

SOF in Touch

JULY 2024

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 7/4: *offices closed*
- 7/6: *KERYX Prison Service*
- 7/13: *5K Fellowship, 8:30 a.m., theme: Independence Day*
- 7/27: *5K Fellowship, 8:30 a.m., theme: Christmas in July; church picnic & "bond" fire, 4 p.m.*
- 7/28: *Communion led by Carol Lashley*

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A Lesson from Pastor Lisa

What a fun month June has been! SCUBA VBS and OWOS were both great weeks full of showing God's love to our neighbors! Thank you to all for volunteering and praying for these events!

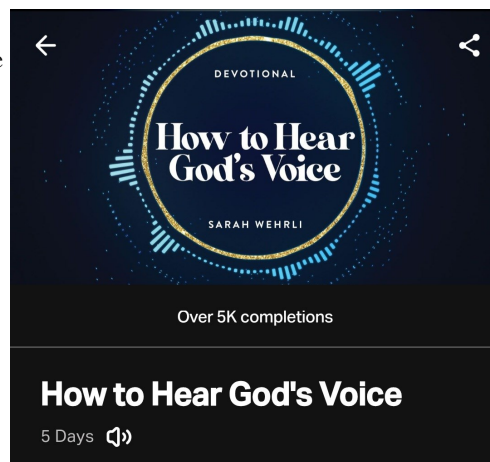
As we enter July, my prayer is that we all can enter into God's rest and be able to hear HIS voice more and more each day! God is speaking and wants to talk to us! Join us on our online YouVersion Bible Study on hearing God's voice. It will start July 8th.

My desire is to see us all grow into

the things of God—that we can ALL be confident in who He has created us to be.

We as a church believe in YOU and the call that God has placed on Your life!

Much love Mega Blessings



A Word from Pastor Weldon

So, SOF Families, we made it through June. First, the Stevens came and released a prophetic word over our church and many of us, bringing confirmation and encouragement. Second, an all-hands-on-deck week of VBS ministry to 27 children—a very big blessing thanks to our anointed care pastor, Jenny, the planning committee, and over 45 volunteers. Third, a week-long mission trip into Saginaw where Pastors Adam & Jackie oversaw 15 young people ministering to many families, leading many to Christ. Praise Jesus!

Throw in three graduation parties of our youth with two more coming in July, and you have a

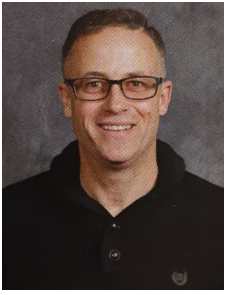
very exciting church filled with big-time blessings and also a lot of mess.

Proverbs 4:14, "Where there are no oxen, the stall stays clean." In other words if the church stays clean, probably not much is going on.

Thank You, Jesus, for all the messes and the word spoken over SOF that miracles are about to break out here.

Much love and appreciation.





A Message from Pastor Mike

Due to the craziness of the last few weeks, this completely fictional story is from PJ with PW's approval—enjoy! (I gave Pastor Mike a choice between bungee jumping and gold mining...)

"Jinny! Git over here so's I kin load these nuggits!" Sweat dripped from his brow, as he struggled to lift the heavy bag. Reluctantly, Jenny sauntered over and received the load from him. She was already holding two—how many more was he expecting her to carry? This one was a bit lighter, but he seemed

to have trouble lifting it to her.

"Looks like there's enough for one more bag," he said as he knelt down to gather up the remaining results of his hard day's work. Jenny merely groaned and shifted her weight from one foot to another. "Oh, come on, Jinny, after this, I'll have enough to retire high on the hog—I'll be able to travel all over the place sharin' the Gospel and teachin' 'bout God's love. It'll be great! People will come from far and wide to hear me preachin'—like the next Billy Graham—yep, I'll

be pritty happy alright! I'll stay in the finest hotels and eat at the ritzy restaurants...oh, and of course, you'll be rewarded, too. You'll finally have that beautiful barn you always...Jinny?"

After struggling to his feet again, he realized Jenny was nowhere to be seen. "JINNY! Jinny, where'd you go?"

Jenny had tired of his monologue and was on her way to the exchange—he could carry the last bag, himself.

Mules do tend to be stubborn.

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

ADUT Scuttlebutt

By Jenny Deweese

Wow, do I appreciate our young adults and youth!! Not only did they help a ton with clearing and resetting chairs and the stage before and after VBS; but also, they volunteered during VBS—knowing that they had a week of hard labor at One Week One Street coming up immediately after VBS!

And my appreciation doesn't stop there—so many of you have given so many hours and so much energy to our week of VBS! Without our crafty ladies, we would not

have had any of the beautiful coral pieces to decorate our set. Without our lawn crew, I would have been curled up in a corner, twitching, wondering how on earth I could get everything done. Without your generous donations, we wouldn't have had all the beautiful backdrops to transform our church. Without our cleaning crew, I would've been back in the corner. Without other ministries' generous donations, our sanctuary would've looked more like a cute fishbowl instead of a coral reef in the ocean. Without our set-building and decorating crew, I would've drown in an ocean of tablecloths and paperclips, never to

be seen again. Finally, without your prayers and presence at VBS, our children wouldn't have learned that so many people and, best of all, JESUS, love them more than they can ever comprehend. They will never be the same after SCUBA diving into friendship with God!

Thank you for diving in with us in such a BIG way!!

I love you all so much!!



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

Hello, I am Isabel, and I also go by Izzy. I am going to be a sophomore in high school. The sports I did this year were cheer (sideline and competitive) and soccer. I was also a part of leadership events in school and student council.

I absolutely love coming to church because I get to see so many amazing people and get to worship God. I'm also a part of our Cornerstone Worship

team. I love how youth group is going so far. My favorite thing that we do every year is One Week One Street (OWOS). For one week we bless people on a street in Saginaw and clean up their yards, wash their houses, paint them, and many other things. This year was my fourth year doing OWOS. Right now in youth group, we are reading in the book of Timothy, and the one thing that really stuck with me is when Paul is saying to pray for people. I can't wait to see

what God has in store for our youth group!



Kids' Corner

By Jackie Gilles

Our mighty Young Warriors have been learning the fruit of the Spirit.

These Young Warriors are not only learning but experiencing it as well. SCUBA VBS, Diving into Friendship with God, was very fruitful for our Young Warriors, as they got to show it and experience it.

God is a God that gives us Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control.

God is a friend who's real.

THANKS GOD!!!

God is a Friend who loves.

THANKS GOD!!!

God is a Friend we can trust.

THANKS GOD!!!

God is a friend Forever.

THANKS GOD!!!

God is a friend for everyone.

THANKS GOD!!!

SCUBA VBS was such a fruitful experience, we had 27 kids attend with at least 4 salvations, and we gave away at least 8 Bibles to kids that

didn't have a bible in their home at their reading level.

Thank you to all the volunteers for making this a wonderful time for our Young Warriors and all the kids that attended. I know that they were able to dive into friendship with God because of you.



Kids in grades 1-5 growing with Jesus



Nursery News

Our Tidepool Preschool at SCUBA VBS saw EIGHT little ones dive into friendship with God! Many thanks to Patty Fogg for heading up the preschool program this year and to our preschool volunteers who showered our kiddos with the love of Jesus!

These precious ones learned the same truths as the older

kids did but at their own level with lots of hands-on, wiggly fun. We're trusting God's promise...

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it" Proverbs 22:6.

Love, PJ

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

Ladies' Life

By Lynn Ahrens

It's a joy to experience God's people coming together in unity, praising and being thankful for all that He has and is continually blessing us with. It is a delight to also have a busy church, even though we're considered to be on the "smaller" side. Whoever comes to visit finds loving, embracing, and most-welcoming people ready to greet them.

Ladies, the Lord always remains by your side, especially when the ene-

my comes along to attack. You are never left alone. Just know that regardless of what the enemy attacks you with, the Lord says. **"Fear not, for I am with you. Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand!" Isaiah 41:10**

The wonderful experience we get to have in having a divine relationship with Jesus is that we can always KNOW we are valued. There is nothing as sweet as knowing you are loved for who you are when it comes from Jesus Christ, Himself. He

brings joy and value in everything we attempt to do when we're called by Him.

As we study God's Word together, the discussions have become exhilarating, bringing us to the point of feeling fulfilled, comforted, blessed, and joyful, awaiting the next time we get to meet. May you choose to join any of our Bible study cell groups and get to enjoy fellowship together. You just might find it was the best decision you've made! 😊



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POINTING THE WAY TO
JESUS!



An Adage from Pastor Adam



In the Northern Hemisphere, July signifies the height of summer and all its glorious radiance. Church, take time to reflect on God's glorious radiance. Radiance, the meaning: of light or heat; a type of glowing either from a light source like the sun or the Son.

I can't help but look out over our church family and can see God's glorious radiance upon us—coming together as one Body from VBS to OWOS serving and shining this glorious radiance. Psalms 34:5 "They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed."

Taking time to take proper care of ourselves by embracing the need to live a radiant life, we can ultimately become happier, less stressed out, and more in tune with the Lord. Radiance is a feeling of brightness, warmth, and happiness that emanates from within a person. It is a positive emotion that can be contagious and inspiring to those around them. Radiant people tend to have a magnetic quality and exude confidence in the fruit of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control, Galatians 5:22-23.

Church, when you allow your Radiant light to shine, your glow becomes an inspiring beacon for others. Embrace your true beauty and let your Radiant light shine in the world. God bless each one of you with His Radiant light.

A Kernal from Pastor Kathy

On June 16 Jim and Judy Stevens delivered a prophetic word to Pastor Weldon and me. The calling was not unfamiliar to me; they said, "the Lord was going to give me the anointing of David's heart and the release of Davidic worship." They said that "there will be new grace and new flow that will stir up the passion (of others) for the Lord." The phrase "Davidic worship" elicits a people who come to worship Him deeply and praise Him because they have a personal awareness of who He is and what He has done. They don't "go through the motions"—they are engaged with Him. David saw that it was critical to set up a team of musicians and vocalists that will have the Lord in their sights. They would bring their songs and instruments to describe Him and His works 24/7. Please pray with me that we as a church will welcome what God is about to do and that He will anoint and bless our (not just the worship team's) personal engagement with Him. Engage...I like that word.

Men's Moment

By Richard Morrissey

Greetings to all from the Men's Ministry!

The anxiously-awaited Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 13th, at 9:00 a.m. at Cam's Brick Oven in St. Charles. Look for the sign-in sheet on the table

in the Church welcome area. (Just kidding about the "anxiously-awaited" part, but it has been quite a while since we've had a Men's Breakfast).

The invitation to Adult Sunday School is always open. We finished Acts and have just moved on to the book of Romans. Understanding the truths found in

Romans will really help us to mature in our Christian walk. Hope to see you in Sunday School. We meet from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Don't forget to sign up for the Men's Fellowship Breakfast on July 13th.

Be abundantly blessed!

