago, I visited with the Whites and the Challengers' program was not designed with the idea that everyone would finish it all (though some have). Also, it does not mean that you are a loser or a failure if you do not finish. The Challengers' program is designed to begin in the 3rd grade and to end in the 5th grade. Next, if you are determined to finish the program, God bless you, but please split the time with your Challenger work and our regular teen classes; it is extremely important for you to be with the youth group on every possible occasion. My personal preference is that if you are determined to complete Challengers' that you would do that on Wednesday nights, thus you would be free to be in the teen class on Sunday mornings and of course we want you at all youth activities as well. Our next big activity is the Fall Retreat at Spring Mill, Oct. 7-9. Love to all.

- Lee



Welcome to **Jimmy and Susan Huff!** Recently back from their honeymoon, Jimmy begins a graduate program at Purdue in computer engineering, while Susan will be working and attending school part-time. Both graduates of Harding University, Jimmy's senior year included the post of student body president. Their address is 3378 Peppermill Dr., Apt. 2-A, West Lafayette 47906. Phone: 714-0998 (J) & 714-1154 (S). Welcome!

"Complete the Vision" on September 11

"I have never had a doubt since the day I heard about this project that this is a special topic on God's agenda for the world. I pray the Lord's mighty protection on you from all Satanic endeavors to distract or discourage you or your staff. This is a monumental project that needs first class people like you guys in full spiritual and physical force. You will change the world."

These words are from long-term missionary to Ghana, Dan McVey, who has led many Muslims to the Lord. He is excited about the project of building a World Christian Broadcasting transmitter in Madagascar to reach the Muslim world. (On the back of the calendar in this newsletter, notice the letter by Kevin Chambers, WCBC's chief engineer whom Elmwood helps to support.) We will join hundreds of churches across the world in taking up a **special contribution for the Madagascar short-wave radio station on September 11.**



August 24, 7 PM...Bible classes for all

August 24, 7 PM...Men's Class, room 204,
Young Mom's Class, room 202

August 28, 2:00-4:00 PM...Couples' wedding shower for Sarah McClain & Mark Bird at the Bell home, 216 Jennings St., West Lafayette

August 28, 6 PM...Voice of the Martyrs, Robert Brock
Sept. 11...All-Church Picnic, Columbian Park

Sept. 11, 3-5 PM...Baby shower for **Eryn Studebaker**

Read:

Job 34-42, Ecclesiastes 1-12;

II Corinthians 4-8;

Psalms 40-44; Prov. 22:10-21

2005 Spiritual Adventure

Week 36: September 5-11

“Remember your creator in the days of your youth”

I can't believe it! Purdue classes have already started again! I realized while trying to find time to write this article that this is my busiest time of the year. Part of why it is so busy is that I am tending to tasks related to the apartment at the CSC. Last week tenants moved out, this week new ones move in, there are always a few things that need dealt with right away.

Working with the CSC has given me the opportunity to observe and learn a little about this group of students. What I see here is a group of young people who are serious about God and spiritual matters. They are serious enough that it is fairly easy to catch them discussing spiritual matters, praying, studying their Bibles, or working for the next outreach event. In this environment (Purdue) this is indeed a remarkable thing. Not that they are serious all of the time. It is just as easy to catch them goofing off, playing ping pong, video games, or eating, especially eating. Sometimes you can even catch some of them studying for class.

Of course, the students have their problems and struggles just like the rest of us. On Purdue's campus temptations for every kind of evil are all around. Satan is very busy here. One of the things I enjoy most at the CSC is the Wednesday “Encounter” worship times. Dan's lessons are challenging and interesting. I get to watch these students respond to Dan's challenges and grow in their faith. One of the types of challenges that they receive are challenges to lead. Whether it is a simple thing like leading a prayer or a song or something more involved like leading a regular Bible study, the opportunities are there and they respond. Another way they are challenged is to reach out to those around them and try to influence them for God.

I receive much encouragement from just being around the CSC and getting to know this group of young people. I also am encouraged by Dan's teaching and his example. He works very hard at his job. Not that Dan does all of the work. I personally want to thank everyone that contributes to the work at the CSC. Many of you contribute greatly to this work.

I encourage anyone who can to get involved with the Campus ministry in some way. You will benefit from it and we need your help. Remember, it is the responsibility of the older to teach the younger to *“Remember your creator in the days of your youth.”*

Jim Jones