



My Thanksgiving Prayer

Dear God,

So often I come to you with pleas and requests. Today I want to come to you with nothing more than a thankful heart. I want to lift you up in praise as I fall to my knees in prayer. You are God, and for that I praise you. You are the great I AM, and for that I lift up my thanks. You are the giver of all blessings, and for that I am grateful.

Right now I want to thank you a thousand times over for my amazing wife and son. They are gifts from you to me. They brighten each day. They show me your love in ways that only a wife and son can. I pray that my actions toward them will always serve as expressions of thanks to you. I love them dearly.

I want to thank you for the family I have found in my LIFE Group. Each and every person in that group is special. It encourages me every time we are together. I thank you for our laughter and our tears because they are shared together. Most of all I thank you for the prayers we pray for each other.

I want to thank you for this wonderful community of believers that you have allowed me to minister to over the past year. Elmwood is a church that truly seeks you with sincere hearts and I am a better minister for being a part of this great family. There is so much love for each other at Elmwood, and such a desire to minister to those who may not be as blessed. It thrills me to know that I get to share a message from your word with this family each and every Sunday. Thank you.

Through the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

-Gilbert

The Art of Thankfulness

“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering” (1 Peter 5:6-9).

It can be hard to be thankful for something. To be truly thankful for something, we have to understand that there is someone who has given us something that we don't deserve. I find that I'm not particularly thankful when the ATM dispenses the money I requested – I expect, and deserve that! Sometimes it's hard to realize that the things we have aren't always because of our winning personality or because of our other accomplishments, but simply because of the grace of God.

Being thankful requires humility. And with all that we as Christians in the 21st century in America have been blessed with, we have a lot of humbling to do! There are “brothers and sisters throughout the world that are undergoing...suffering,” much greater suffering for the faith than many of us can even conceive of!

Have a great Thanksgiving weekend and take some time to thank God for the many things He has blessed us with—especially those things he has blessed us with even though we don't deserve them!

-Phil

Eileen Richardson, Teri's mother, has pneumonia...**Lorena Poindexter**, sister-in-law of Carolyn Burrell, is home following successful surgery last week....Continue praying for **David Henke, Dorothy Walters, Eric Waltz, Hattie Coffel, Irene Fox, Wanita White, Steve Cable, Eva Wilson, Willie Batts, Edith McCoy, Randi Verett, Jean Stockberger, Lance & Lane Pepper, Eugene Zinn, 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*).



Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who brought food for our "Pack the Pulpit" food drive. The storage room is FULL! Your generosity and concern for our community is much appreciated.

Snow Servants



Elmwood is in need of volunteers for light snow removal this winter. Volunteer to assist a senior servant or someone just home from the hospital. All you need is a snow shovel, a loving spirit, and some time to volunteer. Sign up on the back of your yellow attendance card this Sunday with a telephone number where you can be reached.

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. There will be a discussion of the recent Men's Retreat. 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 or Mandy on 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 in (UN-WRAPPED) 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 by Wednesday, December 10.

Midnight Breakfast at CSC

This year at the CSC we are going to host a Superhero "Midnight" breakfast! This event will be on the evening of **December 15** (the Monday of final week). While traditionally a midnight breakfast happens at midnight, we are going to host it a little earlier at 10:00 PM.

There are many ways you can volunteer to help with the event. We need people to help set up, cook, serve the food, and clean up. We also need a collection of electric griddles for cooking the food.

Finally, any muffins, bagels, and breads you would like to donate would be greatly appreciated! We encourage you to come dressed up as your favorite superhero! Any questions should be directed to Phil Travis.

Internet Instructors Needed

World English Institutes Internet Program is experiencing a 10 fold increase in the number of Bible classes being started all over the world. This is not expected to decrease. We desperately need additional teachers. An appeal for additional teachers has been made through the present internet teachers and is being broadened this week to various congregations. To train volunteers as quickly as possible, a tutorial and a training website have been set up. If you can help sow the seed through the internet, please e-mail **BobTowell@aol.com**.

-Bob & Jan Towell, Directors,

WEI Internet

November 23, 2008

Class: 194 Worship: 335 Contribution: \$6,818



HOW TO OBSERVE THANKSGIVING

Count your blessings instead of your crosses; Count your gains instead of your losses. Count your joys instead of your woes; Count your friends instead of your foes. Count your smiles instead of your tears; Count your courage instead of your fears. Count your full years instead of your lean; Count your kind deeds instead of your mean. Count your health instead of your wealth; Count on God instead of yourself. Happy Thanksgiving! - Author Unknown

The Psalmist says it like this:

Oh, **thank GOD**—he’s so good! His love never runs out. All of you set free by GOD, tell the world! Tell how he freed you from oppression, then rounded you up from all over the place, from the four winds, from the seven seas. Some of you wandered for years in the desert, looking but not finding a good place to live, half-starved and parched with thirst, staggering and stumbling, on the brink of exhaustion. Then, in your desperate condition, you called out to GOD. He got you out in the nick of time; He put your feet on a wonderful road that took you straight to a good place to live. So **thank GOD** for his marvelous love, for his miracle mercy to the children he loves. He poured great draughts of water down parched throats; the starved and hungry got plenty to eat. Some of you were locked in a dark cell, cruelly confined behind bars, punished for defying God’s Word, for turning your back on the High God’s counsel—A hard sentence, and your hearts so heavy, and not a soul in sight to help. Then you called out to GOD in your desperate condition; he got you out in the nick of time. He led you out of your dark, dark cell, broke open the jail and led you out. So **thank GOD** for his marvelous love, for his miracle mercy to the children he loves; He shattered the heavy jailhouse doors, he snapped the prison bars like matchsticks! Some of you were sick because you’d lived a bad life, your bodies feeling the effects of your sin; you couldn’t stand the sight of food, so miserable you thought you’d be better off dead. Then you called out to GOD in your desperate condition; he got you out in the nick of time. He spoke the word that healed you, that pulled you back from the brink of death. So **thank GOD** for his marvelous love, for his miracle mercy to the children he loves; **offer thanksgiving sacrifices, tell the world what he’s done—sing it out!** (Psalm 107:1-22, Message)

I think you get the idea. Even in these difficult financial times, it is always time to Give Thanks to the Lord... because He is good...His love endures forever. Happy Thanksgiving church!
- 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 this 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 to Bren & Cheryl White and the Operation French World Missions. As always, they deeply appreciate any contribution for their continuing work with French-speaking people.



November 30, 12:45 PM....Rehearsal for “It’s a Wonder-FULL Life”

November 30, 6 PM....LIFE Groups

December 6, 7:43 AM....Men’s Breakfast

Dec. 13.... Christmas for Everyone,
distribution of gifts

December 14, 6:00 PM....”It’s a Wonder-FULL Life”
Children’s program

Read:
Jonah-Zephaniah;
Revelation 1-11

2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 50: December 15-21






Revelation 5

In 1 Cor. 1:23-24 Paul writes, "We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God." This same theme is picked up in Revelation 5, the pivotal section of the whole book. We might expect God's scroll of destiny to be opened by a powerful angel or a great warrior, but not so. Rather "worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise." "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!"

One bearing the signs of weakness and slaughter merits the worship of the heavenly host! This is one of the most radical statements in scripture. It calls all the foundations of the world into question. If a slain Lamb is the one who merits the worship of the heavenly host, then what is the lifestyle that is acceptable to God? If not the mighty, famous, worldly-wise, or the technocrats that manage the system, *who* then is worthy? Revelation 5 redefines or rather reshapes success and failure and the exercise of power. Success and power are cruciform.

After nearly a decade of war and one of the most economically heady times in our nations history, what have we learned? Has human might and wisdom triumphed? No! God's ways are not our ways. It is not the wisdom of the world that overcomes. Rather it is self-offering and weakness, recognized and accepted, that is truly powerful and acceptable to God. The gospel reveals God's wrath against all cultures rooted in violence and greed and shows them for what they are. Sooner or later the wisdom of God reveals itself and shows us the foolishness of the world—our foolishness.

-Dave Hunt

 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 <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Staff</div> 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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