



Minister Search

As we continue in our search for a minister to come and work with us at Elmwood, we continue to pray that God's will be done in helping us to find the one he has chosen to come. As we have seen in those that have visited us already, ministers come in all sizes and personalities. They each bring their own God given spiritual gifts with them.

Likewise, as members we each come in all sizes and personalities. Yet, we are unified in purpose in Christ Jesus. We seek unity of the spirit through the bond of peace.

The "goal" is to find one that has the personality and gifts that "best" fit Elmwood and can best help move us forward in our mission of "knowing Christ and Making Christ Known". In this we ask for wisdom and guidance from our God and Father.

While we pray for God's will to be done, the question becomes are we willing to submit our will to God's. We have seen, with the candidates that have already been here, a diverse reaction from each member. Some candidates have "connected" with some members and some have "disconnected". So how do we react if one is chosen that we, personally, did not connect with? How do we react when the will of God prevails over our will?

Perhaps this is a test for us as a congregation and as individuals! Do we submit to God's will or do we stubbornly cling to what we want for ourselves?
—Joe Mathews

He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done" (Matthew 26:42, NIV).

Our vision:
Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known

Candidate #4 Elmwood Church of Christ August 17-19, 2007 Agenda

Friday August 17, 2007

- 3-5:00 pm Arrive Holiday Inn Select, Lafayette
- 6:00 pm Dinner with Lee Porter Family, Bill Bell Family, and Phil Travis

Saturday August 18, 2007

- 8:00 am Breakfast with elders
- 9:00 am Candidate interview with the Elders
- 11:00 am Interview with Deacons and Staff in room A2
- 12:30 pm Lunch
- 4:30 pm Interview with Search Committee in A2
- 6:00 pm Dinner with Search committee at Arni's
- 7:00 pm Meet N' Greet Devotional at Elmwood with Congregation; Philosophy of Ministry Presentation for all & entertain questions

Sunday August 19, 2007

- 7:00 am Breakfast
- 8:00 am First Service
- 9:30 am Bible Class
- 10:45 am Second Service
- 12:45 pm Lunch at The Trails with Elders and wives

All-Church Annual Picnic September 9– Columbian Park



Set aside the date—**September 9**— for Elmwood's annual **All-Church Picnic at Columbian Park**. We'll plan to eat at 12:30. Bring plenty to share as we invite our neighbors, friends and family to join us. Come to **Shelter A** (big shelter nearest Home Hospital), and enjoy the food, fun, fellowship, games, and music too!

New Fall Class Offered

Women's roles in the church will be the subject of a Wednesday evening series from September 12 through November 28. Participants will study the major positions on this issue, including reviews of key Biblical passages. Class presentations will distill the writings of prominent authors and handouts will be provided for more detailed personal study. A short class discussion, moderated by Joe Ruhl, will follow each presentation. Contact Sue Wilder if you would like more information. Anyone interested in learning more about this topic is invited to attend. Watch future newsletters for room assignment.

Thank You!

Dear Elmwood family,

Words cannot fully express how grateful I am for your love, support and encouragement during this time of grief for my family. The flowers sent to Jeff's funeral were lovely and such a wonderful witness of God's love through the church for my sister and her children. Your calls, cards and kind words to our family have been so much appreciated. Thank you all very much.

In Christ, Becky Pitt

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

No, it's not Christmas, but you are about to be lavished with gifts! August 20th will mark the beginning of another school year at Purdue! And these gifts will be presented in the form of college students. These young men and women have the ability to impact our church community in ways we cannot even begin to imagine. If you have ever experienced a "15-30," "crash night," or "Sunday night supper," then you already know the value of relationships that can be formed with our college students.

We are looking for families or individuals who are interested in participating as a host family for our Adopted Student Program at the CSC. How do you participate? It's simple. You sign up, communicate with your adopted student on a regular basis, treat them like they were one of your own children, show them true Christian community, and change their lives forever! If you would like to adopt a student this year, Mindy Hart will be in the Farris Foyer between services on **Sunday, August 12**, or you can email her at mhart@cs.purdue.edu



Singing Anyone?



Josh & Gina Boyd will host an evening of singing at their home, 3528 Indianbrook Dr., Lafayette (south Laf.), on **Friday, August 24**, at 7:00.

New Addresses

Ben Stafford left for Harding University on Tuesday. His address there will be: Box 14377, Search, AR 72149-4377. Good luck, Ben.

Erika Simmerman is beginning medical school in Florida. Her new address is: 7125 SW 42nd Ct., Davie, FL 33314. Phone: (home) 954-530-1581. Email address: simmerma@nova.edu

Attention Parents!

Children's Church for grades 1-5 will resume **Sept. 2**, during second service.

—Joe Ruhl

August 12, 2007

Class: 142 Worship: 258

Contribution: \$5,050

Budget: \$10,000/week

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Does Anybody Know What Time it Is?

Great philosophers have been saying it for years: Alexander the Great, Jesus, Paul, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Zane Williams, TONS of different bands and vocal groups. Yet, it is possibly the most ignored piece of advice ever given. Perhaps that is why so many people have said it, hoping that maybe with enough repetition maybe someone will understand it. Well, let me add my voice to the throng, though I too need to heed this advice.

You may be wondering what that piece of advice is, what is so important that so many important philosophers would all say the same thing? Well, they say it in different ways, Alexander the Great said "Carpe Diem" (or so the history books tell us), Jesus said "Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today." (Matthew 6:34).

In his letters Paul changes the terminology and adds the concept of change to the idea when he tells his readers that they are a new creation, freed from the bondage of sin, and thus they should not act as if they were still enslaved to sin.

A quick google search of "Live for today" lyrics shows many different bands have expressed this, or a similar message. With this message everywhere (admittedly, not all of them with the proper worldview in place) why is it that I still can't seem to figure out how to accomplish this? Why is it so important anyway?

How often do we worry about what the future may bring, unable to live now, for fear of the future, or live in the past, unable to move on from "that one mistake"? It is important to be able to live in the now. For one thing, it is WAY more relaxing than trying to live either in the future or in the past. For another thing, we will be able to show our families the love and attention that they deserve, when we put away our troubles of the future. It is hard to listen to someone and really be present with them when our minds are wandering away into the future or the past, worrying about that which has been or that which is not yet.

It's true that when Paul writes his letters to his readers, he asks them to look backwards, towards the cross to act in response to the sacrifice that was given there. He also asks them to look toward the future, and act in anticipation of the future. He calls them to be what they have been called to be, to live out their baptism and act in accordance to God's will. But he tells them to live in the now, in the in-between time. It really is the only time that we can do anything about. Our actions now cannot change the past, nor can they reveal the future. But if we focus on doing the right thing now, those actions can redeem the past and bring us to a better future.

-Phil

Prayer concerns....

Susan Swensen's heart surgery went well, though she will be in the hospital for a while yet. The address there is: Methodist Hospital, room 3201, P.O. Box 1367, Indianapolis, 46206...**Max Houlton** has been diagnosed with lung cancer. They were encouraged by their visit to the surgeon on Monday. Two more tests are needed before they schedule "curative" surgery in September....**Bob Stafford** continues to experience chronic back problems. He had an MRI and a CT scan on Tuesday....**Marihelen Johnson's** mother-in-law, **Martha Johnson**, is in the end stages of cancer. Jim and Marihelen left Friday for San Angelo, Texas, to be with her....**Mickey Rigdon's** brother, **Donnie**, has advanced stage pancreatic cancer....**Larry Gibson** is at home recuperating from gall bladder surgery on Friday....**Mary Cole**, Cheri Vaughn's mother, is in Home Hospital, room 2309....Continue praying for **Carolyn Rigdon, Valley Stockton, Dick & Janice Waterstraat, Henry Hunt, Oka LeMaster, Marie DeWoody, Joe Bailey, Sue Sill, Dottie Roberts, Hattie Coffel, Kaden Koebcke, Kathy Ciota, Charles Carter, Charles Moore, Irene Sims, Mary Tavana, Willard Farmer, Paul & Argie Verett, Ruth Marks, Delpha Allen, Anna Dale, Minnie Scott, Carrie High, Irene Fox, and Burnell Gulden.**

Our prayers are with **Mickey & Patty Rigdon** who lost everything in a fire that spread from their neighbor's garage to their home in Brookston. Donations can be given to Lafayette Bank and Trust designated for Mickey and Patty Rigdon.



Serving in our military: **Jeremy Crable & Michael Bryenton** in Afghanistan; **Philip Devine, Joshua Thompson, and Ti Draughon** (Amanda Martin's husband) in Iraq; and **Chris Martin**, in South Korea.



- August 15, 7 PM....**Bible classes for all
- August 18, 7 PM....** Candidate #4 to share his philosophy of ministry, and participate in a question & answer session
- August 19, AM worship hours....**Candidate #4 preaching both AM worship hours & teaching combined adult classes
- August 19, 12:15 PM....**Luncheon for VBS guests & Elmwood congregation
- September 9, noon....**All-church picnic at Columbian Park, Shelter A
- September 21, 22, 23....**Men's Retreat at Ross Camp

Read:
 Job 31-42 Eccl. 1-6;
 I Cor. 14-II Cor. 2

2007 Spiritual Adventure

Week 35: August 27-September 2

I was recently enjoying some vacation time with my family at Lake Michigan. While this is hardly the sea, it reminded me of Ecclesiastes 1:7: "All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full."

Solomon (or whoever the author may be) is very consistent with two ideas throughout Ecclesiastes, the first being "there is nothing new under the sun," the other: "this too is meaningless." Clearly, he is trying to prove a point. While some see these passages to be discouraging or even depressing, I find them to be a relief. Solomon has saved us time! He had the resources and the knowledge to test and consider pleasure, wisdom, madness, folly, toil, wine, laughter, and he found that all were meaningless. Nothing could be gained. How is this good news?

Ecclesiastes 2:3 says, "I wanted to see what was worthwhile for men to do under heaven during the few days of their lives." As a college student, I am surrounded by this "chasing after the wind" attitude. Everyone wants to know what will give their life meaning and fulfillment. Many seek pleasure in their lives by whatever means are available to them.

Thanks to Solomon, we learn that all these things do not lead to fulfillment. All are a "chasing after the wind." He concludes in Ecclesiastes 5:18-20, "Then I realized that it is good and proper for a man to eat and drink, and to find satisfaction in his toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given him – for this is his lot. Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work – this is a gift of God. He seldom reflects on the days of his life, because God keeps him occupied with gladness of heart." Therefore, we must choose to be content with the gift God has given us, and stop chasing after more. -Caitie Jones

 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 City of Children Ensenada, Mexico Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774	
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	<th> Staff</th> <td></td>	 Staff	
	Ministers Gayle Crowe 447-6940 Lee Porter 463-6993 Dan Cooke 543-7469 Office Manager Sherry Marks 447-2874		

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