



"Flee from all this . . ."

How do you define opulence? Try some of these, from last week's *Newsweek*. While waiting for your flight you go into a first-class lounge that has the look of a year 2020 movie set. You're offered a complimentary glass of champagne which is followed up with a meal of *cordon bleu*. Then you wallow in a leather armchair waiting for your flight. When it's time, an S-Class Mercedes or a Porsche is ready to glide you across the tarmac. Oh, and if you get confused about something, a personal assistant is right there.

Or if that doesn't turn you on, how about some of these: Once you're in the air, how about a seven-course meal served on bone china in your own onboard suite? Or how about a game of backgammon with a fellow passenger on an interactive screen? Or for the workaholics, enjoy constant in-flight Internet access for your laptop. Of course, of course, there's loads of legroom, and don't forget that your plush leather seat has a massage switch.

In case your eyes are glazing over, know that so are the eyes of everyone else reading this page. We don't relate. Sure, it would be cool. But for the difference between what a transatlantic flight with those kinds of perks would cost (about \$5,000) and the \$645 that an economy flight would cost, you could buy loads of other entertainment that would last you a lot longer than eight hours.

Everything's relative. An expenditure like that is scoffed at by many who live in 4-bedroom, 3-bath houses. But would not a 4-bedroom 3-bath house seem like heaven on earth to a single person living in a one-room efficiency apartment? And in some parts of the world that one-room efficiency apartment is considered fine, spacious accommodations for three families who are happy to have a roof over their head.

The Apostle Paul's solution to acquisitiveness (the disease of wanting more, more, and more) is simple (1 Tim. 6:6-11):

"But godliness with contentment is great gain . . . But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. . . . But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness."

And you don't even have to pay taxes on that.

G. Crowe

A Few Reminders

A few reminders for you:

1) CSC Picture directories are now available thanks to the efforts of Mindy Hart and Sherry Marks. They are printed on blue paper and have been distributed around the Elmwood building. Please pick up your copy ASAP and get to know your students!

2) This Friday night will be a major outreach event targeted on incoming freshman. The CSC Bring on the Cow Grill Fest 2005 will take place at the CSC from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Please take advantage of any free moments in your day to pray for this event. Without prayer, there is no need to even host the event. Without prayer, this is nothing more than humans recruiting humans to another club. But by petitioning God for help it becomes something different entirely.

3) Every person at Elmwood is uniquely designed and everyone is a minister at Elmwood. If you have not yet discovered what ministry you should be involved with, find out and get involved because God made us all to be in ministry.

4) God is amazing. The ministry at the CSC is HIS ministry, and he is doing a great job of reaching students through other students and through this church.

Thank you for prayerfully supporting this very important ministry!

~Dan

Prayer Concerns...

Joe White's condition is worsening. Wanita is with him all the time

Natasha Risley's doctor's appointment in St. Louis was moved to this Wednesday, September 28!...**Elizabeth Tinkle** remains in St. Elizabeth Hospital, room 4341, as she recovers from a broken leg...**Alice Follick** is at St. Anthony's Health Care, room 106, where she will remain....Continue to pray for **Marie DeWoody, Merville Zin, Mark Eddy, Geneva Hamilton, Terry Pepper, Anna Dale, Eunice Whitesell, Ramona Farris, Irene Fox, and Delpha Allen.** Those in Rosewalk Village: **Paul & Ruth Marks, Minnie Scott, and Burnell Gulden**....**Thelma Hoyt** leaves this Thursday, Sept. 29, for Gdansk, Poland, on a mission trip to teach Bible lessons to University students, young professionals, and some over 30. She will join former Elmwood members, John & Ann Smithson and Harry & Sara Hodges, and return October 21.

Josh Hunt is awaiting demobilization from Ft. Polk, Louisiana. The recent hurricanes have prevented the Indiana group from leaving there as planned. He hopes to be home soon. Others now serving in Iraq: **Dustin Holley** (*relative of Paul & Argie Verett and Pauletta & Rob Smith*), and **Brad King** (*Joe and Sandy Seele's neighbor's son*).



Robert Taylor, father of Gloria Holderfield, died September 2. He was 87 years old and had Alzheimer's. He had been in a nursing home for 44 days before he died. Our sincere sympathies to Gloria and Ted.

Glenwood Walker, father-in-law of Joy Walker, died Saturday, September 23, in Kokomo. He had been in ill health for some time. His funeral was Tuesday morning in Kokomo. Our sympathies to Ron and Joy.



Israel-Jordan Trip Planned for June

Around the building are flyers describing a 12-day trip to Israel and Jordan next June. Jordan has been included because of the many events, both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, that happened in present-day Jordan. An information meeting for any who are even remotely interested in this trip will be in A-2 on Saturday, October 1. Come at 7 PM to eat dessert and to learn more details about the trip.

Men's Retreat 2005

This year's **Men's Retreat** will be held at the Tecumseh YMCA Camp at Brookston, Indiana, on **October 21, 22, 2005**. Retreat activities will begin Friday evening with dinner at 5:30 PM and conclude Saturday afternoon. Inspirational messages on becoming more Christ-like will be presented by **Ken Chaffin**, former minister at Elmwood, and currently preaching in Wake Forest, North Carolina. The theme of this year's retreat is **"Husbands Love Your Wives"** as presented in Ephesians 5:22-23. Men of all ages, married or single are invited to attend. Sign up sheets will be posted in the Farris foyer.



The food pantry is in need of **fruit and chicken noodle soup.** Cereal welcomed.

-Herb & Mary Ella King

Volunteers Needed!

It's Dutch Apple Pie time at Lafayette Christian School. Come enjoy the fun and fellowship as we turn 388 bushels of apples into 7000 tasty Dutch apple pies. Your services are needed on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 4 & 5, any time from 8:30 AM until 10:30 PM. To volunteer or get more information, contact Jayne King at 742-3462 or the school at 447-3052.

Bring on the Cow!

(college event)

We need food!! Donations of chips, cookies, pop, etc., may be brought to A-2 by 4:00 PM on Friday. Questions? Call Dan Cooke at 743-0954.

September 25, 2005

Class: 219 Worship: 307

Contribution: \$6,183

Budget: \$8,100

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Crossroads – Fall Retreat at SMBC October 7-9

The retreat is just over a week away and we are getting excited. If you have not already sent in your application, you will need to call or e-mail to be sure there is room. The retreat is very popular and people are nearly always turned away because of lack of space. This year's retreat is focused on people who met Jesus along the way and how their lives were changed. We are hoping and praying that everyone at the retreat will have similar experiences. Please be praying that the weekend will be life changing for all who attend and all we come in contact with when we return home. Cost of the retreat is just \$30 plus one travel meal and \$10 gas/travel money.

Open House at...the House – October 9

We still aren't sure what we are going to call the house. Some have suggested the BOB (building out back), others say the annex, and some have even mentioned A-3. Whatever we call it, the house has already been a great blessing to the youth ministry. We currently meet at the house for Sunday morning and Wednesday night classes. We also have a few games in place for free times and of course, it is just a great place to sit and visit. It has been mentioned before, but John Stafford has done a great job of helping us get the house functional. The upstairs is close to where we would like it to be and the basement is our next major project. Since we are functional now, we would like for everyone to be able to see. Sunday, October 9 after evening services, we will host an open house for the whole church. When services are over, make your way over to the house, take a look around, come out the back door and grab a hot dog or hamburger and make your way back to the fellowship room. The youth group will provide the hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, etc., and we will let the rest of the church bring the rest of the goodies to finish out the meal. If you have any questions, or if you would like to help out in any way, please let Lee or one of the teens know.

Men's Retreat – October 21, 22

No, we are not encouraging the teen guys to get married at an early age (the theme of the retreat is "Husbands Love Your Wives"), but we would like for all teen guys to come to the retreat for a great time of fellowship, study, and PREPARATION. This would be a great initial step in learning to be a great husband in the future – there will be a "breakout" just for the teen guys present. Ken Chaffin is our speaker—sign up now!

– Lee

Bring on the Cow!

The CSC is hosting a special outreach event for freshman at Purdue. Thus marks the first annual "Bring on the Cow" CSC Grill Fest! The festivities will be held at the CSC on September 30 from 5:30–7:30 PM. Included in the good time will be a dunk tank, an obstacle course and a time of praise and worship. Please pray that God will use this new outreach event for His glory!

Thank You!

I want to thank you for sending me get-well cards. They make me feel happy. I love you all and care for you.

–Elizabeth Tinkle



From time to time there are projects, both small and large, to be done around the building. I know there are those of you who can and want to do things for others. I just don't know who you are and what you can and want to do. Since I am the one that is generally considered to be taking care of the building, I would like to know if you think that you have a skill and want to use that skill to glorify God and uplift others. I'm referring to building maintenance type of things....carpentry, electrical, plumbing, handyman work, design ideas, general organizational skills, problem solving ideas and anything else you think we need. If you would be kind enough to let me know these things we will be able to make this facility a better place. Also, if you see something that needs to be taken care of, let me know. We'll get it on the list of things to be done. Please respond, preferably by email, and let me know your name, preferred method of contact (phone, email or other) and I will make a "registry" of people willing to serve in these ways.

–Greg Sutherlin, Gregls@insightbb.com



Sept. 28, 7 PM...Bible classes for all;

Young Mom's Class, room 202, is beginning a new series, titled **"Celebrating Friendship"**

October 2, 6 PM...LIFE Groups

Oct. 21-22...Men's Retreat at Camp Tecumseh; sign-up sheet in the Farris foyer

This Week's Highlight: God Is Where?

How do you explain sadness? How do you make sense out of suffering? Why are we so surprised when evil triumphs? Why do bad things happen to good people? So many questions—so few answers.

What have you said to your congregation—to your children—when the question comes up, “Where was God during Hurricane Katrina?”

I have heard people say that the hurricane was allowed because of man’s rebellion or even, as one man wrote, because President Bush supported the removal of the Jews from Gaza. Is that your kind of God? I don’t begin to understand how God works, but I do know He is always love. Kenneth Samples wrote, *“While God’s universe is majestic and eloquently designed to provide humankind with a fine habitat on Earth, it can also be a powerfully dangerous place at times”* (Christian Wire Service).

We warn our children all the time that life can never be taken for granted—that we must guard and revere it. Nature has proven difficult to control or even predict. “Don’t

mess with Mother Nature.” We respect it, and take great strides to plan for it.

I don’t understand God’s ways, but I trust Him. I remember reading once where C.S. Lewis, in deep despair over the loss of his wife, cried out to God, “Why?” The answer he received was, “Son, even if I could explain it to you, you would not understand it. It would be like attempting to teach physics to a 4-year-old.” We just trust Him—even when the answers don’t always emerge!

I saw God in the brave men and women rescuing their countrymen from a rooftop—giving cold water to a stranger—manually operating a ventilator when the power was off—helping a helpless child find his mother. Do you know when I see God in the hurricane? When men and women *like you* put your own needs aside in the interest of your flock and you love, even as Christ has loved you. *“Whatever you did for one of the least of these....”* God was there.

I’ll never understand it, but I pray I never stop trusting His unmistakable control. —H.B. London, Jr.

Gulf Contribution This Sunday



This Sunday, October 2, will be the time for Elmwood members to open up our hearts and our resources to the people who have lost so much in Katrina storm damage. All of us have been shocked at the reports of damage: entire communities destroyed—people’s life savings gone—homes that have disappeared—loved ones still missing. We here in Indiana have been untouched by any of this damage, so the least we can do is to help alleviate some of the suffering through our practical help.

This Sunday that opportunity will be given. **Everything above our average contribution for a first Sunday will be sent to the Church of Christ Disaster Relief Effort in Nashville, Tennessee (<http://www.disasterrelieffort.org>).** Since Katrina struck, over 4,000 Churches of Christ have sent funds totaling over \$5 million to the CCDRE, and more is coming in daily. We can be assured our funds will be spent in God-honoring ways to assist those in the direst need.

Read:

Jeremiah 3-15;
Colossians 1-I Thessalonians 3
Psalms 70-76; Prov. 24:21-25:5

2005 Spiritual Adventure

Week 41: October 10-16

We were visited by family a few weeks ago. Because they had a couple of young children we chose to spend a day at Turkey Run wearing them out on the trails. The day was perfect: low humidity, moderate temperatures, and best of all, the park was nearly deserted.

Shortly into the hike, passing over ravines and gullies, and winding through rock enclosed creek beds, Cecil started his "troll taunting," creating a scenario for the young imaginations to become fearful of trolls lurking under bridges and hiding in dark caverns. By the time we reached "Bear Hollow" the stillness and dark shadows even had me wondering what kinds of critters and creepy crawlers could be lurking about.

It reminded me of how easily present circumstances taunt us until we accept worldly standards in our finances, our conduct, our attitudes, our witness. Paul encouraged the Colossians "to be rooted in the word" and "steadfast in the faith." But how do we get there from here? Diligence. We should seek Him with diligence, through prayer, in His Word, and with our whole hearts. As we do, God will reveal Himself in the pages of His Word in new-found strength as we face adversity, and in the comfort of His presence as we communicate with Him in prayer. In Psalm 73, we see David was overwhelmed with the cruelness of the world but because of his steadfast faith he said this:

*Yet I still belong to you; you are my right hand.
You will keep on guarding me with your counsel,
Leading me to a glorious destiny.
Whom have I in heaven but you?
I desire you more than anything on earth.
My health may fail and my spirit may grow weak,
But God remains the strength of my heart;*

*He is mine forever.
But those who desert him will perish,
For you destroy those who abandon you.
But as for me, how good it is to be near God!
I have made the sovereign Lord my shelter,
And I will tell everyone about the wonderful things you do.*

-Carol Koons