

the good word

Elmwood M.B. Church Monthly Newsletter

June 2016

Be Afraid, Be Very Afraid...

This was the tag line for the 1986 movie 'The Fly', but could easily have been the title for Mark 4:35-41. The story shifts between two experiences of fear: first, the disciples are caught in a terrible storm out at sea and these seasoned fishermen believed they were going to die. Jesus is awoken with the shouts of fear from the men, and with three simple words he calms the storm: "Silence! Be still!", as Sally Lloyd Jones puts it, *"The wind and the waves recognized Jesus' voice (They had heard it before, of course—it was the same voice that made them, in the very beginning)...Then Jesus turned to his wind-torn friends. 'Why were you scared? he asked. 'Did you forget who I Am? Did you believe your fears, instead of me?'"* At this point

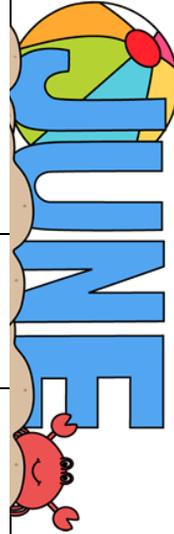
another fear rises in the disciples, in fact they're terrified and ask each other 'Who is this? Even the winds and the sea obey Him?' In Jesus we have both the love and friendship of God manifest, but also the holy and the sovereign power of God in the flesh. Too often we like Jesus as a friend and comfort (which he is!), but forget that he has power over all creation and that at his name every knee will bow, the trees will clap and the mountains will melt. There are innumerable things that can cause fear to rise like the waves of the storm, but Jesus, who we should truly fear, says to our storms—Peace, Be Still. May this summer you find both comfort and awe in the presence of Jesus our Lord.

-Pastor Ken

WHERE THERE
IS ALWAYS
ROOM FOR YOU!

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9am Faith and Life Class 9:30am Donwood Service 10am Worship/ Communion Service	6	7	8 9:15am Mom's Group 6:45pm Worship Practice	9 6:30pm Leadership Council Mtg	10 7:30pm Worship Night	11
12 9am Faith & Life Class 10am Worship Service/Kids Loft 12pm Church Picnic @ 75Brazier St.	13	14	15 9:15am Mom's Group 6:45pm Worship Practice	16	17	18
19 <i>Father's Day</i> 9am Faith & Life Class 10am Worship Service/Kids Loft 2:30pm Selkirk Ministries	20	21	22 6:45pm Worship Practice	23	24	25
26 10am Worship Service	27	28	29 6:45pm Worship Practice	30		



Don't forget to mark your calendars!
Church Retreat @
Camp Cedarwood - Sept. 16-17

Women's Retreat

When I heard that Elmwood MB was planning a women's retreat, I signed up thinking this would be a great opportunity to get to know the ladies I hadn't met yet, and maybe deepen relationships that already existed. And then there was the extremely attractive feature of not having to prepare meals for two days.

I was not disappointed on all counts, and there was so much more! Once we arrived at Camp Arnes, we settled into our rooms in the lodge, and met for the evening session. After singing together, and hearing testimonies from two ladies, Shonet Stoesz led us in reflections based on the book by Mike Mason, *Champagne for the Soul: Rediscovering God's Gift of Joy*. Each of our four sessions included these elements. I really appreciated the opportunity to hear the experiences and insights of the hearts of these ladies who took the step of opening up to us as a group. We also had the chance to get together in small groups of about five, to discuss questions further. This was a wonderful time of getting to know a handful of ladies, as we met after each of the four sessions.

One phrase that stuck with me: "Joy is a muscle. Don't let it atrophy."
Thoughts I took home with me were:

- Joy is a deliberate choice
- Joy is a process
- Live in the moment (not always thinking "I'll be happy when _____ happens", or "If I could just _____, then I'd be happy.")

During the weekend, we had ample time to relax, enjoy nature, and both socialize and spend time alone. All in all, a wonderful weekend retreat in which God spoke to us all in many different ways. Many thanks to the ladies who planned so many different aspects of the weekend, resulting in it going so smoothly!

-Karen Warner

Change in Newsletter Format

With summer just around the corner, newsletter publications will be on hiatus until fall. However, you can look forward to a larger quarterly newsletter in your church mailbox the last week in September. Moving to a quarterly format will allow for more articles and opportunities for people to share through the newsletter. The quarterly newsletter will contain much of the same type of material, just more of it. We plan to publish it the last week of January, March, June, and September. If you have any questions or suggestions feel free to contact Kara Plett at mattandkara2010@gmail.com.

Suggested Summer Reading

- *Miracles: What they are, why they happen, and how they can change your life* by Eric Metaxas
- *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis
- *George Muller: Delighted in God* by Roger Steer
- *Encounters with Jesus: Unexpected Answers to Life's Biggest Questions* by Timothy Keller
- *Crazy Busy: A (Mercifully) Short Book About a (Really) Big Problem* by Kevin DeYoung

Counseling Mini-Books

Near the Information Desk in the lobby there is a display of counseling mini-books that are discreetly available for anyone to browse and take home. The mini-books are written to assist the person with a question, concern, or struggle to apply biblical gospel-centered counsel to a specific issue. The mini-books are small enough so that the average reader can read the whole mini-book in less than thirty minutes. Topics cover issues such as fear, grief, anxiety, sexual addictions, family, & forgiveness to name just a few.

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1-David & Amanda Stephens*
- 2-Lloyd Penner, Shawn Perkin, Zachary Reichardt
- 3-Bob Funk, Nitha Goertz

- 6-Neil & Herta Janzen*
 - 9-Melissa Kernaghan
 - 10- Manny & Joanna Wiebe,* Josh & Stephanie Ruby*
 - 11-Margaret Braun, Jady Hiebert
 - 12-Ron Bartel
 - 14-Anne Harder, Martin Penner
 - 15-Petra Funk, Jordan & Katelyn Dueck*
 - 18-Nettie Enns, Neil Janzen
 - 20-Sarai Dyck, Anna Enns
 - 21-Grete Froese, Arthur Funk, Katharina Krebs, Mary Unruh
 - 22-Brendan & Melissa Kernaghan*
 - 23- Reinhold & Helmi Peemoeller*
 - 24-Otto Roller
 - 25-Kalena Schulz
 - 28-Teri Benn
 - 29-Marni Enns
 - 30-Richard & Mary Hiebert*
- *Denotes an anniversary

Prayer Focus

For God's protection & help for our families. Pray that:

- God will help families to strengthen their marriages and family relationships, and to rebuild connections that have been broken.
- God's Word will be the most important reference point for wisdom & direction as challenges & opportunities arise.
- That parents & guardians will have godly wisdom in taking care of their responsibilities & making decisions.
- That children in their desire to please God and be a blessing in their families.