



The Great Thanksgiving

It is only a matter of time before I will be sitting at a table with my family, eagerly waiting for the Thanksgiving feast. Our table will be covered with turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, deviled eggs, fried okra, cream style corn, mashed potatoes, pies and cakes. We will spend time catching up, smiling, laughing, eating way too much, and finishing things off with a good nap. I fully expect to have a great time.

Does that sound like your Thanksgiving? Maybe a few different vegetables?

Scripture talks about a different kind of thanksgiving. It is one that we will all take part in. Listen to Paul's words:

"Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be evident in our dying bodies. So we live in the face of death, but this has resulted in eternal life for you.

*But we continue to preach because we have the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, 'I believed in God, so I spoke.' We know that God, who raised the Lord Jesus, will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself together with you. All of this is for your benefit. And as God's grace reaches more and more people, **there will be great thanksgiving**, and God will receive more and more glory.*

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever" (2 Corinthians 4:11-18).

We have been talking about being a people on a mission over the past couple of weeks. Let's make sure this *great thanksgiving* takes place by spreading God's grace to everyone we come in contact with.

-Gilbert

Pure Religion

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

(James 1:27)

Let's face it, in general the students at Purdue (not the CSC students!) have a pretty poor reputation in the surrounding community. While many people are glad to have Purdue nearby as a source of income, or as a source of employment, often the students at Purdue are seen as an unfortunate, but necessary population that are more interested in drinking than anything else. Unfortunately there are some students who tend to bolster that image.

However, it is important to not be disheartened. It is important to remember that does not characterize **all** students at Purdue. This past Saturday the students at the CSC were involved in what has become an annual joint ministry to the people that live in the same community as Purdue. It's called Purdue Winterization. The mission was to go into Tippecanoe county to help people that were unable to winterize their homes. Some of the tasks involved raking, cleaning out gutters, washing windows, etc.

Approximately 96 homes were worked on by 33 groups of students. 308 students woke up for the 8:00 meeting time on Saturday- some of our CSC students among them!

Be sure to thank a student for their contributions to the community in this and other ways!

-Phil

Dorothy Walters had gall bladder surgery on Monday. She was to go home on Tuesday....**David Henke** was released from the hospital on Friday and able to attend worship on Sunday! Praise God!...**Lorena Poindexter**, sister-in-law of Carolyn Burrell, has surgery for cancer this week....Continue praying for **Eric Waltz, Hattie Coffel, Irene Fox, Grace Reel, Wanita White, Steve Cable, Eva Wilson, Willie Batts, Edith McCoy, Randi Verett, Jean Stockberger, Lance & Lane Pepper, Eugene Zinn, Eileen Richardson, Kaden Koebecke, 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*).



Our sincere sympathies to Brad & Craig Powlen and their families on the death of their mother, **Lois Powlen, 68**, on Tuesday, November 11. Lois had battled pancreatic cancer for the last 8 months. She will be greatly missed. Her funeral was last Friday.

Richard Doty, 79, father-in-law of Diann Doty, died unexpectedly Thursday. His funeral was Monday in Lafayette. Our deepest sympathies to Mike and the rest of his family.

Pack the Pulpit and Fill the Pantry November 23



The pantry cupboards are nearly bare again and we are seeing new people every week. We need your donations to fill the pantry and pack the pulpit by this Sunday, November 23. Items may be brought in during the week as well. *Cash contributions are also acceptable and appreciated.*

Men's Breakfast, December 6

There will be a men's breakfast on Saturday morning, **December 6, from 7:43-8:59 AM.** All men are encouraged to come as there will be a discussion of the Men's Retreat a couple of weeks ago. Sign up sheet is in the Farris foyer.

Christmas for Everyone, Dec. 13



If you haven't already picked up your child's name, see Gilbert Wednesday or Sunday 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.** On December 13th we will distribute the gifts. Your commitment is no more than \$30 per child.

Also on that day we plan to provide free wrapping for those who request it. If you have extra rolls of Christmas wrapping paper, tissue paper, Christmas bows, labels for packages and boxes you will not be using, please bring them to the kitchen area by Wednesday, December 10.

Change of Schedule

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



I would like to thank everyone at Elmwood for all your prayers. I am healing to the point that I am almost back to normal. I am feeling very good and even started cleaning out the garage!
-Steve High

Parents:

There will be **NO Children's Church** (grades 1-5) this **Sunday, November 23**, as that is the 4th Sunday of the month.

November 16, 2008

Class: 182 Worship: 289

Contribution: \$5,339.62



Do Hard Things!

Do Hard Things is the title of a new book I am reading by Alex and Brett Harris – two teenagers who want to make a difference with their lives. The subtitle of the book is “A teenage rebellion against low expectations.” The premise of the book is that we much underestimate and under-expect our young people today. So far, I have found the book to be full of challenges and encouraging ideas and stories. In the book, the authors identify five types of “Hard Things” and I think these are great not only for our young people, but I believe all of us will be blessed if we choose to do “hard things.”

Five Kinds of Hard Things:

- 1) Do things that are outside your comfort zones. Many examples could be given, but ideas might include making a speech, sharing your faith, going somewhere you fear, talking to someone you know you need to, etc.
- 2) Do things that are more than expected or required. Seems like Jesus said something about “going that extra mile.” Ideas here may really stretch us because our society has really encouraged us to take the easy road and just do the minimum...just getting by is good enough. In these tough times economically, it could very well be the “extra milers” who keep their jobs when jobs have to be trimmed. Of course, the key to remember is that we ultimately work for our Heavenly Father!
- 3) Do things that are beyond our ability to accomplish alone. The applications here are endless, but it is always more fun to accomplish big things with another person or group. Remember, the church is a fellowship, we are expected to live, grow and serve in community.
- 4) Do things that don't have an immediate payoff. We certainly are the “instant society.” Just think about it: instant coffee, microwave cooking, e-mail and text messaging (instant delivery), online bill paying, just to name a few. We are often looking for instant gratification...we want it right now. Spiritual growth, breaking bad habits, and developing skills are things that most likely will not happen overnight. Work at it and stay it, it is worth it!
- 5) Do things that challenge the cultural norm. Not too long ago, the teens asked Bill Bell to do a study on “questionable sins.” They weren't talking about the “biggies,” they wanted to discuss things that God calls sin but that the world has decided is acceptable anyway. We can challenge culture if we determine to say no to pre-marital sex, dress modestly, have strong morals...choose to follow God's Word and be Christians 24-7.

I believe the book could be a great Christmas present for teens and adults. I believe “doing hard things” as a regular part of our lives will be a better gift to our children, grandchildren, and to a world that is lost and dying without Jesus. Let's all “Do Hard Things!”
– Lee

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. 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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS



In lieu of sending cards, all who wish to contribute to our annual **Christmas Card Fund** may do so Sunday, **November 30, December 7 and 14**. You may hand your check to one of the elders, ministers, and/or Sherry Marks or Carol Bell, drop it into the collection plate (with Christmas Card Fund designated) or send it to the church via regular mail by December 15. *If you give cash, be sure to attach your name on a piece of paper.* In the December 16 newsletter we will include a list of all who have contributed to this fund.

This year Christmas card money will go toward Bren & Cheryl White and the Operation French World Mission. As always, they deeply appreciate any contribution for their continuing work with French-speaking people.



November 19, 6:30 PM....Rehearsal for “*It's a Wonder-Full Life*”

November 23, 12:45 PM....Rehearsal for “*It's a Wonder-FULL Life*”

November 22, 9 AM-3 PM....Craft Show at Lafayette Christian School gym

November 23, 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:
Hosea 9-Obadiah;
James, Jude

2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 49: December 8-14

Antiphonal reading of Jude 24, 25 and Psalm 23


The use of antiphonal readings is an ancient practice. For convenience, a reading is most often based on a single passage, such as a selected psalm. In the last verses of Jude, a doxology is given that Nan and I find especially joyous. It reminds us of God's great love, His great power to restore us and the joy we have in His presence. Psalm 23 serves as the responsive passage acknowledging and praising God for His continuous care. Share this reading as husbands and wives, or friends and fellow servants, by one person reading the bold face, a second person reading the standard face as a Spiritual Adventure this week.

Glory be to him who can keep you from falling (*Yahweh is my shepherd, I lack nothing. In meadows of green grass he lets me lie.*) **and bring you safe to his glorious presence, innocent and happy.** (*To the waters of repose he leads me; there he revives my soul He guides me by paths of virtue for the sake of his name.*) **To God, the only God, who saves us through Jesus Christ our Lord** (*Though I walk through a gloomy valley, I fear no harm; beside me your rod and your staff are there, to hearten me. You prepare a table before me under the eyes of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, my cup brims over.*), **be the glory, majesty, authority and power, which he had before time began, now and forever** (*Ah, how goodness and kindness pursue me, every day of my life; my home, the house of Yahweh, as long as I live!*). **Amen.**

The Jerusalem Bible, Jude 24,25 with commentary Psalm 23.

God is good, All the time. All the time, God is good!

-Bob and Nan Waltz

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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