

REFRESHING TIMES

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Mission Statement

*To provide a place of refuge,
peace, restoration, and hope,
dedicated to help people estab-
lish intimacy with Jesus Christ
and those they love.*

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Ministries

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FIRE AT WINDY HILL!

by Randy Klawitter

The text came through saying, “You may want to get over here! Quick! We have a fire!” Dropping everything and grabbing the closest fire extinguisher, I raced over to Windy Hill Farm House and was met with smoke coming from places that smoke was not supposed to be coming from. After a 911 call and 3 fire extinguishers and buckets of water, I had pretty much resigned myself to the thoughts, “In a few minutes it will be totally gone.” Then I heard the sirens of the fire trucks. I ran to direct them to the Farm House and once they arrived I knew I’d only be in the way and I had other things to do. Walking away, I was praying that this fire could be put out and the building saved. Soon I began thinking, “Wow, this sure wasn’t in my plans for today, next week or the next months!” The building was saved, but the water damage was almost worse than the fire damage. Holes in the roof and sidewalls, and water running out of every crack and crevice for the next few days told me that everything would need to be gutted and dried out. Before the fire was even out, our insurance agent was in my office and we were making plans for action. No one was hurt! It wasn’t a total loss or a pile of ashes; it can be rebuilt and be better than new, and I was assured that most will never know there was a fire once it’s all repaired. But, it was and is and will yet be a “test”!

James 1:2 says, “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ... (cont. on page 2)”



FIRE FIGHTERS ARRIVE

“I will take my children into the wilderness and there I will speak tenderly to them. I will restore their fruitfulness and turn their valley of trouble into a door of hope.”

Hosea 2:14-15a

(cont. from page 1) ... And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” With every trial the

Lord allows to come my way, He wants to complete more of Himself in me. I have been saying for months now that “God is preparing me for what He has prepared for me” and I have to know that this is just more of His preparation in me. He is faithful and will complete it. I may not like it but it is His peace in it that gives me that quiet confident hope and peace that even in this trial, He is at work. James goes on to say, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting.” Verse 12 says, “Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.”



FIRE DAMAGE



I am so thankful for the Peace of God, which only comes as we stand anchored in Him. I am feeling overwhelmed but also full of peace. I have cried out for wisdom and am waiting for the continued work the Lord is doing in and through me.

Would you rejoice with me in His strength and pray with me for His faithful outpouring of all that is needed during this time of extra load? Phil 4:19 reminds us, “...my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” To this I say, “We look for Your supply and continued work in us. Bring us Your promised wisdom, provision and protection. We will rejoice in You and give You all the glory!”

THE CONTINUED NEED FOR “THE COVERING” AND HELPERS.

In the Fall newsletter I shared about the need for “The Covering,” a building that would mostly be for providing protection for equipment and perishable goods, and a good drying/curing place for all the firewood that we process here. If the Lord provides for this facility, I would like to see it built this summer, thus being ready for the fall to keep firewood high, dry and accessible! Please keep this need in prayer. To purchase the materials would be nearly \$30,000. To hire it built would be another \$30,000, but if we could have knowledgeable and skilled volunteer helpers, we could greatly offset that cost. I am anticipating great provision from God this summer in workers, as we have not only a Prayer Cabin to build, but perhaps also this “Covering.”

On top of that, I recently had a friend confirm to me that perhaps 2 prayer cabins may be in God’s plan for this summer. I have no funding for the second one yet, but a while ago I felt a prompting from the Lord that perhaps 2 prayer cabins could be built. I told no one but Renee, my wife. If I remember right, I think she gave me that loving “are you crazy?” look. Then out of the blue, last Saturday evening a dear friend who knew nothing about this, looked me in the

eye and said, “Randy, I see two prayer cabins. I believe the Lord is saying there will be two.” “Wow,” I said, “I felt that a couple of months ago, but was afraid to say it because I have no idea how we could accomplish that much.” Perhaps God has an idea and will show us. Will keep you posted.

NEW STAFF JOINING THE TEAM VERY EXCITING!

The news was met with great excitement and even tears of joy, hoots, hollers, screams, shouts, and gasps, as I shared the last couple of slides of this year’s Annual Meeting Power Point presentation. I purposely built some suspense, and then announced that a new family would be coming to join the staff team here at the end of May. As you may remember, our son Ethan Klawitter, his wife Christa, and daughter Emma said “good bye” in December to the staff family they had been a part of for the last few years. This came as a complete surprise to us and left a huge hole. However, even before they had let us know they were leaving, the need was there for additional staff, and we had begun discussions with yet another family. For a number of months there had been much prayer, seeking the Lord for direction and His clear leading and clarity in this matter.

At our Annual Meeting we surprised everyone with the announcement that our son-in-law Ethan Deal, and our daughter Caitlyn, along with their two little ones, Ivy, 2 ½ years and Harrison, 2 months, will be joining us on staff here at TWFM by the end of May. Ethan will be working



THE DEALS

with me as Associate Director of TWFM, and be in charge of the much more technical things regarding website blogs and updates, video projects, advertising, signage on the grounds, Facebook and other social media stuff, sound equipment, wifi-type stuff, etc. Ethan is a graphic designer and worship leader, has a creative flare that is top-notch, and a knack for fixing and repairing. Some mechanical prowess and grounds-keeping skills will also be honed and sharpened as Ethan helps out in a wide variety of ways here. Both Caitlyn and Ethan are professional photographers and have creative ideas that just don’t seem to have an end. We are more than ecstatic to have them joining the team here, and Renee and I are especially excited to have the grandkids close and squeezable.

We are so excited to introduce them to you and can’t wait for you to meet them. We are currently doing some remodeling in the Sunrise Cabin staff house and they plan to move in by the end of May. Please pray for a smooth move up here from Dallas, and also for the weeks in between, as I know it is Ethan’s heart to train in people to fill the huge shoes he wears there at the church body where he has served for the last 11 years. PS. If anyone is interested in helping us put in flooring, painting, or tile to make their home ready, I’d love to hear from you ASAP! Text or call Randy at 715-566-2104.

A CALL FOR PRAYER FOR MARK AND MARILYN BARRETT



MARK & MARILYN

Many of you have been blessed by these dear, part time TWFM staff workers as they have perhaps prayed for you, or served you through the leadership they give to the Prepare Series. Marilyn has been diagnosed with a serious cancer attack with a tumor in her lower back. She has begun chemo and radiation but is still praying and believing for God's healing touch to set her free. This has been a heavy burden on Mark and Marilyn and we would ask that you please uphold them in prayer, crying out to God for His healing hand to be upon her and deliver her from this sickness. Thank you. They will be blessed to know that you are praying for them. It will be such an encouragement to them as they keep their eyes on Jesus through this trial and crisis.

INVITATION TO PRAY FOR GOD'S INCREASED PROVISION.

As you can imagine, there are needs here that never end. One great need is to bring on the staff necessary to match the growth of TWFM for years to come. I believe it is imperative that we grow, and change with the growth and increased demand that is happening here. For the last two years we have had, on average, a new guest every other day. That's what the numbers show. Every 3rd reservation we take is new, and more than 80% of our new guests are visiting the

prayer cabins. The demand for an opening in a prayer cabin has grown to the point that as of now on the newest prayer cabin, there is not a single weekend opening available until September. That's right! Every weekend between now and September is booked in the Besel Cabin. This means that the others will be not far behind. (Perhaps you recall that in the last newsletter I announced that prayer cabin #6 is funded, so can you see why we need to expedite its placement and completion?) But all of this growth requires additional workers to care well for the property and guests. To bring on additional staff requires additional funds, and much more prayer. I have been asking the Lord for years now that He would stir the hearts of our supporters toward some really large gifts that could endow the ministry to meet and grow the salary needs of staff here. The ministry has grown and we need to be able to bring people on who can help share the load and specialize and focus on becoming really good in certain areas, instead of a few being spread so thin everywhere. Would you pray about this with us? That God would allow for some significantly large gifts to come to us so that we can keep up with the growth. I do believe that "God is preparing us for what He has prepared for us!" He is putting the pieces together for His glory!



- Randy

Randy Klawitter is married to Renee, and they have four children, three grandchildren, a son-in-law, daughter-in-law and a dog. Randy is the Executive Director of TWFM and is the son of TWF Founders Dick and Lois Klawitter. Randy

has been involved in virtually every TWF project since its beginning and wears multiple hats as builder, greeter, mechanic, work crew leader, maple syrup maker, equipment operator, etc, and fills in wherever needed. If you have questions or comments, email Randy at randy@wildernessfellowship.com.

Did you know? PART VI

By Dick Klawitter, Founder of TWFM



It was during the 1950's, when we had family campouts, that God gave me a vision for a year-round camping and retreat center on the Old Brask Farm. Little did I realize the "schooling" that my Lord was going to lead me through before that vision could become a reality.

It started after my commitment to follow Jesus in 1947, then my 4 years at Minnehaha Academy, followed by being an automotive parts delivery truck driver. Next came Dunwoody Industrial School, to get my Automotive Mechanic degree. After completing my apprenticeship, I asked one of my fellow mechanics to join me in starting Klawitter & Oliver Sinclair Service. One day a customer and friend of mine from high school days, Wayne Holte, invited me to come and work with him in the building construction trade. This was a major change I felt the Lord leading me to do.

During these years of training, I married my high school sweetheart. God had already blessed us with 3 precious children when we built a new home and lived in it for 2 years. Then another major change loomed before us, as the Holy Spirit spoke to me through God's Word that says, "Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth," 2 Timothy 2:15. I'll tell you in the next letter how God's "schooling" continued...



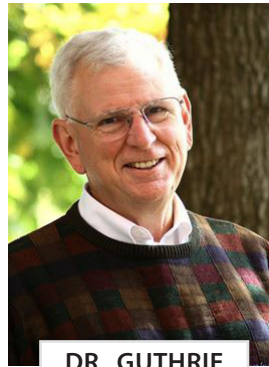
DICK KLAWITTER

JOIN US FOR MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY CAMPOUT, MAY 26-29, 2017

We are excited and looking forward to having Dr. Larry Guthrie with us for Memorial Day Weekend this year, May 27-28. He will be leading 4 sessions: 10:00a.m. and 7:00p.m., both Saturday and Sunday. These sessions are appropriate for all ages. Three sessions will be on the theme of *Lessons from the Sheep*, and one session will be on *The Gospel in the Stars*.

Dr. Larry Guthrie entered full time ministry back in 1979. He has served at Christian camps, written home school curricula, designed character-training materials for schools, and spoken at venues around the world. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois and taught seven years as a public school science teacher before becoming an Asst. Professor of Education at Indiana University Northwest. He is now retired and lives in Pigeon Falls, WI. Larry and his wife Lois have two married children and seven grandchildren.

The rest of Memorial Day weekend will be yours to enjoy hiking, camping, and being together as family. Please join us. There are still many campsites available. Please come and enjoy some time in The Wilderness. We look forward to having you!



DR. GUTHRIE

GEOCACHING AT THE WILDERNESS

Geocaching is a fun hiking sport using a GPS unit to find a location and a hidden container, called a "cache", which is marked by a set of coordinates. Recently a family visiting The Wilderness planted 3 caches while they were here – exclusively for the guests of TWFM. In each cache, there is a log that you may sign, and small toys/items that may be traded (for whatever the hiker may have with them). Kids really get into this as it's like a treasure hunt. Ask about it the next time you are at The Wilderness!

KEEP YOURSELF INFORMED!

You can now subscribe to email notification of news, needs, and events. When there is something that happens that we need to inform you of quickly, or if there is some special help that we need, we will post it on the website. If you are subscribed to receive notifications, you'll receive these by email when something new is posted. If you go to www.wildernessfellowship.com, under "Connect With Us" (upper right), click on "Stay Informed". You can indicate how and what you want to be informed of. (For example, those who were already subscribed to News & Needs learned of the Farm House fire when we posted that article.) You can unsubscribe anytime you want, and we never, ever share your email addresses with anyone.

SYRUPING 2017

Again we faced a very unusual start to the syrup season, weather-wise. Plus, this year we added another 260+ taps, bringing our total now to about 1200. To open up the other



side of Maple Ridge to tapping, we had to hire a horizontal boring company to drill a hole, 230 feet long, through the ridge, and pull in a 3-inch conduit. We then slipped our lines through that conduit so the sap from the other side of the hill could just run through the hill into our vac hut. Works very well. As of mid-March, we have already collected almost 6000 gallons of sap. The first run of 1500 we sent off to another producer, but we have run the remainder into our cooker and already have 100 gallons of syrup made. If anyone is interested in coming



DRILLING THROUGH THE HILL

and helping us clean up the cooker and the sap lines at the end of the season, please see our volunteer page on our website under "Connect With Us"-"Ways to Support Us"-"Volunteer". We will have this year's syrup for sale as soon as possible after the season is done. Call for syrup availability.

TWFM SOCIAL MEDIA



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*Make sure to look for our logo to know you've found our official FaceBook page!

PREPARE SERIES

Please see the schedule of speakers and topics on our website: www.wildernessfellowship.com. Under "Our Mission" (upper left), click on "Browse Upcoming Events". To receive email notifications of these and other upcoming events, sign up on our website. Under "Connect With Us!" (upper right), click on "Stay Informed", and follow the instructions.

GUEST FEEDBACK

"Thank you for being a mighty tool in Jesus' tool belt. I violently entered His rest here and I have been renewed!" – **CB**

"Upon arrival, the manner in which we were greeted immediately made us feel loved and welcome. We are grateful to have learned the back story of the Besel Cabin, and to be led through the doors by Besel kin was very touching and special. The welcome card made me cry, for a season of my life I stopped fearing the Lord and Psalm 25:14 spoke to my heart. Thank you for creating this vision of cabins where we can seek the Father." – **C/KB**

"I leave refreshed, encouraged, lighter, more in love with our Heavenly Father. He met me, comforted me and gifted me with His Holy Presence. Thank you for all you are doing here." – **BK**

"This is a place so wonderfully full of the Father's Presence! I came fully blessed as a child of the King and I go out into my life refreshed and delighted." – **NM**

"We arrived weary and worn from the details of our busy schedules. We leave refreshed and renewed. Fully rested and at peace, and ready to move forth. Thank you for all you do, TWFM staff, for this quiet and beautiful place to reconnect with God." – **A/BT**

"Every time I come here, I leave refreshed. The Scripture you pray over and leave for me is always fitting! Thank you for sharing what God's given you to bless His dear children. May God Bless you, WF staff! – **BA**

"Besel is lovely! I had a delightful time with the Lord and He confirmed my next steps. It's always refreshing to be here, and amazing because He ALWAYS far exceeds my expectations. I can tell this place is prayed over! It's a set apart spot! I'm praying for TWFM!" – **CM**

"Thank you for this wonderful place of refreshment. I look forward to coming back in the future." – **JK**



Besel Cabin Photo
by Ethan Deal

PERSONALIZED GIFT CERTIFICATES

Suggestions:

Pastors, Friends, Family, Wedding Gift, Anniversaries



Gift Certificates may be ordered and purchased online or by mail. Please follow instructions on our website.
www.wildernessfellowship.com

DONATIONS

ONLINE GIVING

Thank you to those who have already been using this feature. One-time or monthly recurring donations can be set up through our website. Click on *Ways to Support Us* under the *Connect with Us* menu on our home page.

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

Check with your Human Resources office at your work place to find out if they will match gifts you make to non-profit organizations such as TWFM.

THRIVENT CHOICE

The Wilderness is now a participating organization in Thrivent Choice, a charitable grant program that allows eligible members of Thrivent Financial to recommend where Thrivent distributes part of its charitable outreach grant funds each year. If you have Choice Dollars available to direct, please consider directing to The Wilderness Fellowship. To learn more, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Memorials

GIVEN BY

IN MEMORY OF

Roy & Jeanine Jensen	Debra Jean Kylo
Kenneth & Joy Showalter	Debbie Kylo
Vi Fladland-Pugh	Don Fladland
Marcus & Dawn Kragness	Debbie Kylo
Peter & Kathleen Roth	Debra Kylo
Patricia Jevning	Harry "Bud" & Mary Hestness
Daniel & Kimberly Strand	Lorraine Neveln
John Helvig	Harry (Bud) Hestness
Jean Gilbertson	Bud Hestness
John Hestness	Bud Hestness
James & Lori Agrimson	Bud Hestness
Dale & Arleth Anderson	Uncle Donald Thorssen
Carol Kinsman	Klawitters
Andrew Goblirsch	Gramps Hestness
Steve & Beth Goblirsch	Debbie Putnam Kylo

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 20, 2017 – PREPARE SERIES – CANCER: THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE! – MISSY'S STORY

Learn how to prevent cancer through non-invasive means and what steps you can take to fight it. Missy Gertz will share her story - from when she was first diagnosed, to what she is doing today. You'll also learn about the dangers of electromagnetic fields (EMFs), and ways to keep healthy with essential oils, nutrition, exercise, and chiropractic care. Please register on our website: www.wildernessfellowship.org

MAY 26-29, 2017 – MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND WITH LARRY GUTHRIE

Larry will be presenting 4 sessions, 2 on Saturday, and 2 on Sunday. Details inside.

JUNE 17, 2017 – PREPARE SERIES – DEVELOPING YOUR PROPHETIC GIFTING – BRIAN FENIMORE

How to know God's voice, increase your dreams, and increase your overall effectiveness.

If you struggle from not hearing God... if you believe you're stuck in your destiny... if you feel FRUSTRATED with your relationship with the Lord... then this meeting is just for you. You can hear God and grow. Please register on our website: www.wildernessfellowship.org

JULY 15, 2017 – PREPARE SERIES

Please watch the Events Calendar on our website for details about this event.

UPDATES TO ALL TWFM EVENTS WILL BE POSTED ON THE EVENTS CALENDAR
ON OUR WEBSITE; SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

X



X

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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