



Where No One Stands Alone

Time spent in ministry will affirm over and over again that people need other people in their lives. The more time I spend with people the more I start to realize how dangerous loneliness can be. It has been proven over and over again. Newborns without human touch and interaction quickly become sick. Teenagers suffering from loneliness will do almost anything to fit in with others. Adults spend hours upon hours with counselors trying to cope with loneliness. One article I read suggested that some heart-attacks and most cases of depression can be traced back to loneliness. Do I need to say it again? Loneliness is dangerous.

The first thing that God ever pronounces as “not good” is loneliness (Genesis 2:18). It is no wonder that loneliness causes so much damage. We were not created to be lonely. We were created to be in relationship with others, so much so that our bodies and minds literally break down in the face of loneliness.

I believe this is why God established the church. So often we get caught up in the mechanics of church. We debate over worship styles, how to spend money, who’s in and who’s out, etc... I’m worried that these debates over mechanics prevent us from seeing church for what it really is — a community of faith. Church is about relationships. It is about people coming together in fellowship, living out their faith together. In church there should be no lone rangers. No one should suffer from loneliness in church.

The truth, though, is that some do. Sadly, loneliness creeps its way into our churches. Satan knows well the effects of loneliness and I believe it is a tool that he uses even in our churches today. It steals joy from those who should be experiencing joy the most. Let’s make sure Elmwood truly is a place where no one stands alone.

God places the lonely in families. ~ Psalm 68:6

-Gilbert Kerrigan

Forgiveness

Martin Luther (that’s the 16th century one) once said, “Forgiveness of sins is the very heart of Christianity, and yet it is a very dangerous thing to preach.” God is forgiving; to remind each other of that very fact is important as it is so central to the life of a person shaped by the cross.

Simultaneously, the danger of resting on our laurels in light of our forgiveness is ever present when forgiveness is preached. Paul faces the same challenge in Romans when he anticipates and responds to the question, “If our sins offer an opportunity for God to proffer Grace, then shouldn’t we allow ourselves and God to enjoy that continual giving of Grace?”

By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life (Romans 6:2-4).

We are all encouraged to know that we live a forgiven life, yet are we lulled into inaction in light of our forgiveness? Our new life allows us, and asks of us, to continually move towards becoming a people that act in a manner prescribed by God. As we make this movement we appreciate grace more and more while acting in a manner that requires it less and less!

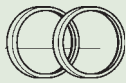
-Phil Travis



Kaden Koebcke's biopsy indicates he has Prednisone resistant kidney nephrosis. Doctors will try 3 different medications for treatment--each taking two months to reveal results. Keep Cami, Travis, and Jack & Sue McCoy in your prayers...**Bernie Follick's** biopsy results were negative. Great news!...**Emily Jaekel**, Lynae Stafford's great-niece, had an MRI on Tuesday at Riley Children's Hospital as a follow-up for previous health problems....Continue

praying for **Sara Postlethwait, Eugene Zinn, David Henke, Tom Armstrong** (checkup at Mayo Clinic), **Kaleb Anderson, Marty Mueller, Julie Lichtey, David Hughes, Mike Sutherlin, Joe Bailey, Henrietta Frampton, Charles Moore, Herb King, Eileen Richardson, Hattie Coffel, Marie DeWoody, Irene Sims, Mary Tavana, Paul & Argie Verett, Delpha Allen, Valley Stockton, Eagle Bailey, Minnie Scott, Anna Dale, Irene Fox, and Burnell Gulden.**

Serving in our military: **Steve Brady, Mark Wilson, Ti Draughon** in Iraq.



Open House for Philip & Loretta Devine

Newlyweds Philip and Loretta Devine will be in town a few days before Philip will serve another tour of duty someplace overseas. Please join us for food and fellowship, and to offer your "Best Wishes" to the happy couple, this **Sunday afternoon, April 20th, from 4:00 until 6:30 PM**, at the home of Bill and Carol Bell, 216 Jennings St., West Lafayette. Everyone is invited. If you have any questions, call Carol.

CSC Spring Banquet Friday, April 25

The annual CSC Spring Banquet is **Friday, April 25, 7:00 PM**, at the **Outpost** located at **14 N. 2nd Street, downtown Lafayette** (note change of location). Cost is \$16 per person for a great meal and entertainment! For your convenience a table is set up in the Farris foyer for you to make your reservations, or you can make them by email (ptravis@elmwood-church.org). Deadline for reservations is this Sunday, April 20.

Good \$ense Budgeting Class

Do you ever wonder where the money goes? Most people do. We cannot ignore the reality of the importance of money. Some view it as the root of all evil, because it has led to crime, suicide, divorce, worry, scheming and many other nightmares. This crucial matter has no shortage of information in the Bible. Some two thousand Scripture passages touch on the theme of money.

A six week DVD series will be facilitated by Janet Boston begins next Wednesday, **April 23, 2008**, in the Conference/Media room. The program will be from 5:50- 6:50PM each Wednesday evening. You will discover tools and develop skills to help you to manage and control your finances. **THIS CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE!**

April 13, 2008

Class: 198 Worship: 325 Contribution: \$8,679



Our sincere sympathies to **Beth Holt** who lost both her sister and stepfather last Thursday, April 10. Her stepfather, **Charlie Penn**, was buried on Tuesday in Franklin, Indiana. Beth's sister, **Marcia Swails, 44**, had battled colon cancer for some time. Her sons, Brandon and Todd Taylor, will plan a memorial service for her in May. If you wish to send them a card, their address is 340 Cheshire St., Lafayette 47909. Our sympathies also to Beth's mother, Margie Penn.

Happy Anniversary



Gene & Nancy High celebrate 53 years of marriage on **April 17**. Congratulations, Gene & Nancy!

Budget Requests

Most of our budget requests have been submitted, but there are still a few that haven't yet arrived. Please get any remaining budget requests to Bill Hodges as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance in this planning process. *-Bill Hodges*

CSC Alumni Reunion (1989-1995)

July 25-27, 2008.

Contact **Donna (Burrell) Porter** at danddport@comcast.net by **May 15, if you plan to come.** There will be activities for all ages.



Youth Culture 101

I have mentioned this book a couple times now and I still have two copies at only \$12 each. If you want to own one of the most helpful books written on understanding the teens of today, see me soon or make your way to the bookstore! Walt Mueller and his team have done some wonderful research, but in addition, he has provided an excellent resource in the last chapter stating what he is doing as a parent with teens and what he recommends we do...check it out!

Senior Sunday – May 4, 6:00 PM

Our annual time to honor High School Seniors is scheduled for Sunday evening, May 4. The specific details of what will take place (food wise) is still being worked out, but as always, we will be having a video presentation of each of our students from birth to present...high school graduation. We have been blessed to have these young people with us for a few years for some up to their whole lives for others. Please mark your calendars and plan to be with us as we honor these special young people.

Summer is Coming!

You have heard this before, but the two largest faith shaping events in the lives of teenagers are mission trips and summer camps – do you think it might be a good idea to encourage your teens to go? For a couple years now, our group has chosen to use Camp CUMO (Cincinnati Urban Mission Outreach) as our mission trip. It is an incredible week of working with about 50 nine to eleven year old (or about) inner city children. Teens from Elmwood and the Withamsville church in Cincinnati work together to provide the classes and activities for the children and serve as the counselors in the cabins in the evening...it is "their" ministry to these children. Dates for this year's CUMO experience have been set for July 20-25 and is open to all students entering 9th grade in the fall through seniors...some college students and other adults may also be interested. Cost for the CUMO experience will be between \$75 and \$100 inclusive. Our group has made regular visits to Spring Mill Bible Camp for many years now and it has always been a great experience – several of our teens have chosen to be baptized at Spring Mill. The dates some of our students plan to attend Spring Mill are June 22-27(all ages week - 8 to 18 years old), July 13-19 (senior week – completed grades 7 to 12), and July 20-25 (intermediate week – completed grades 4 to 8). Camp fees at Spring Mill are \$80 for early bird, \$90 for preregistered, and \$100 for registration at the door. In the past couple years we have also had some of our students make the trip to Camp Wabashi in Terre Haute. I do not have the dates Elmwood students are planning to attend Wabashi at the present, but I will let you know as soon as I do. Camp fees for Wabashi are \$100 or \$90 if paid in full by June 1. Mark it down!

– Lee

CSC Root Beer Kegger Food Donations

The CSC's annual **Root Beer Kegger** is **this Friday, April 18**, and we could really use your help! We are in need of food donations in the form of side items (bags of chips, vegetable trays, etc.) or desserts (cookies, brownies, etc.). Our budget is limited so the more donations the better. We really appreciate your generosity! You may bring your **donations to the church building by Friday noon** and Phil Travis will pick them up to take to the campus house. This is a great opportunity for our students to reach out to other students at Purdue.

-Kelsey Sutherland

Power Lab Vacation Bible School June 2-6

This is a chance to be a part of an exciting time to see God glorified. Volunteers are needed for crew leaders, decorating, registration, and transportation.

The following items are needed for decorating and props: foam board (bought at craft stores); spray paint (metallic silver); aluminum foil; dowel rods (1 inch thickness); PVC pipe (5 pcs. 6 foot tall, 3-4 inches in diameter); pipe cleaners (2 pkgs. neon colors); dryer vent tubes (2-6 foot long); styrofoam balls (all sizes); paint brushes (not craft brushes, 2 inches wide or wider); balloons (translucent & clear); silly string (12 large cans of neon colors); CD's (old or used ones); lava lamps; electric static ball; and string lights (flashing one color). Questions? Call Dana Miller at 337-5379. Please drop your items off in the Farris foyer by May 3 (a box will be provided). Join us on the following dates from 1-4 PM for work sessions: **May 3, 10, 17 & 24**. Many thanks.

-Michelle Robson



April 16, 7 PM....Bible classes for everyone

April 18....College Root Beer Kegger

Food donations at the building by noon this Friday

April 20, 6 PM....LIFE Groups

April 23, 5:50-6:50 PM....Good \$ense class begins

April 25....College Spring Banquet at the **Outpost**,
14 N. 2nd Street, (downtown) Lafayette

May 4, 6 PM....High School Seniors' Celebration

June 2-6, 6-8 PM.... Elmwood's Vacation Bible School

