

SOF in Touch

DECEMBER 2024

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 12/7: *KERYX Prison Service*
- 12/7: *ADUTs Christmas party, 6:30 p.m.*
- 12/15: *An Our-of-the-Box Christmas program, 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.*
- 12/22: *Communion led by Colleen Curry*
- 12/23-12/31: *offices closed*
- 12/24: *Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 6 p.m.*

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The Stand

By Pastor Kathy

A couple of weeks ago, when Cornerstone Worship was leading, I heard Russell say, "Why are so few standing?" or something like that. I am a radical worshipper; I want to shout as loud as I can, dance with all my might, raise both my hands in victory, and thanksgiving, sing in the Spirit, bow down when I can, and on and on. That's me...but did you know that of the "7 Hebrew Words for Praise," one very convenient form of worship is to STAND? It is just as important as

the other expressions of worship.

Nehemiah 9:5 says, "Stand up, and bless the Lord your God forever and ever!" Think about it...just standing (pretty sure, though, it should be intentional) is a gesture that pleases God and qualifies as praise/worship.

Stand in awe of Him. Stand in thankfulness. Stand in power to hold your ground in a spiritual fight. Stand in reverence. Stand in God's Holy Place (a right given to the believer with holy hands and a pure heart).



A Word from Pastor Weldon

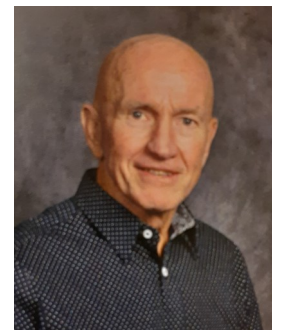
December already, how time flies. My challenge to you this month ending 2024 is this: are you willing to mentor someone this next year and willing to spend the time needed to invest in that individual's life? You must first look out into your life and see who wants to hang out and be around you. Next, is it someone who is serious in walking with the Lord and wanting more of Him? Finally, are you living a life filled with fire and passion for Jesus that needs to be reproduced in others?

you want to be like that?

This coming year, 2025, I believe is going to be the most explosive year in SOF life, and we are going to reproduce powerful believers willing to change their world where they live.

Get excited, Brothers and Sisters!

You are loved.





A Message from Pastor Mike



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

ADUT Scuttlebutt

By Jenny Deweese

Hey, ADUTs!

Our harvest party was tons of fun with crazy stuff like a bouncy ball race and the positive game!

On December 7th at 6:30 p.m., we'll have our Christmas party with a gift exchange and other shenanigans. Feel free to bring a friend.

We will also be attending Winter

Jam on February 2nd in Ypsilanti. We'll leave right after church to head down and get in line. DRESS WARM!! We'll be getting drive-through for lunch and hopefully getting pizza delivered to our place in the line for supper.

I hope you all can join us for these amazing events!

Don't forget our regular meeting times are Saturdays from 6:30-8 p.m.—we start in the youth

building for combined worship with the youth and move to the admin building for our study.



Youth Truth

My name is Kara Kienitz, I'm sixteen years old, and I attend Hemlock High School along with taking college classes through an early middle college program. I've been going to Shield of Faith for about four years now.

My favorite part about our church and youth group is how close everybody is—it really is like one big family. Our

youth group does so many fun activities outside of just Bible study. We have gone to concerts and have guest speakers come in, as well. Everyone in our youth and church is so supportive. I have multiple people that will check in on me or the progress on my art projects I do in school.

My favorite Bible verse is Romans 8:18 which says, “The pain you've been feeling cannot compare to the joy that is coming.” This verse speaks so deeply to me and reminds me that whatever is going

on will pass and things will be better once I get through it. I absolutely love my church and youth group and I couldn't think of anywhere else

I would want to be every Saturday night and Sunday morning!




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

Kids' Corner

Franklin Graham said, "These gifts open the door for us to share God's love and the eternal hope of the Gospel with children and their families who are living in desperation and fear. The world is changing, but the message of the cross doesn't change —bringing the hope of the Gospel to millions, especially the living hope of Jesus. Our mission never changes."

We were able to package and send out 50 shoeboxes. We are excited to bless children all over the world while sharing the Gospel. Please join us by praying for a smooth shipping process,

for the volunteers at Operation Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse, and, most importantly, for the child that will be receiving the special shoebox.

Thank you all for your support! One Team, One Fight 

Evangelism ~ Discipleship ~ Multiplication



Kids in grades 1-5 growing with Jesus



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

Ladies' Life

By Lynn Ahrens

Philippians 2 tells us that ultimately every knee will bow and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Yes, this is the one whose birthday we celebrate this month. If people confess Jesus to be the Lord of their lives, it is a guarantee that they will be in Heaven with Him for eternity!

This Advent Season as you celebrate Christmas with family and

friends, take a few minutes to remind everyone that Jesus will be coming again just as surely as He came the first time. It's a beautiful time for you to lead someone to ask Jesus into their hearts and begin a very special loving relationship that will bring them not only peace and tranquility in the middle of the normal conundrums that life brings, but also they will get to have the best forever friend whom they can discuss ANYTHING with!

Remember, JESUS is the REASON for the SEASON!

MERRY CHRISTMAS to all of you!



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**POINTING THE WAY TO
JESUS!**



An Adage from Pastor Adam

December is a season that reminds me of gifts. The greatest Gift, of course, is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I also think of gifts that we give and gifts that we receive. It feels good to receive gifts; it also feels good to watch someone receive and open gifts, isn't it?

But what about the gifts inside? Do you ever think about what gifts you have inside? Let's look at 2 Timothy 1:6 where Paul is writing a letter to Timothy reminding and encouraging him to stir up the gift of God which is in him through the laying on of his hands.

Paul is telling Timothy to fan the flame—keep the flame burning. We Christians have many gifts from God, some by laying on of hands. What happens when we stir up a fire? It begins to burn hotter and brighter. We are the light of this world. Matthew 5:14 says, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden." I encourage you today and remind you to stir up the gifts inside, to fan that flame, to allow your light to shine brighter than ever before. When your light shines, people will be drawn to you; they may need the gift you have inside. The Holy Spirit will equip you with what gifts are needed in every situation. That's kind of cool if you think about it. You are loaded with a lot of gifts that others need, but we don't have to carry a big, red bag around. What is inside of us is the Holy Spirit, and He is the gift giver. We are the vessels that shines, allowing the Spirit of God to work through us.

I encourage you to stir up the gifts inside of you and watch the Spirit of God work in you and in those around you.

Much Love



Men's Moment

A special thank you goes to Richard and Cindy Morrissey for overseeing the giving of special early Christmas gifts to Pastor Weldon, Pastor Mike, and Pastor Jenny from the church! Thank you, also, to you our beloved church family!

You gave us heated vests, which have been a huge blessing for hunting season and for wearing around the church as the weather has gotten colder.

It's like wearing a warm hug from you all day long!

Merry Christmas!!

We love all of you dearly!

