



Will You Color With Me?

What is important in your life? If you asked the people who spend the most time with you what would they say is important in your life?

I love this poem:

*"Will you color with me?" asked Sylvan.
"Not right now, I'm going to do..."
something important.
I went to do something I needed to do, didn't I?
Oh no.
What a glorious invitation I passed on today.
I could have colored!
I never color anymore.
I saw I wasn't good at coloring, so I stopped.
Growing up is dangerous like that.
It's so easy to forget that playing isn't competing,
so easy to confuse the serious with the important
or the skillful with the valuable.
Sylvan wanted to color while Leo played in a cardboard box
and Violette carefully balanced a pillow on her head.
How silly they are.
How wonderfully, worshipfully, beautifully silly!
But me?
Well, I had to do something important.*

Let us not live our lives in such a way that we look back and see how much we missed out on all because, *"Well, I had to do something important."*

"...I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven..."

~Matthew 18:3

-Gilbert

Slow Down

On an average day Grand Central Station in New York City has over 500,000 people hustle through its hallways to get to their various meetings, jobs and homes. The Station, a National Historic Landmark is home to 103 businesses and 67 tracks run in and out of the 49 Acre building. With all the rushing tourists and commuters, what would be the effect of everything coming to a halt?

That's exactly what a group called "Improv Everywhere" (www.improveverywhere.com) wanted to find out. Filling the main concourse with over 200 of their "agents" (actors) at a predefined moment in time, Grand Central Station froze... literally. Each of the agents, for exactly 5 minutes, at exactly the same time, froze in place causing understandable bewilderment by those not in on the gag.

I'm sure it was an interesting scene, and I think it makes a statement about the way that many of us live our lives. Under pressure of the next deadline, with our Blackberries in hand, we rush from one appointment to the next, ever conscious of our ever-ticking overloads.

But if we could just take some time to slow down, I think that we would see God in the world around us more often, we would see more opportunities to help people, and we would see the beauty of God's creation. Slowing down can be difficult, but its rewards are great.

-Phil



Kaden Koebcke is back in Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. Doctors are still trying to determine the correct treatment for his kidney problems. If you'd like to send cards to Cami and Travis their address is: 1158 Spring Meadow Ct., Franklin, IN 46131....**Joe Bailey**, Eagle's son, had successful knee replacement surgery on Wednesday....**Emily Jaekel**, Lynae Stafford's niece who has cerebral palsy, is having seizures, which complicates and

slows her physical therapy at Methodist Rehab Center in Indianapolis.... **Mike Sutherland**, Greg's brother, is awaiting results of a biopsy after surgery last week....**Wayne Richey**, uncle of Jennifer Petty, is battling lung cancer and brain tumors....Continue praying for those who have had recent surgeries: **Linda Dilks, Mandy Anderson, David Henke** (*continues to receive kidney dialysis treatments*), **Joe Ruhl, Jim Moore, and Charlie Penn**, as well as the following people who are struggling with chronic health problems: **Max Houlton** (*chemo treatment last week*), **Gary Verett** (*prayer of thanks as he is fully recovered*), **Henrietta Frampton, Carolyn & Charles Moore, Herb King, Eileen Richardson, Marie DeWoody, Hattie Coffel, Irene Sims, Paul & Argie Verett, Delpha Allen, Ivan Ellis, Valley Stockton, Eagle Bailey, Minnie Scott, Anna Dale, Irene Fox, and Burnell Gulden.**

Serving in our military: **Michael Farris** in Afghanistan; **Steve Brady, Ti Draughon** in Iraq; and **Chris Martin**, in South Korea. Armilda & Bernie Follick's nephews (brothers), **Mark Wilson** (leaves March 1) and **Shawn Wilson** (leaves the end of March) will both be deployed to Iraq.

Budget Planning



We will soon be putting together our congregational budget for next fiscal year which begins July 1. If you are a ministry leader please be giving thought to your spending plans. Bill Hodges will be sending budget planning information to ministry leaders over the next three weeks. Budget spending plans will be due back to Bill by April 10. Call Bill at 449-1255 if you have questions on the budget process.

Lafayette Crisis Center needs volunteers

Lend a caring, empathetic ear to others by answering the Crisis Phone Line. Four times a year, the Crisis Center provides over 45 hours of intensive training to enable our volunteers to provide confidential, individualized service. You must

- be at least 18 years of age
- be a good listener
- be able to successfully complete the volunteer training
- be able to work 39 four-hour shifts over a one-year period of time (about one shift a week to start)

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please go to our website at www.lafayettecrisiscenter.org and fill out an application or call us at 765-742-0247. The Lafayette Crisis Center is a non-profit organization with its mission as trained volunteers providing crisis intervention, support, and information every hour of every day.



LUM Meal Providers

Serving dinner at Lafayette Urban Ministry Monday night, February 25, were **Sue Adams, Sherry Risley, Barbara Tilley, and Betty Brown.**

Many thanks to those at Elmwood who participate in this ministry.

Save the Date: CSC Alumni Reunion (1989-1995)

Come join us to rekindle with old friends July 25-27, 2008. Activities for all ages! Further details to come. For more information contact Donna Porter at danddport@comcast.net and stay tuned for further announcements.



The food pantry is always in need of personal items: **soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste & toothbrushes, & toilet paper.**

February 17, 2008

Class: 180 Worship: 245

Contribution: \$5,285

Budget: \$10,000/wk

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DAILY READINGS

How are you doing on your daily readings? I know the "activity" is one that Gilbert has set up for us for LIFE Group, but the truth is the readings are for us and our spiritual growth. It is so easy to get busy in this world... so busy we forget to spend time with Jesus. Reflect on the following thoughts from **Chew on This** by Dave Ambrose.

TALK TO ME

"It's a normal day like any other. You're busy doing what you do. But as you go about your daily routine, you sense someone wanting to spend time with you. He wants you to come to him. He wants you to be with him. You definitely recognize his voice, but it's been a while since you've spent any real time together. Doesn't he know how busy your life can be? After all, you've been busy doing what you do.

He sits there, hunkered down in the corner of your room waiting for you. He's certainly not pushing himself on you, but you can definitely tell he longs to spend some time with you. You tell him that you don't think you'll have time to meet with him today as you head out the door again.

When you get back from your day, he's there again, waiting for you. He smiles at you as you come in the door and asks you how your day has been. He invites you to sit down and rest for a while. You can tell he wants to hear about your day and everything else you've got going on in your life. He seems very proud of who you are becoming. He asks you about what seems to be pressing in on you and weighing you down. You can tell he genuinely cares about you. He wants what's best for you. So you finally decide to sit down for a few minutes to talk with him.

You start by telling him that you can't talk long because you still have a lot to do before bedtime. But after a few minutes of talking together, your whole world and all the worries of your day seem to simply melt away. You haven't felt this relaxed in a long time. You find yourself pouring your heart out to him. And then he looks you right in the eyes and tells you how proud he is of you. He tells you how much he loves you and enjoys spending time together.

At that moment you realize this friend who has been waiting to talk with you day after day is Jesus. He has never made you feel guilty about blowing him off day after day. He looks at you and smiles. It's at that moment that you can tell for the first time in your life that you have a true friend who cares about you for who you are. The time seems to fly by as you continue talking together late into the night."

Jesus is your best friend! Spend time with Him.

-Lee



The Bells are hosting a wedding shower/open house for **Naomi Hunt and Sean Richards** (men, women, children welcome) this **Sunday, March 2, from 2:00-4:00 PM**, at their home, 216 Jennings St., West Lafayette. If you wish to contribute towards a group gift, see Marsha Moore, Scheryl Willison, Kelsey Sutherland or Carol Bell.

Directory Pictures being scheduled



Directory Picture update is in progress. If you (new families) haven't been contacted by Bill Hodges, please give him a call at 449-1255 to schedule an appointment.

Sunday, 6 PM Worship



This Sunday night at 6:00 we'll enjoy singing praises to God with Farrell Simmerman leading our song service. Afterward, we'll enjoy Finger Foods in the (A2) fellowship room. Bring your singing voices and some food to share with our family and friends.



- Feb. 27, 7 PM....**Bible classes for everyone
- Feb. 27, 5:50-6:50 PM....**Good \$ense Budget Class
- March 2, 2:00-4:00 PM....**Open House/wedding shower for **Naomi Hunt & Sean Richards** at Bill & Carol Bell's home
- March 2, 6 PM....**Singing with Farrell Simmerman and our once-a-month Finger Food Fellowship to follow

