



## Sadness in Heaven?

It started out to be the perfect day. An avid fisherman, John Avant had talked his wife into spending the day going fishing with him. They loaded up, locked the house, and headed for the car. Suddenly John's wife was on the ground—slipped on an oil spot that John should have wiped up earlier. Instead of spending the day in the boat, they spent the day in the emergency room.

Of course, so did a bunch of other people. The waiting room was jammed, and they ended up waiting in a hallway for hours. John was angry—angry at himself for not wiping up the oil spot, angry that his special time with his wife had turned to disaster.

John is a Christian. A little inner voice kept reminding him that he was in a wonderful spot to minister to dozens of hurting people. But he was in no mood to minister. He was angry, he was in a bad mood, so he just got out his Blackberry and started playing games. During the long wait, a woman who had obviously been in an auto accident was positioned right beside John and his wife. She called someone on her cell phone and began to tell them about the car wreck. "I almost died!" she said. But some teenagers had stopped, helped her, and even prayed with her.

When she hung up, John knew that was his opportunity to jump in and minister to this woman in her hour of crisis. But he didn't—just kept his eyes on the Blackberry and never looked up.

After his wife had been treated and released, John took her home as he continued to feel sorry for himself. In a few minutes his children came in. "Dad, we were driving down the road and this lady flipped over in her car right in front of us! We were the first ones there, and she was unconscious. Then she came to and we calmed her down and prayed with her." God had put together a miraculous set of circumstances, dropped it in his lap, and he had completely blown it. His only consolation was that at least somebody in his house was listening to God that day. John's conclusion: "If there is any sadness in Heaven, it may be when we realize how many opportunities we missed to share the Good News of the One who brought us there."

*G. Crowe*

## Friends in Ministry

A couple of weeks ago Gayle and I went to the NACC, North American Christian Convention. It was an historical event. Christian churches and Churches of Christ from all across the country came together and lamented together the last century of separation in our church communities.

We worshiped together, discussed together, and we planned together. I can sum up the event in one sentence: No one there wants the next century to be the same as the last century between our two movements. It was really worth the trip just to hear those sentiments made from representatives of both groups.

It puts things in perspective when members from both movements are singing to the same Father thanking Him for the same work He accomplished through the one and only Savior. How can we possibly view each other as anything other than eternal allies?

One of the reasons I love campus ministry at a state university is that you find out fast who are your friends and who are your enemies. Anyone who claims Christ as the only way to the Father = friend in ministry . . . temptation, sin, Satan = enemy to ministry. Being on the battlefield has a way of simplifying things to where they need to be sometimes. I look forward to the days ahead where we truly harken back to our heritage and restate that which was so aptly put more than a hundred years ago: "Christians only, not the only Christians." ~Dan

## Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will be Saturday morning, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:43am in A2. Starting on this date, Sam Postlethwait, Earl Nelson and others will begin a series in which they share their experiences in the development of the Elmwood Church of Christ over the past 60+ years. A sign-up sheet for the breakfast is located in the Farris Foyer. Men of all ages are encouraged to attend and learn more about our roots.

## Sunday Morning Men's Class

A new Men's Class taught by Chuck Brown will begin this Sunday morning, July 16, at 9:30 AM in Room 200. The format for the class will be a combination of videotaped presentations and small group discussion. Topics for each class session will come from the book *The Purpose Driven Life* written by Rick Warren and related scriptures. Together we will work toward more clearly determining God's will and purpose for our lives. Space is limited to the first 50 men indicating an interest in the class.



Lori Anne Perkins  
and  
Terry Dee Miller

invite you to attend our marriage on Saturday, July 29, 2006,  
at 4:00 in the afternoon  
at the Elmwood Church of Christ

Cake & punch immediately following the ceremony  
in the fellowship room.

Celebration continues with a hog roast at  
Prophetstown State Park at 6:30 p.m.

RSVP either by e-mail to [loriperkins@hotmail.com](mailto:loriperkins@hotmail.com)  
or by phone at 474-7761.

## Dorothy & Oscar Miller celebrate 25 years of marriage

*Dorothy & Oscar Miller will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on July 25. A come-n-go reception in their honor will be held on Saturday, August 5, from 2:00 until 5:00 in the Elmwood fellowship room (A-2). Cards (only) appreciated.*



## Congratulations!



**Earl & Janet Nelson** celebrate their **50th** wedding anniversary on Friday, July 14! For the occasion their children, Brian and Nancy, and their families, will join them for a week's vacation on the beach in North Carolina.

**Paul & Ruth Marks** will celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary on Monday, July 17!

## Attention Elmwood Women

Mark your calendars for a carry-in dinner and presentation on the women's ministry on July 22, at 5:30 PM. -Sue Wilder



Diann Doty's father, **Jim Rustin**, died Tuesday, July 4, in Columbus, Georgia. Diann arrived just minutes before he died. Our sympathies to Diann and her family.

July 9, 2006

Class: 179 Worship: 266

Contribution: \$?

Budget: \$8,100

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## Camp C.U.M.O.

I offer greetings from a traveler/camper. I left for Camp C.U.M.O. on Saturday so that we could get set up before the inner city kids arrive. Today is Monday and I'm back in town because Nichole's grandmother's (Nancy Moyer) funeral is today in Monticello...I will return to Cincy tonight. For those of you who might not know or remember, C.U.M.O. stands for Cincinnati Urban Mission Outreach. The students we will be working with at camp this week come from an inner city ministry supported by several churches of Christ. The ministry is C.U.M.O. and thus we just borrow the name for the camp. This year's workers include: Peter Bell, Mark Moore, Patrick Ruhl, Andrew Simmerman, Erin Simmerman, Ben Stafford, and Josh Stafford. Phyllis Simmerman, Phil Travis and I are chaperoning the group and helping out in various roles as needed. This is a very special week in that we get really blessed, but it is also very demanding. The week will be spent in activities you would find in most other camps (we spent most of Sunday constructing a 300' zip line) but there are no cabins...we are tent camping with these special young men and ladies, ages 9-11. Many of us will come home from C.U.M.O., wash our clothes and then leave for Senior Week of camp at Spring Mill, Saturday or Sunday. When you see these folks, make sure and let them know you are proud of their efforts and their commitments. This week is not for the casual observer, for many reasons. More than anything, please pray that God will be greatly glorified in these young people's lives; most of them live in the projects and are often not shown the kind of love we hope to offer at Camp C.U.M.O. We will hope to give a video report on the camp sometime in August.

## Spring Mill Bible Camp

Our regular two weeks of camp begin this Sunday. First up is our Senior Week of camp for all those who have finished 7<sup>th</sup> grade through this year's high school graduates. To the best of my knowledge, it is not too late to go, but mail your application today as it will save you \$10...it costs \$10 more to register on Sunday. Next will be our Intermediate Week of camp for all those who have finished 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. It is possible that the week is full. We often have to turn people away from this week. You might give the camp a call (the number is on the application). If you don't have an application, you can download one at: [www.springmillbiblecamp.org](http://www.springmillbiblecamp.org) or pick one up from the racks outside my office door. If for whatever reason you have decided not to go to camp, but are able, please do! Research tells us that camps and mission trips are the two most important faith shaping events in the life of a young person. Love to all...  
- Lee



A warm welcome to **John R. Pippin**, who is living at Trinity House, 2525 Kossuth St., Lafayette 47905. Phone: 449-5952. Be looking for opportunities to meet John as we extend a warm welcome to him.

## Prayer Concerns....

Remember daily our **Let's Start Talking Team—Josh, Gina, & Kinley Boyd, Steve & Lanita Boyd, Ryan & Stephanie Middleton, and Alison Ruhl**, in Suva, Fiji, for 6 weeks. Check out the web page at: <http://www.ryansmiddleton.com/1st>.

**Rose Hunt** will have surgery this Thursday, July 13, at Clarian North Medical Center in Carmel, Indiana....  
**Stephen Marcum**, nephew of Don & Kurt Hodges, underwent surgery on Friday for numerous injuries sustained in a fall off the roof of a 6-story office building in Lubbock, Texas....**Nathan Weir**, is in ICU at Riley Children's Hospital after surgery on Wednesday....**Carrie High** has been transferred back to Regency Place....**Kenny Sizemore** of Delphi had surgery for liver blockage on Monday.... Beth Holt's grandmother, **Mary Burns**, is critically ill in the hospital in Franklin, Indiana.... Continue praying for **Elizabeth Tinkle** (surgery on her leg July 17), **Henrietta Frampton** (St. Mary's, room 301), **Dick Waterstraat**, **Lynn Robinson** (treatment for colon cancer), **Audrey Merriman** (Rensselaer hospital), **Linda Smith** (Methodist Hospital), **Helen Clements** (Heritage Healthcare), **Kaden Koebecke**, **Noah Powlen**, **Phyllis Gray**, **Mark Eddy**, **Marie DeWoody**, **Delpha Allen**, **Anna Dale**, **Irene Fox** (George Davis Manor Nursing Home), **Ruth Marks**, **Minnie Scott**, and **Burnell Gulden** (Rosewalk Village).

Serving in Iraq: **Jon Kiefner**, **Loren Sniffen**, and **Brad King**. Serving in South Korea: **Amanda Martin**.



**July 15, 7:43 AM....Men's Breakfast**

**July 16, 6 PM....Jason Hight**, Linnwood Church of Christ will speak

**July 16-22....Spring Mill Bible Camp Senior week**

**July 22, 5:30 PM....Women's Carry-in dinner in A-2**

**July 23-28....Spring Mill Bible Camp Intermediate week**

*Read:*  
I Chronicles 25-29; Song of  
Solomon 6-8; Psalms 89-91;  
I Corinthians 1-14

# 2006 Spiritual Adventure

## Week 30: July 23-29

### What the World Needs Now...

Prejudice, hatred that leads to violence, the devaluation of a single human life, social class hierarchy that results in arrogance and self-absorption—sort of reminds you of today's social climate, doesn't it? With all we watch on the news, we are surrounded by man's inhumanity to man. During the first century when Christianity was born, such inhumanity was even worse. Read anything you wish that gives you background to the time when God sent Christ and you'll read of cruelty, racial and ethnic hatred and all manners of evil that humans perpetrated on other humans for no other reason sometimes than their own amusement. Slavery and vicious class structures resulted in terrible brutality. It makes some of our violence seem tame.

It makes it all that more amazing then, that the greatest description of love ever penned, comes from this very time – given by Paul to the Corinthians to argue for a new way of doing human society – an ethic of love. It's kind and patient and knows nothing of human pride or boasting, works at politeness and manages to forget wrongdoings against itself. Indeed love is the summary of all that we would hope for and desire (I Corinthians 13: 4-8). So don't be that other way, Paul says, the way that it is desperate to please self. Instead practice love the way God intended and the way He showed it—through Christ on the cross. As Jackie DeShannon once crooned, "What the world needs now is love, sweet, love. That's the only thing that there's just too little of." They needed it then; we still need it now. **-Ken Chaffin**

*(Ken was Elmwood's pulpit minister from 1977 to 1986. He and Jannie now live in Wake Forest, North Carolina.)*