

Chapel touchpoints

body life newsletter

“For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.”

Ephesians 4:12

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What are your next-door neighbors’ names? Have they ever stepped foot inside your house? How about the neighbors beyond next door? Do you know the people who sit a few rows in front of you at the Chapel?

In today’s world, individualism and the “right to privacy” have eroded the importance of having Christ-like, hospitable hearts. Where homes were once open to all, we have isolated ourselves from those who live nearest to us, let alone strangers. We excuse our behavior by saying we are busy or shy. After all, if my home isn’t my castle, where can I unwind? And I can’t invite neighbors over until I get everything looking just right and put away in its place.

I was impressed by a story told by Dave and Sue Dernlan, missionaries in Russia. Pastor Dernlan recounted a dinner he had enjoyed with a Russian family on his first visit there. In the photos, despite being scrunched into a tiny, 2-room apartment, everyone looked joyous. A particular detail I remember was the photo of the kitchen table, piled high with fresh fruit, bread, and other delicious-looking food—more than they could have ever eaten in one sitting.

But what was most impressive was what Dave learned later—the food on that table represented a month’s salary for those generous, grinning Russian hosts. What a testimony of Christ’s love! They had joyfully stretched their finances to the breaking point in an act of hospitality.

One afternoon on NPR, we heard the story of a woman then living in Cairo, Egypt. She had spent most of her life abroad, with the exception of two years spent teaching in Texas. She recalled that during those two years in Texas, not one person had invited her into their home. In stark contrast, when she moved to Cairo, she was invited in for tea before she had been in the city for 2 hours!

Now I’m not encouraging you to invite strangers into your home every 2 hours or spend a month’s salary entertaining them. I’m merely saying that we as Christians have plenty of room to grow in the area of pursuing hospitality.

In the pages that follow, Pastor Russ will lay out our need for a hospitable heart and will give us practical instruction for showing that heart to others.



Hospitality: For the Love of God and Neighbor

by Elder Russ Kennedy

Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. (1 Peter 4:9 & Hebrews 13:1-2 ESV)

One of the marks of New Covenant believers was a love for God and love for neighbor that opened hearts and homes to others. In the absence of church buildings, homes were where the church gathered. Worship and fellowship, serving and sharing were intermingled around hearth and home. Savoring God meant sharing and serving with others. Going to church usually meant going to someone's home. Church meant God's people coming into my home. Thus, what is now a subsidiary and optional place of ministry was then the essence and focus of ministry.

Further, homes were where traveling Christians stayed. In Roman days, hotels and inns were often dangerous to one's wallet and one's purity. They were the locales for drunkenness, prostitution and all sorts of licentiousness. Christians didn't go there if it could be avoided. So, Christians were taught to delight in opening their hearts and homes to believers who

were traveling on business or ministry. These would not have ordinarily been friends or even people they knew. They were just Christians passing through town who needed the loving hospitality of the community of Christ.

So hospitality was both the embracing of openness to those who were near to me in my



church, and the extension of welcome to those who were strangers to me from other places.

The author of Hebrews entices and dazzles us with the possibility that our love of strangers and hospitality might open the door to visitors from the Homeland of our heavenly citizenship.

Sadly, our buildings for worship and the relative safety, security and privacy of western inns have moved hospitality from being a central to a peripheral practice in our Christian communities. Hospitality is generally associated with entertaining – it is the privilege of those whose money and possessions allow them to offer a

stimulating setting for others to come to. I want to shape us and stimulate us Biblically for God-pleasing, grace-enabled, love-expressing, home-opening and friendship-developing hospitality.

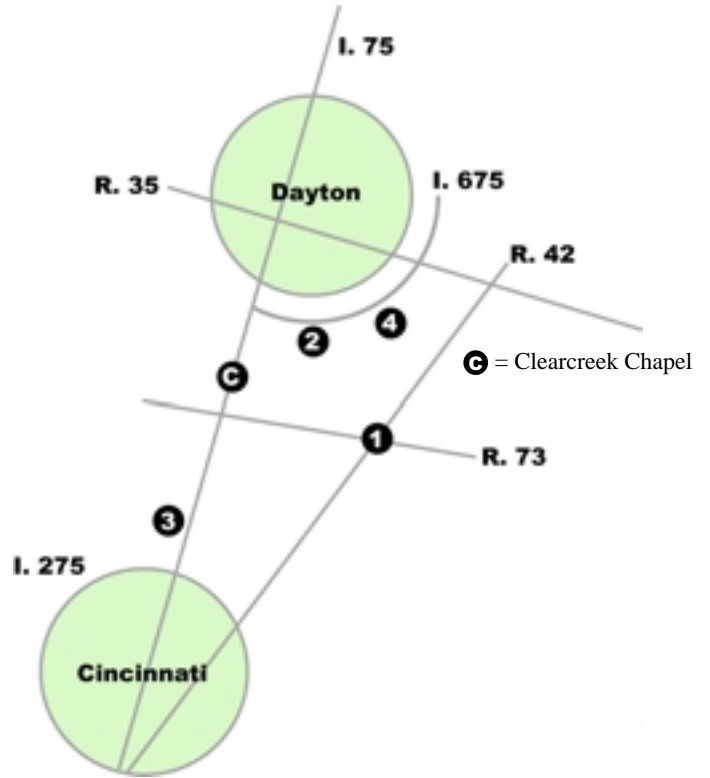
Hospitality is an outward expression of love for God and love for others. Having been welcomed by God, we now welcome others. Our hearts are open to people. We move

“Hospitality was both the embracing of openness to those who were near to me in my church and the extension of welcome to those who were strangers to me from other places.”

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Joint Flock Gatherings
June 25, 6:00 - 8:30 pm
July 16, 6:00 - 8:30 pm
August 13, 6:00 - 8:30 pm
 See the church bulletin for location and directions.



	Name	Neighborhood	Shepherds	Host Location	Contact
1	Central	Springboro Franklin Waynesville Germantown	Dan Turner	Barb Berger 8680 Cedar Hill Rd Waynesville 513.897.2200	Terry Engle 937.748.9295
2	Mid and West	Centerville Kettering Miamisburg West Carrolton	Russ Kennedy Ed McNeese	Russ Kennedy 211 Marsha Jeanne Way Centerville 937.886.9126	Russ Kennedy 937.886.9126
3	South	Middletown Monroe Mason West Chester South of Rt. 123	Michael McDonald Ken Ebert	Greg and Linda Frye 665 Linn Ct Monroe 513.539.4436	Amy Ebert Church Assistant 937.885.2143
4	North and East	Dayton Oakwood Bellbrook Brookville Fairfield Xenia North of Dorothy Lane	Dale Evans Greg Cook	Roger Gelvin 115 S Main Street Bellbrook Tom Watkins 1515 Hearthstone Dr. Dayton	Mitch Mascotti 937.848.9116

Hospitality... continued from page 2

toward people in our affections in such a way that we open our homes to them. So, what does a heart of hospitality look like?

- A heart that believes that my home is a part of pursuing the Kingdom of God first. It believes that God's kingdom is pursued best in the openness of my home where God's people are invited in and welcomed. This belief then relieves me of the anxiety of dirty carpets and messy kids and broken dishes and all the cares over my home that close my door to others.
- A heart that understands that a real face-to-face ministry of love and grace happens in the warmth of homes. Hospitality grows out of soil plowed by Biblical texts pointing to the utter necessity of face-to-face friendship to give grace for growth and holiness.

- A heart that believes that words of love must become *acts* of love. Hospitality moves from the poise of affections to the performance of actions. It recognizes that I must not only *say* my love for God and others, but that I must *do* that love as well.



- A heart that desires to show the love of God through tangible acts of sacrificial love for others. The openness of hospitality involves risk. It requires a certain amount of exposure and a willingness to be misunderstood, used, and maybe even rejected. It will cost us. And until it does cost us, it is not sacrifice.
- A heart that wants to really get to know people through initiatives of friendship. I am convinced that the formal meetings of the church do not foster (and in our ministry context, are not designed to foster) friendships. Friendships with other Christians in your church will be fostered around your dining room table, your family

room, in your yard. It will be accompanied by the sound of clinking forks, laughing children, games, and serious discussions over God, truth, and living.

- A heart primarily oriented toward giving, not getting. Hospitality keeps no record of those whom I have invited, expecting an invitation in return. It is open to others with no expectation of reciprocation. The greatest hospitality is to open to those in our church who have little opportunity to invite you in return either because they have little money and a small home or other providential obstacles.

So a heart that thrums with hospitality is one that is selfless and sacrificial.

What are the heart barriers to a God-pleasing, house-opening, people-inviting hospitality?

- A heart ruled by the fear of man. Hospitality withers and dies when we believe that we are under the heated stare of others' scrutiny. When everything has to be "just right", then are we not ruled by needing the approval of others?
- A heart ruled by a desire for ease and comfort. We find that the mess of our homes that is the fruit of our laziness or busyness causes us to shrink in dread instead of leaping with anticipation when the doorbell rings. Taking the initiative to invite, prepare, and actually engage people in our homes sounds like *work* – and work we just do not want to do and will not do.
- A heart that believes a home of small, humble means cannot be a place of Christ-like ministry. Here is pride functioning like pity and excusing one's self from the joy of giving. If I have a small place, then what about asking singles or seniors over?
- A heart that believes that my home is what I own primarily for my pleasure and not primarily as a stewardship under God. In our culture, this is what I find to be the largest obstacle. Our homes become our castles – carefully walled, deeply moated, and quickly retreated into with the drawbridge up and the guards posted.

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Service/Ministry Exchange

This Service/Ministry Exchange is designed to assist people and ministries within the church in communicating both needs and skills. If you have a specific skill you are willing to share as a ministry of helps, or are in need of help, forms are available on the table at the back of the Chapel auditorium. Drop one in the Bennetts' mailbox, or email them at scottjoy@cinci.rr.com.

Services/Ministries Available

FREE! white, metal daybed with trundle and twin mattress to someone who needs it. It is in good condition and would work well in a little girls' room. Can also provide pink and white daybed bedding with matching drapes and valances. See Linda Frye for details or call (513) 539-4436.

Want a custom-made invitation? Veronica Gelvin and Tammy Hoium are available to design and make wedding invitations and baby announcements.

Residential Valuation. If you need an idea of the value of your home, I can help at no charge. Call Bob at Lurie Appraisals, (937) 859-1981.

Individual/Ministry Needs

Want to try your hand at writing? Have an idea for the newsletter? Contact Scott or Joy Bennett to volunteer or make suggestions. Email: scottjoy@cinci.rr.com Phone: (513) 459-6410

Like to serve coffee? See Cheri Kennedy if you can help her set up, clean up, and serve in the Chapel Cafe. You must be available at 8:15am and/or 5:00pm Sundays.

Volunteers needed for Chapel Bookstore. If you can work with a computer and handle money (make change), see Linda Rogers. Bookstore hours are Sundays from 8:30-9:10am, 12:00-12:30pm, and 5:30-6:00pm.



On the Web: A Website Review of Flylady.net



by Joy Bennett

Were you born organized? If so, you can skip this website review! If you are like me, you have found the articles on hospitality convicting. Many of us excuse our lack of hospitality by saying "I can't get my housework under control, and cleaning up for company is totally overwhelming!" Flylady.net calls this "CHAOS"—Can't Have Anyone Over Syndrome), and you have lots of company.

So why is the website called Flylady? Flylady is the user name given to Marla Cilley, founder of a website dedicated to "SHEs"—Sidetracked Home Executives. The name comes from her love of

flyfishing—she actually taught it at a local college.

Two sisters coined the term SHE, Pam Young and Peggy Jones, when they cowrote the book *Sidetracked Home Executives: from Pigpen to Paradise* in 1977. Marla read their book and loved their system of 3 X 5 cards to gain control over housework.

Several years ago, she decided that an email reminder system would work better for today's Internet-savvy women and launched her website. Now she has over 180,000 subscribers worldwide, has appeared on the Today Show, and published "Sink Reflections" (Bantam Books) which is a national best-seller. (The first thing you do when you join Flylady's service is shine your sink, hence the title of the book.)

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Are You FIT to Serve?

by Stephanie Myers

How many times have we let ministry opportunities pass us by simply because we were too tired to get involved? Or, at the end of the day are you worn out, though it seems that you did not accomplish much with your time? This fatigue often results from a lack of endurance in our physical bodies. Years ago women were had no need for additional activity because they got plenty of physical activity from the daily chores of farming life or managing a household without all the modern conveniences we have today. Don't get me wrong – I love my dishwasher, washing machine, and microwave the same as you, but our physical fitness has suffered greatly with the advance of modern technology.

Over the past few decades, the average weight of Americans has risen steadily, and adult and childhood obesity are now major health concerns. I would like assist us in achieving a higher level of physical fitness by beginning the “*Fit To Serve*” ministry here at Clearcreek Chapel. I strongly believe that if we would address our lack of physical strength, low endurance level, and excess weight we could accomplish much more for the body of Christ. I Peter 4:10-11 says, “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ...” In light of this Scripture, should

we not, to the best of our abilities, take care of our physical, and most importantly, spiritual health? By doing this we will be faithful stewards reflecting God’s glory. After all, our bodies are not our own! This does not mean that we should—or even could—look the way society says to. The world presents a twisted and unrealistic view of the “perfect” female in magazines, television, and other mass marketing. God created each of us as unique people with special gifts to serve the body of Christ. Through the *Fit to Serve* ministry, I hope to help the women at Clearcreek be better

equipped physically to use their unique gifts and edify the body of Christ.

Fit to Serve is designed to show you how to properly and safely exercise, both at the class times offered and in your home, and to do it with joy and praise in your heart in a worshipful environment.

The classes will be targeted to all fitness levels and will

work to improve strength, endurance, and flexibility. The classes will also be open to the community as an outreach.

The classes are free and are scheduled to begin June 17th, 2003 and will be offered for 8 weeks from 8:45-9:45 a.m. on Wednesday and Friday mornings. (Depending on the attendance of this session – and the pregnancy of the instructor, we will offer it again in the fall.) Childcare will be provided for a small fee for those using this service. If you are planning on attending or have any questions or comments, please contact Stephanie Myers at (937) 886-9819.

“If we would address our lack of physical strength, low endurance, and excess weight we could accomplish more for the body of Christ.”



Uncommon Vessels

by Joy Bennett

It starts out looking like any other weight loss program. The participants file in and step on the scale for their weekly weigh-in. The group leaders log the numbers, encouraging both those who didn't see much progress and those who did. However, if you look closely, you'll notice a little sign near the scale that reads, "It's not the scale, it's the heart." Hmmm. That's odd, you think to yourself – you don't hear that at Weight Watchers. Do they really believe this, or is it just an excuse?

Next everyone – even the group leaders – shares how their week went – both their victories and their struggles. But wait... what's this? These testimonies are unusual too! The struggles these women share include self control, laziness, and comfort needs. Of course, they had plenty of stories in which they found themselves reaching for a 10th cookie, but the way they stopped themselves may surprise you. They were very transparent – no one was trying to impress anyone. Instead of telling themselves, "This exceeds my calorie allotment for the day" or "I should be eating 10 rice cakes instead," they ask themselves very interesting questions. "Why am I eating this? Why am I turning to food instead of to God for ____ (fill in the blank)? Am I eating this because I don't believe that God's plan for me is good and that this cookie is the only thing that will bring me happiness?"

Amy Ebert and Joni McNeese, the group's leaders, take the group through the next study in their book. They spend time in corporate prayer for each other. Finally, they share practical tips for achieving their goals. These include how to handle difficult situations such as healthy choices while eating out, portion control, and exercise.

Wow. This is way more than a diet plan! Welcome to *Uncommon Vessels*, a twelve-week Bible study written by Elyse Fitzpatrick to help people break the

bondage of destructive eating habits. She deals with overeating, anorexia, and bulimia, saying that all three "eating disorders" are a form of gluttony. Gluttony is being controlled by food and can be manifested by eating too much or not eating enough. The women who participated in this first twelve-week session are enthusiastic in their praise for the program.

"*Uncommon Vessels* is not just another "diet" program. It's about honestly dealing with sin. Not covering it up, hiding it, justifying it, blaming it on something or someone else. I use food other than for nourishment of the body. I use food for what God is to be in my life, my comfort, my help, my companion, the one that I worship, in whom I rest. The weight loss has been a secondary blessing. The recognition of, repentance of and turning from sin, in all areas of my life, is what *Uncommon Vessels* is about. Let us all feed on Christ! John 6:35" – Barb Berger

"*Uncommon Vessels* has been a painful blessing to me!

God has been using this study to reveal the 'heart issues' in my life. That's what it is all about—the weight loss is the added blessing!" – Becky Cook

This group's results are impressive: they have lost more than 100 pounds total! But they truly believe the sign posted by the scale – it really is the heart issues behind your eating that matter most. It is not an excuse for not meeting some arbitrary weight goal. (By the way, did you know that you cannot find any Scripture that commands or even commends thinness? Now God does care about our health, eating habits, and desire for Him alone, but He doesn't commend thinness for thinness' sake.)

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Youth Missions Trip

Clearcreek Chapel Youth Group

How would you like to fly 14 hours straight, through the night, and then drive 5 more hours to your destination? What if that destination was not a resort or even a three-star hotel, but a church floor?

Our intrepid elder Michael McDonald and four fearless high-school students will do just that on June 24 and July 8 as they travel to and from Bauru, Brazil for a 2 week short-term missions trip. (Actually, some of the team will stay with the Smallmans, so they won't ALL be sleeping on the church floor!)

Laura Schindler, Daniel Forrest, Danny McNeese, and Becky Zemmer have raised the support they need to travel to Bauru. They will be helping Dave and Val Smallman with their ministries to youth in Bauru. These four have also worked for months to prepare mimes, skits (wordless, to songs, or with signs to communicate), translated testimonies, and songs in Portuguese. Becky and her parents have been a great help in translating the testimonies

They will be very busy during the two-week trip. They will help with Vacation Bible School, participate in an outreach to area youth, possibly present their program in some schools, visit a boys' rehabilitation center, and help with the Smallman's English Bible Hour (they teach English as an outreach tool). They will also do some physical work at the church, such as painting.

Bauru is not a primitive tribal village in the middle of the jungle. In fact, it actually has a Walmart! The team will visit the Walmart before they go to the boys'

rehab center so they can purchase items to make care packages for the boys.

The trip will not be all work. They plan a couple of fun activities, including a visit to a hot spring and a boating trip.

Michael McDonald is very excited about taking this group of students. He said, "They are a very impressive group, a mature group. And they're looking forward to serving the Smallmans, encouraging them in their ministry, and growing spiritually."

In their personal biographies, each team member wrote that they are looking forward to the opportunity to travel abroad, try new things (especially new food - this was a big theme!), and most importantly, to serve the Lord by serving others.



Hospitality... continued from page 4

Watch for words in your heart that sound like “intrusion,” “place of quiet,” “retreat,” and so on.

- A heart that believes hospitality is only a function of giftedness. In other words, I do not have the gift of hospitality, so I do not need to have an open home. Here is what I find in the Scripture – spiritual gifts enable extraordinary exercise of duties required of all. Thus all must give, and there is a gift of giving. All must organize their lives, and there is a gift of administration. All must be hospitable, and there is a gift of hospitality.

So, a heart that struggles with hospitality is one that is self-focused and ungenerous.

Out of our own pondering and planning and purposing for hospitality, let me share some of our own strategies for hospitality.

- Examine your own beliefs and thinking about hospitality. Even as you have read this article, what thoughts have run around in your heart? Write them down. Evaluate them. And if necessary, repent of them, replacing them with truth from the word. Be sure that you can echo this declaration, “Believing that God has welcomed me, I will have an open heart and open home to my brothers and sisters, no matter the risk, no matter the cost, without expectation or demand from them.”
- Examine your own desires, wants, and cravings. Are you ruled by ease, comfort, desire for peace, quiet, and being away from people? Do you desire authentic friendship, fellowship, and accountability? Do you want people in your home? Do you delight in having guests and speakers and missionaries in your home? What about singles and seniors? What about people with 5 kids?
- When you are making choices about your house, choose a home in which you can have room for people to come in. If the treasures of your house or the treasures in your house

“The test of hospitality is not primarily what you do with the people you know, but the people you don’t know.”

hinder you from hospitality, then change them. Certainly, anytime you are considering buying or remodeling your home, ask, “How does this house or change help or hinder hospitality?”

- Set aside time each month or possibly, each week, as an “invite others over” night. Don’t let other things interfere with this. Set aside money in your budget to provide a simple dessert, meal, or whatever you can to facilitate fellowship.
- Seek out those who seem to be alone to invite them into your home. Have teens, singles, and seniors over. Look to those who are struggling financially. Look to the newcomers

to the Chapel. Have eyes that see others as opportunities for friendship and fellowship. Take the initiative with people you don’t know. The test of hospitality is not primarily what you do with the people you know, but the people you *don’t* know.

- Teach your children to prize having others over and to be good hosts. Teach them how to behave when they are guests on other’s homes. And

as a parent, do not allow the focus on your children to so dominate the horizon of your life that ministry for others and hospitality to others are eclipsed.

- Be eager and ready to open your home to those who need a place to stay – people in transition, guests, missionaries, and speakers. Know how to both provide company to them and how to give them quiet for reflection, rest, or preparation for ministry.
- Just as a practical word – keep your house in a certain amount of order so that preparation for hospitality does not become a daunting and massively time-consuming task.
- Think about this a lot!

Brothers and sisters, it is possible in the loving work of hospitality, you may entertain strangers from Heaven’s home. But most importantly, you will show the love of God and encourage and enable the good of others.

Vessels... continued from page 3

“It’s not about the scale. It’s about my heart. God doesn’t care what size I am, but He does care about my spiritual side. *Uncommon Vessels* has helped me in many ways – not just with weight loss but with trusting Him alone. – Dottie Engle

“I have always struggled with eating issues and a wrong view of food. I have found comfort in food, distraction, a sense of control. *Uncommon Vessels* has challenged me to confront my sin in this area and to examine the role of food in my life. The support and accountability have been extremely beneficial. Knowing that other women who share similar struggles are praying for me helps me to continue to strive toward my personal goals. Sure, weight loss is my goal, but more important is that I bring God glory in all areas of life. I am becoming better disciplined not only in eating but in my prayer life and in daily feeding on His Word.” – anonymous

Joni and Amy started this class after Amy read through Elyse’s book. When they discussed what she had read, they soon discovered they agreed on the principles taught in it and they both had observed that programs such as Weight Watchers only addressed eating habits, not the reasons behind the eating.

Uncommon Vessels began on March 12th. Elyse’s book is already structured into a 12-week program which includes 40+ Bible studies, accountability, practical tips, and sharing time (victories and needed growth). Because the focus is on God and our heart – why we choose and desire what we do – rather than just on a food plan, these principles apply to any area of sin in your life.

“I must admit, I was a bit leery of entering into a program I thought was a ‘diet program.’ However, I soon learned that *Uncommon Vessels* takes a much different approach to what I would call ‘disciplines of life’ than any ‘diet’ or ‘fad’ out in the world. What I have come away from this study with has been much more than just the weight I was able to lose. I gained much from the fellowship we shared as I found out that so many women struggle with common heart issues that we tend to hide them in our own little closets and pretend they are not there. This study was

great to show me where I need to rely on Christ more and to keep Him first in ALL things, not just where I want Him to be! I would recommend this class to anyone, weight issues or not, to learn about godly discipline for many aspects of our daily walk. I also so appreciated the encouragement Amy Ebert and Joni McNeese gave as they saw us struggling and sometimes failing to do as God would have us do.” – Stephanie Myers

As Stephanie said, this is not a diet plan. Everyone approaches their weight goals differently: some are counting calories, some are doing the protein-carb thing, some are doing Weight Watchers. Everyone sets their own goal when they come in and some do spiritual goals in addition to or in place of weight goals. Each person should use whatever works for them. They are also encouraged to get moving any way they can (and that doesn’t mean joining a gym necessarily).



Teachers always learn at least as much as their classes do. When asked, Joni said, “I learned too much to share! This class has been a refocusing for me, because most of the study is about God, who He is, His control and Sovereignty. This plays out in food because we use food as our God – when we are angry or need comfort or are worried, we turn to food instead of to God, the real comforter. I needed to be reminded of all this, even though I already knew it.”

Amy said, “I am continuing to work on developing self-discipline and I have really appreciated the accountability.”

If you are interested in participating in the next session of *Uncommon Vessels*, mark your calendar for July 9, from 10-11am. This is the mandatory first meeting and is NOT a commitment meeting. You will get the information you need to decide if you want to continue in the study. The second meeting, the following week, is the commitment meeting in which you will weigh in and start.

Flylady.net... continued from page 5

Flylady.net's home page is full of information—she uses it as a bulletin board to post results of special projects (they are trying to fling 2.7 million pounds of clutter in 2 weeks—that's only 15 pounds a member), quick links to Member testimonials, and special products available.

The best place to learn about the Flylady System is on the “Why Fly?” page (the link is on the left side of the homepage). From this page you can read Flylady's story, learn what to expect if you join, and view testimonials from members. She uses a lot of acronyms, “FLYing” lingo, and web abbreviations, so click “FLY FAQ” for definitions.

If you choose to subscribe to her email list, you will receive a Welcome Letter to get you started. Read the whole thing, and then reread it every week until you establish new habits. You MUST start slowly (take baby steps!). As Flylady says, if you jump in and try to do everything from the get-go, you'll quickly get overwhelmed and exhausted and quit. Good habits take time to develop, and I'll be the first to admit that I still struggle with consistency and personal discipline, even after using her system for over a year. This is not a magic pill—it takes work, like anything else worth doing!

The only downside to her system is the many emails you receive every day. Use your delete key for all the reminders you aren't ready to take on—she sends them for every part of the system, not just the parts you are doing. I read the subjects and then delete multiple messages at once because the subject is all you really need (e.g. “Where is your laundry?”).

Another way I deal with the messages is with my email filters. I set up my email to file all

Flylady emails in my “Flylady” folder. Then I can sort through them when I have time, and it keeps my Inbox from getting too cluttered. (Yes, you can declutter your inbox too!) You could set up filters to automatically delete the reminders you aren't ready for, too.

If you can't check your email often enough to make the reminders work, read the instructions (on the FLYing Lessons page) on how to make a “Control Journal,” in which you set up your own system in a notebook. You can personalize your routines and add to them as you master the system.

Flylady sometimes gets into the issues behind our clutter and poor self-discipline. When she does, you'll see that she is a proponent of self-esteem building and has a somewhat “soft” theological background. For example, she says to

pamper yourself occasionally “because you deserve it” and defines “FLYing” as Finally Loving Yourself. However, the decluttering and organizing strategies she provides are extremely practical and most of her insights are right on. She gets enough right that I can ignore the self-esteem stuff. She does not tolerate whining and preaches against becoming a martyr (saying things like “I'm the only one who does any work around here... poor me.”) and having a child-centered home (a recent email asked, “Are you the parent, or are you just the oldest person in the house?”).

I believe that on flylady.net you will find incredible insight into how our homes got into CHAOS and very helpful tips for how to have your house ready for unexpected knocks on the door.

If you have found a certain website to be helpful or inspiring in some way, tell us about it. We'd like to feature website reviews in the newsletter periodically.

“Your home is filled with clutter of all shapes and sizes. This is why you are unable to keep it clean. You have too much STUFF.”





June 2003							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3	4 Flock groups 6:00-8:30 p.m.	5	6	7	
8 Graduation Sunday	9	10	11 Flock groups 6:00-8:30 p.m.	12	13	14 Women's Workshop 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Mandy McNeese & Jonathan Zemmer's Wedding	
15	16	17	18 Flock groups 6:00-8:30 p.m.	19 Dave and Patty Zemmers' anniversary	20	21	
22	23 Ian Lyons's birthday	Youth Missions Trip to Bauru, Brazil				27	28 Beverly Levy's birthday
29 Festival of Favorites	30 Youth Missions Trip to Bauru, Brazil						

July 2003						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Youth Missions Trip to Bauru, Brazil	2 Flock groups 6:00-8:30 p.m.	3 Laser Tag (Youth) 6:00-10:00 p.m.	4 Office Closed for Fourth of July holiday	5
6 Annual Church Picnic Camp Chataqua 3:00-9:00 p.m.	7 Youth Missions Trip to Bauru, Brazil	8	9 Uncommon Vessels Mandatory Orientation 10:00-11:00 a.m. Flock groups 6:00-8:30 p.m.	10	11	12 Women's Workshop 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
13	14	15	16 Uncommon Vessels 10:00-11:00 a.m. Joint Flock groups 6:00-8:30 p.m.	17	18	19 Spreading the Gospel of God Ministries at Warren County Fair
20	21	22	23 Uncommon Vessels 10:00-11:00 a.m. Flock groups 6:00-8:30 p.m.	24	25	26 Graham Lyons's birthday
27	28	29 Dave and Sue Dernlan's anniversary	30 Uncommon Vessels 10:00-11:00 a.m. NO Flock groups	31		