

SOF in Touch

DECEMBER 2023

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 12/2: *KERYX Prison Service*
- 12/16: *Christmas Dress Rehearsal, 10 a.m.; Singing at Shields Comfort Care*
- 12/17: *Christmas Program, 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.*
- 12/22: *Christmas Caroling*
- 12/24: *Communion led by Travis Roberts; Christmas Eve Service, 6-7 p.m.*
- 12/25-29: *Offices Closed*

Inside this issue:

<i>A Message from Pastor Mike</i>	2
<i>ADUT Scuttlebutt</i>	2
<i>Youth Truth</i>	2
<i>Kids' Corner</i>	3
<i>Nursery News</i>	3
<i>Ladies' Life</i>	3
<i>Men's Moment</i>	4

Surprise Attacks

By Jenny Deweese

"We were building a small medical unit...and suddenly, we heard a buzzing, and it kept getting larger, bigger and bigger," said Lynn "Doc" Munger recalling events from December 7th, 1941, 75 years later. He was a pharmacist's mate at Pearl Harbor Naval Hospital during one of the most devastating attacks on American soil.

The surprise attack, while tragic, did not meet its intended goal of crippling the United States' Pacific Fleet. Many vital resources like oil storage

depots, repair shops, and shipyards were left intact. This allowed for a relatively quick recovery by the U.S. Navy.

A few years ago, COVID-19 launched a surprise attack on the world that has been devastating in multiple ways to millions of people. It soon became clear it was an attack on the Church as local bodies were instructed to stop meeting, and in its wake came other threats from liberal, woke agendas fueled by demonic forces. We at SOF, however, decided not to stay closed in spite of po-

tential threats—we have a higher Authority!

These attacks cannot touch our "vital resources" of love, hope, and care that spring from knowing Jesus' love, and they haven't appeared to hinder many of you from continuing your faithful service and support as you war faithfully in the Spirit against the forces of the enemy.

We will not be defeated as we remember that "no weapon [or surprise attack] formed against us shall prosper."

A Word from Pastor Weldon

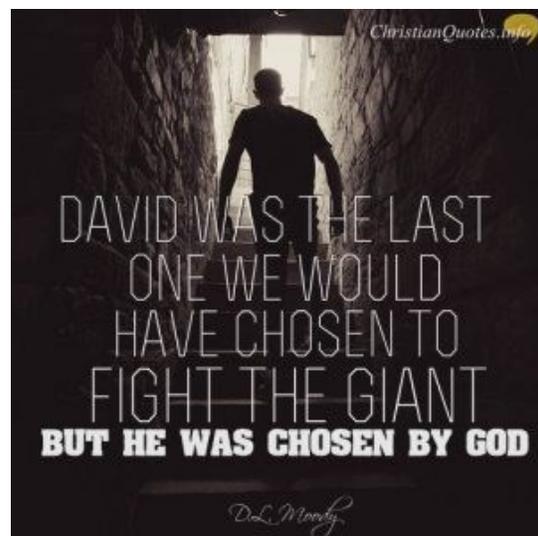
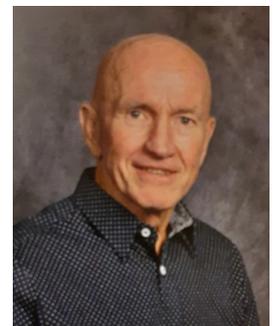
The warriors at SOF are being awakened to the task at hand. What is the task? It's taking the power within us to our homes, church, and communities in which we live—the key being knowing Who lives in us and then releasing the Holy Spirit with Word and praise, destroying the forces of hell.

We must know the Word, and we must then also release it over our families and communities. What a blessing to know we at SOF have many warriors warring for our families, church, community and nation in Jesus' Name! Let's band together in the good fight of faith continuing looking to Jesus, the Author of our faith.

We win, Church! Keep up the

good fight. We can do it together if we faint not!

Much love,
Pastor Weldon





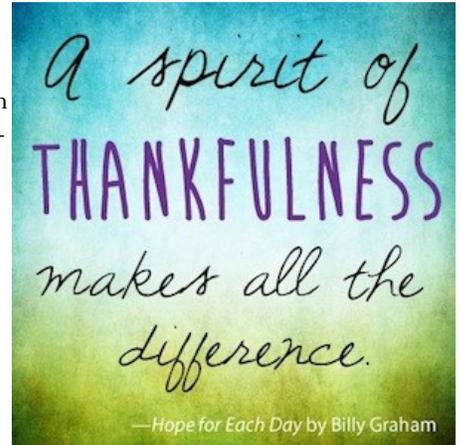
A Message from Pastor Mike

Hello, Shield of Faith Brothers and Sisters. It's hard to believe that November is over, and the last month of 2023 is here. We just celebrated a time of gratitude, and I pray all of you see the blessings that God has before you. Here's a little hint: they are everywhere—just open your eyes to see.

December marks a month that we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior,

Jesus Christ. I pray that you all reflect on what a gift He truly is. I would like to encourage you not to let a day go by without seeking God. He's right in front of you holding out His hand. I hope you take ahold of it. Jesus is the reason for the season, now and always. God bless you all. I pray that this

message finds you healthy and well, lacking nothing 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

This month's version of "ADUTs on Skates" went much more smoothly than March's did! We once again visited Midland's Roll Arena where no one was seriously injured! Our guys even participated in a race that, thankfully, did not end in catastrophe—it didn't end in victory, either, but we'll take no injuries as a win, anyway.

After skating we met at Riverside Restaurant in Freeland for some dinner and more fun with fellowship.

If you know of anyone who is looking for a church and is 18-30, please send that young adult our way.

ADUTs, keep in mind that we hope to attend Winter Jam in Ypsilanti on February 25th and the Brandon Lake "Tear off the Roof"

concert on May 2nd in Grand Rapids.



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

It has been a joy having Randy and Lisa Larson serving as our youth pastors for the past 10 years!

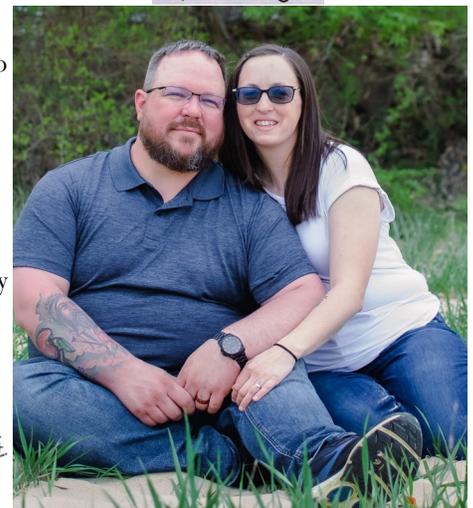
After prayer and counsel, they have decided to step down from youth ministry. They feel God leading them to a year of rest and to focus more on their immediate family.

They are not leaving our church, praise God, and will still be active participants in our

body. They are taking a year to seek God before taking on any other leadership roles. We are blessed to have them at SOF!

We pray the very best for them and look forward to seeing how the Lord will work in their lives! Thank you, Randy and Lisa—much love, mega blessings...to YOU!!

Thank you and God bless you!



WELL DONE

Kids' Corner

By Jackie Gilles

November 13-20th was National Collection week for Operation Christmas Child. The Young Warriors packaged shoeboxes, wrote letters, and colored and wrote notes inside the shoeboxes saying "Jesus Loves You." Our goal was to hit 15 shoeboxes, and we more than doubled it, hitting 40 shoeboxes!!! We cannot thank you all enough for your love and support! We could not have done it without you! Please join us in continuing to pray for protection over the shoeboxes as they make their way through the process. Packaging centers are open all across the United States with vol-

unteers preparing the boxes for overseas shipment. 📦 🌐 Together we are fulfilling the Great Commission, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," Matthew 28:19.

In December the Young Warriors will be studying the birth of Jesus. We will be digging into Scripture, acting out it out and watching a movie. Please help your children remember to bring their Bibles to class. They are all getting more and more comfortable with finding Scripture. If your child does not have a Bible,

please let me know.

May the gifts of peace and joy be yours as you enter into this season, and may happiness dwell around you wherever you go! Remember to SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!



Kids in grades 1-5 growing with Jesus



Nursery News

Our youngest hearts continue to grow and thrive in our King's Kids ministry. Each week, any littles who come to church have the opportunity to

learn about Jesus' love at their own level.

If you are interested in ministering to our little ones, please see Judy Barnes or Jackie Gilles.



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

Ladies' Life

By Lynn Ahrens

The last three months have been most exciting for the SOF Ladies of Faith. In September we got to experience a weekend retreat that was exceptional. In October it was our privilege and honor to see and help our Saginaw Life Clinic branch and joyously donate gifts of love for the mothers and babies who were to come into this world by Christmas.

May the joy of giving to the needy become a part of your life during these upcoming holidays.

Our Lord has promised that when we become obedient to Him in giving, the blessings received in return definitely

supersede the sacrifice of our giving. Never should we give to get, but the promise of God's joyous return based on our obedience to His will is always a blessing beyond our own reasoning. May you have incredible blessings.

Starting on Wednesday, November 29th, we will be moving our 10 a.m. Wednesday morning frolic time from Tim Horton's to the home of Lynn Ahrens. For more information call the church or contact Lynn.

On Sunday morning, December 3rd, our shirts with our SOF logo will be available at church. When you pick up your shirts, you need to make out your checks to SOF and write SHIRTS on the memo line. For cash we will have giving envelopes available at the table

where you need to sign your name and also print SHIRTS. If you are using Venmo, make sure you print SHIRTS into the "what for" box in order for Jenny to know it's for the fund raiser. Thank you to all who decided to be a walking advertisement for our church. You are a blessing!

Keep watch in January as we get to experience making blankets for our veterans. We have 10 blankets that will need to be made—the more help, the less work each of us will have to do. On the second Saturday in February, we will again get to have our SOF luncheon at Cam's Brick Oven Restaurant in St. Charles, MI, at 1 p.m. May you reserve that day for a fun two hours getting to know our ladies better each time we meet.

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 Kernal from Pastor Kathy

Shout!!

I was taken with that word in our bible study this week on the Rapture.

I Thess. 4:16 "For the Lord himself will descend from Heaven with a SHOUT with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God, . . ." The actual rendering of the word "shout" in Greek is "a cry of incitement, a stimulating and rousing cry, a signal given to men to move in a certain way, a command." Do you ever wonder why God likes the "shout" in our worship? Scripture is replete with urgings to "shout unto God." In "Shout with a voice of triumph" (Psalms 47:1), the actual rendering of the word "shout" used here is an urging for God's people "to split the ear (with sound)." That request is not the most dignified and composed. Shouting is loud and uproarious, not very orderly, but God knows what HE likes and what is good for US. Within that Shout is found a call to life and energy, an expression of joy, a victory to our souls, a signal for directions given by the Holy Spirit, and a command of surrender to the Lord's enemies. If we can get the revelation of the power of the shout. . . .IT MIGHT GET LOUD! (All caps means I am SHOUTING). 😊

Lovingly, PK



November Ladies' Luncheon at Cam's



Men's Moment

By Richard Morrissey

A goal of the SOF Men's Ministry is to help other SOF ministries meet their goals and have successful special events. This year, the men's ministry was privileged to be able to provide some of the food for the Thanksgiving Day meal, with the hope that anyone wanting to attend could do so without having to cook or bring anything. Men's min-

istry members also helped with some of the set-up, serving and clean-up. That being said, a big "shout out" to our dear sister, Rosie, who skillfully organizes and works very hard to make all of our SOF potluck meals so enjoyable for the rest of us. Thank you, Rosie!

Don't forget about adult Sunday school happening every Sunday morning from 9:00 to

9:30. You can learn how to rightly divide the Word and still have time to visit with your friends before the service starts. Hope to see you there.

Be abundantly blessed!

