



## Faith: The Driving Force

In faith, Abraham took his very precious child - the promised child - up into a mountain and proceeded to offer him as a sacrifice.

In faith, Joshua and his army marched around the walls of Jericho blowing trumpets and shouting.

In faith, Naaman dipped himself seven times in the Jordan River as a means to cure his leprosy.

In faith, the young boy, David, chose to fight a giant with nothing more than a slingshot and some stones.

In faith...

I could go down a long list of things that have been done in faith. Some amazing. Some radical. Some that make absolutely no sense. Others that are extremely dangerous. All done in faith.

Faith is so much more than mere acceptance of a position. Faith is so much more than believing something to be true. As I read the Bible I am forced to believe that faith is a driving force that moves us to action. You can accept a certain proposition or position, but not be moved to action. You can believe something to be true, but not have it move you to action. Faith, though, is a driving force. It is a motivator. It is that constant nudging of the elbow.

James was inspired by the Spirit to say it this way: *"What good is it, my dear brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such a faith save him?"* And as he continues with this idea he writes, *"But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. You believe there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder... As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead"* (excerpts from James 2:14-26).

For James, the phrase *"in faith"* should always be followed by something that was done, because, again, faith is a driving force. It moves us to action. Sometimes that action is amazing. Sometimes that action might be radical. Sometimes the action may make no sense whatsoever. Others times the action taken may be seen as risky, or dangerous.

What have you done *in faith*?

*-Gilbert*

## Are You Listening?

Prayer is a valuable part of the Christian experience. It connects us to the Almighty Creator, and our Everlasting Father. But I think that we often abuse that connection - this incredible honor which we are given.

At the CSC every Wednesday, we ask one another if anyone has a prayer request. We used to also ask if anyone had any praises, but then I realized that when we only use the word praise in that way, we are limiting its scope. For a long time we have used the word "praise" to only mean "thanks for giving me something I prayed for." Praise isn't only about what we get, or an answer to our prayers. Praise, a vital part of our communication with God, is an act of worship in which the prayer speaks to the God of god's... well... to his Godness. In prayers of praise His mercy, love, power, and grace are recounted.

Of course, God does not need us to tell Him how great He is in order to understand it Himself. Instead, when we praise God we remind ourselves (and perhaps tell others) of God's greatness. William McGill is credited as saying, "The value of consistent prayer is not that He will hear us, but that we will hear Him." This is so true of all prayer, and especially praise. Prayer is an opportunity to reshape ourselves by listening to God.

In other words, prayer doesn't necessarily change God's will; it changes ours.

**-Phil**

# EYI



The past couple of months have been a trying time for my family, but we have still been able to feel God's comfort and love. Thank you for the flowers, for the cards, and thanks to those that came for my Dad's visitation and funeral. We also appreciate all of the kind thoughts and prayers during this trying time.

Sincerely, Callie Maxson

Elmwood Church Family,

Thank you for all the donations for the church gift for our wedding shower! We got "F" coasters, a corn butterer, corn holders, measuring cups and spoons, a cheese slicer, potato masher, pastry brush, dish brush, apple slicer, Julienne peeler, Calphalon 10-piece cookware set, and a gift card. Thank you so much for your continual support.

—Erin & John

Dear Elmwood Family,

Thank you for the many prayers and encouragement over the past few months for the healing of my throat. It's good to "say" God is good all the time, all the time God is good!

In Him, Sheryl Willison

## Attention Senior Servants

**Reminder:** with 5 Wednesdays in September, remember to come to Golden Corral, 11:30 AM, for lunch on September 29. Bring someone with you!

**August 15, 2010**

Class: 192 Worship: 312

Contribution: \$6,821.71



## Women's Ministry

The women's ministry group is asking for the church family's support in providing needed items for the **college student welcome baskets**. A list of requested items is posted on the wall opposite the Farris foyer. If you would like to volunteer to help, please take one of the lists and bring the item to the church building by this **Sunday, August 15**. Those who can stay will then meet after service **this Wednesday, August 18**, to assemble the baskets for distribution.

**Circle of Friends** will meet on **Monday, August 23**, at **Barb Newberry's home, 6:00 PM**. We hope you can come to both events.

## Upcoming Women's Ministry Events

**August 23, 6 PM**....Circle of Friends, Barb Newberry's home

**August 28, 9 AM**....Ladies Breakfast at Elmwood (men serving)

**October 1-2**....Women's Fall Retreat, Ross camp

**November 6**....Women's Appreciation Luncheon (for **all** women)



## Ladies' Breakfast

The next **Ladies' Breakfast** (cooked and served by the men!) will be **Saturday, August 28, at 9:00 AM**.

This is a great time to enjoy fellowship with each other while enjoying another delicious breakfast served by our men.



Our sincere sympathies to **Rachel Ravellette** whose great-grandma, **Esther Slater** (the family celebrated her 95th birthday in July) died last week. She was from the Grand Rapids, Michigan area.



**Janet Achor's** knee replacement surgery on Monday went well. She is at St. Elizabeth East, room 3S34....Continue praying for **Jay Lawson, C.M. Gilbert** (now at home recuperating), **Sue Adams, Sherry Risley, Kaden Koebeke, Glen Winters** (staph infection and needing heart surgery), **Charles & Carolyn Moore, Clifford and Betty Farnor, John Ruckh, Bill Gibson, Dorothy Walters** (now at Creasy Springs Health Campus), **Jan Lucas,**

**Sandy Towle, Wanita White, Joe Erwin, Steve Cable, Valley Stockton, Delores Hill, Willie & Calvin Batts, Connie & Ken Nicholson, Annie & Elaine Crowder, Hattie Coffel, Henrietta Frampton, Eugene Zinn, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, and Paul & Argie Verett.**

In the military: **Tim Beghtol** is in Afghanistan....**Matthew Kauffman & Michael Flynn** are serving in Iraq. **Joe Newman** is in Chicago in Naval training.

# ELMWOOD YOUTH ministry

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday 8.21 Common Ground, 7-10pm @ the casa  
[come meet the youth minister candidate!]
- Sunday 8.22 Bible Class taught by Mike [candidate]  
PM Worship @ 6p, Mike preaching
- Friday 9.03 Back-To-School Bash, 8p-8a @ church

## THINGS PONDERED

### The Proactivity of Prayer

Someone once told me that the most proactive thing we can do is pray. No matter what situations arise, no matter what decisions we are able to make, no matter how much control we “have” over something, prayer is always more powerful. Prayer is powerful because God is all-powerful, and He is truly in control. When we pray, we tap into that power, because our God has promised us that He listens to us and answers our prayers.

“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened” [Luke 11:9-10].

School is starting for most of our youth this week. While this brings exciting things like seeing friends again and fun extracurricular activities, it also brings challenges: the difficult teacher, the work load, unkind people, all kinds of temptations. There may be some measure of control we can have over these situations, and our decisions are certainly important. But the best, most effective, most powerful thing we can do is pray. Let us trust that our Heavenly Father means what He says and that He is faithful to listen, answer, and provide.

I challenge our youth to work on their prayer habits, to pray more often and more consistently this school year. I challenge our parents and youth workers to point our youth to prayer when they are having difficulties. And I challenge our church to be praying for our youth as they try to live and share Christ in their schools.

“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” [James 5:16b].

## PRACTICAL ASSET TIP

The last seven weeks we discussed the assets for healthy youth development. As we try to be asset builders for the youth in our church, each week we’ll have a tip you can put into practice. Try to find one youth member each week to encourage with the following tip:

**Learn the name of at least one youth member you don’t already know. Greet them by name next time you see them!**

—Danae

## Youth & Family Minister Candidate visit

**Mike and Blythe Miles** will be visiting us this weekend for Mike to interview for our Youth and Family Minister Staff position. The congregation will have two opportunities to hear from Mike. The first is at 3:30 on Saturday, August 21, at the church building. At this time we will have a congregational forum where Mike will speak briefly about his philosophy of ministry and then the congregation will have an opportunity to pose questions to Mike. The second is Sunday evening, August 22, at the church building at 6:00 PM, at our usual Sunday night assembly. Mike will deliver a lesson at that time. Please take advantage of these opportunities to get acquainted with Mike and Blythe. Of course Mike and Blythe will be at both our morning assemblies. During Sunday school, Mike will be teaching the youth Sunday class. —Bill Bell



There will be a **Prayer Partner** sign-up for students (K-12) for the next few weeks in the Farris foyer before and after church services. Please be a “prayer warrior” for our cherished children throughout the year.

## Welcoming our visitors

A reminder to all Elmwood people: please keep your eyes open for visitors (especially with new incoming Purdue students and their parents, and our local visitors). Make them feel welcome—and shifting to the center of the pew would help too! Let’s remember our vision statement: **Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known.**



- August 18, 7 PM....Bible classes for all**  
**August 22, 6:00 PM....Worship at Elmwood—Mike Miles,**  
our Youth & Family Minister candidate, will speak  
**September 12, noon....Elmwood’s Annual Picnic at**  
Columbian Park  
**September 17-19....Men’s Retreat at Ross Camp**  
**October 3, 10:30 AM....Great Communion service,**  
Harrison High School

Read:  
 2 Timothy 1-2; Numbers 9-12;  
 I Chronicles 15-19; Ps. 102-  
 104; Prov. 20-21; Hosea 8-14;  
 John 10-12

# 2010 Spiritual Adventures

## Week 35: August 29-Sept. 4

**“How many are your works, O LORD!  
 In wisdom you made them all” Psalm 104:24.**

Very high up on my list of blessings that have come from my time as a teacher in Lafayette are the frequent reminders from God of his careful dedication to creating each sunrise. On many occasions I have had the pleasure of turning east onto County Road 700 South very early in the morning to be greeted by the amazing colors and “brush-strokes” of the sunrise, created exactly for that very day by God.

So many of those days I’ve been startled out of “me-prayers” on my way to work. After spending most of my drive praying for *my* day, for *my* students, for *my* family, for *my* loved ones, I have often been nudged into the realization that I should also be spending a generous amount of that prayer time simply thanking God for his majesty and for the works of his hands. His beautiful sunrises are just one of the millions and millions of things created by Him that serve as reminders of his power, his creativity, and his love.

Read Psalm 104 and be reminded of how purposefully and meticulously he created each thing, and spend some time praising him for his mighty works.

“May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD” (Psalm 104:34). –Kate Kerrigan

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	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
	<div data-bbox="570 1230 1024 1283" style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  Staff         </div> Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Phil Travis 743-0954  Office Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874 Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874	

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