



Until Christ is Formed In You

One of the most comforting thoughts in life is knowing that you are loved. Paul knew this, and he was always reminding his brothers and sisters in Christ that he loved them. Go back and read his letters to the different churches. He is always writing about how much he prays for them and loves them. His greeting to the Philippians has always stood out in my mind: *"I thank my God every time I remember you"* (1:3). That line is probably representative of how he felt for all of the churches he was associated with.

In class this past Sunday Mike Stroud pointed out a passage in Galatians that I have read over many times but have never really stopped to reflect on it. It is a passage about Paul's love for his brothers and sisters in Christ, and the imagery he uses emphasizes how deep his love is. Paul, writing to the Galatians, says, *"My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you..."* (4:19). Are you catching the imagery? Here is how the NLT reads: *"Oh, my dear children! I feel as though I'm going through labor pains for you again, and they will continue until Christ is fully developed in your lives."* Labor pains! Wow!

Paul had not ever experienced literal labor pains, but he apparently had been around women who had experienced them. Obviously I have never experienced them either, but I have been in the room both times that my wife has gone through them. That experience was enough for me to know they hurt. And in class Mike asked the mothers to describe the experience. We heard words like *hurt*, *extremely painful*, and *excruciating*. That is how Paul is describing his love for the Galatians. And he says that this *labor pain* type of love will not end *until Christ is formed* in them.

Our question on Sunday was, *"Who is your Timothy?"* As we think about people in our lives that we can mentor, or disciple, let us not forget that this is not just about conversion. A Timothy is not just a person who needs to become a disciple. A Timothy can also be a person who has experienced conversion – who has committed to becoming a disciple. Christ being formed in someone is a lifelong adventure. It is a process that continues long after conversion. We need to be investing in each other's lives in such a way that it echos the words of Paul. We love each other, and we invest in each other because we long to see Christ fully developed in our lives.

-Gilbert

Glo Bible

There is a new piece of Bible software that has recently been released by Zondervan called "The Glo Bible". It is a new approach to the digital Bible. It comes with the KJV, the NIV and the Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible.

I have used this software for a couple of weeks now, and I can recommend it to anyone who is computer savvy and would like to study the Bible in a new way. This software has cross-linked scripture with maps, photos, virtual tours, online articles, and even YouTube videos and Wikipedia pages. This gives you many tools for Bible study all in one package.

The information (including the Biblical text) is able to be arranged in several different ways, called "Lenses": Bible, Timeline, Atlas, Topical, Media, and MyGlo.

What is useful is that you can take information from one lens and "send" it to another lens. For example, I can select several chapters from the book of Mark and send it to the Atlas lens. Then, all of the locations mentioned in that text are highlighted on the map. This is a very flexible way to pare down specific information that you are looking for.

This program is useful as part of a Bible study toolbox. It is well polished, but still has some issues. It is being updated regularly with patches improving stability and adding features. You need a computer with fairly high specifications (made in the last year or two), but if you can meet the minimum requirements, I recommend taking a look at this piece of software available from Zondervan.

-Phil



Biopsy results indicate some treatment for **Andrea Browell** in the near future....**Vickie Sanders** now has a permanent cast on her wrist....**David Brutans** has had setbacks, but is now improving daily....Continue praying for **Beth Holt, Lynia Coates, Ginger Maxwell-Spenard, Dick Waterstraat, Gene High, John Ruckh, Jim Kiefner, Bud Darby, Kaden Koebeke, Delores Hill, Sara Postlethwait, Roger Birky, Clifford & Betty Farner, Annie Crowder, Diann Doty, Jan Lucas, Charles Moore, Hattie Coffel, Dorothy Walters, Eugene Zinn, Valley**

Stockton, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, and Minnie Scott.

In the military: **Joe Newman** (*Naval training*), and **Brent Kaufman** (*servicing in Iraq*).



Women's Ministry

The **Women's Retreat** planning meeting will be **THIS Sunday, November 22, at 10:45** in the women's classroom (room 18).

Write a 2010 Spiritual Adventure Article?



We have a tradition of printing a weekly article on the back of our newsletter titled, "**Spiritual Adventure.**" To continue this tradition, we need volunteers to write these articles. Please sign up using the yellow attendance card on Sunday morning, e-mail office@elmwood-church.org or call the church office at 765-447-2874. You will be notified of your writing assignment well in advance.

-Carol Bell

Congratulations & Best Wishes!

A Meet 'N Greet to celebrate the marriage of **Caitlin Jones and Eric Johnson** is this **Sunday, November 22, 2:00-3:00 PM, in A-2.** Caitie is the daughter of Jim & Teresa Jones. Caitlin and Eric were married in a small ceremony a few months ago and have been living in Indianapolis. We hope you will come greet Caitlin and Eric and wish them a blessed marriage. Cards welcomed, no gifts necessary.



November 15, 2009

Class: 185 Worship: 316 Contribution: \$5,105



November Prayer Focus:

Give Thanks!

Psalm 107:8: "*Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for me.*"

Pray and give thanks for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds.



Dear Brothers & Sisters:

It is difficult to express our gratitude for all of the expressions of love during Mom's last months. Your words of encouragement as well as the many prayers offered on her behalf as well as for our family are greatly appreciated. Thank you for the flowers, food and other acts of kindness.

-Jack & Sue McCoy; Cara & Scott Gamble; Jenna & Craig Powlen
Cami & Travis Koebeke

Elmwood family,

Thanks for the prayers and cards during my surgery, hospital stay and home recovery.

-Dick Waterstraat



Elmwood is in need of some volunteers for light snow removal this winter. You may be asked to assist a senior servant or some-one 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 or call the church office with a phone number where you can be reached.



February 19-21, 2010

I know we told you some of this last week, but the early registration deadline is quickly approaching. We have reserved rooms at the motel for about 30 people and can likely get more rooms, but getting session passes for the event is a different story! Winterfest has long been a staple in the spiritual highlights each year in the youth ministry here at Elmwood. There is just something amazing and special when you get together with about 15,000 of your “closest friends” as you spend time learning, worshipping, and just enjoying each others’ company. Somehow, even the eight plus hour trip to Gatlinburg doesn’t seem that long.

Here is what the early session (we haven’t decided which session we will attend, yet) looks like for this year. Note that the concert has been moved to Saturday this year.

Friday Early Schedule

7:00 PM The Mystery, The Illusion, The Veil—Jeff Walling and Jared Hall

7:45 The Veil — Phil Brookman

8:25 Chris Lindsey & Watershed Guys

9:00 Friday Night Devotional at Your Place

Saturday Early Schedule

9:00AM Bob Smiley

10:00 Chris Lindsey & Watershed Guys

11:00 The Veil Lifter — David Skidmore

12:00 Close Session

4:30 Building 429 Concert

6:00PM Bean & Bailey

6:45 Losing Your Veil—Jeff Walling

7:30 Chris Lindsey & Watershed Guys

8:00 Close Session

Sunday Early Session

7:00AM Unveiled Reflection—Jeff Walling

8:30 Head Home

If you want to get the early bird prices: \$26 session pass, \$10 concert, \$10 T-shirt, I need your money by November 24 so we can get a check in the mail.

Make checks payable to Elmwood. Thanks! –

- Lee



Pack the Pulpit will continue thru November 29th. This is an opportunity for you to contribute to the food pantry ministry. Bring all of your pantry contributions (foods and personal items) and place them on the stage. Our goal is

to make it so there is no place to stand on the stage on November 29th. Our number of food pantry visitors always seem to rise during the winter months. This is an opportunity for you to make sure our pantry does not go empty.

MHA Holiday Gift Lift

The Holiday Gift Lift is a program of Mental Health America who serves Tippecanoe County residents in the following locations who would otherwise be forgotten during the holidays: • all local nursing homes; • group homes for the mentally ill; • MHA Day Shelter for the homeless; • MHA Compeer participants; • Logansport State Hospital. Most needed items include: tooth-brushes, toothpaste, body wash, deodorants, body lotions, disposable razors, sweatshirts/suits, flannel shirts, sleepwear, warm socks, hats/gloves, and sweaters (all in extra large and large adult sizes, please). A box is provided in the Farris Foyer.

Christmas Hang-ups



All children ages 3 through the 6th grade who want to be in the video of the Nativity Story please stay Sunday, Nov. 22, after church for the taping. **We need extra parents** to help dress the children and to help get everyone in place for the video. *The Nativity Story will be shown during the Christmas Musical on December 13.*

The Stars and Angels will stay after the video taping to practice their song and then they may leave. If we have time, the main characters will practice their lines.



November 18, 6:20 PM...Christmas Musical rehearsal

November 18, 7 PM...Bible classes for all

November 22, Christmas Musical: taping of

The Nativity Story; practice afterwards

December 12...Christmas For Everyone distribution day

December 16, 7:00-9:00 PM...

Prayer Shawl ministry meeting at

Rose Hunt’s home



Read:
Hosea 9-Obadiah;
James, Jude

2009 Spiritual Adventure

Week 49: November 30-December 6

The prophets Hosea, Joel, Amos and Obadiah must have been the most hated of men in their day. They were called by God to pronounce judgment of the nations for their continual wickedness. This condemnation starts with the northern kingdom of Israel and continues on to include the southern kingdom of Judah and their neighbors. Their sins are many and widespread. Israel is condemned for its idol worship and its rejection of the worship of God in the temple at Jerusalem. These charges go on to include the oppression of the poor and helpless, sexual immorality, drunkenness, violence, greed, laziness, and various other ways that God's law was being violated. The charges against Judah are similar but instead of rejecting the worship of God in the temple at Jerusalem they have rendered it unacceptable to God by their disobedience. There are more than charges here. There is the promise of destruction that they have brought on themselves by their wickedness. Israel is told that God will use its enemies to destroy their kingdom and carry them into captivity. Judah is condemned to a similar fate.

For us these writings should be more than just history. They are a warning about how hard it is to live in this world and keep ourselves free from its rebellious influences. We also live in an affluent, pleasure crazed culture in which all of the sins of Israel are widespread and accepted. We may not set up statues as gods to worship but we are pressured to be tolerant of, and accept as equally valid, religions that do. Because of our affluence we have the means and time to turn all sorts of pursuits into substitutes for worship of the living God. This is the most widespread form of idolatry in our culture. Our culture promotes abortion and is heading down the path of euthanasia of the elderly. These are both extreme examples of oppression of the helpless that God vigorously condemns. We must be careful to recognize the evil in our culture, to resist its influence and to warn others about its consequences.

-Jim Jones

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

Our Vision:
Knowing Christ,
Making Christ Known.

 **Elmwood**
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