

SOF in Touch

MAY 2024

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 5/4: KERYX Prison Service
- 5/11: 5K Fellowship, 8:30 a.m., theme: *May Flowers; Ladies' Luncheon*, 1 p.m.
- 5/17: *Letter to the American Church* movie night, 6 p.m.
- 5/25: 5K Fellowship, 8:30 a.m., theme: *Memorial Day*
- 5/26: *Communion led by Rich Morrissey*, 10 a.m.

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>An Adage from Pastor Adam</i>	4
<i>Men's Moment</i>	4

Powered by Prayer

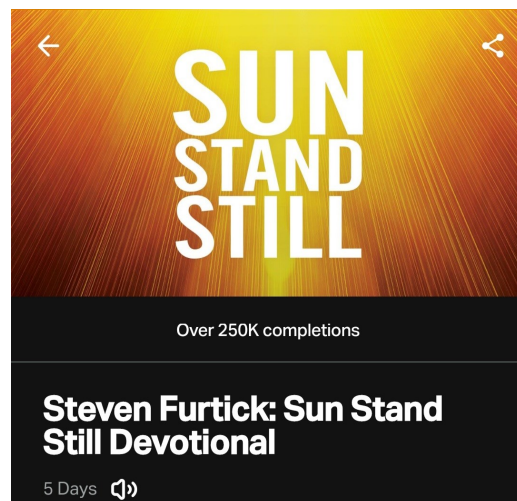
The first Thursday in May is the National Day of Prayer. I love this day of coming alongside other believers of all denominations to pray for our city, state and country. It is such a beautiful site!

This month on the You Version Bible app, we will be featuring a Bible Study on Prayer. It is called "Sun Stand Still" by Steven Furtick. This study will challenge us to pray and believe for the impossible! It is a 5-day plan and will start Monday, May 6th. If you have any questions about how to find the plan, let

me know! I pray this plan will bring confidence and joy to your prayer life!

Much Love Mega Blessings!

Pastor Lisa Larson



A Word from Pastor Weldon

I want to take this opportunity to let my SOF families know how much of a big blessing you are to PK and me. Shepherding a flock can be, at best, very fulfilling and encouraging or, at worst, a big headache. To have so many brothers and sisters in my life that truly love the Lord and are willing to want to grow closer to and stronger in Jesus is a blessing.

Today, many pastors are so frustrated with their flocks and are quitting or retiring to get away from everyone's problems but not here at SOF where I feel loved and appreciated. My wife, PK, knows how much I look forward to going to church everyday, and she is always anxious to hear about every-

thing that happened for the day. I always tell her and others there is never a dull or boring day at church. I'm wired to be an encourager and love to be able to help people get stronger.

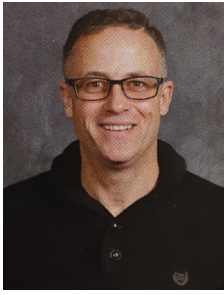
We are coming up on Sunday, May 5, 2024, our 34th anniversary as a church. Of all 34 years of pastoring SOF families, I believe NOW is my favorite time. Thank you, Beautiful Families, for allowing me to feed, protect, and encourage you in the Lord. I know at times I will step on toes and seem to be strong and hard, but I love you much and want the best for you. I'm always asking the Holy Spirit to show me where He wants us to go as a church and how to best get there. I know He is not done



teaching and showing me how to be a better shepherd, and so I recommit my life to Him and to you to be the best me possible.

Much Love!





A Message from Pastor Mike

May this letter find you all well. The Bible says, “My people are destroyed for their lack of knowledge,” Hosea 4:6. Not to be out of context, but to relay to you that the knowledge we have is given to us as a gift. The Bible tells us what is true, and the world tells us many times what is false. My heart is saddened by all the false information that is out there for Americans. We are deceived in many ways, and that is a tool of the enemy, the powers and principalities of darkness.

Briefly, I just want to talk to you about physical health. One out of

three Americans is diabetic or prediabetic; there is a higher prevalence of autism, now, more than ever; and the US has one of the highest cancer rates in all the world. Ask yourself, “How can this be?” I believe and encourage you to do your own research. It can be this way because most Americans follow the standard American diet (SAD), and that’s exactly what it is—sad. Many Americans will not admit it, but addiction has more to do with it than anything. Addiction isn’t just to drugs, alcohol, and pornography. Many Americans are carbo-

hydrate-addicted, and it is killing us. Carbohydrates are responsible for the release of insulin, and insulin is an inflammatory hormone. Inflammation causes pain and many other problems.

In this month of May, I pray that you may find truth and the conviction to do what is right for your physical body to increase your physical health, mental health and spiritual health in Jesus’ Name. If there is anyone interested in finding out more, I am always available to talk.

God bless you all.

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

ADUT Scuttlebutt

By Jenny Deweese

“Mom, I need help with geometry, please.”

“Mom, will you come to practice, please?”

“Mom, will you proofread this, please?”

“Mom, what’s for dinner?”

“Honey, did you get groceries?”

This is the chorus I hear quite often when I get home from church. “*My family is a blessing from God,*” I remind myself. “*This storm will pass.*” Meanwhile, I feel like

I’m in a boat full of needs that require constant attention.

Your boat might be different—you might not have any kids but have roommates who are driving you crazy—or you might have a spouse or significant other who spontaneously erupts into showtunes from the “old days” at a volume that could wake your brother’s neighbor—in Ohio! Whatever boat we’re in, we are all in this storm of “Bidenology”—an attack on you, our young adults and children—together, watching the horizon for any sign of clear skies.

Here at SOF, though, we are feeling the peace and provision that

our Jesus supplies as we seek to know Him daily. We are still caring for our neighbors. We are still teaching about Jesus’ love. We are still welcoming new souls in need of hope. We are also warring daily in prayer and are unwilling to accept the lies that are invading His Church. Together, we can stand strong, guiding our boats in the Truth, until we can sail into the safe harbor of our Christian-rooted policies that will make sense again. Our Church needs you, ADUTs! Stay your course!



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

PAGE 2

Youth Truth

By Jasmine Seeley

Hello, my name is Jasmine!

I enjoy crocheting and painting. I love reading fairy tales and supernatural books. Things I look forward to in the future are getting a job, writing a book, and considering college at Delta.

I love getting hugs and making new friends. I love Pastor Adam and Pastor Jackie and their

involvement in encouraging us to study the Bible. I love that we studied Ephesians, and I look forward to what we study next.



Kids' Corner

Hey, Church!

Last year we saw 16 children trust Jesus as their Savior during our Stellar VBS! We are praying for our kids to go deeper this year with our SCUBA VBS and for even more kiddos to step into a forever friendship with Jesus for the first time, BUT...

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

VBS is an all-hands-on-deck type of event. We need help very soon with set design, coral creating, and decorating. If you can help in that way, please see Pastor Jenny ASAP.

We also need volunteers for the week of VBS, June 17-21, from 6-8:30 p.m. Please scan the QR code to sign up.

Kids can get signed up to attend at the same QR

code! Each family who registers children will get free VBS music to get ready for diving into friendship with God!



Kids in grades 1-5 growing with Jesus

Register here



Nursery News

Did you know that our SCUBA VBS is for preschoolers, too? They'll have their own special place to experience the love of Jesus at their own level during that week!

Children age 3 and older who have not yet been to kindergarten will be WOWED by our Tidepool Preschool, as they get to dive in with all five

senses to discover the wonders of God's love and friendship.

With hands-on lessons, age-level crafts, tactile-friendly activities, and high-energy games, your preschooler will have an ocean of splish-splashin' fun at SCUBA!

Register your kiddos today and receive free music to prep your little ones for an underwater adventure that will stay with them for life!

Register here



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

Ladies' Life

By Lynn Ahrens

On Saturday, April 20th, three of us who had missed out before went to "HIS Restoration Ministries" to bless their endeavors with donations given by our ladies at Shield of Faith church as well as a substantial check from the Church. However, we ended up leaving blessed ourselves! What a unique and wonderful ministry led by Lisa Coleman. We heard some great stories of how God has provided insight and wisdom and shown them how to help so many women and their babies. Homeless pregnant women, 18

and older, are eligible to be assisted as long as they are willing to follow the house rules. They strive to teach each mom how to become responsible in how to raise her child properly. Therefore, some of the rules are no smoking or drugs, must attend a church, be responsible to keep her place clean, make her bed each day, not stay in bed all day, and visitor curfew hours. Each mom can stay until her baby is 6 months old. This ministry is really transformative. The purpose is physical, spiritual, and mental restoration, NOT just temporary housing. The place is so unique and beautifully decorated. If you know of anyone who may qualify to utilize this ministry, please

contact Lisa. Thank you to all those who gave donations—they were much appreciated! We encourage you to pray diligently for this incredible, needed ministry.



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!



An Adage from Pastor Adam

“May” the Church Arise.



Hello, Church Family, what a great month of May the Church arise—arise in our gifts, strengthen our callings—to help build the body of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 “Encourage each other and build each other up...” God didn’t set us up for an angry rejection but for salvation by our Master, Jesus Christ. He died for us, a death that triggered LIFE—a LIFE to arise. Whether we’re awake with the living or asleep with the dead, we’re alive with Him! So, speak encouraging words to one another building up hope, so you’ll all be together in this—no one left out; no one left behind. I know you’re already doing this; just keep on doing it and make it part of your everyday routine.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 “Don’t suppress the Spirit, and don’t stifle those who have a word from the Master. On the other hand, don’t be gullible. Check out everything and keep only what’s good. Throw out anything tainted with evil.” And help the body of Christ ARISE.

Remember, if it’s Truth, if it’s encouraging and of a good report that helps build the Body, then it’s a part of the calling and gift for the body that will build the body. MAY THE CHURCH ARISE.

Much love,
Pastor Adam Gilles

Men’s Moment

By Richard Morrissey

Greetings, SOF Brothers & Sisters!

The Men's Ministry Fellowship almost met for breakfast in April, but the event had to be postponed. We will get together in the coming weeks, so watch for a date on that.

For those of you who have not as yet made it to Adult Sunday School, we're still hoping you will join us. Just get to church

a little early. We meet every Sunday morning from 9:00 to 9:30. We are currently looking at the Book of Acts, and it's interesting when you "pick it apart" to see what's there.

Look at Acts 17:11. Paul, along with Silas, was on his second missionary trip. They were in Berea after fleeing an angry mob in Thessalonica.

"These (the Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of

mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (KJV).

Those in Thessalonica were full of envy and religious prejudice, and they closed their eyes to the light of the Gospel. The Bereans were more noble. They gave the Gospel message a fair hearing without prejudging. They had ready minds that were sharp and discerning. They weren't going to be "carried about with every wind of doctrine" (Eph 4:14) because they...(wait for it) searched the

Scriptures daily. The Holy Spirit inspired Luke to write that the Bereans were noble because they didn't just look at the Word on the sabbath or when they went to the synagogue. They looked at it every day (and they only had the Old Testament).

Be Blessed, Noble SOF Bereans!