

Elgin Congregational Holiness Church

Newsletter Editor:
Melinda Abram
Co-Editor:
David Abram

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Men's Fellowship: Free Breakfast is the First Saturday of every month at 9am. Everyone Welcome! See Rev. Richard Abram for more information.**
- **Women's Meeting: Third Thursday of every month. Speak to Sis. Linda Cowart to help or if you have any ideas**
- **Remember our youth: They need our help. Contact Sis's. Melinda Abram or Angela Barnette to see how you can help.**
- **Want to write or help with the newsletter? Contact Melinda Abram
Email: mabram458@gmail.com**

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Pastor: Rev. Wesley Luke
Asst Pastor: Rev. Judith Luke

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Visit us on the web:
<http://elginchc.weebly.com/>

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JULY 3, 2011

Amazing Confirmation

Praise the Lord!! We are so thankful for the hand he has on all our lives. On Wednesday, June 22 the church approved the drawing of plans for a new building which will give us more space in the sanctuary and fellowship hall. Constructing a new building is a costly, time-consuming, and difficult process that begins with hiring an architect to draw the plans. The cost can be up to 15,000 dollars just for the plans to be drafted. Despite the cost, our Pastor has felt led to increase the size of our church for some time. Finally, that Wednesday evening in June, he announced the idea before the church, and we were able to see just how mightily the Lord can move and confirm what has been laid on peoples hearts as His will.

After the church unanimously voted to proceed with the plans, many of us were brought to tears

for the kind letter a gentleman wrote to our congregation. This letter thanked everyone for being obedient to the Lord, and for what



He has used our church in his family's life. The letter by itself was more than enough thanks deserved; what we do as the body of Christ is only for God's glory and in essence our job as part of a follower of Jesus. Therefore, the next part of the evening could only

prove to be God's plan in action. Enclosed with the letter was a check made out to our church for \$5,000. Our God is truly amazing! What an incredible blessing to our little church in Elgin. Everyone in attendance was in awe at the prayers already so quickly being answered.

This, however, was only the start of the blessing. A second sealed envelope was opened by the Pastor and presented to the church. The same man donated another \$10,000 to our building fund. This put the total amount at \$15,000 and left many, at first, in shock. That was the amount first given to us at the beginning of the meeting and the Pastor had no idea a donation would be made of that magnitude. What an amazing confirmation the Lord has blessed us with. Thank you God for all you do in our lives! We Praise You!

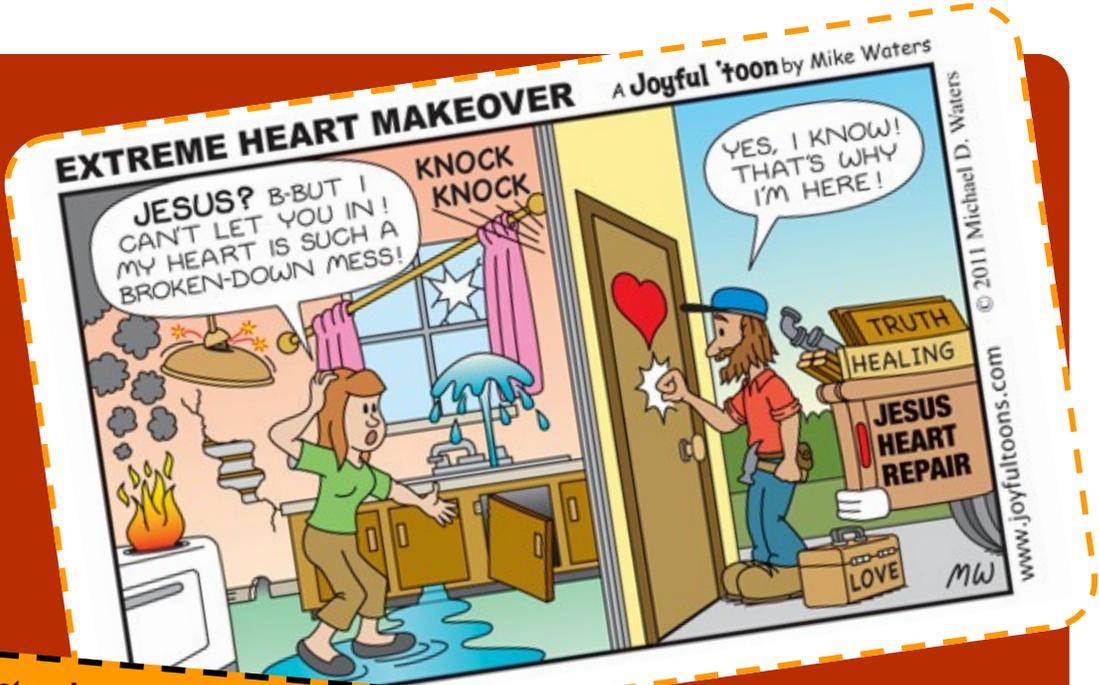
Making a Splash for Jesus

by Melinda Abram- VBS is almost here and we can't wait to share our love of Jesus through song, games, and lessons. This year promises to be a wonderful, spirit filled time where children from the ages of 4-12 are welcome to come and share in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Youth department is excited to be hosting such a wonderful event for the church and community. We welcome anyone from our church to come help us in the

next stages of this grand adventure. If you have already signed up, I will be contacting you in regards to what area you would like to assist in. We need help in all areas of the VBS including, but not limited to, any financial support you feel led to give. Also, please invite everyone in that age group that you may know. There will be registration forms located at the back of the church. The cost is FREE!!! This is a wonderful opportunity for children to enjoy a safe, fun, and Chris-

tian atmosphere where they may grow in the Lord. Our own EPIC youth group will be stepping out to many of the leadership roles available. We will close the VBS on Sunday evening where the children will deliver a song they learned and a guest speaker will be delivering a blessing from the Lord. Thank you all very much for your continued support in everything we do and can't wait to see you there!!!

What condition is your heart in?
Is He knocking at your door?



²⁰Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.
Revelation 3:20 (KJV)

Sunday School Funnies

by Melinda Abram— Sometimes storms of life hit you unexpectedly. Many times those storms come and you have absolutely no control of where they hit but only how you handle them. In the teen Sunday school class we had a lesson on “When Storms Come” with our Scripture Focus being Mark 4: 35-41. These scriptures talk about the time when the disciples and Jesus traveled across the sea of Galilee and a great storm arose. This storm tested the disciples faith and ended with a miracle preformed by Jesus. Much can be learned from just these few simple verses. This is why I had asked the teens to rephrase the story of faith by putting themselves in the disciples shoes—and making them use a list of words that start with “S”! I began to read the stories and believed that they were to interesting and funny to keep to myself. I

hope you enjoy the stories as much as I did and I encourage you to put yourselves

in the disciples shoes and think about how strong is your faith when the storms of life arrive.

When Storms Come-Crystal Rhodes, William Hensley, Cody Burt

The stress level was high on the spooky, severly shaken ship with the torn sails. The sea swamped the ship and the men aboard became seasick. They were all startled and some began to squeal or scream. They were skeptical of their chances of surviving. They stopped for a moment and sheepishly went over to the Savior who was sleeping softly on the ship. Shortly, Jesus said “peace be still” and the storm was silenced. All of the men started to stand and settle. They

began to shiver from being soaked and out of shock asked each other, “who is this?” Even the wind and the waves obey him!

When Storms Come-Allison Barnette, Travis Cowart, Amanda Abram

One spooky, stormy night a severe squall shook a ship full of sheepish disciples and the savior. The sea started to splash the now soggy passengers. They sobbed and shiveled senselessly and squealed at the sound of the sky rumbling. They shouted to the sleeping savior to somehow stop them from suddenly becoming shipwrecked. They savior began to speak in a supernatural way. He showed the disciples a savage sign.

Subtle Syllogism

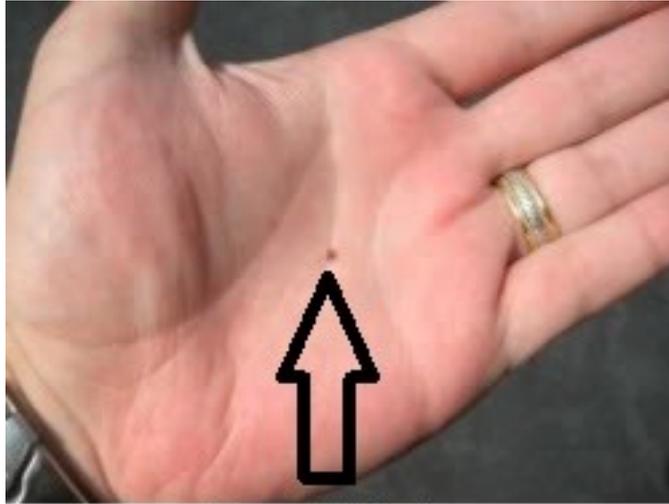
Decisions, Decisions

by David Abram

Plans and goals are necessary to accomplish the things in life for which we strive, but they do not define us. Straying from our proposed plans and failing to achieve goals are definite ways to set us up for disappointment, but, thankfully, failure does not define us either. It is rather the minutia of our everyday life that makes us who we are, not the large-scale aspect of what we aim to do. Each decision we make plays an important role in the character development of each of us. It is each of these small choices and tiny details of our walk through life that hugely impact the outcome of the rest of our life, and further.

The teenaged David, with many, many decisions ahead of him, purposed in his mind to destroy the giant Philistine who mocked the armies of

God. Ignoring the mighty armor and common weapons available, he chose a sack of tiny pebbles, one of which slung onto the forehead of the giant was large enough to change his own life forever. Jesus tells us that having even faith the size of a mustard seed



(Acutal Size)

can cause absurd things to happen through the power of God. As tiny and seemingly insignificant as a mustard seed can be, it is here illustrated as being almighty. Conversely, we must be careful of the tiny things as well. Solomon warned us about the foxes which destroy the vines in our life. It's

not the giants, or obvious enemies, or other people, but the small foxes, and smaller choices, which have the ability to destroy the good things in our life.

Everything boils down to each decision made at any given time. It's not the ultimate and long-term goals of our lives that determine who we are, but the daily things we do. The grand scheme of things changes drastically for every pebble, mustard seed, or small fox we encounter, and every second of every day is just as important as the one before and after it. Giants will always succumb to the small and the weak, and plans will always be at the mercy of what we decide to do with every choice we are presented. God uses irony, the unexpected, to demonstrate his glory and might. If

David had a machine gun, then Goliath's fall would not have supported David's prediction, "that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel" (1 Samuel 17:46). Doing things this way causes testimonies to be inspired, mustard-sized faith to be built, and our jealous God to be glorified alone.

Sharing My Faith at Home

by Crystal Rhodes- One Accord is a worship ministry that is composed of ten women who are in One Accord with God and with each other. Being a part of the group, I can say that we all have one focus. We are to minister to others through what God has given us to use, which is our movement. Adding movement to a song can minister to people in ways that music or other types of worship may not be able to. Everything that we do in One Accord is not to



glorify ourselves whatsoever, but to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ and to spread the gospel to others. One Accord recently did a presentation here at Elgin Congregational Holiness Church. I was thrilled and very thankful to have the opportunity to minister through dance in my own church.

CHEAP SUMMERTIME FUN

Royal Z Lanes

kidsbowlfree.com

May 3- Sept 6

M-F 9-5

Sun 11-5

AMF Lanes

freebowling.amf.com

May 30-Sept 5

Until 8pm everyday

Sanhills Cinema

Kid Movie

\$1.00

Call for Details

803-736-181

Quizno's

Kids eat free

Lunch & Dinner

1 per paying adult

www.skatelandfuncenter.com

Public Skating Times

Chick-fil-A

Wwww.columkbiachickfila.com

Kids Night

Free 4pc/w paying adult

Captin D's

2 free kids meals

w/adult entrée purchase

Plex Indoor Sports

Roller Skating & Inflatables

\$10

Friday & Saturday 7-10 pm

www.columbia4kids.com

Find other activities here

Marionette Theater

cmpuppet.org

SC State Museum

www.museum.state.sc.us

\$1.00

1st Sunday of Month

Edventure

Edventure.org

\$1.00

2nd Tues of Month

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July

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1 E.P.I.C. Youth Night	2 Brotherhood Breakfast Singing @ 6p.m.
3	4 Independence Day Adult Camp Begins	5 Campground 10A.M. Sis. Luke Preaches	6	7	8 Camp Meeting Ends Biennial Conf. 10A.M.	9 Biennial Conf. 10 A.m.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Church Singing	18	19	20	21 WM Meeting 7P.M.	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 VBS	29 VBS	30 VBS
31 Youth Service	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday</u> 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship/ Preaching (Children's Church) 6:00PM Worship/ Preaching</p>					<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wednesday</u> 7:00PM Worship/ Preaching</p>

Ever other Wed.
EPIC Youth Meet

Wednesday
7:00PM Worship/
Preaching