



A Shepherd's Prayer

In Peter's first letter he takes time to focus on the elders, also known as shepherds. He writes, *"To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away"* (1 Peter 5:1-4).

Our shepherds at Elmwood are men who care deeply for their flock. They take their calling seriously. They take this passage seriously. Like the apostles in Acts, our shepherds seek to give their *"attention to prayer and the ministry of the word"* (Acts 6:4). James, speaking not so much to the elders but to the congregation, implies that one of the main roles of the shepherds of a congregation is to pray. He tells the church that if anyone is sick, *"let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord"* (James 5:14).

The past couple of Sundays you may have noticed that an elder, or a number of elders, has joined me on the stage during the invitation song after my sermon. This is an intentional effort on their part to be seen as men who want to pray for you. Traditionally, this has been a time when the preacher stands up front waiting for anyone who may need prayers. There is nothing wrong with this approach, but it seems like a much more appropriate time for the shepherds to be available to care for the flock God has put under their care.

Our shepherds plan to continue joining me up front after each sermon in order to be available for prayers and pastoral ministry. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to pray with a shepherd. They also make themselves available on Wednesday nights for a time of prayer and pastoral ministry. I also know that they will pray for you whenever a need arises. The key is to let them know you need their prayers.

-Gilbert

What's Your Story?

I'll admit it up front: I think history is important. Of course, that's not to say I am an expert historian, nor do I love just any sort of history. I do really enjoy church history. It is interesting to look at how politics, theologies, and social movements have all affected one another during the history of the church.

I believe the true value in history though, is that it reminds us of who we are. The movies often portray a person with amnesia walking around asking people (or perhaps shouting up into the sky), "Who am I?" While amnesia rarely presents itself in that way I think that we often willingly enter a state where we do not realize who we are, because we forget the story of our past.

Psalms 78 is all about trying to remind the Israelites of their story. Written by Asaph—probably a grandson of the prophet Samuel—the psalm retells the story of Israel in 72 verses. Asaph highlights the great events surrounding the exodus from Egypt and the Israelites' entrance into the Promised Land. Asaph reminds the Israelites of their continual disobedience. He reminds the Israelites that they had long been told these stories, and that they should not hide them from their children, but share them, so that they will know the glorious deeds God has done.

What is your story? What glorious deeds has God done in your life? I wonder if a psalm like this was written about Elmwood's history, what stories would it include?

-Phil Travis



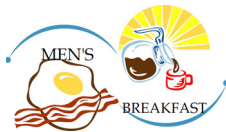
Happy Anniversary to **Rick and Doris Swensen** who will celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary on June 6!



Your prayers and cards have been a blessing and source of encouragement in our current challenges. –Patty Vice

Thank you so very much for allowing us to use your church building for our end-of-the-year farewell party.

–ESL Lafayette
Adult Resource Academy



The next men's Breakfast is scheduled for **June 25, 7:43-9:00 AM** in the A2 fellowship room. A sign-up sheet will be posted soon. Come enjoy the delicious food and watch the slide presentation on John Marks's return trip to Viet Nam in 2010.

May 29, 2011

*Class: 125 Worship: 206
Contribution: \$6,266.80*

The final amount sent to the Churches of Christ Disaster Relief for help in the southern states was \$3,432.05

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Ted Holderfield will have open heart bypass surgery on June 6 at St. Elizabeth East....**Sherry Scoggin** is home after successful back surgery on Friday.... **Steve Curwick** is also recuperating at home after successful back surgery last week....Continue praying for **Patty Vice** (*recuperating at home*), **Marceena Miller** (*kidney dialysis*), **Armilda Follick**, **Jim Willison**, **Kathleen Cable**, **Cain Harris**, **Tammy Beaver** (*breast cancer*), **Linda Weeks**, **Kaden Koebecke**, **Mickey & Carolyn Rigdon**, **Jan Lucas**, **Marie DeWoody**, **Wanita White**, **Max Raines**, and **Jan Swensen** (*melanoma*). Prayers for Mandy Anderson's family, please. While in Pittsburgh to attend an aunt's funeral, her grandfather died. Our sincere sympathies.



In the military: **Josh Martin** is in Iraq. **Matthew Kauffman** is in Germany. **Joe Newman** is in Chicago.

Continue to remember the following people who are home-bound or in a nursing care facility: **Ruth Carter**, **Irene Sims**, **Dorothy Walters**, **Ethel Cable**, **Hattie Coffel**, **Argie Verett**, **Dovie Hurst**, **Bill Gibson**, **Valley Stockton**, **Delores Hill**, **Henrietta Frampton**, **Mary Walker**, **Linda Bilyeu**, **Janet Achor**, **Clifford Farner**, **Eugene Zinn**, **Charles & Carolyn Moore**, and **Annie Crowder**.



June 9th-11th

Donations List

Elmwood's primary responsibility for the work camp will be updating the Fellowship Hall for Midtown. Our goals are to prep, prime and paint all walls, replace light fixtures and replace/add ceiling fans, remove an inoperable stair lift and add a second stair railing, and other miscellaneous work.

- 6 gallons of Kilz Primer (scent blocking preferred)
- 12 gallons satin light base interior paint
- 2 tubs of detail mud
- 4 tubes of interior caulk (white)
- 10 gallons of various bright colors of "oops" paint (primary or bold colors preferred)
- 2-52" ceiling fans (prefer matching set)
- Pack of 4 replacement fan blades 52"
- Gas line tape and metal gas line cap kit
- Shims/reinforcement kit for Newell post
- 4 fluorescent light fixtures (prefer matching set)
- 4-5 40' plastic drop cloths
- 10 rolls painter's tape (at least 1.5" wide)

- 20 pan liners
- 30 roller pads
- 10 brushes
- 10 rollers
- 3-4 mud blades/10-in-1 tools
- 6 ladders

Items like ladders, brushes, and rollers, and prep tools may be donated on a "borrow and return" basis. Please clearly mark your donated item with your name and "Elmwood" so we can make sure we return it to you.

Please bring receipts with donated items, especially for paint so we can get it mixed on-site.

Gifts cards from Lowe's or Home Depot may also be donated in lieu of specific supplies. To drop off donations or for questions, see Travis Hutchinson.

Mission 2 Muncie

Over the past few weeks, we've been talking about the idea of Movement; allowing God to direct and motivate you to pursue Him and His people. I want to, in one way, pause in that series of thought to address an upcoming event and need, but also to tie this event into the greater theme of Movement that we've been looking at.

One thing I admire about the story of the Midtown Church in Muncie is their commitment to redemption. The area that Midtown is located in has long been considered one of the worst in Muncie, fraught with lack of hope and the behaviors that come with it. But Midtown wasn't always located there. In fact at one point, the members of the church were in a relatively safer location elsewhere. Yet, it was a passion for this area of need, and the belief that the church can restore a community that led Midtown to make a move that is both difficult and admirable.

The location of the Midtown church is a building that has been around since the early 1900's. At one point (no longer), it was on the corner of one of the most dangerous intersections in Muncie. The building has had a history as a brothel and a Prohibition-era speakeasy, among other things. The building's history and character reflects that of the community it rests in; Midtown saw redeeming one as the start of redeeming the other. So they purchased an otherwise-unwanted building and made their church home there. Midtown now acts as a lighthouse in the community and still strives to be a people moving to renew and restore.

On June 9-11, our Junior High and High School families, along with 5 other churches in the greater Indianapolis area, have an opportunity to participate in this movement of redemption. We will be engaging in Mission 2 Muncie, a work project to update some areas of the Midtown Church and do work on some homes of members in the area. Our specific project will be helping to update their fellowship hall, including painting, replacing light fixtures, and other miscellaneous work.

I would like to invite you as our church body to help us as we participate in this act of service to Midtown and the community. If you have time and would like to join us in Muncie, please talk with me and I will give you details. Regardless of your skill level, we have an area that would be perfect for you. We are also taking up donations for materials that we will need in order to complete the work there. If you can grab a can of paint or a box of ceiling tiles for us, it will go a long way to helping our efforts. I have included a list of materials in our newsletter this week, and can provide more information as needed. Finally, we could use your prayers as we engage in the lives of the people there. Pray that this will not just be physical labor, but a labor of our souls. Pray that we will see more than walls to be painted or rooms to be restored; pray that we will see the hearts of the people that will be affected by the service we give and be led by that vision.

Finally, I want to take a moment to say thank you and acknowledge all of the folks that made both the Block Party on the 22nd and our Summer Family Night last Sunday such a success. Your service and efforts were amazing, and were greatly appreciated by me and many in our church and community.

In His Grip, Travis

GOD IS WILD ABOUT YOU! Elmwood's VBS, June 13-17

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

CREW LEADERS are needed for both elementary and preschool. This involves leading a group of 3-7 kids around to their stations each night and assisting them as needed.

AUDIO: volunteer needed to work sound system at opening and closing each night

VIDEO: volunteer needed to work equipment at opening and closing each night.

DECORATIONS: we are looking for items to add to the scenery throughout the building (pandas, monkeys, snow leopards, greenery, bamboo).

All VBS staff are invited to a meeting June 12, 5-6:00 PM in the media room with pizza following.

Upcoming VBS work dates

**June 4: 10 AM until 3 PM; June 11: 10 AM until 3 PM;
June 12: 2 PM until ?**

Registration forms are available on the bulletin board by the teachers' workroom, or you may register online at: www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/elmwoodkids. Questions? Talk to Michelle Robson.

Budgeting Course to begin



An updated version of the "Good Sense" budget program is scheduled to begin Wednesday June 18, 2011, at the church. The time is 5:45 PM in the media/conference room. This will give us time to get to Bible class at 7:00. Please register at the church office by Friday, June 3.



June 1, 7 PM....Bible classes & VBS decorating

June 5, 6 PM....LIFE Groups

June 13-17, 6-8 PM....Vacation Bible School—save the dates!

June 25, 7:43-9:00 AM....Men's Breakfast in A2 fellowship room

Read:
Psalm 75-92; Hebrews 13; Matt. 1-5

2011 Spiritual Adventures

Week 23: June 5-11

We know there are men whom God has chosen to lead our congregation. We also know their responsibilities are great and ones that are not to be envied. One of their responsibilities is our spiritual welfare which includes guiding us in the correct direction and teaching us the ways of God. Many times we forget that we also have responsibilities. In Hebrews 13 there are several responsibilities that we as Christians all share. The Bible translation "The Message" puts it in language that makes it easy to understand.

¹³⁻¹⁵So let's go outside, where Jesus is, where the action is—not trying to be privileged insiders, but taking our share in the abuse of Jesus. This "insider world" is not our home. We have our eyes peeled for the City about to come. Let's take our place outside with Jesus, no longer pouring out the sacrificial blood of animals but pouring out sacrificial praises from our lips to God in Jesus' name. ¹⁶Make sure you don't take things for granted and go slack in working for the common good; share what you have with others. God takes particular pleasure in acts of worship—a different kind of "sacrifice"—that take place in kitchen and workplace and on the streets. ~Hebrews 13:13-16 (The Message)

Don't quit doing the work inside the walls of the building, but take what you have learned inside these walls to the outside world and share with those in need, whether it be physical or spiritual. Another concept that is sometimes hard to understand is that worship is not only the singing of our praises to God on Sunday mornings but worship also takes place outside these walls when we serve others.

The writer also reminds us of a responsibility that will make the job of shepherd easier.

¹⁷Be responsive to your pastoral leaders. Listen to their counsel. They are alert to the condition of your lives and work under the strict supervision of God. Contribute to the joy of their leadership, not its drudgery. Why would you want to make things harder for them?" ~Hebrews 13:17 (The Message)

This is not an easy task for many of us. We have been taught to question why, but sometimes we just need to simply accept decisions that our shepherds make and take confidence in them. The shepherds at Elmwood are a prayer centered group of men who care deeply for each one of us and only want to do the will of God. We many times are so concerned about what someone else is NOT doing that we forget to DO what we have been instructed to do. Don't shirk your responsibilities. Take them seriously. The continued work of Christ depends on you.

—Lynia Coates

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 Joe Ruhl 463-7012 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653 Staff Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Phil Travis 743-0954 Travis Hutchinson 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



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