



## Peace

Peace, perfect, peace. It is something that every one of us desires. We sing about it, talk about it, and wish it upon ourselves and others. Peace, however, seems to elude most people today. In a 2006 survey, Barna reported 12% of those surveyed admitted to struggling with addictions of some sort (imagine the number of those who did not admit it), 86% said that they are concerned about the moral condition of this nation, and 63% still suffer from fear of terrorist attacks. That's not very peaceful. It is unrest.

There are many reasons for unrest. War, crime, abortion, dysfunctional families, and high gas prices are but a few reasons why we experience unrest today. One might wonder how it is possible to be at peace amidst all of this unrest. If peace is the absence of unrest, then how can anyone ever be at peace?!

Having peace, however, doesn't mean that war, crime, and the traumas of daily life do not affect you. Having peace means that although these things are present in your life, you are able to stand firm on the promise that these things will one day be forever eliminated. That promise can only be made by the true Savior, Jesus. He has eliminated sin and the product of it by acting as a sacrifice for us. The result is that the world is slowly being healed. One day there will be no more war, no more abortion, no difficult financial situations. One day there will be harmony. That brings me great peace.

Christ said, "*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest*" (Matt. 11:28). I, for one, believe Him. At times I have been burdened, weary, and afraid. But peace is coming for the whole world eventually, and that brings me peace now.

—Dan

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

## I Can Help!

Okay, I know that we had an "old" friend who was here for 20 years. If you needed something you could call him and he would help you out or get you help with many areas of life. I'm still not happy about it, but Gayle is gone and needs continue. Recently, I have gotten calls with disclaimers like, "I know it's not your job," or "I hate to bother you with this," or "I didn't know who else to call." I know I haven't been the preacher, but I will start my 10<sup>th</sup> year here on July 1 (Lord willing) and I Can Help. Honestly, that is one of the reasons we brought Phil Travis in to be our Interim Associate. We knew Dan and I would need to step into some "abnormal" roles, but with Phil's presence, we have the luxury of multiplied ministry and we can help in some new-old ways. Trust me, if your needs are something the elders should be handling, I will tell you quickly and will facilitate the beginning of that dialogue...they are very approachable men. In addition, if your needs are beyond my experience/training/understanding, I'll tell you and I will help you find the right person(s). We are family and it is a team effort – it was, even when Gayle was here – let me know, I Can Help. —Lee



Everyone is invited to a "come 'n go" bridal shower for **Jessica Porter & Nick Hottmann**. It will be in the home of Chris Sutherlin, 2805 Union St., Lafayette, this **Saturday evening, June 2**, from **6:30-8:30**. Hostesses are Chris Sutherlin, Cheryl Woody, and Kelsey Sutherlin.



Dear Church family,

Thank you for blessing my day with your kindness. The flowers, along with your prayers, were appreciated very much.

—Jan Lucas & brother, Eugene Zinn

Elmwood family,

Philip sends his greetings and a **BIG THANK YOU** for all you do: the prayers offered for him, the packages various LIFE groups and individuals have sent, the computer help, and the expressions of concern and love for him. He is scheduled to get back to the states sometime in mid-October (Lord willing). He is getting ready to be deployed to a more hostile area in Iraq, but exact time and location are not to be made public. So, please continue your prayers. He can't wait to see you all again!

Love in Christ, Hedi Devine, for Philip

## Attention Parents!

**Children's Church** for grades 1-5 will not meet during the summer vacation. We will resume the first Sunday in September.

—Joe Ruhl



## Video & audio volunteers needed

We are in need of volunteers to run the laptop computer for powerpoint slides and the sound equipment for those speaking and leading in worship on Sunday mornings. We especially need two video people for 1st service, and two for the 2nd service. We also need two people for the PA system for the 2nd service. If you can help, contact the church office, Jimmy Huff (video) or Farrell Simmerman (audio). Thanks for considering this as part of your ministry to the congregation.



Our congratulations to **Steve & Stephanie Curwick** who were married Saturday, May 19! Cody Sipe performed the ceremony at Elmwood.



Our sympathies to Becky Pitt whose uncle, **Dan Smith, 67**, died Tuesday, May 22, in Michigan. He had cancer.



Gayle and Lisa Crowe's address was incorrect in last week's newsletter. It is **2000 Mallory Lane, Suite 130-53, Franklin, TN 37067**.

## New Addresses:

**Mark & Sarah Bird**  
517 Fairington Ave.  
Lafayette 47905  
Ph: 714-3549

**Brian & Amanda Guthrie**  
266 E. Sunset Lane  
West Lafayette 47906  
Ph: 838-1664

May 27, 2007

Class: 157 Worship: 249

Contribution: \$6,825

Budget: \$8,550



## Honesty!

I am currently reading a book by Anne Lamott titled "Grace (Eventually)". The book isn't about anything in particular, and is framed in such a way that each chapter is a short story about the author's life, detailing a particular event, or giving some idea of what her life was like in the past. I don't agree with Ms. Lamott on many things, and we are not similar in many ways, yet I think there is value to her book. While I do not agree with many of the things that she says, or does, there is value to hearing another person present their thoughts and ideas. In some ways, it is especially nice since she is not right here, I can't get into an argument with her about some of her ideas. Instead, though I disagree with her, I can only simply accept her for who she is. She is not ashamed to let her readers know her mistakes and is straight-forward about the blunders that she has committed in her relationships with her friends, her son, and with God. Perhaps it is easy for her to exercise this self-disclosure because of the distance that is put between her and her audience due to the nature of books, but I think that perhaps she realizes the importance of being honest.

Being honest with the people that you are in communion with is no simple task, it is a risk on your part, and it takes a listening ear and a non-judgmental mindset from the person that you are being honest with. It would be much simpler if one could control all of the variables, but being honest requires you to lay yourself on the grace of the other party. But there are benefits from being honest, for one thing, the pressure that we put on ourselves daily by acting to be something, or someone that we really truly aren't, is lifted. But there are benefits also to the person to whom you are being honest. Perhaps it would provide a good learning experience on exercising grace, but it also opens the doors for more honesty. The more honest that we are with ourselves and each other, assuming we all keep in mind that we are to be filled with the grace of God when dealing with one another, the better off you and I and the community will be.

Honesty isn't simple, and it isn't always welcomed with open arms. One should not expect honesty from the beginning of a relationship either, trust needs to be built, but if the mask never comes off and the walls come down, the trust that is needed to be in true community with one another, the community that is part of being the body of Christ, will not be built and our mission on earth to show others the grace of God, becomes much more difficult.

-Phil Travis

## Prayer Concerns...

**Peter Bell** is recovering from heart surgery remarkably well. Praise God! He is home, visiting friends, and feeling well...**Oka LeMaster** is home following a stay in the hospital last week after suffering a heart attack....**Edith McCoy** was hospitalized briefly for heart related problems. She is now home....**Beth Holt** is having tests on her heart soon....**Brian Beeler**, Kristy's husband, had knee surgery on Friday....**Sue Sill**, Mickey Rigdon's sister, is awaiting doctors' diagnosis on a mass they have found ....**David Perkins**, Lori Miller's brother, will have a biopsy on a tumor in his lung this week....**Lorena Poindexter**, Carolyn Burrell's sister-in-law, will have surgery for cancer....Continue praying for **Bill Adams**, **Oscar Miller**, **Hattie Coffel**, **Jeanette Tidrick**, **Georgia Woodland**, **Virginia Webb**, **Kathy Cirotta**, **Charles Carter**, **Charles Moore**, **Jo Gelfand**, **Willie Batts**, **Irene Sims**, **Mary Tavana**, **Willard Farmer**, **Valley Stockton**, **Paul & Argie Verett**, **Kaden Koebcke**, **Ruth Marks**, **Delpha Allen**, **Anna Dale**, **Minnie Scott**, **Carrie High**, **Irene Fox**, & **Burnell Gulden**.



**Brian Guthrie** and **Amanda Guthrie's** brother, **Jon Kiefner** are now home!! Praise the Lord! Serving in our military: **Jeremy Crable & Michael Bryenton** in Afghanistan; **Philip Devine**, **Joshua Thompson** (*grandson of Mary Lou Baugh*), in Iraq; and **Chris Martin**, in South Korea.

## LUM Meal Providers

Serving dinner at Lafayette Urban Ministry Monday night, May 28, were **Lyn Freeman**, **Vicky Martin**, **Amy Theivagt**, and **John & Sherry Marks**. Many thanks to those at Elmwood who participate in this ministry to provide food for Lafayette's homeless. If you haven't participated before and would like to, see **Mandy Anderson**. There are still slots open during the next 6 months.



**June 2, 6:30-8:30 PM**....Bridal shower for **Jessica Porter** & **Nick Hottmann** at the **Sutherlins'** home  
**June 3, 6 PM**....Worship at Elmwood  
**June 9**....Graduation Open Houses for **Dan Cable** and **Rachel Walters**

Read:  
*I Kings 1-15; Matthew 6-10*

# 2007 Spiritual Adventure

## Week 24: June 11-17

There are two things I really do not like to do- read and write. They bring fear and dread when I think about doing them. I am not a reader. Now, if you were to try to confirm this with my friends, they might be apt to tell you that's a lie and would probably even use the shelves of books I have read as their evidence. And you are probably using this article as evidence to disprove my point about not being a writer too. However, procrastination is an understatement for what I did with each writing assignment I was ever given. (It's at this point I think I am supposed to confess that I sit here writing this article 2 days past the due date.) Plus I was the kind of kid who thought, "Why would you want to read about it if someone can just tell you about it?"

Unfortunately, these attitudes carried over into my religious studies too. I could not imagine wanting to sit and read a book that was full of facts, people, dates, and times. I did not like reading anyway, so why would I want to read *that*? But no worries, it eventually dawned on me. Oh, I still did not like to read or write, but what I realized was that I enjoyed a good story! Storytelling is its own form of communication and differs greatly from reading or writing. It's purposeful. It's relational. It's ubiquitous. It's storytelling and the Bible is full of it! Take this week's readings-I Kings 1-11 tells the story of a wise king, his endeavors in rebuilding the temple, and the less than perfect life he lived. And who could argue that Jesus is not the best storyteller ever? The Gospels are full of parables, and in the reading from Matthew this week, we get such rich stories as the Wise and Foolish Builders and so many more. So when you start getting caught up in the act of merely reading your Bible, take a step back and see it as a story. After all, everyone loves a story.

—Mindy Hart