

SOF in Touch

MARCH 2023

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 3/4: *KERYX Prison Service*
- 3/18: *Ladies' Easter card making, 10 a.m.*
- 3/25: *Men's ministry, 10 a.m.*
- 3/26: *Communion by Guy Roberts, 10 a.m.*

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One Shining Moment

By Jenny Deweese

First coined in 1939 by a high school official speaking about basketball, "March Madness" wasn't associated with the NCAA Division I Tournament until 1982, but it sure has stuck! Four years later a song was written (originally for the Super Bowl, but time ran out to play it after the game) and became the theme song that every college basketball player would learn. "One Shining Moment" is, perhaps, the most iconic sports song of all time.

The lyrics to this song describe

the fleeting nature of triumph. Victories in sports, in games, in business are all temporary until the next challenge presents itself.

Many people have become all too familiar with these fleeting moments. Any time they've gotten ahead, they've been knocked off their feet by another hardship.

That's why the Message of Hope that we know is so critical. Jesus' victory over sin and death is NOT fleeting, and when people trust in Him, their futures become secure—



no matter what their circumstances may be.

Your commitment to Christ and to our church family helps us drive this message deep into every person's heart and mind. When you greet a visitor, offer a kind word to a brother or sister, give to the ministry, or volunteer, you are part of a team that is helping our attendees overcome obstacles to create their own ETERNAL shining moments. Thank you for your ministry!

A Word from Pastor Weldon



REVIVAL, ANYONE?

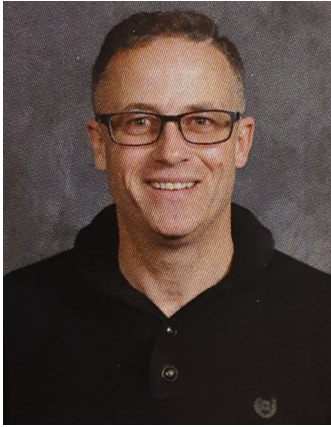
Hear, ye! Hear, ye! Calling all believers who are hungry for a move of God—we here at SOF must put ourselves in a position of expectancy. We can no longer just be happy going through our day-to-day lives without moving in Holy Ghost power. It's time not only to know we have the power of God living in us, but also to begin expecting this Kingdom power of the Ho-

ly Spirit to flow out of us with signs and wonders. As we are witnessing the darkness around us and the gross darkness on people, there is a hunger on the world for more. They may not know what they need, but we do. His Name is Jesus, and He is beginning to increase His presence on the youth and young adults of America. Get in an expectancy mode of allowing the Holy Ghost to flow out of you onto those around you.



Look for opportunities to lay hands on the sick. Increase your prayer language. Get ready to deliver a bunch of confused and misled people. They are coming to us for us to help them meet Jesus. Must I remind you—you are ANNOINTED!

Much love to you!



A Message from Pastor Mike

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the glorious month of March where the time changes, and spring comes in. Spring is a time of new birth and new beginnings. I feel the Lord saying, "Look for the new beginnings and changes in your lives, and don't settle for the same old thing."

Remember, Brothers and Sisters, everyday is a new day and a

special gift given to us by God—let's not waste it. I am excited by all God is doing and can't wait to see what He does this month. Praying God's blessings over you all in Jesus Name.



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

ADUT Scuttlebutt

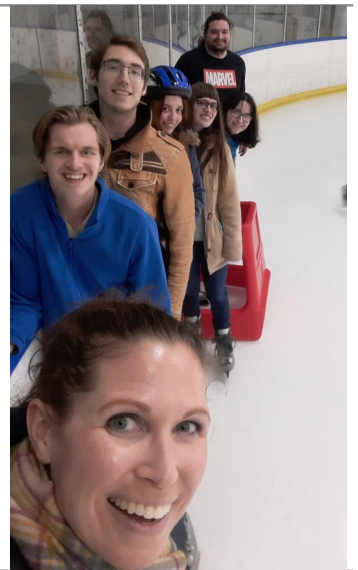
By Jenny Deweese

Our February fellowship activity was ice skating at the Saginaw Bay Ice Arena. It was a great time of sliding around, playing tag, and (for some) getting back up again!

One of our young ladies actually overcame her intense fear of ice. She had fallen on ice as a 10-year-old and had refused to try ice skating ever since. At the rink,

however, she said, "I will conquer this fear," as she stepped out onto the ice with barely a hesitation to grab the stabilizer. She had a blast skating around, spinning, and twirling! Wouldn't it be great to follow her example in our own lives?

Our activity for March will be roller skating at the Midland Roll Arena. Watch Facebook for details.



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

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

CALLING ALL KIDS & THOSE WHO LOVE KIDS!

June 12-16 will be our Vacation Bible School, Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light!

Children age 3 through grade 6 will be able to participate in this amazing adventure.

Youth and adults will be able to volunteer in all different types of positions—we need about 40 volunteers!

See the VBS display in the welcome center for more details.



Kids in grades K-5 growing with Jesus

Tell your family members, friends, neighbors, and your neighbors' friends!

We're praying to have a total of 50 kids on the first day and to grow from there!

Thank you for your prayers!!

Jackie Gilles, children's ministries director, and

Jenny Deweese, care pastor & VBS director

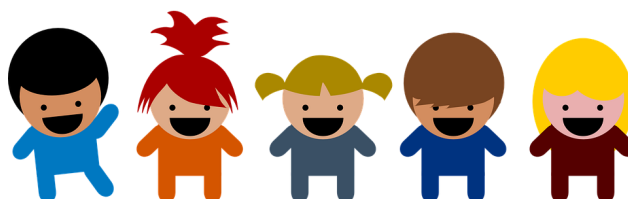
Nursery News

By Judy Barnes

Our SOF nursery is growing, which is wonderful! We have a good number of volunteers, but we always welcome more.

We are praying about a name for our nursery class. If you have any ideas, please submit them to me. We are considering "Kingdom Kids" or "Tiny Warriors," etc.

Thank you for keeping our youngest hearts and the volunteers who minister to them in prayer!



*"Let the little ones come to Me..."
Infants through preschoolers' starting life in Jesus' love*

Ladies' Life

By Rev. Lynn Ahrens

Again, our "Ladies of Faith" had a wonderful time reminiscing at Uno's Pizzeria & Grill on the 18th of February.

The joy and laughter warms our hearts as our ladies get to know each other just a bit more each time we meet.

Our next luncheon will be on Saturday, May 20th at

1:00 pm. The place will be announced later.

If you have never been to our luncheons and have questions, please see Carol, Jeanette, Lynn, Sheila, or Sherri.

Blessings,
Lynn



SHIELD OF FAITH
MINISTRIES

10322 Swan Creek Rd.
Saginaw, MI 48609

Phone: 989-781-4668

Fax: 989-781-3766

sof@sofsaginaw.org



POINTING THE WAY TO
JESUS!



A Kernel from Pastor Kathy: WORSHIP AT THE ASBURY REVIVAL

The songs are sung softly and tenderly and mostly acoustically (I haven't heard drums—just congas, no electric guitars), ushering in a sense of intimacy. It makes me think that our young adults have been longing for intimacy with the Lord in the midst of all the trouble the world is offering. Also, it reminds me of songs sung at the Toronto blessing which came in to offer the believers rest and refreshing from their labors. There are two types of "heart worship." One is Vertical Worship and one is Horizontal Worship.

Vertical worship focuses on bringing glory to God alone. "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor 10:31). The essence of God-Centered worship is the acknowledgement that we can no longer see ourselves as the center of our world, and we finally recognize that only God rules and reigns there in our world. In Vertical Worship we lift our voices to heaven and proclaim, "To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever." In Vertical Worship our focus is on *who* He is and *what* He has done for creation. In God-Centered worship we honor Him as Redeemer and Restorer, His holiness, His goodness, His mercy. He is King; He is Priest... and on and on....wow! He is a Great God. The songs have more YOUs in them than I's.

Horizontal Worship is a recognition of how God personally displays His grace to us. It emphasizes us and our family of fellow believers and our interaction with that grace and His care for us. It doesn't detract from God-Centeredness; it emphasizes His desire to bless us, strengthen us, deliver us and bring refuge to us. We sing of how He leads us into victory or of how He comforted us or of how He delights us or brings us joy. Horizontal Worship can be considered the singing of our many, many testimonies, and...it will have a few I's in it. It is all good! However, since December and with attention to the Asbury outpouring, I really do think the Lord is speaking to me that I need to bring more of the Vertical Worship into the sanctuary. I encourage you to join with me in concentrating on how **magnificent** He is. The old hymns are wonderful at capturing this. PK

Men's Moment

By Richard Morrissey

Greetings to you from the SOF Men's Ministry Outreach and Fellowship!

Response to this new ministry has been encouraging, but of course, we are always looking for a few good men.

At this time the ministry will meet monthly at the church on the 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. This month's meeting will be held

on March 25th.

As an outreach ministry, we are here to provide help to our church and community. If you have a problem and no solution, please contact the men's ministry, and we'll help in any way we can.

Lastly, we would appreciate love offerings to help fund ministry activities. Thank you!

Be abundantly blessed!

