



THE WORD FOR TODAY: "A happy heart makes the face cheerful, but heartache crushes the spirit." (Proverbs 15:13)

The TV news show I was watching one morning ran a brief article having something to do with the world of fashion. Part of the piece showed the latest "designs" (to me they look more like accidents) of a renowned fashion house. I didn't pay much attention to the designs, which to me looked more like rags and rejects. What struck me was the look on the faces of the models.

Almost all were potentially beautiful women, and all shared the same "look". Not one of these women smiled. Each carried themselves down the runway and back with no change of expression, only a look that bordered on a sneer or scowl.

What's wrong with our world that we can no longer smile? Why do we think it attractive or cool or whatever to walk around with, at best, no expression or at worst a scowl on our faces.

That may be the way of the world (especially the fashion world) but it cannot be the way of the Christian world. If we claim Christ as our Lord and Savior, if we believe he saved us from hell with His work on the cross, if we honestly look around us at the many blessings we have been given by Him, then we have every reason to smile.

Someone has said, "You haven't lost your smile at all, it's right under your nose. You just forgot it was there." So, work on it today. Work on smiling a little more. Brighten up your corner of the world with a cheerful face. You'll feel better as will everyone around you!

"UNLOCKING THE BIBLE STORY"... If Christ has saved us and our eternity in Heaven is secure, why then should we live for him here on earth? Paul answers that question in Romans 6. Read Chapter 6 in the "Unlocking the Bible Story" textbook and spend some time in Romans 6:1-14 in preparation for our examination of the theme, "Union".

OUR BUILDING PROJECT... Please keep our building committee in your prayers as the preliminary work continues toward a Spring groundbreaking for our building addition. Also be in prayer about your involvement. We will be giving you more information as we get closer to groundbreaking!

ADULT FELLOWSHIP NIGHT... All Erie E. Free adults are invited to a special evening of food and fun at the home of Jerry and Lori Norman on Friday, February 26th. Everyone is asked to bring a snack (salty or sweet!) and your favorite game. The fun starts at 7:00 p.m.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY ... The Ladies Bible Study will begin Tuesday, March 9th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the home of Carol Franks. This is a four week study on *Secrets of the Vine* by Bruce Wilkerson. If you are interested in attending, please sign up at the fellowship table in the church entryway by this Sunday, February 21st.

MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT... Stewart and Patty Humphry have been in Budapest, Hungary since August 2003, planting churches in Budapest and eventually hope to plant other churches throughout Hungary. Stewart and Patty's ministry emphasizes discipleship of the men and women in church, as well as various outreach activities such as English classes. The Humphry's are part of the EFCA ReachGlobal Missions program.

MORE ON MISSIONS We are still collecting items for Leslie Wilken's mission trip to the Dominican Republic! If you would like to contribute, please bring your items to the church by Sunday, February 21st. Also, keep Leslie and the rest of the team in your prayers as they prepare for their ministry!

CHURCH JANITOR NEEDED... The Trustees are still seeking someone to take over the responsibility for cleaning the church building. This is a paid position. Inquiries can be made to the Trustees.

PRAYER CONCERNS...

- Pray for those hurting in Haiti and in other places around the world.
- Prayer for our expectant mom, Julie Norman.
- Pray for Leslie Wilkens as she prepares for her missions trip to the Dominican Republic
- Continued prayer for Dorothy and Kerry Slayden.
- Pray for Walt and Bev Watts ministering in Clairmont, Florida.
- Pray for Lori Norman's mom, Shirley.
- Pray for our servicemen and servicewoman all around the world.
- Prayer for the many "unspoken" needs in our church family.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT... "Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen." (Winston Churchill)

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & EVENTS ...

- TODAY Feb. 17th Awana – 6:30-8:00 pm
KFC – 6:30-8:00 pm
H.S. Youth – 7:30-9:00 pm
- Sunday Feb. 21st Our Worship Celebration (9:00 a.m.)
Sunday School (10:30 a.m.)
- Tuesday Feb. 23rd **Lori Norman**
- Wednesday Feb. 24th Awana – 6:30-8:00 pm
KFC – 6:30-8:00 pm
H.S. Youth – 7:30-9:00 pm

SERVANT SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21st...

- Nursery Meri Hammer
- Greeters Dave and Gail Gibson
- Fellowship .. Linda Morine
- Scripture Dale Timmons