



## Which Evangelistic Method?

Patrick Mead was traveling recently when someone recognized him and approached him with this question, “*Our church is stuck. What evangelistic method do you use to reach out so well at Rochester?*” This is how Patrick responded:

*Two phrases need to be a part of your everyday life. You need to seek for opportunities to use each of them around three times a day. Do NOT try these once or twice or for a week and decide they aren’t for you. No, if you are going to do this, let it be a promise before God, a permanent change in your life.*

### **“What is the best thing I can do for you right now?”**

*This is a simple way to enter a person’s life. Use this at the checkout counter, at the gas station, as you negotiate your way through your day at work or school, at the mall, or as you are standing in line at security at the airport. If they say “nothing, really” look to see if they might have missed something... When this is a part of your daily life, God will send you all kinds of people to serve in His Name.*

*Once you serve them... and this is key... do NOT launch into an invitation mode or ask for a Bible study. Smile at them sweetly and let them know you would be happy to help in the future. Eventually, if we “go about doing good” we will see tons of fruit for the kingdom. People will take these seeds, these bits of bread on the water, and make them into something great. It is the way Jesus did things, right? (remember Bartimaeus?)*

### **“I’m going to be praying later. Is there anything I can pray about for you?”**

*If there is, write it down, take it seriously, and follow through. Offer to pray with them right then. If they say no, honor that and assure them that you WILL pray for them later. If they say “no” and seem to mean it, ask them if there is anyone else they can think of who might need prayer since you are going to be praying anyway! It amazes me, but people who refuse to let me pray for them can almost always name a person or two who needs prayer!*

*Do those two things, three times each and every 24 hours and see what happens after six months or a year. Get a group of twenty or thirty of you in your congregation to make the same pledge and arrange times when you can get together to share stories about what God did when you changed your life to be other-focused rather than self-focused.*

*Eventually, some of these people will show up to worship with you. If they don’t want to come into the building, arrange other places and times for them to worship. Do NOT require them to cross a street to be saved! Instead, take the church where they are and enlist them in your mission to serve, love, and pray for others. You will be shocked at what God is ready to do once you get started.*

(Taken from his website, <http://patrickmead.net/tentpegs>.)

## Good Book?

I recently began reading *Good Book* by author David Plotz. The premise of the book is that one day Plotz was bored and picked up the Torah (Plotz is Jewish) for the first time in many years. He happened upon a story that he had never heard before which fascinated him. The story he turned to was the story of Dinah, found in Genesis 34. The story shocked him and he began to wonder what else was in the Bible that he had never known about. This began a study of the Bible, with Plotz reading every word of the Old Testament. *Good Book* is the product of that study.

I can’t say that I recommend *Good Book* to you—Plotz’s scholarship is poor, along with his logic. Sometimes he doesn’t even pay attention to what he is reading, and other times he doesn’t allow it to speak for itself. However, I do find the concept to be an interesting one. Plotz was surprised by some of the seedier tales of the Bible—the ones that you don’t usually hear in Bible School, or the ones that look pretty on flannel-graph, but in reality are quite stark. What is valuable about Plotz’s quest is that he recognized that he knew very little of the foundation of the Jewish faith, and so decided to read it for himself and learn more.

I encourage all of us to read through the Bible again with fresh eyes to learn more about the foundation of our faith.

-Phil

**Dick Waterstraat** will have open-heart surgery (quintuple bypass) next Tuesday, April 14, at Clarian Arnett Health....**Charles Carter**, Marsha Moore's father, had surgery last week for stomach cancer. The cancer has spread to other organs....**Pete Swank** will meet with his doctor later this week to schedule surgery for an aneurysm behind his right knee....**Jan Lucas** has an appointment on Friday to learn the next step in her treatment....**Diann Doty** continues chemotherapy treatments every other week....**Ken Nicholson** met with his doctor on Monday and was given the "okay" to resume normal eating and activities..**Harry Linback**, former Elmwood member, is in room 242 at Clarian Arnett Health recovering from open-heart surgery....**David Brutans**, son-in-law of Shirley Farmer, meets with his oncologist on Friday to set up a schedule for chemo treatments....Continue praying for: **Ginger Maxwell-Spenard, Matt Moore, Dottie Munson, Riley Eberhart, John Adams (Bill's father), Josh Oliver, Eloise Shank (Andrea Browell's mother), Charles Moore, Justin Thomas, Ray Peden, Hattie Coffel (Rosewalk Village), Mary Tavana, Sheryl Willison, Ted Heitman, Annie Crowder, Diane West, Dorothy Walters, Irene Fox, Willie Batts, Ethel Cable & Edith McCoy (Digby House), Eugene Zinn, Kaden Koebecke, Margie Campbell, Valley Stockton (Regency Place), Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, and Minnie Scott.**

**Mandy Anderson** is in Thailand assisting some of the people she met with during her Let's Start Talking trip last summer. She will be there for another week.

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



## Setting the Scene for Vacation Bible School

Sessions for creating VBS decor will take place on Wednesday nights during the months of April and May. We will meet at 6:00 PM in room 102 (former preschool room near the kitchen). If you would like to help, bring your dinner (if desired) and join us for part or all of the sessions. Everyone is welcome and appreciated. Looking forward to a God-glorifying VBS!

-Michelle Robson



**Mary Ruth Mathews, 85 years old**, Joe Mathews' mother, died Friday, April 3, in Macon, Georgia. Her funeral and celebration of her life was Monday in Macon. Joe's father, Joe B. Mathews, preceded her in death. She was a beloved member of her church and her community. Our sincere sympathies to Joe and his brother, John, and their families.

**Delpha Allen, 99 years old**, died Saturday morning, April 4, in St. Elizabeth Hospital. She loved coming to Senior Servants (in her mint condition, '66 Chevy II). In recent years Delpha was unable to come due to her arthritis and hearing problems. She was a very sweet woman who will be greatly missed. Friends will be received from 5:00 until 8:00 Wednesday evening at the Fisher-Loy Funeral Home on Columbia Street in Lafayette. The funeral will be there at 1:00 in the afternoon on Thursday. Our sympathies to her son, Bill, and her granddaughters, Melissa Reed and Georgetta Palmer.

April 5, 2009

Class: 169 Worship: 298 Contribution: \$9,042

## VBS DECORATING NEEDS

**A MUST!! HOT CRAFT KNIFE.** If several people would contribute to the purchase of this item, it would be most appreciated. The knife is \$70 and the blade for it is \$40. Contact Michelle Robson or Dana Miller if you could help.

Other **MUST needs:** paint brushes, paint rollers (2 sizes), paint rolls (2 types, 2 sizes), green or brown duct tape, clear packing tape, containers to mix paint, cardboard carpet rolls, 12, 4'x8'x2" foam boards, foam boards, green cellophane, carpet remnants (donated from stores), empty, large juice bottles, wire: medium gauge.



## Midwest Leadership Training for Christ 2009 SCHEDULE

April 10-12 – Indianapolis Marriott East

### Friday

3:00 LTC Registration Opens

\*4:00 – 6:00 Display Events Check-in (Indianapolis  
Salons B - E)

4:45 – 6:00 **Bible Reading** (Salons 4, 5, 6 & Veterans 2, 3, 4)

\*6:00 – 8:00 **Puppets** (Salons 4, 5, 6)

8:00 – 8:45 **Welcome Assembly** (Liberty Hall)

\*8:45 – 10:15 **Live Modern Christian Drama** (Salons 3, 4, 5)

\*10:15 – 11:30 **7th – 12th Grade Devo** (Liberty Hall)

### Saturday

\*8:00 – 9:30 **Bible Bowl** Session 1

8:30 – 10:15 **Bible Reading** (Salon A, Salon 3, and  
Veterans 4)

9:30 – 9:45 Bible Bowl Break

\*9:45 – 10:30 **Bible Bowl** Session 2

10:30 – 11:00 Praise Session (Atrium)

11:00 – 11:30 Easter Egg Hunt (Liberty Hall)

*(for children 2nd grade and under,  
accompanied by an adult)*

11:30 – 12:30 **Song Leading & Speeches** (Salons 3, 4, 5, 6 &  
Salon A)

12:30 – 1:45 Lunch Break

\*1:45 – 3:00 **Small Group Singing** (Salons 4, 5, 6)

\*3:15 – 4:30 **Signing for the Deaf** (Salons 4, 5, 6)

4:45 – 5:45 **Large Group Singing** (Salons 4 & 6)

5:45 – 7:00 Dinner Break

7:00 – 7:30 **Praise Concert** (Liberty Hall)

\*7:30 – 9:00 **Celebration Assembly** (Liberty Hall)

### Sunday

8:00 **Worship Service** (Liberty Hall)

\*= Elmwood students in these events.

## 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 beginning April 12. Bill Hodges will be attempting to contact you for a picture time to minimize waiting. Bill can be contacted at 449-1255 if he fails to make connections with you.



*Thanks to all who came to the hospital to see me. Thanks also for the many phone calls, cards, and especially all the prayers.*  
-Margaret Gustafson

*We want to thank everyone who helped with the baby shower given for us last Sunday. Thank you to all those who came to the shower and gave us so many gifts. We are very grateful to everyone. All the gifts are very helpful. Also, thank you to everyone who has been giving us rides while we have been looking for a new car (they were in an accident).*  
-Matt & Heaven Welters

*A heartfelt "thank you" to our snow servants—Jim & Carol Bailey, Joshua Brainard, Brian Guthrie, Dan & Vicky Martin, Peter Tavana, and Phil & Katy Travis—who provided a valuable service to our shut-ins and elderly.*  
-David Weckerly



April 8, 7 PM....Bible classes for all  
April 10-12....Leadership Training for Christ  
at Marriott East in Indianapolis  
(check Lee's schedule on this page)  
April 12....Happy Easter!  
April 12, 6 PM....LIFE Groups  
May 3, 6 PM....High School Seniors honored  
June 8-12, 6-8 PM....Vacation Bible School

Read:  
*Joshua 19-Judges 9;*  
*Mark 5-8*

# 2009 Spiritual Adventure

## Week 17: April 20-26

### Stepping Up to the Plate






These days I've taken many things for granted. I'm not the person I was back then. Every now and then, I see friends that I used to think they'd run the world, lead their own business, and win championships. Things have changed since senior year in high school. People I used to think would still be around are gone. "Times have changed; the rules haven't." My father had those words on the front of his truck and I never really thought about it—until now.

Sometimes things change for the worse as they did for the tribe of Benjamin (Judges 19-20). And bad things happen. Like just this past week the word divorce has come up twice. After two years and two little girls, words of promise don't seem to be enough and a marriage is in trouble. Without loving God you can't quite seem to love others.

But even now, after seeing the rivers rise for the second year in a row, I have realized everything God has done for me. All the friends, the family and the days I've had. There are chances to do the right things; and to step out of the crowd and step up.

So, what has God done for you? What have you done for Him lately? He gave His Son so that we could have eternity.

—Daniel Cable

 <i>Weekly Schedule</i>	 <i>Elders</i>	 <i>World Missions</i>
<p><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.</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b>            Bible Study 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Bill Bell 463-1139            Joe Mathews 474-8369            Rick Swensen 463-6822            Don Vice 471-8653</p> <hr/> <p> <i>Staff</i></p> <p><b>Ministers</b>            Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652            Lee Porter 463-6993            Phil Travis 447-2874</p> <p><b>Office</b>            Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874            Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874</p>	<p>Kevin Chambers            World Christian Broadcasting            Anchor Point, Alaska 99536</p> <p>Loren and Penny Hollingsworth            Phuket, Thailand 83000            E-mail: lholly54@yahoo.com</p> <p>Bren and Cheryl White            P.O. Box 245            New Market, MD 21774</p>
<p> <b>Our Vision:</b>            Knowing Christ,            Making Christ Known.</p>		

 **Elmwood**  
 CHURCH OF CHRIST

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