

SOF in Touch

APRIL 2024

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 4/6: KERYX Prison Service
- 4/13: 5K Fellowship, 8:30 a.m., theme: Twins; Men's Breakfast, 10 a.m.; Spring Cleaning Workday, 10a-2p
- 4/20: Ladies' HIS Restoration Shower, 10 a.m.
- 4/27: 5K Fellowship, 8:30 a.m.; theme: April Showers
- 4/28: Communion led by Lisa Larson, 10 a.m.; Teen Challenge here; potluck

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Lent Devotional Recap

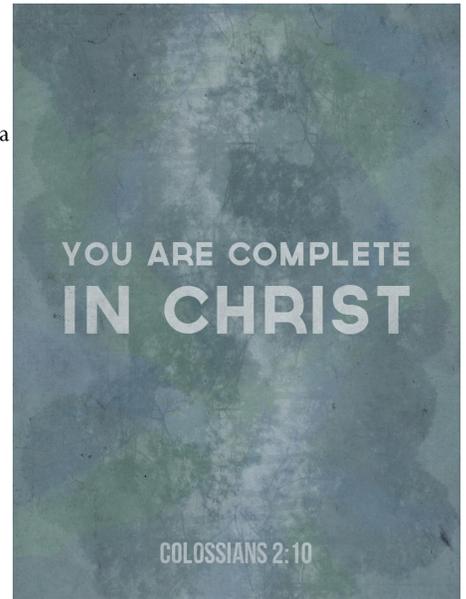
Thank you to everyone who participated in the YouVersion Lent devotional. We had on average 15 people commenting and/or reading daily. I had a great time studying God's word with each of you! I hope you did as well! I would encourage you all to keep reading God's word. Be informed in the things of God. Know your identity in HIM.

*** Also, if you are on YouVersion and have not made Shield of Faith your "Church," please do

so*** You can search churches in our area and Shield of Faith will show up. Any questions, feel free to ask!

Much Love Mega Blessings!

-Pastor Lisa-



A Word from Pastor Weldon

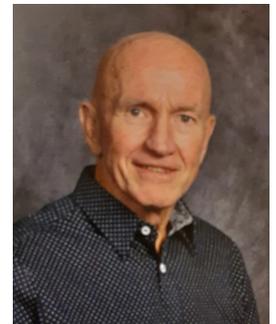
In Matthew 11:25-30, we learn how Jesus wants us. Jesus tells us if we want to come to Him for rest and refreshing and learn from Him, we must first hear the logos Word, which is His written Word in the Bible. Secondly, we must allow the Holy Spirit to cause the written (logos) Word to come alive, becoming the Rhema, Living Word. If we first saw Jesus in the flesh without first seeing the Scripture, the Bible says we would probably not recognize Who it is.

Faith in Jesus starts by hearing the Truth we can't see with our eyes, but we believe it in our hearts, first. After we hear Truth enough, it becomes alive or manifested in order to now

see and experience it. We must learn to have faith in God for His promises and then wait patiently for His Truths to be unveiled. In Luke 24 on the road to Emmaus, the two disciples traveling with Jesus in the flesh did not recognize Jesus until He began to read the Scriptures. Then their hearts burned with excitement, and they knew it was Him.

Okay, SOF Warriors, it is time for our hearts to burn within us and come to Jesus. We can all do it together, Family! I believe in you!

Much Love





A Message from Pastor Mike

April showers bring May flowers. Have you ever felt like your life is all drenched? All washed up? Like there's a raincloud always hanging over your head? If so, the good news is growth comes from it. Without the showers in April, the growth needed for the plants would not be there.

I encourage you to be grateful to God for the challenges in life that help you grow, praying in agreement with you all that the new season of your life will bear much fruit in Jesus' Name.

God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10 NKJV

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your

Just like the rain that comes to bring growth on the land, the down-pouring we feel in life brings growth upon

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain.

*"Adults Discovering Ultimate Truth"
A group for ages 18-30ish who want to grow together in faith and fun*

ADUT Scuttlebutt

By Jenny Deweese

What a month—two moves completed in one weekend of fellowship and fun! Thank you for sharing such love with our church ladies! I could not be more proud of you!!

We have exciting things on the horizon, too! We hope to see Brandon Lake and Phil Wickham in concert on August 1st with our youth group in Detroit. Then on October 3rd, we hope to see Mercy Me, Crowd-

er, and Cochren & Co. in concert right here at the Dow Event Center in Saginaw! See me or watch the Facebook group for more info on these awesome opportunities.

Vacation Bible School is coming June 17-21, and I'm hoping most of you will be able to volunteer to help with that in some way.

One Week One Street follows the week after that, so we'll have all kinds of opportunities to bless those around us.

I'm looking for ideas of fellowship activities for this spring and summer, so if you have suggestions, please share them in the Facebook group or in the Messenger thread.

Also, if there are any specific topics or books of the Bible you'd like to study in our group, please make those suggestions in Facebook.



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

Hi, Church Family!

I'm Rebekah Scott, a homeschool senior and a current member of our awesome youth group. I frequently play guitar with our worship team on Sunday mornings, and in my spare time, I enjoy reading, writing, and playing volleyball, among other activities.

After graduation I'm looking forward to taking some time to focus more on my writing and find a job that I enjoy. My plans are to attend a three-year college

-alternative program, specifically for writing and business, and to pursue a career in writing.

I've learned so much throughout my many years as a part of this youth group, and this year has been no exception so far! These past few months, we've been studying Ephesians as a group. I've always loved the book of Ephesians, particularly because identity is one of the main themes that this book focuses on. Reading through Ephesians continues to teach me about who I am in Christ. Ephesians 1:4-7 are just a few of my favorite verses in this book because they are great re-

mindings that we are chosen and adopted as God's children.

Additionally, the Bible study method that we've been using in youth group these past few months has been a further encouragement to read my Bible on my own. I've found that I enjoy writing down my thoughts on the pages of my journaling Bible as well as highlighting verses that stick out to me.

I'm looking forward to continuing to learn and grow, and I can't wait to see where my path will lead! ❤️

Kids' Corner

By Jackie Gilles

VBS 2024 COMING SOON:
JUNE 17-21st 6-8:30 pm.

The theme is SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God.

We are already preparing for this amazing event! Last year we met some amazing Bible Memory Buddies who helped us to remember the scripture for that day; I wonder what this year's Bible Memory Buddies will look like?! Mark your calendars and get ready to dive into oceans of fun with us!!

We are hoping you will consider joining us for this amazing event

for our children and our community. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know. We need volunteers in many different ways—from check-in table, leaders, helpers, and most importantly, prayer warriors. Stay tuned for more information.



Kids in grades 1-5
growing with Jesus

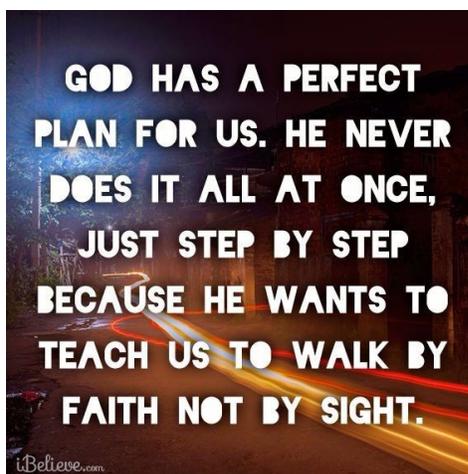
Nursery News

By Judy Barnes

We have had a few more kids in King's Kids recently.

We're learning Bible stories and going on a scavenger hunt for Easter. We are also having fun doing crafts.

God has a plan for all of our kids!



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

Ladies' Life

By Lynn Ahrens

On Saturday, March 9th, nine delightful ladies gathered together in the Admin Building at 10 am and created 44 beautiful Easter cards that were to be sent to our shut-ins. What a delight to enjoy one another doing something that would make veterans or shut-in seniors less lonely and possibly give them a “lift.”

For one of us whose penmanship no longer is what it once was and whose creativity is definitely not in the area of making something worth sending out, it was a joy to know I could be

very helpful to just trace and cut out crosses for the ones whose creative juices brought about 44 precious, beautiful cards. We also truly thank Sherri for providing a brunch for the ladies who came to help.

On Saturday, April 20th, at 11 a.m., we will be learning about “H.I.S.” ministry. This ministry helps moms who are in need. We will be providing them with some of the listed needs Lisa Coleman, the Administrator, has given to us. You may not be able to help monetarily; however, we invite you to just come and enjoy the tour and understand what is being done at 1501 Weiss Street. Your position of help may just be to pray for the ministry. Getting to

KNOW what is going on there will help in knowing how to pray. Sign up at church with Sheila Sparkes and join us.

Let's heed God's Word and be a light to those who need help. Proverbs 3:27 - “Whenever you can, do good to those who need it.” May you be richly blessed!



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POINTING THE WAY TO
JESUS!



An Adage from Pastor Adam



April already!! Man, this year has been exciting!

Youth ministry is about planting seeds and introducing young people to the beauty and truth of our faith that will hopefully be passed on and on. It's about training mighty young warriors to live a life with the right tools, callings, and gifts, so they can be successful in this journey we call life.

We can teach, preach, and train. Yes, that does help and is effective, but we must show them by example—children, teens, and young adults are always watching.

As we follow the lead of the Spirit (Galatians 5:25 "Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit"), Church, I want to see our young ones on FIRE, but are we on FIRE?

I'm speaking to myself, as well. I pray for a FIRE to fall upon all who are willing to have the old burned away, a FIRE that spreads wild, a FIRE that catches ablaze wherever we tread our feet.

So, who's with me?

We must get out of our comfort zones somehow.

For myself I am starting with worship. Now, I cannot hold a beat or even the right rhythm, but I don't care anymore. God doesn't need me to. Jeremiah 17:10 "I the Lord search the heart and test the mind to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."

I'm starting with worship because my worship has no FIRE. Worship is a declaration that God is in the midst of all that is happening in our world today, a powerful weapon against any lie that says God is not in control or that he is not able. Worshipping together teaches us to submit and surrender all our cares to God: our priorities, plans, hopes, dreams, and even our fears.

I pray this touches your heart and you join me in worshipping the Lord at home and on Sundays together. Let's make some noise and get loud! Hallelujah, praise God!!!!!!!!!!!!

Men's Moment

By Richard Morrissey

Happy April everyone!

Pastor Mike's recent message inspired a theme for a Men's Fellowship Breakfast. It will be called a "Soldier's Breakfast Special SOS." It will be held at the church on Saturday, April 13th, starting at 10:00 am. The cost will be a donation. Look for the sign-up sheet in the church lobby. Make plans to be

there to listen to war stories while we fellowship together.

Don't forget about Adult Sunday School which meets every Sunday morning from 9:00 to 9:30. We are currently looking at the ministry of Paul. The goal for Sunday School is based on II Timothy 2:15 which says:

"Study to show yourself approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Studying doesn't make us more accepted by God, nor does our

lack of study make us less accepted by God. By our study we will be made more aware that God has already accepted us, and our lack of study will make us less aware of that.

Remember to mark your calendar for the Men's breakfast on April 13th. We will be eating indoors. Once the weather warms up, we will find a date

for our next get-together. That one will be in the pavilion and will be called "Bambi Burgers and Beans."

Be abundantly blessed!

