



Self Control? In THIS Traffic?

Children get gold stars in Bible classes for memorizing the nine. Adults learn the list to give direction to their Christian walk. When Paul created the list in Galatians 5 he called these nine the various parts of "the fruit of the Spirit":

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control.

It's a good list. Super-religious people (whoever they are) do them all. The rest of us have a hard time with at least some, if not all, of them. As much as we might give attention to them, they remain in a sort of spiritual mist, a little removed from real life.

Until, however, something comes along like this morning's headline: "Survey Ranks States with Dumbest Drivers." We scan down the list and are relieved to find that Indiana scores #14 – comforting to know that most of the states rate worse than we do.

Even so, the findings are a little disturbing. For every ten cars that pass you on that road, one of them is being driven by somebody who couldn't pass a driver's test. One out of five drivers doesn't know that a pedestrian in the crosswalk has the right of way. One out of three drivers speeds up to make a yellow light, even when pedestrians are present. Many drivers are clueless at explaining the rules for merging and interpreting road signs.

Suddenly, the list from Galatians five reads, Love, joy, peace, **patience, kindness,** goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and **self-control.**

It's easy to be a patient, kind, controlled Christian while sitting in an air conditioned building singing, "My Jesus, I Love Thee." It's a little tougher (read, a lot tougher) being a patient, kind, controlled Christian when sitting behind the wheel of a car.

Jesus was an earthly, this-worldly guy. He lived among the roughest of society. He sought out the people with the worst reputations. Even so, he put that list of nine into practice flawlessly.

I hear you, Lord. A big assignment.

G. Crowe

Friends Speak

Have you thought you would love to do more outreach if only you had the *right* answers? If so, then you will be excited to hear about Friends Speak!

Friends Speak is the domestic version of Let's Start Talking, a ministry which Elmwood has been very involved in over the last several years. The CSC will be using the Friends Speak program to reach out to international students who stay at Purdue for the summer by teaching English using the gospel of Luke. The beauty of this ministry is that it is seed-planting . . . contact-making. You don't need to know all the answers (truth is, only God has all the answers anyway!). All you need to know is how to speak English and how God has affected you personally! The motto of Let's Start Talking is *Sharing Jesus, Sharing Ourselves!* If you are interested in finding out more about how you can be involved, please come to the information meeting here in the auditorium Sunday, June 12th at 5 PM. Hope to see you there!

~Dan



Beth Holt has surgery at Home Hospital this Friday, June 10....**Sherry Scoggin** broke her heel last week. She will be on crutches/wheelchair bound for 2-3 months**Seth Mullen** is recovering at home! If you wish to send cards, his home address is 4418 Lakevilla Dr., West Lafayette 47906....**Rick Willison**, Jim's brother in Nashville, Tennessee, remains in a coma....**Elaine Crowder** remains at Rosewalk Village while she recovers and rehabs from hip replacement surgery. That address is 1903 Union St., Lafayette 47904....Continue to pray for **Joe White, Bill Royston, Darrell Martin, Betty Hunt, Naomi Hunt, Anna Dale, Burnell Gulden, Geneva Hamilton, Terry Pepper, Minnie Scott, Eunice Whitesell, Mark Eddy, Bernice Todd, Ramona Farris, Irene Fox, and Delpha Allen.**

Expecting babies in the near future: the **Hombs** and **Studebaker** families.
Serving in the military: **Josh Hunt** is in Iraq; **Loren Sniffen** is in Afghanistan.

"A Few Good Men"

A recent ABC News/Beliefnet survey of American churches (Churches of Christ were included) reported that there are more women (61%) than men (39%) in church pews on Sunday mornings. Today 20 to 25% of America's married churchgoing women regularly attend without their husbands. About 70 to 90% of young males will leave the church by age 20. Do these statistics trouble you? If so, what will you do about it?

Beginning June 22, the Wednesday night Men's Class will start studying scriptural topics described in *Discovering The Mind Of A Woman*, by Ken Nair. The book helps males be better husbands/parents and understand their wives as Christ would and learn to respond to their wives in a consistently Christ-like manner. The result? Radically transformed and renewed marriage and family relationships. One husband who applied these concepts explained. "Because of God's grace, I have seen my marriage turn from a disaster and near divorce into a warm, loving relationship. I am enjoying a marriage relationship that I never even dreamed possible." The class will meet in room 204. Books need to be ordered so please inform Kevin Walters as soon as possible if you want to be a part of the class.

Good Sense Finishes Well

The first "Good \$ense Budgeting Course" at Elmwood began April 19 and concluded May 24. Each Tuesday night for 6 weeks Brent Branstetter and Janet Boston facilitated the one-hour sessions. 22 people took the course, ranging in age from high school through grandparents.

Active participation was noticeable. People came with homework done and worked diligently through the hour. Refreshments were served.

After finishing the course, one college student was excited to announce that after going through the sessions she and her fiance realized they could afford to purchase a home after graduation. Another participant found peace in knowing that tithing was something to aspire to when setting his goals.

All principles taught in the course came from Scripture. The experience was positive for all concerned. A date for a repeat of the course at a different time of the week will be announced soon.



Ann McConnell's father, **Rex McConnell**, died Sunday, May 29, at the age of 84. He died peacefully at home after struggling with lung cancer and most recently congestive heart failure. Our sympathies to Ann, her mother, **Joan**, and her daughter, **Lindsay Grubbs.**

John Levick, Jim's brother, died on Saturday at his home in Haines City, Florida. In ill health for a long time, John was 54. Jim is due back mid-week from the memorial service. Our sympathies to Jim and his mother, Ann.

Food Pantry News



In the month of May, **212 families** were served representing **660 individuals.** The pantry items for this week are **boxed meals** (e.g. rice, hamburger helper, scalloped potatoes, etc.) and **canned fruit.** Thanks for all your help. *-Herb & Mary Ella King*

June 5, 2005

Class: 191 Worship: 294

Contribution: \$10,537

Budget: \$8,100

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Teachers Needed

Whatcha doin' on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights during class? We need someone to co-teach the three year olds on Sunday mornings with Jamie Banter and with Joyce Mathews on Wednesday nights. Both of these ladies will be out some during the summer and just need someone to share the responsibility. Right now, we do not have a teacher for the 3's this Sunday morning. If you are a teacher in the children's classes (past, present, or future) and have a time of year that works best for you, please let me know. We would like to establish a rotation.

The Ride at Cedar Point

Our annual trip to Cedar Point amusement park in Sandusky, Ohio, is scheduled for June 26-28. We will leave on Sunday afternoon and will return on Tuesday afternoon. We go at this time because Rochester College sponsors a youth rally on the 27th and we get discounted tickets, free dinner and a Bean and Bailey concert (Christian comedians). If you want to go, please see Lynae or Lee as soon as possible. Cost is \$75 for ticket, lodging and travel. Meals and souvenirs are extra.

Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Policy Board

This is a newly formed group, including membership from the Department of Children and Families, Community and Family Resource Center, Juvenile Probation dept., County Commissioners, Law Enforcement and Juvenile Court working to prevent juvenile delinquency. The group is currently assessing our communities' resources, but they also provided the results of a couple interesting "Risk Factor" lists. I thought you would be interested in the "Protective" or positive factors that help prevent delinquency. First listed will be the "sphere of influence," and the second will be the protective factor(s): **COMMUNITY** - a. presence of caring, supportive adults, b. opportunities for participation, c. high expectations of youth, d. safe environment. **SCHOOL** - a. caring and support, b. high expectations, c. clear standards and rules for appropriate behavior, d. youth participation, involvement, and youth responsibility in school tasks and decisions. **FAMILY** - effective parenting (including consequences). **PEER** - involvement with positive peer group activities and norms. **INDIVIDUAL** - a. social competencies (conflict resolution/life skills, etc.), b. positive temperament, c. commitment to community and school (religious involvement <yea we made it>, plans for college), self esteem (positive).

So parents, how is it going with your family? Need help with any specific areas? Let me know and I'll do my best to support you. I don't know that it takes a village to raise a child, but it certainly takes a church. What a great one we have here at Elmwood!
- Lee

Friends Speak - Outreach to International University Students

Want to help teach English to international students using the gospel of Luke? Then come to an information meeting this Sunday, June 12, at 5 PM in the auditorium. All Elmwood people are invited to attend. This will be a tremendous outreach effort and we could use help from all of you!

In Honor of the Whites



Joe and Wanita White have been members of this church since July, 1947. For their years of service to this congregation and the mission field throughout the world - and to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary - Elmwood would like to honor them by sending a monetary gift to one or more of their favorite mission areas. Contributions may be given for the next two weeks to one of the elders or ministers. (If you give cash, be sure to attach your name to it so we can tell Joe and Wanita who contributed.)

Children's Church takes a break!

The Children's Church, led by Joe Ruhl and other helpers, will be taking a summer break. There will be **no Children's Church during the months of June, July, and August.** It will resume in September. *Note: Preschool worship will continue throughout the summer.*



June 8, 7 PM...Bible classes for all
June 12, 5 PM...Friends Speak-Outreach to International University Students
June 12, 6 PM...Teens lead evening worship
June 19 & 26...Friendship: Creating a Culture of Connectivity in Your Church - I & II

Read:

I Kings 13-22; Acts 10-13

Psalms 132-138; Proverbs

17:6-18

2005 Spiritual Adventure

Week 25: June 20-26

"Repeat After Me"

I'm not sure what "method" of teaching is being used today in our public and private school systems. When I was school age it was the method of repetition. The multiplication table was an example. One times one is one. Two times two is (are?) four. Four times four is sixteen. Sixteen times sixteen is two hundred and fifty-six. Two hundred and fifty-six times two hundred and fifty-six is.... Well, back to the computer.

In Psalm 136, God uses the method of repetition to teach us something that we need to remember about his relationship to us. ***"His love endures forever."***

The writer of the Psalm offers thanks to God for his goodness. He gives thanks for the creation of the heavens and the earth. He gives thanks for God's work in delivering and protecting the Israelites throughout their history. In each verse of this Psalm, the last line repeats the main thing that he wants the readers to remember. Even if they don't remember anything else about their relationship with God and why they give Him thanks, they need to know that ***"His love endures forever."*** We give thanks to God for his goodness. We thank him for creating our world. He has blessed us beyond our needs. But, the best thing he has blessed us with is the knowledge that his love is everlasting. Someone has said that there are two things certain in life – death and taxes. I would like to add one more – God's love endures forever.

Now repeat after me. ***"His love endures forever."***

-Joe Mathews