

THE BRIDGE

an ECIC publication

PK on “War...What is it Good For?”



For the past few years our country has been at war in Afghanistan and in Iraq and apparently in several other places around the world trying to snuff out terrorists that are intent on destroying the United States and her allies.

Amidst severe arguments and profound confusion about the war, perhaps the only commonly held belief is that terrorists are bad and we should stop them. After that things get a little more complicated.

I find this intriguing in light of our study through the book of Ephesians. We have been clearly told that we have an enemy that is trying to destroy our lives and our souls. We have been warned that the enemy will try to trap us in sins that will crush our spirits (4:26). Bibli-

cally there is no mistaking the facts of the spiritual war we are in:

#1 We are all born wicked and destined for an eternity apart from God.

#2 We are all in a spiritual war that God is waging to redeem us and all of mankind.

#3 Joining God’s Army through the forgiveness and leadership of Christ ensures us a final victory.

In this light, the rest of the book of Ephesians is our marching orders for life.

I often hear people say that they want to grow in their faith, or “go deeper.” The tools for growing have been given to us by God. He has given us his Word, The Bible, and he has given us the gift of prayer. These gifts give us the clarity and power that we need to wage our battles.

As soldiers of God’s Army we need not be confused about Satan or how to win our war. Through obedience to God this week we should make time for God’s word. Make time for prayer. Be a part of God’s army.

Meet Pastor Ray Wilshire

Pastor Ray Wilshire comes to ECIC with many years of ministry experience. Not only has he been involved in pastoral ministry himself, but he also has mentored local Hispanic pastors as well.

Pastor Ray also currently works as a probation officer in the Chelsea District Court. He is currently finishing his Doctor of Ministry degree at Gordon-Conwell.

Pastor Ray and his wife Naomi have come to ECIC as the Spanish Pastor. You can contact Pastor Ray by calling the church office at 781.592.3242 or emailing him at PastorRay@ecic-lynn.com.

Meet Pastor Steve Smith

Pastor Steve Smith has come to ECIC to fill the position of Youth Pastor. He is from Hawaii, and his wife Lillian is from Puerto Rico. A committed family man, Pastor Steve is a stay at home dad with two young boys. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Gordon-Conwell.

As youth pastor at ECIC, Pastor Steve will be overseeing the youth group which has shifted to meeting Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm at the Ministry Center.

You can contact Pastor Steve by calling the church office at 781.592.3242 or emailing him at PastorSteve@ecic-lynn.com.

East Coast International Church
113 Chestnut St.
Lynn, MA 01902

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

THE BRIDGE

an ECIC publication



Come & Bring a Friend

*To East Coast
International Church*

Services are at 11:00 am @

Ingalls Elementary School

(across from the 7-11 on Essex St.)



Don't Miss These Dates:

- This year's final **Incoming Mission Team** will be here July 30th to August 5th. As usual we will be doing Metro Kids Tuesday through Friday at about 2:00 pm each day. This is our biggest, most exciting Metro Kids site, so everyone is invited to help out!
- The **Gonzalez's final week** with us will be on August 5th. There will be a time to say "goodbye" to them following the service.
- **Men of Integrity Breakfast** - August 11th @ 8:00. All men in the church are invited to this opportunity to fellowship with the other guys in the church and to be challenged to be a greater man of God.
- **ServeFEST** - August 11th @ 11:00. This is an exciting opportunity to go out and show the love of God to the people in our city in practical ways.
- **All Church Retreat** - August 24 & 25. As a church we will be going to Chop Point, a camp in Maine. This will be a time to relax and connect with God in a fresh way.
- **Combined Service** - August 26. This combined service will be at the usual time and place and will be the closing event for the church's retreat.
- **Baptism Service** – August 26 @ 5:00 pm at the Lynn/Nahant Beach near mile marker 7.