



To the Next Chapter

January, 2007, will mark the 20-year anniversary of the Crowes' ministry with the Elmwood church. It will also mark the end of that ministry, and the beginning of a new chapter in the life of the Elmwood church.

Present plans call for a February 1 start date for my new ministry as Vice President–Programming at World Christian Broadcasting. It was exactly 30 years ago that I began serving on the board of WCB, most of that time in the role of chair of the Programming Committee. In that role I worked closely with Dale Ward, the Executive Producer of the ministry, and after his death the president of WCB, Charles Caudill, asked that I assume his responsibilities.

A few lines (condensed) from the position description:

1. Be responsible for the words that express the stated mission of World Christian Broadcasting and define the ministry to reach an international audience, being true to the message of Jesus Christ.
2. Be responsible for leading and directing the multi-cultural staff of the Programming Language Services–English, Chinese, Russian, and Arabic–with a Senior Producer for each language reporting to him.
3. Be responsible for serving as a member of the President's executive/management team along with the Vice President–Development, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Director of Engineering. *(The latter is Kevin Chambers, whom Elmwood helps to support.)*
4. Be responsible for analyzing continuing developments (technological, political, and economic) and the impact of the future of World Christian Broadcasting in creating, producing, and distributing its programming.
5. Be responsible for quality control analysis and strategic planning along with the other executive/management team members.
- 6-11. (More of the same)

Comment heard more than once yesterday: "Why would you take on such a massive work at this time in your life?" Good question. Hummmm

G. Crowe

Shocking News

Well, Sunday Gayle gave us some news that might seem shocking to some of you. After 20 years of ministry here, he is leaving. We have been hit and stars now circle our heads. While we all pray for God's blessings, we still are in shock. Of course there are other bits of news that we receive sometimes that really throw us into shock. You have just discovered: Your mom is in the hospital; your teenager has just been in a car wreck; your monthly income is not going to cover your monthly expenses; or your preacher/pastoral guide/friend is leaving after twenty years. Someone once told me that life is what happens while you are making other plans. I would say that all of the above news would only serve to reinforce that statement.

What do we do when our lives are drastically changed? How should we proceed? For starters, we pick up the word of God, blow the dust off the cover, and read the words that give life. We do this because the word of God gives life, directs us, and orients us. This truth about Scripture is reflected in the song "Thy Word" which we often sing at the CSC. The words of the song speak to us and remind us of the power. It says: "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Scripture gives us light, hope, and direction. When you get that phone call from your family about your mom or learn about that wreck of your teenager, pick up the Word and allow it to pour its richness into you. I promise that the words of Scripture will clear the stars that circle our heads, and give you a new sense of equilibrium that only God can provide.

~Dan



"A King Is Coming to Town" 2006 Children's Christmas Musical

The 1st through 8th graders will practice **this Sunday, November 26**, from 3:00 until 5:00 PM. No practice this Wednesday, November 22.

A New Day at the CSC

The Christian Student Center building project needs everyone's help to raise funds! Right now, there are three ways you can help: 1) PRAY! 2) volunteer to help with fundraising 3) provide current names and addresses of people who have been part of the CSC for the past 35 years. Please e-mail names and addresses to boyd@purdue.edu OR put hard copies in Josh Boyd's mailbox in the library.

Pre-School News!



The Elmwood Nursery School is having a terrific year. The preschool room has full enrollment and the Pre-K room is almost full (will take 4 more if you know anyone looking for a preschool). We are having lots of fun—gluing, painting and generally just making those messes not allowed at home. We are also learning to share, take turns, pray and most important of all learning about Jesus. If you'd like to know more please

feel free to talk to one our terrific teachers, Stephanie Barrett, Mandy Anderson, or Diana Wilson. Since there are only three of us, we are looking for a few volunteers who would be willing to substitute on short notice. If this is something you think you would be interested in helping us with let Diana (765-894-6969 cell) know as soon as possible. We want to thank everyone for their support and prayers for our program.

—Diana Wilson

Thank You!

*Our wonderful family at Elmwood, Jim, Donna and I want to thank **each** of you for your continued prayers, visits, calls, cards, and overall support throughout Don's illness. We are so blessed to have you in our lives. It's so wonderful and comforting to know and feel the love and respect you had for Don. We love you. God bless.*

—Carolyn, Jim & Donna

*Dear Christian Friends,
The beautiful arrangement of flowers was appreciated so much by our family and especially by Susan. She loves to worship with you at Elmwood and we're happy that she is a dedicated Christian and can worship with you. I love and miss Joe and he was loved by thousands. May God bless you all, Bessie Pryor (Susan Hodges' mother)*

I want to thank all my church family for the food, cards, and especially your prayers during my hospital stay. I'm moving slow, but getting stronger every day. Thank you so much.

—Ginger

***Our vision:
Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known***



Attention Parents

Since **this Sunday, Nov. 27**, is the 4th Sunday of the month, there will be no Children's Church for grades 1-5. —Joe Ruhl

Wheels of Love

All Medicare recipients should now be aware that they may be eligible to receive a power wheelchair, paid for by Medicare, if they suffer from conditions such as arthritis, respiratory disorders, cardiovascular disease, pain, gait instability, and other conditions that impair a beneficiary's ability to participate in completing activities of daily living. For more information about Medicare eligibility call 866.631.3022.

LUM Meal Providers

Serving dinner at Lafayette Urban Ministry next Monday night will be: **Peggy Linback, Jamie Banter, Jenny Sipe, & Gina Boyd.**

November 12, 2006

Class: 223 Worship: 305

Contribution: \$5,772

Budget: \$8,550

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Yippee Skippee!

Sunday morning, after Gayle had announced that he and Lisa would be moving to Nashville to begin work (February 1) with World Christian Broadcasting, Rick mentioned that I had responded "yippee" to his e-mail saying Gayle had accepted the job. I actually said "yippee skippee" and I hope that all of you know that my response was dripping with sarcasm. I have had the honor of knowing and working with Gayle for nearly nine years and this opportunity is great for Gayle and Lisa but it will be a challenge for us. Rick did a nice job of outlining some of the areas that Gayle has helped champion for us here at Elmwood, but some of you have no idea all the things he has done for this church family...and Lisa must not be left out of the contributions made that will affect this church family for years to come.

To me, Gayle has been a brother, friend, mentor, encourager, and teacher. For the Elmwood family he has served as preacher, teacher, leader, supporter, comforter, challenger, and indeed to the church he has also been a great brother and friend. Together, the Crowes have taught countless classes, led many pilgrimage trips, taught seminars, served as role models for parents and couples, and in general have challenged all of us to take the call to follow Christ more seriously. As many of you know, Gayle was instrumental in studying out and launching our LIFE Group ministry which is a major key to the life of the family at Elmwood. In addition, he has kept us positively represented and connected to the greater Lafayette community and to the Christian community as well. I am personally thankful we will still have a couple months to get used to the idea that the Crowes will be leaving us...I pray for their sakes that the house sells quickly so Lisa can join Gayle in Nashville (almost home for her) and be able to continue to support Gayle in his ministry and to continue her ministry to others as well. The ladies have benefited greatly from Lisa's counsel, insight and teaching.

I am not discouraged about Elmwood's future. The Crowes' efforts have helped us to be a very healthy community of faith. In addition, we have a great group of Shepherds who want to lead us to even greater service in the kingdom. Please don't forget, it is the same God who sent Gayle and Lisa to Elmwood that will be leading us as we seek the right person and family to take over the responsibilities the Crowes will leave behind. Please join me in attempting to help the Crowes know how much we love, appreciate, and will miss them. Let's also begin praying for the new family God will be sending our way.

- Lee



Wednesday evening following Bible class, **Nelson Tilley**, son of Ed & Barbara, after much thought, was baptized into Christ by his father. Nelson began attending Elmwood with his parents as a toddler. He is now in 6th grade at Southwestern and loves playing football! Congratulations, Nelson. We're glad you are a part of the Elmwood family!

Prayer Concerns...

Pray that the body of Christ would soon reflect the ethnic diversity described in the New Testament where "there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all" (Colossians 3:11).

Minnie Scott has been transferred to Elaine House (nursing home) in Crawfordsville....Continue praying for **Jim Willison, Willard Farmer, Sue Durham, Valley Stockton, Annie Crowder, Ella McBride, Linda Smith, Steven Rutledge, Marcia Swails, Gail Monnet, Mark Eddy, Amy Weismiller, Lynn Robinson, Kaden Koebecke, Delpha Allen, Anna Dale, Carrie High (Regency Place), Irene Fox (George Davis Manor Nursing Home), and in Rosewalk Village: Hattie Coffel, Ruth Marks, & Burnell Gulden.**

Serving in Iraq: **Jon Kiefner** and **Loren Sniffen**.
Serving in South Korea: **Amanda Martin**. **Jeremy Crable** will soon be deployed to Afghanistan.

Congratulations, It's a Boy!



Jason Anthony Fletcher was born to Travina Napier last Saturday at 11:49 PM. Congratulations to Travina, grandmother Cindy Snapp, and great-grandmother Bonnie Ryves. Jason and Travina will be living with Cindy for a while. The address is 22 Lori-Lee Dr., Lafayette 47905.



Nov. 21, 6 PM...Thanksgiving meal & devotional;

Good \$ense class **will meet** after the meal

Nov. 22....NO WEDNESDAY EVENING CLASSES

Nov. 26, 3:00-5:00 PM...Children's Musical practice

Nov. 26, 6 PM...LIFE Groups meet

Read:

Jude; Haggai 1-2; Zechariah 1-10; Isaiah 65-66; Psalm 127-131

2006 Spiritual Adventure

Week 49: December 3-9

Put God First!

Haggai preached in Judah in the years following the exile, a tough time when a war-ravaged land lay in waste and Jerusalem lay in ruins with a burned-out Temple. Civic and social life was at its lowest with faith and morale exhausted. The residue of the Captivity and the local opposition to rebuilding Judah made reconstruction projects formidable to say the least.

Haggai's interest was institutional, as he demands the Temple be rebuilt. He knows the people's poverty. He recognizes their physical and spiritual exhaustion. But he also notes the self-absorption that accompanied these problems, their destiny and lack of national pride. He preached that at the root of these problems was a lack of worship and God-centeredness. He rebuked them for rebuilding their own homes, while leaving God's house in waste. He explained if they gave God his due, some of their failures could be turned around.

Now, we have to admit that the institutions of life are sometimes overexaggerated in their importance (temple, organizations, etc.), but in this case Haggai was spot on. He knew that turning attention to God's house would turn attention to God. God needed to be put first again in the lives of His people or they would continue to fail. What the Temple stood for was the answer those desperate returnees needed. It begs the questions of us—what are we “building” in our lives that points us to God, the ultimate answer in the quiet desperation of this age? By the way, in chapter 2, God says if they build it, He will come. He will indwell it and give it glory. That gives me even more incentive that He can always use my feeble efforts to promote His glory and makes me want to pick up the hammer in my life and go to work.

*—Ken Chaffin,
previous Elmwood minister, now ministering in Wake Forest, North Carolina*