



Loving Life

God really does want us to enjoy life.

For some of you I just stated the obvious. You are thinking to yourselves, “*Of course God wants us to enjoy life.*” For many, though, this truth may not be so obvious. There are many in this world, and even in the church, who would find this truth to be very liberating, yet hard to believe.

We spend lots of our time warning each other about the dangers of this world. These warnings are not misguided. The Bible is full of warnings, and we should listen closely. There are warnings about loving the world. There are warnings about loving wealth. There are warnings about self-indulgence and gluttony. The list goes on and on. We spend so much time, rightly so, focused on these different warnings that we often lose sight of the fact that God really does want us to enjoy life.

Lets think about food. The Jews had issues with some foods being clean and others being dirty. They were really hung up on this issue. We may not have those same issues with clean and unclean foods, but we do have warnings about self-indulgence and gluttony. In Mark 7:19 we find Jesus declaring that all foods are clean. All! All foods are meant for our enjoyment.

What about wealth? There are many many warnings in the New Testament about the dangers of wealth. We even have Jesus talking about the difficulty of the rich actually getting to heaven (Luke 18:24). In the beatitudes Jesus says, “*Woe to you who are rich...*” (Luke 6:24). Paul tells Timothy that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil (1 Tim. 6:10). It is right that we should spend lots of time warning each other about riches, but we should not forget this great truth: God *richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment* (1 Tim. 6:18).

Food, wealth, gifts, sex, nature, possessions, etc... It is clear from the Bible that God gives us such things in life for our enjoyment. They are not evil objects in themselves. Some false teachers during Paul’s day thought so, so they warned people not to get married or to eat certain foods. In response Paul said that God created those things to be received with thanksgiving. Then he wrote, “*For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving*” (1 Tim. 4:4). The warning that comes with such things is that we are not to forget that God is the giver of these gifts, and we are not to be selfish, over-indulgent, wasteful, or ungrateful. But even with those warnings, the truth remains that God *richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment*. God really does want us to enjoy life.

Enjoy life and give God the glory for all that he has provided for you and your family.

-Gilbert

We Need You!

We are coming to the end of the school year once again. As we prepare to say goodbye to our students, I would like to offer you some opportunities in which you can partner with the CSC and minister to the students.

1. Get to know the students you see on Sunday morning or at your LIFE group. They are not particularly elusive, they (almost) always sit in the same area and you can usually find them in a big group!
2. Come out and experience the fun of the 13th annual Root beer kegger on April 24th! Every year for over a decade we have been providing Purdue students a non-alcoholic option during Grand Prix week (which is generally characterized by a race and a lot of poor decisions). We are opening the kegger at 6PM for Elmwood families and 7PM for students. Come on out and see all the fun to be had!
3. If you can’t make it out to the kegger (or if you can!) and would like to add to the fun and food, we will be accepting food donations (home baked or store-bought) starting next week. You can drop them off at the church or at the CSC, whichever is more convenient for you!
4. On April 30th we will send off our Seniors with a graduation dinner. If you have an adopted student, be sure to invite them to come (Holiday Inn, and make sure they can get there!) Tickets are \$15 each and we would love to see you all there (but there are only 65 slots- so sign up soon by e-mailing me at ptravis@elmwood-church.org)

Thank you for continuing to make our ministry to Purdue such a success! **-Phil**



Paul Verett remains at Cumberland Point where he is receiving hospice/palliative care. He has improved significantly but still cannot walk....**Diann Doty** had successful reconstructive surgery. Although she is not able to do anything, she is doing well....**Eric Clowdus'** father, **Laurence**, is undergoing treatment for leukemia with clinical study drugs instead of usual chemotherapy....Continue praying for **Carolyn Rigdon, Valley Stockton, Pete Swank, Betty Lucas, Willie & Calvin Batts, Bill Adams, Connie & Ken Nicholson, Vera Frame, Niel Postlethwait, Mary Ford, Kaden Koebecke, Vickie Sanders, Sara Postlethwait, Delores Hill, Annie Crowder, Jan Lucas, Clifford & Betty Farner, Charles Moore, Hattie Coffel, Dorothy Walters, Eugene Zinn, Henrietta Frampton, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, and Argie Verett.**

In the military: **Matthew Kauffman & Michael Flynn** are serving in Iraq. **Joe Newman** is with the Navy in Chicago.

You Are Invited...



Wedding Shower

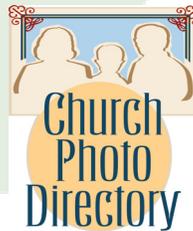
Please come and give your greetings and best wishes to Lisa Baird and Brad Wilson as we honor them with a **wedding shower on Sunday, April 25, from 2:00 until 5:00 PM**, at the home of Carol and Bill Bell, 216 Jennings Street, West Lafayette. Lisa is the daughter of Allen and Elaine Baird. For contributions toward a group gift, see Carol Bell, Chris Sutherlin, Scheryl Gaylor, or Joyce Mathews.

Clay Bowl Fundraiser, April 22

In the ongoing efforts to end domestic violence and dating violence, the YWCA Domestic Violence Program is holding their annual **Clay Bowl Giving Project** fundraiser on **Tuesday, April 22**. This fundraiser is their largest of the year and allows them, in part, to continue to offer all services at no charge to anyone who needs help. Assistance is available for filling out and filing protective orders, free parenting, self-esteem and anger management classes, free 9-1-1 cell phones, free 24 hr/7 dy week emergency shelter for women and children.

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 time, we'd like include you to help connect names and faces. Farrell Simmerman will be taking pictures on Sunday mornings beginning April 4. 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.



Many thanks to those who served as snow servants this winter. All who were recipients of these efforts greatly appreciate your willingness to take care of removing the snow from their driveways, sidewalks, etc.



Our sympathies to **Vickie Sanders** whose brother died Sunday in Kentucky. He was 60 years old and was fighting cancer for the second time. Vickie was able to be there before he died and will return the end of the week.

Come Set the Scene!

Help is needed on Wednesday nights beginning **March 31** to make decorations for Vacation Bible School. We will be meeting in A-2 from 6:30 until 8:30 PM. Please come for part or all of the time. Thank you.

-Michelle Robson

April 4, 2010

Class: 170 Worship: 313
Contribution: \$9,820



Youth Events

Upcoming Events

- 4.9-4.11 REFRESH youth rally @ Salem, IN
- Sat. 4.17 Common Ground Coffeehouse - 80's night!
- Sun. 4.18 Lunch Sack Vote
- Sat. 4.24 English Tea Party (girls only)
- Sun. 4.25 LIFE Group @ the DeWoodys'
- 5.7-5.8 LTC Conference
- Sat. 5.15 Common Ground Coffeehouse

Need to Know...

re: Common Ground - If you haven't checked this out yet, you need to come April 17 because we're having 80's night!!! We'll have the usual fun and food, but we'll be inviting the 20-Somethings group to join us since most of them were born in and actually remember the 80's! Don't forget to dress up - prizes to the best 80's style.

re: Lunch Sack - We'll be voting 4/18 in Sunday class on where to send the money we've been collecting. If you can't be there, you can vote via email or phone or in a previous Sun/Wed class. We will be "closing the lunch sack" on Sunday, May 23, so keep up the good work!

Thanks!

COFFEE MUGS. We have been overwhelmed by how many coffee mugs we received! Thank you so much. We have plenty for Common Ground now, but if you still have some to give, keep them coming. The youth group is planning on a garage/bake sale in May, so we can sell what we do not need! Again, thank you for your support or our youth.

YOUTH LUNCH SACK Thanks to everyone who has contributed so far to our "lunch sack." If you don't know what this is, read John 6:5-13, or ask us, we'd love to tell you! The youth will be voting on Sunday April 18, where we will send the money we're collecting, and we will continue to raise money until Sunday, May 23. We're still challenging everyone to drink water when you go out to eat and save your dollars to add to the lunch sack. Our teens first pooled \$25 on Sunday, March 7, and this past Sunday, April 4, the total was \$200.55!!! Praise God for the increase!

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



National Day of Prayer will be observed Thursday, May 6, with three city-wide events. It will begin with a **prayer breakfast at 7:00 AM**, at the University Plaza Hotel in West Lafayette. Reservations are required and the deadline is Wednesday, April 28. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Make checks payable to T.E.A.M.M. Reserve seats by calling 497-4509 or send an email to: contact@teammglpw.org. The **outdoor noonday observance at the Riehle Plaza** in downtown Lafayette will begin at **12:10**. This gathering will be filled with worship and prayer to God for our governmental leaders, churches, families and other important areas of our community life. Concluding the National Day of Prayer will be a **city-wide concert of prayer** at Faith Baptist Church in Lafayette at **7:00 PM**.



There will be a 15-minute informational meeting on Sunday, April 18, after 2nd service, for all of those interested in playing on the Co-Ed Elmwood softball team. Registration forms will be available that day! Please see Mindy Hart, Jason Cochran or Katy Travis if you have questions.



- April 7, 7 PM....Bible classes & LTC events
- April 11, 6 PM....LIFE Groups meet
- April 12, 7 PM....Ladies' Prayer Shawl Ministry at Rose Hunt's house 
- April 24, 7 PM....Original Rootbeer Kegger at CSC, 115 Waldron, West Lafayette
- April 25, 9:30 class time....Brainstorm ideas and pray for the women's activities for next year, **room 18**
- April 25....Wedding shower for Lisa Baird & Brad Wilson at Carol & Bill Bell's home, 216 Jennings, WL
- April 30, 7 PM....CSC Senior Banquet at Holiday Inn, 515 South Street, Lafayette
- May 1, 7:43 AM....Men's Breakfast
- May 16, 6:00 PM....High School Senior Night at Elmwood
- May 23, 5 PM....Block Party
- May 30, 11 AM-2 PM.... Andrew Simmerman's Graduation Open House, 415 Oaklawn Dr., Lafayette
- June 7-11....Vacation Bible School

Read:
 I Cor. 15-16; Exodus 9-12;
 I Sam 26-31; Ps. 45-47; Job
 31-32; Jer. 17-21; Mark 11-12

2010 Spiritual Adventures

Week 16: April 18-24

Spiritual Adventure – War! What are we fighting for?

There was a lot to be drawn from each of the scriptures I was given but I kept coming back to Mark 12. I know I may be overstating the obvious that it is the scripture that counts above all others. Mark 12:28-31: “Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.” (See also Deut. 6:4, 5)

Leviticus 19:18 also says: “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.”

In the past couple of months I have been drawn to genealogy studies as specifically shared by Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. on PBS. He began his series by focusing on Afriscan Americans as he is African American. He then expanded his search of life histories to Americans of a variety of ethnic backgrounds. Interestingly, Professor Gates found that most African Americans possess a greater percentage of European genetic history than African history. (Professor Gates found that he is actually 60% Irish). He also found that many of his specific subjects were distantly related to one another and didn't know it. For example, Yo Yo Ma (Chinese American musician), is distantly related to Eva Longoria (Mexican American actress). Mike Nichols (movie director) and Meryl Streep (actress), one Jewish, the other gentile, are distant cousins. Professor Gates also found that many of his DNA subjects possessed both Arab and Hebrew bloodlines along with their European genetic ties. (Remember Isaac and Ishmael!)

What point am I trying to make with the above information? It may be a little corny BUT, we are **ALL CONNECTED!** *Definitions for the word connected: attached, affixed, and akin* to name a few. Yes, Cain and Abel were brothers and one murdered the other. But, in this modern age have we not learned? May we as a church community make a commitment to Peace in our time? Can we as a church community within a larger community makes a difference?.....

-Susie Swensen

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 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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