

SOF in Touch

FEBRUARY 2023

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 2/4: KERYX Prison Service
- 2/4: Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Retreat 9am-4pm
- 2/10: CCC 6-8 pm @ Seeley's house
- 2/18: Ladies' luncheon @ Uno's, 1-3 pm
- 2/19: chili cook-off potluck
- 2/26: Communion by Steve Duel

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Everybody's Valentine

By Jenny Deweese

With trembling hands and a pounding heart, he slips the heart-shaped note into the slot in the shoebox decked with pink construction paper and glittery, red hearts. What will she do when she reads it? What will her answer be? Will she be his valentine?

Many of us can look back to our days in elementary school with fondness and remember the fluttery feeling that question created within us. It was such a risk; we were so vulnerable in those moments. Oh, how I wished I could know the answer without asking the question!

Many people visit churches because they have run out of relationships—they have no one left to turn to for support, so they end up walking through our doors. They feel alone, vulnerable, and unloved. With Valentine's Day approaching, they have no expectation of finding love anywhere—especially a true, selfless, sacrificial love that will actually change their lives.

Thankfully, our Mission is to introduce them to just such a Love—the One Who made the ultimate sacrifice to be that Support and Caregiver these visitors so desperately need and desire.

Jesus is waiting on pins and needles

for every person to ask Him that important question, but no one ever has to feel vulnerable or insecure or wonder what the answer will be. His answer is always a resounding, "Yes!" It's the reason He came to Earth, lived that perfect life, died that horrible death, and conquered the grave by rising from the dead—to save every person who calls upon His Name.

Your faithful service to this Mission makes our ministry possible. You work alongside us to serve our Lord and our visitors. Side by side we are able to carry out our mission of proclaiming to the hurting of Saginaw Valley that Jesus longs to be every-body's Valentine—that His answer is always, "YES!"

A Word from Pastor Weldon



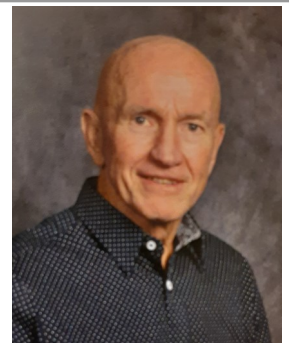
Calling all shepherds—time to praise and look to lead, guide, cherish, feed, and protect your flocks! SOF Warriors, God has drawn you in at SOF to be a part of this powerful movement. We are going to get dirty and attacked, but the power of God in us will prevail and cause us to be victorious. Get ready to lay hands on the sick, to cast out devils from the oppressed or possessed, and to speak in tongues because the Lord has

said that to those who believe.

Look out, Saginaw Valley, here come Shield of Faith Shepherds who believe we are called and anointed for this time in history to lead, train, and encourage while equipping the saints for the work of ministry!

We are all growing up in Christ, being knit together and looking to do our part as an unbeatable team together!

Let's all cry out with our battle

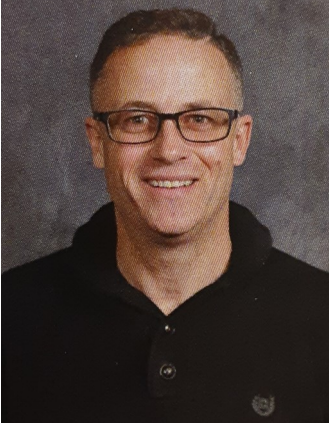


roar—ROAR!!

Blessed to be on the same team with you all!

Much love,

Pastor Weldon



A Message from Pastor Mike

Greetings, Shield of Faith Saints of God. The leading of the Holy Spirit tells me that love is in the air!

1 Corinthians 13:1-8 (GW)

“I may speak in the languages of humans and of angels, but if I don’t have love, I am a loud gong or a clashing cymbal. I may have the gift to speak what God has revealed, and I may understand all mysteries and have all knowledge. I may even have

enough faith to move mountains. But if I don’t have love, I am nothing. I may even give away all that I have and give up my body to be burned. But if I don’t have love, none of these things will help me. Love is patient. Love is kind. Love isn’t jealous. It doesn’t sing its own praises. It isn’t arrogant. It isn’t rude. It doesn’t think about itself. It isn’t irritable. It doesn’t keep track of wrongs. It isn’t happy when injustice is done, but it

is happy with the truth. Love never stops being patient, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up. Love never comes to an end.”

1 Corinthians 13:13 (GW)

“So these three things remain: faith, hope, and love. But the best one of these is love.”

I love you all and pray God’s blessings over 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

Our final movie with Pastor Mike and Stephanie was tons of fun! Oddly, P2 didn’t shed a single tear, even though it was his last experience with the Avengers—so WEIRD! 😊

Our February fellowship event is yet to be determined, but I’m sure it will be something a

tad wild, a bit crazy, and 100% worth attending! We will NOT be able to have it on February 5th, however, because I will be heading to Florida to visit our dear Nancy Bayn. Watch Facebook for announcements.

In the meantime I’m so proud of how you all have been and will continue growing together,

mentoring the youth, and blessing our church family!

I LOVE YOU ALL 3000!!



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

Youth Truth

By Pastors Randy & Lisa Larson
Happy Day! Good news—the youth group got new sound equipment (well, new to us from the sanctuary)!! We are looking forward to starting back up live worship 1-2 times per month during our Saturday meetings. As a reminder our youth group meets Saturdays from 6:30-8:00- (with doors opening at 6pm).

We also will have NO youth group Feb 11th.

BOTTLE DRIVE HAS STARTED! WE WILL BE ACCEPTING ANY RETURNABLE BOTTLES NOW THROUGH EASTER!

Our goal as youth pastors is to come alongside you as parents and help train up the next generation!

If you or your youth have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us! (989-598-4126) We are more than willing to meet up to discuss any concerns you may have.

WE LOVE YOU! WE BELIEVE IN YOU AND THE CALL THAT GOD HAS PLACED ON YOUR LIVES!

Much love, mega blessings!



Kids' Corner

SOF CHILDREN'S CHURCH IS OUR JAM!



Kids in grades K-5 growing with Jesus

Nursery News

SOF NURSERY ROCKS!



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

Ladies' Life

By Rev. Lynn Ahrens

Now that we have entered the year 2023, it is apparent that we need to be all that God has called us to be. At Shield of Faith, our goal is to be a remnant that will always be obedient to God's Word.

The intent of our “Ladies of Fire” is to come together, to put ourselves in the place of another, to feel her feelings,

to walk in her shoes, to take upon ourselves her burdens, to give to her our lives, and to ultimately become “family.”

In order to adequately be able to do the above, we meet together at various restaurants every three months (February, May, August, and November), usually on the second Saturday at 1 pm for a luncheon. However, this February we had to move it to the THIRD Saturday, the 18th, at

UNO's, 4860 Town Centre Road in Saginaw. Each person gets to order off the menu.

All ladies of Shield of Faith are invited, ages 16 and older. Our desire is to have all our ladies fully present instead of having to give their attentions to little ones. This will help meet the goal of getting to know the girls who are still unfamiliar to them. Please let Sheila Sparkes or Lynn Ahrens know if you can attend.



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MINISTRIES

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POINTING THE WAY TO
JESUS!



A Kernel from Pastor Kathy

The History of the Sound of Worship Part 3: Music in Old Testament Times

All primitive people generally believed that music was of divine origin. The oldest of civilizations have legends of how a "god" discovers music and passes it on to mankind. History reveals that from earliest times, music was used exclusively for worship. Though pagan civilizations used it in despicable ceremonies, the music of the Hebrews was always of the highest value: pure and holy, noble and rich. The true God commanded music both vocally and instrumentally throughout scripture. The Lord commanded Israel to worship Him with singing, praising, shouting, and all kinds of musical instruments, even calling them "musical instruments of God" (1 Chron 16 4-5). The Hebrew people sang and sang and sang. They sang as they worshipped, as they worked, as they dug wells, in battle and in victory; they sang and shouted to collapse the walls of Jericho; they sang in their festivals and as they trod out grapes. The use of instruments in worship is recorded in scripture even more than singing. The combination of singing and playing instruments played a continual role in God's prescribed worship. Miriam used percussion instruments with singing (Exodus 15). Wind instruments were used with the shouting down of the walls of Jericho (Joshua 6). The tabernacle of David had a team of 4000 that praised the Lord with instruments continually morning and evening (1Chronicles 15-16). Music played a part in influencing the spirit of prophecy in the school of the prophets (1 Samuel 10). David played before Saul, and an evil spirit would depart, showing the power of anointed music to overpower a troubling demon spirit (1 Sam 16). The Lord only criticized the singing or instrumental music if it was done in hypocrisy (pretending) (Amos 8:3). **No** music in Israel was a sign of judgment or a curse upon the land (Is 24:8; Jer 7:34). But the Hebrews let apostasy set in and allowed their sound of worship to formalize. Synagogues eventually confined the singing to ritualistic chanting allowed only to the priests. After 70 AD pharisees forbade the use of instruments because pagan religions used them, also. The songs of Moses, Miriam, Israel, David, and Solomon were no longer frequently heard. It is said the spirituality of the Hebrew nation can be determined by the rise and fall of their ministry to the Lord in music and song. Probably the same can be said of the United States....let's keep the intensity of our worship of Him high!

Men's Moment

FIRST ANNUAL

IRON SHARPENS IRON

MEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, Feb. 4th, 9am-4pm

Theme: The Men We Need

by Brant Hansen

Join us for fellowship, team-
building, encouragement, and
FUN!

Location:

Richard Bush Renewal Center

21575 Brady Rd.

Bannister, MI

See Richard Morrissey for
more information.

