



Trust His Heart

Some of you have probably memorized Jeremiah 29:11, “For I know the plans I have for you”—*this is* the LORD’s declaration—”plans for *your* welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” I think this verse is probably overused and pulled out of context a good bit, but I do believe it to make a true statement about what God has in mind for Elmwood.

When Gayle left, it rattled a lot of cages...that’s not always bad. Truth is, Gayle and Lisa had worked with and blessed this church for 20 years. Some probably felt the Lord would come back before Gayle left. After the initial shock wore off, people began to ask what we would do without a preacher. God has assembled a wonderful search committee and they have connected us with some wonderful potential preachers for this congregation. In the meantime, Cody has done a great job of challenging us on Sunday mornings and now many of you will be thankful that the process is winding down on the preacher search so you don’t have to hear me too many times. Again, God provides; Josh and Gina are back now and I know that Josh will be taking a few turns in the pulpit and as always will do a wonderful job.

When Dan left, once again, it rattled a few cages. Some were concerned about the timing and the possibility of us being without a campus minister at the beginning of the semester. I am proud to say the campus committee has really stepped in and is making sure that things move forward as always. Not only that, when we asked Phil to come back – this time as our interim associate minister, we asked him to stay through the end of the year so that he would support the youth ministry during the summer and then help the campus ministry during the fall. The plan has turned out to be a good one. The campus ministry will be well covered as we welcome the new and returning students to the CSC.

As I reflect on all of this, I am reminded of a song and I think the artists were “Newsong.” At any rate, the song simply said, “When you can’t see His hand, trust His heart.” People ask me what I think is going to happen at Elmwood and I honestly say that I really don’t know. I can’t see exactly how all this will work out and who the “principle players” will be...He has never let me down; I choose to trust His heart on this one and honestly, I’m excited. –Lee

Ministry Openings at Elmwood

Please consider the following ministry openings and call the contact person to volunteer your services.

- **Body Life – Hospital Stewards**
Your very presence says more than your words ever could. You don’t have to be outgoing to visit the sick. Just be willing to spend a few minutes extending God’s love to someone who is in medical crisis. See David Weckerly if you can help.
- **Education – Primary Age Coordinator K-G2**
This position coordinates curriculum for K-Grade 2. The Primary Age Coordinator’s main responsibility lies in recruiting K-Grade 2 teachers each quarter. Contact Joe Ruhl if you are interested.
- **Worship – Video Technician**
Are you a techie? Technicians are needed to operate PowerPoint and video presentations during the worship services. Requires ability to operate a computer. Several volunteers are needed to serve on a rotating basis—available to both men and women. Contact Jim Moore.
- **Outreach – Missions**
Do you like to tell others about God? Elmwood supports a variety of mission trips each year. Trips are local, national, and international in scope. If this sounds like something you would like to do, see Josh Boyd for updated information.

Vacation Bible School

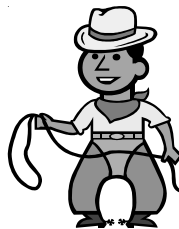
• **August 8-12** •

August 8, 9, 10 • 6:00-8:00 PM

August 11 • 9:00-11:00 AM

August 12 • 5:00-7:00 PM

Come join the fun!



Jessica Porter & Nick Hottmann will be married this Saturday, August 11, in Oxford, Michigan. Their new address is 3585 Grafton St., Lake Orion, MI 48359. Our congratulations!

All-Church Annual Picnic September 9– Columbian Park

Set aside the date—September 9— for Elmwood's annual All-Church Picnic at Columbian Park. We'll plan to eat at 12:30. Bring plenty to share as we invite our neighbors, friends and family to join us. Come to Shelter A (big shelter nearest Home Hospital), and enjoy the food, fun, fellowship, games, and music too!

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

No, it's not Christmas, but you are about to be lavished with gifts! August 20th will mark the beginning of another school year at Purdue! And these gifts will be presented in the form of college students. These young men and women have the ability to impact our church community in ways we cannot even begin to imagine. If you have ever experienced a "15-30," "crash night," or "Sunday night supper," then you already know the value of relationships that can be formed with our college students.

We are looking for families or individuals who are interested in participating as a host family for our Adopted Student Program at the CSC. How do you participate? It's simple. You sign up, communicate with your adopted student on a regular basis, treat them like they were one of your own children, show them true Christian community, and change their lives forever! If you would like to adopt a student this year, Mindy Hart will be in the Farris Foyer between services on **Sunday, August 12**, or you can email her at mhart@cs.purdue.edu

August 5, 2007

Class: 161 Worship: 254 Contribution: \$10,084

Budget: \$10,000/week

Financial Report Available

Copies of our financial results for 2006-2007 and of the 2007-2008 budget are available in the Farris Foyer. See Bill Hodges if you have questions.

New Address

Dan Cooke is getting acclimated to Texas living. His new address:

1408 Teasley Ln. Apt. 313
Denton, TX 76205

Like to Walk?



Anyone wanting to walk on Thursday mornings call Hedi Devine at 765-412-1229 (before 8:45 AM).

Free Tutoring offered

Tom Miller and others (college students, graduates, etc.) are offering **FREE TUTORING** to anyone—any age—for reading, math, anything you might need help with. For more information call Tom at 260-503-9163.



Hurry Home

*It doesn't matter what you've done, I still love you
 It doesn't matter where you've been, you can still come
 home
 And honey if it's you
 We've got a lot of makin' up to do
 And I can't hug you on the phone
 So hurry home*

The above text is from a song by a musician named Zane Williams, and talks about a father's love for his daughter and his desire for her to return to him after she had run away. Leaving the chorus of the song (the above text) as his answering machine welcome, he hopes that his daughter will hear his love for her and realize that she can still come home.

The song has inspiration in the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32), though it has been updated to have a more contemporary feel, the message and idea behind the song were lifted directly from the parable by the author.

This story about the young man who defies his father and is still welcomed back, even longed for, still amazes me. This is a radical statement about the love of God and the redemptive power of Jesus' blood.

It is so difficult to understand that God is a perfect and Holy God who cannot enter into the presence of evil because of how clean and holy he is. And yet he looks for and anticipates our return to him, seeing us from a long way off, running to us to take care of us and reinstating us as his son or daughter, even after we have failed to act as his son or daughter by dishonoring him.

How Great and mysterious is our God!
 -Phil

Prayer concerns....

Susan Swensen will have open heart surgery at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis on Wednesday....Carolyn Rigdon was in St. Elizabeth Hospital last week with heart problems. She is at home recuperating....Continue praying for Margie Moffitt, Valley Stockton, Dick & Janice Waterstraat, Sara Postlethwait, Henry Hunt, Oka LeMaster, Marie DeWoody, Joe Bailey, Sue Sill, Dottie Roberts, Hattie Coffel, Kaden Koebcke, Kathy Ciota, Charles Carter, Charles Moore, Irene Sims, Mary Tavana, Willard Farmer, Paul & Argie Verett, Ruth Marks, Delpha Allen, Anna Dale, Minnie Scott, Carrie High, Irene Fox, and Burnell Gulden.



Serving in our military: Jeremy Crable & Michael Bryenton in Afghanistan; Philip Devine, Joshua Thompson in Iraq; and Chris Martin, in South Korea.

New Fall Class Offered

Women's roles in the church will be the subject of an upcoming Wednesday evening series. Participants will study the major positions on this issue, including reviews of key Biblical passages. Class presentations will distill the writings of prominent authors and handouts will be provided for more detailed personal study. The class will begin September 12 and run through November 28 (with a week off for Thanksgiving). Contact Sue Wilder if you would like more information. Also, please let Sue know if you are planning to attend so she can prepare a suitable number of handouts. Anyone interested in learning more about this topic is invited to attend.



August 8-12....Vacation Bible School;
 Aug. 8-10: 6-8 PM; Aug. 11: 9-11 AM; Aug. 12: 5-7 PM
August 19, AM worship hours....Josh Boyd preaches
August 19, 12:15 PM....Luncheon for VBS guests & Elmwood congregation
September 9, noon....All-church picnic at Columbian Park, Shelter A
September 21, 22, 23....Men's Retreat at Ross Camp; more information later

Read:
Job 13-30;
I Corinthians 9-13

2007 Spiritual Adventure

Week 34: August 20-26

Live Intentionally!

In I Corinthians 9:24-26, Paul gives us two great analogies for the Christian life: “Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we are imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air.”

Paul reminds us that we are in the middle of a race, and we have an infinitely valuable goal that we are running towards. It can be so easy in the craziness of our daily lives to lose sight of the race and the goal. We get somewhere down the middle stretch of the race and start to wander and get tired. We begin to “run aimlessly.” But Paul reminds us that we have to stay on course and persevere to the end. The author of Hebrews encourages us during our race to “consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.”

Paul also reminds us that we must train each day to “fight the good fight of faith.” In every situation of life we are training ourselves in our faith. Paul says in Galatians 6:7, “Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.” Every single day we are sowing habits that shape our lives. Paul reminds us to be intentional, to live on purpose every day for God’s Kingdom. We are not just passing the time or “beating the air.” We have a purpose and we must remind ourselves each day to live for His purposes.

I encourage you each day to remind yourself and the people around you that we are in a race, in a fight, that requires training, focus, and endurance. Let’s live each day for His Kingdom and persevere to the end so that we may receive the prize and rejoice in Heaven with our fellow athletes at the victory.

–Tom Anderson

 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 Matthews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653	Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99556 Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000 City of Children Ensenada, Mexico Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774	
Elmwood Nursery School & Pre-K Preschool: Tues-Thurs 9-11:30 am Pre-K: Mon-Thurs 9-11:30 am Director, Susan McClain 447-2874	<th> Staff</th> <td></td>	 Staff	
	Ministers Gayle Crowe 447-6940 Lee Porter 463-6993 Dan Cooke 543-7469 Office Manager Sherry Marks 447-2874		

 **Elmwood**
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