



The Great Communion 2010

I am so very excited about our Great Communion service this Sunday. After last year's service I felt refreshed for our work here at Elmwood and encouraged about the future of God's church in Tippecanoe county. I am confident that I will walk away from this year's Great Communion service with those same feelings, hopefully in greater measure.

I hope you are as excited as I am about attending this year's service. I realize that there can be many different reasons for wanting to be a part of this great service. I want to share a few of my reasons with you. Again, these are **my reasons** for wanting to be a part of this year's Great Communion.

1. It reminds me that we are not alone in Lafayette. There are others who share our Restoration Movement heritage. They share many of our core doctrinal values: immersion, weekly observance of the Lord's Supper, the inspiration of scripture, and the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers.
2. It reminds me that while the Word of God is holy and inspired, my interpretations of that word are not. So often I make that mistake, and equate my interpretation of Scripture as inspired as the Scriptures themselves. They are not. Worshiping with other passionate followers of Jesus who have come to interpret some text differently than I do is good for me.
3. It is a great step in the right direction for overcoming my own sectarian past. I'm sure you have all heard the old joke about the couple that was being shown around heaven. One person whispers, "Shhhh. We need to be quiet. That guy over there thinks he is the only one here." That joke has probably been told about me in the past. I want others to know that not only do I consider them part of my team, but I also consider myself a part of their team. Those two can often have very different meanings.
4. I believe Jesus when he says a house divided against itself won't stand. How can we expect to make any impact in this community with a divided house?
5. I also believe Jesus when he says that one of the greatest testimonies to discipleship and the validity of the gospel is for disciples to join together in love. I believe the community notices when we show our unity, especially in the midst of our diversity.

Again, those are merely some of my reasons. I hope all of you are making plans to attend The Great Communion this Sunday at Harrison High School auditorium, 10:30 am.

O God, remove the obstacles which stand in the way of your work, and make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. We heartily unite with our Christian brethren of every name to give thanks to you for the display of your goodness and for your glorious work. We pray for the universal spread of the gospel and for the unity of the church. Amen.

~ Barton W. Stone, Last Will and Testament

-Gilbert

Isaiah 58

(vs. 5-7)

"Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for a man to humble himself? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying on sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"

At the Twenty-Somethings retreat this past weekend we spent some time talking about how our faith can, and should, impact our life choices. This text in Isaiah speaks of the LORD's desire that his people (then, Jews, though now, Christians) not participate in a religion which is self-centered, but one in which our religious duties provide freedom for others. It struck me that the things in verse 5 seem like good things. However, they provide nothing for anyone else, they merely serve oneself.

This text is interesting because it deals with food (along with many other verses in the Bible). Since we believe that God saturates every moment of our lives, naturally we can think about food (or anything else) in light of God's work in this world and ask ourselves, "Are we furthering that work, or simply focusing on ourselves?"

-Phil



To the family at Elmwood,
Thank you so much for the beautiful
flowers, prayers, and phone calls to our
family on the passing of Gilbert's
grandfather, C.M. Gilbert. We were
overwhelmed from the love shown.
Gilbert's grandfather was a great
Christian man who will be missed, but
we know he is at rest with our heavenly
Father. God bless you all.

—Connie & Mike Kerrigan
C.M. Gilbert Family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your loving
support during my father's illness and
following his death. We truly appreciate
all of the prayers, visits, cards, food,
flowers, and donations to the Elmwood
food pantry given in memory of my
father.

Thanks also to those who attended the
memorial service and were so hospi-
table to our guests. Several guests
mentioned how friendly and helpful
people were at the service and at lunch.

God has truly blessed us with a
loving church family.

Love, Pauletta Smith &
the family of Paul Verett

I want to thank all of my church family
for all your thoughts, prayers, cards,
and love during my mother's illness and
passing. We love you all.

Sue Adams & family

September 26, 2010

Class: 221 Worship: 324

Contribution: \$8,922

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Dovie Hurst is back at Creasy Springs Health Campus....
Phyllis Gray is also at Creasy Springs following a short stay at Clarian Hospital....**Carolyn Rigdon** suffered a stroke last week. She is back at home recovering....**Henrietta Frampton** broke her hip and is now at the Mulberry Lutheran Home while she recuperates....**John Marks'** knee surgery went well....Continue praying for **Mike Shirley, Debbie Minix, Linda Bilyeu, Vickie Sanders, Janet Achor, Kaden Koebecke, Gilbert Eavey, Charles & Carolyn Moore, Clifford Farner, John Ruckh, Bill Gibson, Dorothy Walters, Jan Lucas, Sandy Towle, Wanita White, Joe Erwin, Valley Stockton, Delores Hill, Willie & Calvin Batts, Connie & Ken Nicholson, Annie & Elaine Crowder, Hattie Coffel, Eugene Zinn, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, and Argie Verett.**



In the military: **Tim Beghtol** is in Afghanistan....**Josh Martin** and **Matthew Kauffman** are serving in Iraq. **Joe Newman** is in Chicago in Naval training.



Upcoming Women's Ministry Events

October 1-2....Women's Fall Retreat, Ross camp; sign up now!
November 6....Women's Appreciation Luncheon (for all women)

The **Women's Fall Retreat** is **October 1-2 at Ross Camp. Festivities begin at 6:00 Friday evening and end at 5:00 on Saturday. Dorothy Miller and Kate Kerrigan** have volunteered to drive women out to Ross Camp on Friday evening. Both women will be returning to Elmwood after the activities on Friday night (for those not spending the night) however, Kate may be staying a little later. Rides for Saturday will be available also. Remember to bring pens/pencils, a snack to share, a picture of yourself (in your younger years) and don't forget to bring items for the "Swap Boutique." The Friday evening meal, Saturday breakfast and lunch are provided.

Poland Mission Trip

Thelma Hoyt and Harry & Sara Hodges (former Elmwood members) will depart for Sopot, Poland, on Thursday, October 14, and return on Saturday, November 6. Thelma will leave Indianapolis airport and meet Harry and Sara at the Charlotte airport in North Carolina, then to Munich, next to Gdansk. Mike and Molly Dawidow, minister of the Sopot Church of Christ, will greet them and take them to the Sopot International Bible Institute. For the next 3 weeks they will study and teach Bible lessons as well as assist with their English skills.

"Please pray for us that we will have a safe trip, but most of all, that we will have an open heart and mind, be sensitive to their needs as we teach students with a culture unlike ours and that these precious souls will see Christ living in us."

—**Thelma Hoyt**



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday 10.03 Great Communion {NO CLASSES}
- Saturday 10.09 McCutcheon Fall Play, 7p @ McC
- Saturday 10.16 Corn Maze Craze, meet 6p @ church
- Sunday 10.17 Service Project Sunday, 12n @ church
- Saturday 10.23 Common Ground, 7-10p @ casteel casa

THINGS PONDERED

Out of Darkness into Light

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.”
 I Peter 2:9-12

Have you ever been in a situation as a Christian in which you wanted to sing the timeless Sesame Street song “which one of these things is not like the other?” Feeling out of place is uncomfortable! But in the passage above, Peter is telling us we are to be strangers in this world and to embrace our strangeness. As followers of Christ, we are called to live “set apart and sent among.” Living set apart is a difficult enough feat since we are surrounded by a world filled with enticing distractions that are also comfortable because they are familiar. How then do we choose the Way of Christ that is often less comfortable and less familiar? Paul offers advice to us: “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:2a). We are transformed into this increasingly holy picture of Christ when we immerse our minds in His Word and abide in Him through prayer.

But we are not meant to leave it at just being more like Christ, living “set apart” from the lifestyle of the world. We are “sent among” to be a light to this dark world. Don’t just be different - make a difference! How? Two ways: do good deeds (see I Peter 2:12 and Matthew 5:16) and have an answer. As we live a different way, doing good deeds, we are bound to encounter questions. This is one way we can know we are being effective. And when we are asked why, Peter tells us to be prepared with an answer for the hope we have in Christ (I Peter 3:15). Share with others your experience in the Light.

We are called out of the darkness and into the Light to be transformed by Christ within us. Then, we are sent right back in to the darkness to shine His light among others.

— danae

PRACTICAL ASSET TIP

Send birthday cards to our youth! We print each student’s birthday in the monthly calendar that is mailed with the weekly Elmwood newsletter. You can contact the office for mailing addresses.

LIFE CHAIN

LIFE CHAIN is taking place this Sunday, October 3, from 2:30 until 3:30 PM. It is a time set aside to remind people of the sanctity of human life, and to confirm factual truth in the minds of people who waver about the humanity of a fetus. Join other pro-life people for one hour on Sunday, Oct. 3 at S.R. 26 from the Lafayette Courthouse across to Purdue. Questions? Call John Marks for more info.

John T. & Ann Smithson era Reunion

A number of Elmwood “old timers” (former Elmwood members mostly from the Smithson era) will be meeting in Lafayette from October 17-20. Possibly 13 of them will be here for worship on October 17; 16 out-of-town people will be here on the 18th for most of the day with afternoon coffee and snacks and visiting at the church building in the fellowship room; 26 out-of-town people plan to be here on October 19 for the 3:00 celebration service of Sara Postlethwait at the church building, with dinner together to be determined (possibly at Purdue). Plan to join them as they would love to visit with many.



Thank you so much for the college gift baskets that you gave us. We really appreciated it and will get good use of all the goodies put in them. Thank you for welcoming us to your church.
 —Amanda Day, Haley Hawes, Michael Baird



- September 29, 7 PM....Bible classes for all
- October 1-2.....Women’s Fall Retreat at Ross Camp; begins at 6:00 for registration and meal
- October 3, 10:30 AM....Great Communion service, Harrison High School
- October 3, 2:30-3:30 PM....**LIFE CHAIN** for Pro-Life
- October 3, evening....LIFE Groups meet
- October 17, AM services....**Bren White** will speak, updating us on his French World mission work
- October 17-20....Smithson era reunion activities

Read:
 Hebrews 8-10; Num. 33-36;
 2 Chron. 16-20; Ps. 119; Prov.
 29-30; Micah; Acts 5-6

2010 Spiritual Adventures

Week 41: October 10-16

An Image of *Hebrews*

The book of Hebrews can be a formidable challenge to our understanding. The vocabulary is full of terms that are not part of our daily conversation, terms such as “sacrifice,” “priest,” “high priest,” and “priest of the order Melchizedec.” In addition, as we read the book, we may have the feeling that Hebrews is making an important argument, but it is difficult to follow the line of thought.

One aid to studying Hebrews is to keep in mind the image of a hinge. With a hinged door, we can simultaneously close off one vista while opening a second and different vista. The vistas in Hebrews are relationships with God before Jesus and relationships with God after the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. On one side, we have a discussion of how people showed their respect for God through a hierarchy of priests and a system of animal sacrifices. While these measures were helpful, the writer of Hebrews says, they were not perfect. What is perfect are the new measures revealed by the second vista that reveals Jesus.

The priests and the high priest were part of the worship of God: “Now the first covenant (agreement of God) had regulations of earthly working and the earthly sanctuary.” While once useful, they and their functions have been surpassed by Jesus who is the perfect high priest.

The same principle applies to the sacrifices made by the priests. For a while their activities were helpful, but they have been surpassed by the sacrifice of Jesus, the ultimate sacrifice.

As the anonymous author summarizes the situation, *“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom He made the universe.”*

—Rob Smith

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.	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
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	Staff Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Phil Travis 743-0954 Office Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874 Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874	Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774
Our Vision: Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known.		

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