



L.I.F.E.
Group Ministry
Elmwood Church of Christ

LIFE Groups will be starting back up in September. I am extremely excited about this ministry getting started again. I believe that LIFE Groups are a tremendous contribution to the health of a church. And I also believe that they serve as an extremely valuable tool God uses to help us grow and mature, individually, as disciples. If you have not figured this out by now, I am a big believer in the value of LIFE Groups.

Let me share with you our plan for this year. During the month of August I plan on preaching a sermon series called **LIFE Together**. This series will focus on different aspects of our LIFE Group ministry and why I feel they are so important. On the Sundays of August 24th and 31st there will be tables throughout the church building describing each LIFE Group Leader's plan for the fall. LIFE Group Leaders will be using their own curriculum for a topic of their choosing. We are going to allow all of you to sign up for a LIFE Group according to which topic interests you. You can choose to stay in your same group from last year, or choose another group.

If you have never been in a LIFE Group, or chose not to be in one last year, we **HIGHLY ENCOURAGE** you to give a LIFE Group a try this year. I believe you are missing out on some great blessings by not being a part of this wonderful ministry.

My prayer for Elmwood is that we live LIFE together!

-Gilbert

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

Christianity: Difficult or Easy?

In his book *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis notes that many people want to know how they should act. They start with their basic self, and then modify oneself to fit in line with socially acceptable behavior. In other words, "decent behavior... has claims on this self: claims which interfere with its own desires. What we mean by 'being good' is giving into those claims." Lewis continues by suggesting that we hope that after we are finished doing all the right things (and not doing all the wrong ones) our natural self will finally have a chance to do what it wants.

Lewis states that this is not a sustainable way to live life, nor is it the way that a Christian views their life.

The Christian way is both harder and easier. Jesus says both "Take up your cross," which is a symbol of suffering and shame, and "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." The Christian, instead of attempting to fit in both the "moral duties" and the "natural self" gives up the natural self to take on the yoke of Christ. It is easier in that we do not die the slow death of one who holds onto the natural self. But it is harder in that we must die to ourselves at the beginning of each day - totally, wholly, die to ourselves- so that we may take up the yoke of Christ.

-Phil



After a quick trip to the emergency room in Indianapolis on Saturday, **Eugene Zinn** is back home continuing to recuperate....**Lance Pepper**, the newborn son of Pauletta Smith's cousin, **Lane**, will receive treatment after he gains weightThe pathology report for **Randi Verett**, sister-in-law of Pauletta Smith and daughter-in-law of Argie & Paul, confirmed cancer. Doctors will determine her treatment soon....**Leroy Hamilton**, Margaret Gustafson's

brother, elected to receive his last dialysis treatment on Monday. He is now in Clinton, Indiana....**Kaden Koebecke** continues to receive treatment with a new drug for his kidney condition....Continue praying for **Julie Lichty, Amanda Powlen, Christi Everett, David Henke, Hattie Coffel, Pat Johnson, Lois Powlen, Barbara Scott, Marge Campbell, Alan Dale, Eileen Richardson, Irene Sims, Henrietta Frampton, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, Delpha Allen, Valley Stockton, Eagle Bailey, Minnie Scott, and Irene Fox.**

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

This is the final week for our LST team in Thailand. **Farrell Simmerman, Josh & Gina Boyd, and Steve & Lanita Boyd** will have their last sessions with their readers and then participate in a 3-day English camp with the church and Christian Center people. Please keep praying for them and their readers, and pray God will draw them to Him.

Week 5 News from Thailand

Yesterday and today were Buddhist holidays, and it rained, but still God brought our readers. In fact, we finished our week this evening at 7:45 with 5 readers at once—only because the local Christians watched Knox so Gina and I could read with people at the same time. It was a great way to wrap up the week.

A couple of our readers have been curious about how much Jesus knew about who he really was, and whether he found out from God or from his mother. One of my readers, Pin, said something about God and destiny (her words), and I asked her if she thought they were the same thing. She said, "No—God controls destiny." This kind of affirmation is not a conversion, but it's a great step toward God and away from the one many people here call "the Lord Buddha."

Two pictures: first, a busy reading room from this week; second, the Watcharaphon church building, about 35 minutes away from the Ramkhamhaeng Christian Center where we work. The building is open air—no windows on either side—and it is built over a pond. You have to cross a bridge to get to the auditorium.

For Farrell, Gina, Lanita, Steve, Kinley, and Knox,
Josh



Happy Anniversary!



Happy Anniversary to **Pete & Vernell Swank**. On Saturday, July 26, they will celebrate **56 years** of marriage! Congratulations!



Thank you for sending me the wonderful blue cards. It gives me great pleasure to continue to use my gift and to serve the Lord with my talent. This is a way that I can give something back to the church. I especially thank Don Vice for helping me with the supplies. I thank all of you very much.

-Robert Kinzer

Thanks to everyone at our "home" congregation for the love shown to our parents the past 8 months. It is comforting to know that there are so many caring people who we will eventually share heaven with. When I have an update in about a month I will update my cancer prognosis.

In Christian love,
Alan & Joyce Dale

*Elmwood family,
Thank you for the 4 sets of towels and the Cuisinart mixer. We can't wait to use them!*

Love, Josh and Amanda

July 20, 2008

Class: 146 Worship: 238

Contribution: \$6,528



Memories of.... Spring Mill Camp



Jenny Heath's baptism!



BAPTISMS

Jenny Heath was baptized while at Spring Mill Bible Camp on Friday. Jenny is one of several teens from Brookston who has been attending Elmwood's youth activities. She will be a sophomore at Frontier High School where she runs cross country. She also enjoys playing softball and soccer. Jenny lives at 10350 Black Locust Ct., Brookston 47923, with her parents, Joe and Kathy, and 10-year-old twin sisters, Ashley and Ariel. Her brother, Jeremy, graduated in the spring and will be going to college in Florida. Congratulations, Jenny, on your decision to follow Jesus and make Him Lord of your life!



Dan & Melissa Jones have been coming to Elmwood for some time. They have three grown children. Son, Joshua, made them grandparents with the arrival of twins on July 13! Daughter, Morgan Rose, weighed 5 pounds 3 ounces, and measured 17.75 inches. Big brother, Dillon Scott, weighed 7 pounds and measured 20 inches. Dan works for SIA and Melissa works in the lab (phlebotomist) at St. Elizabeth Hospital. They live at 1835 Greenbush St., Lafayette 47904. Phone: 423-2575. Welcome, Dan and Melissa!

CSC Alumni Reunion

Elmwood members are invited to attend the **2008 CSC Reunion-The Davis Years (1987-1995)** this **Saturday, July 26, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM, at the Columbian Park (Red Shelter)**. If you'd like to reconnect with **Mark and Michele Davis** as well as over 60 Purdue students who were involved with the CSC and Elmwood during these years, this is your opportunity. Lunch will be provided, so please contact Donna (Burrell) Porter at danddport@comcast.net no later than Wednesday, July 23, if you plan to attend.

Bren White speaks Sunday at 6:00 PM

While **Bren and Cheryl White** are here visiting their mothers (Wanita and Delores Nolan), Bren will take time this Sunday evening at 6:00 to share information about their travels and ministry to French-speaking people. Elmwood helps financially support Bren and Cheryl's ministry.

Read:
Psalms 93-111;
Romans 13-16; I Cor. 1-2






2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 32: August 4-10

Life Groups: Becoming one of the “WE”.....

1. We really feel like a part of God’s family. Small groups can provide a family atmosphere where no one has to stand-alone.
2. We talk more in small groups. Everyone is more likely to participate in discussions than in a large class and with fewer people, there is more opportunity to express yourself.
3. We realize that others face similar problems. We often think something is uniquely wrong with us. It is a relief to hear others have similar struggles and we are encouraged.
4. We use our gifts and talents to minister to one another. God doesn’t expect the minister and teachers to do all the ministering. God has given each of us gifts and talents that we can use (and discover what they are) in a small group setting (Hebrews 10:24).
5. We can strengthen each other’s faith. Romans 1:12 teaches us that when we see the faith in another believer, it encourages us in our own faith.
6. We encourage each other to grow. There is nothing like a word of encouragement when someone feels hopeless or discouraged. Group members draw close and support one another – during the meetings and outside them.
7. We hold each other accountable. We motivate each other to do what we know we should do. This is also an excellent place to develop leadership skills as a Group Leader!
8. We pray for one another. God honors and answers prayer.
9. We share a meal and fellowship together. Yum.

-Jeannie Dilling

 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 Mathews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653  Staff Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Lee Porter 463-6993 Phil Travis 447-2874 Office Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874 Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874	Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99536 Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000 E-mail: lholly54@yahoo.com Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774
 Our Vision: Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known.		

 **Elmwood**
 CHURCH OF CHRIST
 2501 Elmwood Ave., Lafayette, IN 47904
 (765) 447-2874 (765) 447-0878 FAX
 E-mail: office@elmwood-church.org
 www.elmwood-church.org

Christian Student Center
 PURDUE UNIVERSITY
 115 Waldron Street
 W. Lafayette, IN 47906

Periodical
 Postage
PAID
 at
 Lafayette, IN