



## Sci-Fi and Your Sins

Use your imagination. Imagine that someone could, after your death, look at every image that your eyes saw your entire life – thanks to a computer chip implanted in your brain before birth. Everything from the day you were born to the day you died was recorded. That's the science fiction theme of Robin Williams' 2004 movie, "The Final Cut."

But there's more. Once a person with this chip dies, a "cutter" (like Robin Williams) has the responsibility to edit down the deceased's life into an hour or so for the memorial service.

The question is, what will the "cutter" include? Happy times, times that make the person look good. But think about everything he's cutting out! All the sad times, all the embarrassing times, all the things the person has done that would, if they had been known, land him in jail, damage his marriage, or destroy his reputation. The cutter would be a man of great power and influence because he could encapsulate a life for posterity.

Would you want such a chip implanted in your brain? Would you want somebody looking at every image your eyes viewed? Ah, but there's the rub—the person didn't get to decide beforehand. It was his parents who decided.

If you found out you had such a chip in your brain, that your entire life would be subject to viewing by someone else, what would that do to you? At the very least, it would make you very, very careful! Presumably it would go a long way toward keeping you honest, upright, and in company with the right crowd.

Robin Williams knew, however, that knowing such a "judgment day" was coming didn't keep people's lives down the straight and narrow. They still did lots of bad stuff. This meant that the "cutter" was, in effect, the one to cut out a multitude of sins.

That's sci-fi. The real truth is even better. For those forgiven by God, in Hebrews 10:17 is the promise, "*Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.*" God in his love and grace is the ultimate "cutter" . . . and for that we praise Him forever! *G. Crowe*

## Ready?

Everything is ready. Books are ready, ready to be cracked and read until their covers fall off. Dorms are ready, ready to be used and abused. Professors are ready, ready to impart the years of learning they have had to eager minds. Students are ready (both old and new), ready to either begin their college journey or to make the next step toward graduation. The CSC is ready, ready to help existing Christian students strengthen their faith and to reach out to those with little or no faith. The only thing that remains to be ready is Elmwood!

We need adopted parents! I know many of you were unable to come to our meeting Sunday night but that many of you wanted to and still want to participate in the adopted student ministry! Let me just take a minute to say thank you for serving in such a wonderful and unique way!

Sunday you will have that opportunity. There will be an insert in your worship guide. Please look it over, fill it out, and hand it out to one of the CSC helpers who will be stationed at the front door and in the Farris Foyer. We would love for you to have the opportunity to serve in this way!

There are many other ways that you can serve this coming school year, and those are listed on the insert as well! Looking forward to hearing from you! Let's show Purdue that Elmwood loves university students! ~Dan

# Prayer Concerns...

**Bill Andrews**, Betty Brown's father, is in Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis...**Rose Hunt** is recovering from neurostimulator implant surgery last Friday....**Mary Lou Baugh** had successful sinus surgery on Friday....**Merville Zinn**, brother of Jan Lucas, is undergoing experimental treatment for cancer in Indianapolis....**Lloyd Burrows**, brother-in-law of Sharon & Lee Porter, is having medical tests....**Dana Fee**, sister of college student, Jared Fee, will undergo tests on August 15 for some serious health problems....Continue to pray for **Joe White, Geneva Hamilton, 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**....Courtney Burke has requested our prayers for the safety of her uncle and cousin, **Tony & T.J. Zancanaro**, who are serving at a hospital on a mission trip in Malawi, Africa.

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

## Our Sympathies

Longtime Elmwood member, **Bernice Todd**, 97, died Monday evening. She had been in ill health in recent months at St. Mary's Nursing Home. She had been unable to attend church services for some time, but always loved visits, calls, and cards from Elmwood people. Her funeral will be Saturday at Fisher-Loy Funeral Home in Lafayette. Our sympathies to her son and daughter-in-law, Ernie and Elaine Todd of Delphi, and to her daughter, Judith (Jude) Todd of Santa Cruz, California.

## Focus on the Family Programs

Upcoming **Focus on the Family** programs are heard on local radio, WHPL-FM 89.9 at **6:30 PM Monday-Friday**.

- Aug. 11 & 12* **The Proper Care of Husbands**—Dr. Laura explains how women can enjoy more satisfying marriages by caring for their husbands' emotional needs. (Parts 1 & 2)
- August 15* **From Jihad to Jesus**—Ergun Caner shares his amazing testimony of becoming a Christian after being raised by an Islamic leader in a devout Muslim family.
- August 16* **Single or Single Again—Now What?**—Lois Rabey offers encouragement and wisdom to single women as she discusses her experience of dating again after being widowed, getting remarried, and how her two children adjusted to their new stepfather. (Part 1)
- August 17* **Single or Single Again—Now What?**—Lois Rabey continues to offer encouragement and advice to single women based on her book, **The Snare: Understanding Emotional and Sexual Entanglements**. (Part 2)



## Congratulations!

**Cody Sipe**, previously mentioned as a finalist for "National Fitness Director of the Year" has won the award!! He and Jenny were flown to Las Vegas for the presentation on July 7. According to Jenny, "Cody was very surprised to hear his name announced." Congratulations, Cody!

Congratulations, also, to **Mark McClain**, who received his master's degree from Purdue University in Civil/Environmental Engineering.



**Brandon, Veronica, & Natalia Hombs** left Lafayette early Wednesday morning. Until they get settled in a home in New Hampshire, you can send mail to P.O. Box 2622, West Lafayette 47996. We wish them well and will miss them greatly.

## New Owner!

**Cheryl Woody** has become the owner of "Two Tulips," a specialty shop in downtown Lafayette at 846 Main Street. Go by and say hello!



*Your kind expression of sympathy and friendship will always remain in our memories. Thank you for the flowers and prayers.*

—Ray Nelson & family

**August 7, 2005**  
Class: 176    Worship: 269  
Contribution: \$7,762  
Budget: \$8,100



## Farewell Kelsey!

This Sunday evening, while many in the church family are attending the "I Don't Believe We've Met..." dinners, the youth group is invited to come and say farewell to one we know very well. Kelsey Sutherlin's last Sunday as member of the eCy youth group will be this Sunday. Many of the teens will be in Louisville at Youth in Action on Sunday morning, so we will use Sunday evening as a time to reminisce. Sheryl Willison is bringing homemade noodles; if you would like to and/or be willing to bring something to add to the menu, please see Melissa Willison. The activity Sunday night will be from 5:30 to 9:00. Bring photos of Kelsey, games, snacks or food you sign up to bring, movies, etc. Let's make a memory Kelsey can take with her to Lipscomb. Some of you will remember that Kelsey is the first person to go all the way through the youth ministry with me at Elmwood - 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Kelsey, we love you and we will miss you greatly!

## Youth in Action - HEART DONOR August 12-14

**Okolona Church of Christ-Louisville, KY**  
About a dozen Elmwood students and chaperones will be joining the throng at the yearly YIA youth rally this weekend. YIA has long been a favorite way to end the summer for our group. I am deeply indebted to Lynae Stafford and Craig Hodges for chaperoning the group this year. Unfortunately, it is at the same time about 20 of us will be at a Leadership Summit in Chicago and I just can't be two places at once.

## CASA's and Foster Parenting

Sunday night we had two groups, the Division of Family and Children (foster parenting) and Court Appointed Special Advocates, and there seemed to be a lot of interest. CASAs are people who stand up in court for abused or neglected children. They have the child's best interest in mind and make sure that the child is placed in a safe and loving home. Volunteers must be mature, responsible adults, aged 21 and over. A year-long commitment is required, and training is provided. Training is limited to one or two times a year. Call for dates: 423-9109. Foster parenting is significantly more involved, but if you are interested in foster parent training, please call 742-0400 for dates of future training classes. To be a foster parent or family, you must complete 24 to 30 hours of training. You can make a difference in a child's life!  
- Lee



Everyone is invited to a couples' come 'n go wedding shower for **Sarah McClain & Mark Bird** at the home of Betty and Chuck Brown, 3530 E. 200 N., Lafayette, on **Sunday, August 28, from 2:00 until 4:00 PM.** Contributions for a group gift may be given to Betty, Mindy Hart, or Sherry Marks.

## WHAT'S A HEALTH TEAM?

Many people and things go in to making a church. Lots of classes and classrooms and books and sermons and elders and Bibles and pencils and computers and committees and teachers and song books and coffee cups and vacuum cleaners and light switches and -- WHEW! What's it all for? Paul wrote in Ephesians that the purpose for all of it is "to prepare God's people for works of service." If Christians don't learn to be servants--don't ever take their place as working parts of the body of Christ--then all the "stuff" of a church is for nothing.

Some months ago a team was appointed to look at the overall health of the Elmwood church. Its conclusion has been that the church is made up a lot of great people who, in many cases, aren't plugged into ministry for the work of Christ. The aim of the Health Team is to help the church mature into a well-functioning body that is reaching out to do the work of God in Greater Lafayette.

On August 21, Kermit Wilson will speak at Elmwood at the 6 PM hour to explain the biotic principles of a healthy church. Don't miss this hour!



**August 10, 7 PM....**Bible classes for all  
**August 10, 7 PM....**Men's Class, room 204,  
Young Mom's Class, room 202  
**August 14, 6 PM....**"Let Me Introduce Myself" dinner

**No 6:00 PM** worship at Elmwood on **Sunday, August 14.** All those who signed up will share a meal and enjoy the fellowship at their hosts' home for the "Let Me Introduce Myself" dinner. You will be contacted by your host family later this week.

*Read:*

Nehemiah 11–Job 7;  
I Corinthians 10–14;  
Psalms 32–35; Proverbs 21:14–27

# 2005 Spiritual Adventure

Week 34: August 22–28

## 1 Corinthians 13: 4-10a, 13

This passage is a familiar one to most of us, but it has taken on a new meaning for me in a couple of ways. This time when I read this passage, it really touched my heart. God has commanded us in several other passages to “love one another” or “love your neighbor as yourself” but this passage lays out what it really means to *love*.

I have recently been struggling with a relationship that is very dear to my heart. There have been things both said and done to me that have hurt me very deeply, by someone whom I love and care for very much. My first inclination as a sinner is to shut this person out because they are hurting me. Why would I want to put myself in a position in which I am continually being hurt? But if I truly listen to what this passage is telling me, I am to be patient and kind, not envious, not boastful, not proud, not rude, not self-seeking, not easily angered, not holding grudges, not delighting in evil but rejoicing with the truth. I am to always protect, always trust, always hope, and always persevere. As I list them as things that I should be doing instead of just saying “love \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank)”, it really helps me understand that I am lacking in many of these areas.

I challenge you to embrace these traits along with me. Think of them often as you encounter people, especially those you love and care for. Hurt is unavoidable, but if we take the initiative to show what love is really about, I believe those who are hurting us will have a hard time resisting the urge to love us in return. Just remember that “Love never fails.” God is love...and He has never failed me!

**–Sarah McClain**