



Families of Faith

There are families in our church that often face bigger mountains than most of us will ever know. It is in these families that we see examples of mountain-moving faith. The article below is from one of these families. ~ Gilbert Kerrigan

I recently returned from a trip to Italy with my mother-in-law and youngest daughter, Marie. Although we managed to sneak in some sightseeing, the main purpose of this trip was to attend a conference dedicated to children like Marie who have a syndrome called Ring14. This is a very rare genetic disorder that arises randomly when one of the 14th chromosomes mutates in such a way that the ends of this chromosome fuse together to form a ring structure; genetic material is often lost in this process. The consequences of this syndrome can be varied but are often profound. Children with this syndrome often have low muscle tone, slow growth, mild to severe learning disabilities and a form of epilepsy that is mostly drug resistant. It is this type of epilepsy that keeps Marie on Elmwood's prayer list. So we traveled to Italy to meet with educators, doctors and other families to try to learn how we might improve Marie's quality of life. I would like to share with you a couple of things that I either learned or had reinforced on this trip; I hope that they mean something to you in a broader context.

1. It is good to share with people who carry similar burdens; it makes the task seem more doable and the load a little lighter.
2. Communication is hard. Whether it is a child struggling to grasp language, spouses trying to connect, doctors reaching for the right words or us praying to God, communication is hard, but well worth all the effort.
3. I do not know what it means to fix these children; they are made in God's image, too. I do want to help them achieve all that is possible, to grow stronger, to improve their communication skills, and to be seizure free. But, I also want it to be enough for Marie to just be Marie.
4. Blessings can be hidden, but they are always there to be found!

Thank you to everyone who has ever prayed for Marie and my family; I cannot express what your support means to me. I would like to challenge you to expand your prayers beyond Marie to all children who face unbelievable challenges, to the siblings that often stand in their shadow and to the parents who wish to nurture both.

Proverbs 31:8 *"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute."*
-Yssa DeWoody

Solitude

It is interesting to me to see how often Jesus went away from the crowds of people. Over and over again we see Jesus leaving (or at least trying to leave) the people that were surrounding him and going off by himself. Time and time again Jesus stepped away from the very people that were drawn to him, the very people that he was sent to heal, teach, and save. This is how he decided to start his ministry by going out to the desert by himself!

That is not the way a good business is run. If we look around us we see people investing more and more time in their jobs to the exclusion of all else. And yet, here is Jesus the CEO of the Kingdom of God, and he takes frequent breaks. Much of Corporate America demands all the energy its workers have. And Jesus regularly takes time to go out to a solitary place (Luke 4:42) to get away from the crowds.

I think that Jesus had a couple of goals when he went off by himself. Firstly, as a human, it is tiring to be around other people all the time, so he wanted time to clear his mind, and to just be by himself. Secondly, Jesus took that time to strengthen his relationship with the Father. When Jesus isolated himself he was often found in prayer, or fasting.

It is important not to overschedule ourselves so that we have time to strengthen our relationship with God as well. Be sure to take time this week to step away from the many responsibilities you have to strengthen your relationship with God.
-Phil

Valley Stockton was admitted to Home Hospital, CCU, on Tuesday morning....**Hattie Coffel** remains at St. Elizabeth Hospital, room 3102...**Edith McCoy** had a short hospital stay for heart irregularities. She went back to Digby House on Monday....**Amos Miller** and **Tom Armstrong** hoped to be released from the hospital on Tuesday or Wednesday...**Elizabeth Tinkle** injured herself during a seizure last week.... Vickie Sanders' mother, **Eva Wilson**, suffered a stroke last Thursday and is hospitalized in Wabash, Indiana....**Steve High**, Gene & Nancy's son, is recuperating at their home following recent surgery....After some extensive tests, **Michelle Foor** is home and feeling much better....**Irene Fox**, who has been in George Davis Manor nursing center for 11 years, is now on hospice careContinue praying for **Steve Cable**, **Willie Batts**, **Mike Sutherlin**, **Leon Johnson**, **Bernie Citrota**, **Randi Verett**, **Jean Stockberger**, **Lance & Lane Pepper**, **Eileen Richardson**, **Kaden Koebecke**, **Amanda Powlen**, **Julie Lichty**, **Pat Johnson**, **Marge Campbell**, **Irene Sims**, **Henrietta Frampton**, **Marie DeWoody**, **Paul & Argie Verett**, **Delpha Allen**, **Eagle Bailey**, & **Minnie Scott**.
Serving in our military: **Philip Devine**, **Mark Wilson** and **Shawn Wilson**.



Congratulations!



Grace Kaye, 6 pounds 15 oz., was born October 7 to Jason & Laura Reel. Grandmother, **Tammy Tatman**, and great-grandparents, **Connie & Ken Nicholson**, are delighted that she joins big brother, **Conner**. The Reels live in Virginia where Jason is in training with the Air Force.

Traveling...

Thelma Hoyt is traveling to Sopot, Poland, to be involved in mission work under the direction of missionaries, **Mike and Molly Dawidow**, located at the Sopot International Bible Institute. Mike is the local minister of the Sopot Church of Christ. Thelma will leave October 16 and return November 10. She will be teaching Old Testament lessons and at the same time teaching students to better understand the English language. **Harry & Sara Hodges**, former Elmwood members, will also be on the mission trip.



This year Elmwood is hosting a "Trunk -or-Treat" in the parking lot on **October 25, from 4 PM until 7 PM**. **Katy Travis**, **Rachel Ravellette** and **Dana Miller** are planning the event that will be open to the community as well as the Elmwood family. EVERYONE (parents, bachelors, people with kids and without kids) is encouraged to decorate your car trunk, van back, truck bed, etc. with a theme of your choosing. Then park your vehicle in the parking lot (rears of cars facing out) for all the kids to visit. Each person is encouraged to have something at your vehicle (game, puppet show, etc.) and candy for the children. As always, this is a **Halloween Alternative** so if your children wish to dress up, we encourage nice costumes--NO witches, etc. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the foyer for those who would like to bring a food item, help in the kitchen, etc.

Men's Retreat: November 7-9

FAITH is the theme for this year's men's retreat held on **November 7-9**. Cost is \$20 for student; \$30 for single; and \$40 for a family. Registration is Friday evening from 5:00 until 6:00. Chili will be served before the first session at 7:00. The study will be taken from the book of James. **Jason Cochran** will speak on **Faith: the Test**. The two Saturday sessions will start with **Bob Waltz's, Faith: the Evidence**; and end with **Tom Miller's, Faith: the Prayer**. Rooms are available for those who want to stay Friday night and Saturday night. Sunday morning there will be a short wrap up and conclude with the Lord's Supper before heading back to the church building for second service. As the men's ministry leader I encourage young men and seasoned men to join together for a study of God's word that will lift you up and help you to let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Contact me at 474-3110 for more details.

-Kevin Walters



The food pantry is always in need of personal items: **soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste & toothbrushes, and toilet paper**. All grocery items are also welcomed.

October 12, 2008

Class: 166 Worship: 265

Contribution: \$6,871



It's that Time!

The election isn't far away! I have told you before that I was ready for the mess to be over the day after the candidates announced they were running. I see all the campaign ads on TV, etc. and honestly think, "What a waste of money!" for all parties! I do honestly believe we as Christ followers do have responsibilities and obligations. I do plan to do my part and I encourage you to do the same, but I will not even try to tell you who or what to vote for. What I do is ask you to look over the following Scriptures and ask God to make it clear what it is He wants you to do—then do it.

Romans 13:1 — God is the ultimate "government", there is no higher authority, but God established the governments

Jesus recognized governmental authority:

Caesar — Matthew 22:15-22; Pilate — Matthew 26:59, etc.; Herod; the High Priest; the Sanhedrin

Government officials are servants of God — Romans 13:6 (remember that God can use even bad or evil leaders to bring about His will, remember Nebuchadnezzar); and **they will be judged for failure to act according to God's will** — Psalm 2:2-6; Revelation 17-20

No government would lead to chaos — Judges 17:6
Governmental responsibility includes: judging righteously — Psalm 72:2; **crush the oppressor** — Psalm 72:4; **rescue the innocent from oppression and violence** — Psalm 72:14; **punish the wrongdoer** — Romans 13:4; I Peter 2:14; **bear (and use) the sword** — Romans 13:4

God also calls the government to: **provide care for the less fortunate** — Psalm 72:4; **have compassion on the needy and poor** — Jeremiah 22:16; **bring prosperity** (some translations, peace) to the people — Psalm 72:3; **honor those who do right** — I Peter 2:14; **help us "live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness"** — I Timothy 2:2

Our role: **show honor and respect toward the government** — Romans 13:7; **submit to the leaders** — Romans 13:1; Titus 3:1; **pay taxes** — Luke 20:25; Romans 13:6, 7; **pray for the government/those who serve** — I Timothy 2:2

Whatever you chose to do, honor God and remember that He is still in control!

Grace, love, and peace — Lee



Jeff Mayernik was baptized Wednesday night, October 8. After talking with Lee Porter for some time, he decided to put on the Lord in baptism. Jeff is married to Debra and most recently comes to us from California. He works at CVS in IT (internet technology). They live at 3408 Cheswick Ct., West Lafayette. Welcome, Jeff, to your family of God at Elmwood.

It's a Wonder-Full LIFE Christmas Program

It's a Wonder-Full Life rehearsals will start this Wednesday, **October 15, at 6:45 PM**, for those in 1st grade through High School. (*Adult parts and stage crew will be taken care of by high school students.*) Rehearsals will start on Wednesday nights, and in November going to Sunday afternoon rehearsals as well. —Lynae Stafford



20 Something's Fall Retreat

When: October 17-19
Starts at 6:00 on the 17th
Ends at noon on the 19th

Where: Rainbow Christian Camp, Converse, IN
Speaker: Gilbert Kerrigan

Cost: \$25 per person (includes place to stay and meals provided)

If cost is a problem, contact Jason Cochran at 409-4522



October 15, 6:45 PM....Call-out and rehearsal for Christmas play, "It's a Wonder-Full Life"

October 15, 7 PM....Bible classes

October 17-19....20 Something's Fall Retreat

October 19, 6 PM....LIFE Groups meet

October 25, 4-7 PM...."Trunk or Treat,"
 Elmwood parking lot

Read:
Lam. 1-3; Proverbs 25-31
John 6:25-8:59

2008 Spiritual Adventure

Week 44: October 27-November 2

Hungry? Thirsty?


As I was reading the different texts for the Spiritual Adventure this week one text in particular really started to work on my heart. This was not because it convicted me of an important truth, because I already firmly believed in the truth of this text. It worked on my heart because it brought to mind a question that I could not quit asking. Honestly, I am still waiting for an answer to this question.

The text I am referring to is in John 6:35. Jesus says, *"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty again."* For people who are truly hungry and thirsty I do not believe it takes much convincing to get them to believe that Jesus is the bread of life. But the fact of the matter is that most of us do not spend our time with people who are truly hungering and thirsting in life. Our problem is not convincing people that Jesus is the bread of life, but trying to convince people they are hungry and thirsty.

So the question I kept asking over and over is, *How do I convince people they are hungry and thirsty?* Then it hit me. I cannot convince others that they are hungry if they do not see in me a hungering for the true bread of life. If it is not exhibited in me, I cannot expect it from others. Am I living as though Jesus is the true bread of life that never leaves me hungry?
 -Gilbert Kerrigan

Weekly Schedule	Elders	World Missions
<p>Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Life Groups 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Bill Bell 463-1139 Joe Mathews 474-8369 Rick Swensen 463-6822 Don Vice 471-8653</p> <hr/> <p>Staff</p> <p>Ministers Gilbert Kerrigan 418-3652 Lee Porter 463-6993 Phil Travis 447-2874</p> <p>Office Sherry Marks, Manager 447-2874 Carol Bell, Secretary 447-2874</p>	<p>Kevin Chambers World Christian Broadcasting Anchor Point, Alaska 99536</p> <p>Loren and Penny Hollingsworth Phuket, Thailand 83000 E-mail: lholly54@yahoo.com</p> <p>Bren and Cheryl White P.O. Box 245 New Market, MD 21774</p>

Our Vision:
 Knowing Christ,
 Making Christ Known.

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