

SOF in Touch

FEBRUARY 2025

EXCITING NEWS FROM SHIELD OF FAITH MINISTRIES



AT A GLANCE

- 2/1: *KERYX Prison Service*
- 2/2: *Winter Jam*
- 2/8: *ladies luncheon, 1-3 p.m.*
- 2/23: *Communion led by Guy Roberts; chili & cornbread cook-off & potluck, 11:30 a.m.*

Paczki People

By Jenny Deweese

“Hey, it’s Fat Tuesday!” My fiancé sounded almost pan-icked on the other end of the phone.

“So?” I responded.

“So I HAVE to go get some ‘poonchkeys!”

“Some what?”

“‘Poonchkeys!’ Don’t you know what ‘poonchkeys’ are?”

Thus, began my education about Fat Tuesday, also known as Paczki Day. Paczki are Polish donuts filled with fruit or cream. It’s still ironic to me that my fiancé was so well-acquainted with them, even though there’s no Polish ancestry in his family. Meanwhile, my ancestors came here from Prussia,

which later became Poland. It seems like I should have known about Paczki Day.

Paczki are a way that Polish families use up their eggs, sugar, and fat (lard or butter) before beginning the fasting season of Lent when no rich foods are eaten. These deep-fried treats are packed with fat and calories, which is exactly what they want before 40 days of eating only one meal per day and no meals on Fridays. Fat Tuesday serves as a time of abundant blessings before a time of fasting and hardship.

As believers in Jesus, we may experience times of physical hardship and need, but we have a promise from our Father’s Scripture that He will supply all our needs through His glorious riches in Christ Jesus. In other words we can always be “stuffed” with the richness of God’s love for us and the blessings that flow from that love into our lives as we feast on God’s Word daily—we can be living, full, overstuffed paczki people for Jesus!



A Word from Pastor Weldon

Inside this issue:

- A Message from Pastor Mike* 2
- ADUT Scuttlebutt* 2
- Youth Truth* 2
- Kids’ Corner* 3
- Nursery News* 3
- Ladies’ Life* 3
- An Adage from Pastor Adam* 4
- Men’s Moment* 4





A Message from Pastor Mike

Well, Brothers and Sisters, I believe we're coming out of the freeze. Thank you, Jesus. The past month has been quite eventful with the loss of many loved ones and the flood from frozen pipes in both the sanctuary and the admin building. We are currently moving into a rebuild phase to correct the damages. Once again I want to say thank you so much to all that came to help and to those that prayed and believed with us. I do know this. It could've been a lot worse.

I love the saying "one team one fight," and we truly are one team. It looks like there's lots of pruning that's taking place in the ministry and some shaking going on, and when things are pruned, they look a little ugly at first, but then they flourish and produce fruit and are made stronger in the end. I'm believing February is a starting point where the ministry will be stronger and stronger. Thank you all for your commitment to Shield of Faith and most importantly to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Love you all. Praying February is absolutely blessed for you.



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

ADUT Scuttlebutt

By Jenny Deweese

Sadly, due to the passing of my father-in-law, we were unable to attend the conference in Columbus last weekend.

However, we are going to Winter Jam on February 2nd, so gear up for that adventure! It's in Ypsilanti and will be a fantastic time of worship and praise with lots of Christian artists and thou-

sands of other believers! We'll leave right after church, go through drive-through for lunch, and have pizza delivered to us for dinner while we wait in line to get into the concert. Wear lots of layers to stay warm, bring a lawn chair to sit in while we wait, and maybe even bring a few games. I hope all of you can join us!

Youth Truth

By Adam Gilles

Our FIREHOUSE REVOLUTION youth ministry will be finishing up our mural on the wall in our youth building.

Come check it out or ask a youth to show you their new mural.

Also, this month there will be new furniture coming in our youth building. We are

excited to share are building with other ministries as needed for upcoming events. We want to be a blessing to others. Hoping to see you and your ministries come together in a comfortable setting and enjoy what God has blessed us with. Please know that you are more than welcome to use our building.

Please reach out to Pastor Adam or Jackie Gilles if

you are interested in using our facility.

God bless.



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

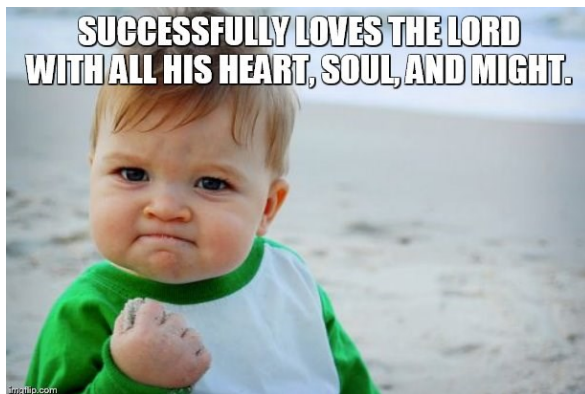


Every family has secrets until a Sunday School teacher asks a group of kids if they have any prayer requests.



Kids in grades 1-5 growing with Jesus

Nursery News



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

Ladies' Life

By Lynn Ahrens

Twenty of our SOF Ladies of Faith came out on Saturday the 18th to work together on making fleece blankets. These blankets will mean so very much to shut-ins, veterans, and the elderly who need to stay warm. We want to thank the girls who came to work. Five sets of tables were set up, and quickly we completed 15 gorgeous blankets within a four-hour period. Then we thanked Delta College students who had made and donated 18 fleece blankets as well. We ended up having 33 completed blan-

kets that will be given away within the next few months. We want to thank Randy Larson who made a scrumptious chicken noodle soup for the ladies, and we thank those who provided extras to go with the soup.

On the second Saturday of February, the 8th, our SOF Ladies Luncheon will be held at the Golden Corral, 4409 Bay Road in Saginaw, at 1:00 pm. We will be in a private room! This is a function where you may invite your lady friends and neighbors. Just let Sheila Sparkes know (or call the church 781-4668) if you are going, and let them know who you are bringing. The reason for the move is due to Uno's closing their

doors. What's great is that the cost is always the same: seniors pay \$11.99; adults pay \$12.99; and it's all you can eat for that price. Drinks are extra. This is a reminder that our group consists of ladies from ages 12 to the "golden years." Come and join us in February.

Trust in the golden pathway to Heaven. When you walk in this path, you live above your circumstances. God says, "My glorious light shines more brightly on those who follow this path of life. Dare to walk on the high road with Me. For it is the most direct route to Heaven. The low road twists and turns in agonizing knots. There the air turns heavy, and dark clouds predominate. Relying on your own understanding will weigh you down. So trust in Me absolutely, and I will make your path straight" John 14:1-2; Prov. 3:5-6.

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POINTING THE WAY TO
JESUS!



An Adage from Pastor Adam

Hello, February, and hello, Shield of Faith Family. I can't help but think that spring time is just around the corner.

So, let's spring into action and activate the Holy Spirit—take time daily by praying in tongues.

Doing this according to Christian belief, praying in the Spirit is considered praying in alignment with God's perfect will. Romans 8:26-27 "Likewise, the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the heart knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God." I encourage you today to start praying in your prayer language and watch how God will spring you forth a breakthrough over every circumstance and build your immune system. Isn't God so good?!



The book of Jude says, "But you, beloved, (that's us he is speaking to—you and me), but you, beloved, building yourself up in your most Holy Faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourself in the love of God looking for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life" Jude 1:20.

God's everlasting love to you,

Pastor Adam,

When you ask Jesus if
he knows God.



— Well, of course I know him. He's me.

Men's Moment