



Fellowship that Makes a Difference

The word “fellowship” has been used in numerous ways throughout the years. It has been used to describe small group gatherings, pot luck dinners, and has even been used as a verb (e.g. we were “fellowshipping” at small group last night). But none of these capture the richness of the concept of fellowship. The Biblical concept of fellowship is much richer than these ideas, although the church rarely embraces the fullness of it.

Proof of this can be found when it comes time to “disfellowship” someone from the church based on perpetual immoral behavior without repentance. Many times when this occurs, the person disfellowshipped either continues in his/her life of sin or simply goes to another church. That outcome might be very different if everyone embraced true fellowship a little more.

What is true fellowship? We have all seen it here at Elmwood from time to time. Many here have had longstanding fellowship with one another and know it is much more than a meal in a multipurpose room. You have caught glimpses of it when you have been encouraged in the Lord by an elder or called to repentance by a trusted friend. You have had it flash in front of your eyes whenever conflict is resolved with words of humility.

Fellowship is sharing with one another what we have in common in Christ. This means that in fellowship we share:

- 1) The Guilt of a Common Sin (we all fall short of His glory)
- 2) The Joy of a Common Salvation (we all are saved by the grace of God)
- 3) The Unity that comes with a Common Purpose (we are all called to follow Christ)

Now that is a different kind of fellowship! It is encouraging, stretching, and accountable. It is fellowship that a person might long to be part of again if he/she were disfellowshipped. That is the kind of fellowship that might serve as witness to the world! That is fellowship that makes a difference! -Dan

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

Ahh...Summer Weddings

This is the time of year when many couples seek to profess their love and their lifelong commitment to one another. The reemergence of the sun and the rebirth of the trees are a parallel of the love that couples share. It blossoms and grows from infancy into “oneness.” Their love starts out fresh and new, it progresses and eventually the two become one.

Weddings are not restricted to human love affairs. Throughout Scripture our relationship to the living God is described in terms of a marriage. It, too, has an infancy stage where we are getting to know the Lord. But, like all romances that culminate in marriage, ours with Lord is about “oneness.”

Often we find that our will and desires fight those of the Lord. But, we are expected to have His will become our will, for His desires to become our desires. We are called to a marriage of wills with the Lord!

If you are battling the need for independence from the Lord, here are a couple practical ways that might help you grow into a marriage of wills with the one true God:

- 1) Pray, pray daily, and not just for you. Pray for others and pray for God’s glory to be revealed, for his truth to be known, for the homeless to be sheltered, the hungry to be fed, and then....pray more.
- 2) Do more than talk. Sometimes it is easy to talk about problems with the church because the church will always have problems! But rather than talking yourself into a frenzy, serve someone. Go out and make a friend that does not know the Lord and serve that person. Let your hands, your feet, your money, and your time be your preferred method of evangelism.

Summer is here, and I cannot think of a better wedding to prepare for than the one with the living God! ~Dan

National Day of Prayer, May 3

The National Day of Prayer is being observed this year on **Thursday, May 3**. The theme is **"America, Unite in Prayer" -2 Chronicles 7:14**. Three city-wide events will take place on May 3. A prayer breakfast is scheduled for 7:00 AM at the University Inn in West Lafayette. The speaker is Phil Miglioratti, well known for his frontline of city-transformation and prayer mobilization in the United States. Reservations for the breakfast are needed and the deadline is Wednesday, April 25. Contact T.E.A.M.M. at 497-4509 for more information. The cost is \$15.00/ person.

The Noon Day Observance will be held at Riehle Plaza in downtown Lafayette from 12:10 to 1:00 PM.

The day will conclude with a City-Wide Concert of Prayer Celebration at First Assembly of God in Lafayette at 7:00 PM.

Food Pantry Volunteers Needed!

The Elmwood food pantry is open from 1:00 to 3:00 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week and serves more than 250 needy families a month. Elmwood members greet those who come and help them fill a grocery bag with the items they select. If you would be interested in helping 1 or 2 times a month, please contact John Stafford at 474-8478.

LUM Meal Providers

Serving dinner at Lafayette Urban Ministry Monday night, April 23, were **Janet Boston, Thelma Hoyt, Marilyn Walters, Michelle Robson, Ann Vaught, and Dottie Roberts**. Many thanks to those at Elmwood who participate in this ministry to provide food for Lafayette's homeless.

Focus on the Family Programs

Upcoming *Focus on the Family* programs are heard on local radio, WHPL-FM 89.9 at 2:00 PM Monday-Friday.

- April 27* **Remembering the Life of Jesse Kay**—Former Focus on the Family staff member Doug Kay offers inspiration from the life of his son Jesse, a remarkable young man who recently died of cancer at age 17.
- April 30* **God's Model for Leadership**—David Turner discusses several biblical principles for successful Christian leadership.
- May 1, 2* **Defending Academic Freedom**—David French and Alan Sears of the Alliance Defense Fund discuss religious persecution and discrimination on college campuses. (Part 1 & 2)
- May 3* **Praying with Power**—Professor Howard Hendricks talks about prayer as the "Christian's secret weapon" for bringing about positive change in our culture.



Mike Dilling, 52, brother of Gene Dilling, died unexpectedly Thursday. He left two grown sons. His funeral was Saturday in Lafayette. Our deepest sympathies to Gene, Jeannie, and their extended family.

Congratulations!

On April 29 **Cody Mullen** will be awarded the prestigious **Hank Bose Award** for the outstanding Boy Scout of the year in this district. We are proud of you, Cody!

Good Sense Class



The "Good Sense" budgeting course—a series of 6 one-hour sessions—began **Wednesday, April 25, at 6:00 PM**, and will continue each week thereafter on **May 2, May 9, May 16, May 23, and May 30**.

—Janet Boston

April 22, 2007
Class: 177 Worship: 253
Contribution: \$4,659
Budget: \$8,550

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LTC is fun!



Bible Bowl



Crowd waiting to hear Elmwood Boys

Elmwood Boys' final appearance at LTC



Kathy Cirota, Mandy Anderson's mother, had a stroke on Saturday. She is currently paralyzed on her right side, though now able to talk. She is in a hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania....**Candace Sinclair**, Michelle Mullen's sister, recently had a biopsy on her breast and thyroid....**Teresa Moffitt**, Margie's daughter, will have surgery on May 2....**Oscar Miller** will have knee surgery (6th time) soon....Continue praying for **Nancy High, Gene High, Willie Batts, Valley Stockton, Irene Sims, Charles Moore, Guyula Robinson, Bob Stafford, Charles Carter, Connie Nicholson, Mary Tavana, Sarah Watts, Beth Holt Willard Farmer, Annie Crowder, Paul & Argie Verett, Kaden Koebcke, Lynn Robinson, Ruth Marks, Delpha Allen, Anna Dale, Minnie Scott, Carrie High, Irene Fox, & Burnell Gulden.**



Serving in our military: **Jeremy Crable & Michael Bryenton** in Afghanistan; **Brian Guthrie** in Qatar, Persian Gulf; **Philip Devine, Joshua Thompson** (*grandson of Mary Lou Baugh*), and **Jon Kiefner** (*Amanda Guthrie's brother*) in Iraq; **Phyllis Simmerman's nephew, Chris Martin**, is in South Korea.

Picture Directory



Update

It's been a year since we took the pictures for our directory. We are planning to take pictures of new families. These will be additions to the existing directory. The new pictures will be in black & white, similar to our old directories. We hope to take the new pictures on May 6 and on May 20. To minimize waiting in line, Bill Hodges will be attempting to contact new families about a time to have their picture taken. If you have questions or haven't heard from Bill by May 4, please call him at 449-1255.



April 29, 6 PM....LIFE Groups meet
May 3....National Day of Prayer; see article in this newsletter for local activities offered
May 20, 6 PM....High School Senior Sunday

Read:
I Samuel 4-21; Mark 13-16

2007 Spiritual Adventure

Week 19: May 7-13

What is one found soul worth to God? Recently God has shown me just how strong he is and how he can work through us. As most of you know my friend Blair Williams was baptized during Winterfest in Gatlinburg, Tennessee in a bone chilling pool.

Blair is a freshman at Delphi Community High School. His brother is a senior whom I've known since the 6th grade. It is hard to believe that I've only known Blair for a year now. That new friendship has developed into so much more. Since becoming friends with Blair, we have spent time working on cars, singing in choir, going to church, hanging out and discussing girls, family and school.

However, the most important discussion I can remember sharing with him... is his relationship with God. His life has been filled with pain and heart ache. However his heart has been strong throughout. Blair took a courageous step in Gatlinburg and became one of those found souls.

Later after returning to school Blair thanked me for showing him the Light. But what Blair did not realize was that I was just as thankful. He helped me remember that God values all of us. And that one found soul is worth plenty in the Kingdom of Heaven.

-Dan Cable

 Weekly Schedule	 Elders	 World Missions
Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Life Groups 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	Bill Bell 463-1139 Joe Matthews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653	Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99556 Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000
	 Staff	
Elmwood Nursery School & Pre-K Preschool: Tues-Thurs 9-11:30 am Pre-K: Mon-Thurs 9-11:30 am Director, Susan McClain 447-2874	Ministers Gayle Crowe 447-6940 Lee Porter 463-6993 Dan Cooke 543-7469 Office Manager Sherry Marks 447-2874	City of Children Ensenada, Mexico Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774

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