

The Englewood Christian

*“Seeking the city which hath foundations whose builder and maker is God”
(Hebrews 11:10)*

Volume 65 Number 4

June 1, 2017

A PRAYER FOR OUR DAY

The single most humbling revelation of the Bible is Paul’s assertion in Ephesians 2:19-22 that the church at Ephesus, and by logical extension every congregational expression of the church throughout history, was being built as “a holy temple”. Imagine that! God has chosen to represent the Divine presence through a human community.

The required humility of such an idea was reflected quite clearly in the prayer of David recorded in 1 Chronicles 29:10-20. As God had directed David to commission his son and successor as king of Israel, Solomon, to build the first temple, the commissioning ceremony was emphatically punctuated with this prayer. The prayer acknowledges many aspects of God’s sovereignty and its implications for God’s people. If every day is an occasion of God’s construction of us as “a holy temple”, what are the implications of God’s sovereignty for us? Perhaps David’s prayer on that solemn and ancient occasion should become a central prayer for our day.

Blessed are you, O Lord God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; yours is the dominion, O Lord, and you exalt yourself as head over all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all, and in your hand is power and might; and it lies in your hand to make great, and to strengthen everyone. Now therefore, our God, we thank you, and praise your glorious name. But who am I and who are my people that we should be able to offer as generously as this? For all things come from you, and from your own hand we have given to you. For we are sojourners before you, and tenants, as all who came before us; our days on earth are like a shadow, and in our own selves there is no hope. O Lord our God, all this abundance we have given to build you a house for your holy name is from your own hand, and all is yours. Since I know, O my God, that you test the heart and delight in uprightness, I, in the integrity of my heart, have willingly offered all these things; so now with joy I have seen your people, who are present here, make their offerings willingly to you. O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, our fathers, preserve forever this spirit of generosity in the hearts of your people, and direct their collective heart to you.

This prayer, for the most part, David prayed. With few changes, each of us could pray this prayer daily for our congregation. This prayer maintains the fragile balance between confidence for both the present and future and an appropriate humility rooted in God’s faithfulness and sovereignty. It is a prayer which exposes and addresses the two-headed monster which threatens every community and each of its members: arrogance and fear.

MIKE



“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” (Phil. 2:3)

Oh...those Facts & Figures

April Attendance

	<u>4/2</u>	<u>4/09</u>	<u>4/16</u>	<u>4/23</u>	<u>4/30</u>
AM	122	134	162	118	126

Income/Expense Report

April

<u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Offerings	63,872.92	78,693.90
Ministry Teams	19,806.99	22,519.73
Misc	3,226.25	-----
Day Care	346,051.37	339,683.34

Expense

Employee Cost	44,427.56	44,050.00
Ministry Team	44,909.90	53,374.15
Misc	4,114.43	-----
Day Care	284,255.74	318,260.28

Total Church Profit (Loss) 55,249.90

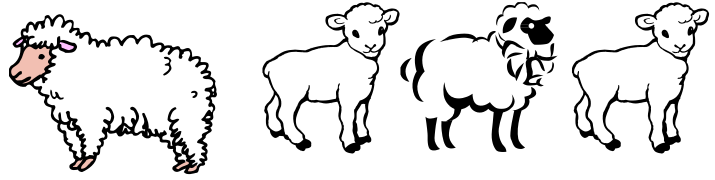
Total DayStar Profit (Loss) 61,795.63

2017

Capital Campaign Donations	\$ 1,485.00
Capital Campaign Disbursements	\$11,845.49



Assemble With the flock



... Sunday Mornings in June:

June 4: “The Way of Patience”

Ephesians 4:1–3

June 11: “The Merciful Patience of God”

II Peter 3:8–13

June 18: “The Milk of God’s Kindness”

I Peter 2:1–3

June 25: “Familial Kindness As Prelude

To Love”

II Peter 1:1–11

...Sunday Evenings in June

Sunday Evening Groups will meet as usual during the month of June except for Sunday, June 21st (Father’s Day).

If you’d like to bring in some flowers from your yard or garden for our Sunday morning gathering, please feel free! We have some vases under the sink in the Memorial Parlor kitchen.



Honoring Our Graduates
Sunday, June 4th, 2017

G r a d u a t e s

Tyler Bowling – Arsenal Tech High School
Josh Clanton – Central Christian Academy
Troy Johnson - Herron High School



Honoring Our Graduates Lunch

Sunday, June 4th

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Buns & Drinks Provided

Please bring:

Salad, Vegetable or Dessert

**There is a Sign-Up Sheet at the Information Center
if you plan on attending**

Help will also be needed with the clean-up afterwards!

Congratulations to our Graduates...Well Done!



Thank You's

Dear Church Family,

Many thanks for the lovely floral arrangement to honor such a beautiful Christian woman. Florence lived out Proverbs 31 and was an amazing example of a Christ-follower. We have all been blessed by her life and we will rejoice when we see her again.

Jim Keller & all of Florence Keller's family

Englewood Family,

Thanks to everyone for prayers and comfort during this time. Thanks to all those who helped and shared in the funeral and dinner for Betty.

Cindy Moon for all the Moon family

Dear Englewood,

Thanks again for letting us use the Mission House. God bless you!

Don & Bonnie Bingle (Brian Bingle's sister)



CIRCLE CITY INDEPENDENCE DAY 4K

TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2017 --- 8:00 AM

The Circle City Independence Day 4K is the best way to celebrate our nation's independence in Indianapolis! Come join us for an awesome and fast 4K run through Brookside Park benefitting Englewood CDC.

Register online at
circlecityindependenceday4k.itsyourrace.com

Before June 20th \$25
June 21-July 3rd : \$30

Race Day \$35



We Are Invited
To a Graduation Open House
for
Josh Clanton
Saturday, June 10th In the Garden



To a Graduation Open House
for
Tyler Bowling
Sunday, June 11th ... In the Garden
1:00 – 4:00



ALL CHURCH PICNIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH
BEECH GROVE PARK / HILLTOP SHELTER
MORE DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING!

Book Review:

Dangerous Territory: My Misguided Quest to Save the World

Amy Peterson

Paperback: Discovery House, 2017

Reviewed by Matthew Loftus

***** This review is reprinted from EnglewoodReview.org**

Amy Peterson's debut book, *Dangerous Territory*, is not your typical missionary biography and it is not meant to be. As Peterson recounts her story of teaching English as a Second Language for two years in Southeast Asia, she deliberately tries to subvert the conventions of the missionary memoir in order to change the way we talk about missions. In an article last year for *Christianity Today*, she wrote that "We need to hear stories about the real struggles and joys of missions work." This is one of those stories.

Peterson begins her story a few weeks before she leaves for the first time, frequently flashing back to moments when she felt called to overseas missions. The main narrative of her two-year term in Southeast Asia is broken up by "interludes" that feature more abstract reflections on four subjects: missionary narratives, short-term trips, the role of women on the mission field, and the missionary vocation itself. These interludes stand alone from the memoir, but the points she makes in them are constantly reinforced by her experiences.

For example, she feels torn between the passionate messages she hears at conferences about going all-in for Jesus like the missionary heroes of yesteryear and her natural discomfort in evangelizing non-Christians. She is no starry-eyed dreamer waiting for her naïveté or pride to be crushed; she knows enough to know that she doesn't want to be a colonizer or a contemporary "expat" (the catchall term she uses in the book to describe rich foreigners who embrace a Western lifestyle). What, then, does she want?

Despite the book's subtitle ("My Misguided Quest to Save the World"), Peterson's story demonstrates that before she even got on a plane to Southeast Asia, she respected the limits of what she can accomplish. She decides explicitly at the outset that she will be a "neighbor." This is in contrast not only to the stereotypical missionaries she has encountered in fiction or history but also to her own years spent indulging her wanderlust across Europe. She recognizes that the desire to jet in and out of places and relish a sense of adventure has helped drive her (and many others) to the mission field, but seems to acknowledge that this desire to find adventure won't help- and may even hurt- her ability to stay for the long term and truly help the people she comes to care about.

Peterson finds herself increasingly dissatisfied with the prevailing approaches to missions (which she traces back to "major commercial enterprises" of the 1800s). Just as she found the

traditional narratives of missionaries-as-heroes counterproductive to genuine spiritual formation, she takes issue with the contemporary business-oriented approach to missions, asking:

What if we had more bi-vocational missionaries? What if our boards were more diverse, and staffed by people who understand the local situation on the ground rather than by church leaders thousands of miles away? What if peripheral theological debates didn't have to divide us? What if we functioned as a spiritual body rather than as a financial corporation? What if we could cut costs by creating more local partnerships? What if we could empower those on the margins to be missionaries by creating lighter, more flexible structures?

The good news is that these very things she is asking for are happening all over the world – but, unfortunately, she doesn't explore how these experiments in “other ways of doing missions” are going. Most of the interludes are similar, with little space given to any arguments for the traditional models she critiques and only fleeting references given to contemporary alternatives that are living out her suggestions. Many (if not most) churches still need to take the above questions seriously and deal with the historical baggage that has accumulated over two-and-half centuries of missions movements. But *Dangerous Territory* seems to elide the fact many missionaries and sending organizations have been wrestling with these issues for years, leaving the discussions about these topics fragmented and incomplete.

The evangelical world needs stories like Peterson's – stories of people who were faithful and didn't see dramatic fruit. Stories like these do illuminate contemporary debates about missiology and missions practices, but *Dangerous Territory* leaves out so much that the reader doesn't get a sense of how diverse the contemporary mission field really is. The good news is that the author's thesis is true – but *Dangerous Territory* limits its punch by only asking questions instead of exploring the answers being lived out all across the world.

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Matthew Loftus teaches and practices family medicine in East Africa and Baltimore. You can learn more about his work and writing at MatthewAndMaggie.org

Chris Smith

RUNNING CLUB HAS BEGUN!

ALL ARE WELCOME

Tuesdays & Thursdays....6:15 – 7:30 pm thru July 4th

Meet at the Commonwealth Gym

Questions: See Jen May/Ashley Haack/Micah & Tracy Aldrich



Hey everyone,

Although I know it's a bit last minute, I thought that before I order a bunch of supplies for our summer program at DayStar, I'd ask all of you if you have some of the things we're looking for and are willing to part with them.

- baby doll clothes
- dress up clothes (or old halloween costumes) big enough for 6-12 year olds
- throw pillows, bean bags, blankets for our reading area
- kids board games- ex) trouble, battleship, don't break the ice, etc.
- playing cards/card games for kids
- art supplies- anything and everything is welcome :)
- footballs
- kickballs
- plastic or beaded jump ropes
- hula hoops
- I Spy books
- old flat sheets for paint messes
- water guns, water launchers
- water balloons/water balloon filler
- slip 'n' slide (I know it's a stretch but I thought I'd ask)

Our theme for the summer is all about water so if you have other water related toys or ideas let me know!

Ashley Haack



Help is always needed pulling weeds around our building.

If you have a free hour or so through the week, please come on over!

IMMIGRANT WELCOME CENTER MOBILE BRANCH

EVERY TUESDAY, 5:00 – 8:00 PM

Every Saturday, 11:00 – 2:00pm

East Washington Library

2822 E. Washington Street

Those who have immigrated to Indianapolis are invited to connect with a Natural Helper from the Immigrant Welcome Center. Natural Helpers assist new immigrants and refugees with transitioning to life in Indianapolis. Natural Helpers are immigrants themselves who understand the challenges of moving to a new place, learning a new language, finding a job, and establishing a home in the United States. Currently, there are 96 Natural Helpers from 32 countries who speak 46 different languages.



A Note from Jeni Smith: Noah's art teacher needs laundry cap lids for a project she does with the 8th graders every year. Would you please save them and give them to me during this Spring & Summer....many thanks!



A reminder that folks are spending time on Wednesday nights working in the garden beginning around 6:00 pm.

Feel free to bring some supper if you want, and come and join them.

You can work as little or as long as you are able

You are Invited to a

Baby Shower

for

April Adams

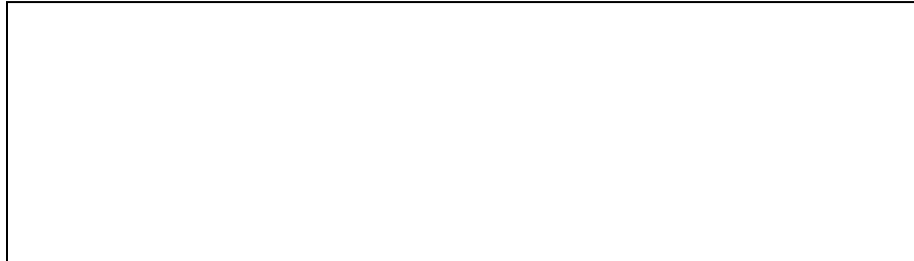
Saturday, June 17th10:30 am

Isaac & April are registered at Amazon

The Englewood Christian

57 North Rural Street

Indianapolis, In 46201-3297



Next month's newsletter will be written and put together by some of our younger folks! We are looking forward to seeing what they can share with us! Please be helpful in submitting information to them regarding things happening within your ministry teams or groups.

You can contact Melissa Benton, Amber Lanman or Jeni Smith if you have information to submit – or if you think you might like to help!