

SOF in Touch

JULY 2022

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 7/2, 9a.m.: Fun Run “Independence Day” theme
- 7/3, 12p.m.: ADUTs volleyball & pool party
- 7/9, 9 a.m.: Men’s breakfast
- 7/14-16: Camping trip
- 7/23, 9 a.m.: Fun Run “Christmas in July” theme
- 7/24, 10 a.m.: Communion message by Adam Gilles; pot luck

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Dependence Day and True Freedom

By Jenny Deweese

No worries, I did not forget the “I-N,” but thank you for noticing. July 4th is celebrated in the U.S. as Independence Day—the anniversary of the day we declared our freedom from Great Britain’s rule. The idea of freedom in America is one of being able to stand on our own—we’re independent—we don’t need help!

Many of us in our lives before trusting Christ reached the end of our independence—we felt lost, hopeless, powerless. The world, in general, teaches that dependence is a sign of weakness. If only we could realize that no one is truly independ-

ent—we all rely on something or someone to get us through the day. Whether it’s positive thinking, good karma, drugs, alcohol, nicotine, caffeine, friends, family, or coworkers, we all have a crutch—like it or not. While some of these don’t seem bad, all of them have the potential to keep us in bondage.

Wouldn’t it be nice to have a “crutch” that would never fail, never waiver, never harm us? For those of us who are in Christ, we have such a “Crutch.” Christ, Himself, went to the cross and beat death to give us freedom from all things that might draw us away from Him.



As Christians, we are ministers of this message to all we encounter, praying that they will trust Christ and realize that complete reliance on Him is the only way to be set free. Christ’s forgiveness is more powerful than any chain of addiction or dysfunctional relationship! His love is purifying, uplifting, and empowering!

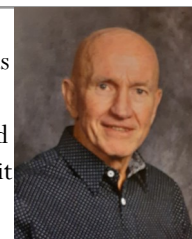
Let’s keep leading others toward their own relationships with Christ, so we can celebrate their “DEpendence Days” and their *true freedom* that results!

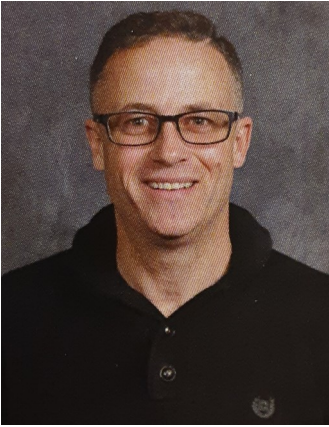
A Word from PW: Freedom in His House

SOF families, how blessed we are to have a church filled with beautiful and strong families! We love Jesus, our Holy Spirit, our faithful Heavenly Father, and each other. We allow the Holy Spirit to teach us about Jesus, His love and forgiveness, and at the same time, are free to be who He says we are in His body. We get to love on Him in

all our forms of praise. Look around on a Sunday morning and just watch all of your church family enjoying each other and the Lord as they celebrate Jesus. I now understand Ps. 92:13&14 and why it is so important to be planted in the Lord’s house—young and old bearing fruit and flourishing. I’m so grateful my mom and

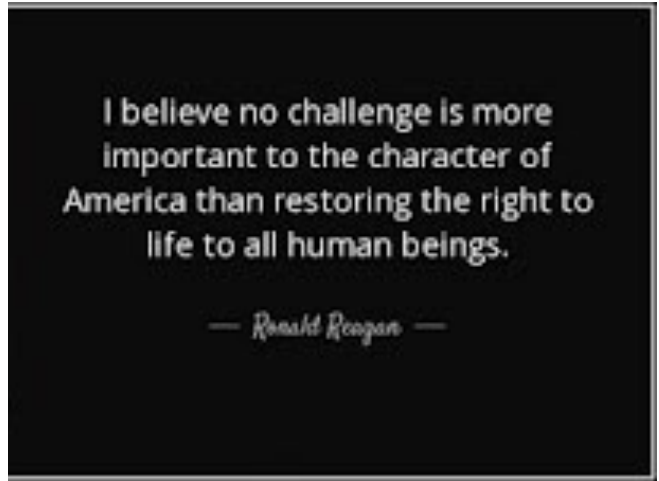
dad taught me this principle as a young boy. I’ve always said how beautiful it would be to grow old with a church family. It’s happening, and I’m a very fulfilled spiritual father enjoying these precious moments on earth. Thank you, church family, for being such a big blessing to me! ❤️





A Message from Pastor Mike

Greetings, Shield of Faith Saints of God! July is upon us, and I find myself reflecting on how great this nation is because of its founding based on Judeo-Christian beliefs. There are lots of exciting things taking place in this country, and we as Christians are gaining back ground. I encourage you to pray for this nation and its leaders and to remain steadfast and bold in the faith. May the Lord our God bless you all!



*“Adults Discovering Ultimate Truth”
A group for ages 18-25ish who want to grow together in faith and fun*

ADUT Scuttlebutt

By Jenny Deweese

Pastor Mike seemed to enjoy the Avengers movie that we watched on June 5th, and Stephanie enjoyed her nap. (Avengers aren't her thing, but we're blessed that she comes to fellowship!) 😴

Many of our young adults helped at One Week One

Street as youth leaders and did their best to keep the kiddos safe and sound—but not necessarily right-side-up.



[Sign up for the Christmas program]



REVOLUTION STUDENT MINISTRIES

Junior and Senior High kids learning to navigate this crazy world together in a way that challenges the “norm” through Jesus’ mighty power



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Youth Truth

By Pastors Randy & Lisa

One Week One Street was a success! We worked on 4 houses doing 3 full paint jobs and lots of trash removal.

Thank you to everyone who helped with food, volunteering, etc. We are blessed with a great, supportive church family!

No youth on Saturdays in July—enjoy that time with your families.



We love you and believe in you and the call God has on your life!

Much love & mega blessings!

Kids' Corner

By Dave & Colleen Curry

Children's ministry is for ages 5-11 or kindergarten-5th grade.

We are finishing our study through Revelation in July using the Gospel Project for Kids.

Remember, after children bring their Bible 8 times, they can choose from our selection of prizes. If your child needs a Bible, please see one of our children's ministers.

We are always happy to screen new volunteers, as many hands make light work. Please see one of our children's ministers for the forms to complete.

Looking ahead, we will have some students graduating to youth group and some new trainees coming from nursery on August 14. We will also begin studying Genesis.

Thank for entrusting your precious ones to us! If you

ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask.



Calling all kids!



Christmas program sign-up is on the table in the welcome center, along with an info sheet explaining the details. Hope you can participate in sharing the message of Christmas! —Jenny D.

Kids in grades K-5 growing with Jesus

Nursery News

Our nursery is for infants through age 4 or preschoolers.

Each session includes play-time, a brief lesson, a craft, and a snack.

Our nursery volunteers have all had background checks and enjoy teaching our youngest

hearts about Jesus' love for them.

If you are interested in joining our nursery team, please contact Judy Barnes.



If you are 3 or older and can stand still (mostly) & follow directions, please join our Christmas program cast!

—Jenny D.



*“Let the little ones come to Me...”
Infants through preschoolers’ starting life in Jesus’ love*

Ladies' Life

By Lynn Ahrens

We have been enjoying our frolicking at Tim Horton's every Wednesday, however, the next one won't be until fall.

Our next luncheon will be Saturday, August 13th, at 1 p.m. at G's Pizza on Bay Road. See Lynn Ahrens for more information.



SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES

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POINTING THE WAY TO
JESUS!



Down to Details

Join us Saturday, July 2nd, at 9 a.m. at the Van Wormer Rail Trail head for our next 5K fun run. The theme this time is "Independence Day," so gear up in patriotic paraphernalia and have fun running, walking, army-crawling, etc., as we grow closer while building our relationships and our health.

Our next ADUTs activity is July 3rd after church at the Dewese home. We'll eat lunch, play volleyball, and swim. Hot dogs will be provided. Please bring a bag of chips or side dish to share.

The next men's breakfast will be held at Sullivan's restaurant on Saturday, July 9th, at 9 a.m. Please tell Adam Gilles if you are going to attend.

Another ministry here at SOF is our ladies' craft group. Occasionally, we meet to create blankets, cards, and other crafts to bless our community. If you would like more information, see Judy Barnes or Sherri Sutton.

Our church camping trip is July 14-16 at Covenant Hills Campground in Otisville. Check with Sherri Sutton if you'd like to come.

Teen Challenge will be sharing with us on July 24th during our service, and we'll be enjoying a potluck after service as a treat for them. See Rosie Limon for details about the potluck.

Men's Moment

Here are just a few of the activities men have an opportunity to enjoy at SOF:

Men's Bible study on Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

Daily prayer at the church from 12-1 p.m., M-F.

Men's breakfasts

5K fun run/walks

Volunteer work projects around the building and grounds

Blessing the ladies in creative ways



For more information about our men's ministry, see Jason Dewese, Adam Gilles, or Guy Roberts.

[Sign up for the Christmas program]

