

Elgin Congregational Holiness Church

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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. Angela Barnette or Melinda Abram 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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Growth

by Melinda Abram-

Can you believe that it is already June? The flowers are in full bloom. Mr. Sun has decided to heat things up a little more than my liking, and (I'm really excited about this one) it's PEACH SEASON! HOORAY!!! Yes, it truly is amazing how quickly time seems to pass us by. Maybe it's because of all the wonderful things that the Lord has blessed our lives with so far this year. Great things have happened January through May, and I am expecting even greater things to come.

We as a church have seen tremendous amounts of growth all around us—not just peaches. The Lord has blessed us with spiritual breakthroughs, the begin-



nings of new ministries, healing that no one can claim but the Lord, and increasing numbers in Sunday School and youth programs. There is growth all over the place. What an exciting time for our little Church on Smyrna Road.

Growth, however, can't just stop there. Once you receive a blessing, you must continue to water that blessing and help it to produce fruit. The Lord gives us gifts and blessings and growth within ourselves in order to be able to be a blessing to others. The whole purpose is to glorify Him and grow the kingdom of God. We want to win the lost! It is for this common goal, for all of us coming into one accord, that we as a whole church will receive even more spiritual growth. So its time for you to look within yourself; begin to water those seeds that were planted and experience even more life than you could have ever imagined. That is who God is. He is greater than us, and through Him ALL things are possible.

Growth in our Youth



by Angela Barnette- If you were unable to join for the last Youth Service, you certainly



missed a wonderful time in the Lord. We experienced what I believe was the best Youth Service held at Elgin CHC. The church was filled with freedom, joy and such a passion for Lord. It

is great to see Growth in the Lord to come forth from our youth. To God all the glory!



And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Acts 2:17

DAD UNIVERSITY

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters

ZOWIE! IT'S A DIPLOMA FROM THE DAD COLLEGE OF BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE! DOES THIS MEAN I'VE GRADUATED?



WELL, SON YOU CAN NEVER REALLY GRADUATE FROM THIS SCHOOL, RIGHT, POP?

RIGHT, AND YOU MIGHT EVEN TEACH US A THING OR TWO!

MW

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For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:

Psalm 78:5-6

Subtle Syllogism

by: David Abram

No Fishing—The fifth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew paints a perfect picture of the meaning of life, but some remain blind to its truth with walls impenetrable to common sense and Godly love—well, almost. Some even seek their entire lives for answers which lie before them in black and white because they fail to listen to and understand God's spirit. In the final moments of this recording of the famous sermon, Jesus teaches us the ability to breach even the toughest and highest of spiritual ram-parts surrounding the eternal souls of our loved-ones and enemies alike—forgiveness.

Whenever religion becomes leverage, it ceases to be the religion of Jesus.

-Steve Brown

Truly forgiving an individual can easily be misconstrued into an act of charitable contribution where it is only done for a sort of emotional *quid pro quo*. Such a person has not forgiven their debtor of anything; he has merely swept the deed under the rug reserving the bitterness for later use as ammunition in a future conflict. This is not what God had in mind when he gave this lesson. When we receive divine forgiveness for our sins through Jesus Christ, He "cast all {our} sins into the depths of the sea" (Micah, 7:19). The Sea of Forgetfulness is neither a place for cane poles nor trawlers,

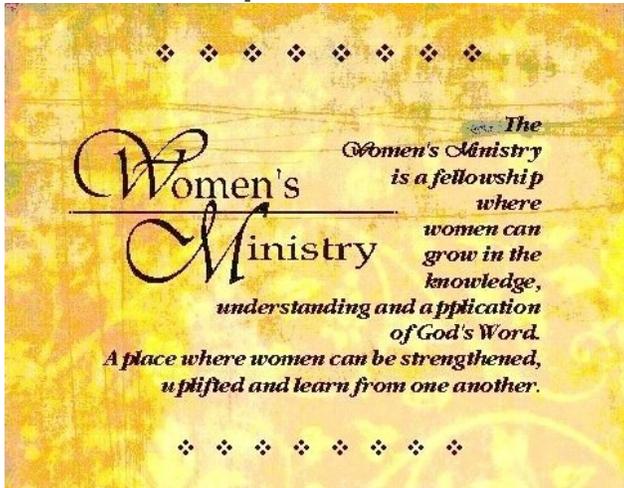
hooks nor nets; all around this sea are bright, beautiful buoys clearly labeled, "No Fishing."

Do not fail to grasp what forgiving another person really means and requires. We must offer forgiveness as an absolute end to whatever wrong was committed against you, and leave it there. Do not pick it up again, do not bring it up again, and do not allow it to sway your decisions by assuming they will just mess up again. We do not know the intentions or future actions of anyone, but have many, many cheeks which should be turned toward our aggressors. Jesus taught Peter just as He teaches us: we do

not forgive a certain number of times, but "seventy times seven," which is to say, as many as it takes. We are not to offer our forgiveness like we are doing someone a favor, for this is neither mercy nor grace, but rather we are commanded to forgive because we have been forgiven. If a "broken and contrite" heart is good enough to please God, let it be good enough to please us as well. If we must go fishing, let's fish for the souls of men, not the mistakes of men. Radio speaker and blogger Steve Brown says it best, "I think I heard God say, 'you catch 'em, I'll clean 'em.'"



A Message from the Women's Ministry Department



By Linda Cowart- The Women's Ministry meets every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the church (except for our June meeting which is on the 23rd because of youth camp).

We have a "contest with the Brotherhood department about the number of people that attend our separate meetings. Ladies, please help me attain and keep bragging rights. We have begun a new and enlight-

ening study series on "Faith is the Victory". The subjects that will be covered are overcoming sin, anxiety, boredom, depression, despair, discontent, fear, grief and loneliness. Each subject will be presented by a different lady each month, so please make plans to attend each meeting support to gain strength and knowledge in overcoming these situations that can and/or might affect our lives.

Why Attend Sunday School?

1. **Knowledge**—By attending Sunday School you gain powerful knowledge in the Bible that can be used to combat the powers of hell. Knowing the Word will keep you constantly equipped to handle anything that may come against you.
2. **Growth**— You will experience spiritual growth as you learn and study the word of the Lord. By getting to know our God through His word it allows for a deeper walk with Him.
3. **Belonging**— Sunday School is a place where you are accepted, loved and considered a part of the family.
4. **Relationships**— You will build your spiritual relationship with Christ as well as your relationships with others around you. You will make friends and have a group of people who can offer strength.
5. **Ministry**— It gives you the opportunity to use your testimonies to help others in need around you.
6. **Family**— It is a place where your whole family can grow together while allowing conversations about what you learned that day. It can be a bonding experience.

A Message from the Sunday School Department



tunity out of state. I wish them the best but hate to be separated from this part of our church family. It isn't hard to love the Madewell family who have two wonderful children who have captured the heart of the Church.

Mark was very helpful with some of the wiring and plumbing problems the church has run into, and also laboring in the church and for Brother Luke.

by Wayne Cowart- As most of you all know, we have lost one of our adult Sunday School teachers, Candice Madewell. The Madewell family has accepted a job oppor-

Candice is a superb teacher alongside Brother Rhyner who both deliver exceptional lessons. Candice has been well received and is a natural teacher. I will surely miss the Madewell family.

*The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.*

Num. 6:24-26

I would also like to say how happy and thankful I am that our attendance for Sunday School has been increasing over the past few years. We need to keep this up and continue to encourage the people that attend just worship, preaching, or youth services to attend Sunday School. It is an important opportunity to study God's word, ask questions, and participate in discussions.

- Bro. Cowart



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June & July

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Brotherhood Breakfast Baby Shower 2 -5PM
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Youth Camp Begins	13	14	15	16	17 Youth Camp Ends	18
19 Father's Day Church Singing	20	21	22	23 7PM WM's Meeting	24	25
26 6PM One Accord	27	28	29	30	1 TEEN FRIDAY FUN NIGHT	2 Brotherhood Breakfast
3	4 Independ- ence Day Adult Camp Meeting Begins	5	6	7	8 Adult Camp Meeting Ends	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Church Sing- ing	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Youth Service	<u>Sunday</u> 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship/ Preaching (Children's Church) 6:00PM Worship/ Preaching		<u>Wednesday</u> 7:00PM Worship/ Preaching		<u>Ever other Wed.</u> Youth Group	