



We've Got a Winner!

I am constantly amazed by disciples who can suffer so much loss, yet remain as faithful and as committed as ever. In the past couple of months I know of a preacher who lost his 18 year old son, a good friend who had to give a baby back to some parents who suddenly changed their minds about giving the baby up for adoption, grandparents who had to watch their granddaughter lose a baby early in pregnancy, and another family who had to watch their mother die in a hospital room at an early age. It is almost as if there is tragedy around every corner. But in all those cases a renewed faith and commitment were the response. It truly amazes me.

I took a class at Lipscomb on the book of Lamentations. In this class the professor described a lament as a time when faith and reality clash, and faith wins. Our faith calls us to believe in the good of all situations. Faith gives us hope and optimism. But reality is not always good. Reality often makes it difficult to be optimistic. Reality can be ugly. Often times faith and reality clash. It is in these moments when we need a renewed faith and commitment.

A song we, and many other churches, sing on Sunday mornings comes from a time like this. We sing the words, *"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is His faithfulness"* (Lam. 3:21-23). Such beautiful faith-filled words in the midst of such darkness. They are words that provide an amazing witness to the power of faith. These words served to lift God's children when they needed it most.

All of the people above who have been a part of such dark times have uttered words like those found in Lamentations. When their faith and their reality clashed, they stood on the side of faith and cried out in a loud voice, *"Great is thy faithfulness!"* When their hearts were broken they sang aloud, *"His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning."* They decided a long time ago that faith would always win. Again, I find that amazing.

I look at the lives of these people, and their responses to these situation, and I pause to ask, "Have I decided that faith would always win?"

-Gilbert

Discipling, Part 2

Last week I wrote a little about *Discipling*, a book written by Milton Jones. I didn't have enough space to address what Discipling might look like, or how it works in real life. I hope to answer some of those questions this week.

Discipling is not something you go out and "do" on a weekend or summer mission trip. Often when we "do" ministry instead of living missionally, the result is that we end up with large number of people who are poorly equipped to live out their faith beyond being baptized. Discipling is a way to live a life that affects those around you. When you decide to disciple someone, you enter into their life and invite them to enter into yours. While spending time with another person, he or she begins to see how Christians react to different circumstances.

Jesus practiced Discipleship with the apostles, especially Peter, James, and John. Jesus spent a lot of his time with people, but he really focused in on these three men to engage in a relationship on a deep and intimate level. He invited them to experience his life as he lived it. He showed them how to minister to people, how to show compassion and mercy, and he showed them his struggle, his difficulties, and his weaknesses.

Discipling is not easy, it is a commitment to a relationship with another person, to help them through their difficult times, and to teach them what it means to live a cruciform life, but the result of discipling is a person that truly lives out their baptism in their everyday life.

-Phil



Hattie Coffel is in room 4329, Home Hospital... **Sara Postlethwait** has another test in Indianapolis this Thursday....**Kaden Koebecke** begins a round of treatment with a cancer drug on Wednesday at Riley Children's Hospital....**Rick Swensen** will have back surgery on June 23 in Indianapolis....**Michelle Foor** hopes to have a surgery date soon to remove her gall bladder....**David Black** will have brain surgery on June 25**Amanda Powlen** is now over 4 pounds!

Praise GodThe mother of a friend of Lynae Stafford, **Lorna-Mae Sanner**, is seriously ill....Continue praying for **David Henke** (*final chemo treatment soon*), **Colin Wilson, Phyllis Mow, Lois Powlen, Vickie Sanders, Steven Klint, Barbara Scott, Chris Vice, Kenneth Clubb, Marge Campbell, Eugene Zinn (*will have further tests and surgery at IU Medical Center*), **Alan Dale** (*begins cancer treatment soon*), **Eileen Richardson, Irene Sims, Marie DeWoody, Paul & Argie Verett, Delpha Allen, Valley Stockton, Eagle Bailey, Minnie Scott, Anna Dale, Irene Fox, and Burnell Gulden.****

Serving in our military: **Steve Brady, Mark Wilson, Shawn Wilson, and Ti Draughton.**

Please remember our LST teams now in Panama and Thailand. For two weeks in Panama: **Jimmy & Susan Huff, Jason Cochran, and Amy Berkshire.** The team in Thailand for six weeks: **Josh, Gina, Kinley, & Knox Boyd, Farrell Simmerman, Mandy Anderson, and Steve & Lanita Boyd** (Josh's parents). Be praying for God's blessings as they share the gospel with their "readers."

Your are invited to a come-and-go wedding shower for **Josh Hunt** and his fiancée **Amanda Stoops** this **Sunday, June 22, from 2:30 until 4:30 PM**, at the home of Scheryl and Mike Gaylor, 4524 Bur Oak Lane, Lafayette. Elmwood is "home" for Josh and he looks forward to the opportunity of introducing Amanda to his Elmwood family. For donations toward a group gift, see Carol Bell, Scheryl Gaylor, Patty Vice, or Joyce Mathews. Josh & Amanda are registered at: Bed, Bath, and Beyond.



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A wedding shower is planned for **Suzanne Fournier & Chris Macaluso**. Amy Colon and Becky Pitt are helping Dana Miller host the shower at Dana & Amos' home, 109 Jodiah Pl., Lafyaette (south off old U.S. 231), **June 29, 2:00-4:00 PM**. If you would like to contribute to a "money tree" or want gift suggestions, see Amy, Becky, or Dana.

Come celebrate the marriage of **Heaven Miller to Matt Welters** on **Sunday, June 29th in A-2 after evening worship**. An ice cream party will be given in their honor. To contribute money to a group gift, see Vicky Martin, Courtney Buss, Mindy Hart, or Kate Kerrigan.

"Sweet Remembrances"

On **July 3rd Barb Newberry** is going to remember what would have been she and Stan's **50th wedding anniversary**. Calling it "**Sweet Remembrances**," she invites everyone to drop by her home (1058 Southernview Dr. S., Lafayette) anytime between 5:00 until 9:00 PM. She will serve dessert. Questions? Call Barb at 474-7231.

2 new babies!

It's a boy! Joe & Cheryl Woody welcomed their first grandchild, **Landon Lewis**, born to their daughter and son-in-law, Michelle & Ty. He was born June 14, weighing 7 pounds 4 ounces. The Woodys are in Arizona getting to know their new grandson.

Former Elmwood members, now living in North Carolina, **Jenny & Cody Sipe**, welcomed their fifth child, **Callie Ashton**, on Sunday, June 15. She weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces. They are all delighted with their baby girl!

Congratulations and praise God for the safe arrival of these new babies!

Recently Moved



Ron & Joy Walker
85 Hibiscus Ct.
Lafayette 47909
Ph: 471-1450

Edith McCoy
Digby House
167 W. 240 S.
Lafayette 47909

Anna Dale
George Davis Manor, room 113
1051 Cumberland Ave.
West Lafayette 47906

It's time for **Fridays at the Park** again. Bring the kids and come join in on the fun and fresh air. This week we're going to Happy Hollow. 10:00a.m. - ?. Questions? Call **Vicki Vaught or Barb Tilley**.

June 15, 2008
Class: 171 Worship: 253
Contribution: \$6,664

ELMWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST newsletter (USPS 758-630) is published weekly, except the week of Christmas, by the Elmwood Church of Christ, 2501 Elmwood Ave., Lafayette 47904. Periodical postage paid at Lafayette, IN. POSTMASTER: send address changes to ELMWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST, 2501 Elmwood Ave., Lafayette, IN 47904.



I Was Impressed!

Saturday, I was out of town all day, but I left a list of things with the teens and families that needed to be worked on at the youth house. When I drove up on Sunday morning, it was obvious that the group had accomplished most of the things needing to be done. Flower beds and planters had been cleaned up and new flowers had been planted. Limbs were gathered and piled up. The area between the house and our neighbor had been cleared. There is a functional walkway all the way around the house, now. I honestly didn't realize there were walking stones under some of the grass that had grown in. Even the living room (our main classroom) had been thoroughly cleaned and totally rearranged. Upkeep on the house is an ongoing situation and I'll be glad to give anyone a list any time they have time on their hands. Our basement renovation didn't make the initial budget this year, but you will be hearing more about that and how it could still happen, from the elders shortly. In the meantime, when you see Ed and Nelson Tilley, Phil Travis, Andrew Simmerman, Ben, Josh and Rachel Stafford, tell them you really appreciate their work at the house and let them know how much nicer it looks!

Help Needed

On Saturday, July 12, Peter and Kay Tavana are going to be moving items from their house into a "pod." This would be a great service opportunity for teens and families. More details will be coming soon, for now, mark your calendars and plan to help the Tavanas make the transfer of their furnishings go quickly and smoothly. If you have questions, you can call the Tavanas or me.

Cedar Point

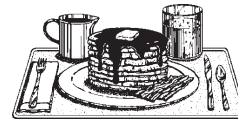
In an effort to accommodate as many of our group as possible, the dates for our trip to Cedar Point have been shifted one more time. As of now, our plans are to leave at 5:00 am on Thursday, July 10. We will get to the park just after opening and will plan to stay till closing – 10:00 pm. After a good night's sleep at one of the local hotels, we will return to Lafayette on Friday afternoon, July 11. This trip is open to all 6th – 12th graders, college students, and any families. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible. We need to have at least 15 to get the group rate. This is always a fun trip and a great bonding time for the group as well.

– Lee

"Oh, No! Never Let Go!"

These are the words in one of the VBS songs and how appropriately it fits Janet and Earl Nelson. Janet and Earl have served this congregation in many capacities in the last 50 years, and at the end of this month will be moving to North Carolina. We will miss them sorely but wish them God Speed. This Sunday evening, **June 22, at 6:00**, following a short devotional, we will have a **Celebration** of Janet and Earl in A-2. Please come and offer your "Best Wishes." Refreshments will be served.

Women: Breakfast is Served!



This Saturday, **June 21, at 9:00 AM**, the women will be served breakfast by the men. Come feel pampered (no cooking, no clean up!) and enjoy the fellowship. Sign-up sheet is in the Farris foyer.



The family of **Oka LeMaster** thanks the church for the beautiful flower arrangement at her funeral. Thanks to all the members who came to her funeral, especially her friends from Senior Servants and to those who sent cards and well wishes. She was a fine example of integrity, kindness and perseverance and she will be missed.

-Cathy Sexson (aka Sue)



June 18, 7 PM....Bible classes

June 21, 9 AM....Women's breakfast in A-2

June 22, 2:30-4:30 PM....Wedding shower for Josh Hunt & Amanda Stoops at Gaylors' home

June 22, 6 PM....*Celebration & Best Wishes to Janet & Earl Nelson*

June 29, 2:00-4:00 PM....Wedding Shower for Suzanne Fournier & Chris Macaluso at Amos & Dana's home

June 29, 6 PM....Joe Ruhl speaking:
"The Price of Freedom"

June 29, 7 PM, A-2....Marriage celebration for Heaven Miller & Matt Welters

