

The Current

A monthly newsletter of Elim Christian Fellowship

February 2009

First Edition

This first edition of *The Current* begins a new venture of communication. Watch for details of coming events, informative articles, ministry descriptions, calendar, volunteer opportunities and much more. Donations for paper and printing costs will be appreciated. Suggestions and letters to the editor are encouraged! Let's flow in *The Current* of the Holy Spirit.



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ECF Dedicates New Building

by Pastor Kevin Kidd

What a wonderful blessing God has given us... 14,000 square feet of building for ministry on 8.27 acres.. 3 warehouses of 10,000 square feet each... businesses and individuals that pay us rent each month...and all at a very reasonable price. We are still making some renovations, but our beautiful building was in move-in condition. And move in we did in late September. From our initial offer to buy the property, till the day of closing, took only weeks, another miracle! Not only did we hold our first service on Sunday, October 9th, but James and Dianne Ware (see story on page 6) were married in that service.

On January 11, ECF held a special dedication day. Rev. Joe Nettleton, Elim Fellowship's Director of U. S. Ministries, spoke at our morning service. Joe is my former pastor and spiritual father/mentor. If it weren't for Joe's encouragement, I would not be pastoring today. Referring to Solomon's prayer for the

dedication of the temple from 1 Kings, Rev. Joe emphasized that God's temple is now His body and that we are living stones in that temple. Powerfully, he led us in a prayer to rededicate our lives to God and urged us to become better listeners and especially to become better at forgiving one another.



The evening service was also exciting. Pastor Randy Stewart, who founded ECF in 1980 and pastored our church for 15 years continued with Solomon's prayer of dedication. Many from Randy's original flock are still leaders in

our congregation. Many former members, as well as GAP Pastors and some of their flocks came to the dedication service. Pastor Randy noted that "The Church" is God's plan A to redeem the world and that He has no plan B. His plan is to work through us. He said we are here to bring the Kingdom of God to the Kennebec Valley. We must press forward into the mission and vision God has established for ECF and celebrate what is yet to come!

Dedication day concluded with food and much fellowship. Our wonderful team of cooks led by Lynn Kidd provided some mouth-watering desserts. We've been given this wonderful property, we are duly dedicated, now,

it's time to press forward in prayer, stay tuned to God's voice, and take back what the enemy has stolen from us!

SPOTLIGHT – AngelFood Ministry



check-in orders, provide snacks, slide baskets of food to fill orders, and carry out boxes to cars. Many positive comments have filtered in of how blessed

If you can volunteer on distribution day or are willing to make phone calls prior to delivery, call the ECF office (622-7031) and talk to Sue Waterhouse. Sue also takes AngelFood orders.

October brought the first service at the new church on the River Road and the beginnings of a new ministry, AngelFood. Hosted by ECF, and supported by local churches, AngelFood offers a variety of food packages at discounted prices. One Saturday each month several churches join together to unload the truck, distribute food packages to involved churches, and then prepare for individuals who have ordered food packages through ECF. A team of volunteers from various churches set up tables,



people are by the hospitality as members of different churches serve side by side.

“Joe and Linda Wingo founded Angel Food Ministries in 1994 to provide food for friends and neighbors who were struggling financially. Today, they are still doing the same thing. The Angel Food program now is helping provide food relief to more than 500,000 families each month.”
www.angelfoodministries.com

Volunteers are blessed to serve and enjoy meeting and working with other



volunteers. Each month the process is streamlined as ideas are shared for making this a successful venture.



Food Bank Welcomes Donations

Did you know that ECF has a food pantry to serve the hungry in our community? Currently this ministry is being overseen by the homeschool group which meets at ECF on Wednesdays. These parents along with their children are serving the Lord and learning about nutrition. With the help of Hannaford's nutritionist, they aim to make the food pantry, which they are calling the Manna Food Pantry, a place where the hungry will find nutritious foods.

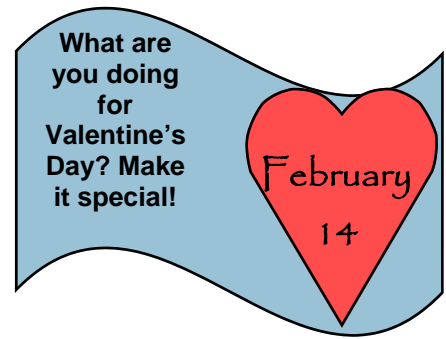
Right now our food supply is low. Can you help? We can always use canned spaghetti sauce, 1 lb boxes of spaghetti, canned tuna packed in water and mayonnaise in small size plastic jars. In the future, a list of needed products will be posted on the sign board outside the food bank door. Donating cash to purchase supplies is also welcome. Put your check in our *Blessing Box* and be sure to mark it for Food Pantry. If you have been part of the food pantry

ministry in the past or would like to be involved, please contact Lisa Johnson at rap_coach@yahoo.com



February 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



Upcoming Calendar (also see weekly events)

FEB 1	Sunday	Men's service at Kennebec County Jail
FEB 5	Thursday	Deaf Cell Group—ECF—7PM (every other week)
FEB 11	Wednesday	Free preview—Financial Peace University —6PM at ECF
FEB 13	Friday	AngelFood orders due
FEB 14	Saturday	Men's Breakfast — 9 AM at ECF
FEB 15	Sunday	ECF Orientation begins for 4 Sunday mornings-9 AM
FEB 15	Sunday	Women's Service — Kennebec County Jail
FEB 19	Thursday	Deaf Cell Group—ECF—7PM (every other week)
FEB 20-22	Friday— Sunday	Elim Fellowship Mission's Director Tom Brazell meetings
FEB 22	Sunday	Deaf Church Service (last Sunday in month)
FEB 27	Friday	GAPS Inmate Ministry Meeting — ECF — 7 PM All Welcome
FEB 28	Saturday	AngelFood Distribution Pick-up
MAR 22	Sunday	Teen Challenge Maine in morning service
MAR 28	Saturday	Elim Fellowship Northern NE Meeting— Portsmouth, NH
MAY 15-16	Friday- Saturday	Men's Weekend (State-wide)
MAY 30	Saturday	All-day Prisoner Mentor Training—ECF

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday	9 AM	Prayer Deaf Bible Study
Sunday	10 AM	Sunday Service
Sunday	6 PM	Breaking Free at ECF-new class to be announced
Tuesday	5:30 PM	Home Group (children welcome) with Pastor Kevin
Thursday	6:30 PM	Worship Team Practice
Thursday	7:00 PM	Intercessory Prayer
Saturday	6 PM	3 Services at Kennebec County Jail with Bob Tetreault

Orientation

Orientation is for anyone attending ECF and interested in ministering in any capacity. In an informal, small group led by the elders over the course of four Sundays at 9 AM, you will learn about the mission, vision, leadership structure and values of ECF. The next group meets February 15th and 22nd and March 1 and 8th. See Pastor Kevin or Sue to sign up—or just show up on February 15th.

Waiting for God is not laziness. Waiting for God is not going to sleep. Waiting for God is not the abandonment of effort. Waiting for God means, first, activity under command; second, readiness for any new command that may come; third, the ability to do nothing until the command is given.

G. Campbell Morgan



We tend to forget who we are, especially who we are in relation to God. Clair Cloninger in her book *Kaleidoscope* writes, "I get out of touch with my size and importance in relation to His. I get so involved with the particulars of my own small world that I unconsciously begin to view myself as the leading character in my own little soap opera rather than as a supporting character in God's great drama of life. I find myself living as though I were a totally autonomous being in control of my own destiny rather than the child of a loving God living by His grace."

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRY

Save money on food each month, especially on meats. Pay \$30, get \$60 worth of food. Open to all. Food stamps accepted. See Sue Waterhouse for details or call her at 622-7031

AUGUSTA DEAF FELLOWSHIP

Deaf Bible Study each week at 9 am before 10 am Church service (interpreted). Deaf cell twice per month and special deaf-only service once per month. Deaf Pastor Steve Gagnon sg4christ@roadrunner.com or Patti Gardiner interpreter 685-4060.

BREAKING FREE

Are you walking in freedom from destructive lifestyles? Have your inner wounds from the past been completely healed? If not, you could benefit from our Breaking Free courses. Participants have experienced significant freedom and healing. Start of next group to be announced. Pastor Kevin Kidd 622-7031

CENTRAL MAINE PREGNANCY SUPPORT CENTER

ECF-affiliated ministry. Offices in Waterville and Augusta. Counseling and other resources. Volunteers and board members needed. Pat Bonney 622-7422 (Augusta office).

CHILDRENS CHURCH

Building successful kids. Meets Sundays after Praise and Worship. Nursery, Toddlers, Elementary. Making disciples and having fun. Traci Albee 923-3348.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

A Dave Ramsey course that helps families control their finances with goals to eliminate debt and build wealth. FREE PREVIEW, Wednesday, February 11, at 6 pm at Elim, David and Hania Benson 547-2059.

GAPS (Greater Augusta Pastors' Society)

A growing coalition of Evangelical and Pentecostal pastors and churches in Kennebec Valley committed to partnering efforts and resources to bring about community transformation. Cooperative projects have included worship and intercession, food distribution, men's discipleship, as well as special events.

GAPS INMATE MINISTRY

Volunteers from GAPS churches bring a variety of ministries to both men and women at the Kennebec County Jail. The ministry is presently developing a network of mentoring and aftercare for prisoners. Pastor Kevin Kidd 622-7031.

HOME GROUPS

Throughout the week, on various nights, people from our church gather in small groups to grow in their faith in God and His Word. We worship, discuss/study the Bible, and participate in Spirit-filled ministry. Groups are a great way to make new friends! Pastor Kevin Kidd 622-7031

MISSIONS

ECF supports several local ministries as well as missionaries in Southeast Asia and Rwanda. Training and preparation for short term missions. Guest speakers, see calendar for Feb.20-22. Lynn Kidd 649-7346.

PRAYER TEAM

Meets Sundays at 9am before church. Intercessory Prayer held Thursdays at 7 pm. Other churches welcome. Long range goal - a dedicated prayer room and 24/7 worship and prayer. Dot Herbert 512-8777.

WORSHIP TEAM

Leads us into God's presence Sunday mornings. Meets together Thursday evenings to pray and prepare for ECF services. Judie Leino 622-6926.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Middle School/High School youth group meets Sunday mornings during service to discuss the Bible, pray for each other, and share how God is moving in our lives. Outreaches and outside church events planned during the year. Michael and Lisa Johnson 512-2725.



Recognize anyone?

SPOTLIGHT – Children’s Church – Rules of Behavior

God has entrusted us with children. It is our responsibility to train them in the ways of the Lord. Let’s do our best for them and for the glory of God! Let’s help them mature.

Statement of purpose: Teach and train children in godly behavior

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

We respect God, our church and others.

We treat others kindly.

- We treat others the way we would like to be treated.
- No hitting, biting, scratching, pinching or kicking.
- No name calling, picking on or laughing at others.

We work and play safely.

- No running in the building.
- No rolling on sneakers in the building.
- No climbing on the furniture.
- No pushing, shoving or roughhousing.
- Stay in the building unless accompanied by a parent.

We take care of the building God has given us to use.

- We use materials (pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, clay, paper ...) appropriately.
- We do not use or remove items from any room without permission.
- No classroom usage without adult supervision.
- No food or drink (except water) are allowed on carpeted areas.
- Clean up your area after eating.

We are polite:

- Only one person talks at a time. In Children’s Church please raise your hand and wait to be called upon.
- We listen when others talk.
- We remember to say please and thank you.
- We treat teachers and helpers with respect.

Inmate Ministry – Excitement Builds

Maybe you have thought about getting involved in prison ministry but didn’t know how to get started. The GAPS Inmate Ministry has a lot going on. Come to our next meeting and learn about the needs and our plans. Join us on Friday, February 27, at 7 pm here at ECF. There are many projects that could use your help.

- We have groups going in to the Kennebec County Jail for men’s ministry and women’s ministry once per month. Bob Tetreault’s group goes in every Saturday at 6 pm for three services with the men. Deborah Jacobs goes in for the women on Wednesday evenings.
- We have an all day mentor training seminar to be held on May 30 led by John Leonardson, from Texas, a national leader in the field of mentoring and prison aftercare.
- Betsy Bowen, with help from our team members, is interviewing jail officials and former prisoners and putting together a DVD on the “Importance of Mentoring” that will be distributed to pastors and churches in our area.
- Health Reach RSVP is offering a training for a program called Thresholds & Decisions which teaches prisoners the elements of good decision making. Training, open to all, will take place on Saturday, March 14. For more information call Deb Stanhope—861-3534.
- We are working with CURE, an organization that addresses prisoner issues. Concerned citizens are needed to get involved. To learn more, write Kaymaine@yahoo.com.
- Long range projects include obtaining grants and purchasing a motel to use for a women’s aftercare facility and a “First Responders” ministry—a team of individuals willing to be called on to provide emergency ministerial care to newly arrested or newly incarcerated inmates.

John 11 - Mystery

Four friends
Four commitments
One brother
Two Sisters
One Lord and Healer

One leaves
Three stay
One sick
Two ask for One
One delays

One dies
Two mourn
Two question
One returns
One question - Do you believe?
Two show death of one
Three cry

One speaks
One resurrected
Two rejoice
One praised

elb

Behind the Crockpots

by Dorothy Herbert

Have you enjoyed a meal after church? More likely, you have enjoyed many good meals and some wonderful fellowship after each Sunday service. Ever wonder who set this up and prepared much of the food? James and Dianne Ware have been serving faithfully behind the scenes. Both like to cook, having learned the skill from their families while growing up. James also gets ideas from food TV programs and has an exceptional collection of cookbooks and recipes.

This couple started serving us while we were in our old church building on State Street and have continued in our new wonderful facility on River Road in Chelsea. In fact, James and Dianne were married in our first service in the new building.

There are many other new things going on in their lives. James has a part-time clerical job at Togus, Maine's Veteran's Hospital, and Dianne has a new job working at Central Maine Veterinary Hospital in Turner. They also both have adult children from previous marriages and there is a teenage son that is living at home.

James also helps with the Men's Ministry and Men's breakfasts and has an active role in the GAPS Inmate Ministry, going into the Kennebec County Correctional Facility with the men's team every month. Recently, the Spring classes he takes at the University of South Maine, in Lewiston/Auburn began. He is working toward a Bachelor's Degree in Social Behavioral Science.

While we are enjoying the church service, James and Dianne are busy setting up for the meal, getting out plates and utensils, heating soups and making coffee. When things are ready, they find seats in the back of the church to enjoy the rest of service.

James and Dianne prepare their soups and stews at their own expense. Others contribute from time to time, but help on a more regular basis would be greatly appreciated. Welcome contributions would include soups, casseroles, breads, and desserts. Assistance with cleanup would also be appreciated. To make the cleanup job easier, we ask that every family clear their table after eating. A backup team would

also be welcome. James and Dianne live in the country in Turner and sometimes can't get out during heavy snowstorms. Please contact Sue Waterhouse 622-7031 or James/Dianne at 225-5176 if you would like to help in any way.

Our thanks go to James and Dianne and to others who have been helping. They exemplify the servant leaders that God has called us to be.



James and Diane on their wedding day.

Interested in CD Ministry?

We have an important job that needs to be done - someone to manage the recording, duplication, and distribution of CD's of our Sunday services.

When you hear a great sermon, we want you to be able to get a CD copy to listen to again, or to give to a friend, or someone who is



shut-in. These are great outreach tools. To keep up with what the Holy Spirit is doing in our church body, Children's Church teachers need to receive copies, as well. We also need each CD to be labeled properly and categorized so that we can access past services.

Chris Jackson has made the job simple so you don't have to be a "techie." You do need to be faithful in attending each service and if you can't come, to have an assistant you have trained who can do the job in your place. This is a wonderful, fairly easy, but very important job! If interested, e-mail Chris Jackson, chriskjackson@gmail.com or call Chris at home evenings at 622-3413.

This is a monthly publication of Elim Christian Fellowship, 65 River Road, Chelsea, ME 04330.
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