

Influence

Influence. It can be good or bad, or several shades in between. It can be as slight as a whisper, yet none-the-less impact you for a lifetime. It can be loud and thunderous, and yet have an insignificant, "flash-in-the-pan" effect. It can be transmitted through a word, through a speech, or through a song. Or it can be transmitted without words: through a fist, or through a hug.

Be it a politician or a preacher, a manager or a salesman, a teacher or a parent—we all hope that we can have a positive impact (i.e. "influence") on others. How often do we lament that our impact is not greater? How often do we shudder, sensing that our impact was negative, and not positive? Are you like me? Do you wish your words and your actions carried greater weight? Do you wish you could become a person who blesses others—truly blesses those with whom you come in contact with, and especially those under your care?

Influence. When you get at the heart of the word, it is very powerful. And here's the greatest lesson in life: When God gets at the heart of YOU, your influence begins to grow. When God truly is given full access to your heart—to bless, to heal, to empower, to possess—your life will become one of great influence: "Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father" (John 14:12).

Ever wish you were more successful at something? It might be in business or marriage, in friendship or in parenting, or maybe even in your Christian walk and your relationship with God. I think it's something most of us wrestle with. In some of us, it is even a source of deep sorrow.

Starting Wednesday, August 12th, and Sunday, August 16th, I'm going to begin a series on "Influence." Take your pick—it's the same class taught on Wednesdays and repeated on Sundays. I want to explore together how we can grow to become people of a broader, stronger and more positive impact in our world. This class is for the student and the business person, the retiree as well as the homemaker, the teenager as well as the "keenager." It's for anyone who wants to increase their capacity to bless others. Please plan on joining us.

"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing" (Gen. 12:2). That was God's promise ("covenant") with Abraham. What a promise! What a blessing! Does God ever bless people like that still? Does He still ever develop in people such an ability to influence others with blessing? Actually, He is intently looking for people with whom He can so bless: "For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose hearts are fully committed to him" (2 Chr. 16:9).

Is your heart "fully committed to Him?" Does He have full access to your heart? That's the first and most important step. Let's study together what else we can do to have God's full, strong support, and to walk under His blessings, becoming ourselves agents of blessing—a people of strong influence. Amen!

Love in Him,

Pastor Steve



Saturday, August 15th @ 5:30 p.m. (Doors open @ 5:00 p.m.) \$10.00 per person Fundraiser for ELIM BLOCK PARTY

on Saturday, September 12, 2015.

VBS 2015

This year our July VBS theme was "EVEREST..... Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power" Our leader was Victoria Fowler and she did a fantastic job with lots of Everest helpers. Thank you to all the volunteers and supporters!!

Here is a picture of our milk jug igloo with Chloe Spencer, Hendrix Minard, Brooke Spencer and Gibson Minard.



Just FYI.....these are all Cindy Minard's grandchildren!! What a cute bunch!

Jane Peterson, Kate Schaechter, Natalie Hermann & Elizabeth Smith helping with the opening song/praise time.



Natalie Nipper with a young group of VBS'rs during prayer time.





Just some random VBS kitchen pictures (note the campfire brownies – neat)!!



Of course, we can't forget the cleaning crew guys – thanks Steve & Don!!





HERE'S SOME AUGUST COMING EVENTS



"An In-Depth Study of Ephesians" A two-part series, begins Saturday, August 8th Time: 10:00am to 3:30pm Lunch Cost: \$10/person (scholarships available) Dr. Walt Elwell is professor emeritus of Bible and Theology at Wheaton College where he taught from 1975 to 2003. He has authored and edited many books, but is most known for his editing

the Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology. Pastor Steve says, "Walt is a rare individual, with a world-class theological mind and a first-rate pastor's heart. He can take the deepest biblical truth and communicate it with such simplicity, and inspire you to walk in that truth."



Our next congregational meeting will be held following worship on Sunday, August 9th @ 11:45 a.m.

MLT MEETING (Ministry Leadership Team) The MLT members will hold their monthly meeting Tuesday, August 11, 2015.



Elim will have their next Blood Drive sponsored by the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center here at the church on Monday, August 24th from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Please donate if you can!!!

August 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		AUGUST	Back to school time!!			1
2 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 am <u>CIU</u> <u>Minard 1-5 pm</u> Youth @ Snowbird all week	3 Prayer Team Gathering 5:30 p.m.	4	5 CIU-YMCA 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	6	7	8 Dr. Elwell's "Study of Ephesians" 10:00 a-3:30 p (Lunch \$10 fee)
9 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Congregational Mtg. 11:45 a.m.	10 Prayer Team Gathering 5:30 p.m.	¹¹ MLT 5:45 p.m.	12 Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. <i>SPARK &</i> AXIS 6:00-7:30 p.m. Fusion 7:30-9:00 p	13	14	15 CIU-Estes 9:00a-3:00p Trivia Night Fundraiser for Block Party 5:30 p.m.
16 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Collect for C.F.	17 Prayer Team Gathering 5:30 p.m.	18	19 Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. <i>SPARK &</i> AXIS 6:00-7:30 p.m. Fusion 7:30-9:00 p	20	21	22 S.P.L.A.S.H. Meeting 9:00-11:00 a.m.
23 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Celebration 10:30 a.m.	24 BLOOD DRIVE 3:00-6:00pm Prayer Team Gathering 5:30 p.m.	25	26 Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. <i>SPARK</i> & AXIS 6:00-7:30 p.m. Fusion 7:30-9:00 p	27	28	29 CIU Cosgrove Bridal Shower 8:00a-4:00p
30 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Celebration 10:30 a.m.	31 Prayer Team Gathering 5:30 p.m.					

"Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." Ecclesiastes 12:13b



"Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in heart." Psalm 36:10



Elim Covenant Church

Pastor Steve's e-mail: pastor@elimqc.org

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Church Office <u>office@elimqc.org</u> 764-6920 Church office hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Elim Church Website elimqc.org

AUGUST Birthdays and Anniversaries



Birthdays

- 1 Paige Burney
- 1 Linda Gilmour
- 3 Brandon Dang
- 5 Pastor Dwayne Brothers
- 6 Leah Hermann
- 6 Thao Luong
- 6 John Clarke
- 8 Shannon Pirmann
- 9 Jr. Bear
- 10 Carolyn Grimes
- 12 Travis Ferry
- 12 Gary Wells
- 13 Joe Schaechter
- 14 Orlin Johnson
- 17 Grayson Ellis
- 18 Jim Carsell
- 20 Chris Carsell
- 21 Dewey Jacks
- 31 Tabatha Estes



Anniversaries

- 6 Bill & Cindy Minard
- 15 L.J. & Rachel Cunningham
- 21 Jim & Carolyn Carsell