



## Slowing Down for the Lord's Prayer

This past Sunday we spent some time looking at the Lord's Prayer. How many times have you repeated the words to that prayer without ever thinking about its meaning? I am guilty of this very thing. It is easy to take something routine and lose sight of its purpose and meaning. Philip Yancey suggest slowing down, reflecting on each phrase, and even adding your own application. Here is his example:

### *Our Father, who art in heaven*

Abba, Father, remind today that you live and reign, not in heaven only but all around me and in my life. Make me aware of you active presence all day, in all my undertakings and in the people I meet.

### *Hallowed be your name*

How can I recognize you – in the splendor of nature, in the odd mix of people I meet, in the still voice that calls me to be more like you? May I “hallow” what lies before me, by consciously referring it to you, and also honor your perfection, your holiness, by seeking to become more like you.

### *Your kingdom come*

Yes, and allow me to be an agent of that kingdom by bringing peace to the anxious, grace to the needy, and your love to all whom I touch. May people believe in your reign of goodness because of how I live today.

### *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*

I see that will most clearly in Jesus, who healed the sick and comforted the grieving, who lifted the downtrodden, who stood always for life and not death, for hope and not despair, for freedom and not bondage. He lived out heaven's will on earth. Help me be like Jesus.

### *Give us today our daily bread*

We have no guarantee of a day beyond this one. May I trust you for what I need today, nourishment for both body and soul, and not worry about future needs and wants. May I also be ever responsive to those who lack bread today.

### *Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors*

Remind me of my true state, as a debtor who can never buy my way into your favor. Thank God, I do not have to. Grant me the same attitude of forgiving grace toward those who owe me, and who have wronged me, that you show toward me.

### *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one*

Let me not slide mindlessly toward evil today. Make me alert to its temptations and strong to resist it, with neither fear nor regret.

*Amen*

-Gilbert

## What Do We Look Like?

Philip Yancey, a well-known Christian author stated: “The modern church rejects the outcasts of society where as these very outcasts were the very ones who were drawn to Jesus.” I think it is a more accurate statement to say that Jesus was drawn to the outcasts in society! He ministered to Canaanites, Samaritans, as well as Jewish outcasts like tax collectors, lepers, adulterers and more!

Does the church reject the outcasts of society, the very people to whom Jesus reached, even though it broke social and often spiritual taboos? How would we go about finding out if this is the case or not?

I believe one indicator is looking at our neighbors in town, and our neighbors in the pews, and seeing if the demographics match up. Here are some quick facts about Lafayette: Median Household income: \$41K; Racial makeup: 88% White, 9% Latino; 3% African American, 1% Asian; 43% of the households are non-families: singles and others. LUM served over 500 single homeless people last year- note that they do not have the facilities to serve homeless families (there are over 37 homeless families in Lafayette).

How does Elmwood stack up? Does Elmwood look like our community? Including all the churches in Lafayette how does Christianity in the area measure up? How do we, as individuals, emulate Jesus' outreach to the outcast? Where are our areas of success? What areas are in need of improvement? What can you personally do to improve both yourself and Elmwood? I believe these are important questions that we must ask ourselves as we continue the mission of Christ in Lafayette.

-Phil

**Dick Waterstraat** was moved to Heritage Healthcare on Monday....**Linda Jetton**, David Weckerly's sister, had bypass heart surgery on Friday at St. Elizabeth Hospital. It went well and she was able to be dismissed on Monday!...**Charles Carter** is at home now receiving hospice care....**Charles Moore**, Jim's father, is in the hospital in Texas.....**Harry Linback** is back at Clarian Arnett Hospital, room 242. He is having difficulties with fluid around his heart and lungs....The Waterstraats' son-in-law, **Mike Shirley**, was in a motorcycle accident on Saturday night. He is in ICU at Clarian Arnett Hospital....**David Brutans** continues with radiation and low-dose chemo treatments....**Diann Doty** continues chemotherapy treatments every other week.... Continue praying for: **Jan Lucas, Pete Swank, Ken Nicholson, Matt Moore, John Adams (Bill's father), Josh Oliver, Eloise Shank (Andrea Browell's mother), Justin Thomas, Hattie Coffel, Mary Tavana, Diane West, Ted Heitman, Annie Crowder, Dorothy Walters, Irene Fox, Willie Batts, Ethel Cable, Edith McCoy, Eugene Zinn, Kaden Koebeke, Valley Stockton, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, and Minnie Scott.**

In the military: Phyllis Simmerman's nephew, **Josh Martin**, is serving in Iraq.



Dear Elmwood,  
Your kind words of sympathy, flowers, cards, and your prayers are greatly appreciated after the recent passing of my mother, Mary Mathews. It's during these difficult times that we realize that our family in Christ is very special indeed. Thank you for your understanding support in this time of sorrow. -Joe & Joyce Mathews

I have one more of the worst chemo sessions to go through in two more weeks. Then I go on to 12 sessions for 12 weeks of a different chemo. I want to thank everyone who has prayed, continues to pray, and will pray for me in the future. Those prayers are helping so much. I felt good enough to come to church after having chemo on Friday. I pray for God to bless every one of you. My heartfelt thanks. -Diann Doty

## Prayers Offered

Recent economic events have placed additional stressors on many individuals and families. On **April 26**, the Sunday morning women's class will spend their class time in prayer for members of our church family who are facing problems or crises. The class will pray for God's strength, courage, joy, and blessings on all members of the Elmwood family, but especially for those who request prayers at this time. If you would like your name or your family's name individually mentioned in the prayer session, contact any member of the Sunday morning women's class and ask that woman to present your name. You can also contact the church office (447-2874) and ask that your name be included. Details are not necessary and will not be shared except at your request. Your name will simply be presented as someone who would like prayerful support. -Sue Wilder

## Sweet Celebration of Life

Matrix Lifeline Pregnancy Center invites you to their annual *Sweet Celebration of Life*, a fund-raising event: silent auction, dessert/appetizer buffet, and client sharing on **Saturday, May 2, 2009**. The auction bidding opens at 6:00 PM, with the program at 7:00 PM, at the Faith Community Center, St. Rd. 26 East, Lafayette. Tickets are free, but required. Call 742-1533 or email [matrixlifeline@comcast.net](mailto:matrixlifeline@comcast.net) to reserve your space for this special time of celebration and sharing by Wednesday, April 28. There will an opportunity to financially support Matrix as they celebrate this lifesaving ministry.



## Picture Directory Update

We'd like to update our picture directory in April to include those who are worshipping at Elmwood, but who are not currently in the directory. If you've been here more than a couple of times, we'd like to include you to help connect names and faces. Farrell Simmerman will be taking pictures on Sunday mornings. Bill Hodges will be attempting to contact you for a picture time to minimize waiting. Bill can be contacted at 449-1255 if he is unable to make connections with you.

**God is good...  
all the time.  
All the time...  
God is good.**

**April 19, 2009**  
**Class: 171 Worship: 252**  
**Contribution: \$7,338**

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### Randy's Coming!

It's no secret, we have told you a couple times in a couple different settings, but Randy Kerrigan (Gilbert's brother) is going to be our Intern this summer. As of right now, Randy plans to be with us beginning on May 13 and will be here till August 16. During his stay here we will do all we can to help him get a clear understanding of all that is involved in daily full-time ministry and we hope to help him as he finds his place in serving God in the local body. Randy will serve in areas of his giftedness alongside me. He will encourage and equip students and adult youth ministry team members in areas of service and leadership. Randy will provide "up-front" leadership and teaching. He will teach at least one class weekly. He will have at least two personal visits with students and/or families each week. Randy will assist in weekly, monthly and yearly planning and preparation, and assist in the planning and leading of weekly: youth groups, Sunday school, small groups, monthly: special events, service projects, and annual missions trip, camps and weekend conferences. He will also participate in leading and planning worship assemblies. He will get to coordinate the annual "amusement park" trip. Randy will also plan to coordinate service opportunities approximately every other week. To be perfectly honest, some of you may be thinking this really fills up his summer, but honestly there is still more. We really feel the need to paint as true a picture of church staff ministry as possible. Believe it or not, it is not all fun and games.

Some of you may be thinking that since Randy is Gilbert's brother that he will just live at the Kerrigans' all summer (lodging, meals, etc.) – NOT SO! We will let the Kerrigan's host Randy for a couple weeks (probably first and last week he is here), but we believe that part of the Intern experience of really getting to know the church family is enhanced by his having the chance to stay with members of the church family...and to be fed by them/you. So, if you are able and so inclined, please let me know if and when you would like to have Randy come live with your family (not less than a week or more than two weeks, please). Be aware that he will be out of town some for youth camp, mission trip, etc. If you can't provide housing, there are lots of opportunities for feeding him and Gilbert says he has a hollow leg. We will be posting a signup sheet for meals shortly. Let's fill up Randy's lodging and eating schedule before he gets here...let's show him some Elmwood love. Thanks in advance for blessing this special brother as he plans to bless you and honor our Awesome God!

– Lee

## VBS DECORATING NEEDS

### Setting the scene for VBS

If you can help create scenes for the VBS (June 8-12), come at 6:00 any or all Wednesday nights during April and May.

**MUST needs:** paint brushes, paint rollers (2 sizes), green or brown duct tape, clear packing tape, containers to mix paint, cardboard carpet rolls, green cellophane, carpet remnants (donated from stores), empty, large juice bottles, wire (medium gauge), twine (larger diameter), "boat rope," block sand paper (medium grain), greenery (ferns, moss, vines, etc.), cheese cloth, rope lights, plastic insects (amphibians, snakes, critters & fish), plush animals, tin penny nails (need 12), fish nets (all colors & sizes).

## Our sympathies...

**Marge Campbell, 80**, Nan Waltz's mother, died Saturday about 11:00 PM, with her family present. She lived the last 10 years in Carmel, Indiana. Prior to that they lived in South Bend where Nan grew up. Later this summer the family will have a memorial service. Our sincere sympathies to Nan and her extended family.

## Rochester College Chorus here on May 5

The Rochester College Chorus will be treating us to a special concert on **Tuesday, May 5, at 7:30 PM**. They need Elmwood to have a meal for them that evening and provide housing for that night. If you can provide a place to sleep for 2 or more students, provide a breakfast in the morning, and a packed lunch for the next day, and a ride back to the church, call Katy or Phil Travis (743-0954) or the church office (447-2874).



**April 22, 6:00 PM....**Creating VBS decor

**April 22, 7 PM....**Bible classes for all

**April 25, 7 PM....**CSC Root Beer Kegger

**April 26, 6 PM....**LIFE Groups

**May 1, 7 PM....**CSC Banquet, seniors honored

**May 3, AM services....**Special Presentation,  
"God Never Wastes a Hurt"

**May 3, 6 PM....**High School Seniors honored

**May 7....**National Day of Prayer

(various activities scheduled city-wide)

**June 8-12, 6-8 PM....**Vacation Bible School

Read:  
*1 Samuel 4-21; Mark 13-16*

# 2009 Spiritual Adventure

## Week 19: May 4-10

### A Bad Week






So you think you have had a rough week! Consider Jesus. Just as he finished a nice dinner with his friends on Thursday evening and was leaving for a prayer session in Gethsemane, his troubles began. His disciples went to sleep on him (twice).

His prayers turned to agony. He pleaded to God to let him (Jesus) by-pass the crucifixion. In effect God said, "No!" Judas came with officials and betrayed him with a kiss. Jesus was arrested. Peter tried to rescue Jesus by drawing his sword, thereby whacking off the ear of a servant of the high priest. "Put up your sword," Jesus said to Peter.

The long night dragged on. Jesus was hauled into court before Annas even before dawn on Friday. Annas sent Jesus to Caiaphas, the other high priest. As Peter watched during these mock trials and was being accused of being with Jesus, Peter denied him three times. The rooster crowed. Jesus turned and looked at Peter who remembered the words of Jesus. Peter "went out and wept bitterly." The high priests then delivered Jesus bound to Pilate "who found no fault in him." Pilate sent Jesus to Herod who bucked him back to Pilate who finally traded Jesus to the Jews for a murderous substitute. The mob then dragged Jesus to Golgatha (later on Friday) to be crucified.

A sad week indeed. But wait! It became dark at noon, there was a great earthquake, the temple veil was torn from top to bottom, and some people came out of the tombs alive and walked around in downtown Jerusalem.

About Jesus, they said, "he is not here, but is risen." It gets better. Read Acts 2:36, "God has made this same Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."  
 -Bill Farris

 Weekly Schedule	 Elders	 World Missions
<b>Sunday</b> Worship 8:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Life Groups 6:00 p.m.  <b>Wednesday</b> Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	Bill Bell 463-1139 Joe Mathews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653  <b> Staff</b> <b>Ministers</b> Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Lee Porter 463-6993 Phil Travis 447-2874 <b>Office</b> 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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