



What Counts?

It is about being right, or at least more right than the next person. Have you bought into this lie? I am not sure who we should blame for this: ourselves for buying into this lie or the one who sold it to us. Someone dangled it out there and we bought it. We all want to be right - to have the right answer - to be more right than the next person.

I was reminded at the men's retreat that being right is not the goal. Having just the right answer for all of the theological issues out there is not the goal. Guess what? The demons have the right answers. James 2:19 says, *"You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder."* The demons have the right answer about God, but it is not doing them much good. No, it is not about being right. Rightness does not equal righteousness.

So what does matter? What is our goal? Paul tells us in Galatians 5:6 that *"the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."* ~Gilbert

Every few years we need to "purge" our newsletter list. Years pass, people move, situations change, and you may not feel the need to receive our newsletter. If you wish to continue to be on our mailing list, please send us your request by a phone call (765-447-2874), email (office@elmwood-church.org), or regular mail. We will delete those we don't hear from after the first of the new year. **PLEASE NOTE! If you attend Elmwood regularly (but maybe live out of town) you will continue to receive the weekly newsletter. This affects only those who don't attend Elmwood and have moved away.**

The Rules

Matthew 12:9-14: "He left that place and entered their synagogue; ¹⁰a man was there with a withered hand, and they asked him, 'Is it lawful to cure on the Sabbath?' so that they might accuse him. ¹¹He said to them, 'Suppose one of you has only one sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath; will you not lay hold of it and lift it out?' ¹²How much more valuable is a human being than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.' ¹³Then he said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand.' He stretched it out, and it was restored, as sound as the other. ¹⁴But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him."

It is amazing to me how hard-hearted the Pharisees are at this point. A man is healed and yet their laws are more important to them than the healing of people! The Pharisees believed that it was a sin to do any work on the Sabbath. While they were busy laying out exactly what work was (how many steps one could walk, how many pounds one could lift, etc.) many people were being harmed by their laws.

Jesus cuts through to the heart of the problem and says, "Of course it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath!" That the Pharisees even wondered if that was lawful astounds me! Falling into Pharisaical tendencies may be easier than it looks. I encourage us all to continually be on the lookout to see how we can do good, even, sometimes, in spite of the rules.

-Phil

David Henke remains in St. Elizabeth Hospital, room 3114....**Dorothy Walters**, Clarian Hospital, room 408, is experiencing gall bladder problems. She consults with a surgeon soon....**Eric Waltz**, younger brother of Bob Waltz, is in St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis. He had a brain hemorrhage....**Lois Powlen** has been moved to Monticello Health Care....Tumors were found on 7-year-old **Mitchell Toney's** brain. His mother is a friend and co-worker of Jamie BanterContinue praying for **Hattie Coffel** (room 2315 at Seton Hospital), **Irene Fox** (hospice care), **Grace Reel**, **Wanita White**, **Steve Cable**, **Steve High**, **Eva Wilson**, **Willie Batts**, **Edith McCoy**, **Mike Sutherland**, **Leon Johnson**, **Jerome Ciota** (*Mandy's Anderson's father, pneumonia*), **Randi Verett**, **Jean Stockberger**, **Lance & Lane Pepper**, **Eugene Zinn**, **Eileen Richardson**, **Kaden Koebecke**, **Amanda Powlen**, **Julie Lichty**, **Pat Johnson**, **Marge Campbell**, **Valley Stockton**, **Irene Sims**, **Henrietta Frampton**, **Marie DeWoody**, **Paul & Argie Verett**, **Delpha Allen**, **Eagle Bailey**, & **Minnie Scott**.

Serving in our military: **Mark and Shawn Wilson** (*Armilda & Bernie Follick's nephews*).



A BIG thank you to **Dan Cable** for helping Greg Sutherland with the parking lot repairs.

Open House!



Please help warm the **Kerrigan's new home at 5605 Lux Boulevard** by attending an open house event this **Sunday, November 16, from 1:00-4:00 PM**. Dessert will be served.

Change of Schedule

To accommodate those traveling for the Thanksgiving holiday, mid-week classes usually on Wednesday night, will instead be on **Tuesday, November 25, at 7:00 PM. NO CLASSES ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26.**

November 9, 2008

Class: 192 Worship: 299
Contribution: \$7,593

Pack the Pulpit and Fill the Pantry November 23



The pantry cupboards are nearly bare again, we are seeing new people every week, and according to the Christmas Musical crew, it is time to fill the pantry again by packing the pulpit. If you want to start shopping now, we have included a suggested list here:

Suggested Items – canned fruits and vegetables (10 oz. & 16 oz. cans); Soups – all kinds; pasta – macaroni & cheese, spaghetti; rice; canned tuna

or other meats – beef stew, chili, chicken and dumplings, Spam, spaghetti sauce; paper products – toilet paper, paper towels, tissues; cereal – all kinds; boxed meals – Hamburger Helper, scalloped potatoes, stuffing mix; PERSONAL ITEMS (always needed!) – shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, wash cloths, soap, band-aids, disposable razors, etc.

Cash contributions are also acceptable and appreciated.

Christmas for Everyone, Dec. 13

We already have enough names to assign children to our volunteers! You will be provided a Christmas wish-list for your child, and on December 13th we will distribute the gifts. Your commitment is no more than \$30 per child. Check with Mandy Anderson this Sunday in the Farris foyer to receive your bag for the gifts. The name and wish-list will be attached. **Please keep the paper attached when you turn the gifts (UNWRAPPED) in to Gilbert or Mandy by December 7.** Thank you all for your generosity that will bring joy to many children this Christmas.



**Men's Retreat....
great accommodations...**



great fellowship...



great food...



**great study in
the Word...**



Holiday Gift Lift



The **Holiday Gift Lift Program** of Mental Health America distributes new essential items to adults who might not otherwise receive a gift over the holiday season. Suggested gifts (leave them unwrapped) include: sweatshirts, sweaters, warm socks, nightwear, hats, gloves, sweatpants, flannel shirts, men's wallets, jewelry, purses (all clothing in xl-xxl adult sizes please). Gifts may be placed in the collection box located in the Farris foyer. Let's fill it to overflowing!! These items may be given right up to the end of the year. This effort, for adults only, provides gifts to Tippecanoe County residents who are experiencing mental health challenges. They are residents of local nursing homes, Logansport State Hospital, Tippecanoe Villa, MHA Day Shelter, and MHA Supportive Housing.

It's a Wonder-FULL LIFE



Rehearsal for **"It's a Wonder-Full Life,"** is this **Wednesday, 6:30 PM**, for all children, and **Sunday, at 3:00 PM**.



- November 12, 6:30 PM....**Rehearsal for **"It's a Wonder-Full Life,"** 1st graders thru high school & preschool through kindergarten
- November 16....**Open House at the **Kerrigans' home, 5605 Lux Blvd., Lafayette**
- November 16, 3:00 PM....**Rehearsal for **"It's a Wonder-FULL Life"**
- November 16, 6 PM....**LIFE Groups
- November 25, 7 PM...**Bible classes for everyone in place of Wednesday classes on the 26th
- Dec. 13....** Christmas for Everyone
- December 14, 6:00 PM....****"It's a Wonder-FULL Life"** *Children's program*

Read:
Daniel 3-Hosea 8
I, II, III John

2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 48: November 24-30

Tough Obedience

"When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, 'Go, take to yourself an adulterous wife and children of unfaithfulness, because the land is guilty of the vilest adultery in departing from the LORD.' " (Hosea 1:2 NIV)

It is hard to imagine Hosea's feelings when God told him to marry a woman who would be unfaithful to him. He may not have wanted to do this; but he obeyed. God often asked his prophets who were facing extraordinary times to be extraordinarily obedient. He may ask you to do something difficult and extraordinary, too. If He does, how will you respond? Will you obey Him, trusting that He who knows everything has a special purpose for His request? Will you be satisfied with the knowledge that the pain involved in obedience may benefit those you serve, and not you personally?

In Daniel 3:1-30, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego disregarded the order to worship the 90 foot tall idol set up in Babylon. Why didn't the three men just bow to the image and tell God that they didn't mean it? They had determined never to worship another god, and they courageously took their stand. As a result, they were condemned and led away to be executed in the blazing furnace. They did not know whether they would be delivered from the fire. All they knew was that they would not bow to an idol. Are you ready to take a stand for God, no matter what? When you stand for God, you will stand out. It may be painful, and it may not always have a happy ending. Like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, be prepared to say, "If He delivers me, or if He doesn't; I will serve only God." Both of these stories contain great faith, courage and trust in God.

-Don Vice

 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.		

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