



Wednesday Nights at Elmwood

Here at Elmwood we believe strongly that *“all Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17).”* With this in mind, we have dedicated Wednesday nights to the study of God’s word.

I hope you are taking advantage of our many different Bible classes that are being offered on Wednesday nights. We have a lot of very spiritually gifted teachers in this church. All of these teachers put a lot of time and effort into their class preparation. We have classes that simply read through scripture as a way of being spiritually fed. We have other classes that are in-depth historical studies. Some that are open discussion. Another that is going through a Beth Moore video study. I mention the variety of classes to show that we have a class that should fit your style. If you are not already involved why don’t you decide today to give our Wednesday night classes a try.

One of the main responsibilities I had as a minister in Bowling Green was to teach Bible classes. I really enjoyed teaching and it is something I have missed doing since I started here at Elmwood. I wanted to give myself some time to get settled in to this new role of preaching every Sunday. I’m now ready to jump back into teaching. Starting Wednesday night, July 23, I will start teaching a new series called SEVEN.

SEVEN will be a study of the seven letters to the seven churches in Asia that we find in the first three chapters of Revelation. I believe it will be a fun study that is both insightful and practical. I would love to see you in my class (room #200) or in one of our many other offerings:

Men’s Class studying James - Room 14, Kevin Walters

Adult Challenger Class studying Judges - Room 19, Bill Hodges

Adult Class reading through 2 Kings - Room A2, Bill Farris

Young Mom’s Class studying Beth Moore’s “Jesus, the One and Only” - Room 202, Kate Kerrigan

Women’s Class studying Proverbs - Room 2, Pam Houlton

-Gilbert

An early church father: Polycarp

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Heb 12:1-3). What an important statement about the body of Christ as it passes through generations! The author of Hebrews goes on to say that his readers have not yet resisted sin to the point of shedding blood. The readers had experienced persecution and difficulty as they followed Christ, but none had yet been killed for their faith.

One of the earliest accounts that we have of a Christian being martyred is a man named Polycarp. He is considered to be an “apostolic father,” or a leader in the church whose generation had direct contact with the apostles. Polycarp was stabbed to death by the Roman government, after an attempt to burn him at the stake failed. In his *Letter to the Philippians* he wrote, *“Let us therefore become imitators of His endurance; and if we should suffer for His name’s sake, let us glorify Him. For He gave this example to us in His own person, and we believed this.”*

Polycarp, being one of faith, is surely one of the cloud of witnesses that surrounds us as we too run with perseverance the race marked out for us!

-Phil



Rose Hunt has been ill recently. Last Thursday she was diagnosed with pneumonia....**Eugene Zinn** had successful surgery last Wednesday. He is at home recuperating....**Elaine Crowder** spent time in the emergency room Sunday evening with a kidney stone....The son of Pauletta Smith's cousin, **Lane Pepper**, has a return of cancer. In addition, his newborn son was just born with a tumor-like growth on his head....**Randi Verett**, sister-in-law of Pauletta

Smith and daughter-in-law of Argie & Paul, is to undergo exploratory surgery soon.... **Leroy Hamilton**, Margaret Gustafson's brother, was hospitalized for kidney problems (*he has had dialysis treatments for 15 years*) last week. He will be moved soon**Kaden Koebcke** continues to receive treatment with a new drug for his kidney condition....**Christi Everett**, niece of Bo Downing, continues to receive chemo treatments for kidney cancer. (She has only one kidney.).... Continue praying for **Don Vice, Linda Dilks, Julie Lichty, Amanda Powlen, David Henke, Rick Swensen, Hattie Coffel, Colin Wilson, Pat Johnson, Lois Powlen, Barbara Scott, Grace Hamilton, Kenneth Clubb, Marge Campbell, Alan Dale, Eileen Richardson, Irene Sims, Henrietta Frampton, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, Delpha Allen, Valley Stockton, Eagle Bailey, Minnie Scott, Irene Fox.**

Serving in our military: **Philip Devine, Mark Wilson, Shawn Wilson, and Ti Draughon.** **Chris Crable** is spending the summer in Columbia, SC, receiving advanced training with the Army.

Please remember our LST team in Thailand: **Josh, Gina, Kinley, & Knox Boyd, Farrell Simmerman, and Steve & Lanita Boyd** (Josh's parents).

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.**

- July 16 & 17** ***How Shape Your Child's Faith***—AWANA President Jack Eggar and his wife, Dona, discuss the troubling trend of grown children leaving the Christian faith and offer advice to parents about the spiritual training of kids. (Parts 1 & 2)
- July 18** ***Protecting Your Family's Health***—Dr. Daniel Hinthorn explains what families need to know about MRSA (methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus), an infectious bacterium that is difficult to treat and causing a growing epidemic.
- July 21 & 22** ***How Moving Impacts Women***—Author Susan Miller explains how moving is particularly disruptive to the lives of women and offers advice on dealing with the emotional and relational challenges of settling in a new community. (Parts 1 & 2)
- July 23 & 24** ***Putting Your Family First***—Andy Stanley talks about the importance of putting family first, rather than letting loved ones take second place to the pressures and demands of work. (Parts 1 & 2)



It's a Girl!



Congratulations to **Ann Vaught** on becoming a grandmother--again! **Hannah Jade** was born July 7 to **Joel & Laura Vaught.** She weighed 6 pounds 10 oz., and measured 20.25 inches long. Mother and baby are home and doing well with the help of Grandma Ann!

Youth Activities

Along with Lee Porter, Britt Nelson, Rachel Stafford, Natasha Risley, Nelson Tilley and Lynae Stafford enjoyed the trip to Cedar Point in Ohio last Thursday.

Many of our youth are spending time at church camps this week. Ben Stafford, Erin Simmerman, and Lee are part of the staff at Spring Mill Bible Camp this week. Campers include Britt Nelson, Patrick Ruhl, Sarah Han, and Jenny Heath. Nelson Tilley and Kaitlyn O'Donnell are campers at Wabashi this week.



Brothers & Sisters at Elmwood: I grow stronger each day physically and in spirit. Thank you for the prayers that promote this healing and growth. -Colin Wilson

July 13, 2008

Class: 156 Worship: 246

Contribution: \$7,318



Spring Mill Bible Camp

This week at SMBC, groups from Louisville and Corbin, Kentucky, have joined with groups from Bloomington, Jeffersonville, Lafayette, Mitchell, and several small towns in Indiana for an incredible week of learning about and praising God...and enjoying each other's fellowship. The theme of the week is "Ground Floor," and we are talking about some of the spiritual disciplines and how they are foundational to our lives in Christ. Specifically, we are talking about the Word, Worship, Prayer, Discipleship--or our daily walk with Christ. In addition, we are focusing on some principles that support those building blocks: (1) the need to clear the clutter from our lives; (2) the necessity of listening for God's voice; (3) the process of developing God's heart in our lives; and (4) the call to respond to God.

Elmwood is represented by Sarah Han, Jenny Heath, Britt Nelson, and Patrick Ruhl--campers. In addition, Erin Simmerman and Ben Stafford are serving (and doing an incredible job) as counselors, and I have the privilege of being the head men's counselor. Don't forget that Kaitlyn O'Donnell and Nelson Tilley are representing Elmwood at Camp Wabashi in Terre Haute. Next week Caroline O'Donnell and Madison Tilley will be at Wabashi as well. Please continue to pray for all of our campers and staff. Camp is a very important time in the lives of all who are able to attend; please pray that all are being safe, are learning a lot, and having the time of their lives!

LOST - without JESUS!

After a quick trip to Michigan on Saturday for Alison's and Will's wedding, several in our group will be headed to Cincinnati again from Camp CUMO. For those who might not know or have forgotten, C.U.M.O. stands for Cincinnati Urban Ministry Outreach. The work is led by Pat Pugh and is overseen and sponsored by several congregations in the Cincinnati area. Our group joins with the teens and adults from the Withamsville Church of Christ in Cincinnati, and we take up to fifty 9-11 year olds from that ministry (from the projects in the inner city) for a camping experience on the property of the Midwest Children's Home. For the past 3 years our group had chosen to make this our mission trip and we are sure we are the ones who have been most blessed! The theme this year is LOST--without JESUS! "L" will stand for Life; "O" will stand for Openness; "S" will stand for strength; and "T" will stand for Trust. All things will be LOST if Jesus is not part of our lives.

We know that some of you helped provide the cabins we will be staying in next week....Thank You! Please be praying for the children God sends our way and for all of us as we seek to lead them closer to Christ.

-Lee

News from Thailand's LST team

At the end of week four God continues to send us new readers. They are asking questions like, "Why did people listen to John?" "What does it mean that God can do anything?" and "Why did Jesus choose Judas Iscariot?" We love to see that our readers are really thinking about the word of God.

This week's picture is of a Buddha statue being driven down the road in a pickup truck. Isn't it wonderful that our God doesn't need to be carried around?



Thank you for your prayers!

-Josh (for the Thailand LST team)

Tools for Schools Needed



Once again, Elmwood will be a collection site for Salvation Army's "Tools for Schools." If you would like to help children in the community with school supplies for the upcoming school year, a box has been placed in the Farris foyer for your donations. Bring them anytime between now and August 1.



July 16, 7 PM....Bible classes
Pray for our youth who are at Christian camps this week.

Read:
Ezra 6-Nehemiah
Romans 8-12

2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 31: July 28-August 3

The early church met as a large group for worship at the temple and then as small groups from house to house. The New Testament is full of examples of Christians meeting in homes. Paul also carried on this Biblical practice. The first meeting in a home is recorded in Acts 1:13, where the disciples met together in the upper room of a house. For the first three centuries of the church, Christians commonly met in homes. We can see that meeting in homes is Biblical, so is it wrong to meet in a large building? The word "church" (ekklesia) means "Called out people" – never buildings – so it is Biblical to meet anywhere that Christians decide to gather together. Paul continued to preach at the temple. Obviously seeing nothing wrong with preaching anywhere he got the chance, Paul saw the big picture. If he could better teach, edify, proclaim the gospel in a large temple he would do it there. If he could better serve God in individual homes, he did that. Our goal should be to serve God in any way possible. Small Groups have amazing potential for growth in the body of Christ. In small groups, everyone is free to participate, share, use their personal gifts, and teach from their well of experience. Small Groups are not the enemy of the established church that meets at a building. Rather, Small Groups are a tool that will improve your life.

Next week this lesson will conclude with a list of [Life Group](#) benefits.

-Jeannie Dilling