

REFRESHING TIMES

Table of Contents

Memorials.....	2
Prepare Series Part 2.....	2
New Staff: Marilyn Barrett...	2
42 Years of Service.....	2
From Cheryl's Desk.....	3
Help Needed.....	4
Maple Syrup for Sale.....	4
Thanks Grampa Jim.....	4
Besel Cabin Progress.....	5
Shower House.....	5
Guest Feedback.....	5
Upcoming Events.....	6

Mission Statement

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

The Wilderness Fellowship
Ministries

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Web site

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"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

PREPARE SERIES PART II

God is sovereign and in control. The Psalmist reminds us, "The earth is the Lord's, the fullness thereof, and all who dwell therein". He is also a loving Father who deeply cares for His children. Throughout Scripture He gives us example after example of how He goes before them, to make the Way for them. And not just for eternity. He told Amos that He does nothing but what He doesn't first tell His servants. We believe Father wants to prepare His flock for the upcoming world events. Jesus told the parable of the ten virgins; the five wise ones prepared themselves and bought oil for their lamps. We believe God is, and has been, preparing His Bride, the Church. We want to respond to His promptings; we are therefore launching the Prepare Series with Spirit, Soul and Body in mind.

In the Spiritual Preparation phase, we want to groom our spirit-man in areas of Intimacy With God and Hearing God's Voice which will then overflow into our work, home and play. The Relational Preparation phase will deal with issues for strengthening our homes in Restoring Marriage and Training Up Our Children. This phase will have applications for our cities in Loving Your Neighbor. We have not forgotten the physical side of the total person. In the Practical Preparation phase we hope to have seminars

on Sustainable Living such as healthy gardening practices and canning, as well as possibly learning how to make soaps, candles, rugs, knitting and sewing.

He is leading us to prepare spirit, soul and body. We encourage you to participate in the upcoming seminars on deepening your walk with God, healing your hearts, and building Sustainable Living into our lives as well. Please pray for the Lord's direction as we move forward with the Prepare Series. We look forward to hearing your ideas and comments regarding this series.

NEW STAFF MARILYN BARRETT

We met Mark and Marilyn Barrett in September of 2013 when they first came to The Wilderness for a stay in a Prayer Cabin celebrating their 25th anniversary. Together with one voice they are quick to declare, "God is Faithful!"

Mark and Marilyn call Ramsey, MN, home and have three grown children and six grandchildren. God has gifted them with various gifts; Marilyn in the areas of office administration and Mark in the medical field but also in the founding and leading of a ministry which planted fellowships across the state of MN. Most recently God has moved him into serving at a local Home Depot. All of the experiences above are seen by them as steps The Father has used in preparing them for.... (continued on page 3)

Memorials

GIVEN BY	IN MEMORY OF
Dale & Arleth Anderson Vi Fladland-Pugh	Lois Klawitter Don Fladland Lois Klawitter
Dick & Louise Klawitter	Lois Klawitter; Marvin Westrom; Brenda Adolphson; Vern Richard; Laurel Nelson; Eihel (Rothe) Bjorklund; Dorothy Lahners; Sigfrid Sennes; Virginia Wicklund; Betty Davis
Paul & Cheri Staswick	Lois Klawitter; Marvin Westrom
Bruce & Laurel Stumbo	Eva Kragness; Vernon Kragness
Jacquelyn Todd	Mr. & Mrs. Sherman Kolness; Ardis Peterson; Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Aronson; Gladys Forseth
Chuck & Mary Volm Daniel & Kimberly Strand	Melver Sjostrand Wilma Spencer; Norris Braaten Carston & Edna Emerson
Edwin Emerson Paul Kragness Virgil & Laurice Ronholdt	Nancy Kragness Ben & Laurette Trapp; Jerry & Bente Trapp
Carol Kinsman Richard Trapp Kathryn Kvinge Linda Roetzer Francis Roetzer Bob & Patty Patch Robert & Sherry Hansen Dennis & Patricia Lokke Jane Restrepo Helen Baxter Roger & Ruth Bolson Brenda Kappel Ruth Pearson	Bob Kinsman Kay Trapp John Kvinge Luella Roetzer Luella Roetzer Karl Hoff Lois Klawitter Sigfrid Sennes Carsten & Edna Emerson Rev. John D. Baxter Sig Sennes Rev. John Landskroener Barbara Thompson; Beverly McKenna; Jim Miller
Gordon & Betty Olson	Betty Davis

Honorariums

GIVEN BY	IN HONOR OF
Joann Boushek	Rick & Sheila Boushek

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Seventeen people gathered on February 22, 2015, for the 2014 Annual Meeting. The Wilderness Fellowship Director Randy Klawitter gave a report, complete with power point slides and photos from this past year. We heard about the Lord's provision and faithfulness this past year, a year of transition and the training in of 3 new staff members. We learned that there were 183 first-time guests at The Wilderness in 2014, on average one every other day! Word of mouth is still our biggest advertisement. Updates to facilities this past year included WiFi in the Fellowship Center, continued construction on the new Besel Prayer Cabin, and some remodeling on the Sunrise Cabin (staff housing). Looking forward to 2015, we hope to have the dedication of Besel Cabin this summer, begin construction of a new Prayer Cabin Shower House and launch the Prepare Series. We closed by singing "To God be the Glory", and enjoyed fellowship along with brownies and ice cream sundaes!



DALE & ARLETH ANDERSON

42 YEARS OF SERVICE

With 42 years of service to TWFM, Dale Anderson decides it is time to step off the Board. As an original member of the Board of Directors and a signer of our Articles of Incorporation, Dale has displayed dedication, servant hood, wisdom, common sense leadership and guidance for The Wilderness Fellowship Ministries, since even before it's official beginnings in 1972. Thank you seems to fall so short and is not enough to cover what Dale and wife, Arleth, have meant to me and the thousands of lives they have touched. Eternity has been changed forever because of these two precious servants. Thank you for giving sacrificially to impact so many!

-Randy

...involvement at TWFM. From what Mark and Marilyn have told me they “fell in love” with The Wilderness immediately. Then over and over again they came up and ministered to me personally by serving and volunteering to help wherever needed. I still remember Mark with a pickaxe and shovel, pounding through rock-hard ground, digging a trench for the propane line feeding the gas fireplace at the new Besel Cabin. Since that day God has been weaving our hearts together. I am excited to announce that Marilyn is now officially working part time at TWFM, helping in the office Wednesday afternoons and Thursdays, as well as serving as the Prepare Series Coordinator. We are excited for this and look forward to what God is going to do through this exciting new venture.



MARK & MARILYN BARRETT

Mark comes along and volunteers with us on the days when Marilyn is working in the office. Mark just has a mantle of encouragement to all he comes in contact with. Being involved with TWFM is a fulfillment of some of the dreams the Lord planted on their hearts many years ago, they say. They look forward with expectancy to walk out all that God has planned for them and TWFM. We, too, are excited about this. If you want to drop a note of welcome or blessing to them just use the office@wildernessfellowship.com address and “For Mark & Marilyn” in the subject box and we will make sure they get it.

- Randy



Randy Klawitter is married to Renee, and they have four children, one grandchild, 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.

From Cheryl's Desk:

Hope. A little word with a big impact. If you don't have hope, what do you have? Despair? I find myself at times experiencing the struggle between the two.

Psalm 27 is one of my favorites because it brings me a lot of hope. So many of God's promises are stated in this Psalm. The Lord is our light. He is our salvation. He is our stronghold. We have nothing to fear. He keeps us safe in His dwelling. He shelters us. He is our helper. He receives us when others reject us. All of the encouragement contained in these verses is summed up well in verse 13:

“I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” (NIV)

In other words, I have hope!!

I have read this verse in several different translations, and find it interesting how many ways the thoughts in this verse can be expressed.

“I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of Jehovah in the land of the living.” (ASV; and very close to the KJV)

“I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!” (ESV)

And my favorite:

“I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” (NASB)

If I don't believe that I will see the goodness that God promises, then it leads me to despair. But despair gives way to hope when I choose to believe this truth, even if I can't see evidence of it at this moment. But I can almost always see evidence of His goodness if I just take a moment...to wait. Verse 14 goes on to say:

“Wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord.”

Waiting for the Lord implies He will show up with everything He has promised. Maybe not on my preferred timeline, but nevertheless, hoping in His goodness dispels all of my despair. Are you experiencing despair? Wait for the Lord. Take courage. You will see His goodness; I promise it. But better yet, He promises it.

- Cheryl



CHERYL LIESCH

HELP NEEDED

We need help getting firewood cut, split and stacked into baskets! Hey, what if your family came out on a Saturday and split and stacked just 1 or 2 baskets of wood. If we could find just 50 people/families to come help us with even just 1 basket, we could have our baskets "all filled up"! Let us know so we can prepare for you. What an encouragement that would be to us.



Main House Bathroom —We still have not completed the task of redoing the bathroom there. The tub unit is torn out but nothing has been put back in. If you have the skills to offer to this project, that would be wonderful. Give Randy a call.

Oh, did we mention firewood? Oh yeah! 😊

MAPLE SYRUP FOR SALE

By the time you get this Newsletter we will be full swing or maybe even winding down the syrup season. But we are looking for outlets to sell our product. If you could help us find places to place our product and perhaps help us get it there, Fantastic! Give us a call! Thank you so much. Check with your Chiropractor or health food coop or.....???



VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

If anyone of you have an RV and would be interested in coming here for a day, week or month or more let me know. We do have a spot for you and could use your help. We have many various projects that you could help with. If interested please let us know and we can talk about that.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO GRAMPA JIM

For the last few years Jim Wright has taken it upon himself to be a contact person for people all over Minnesota and even to Iowa who wanted Wilder-



"GRAMPA" JIM WRIGHT

ness Maple Syrup. He has done this on his own as a way to be a blessing to The Wilderness Fellowship by moving our maple syrup out the door, which translates into income, exposure to TWF and repeat customers. Jim has sacrificially given of his time and through his efforts has literally generated thousands of dollars of sales of our Wilderness Maple Syrup. We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Jim for all he does to encourage us and to let people know about The Wilderness through our syrup. In spite of some health issues Jim has said that he would like to continue to be a contact person for people who would like to buy syrup in the Twin Cities area. Here is a number that he can be contacted at. Leave a message and don't forget to ask about his prices — 651-633-5910.

We are looking for additional outlets for our Syrup so if you know of any places that might be interested let us know. At this time it can be purchased at:

North Heights Lutheran Book store in Arden Hills, MN; Hosanna Lutheran Book store in Lakeville, MN; Wurdemann Chiropractic in North Branch, MN; Abeler Chiropractic of Andover, MN; and Syren General Store in Siren, WI. Huge thanks to all of you for helping TWF in this way.

Personalized Gift Certificates

Suggestions:

Pastors, Friends, Family, Wedding Gift, Annversaries



Forms to purchase a gift certificate are posted on our website www.wildernessfellowship.com.

BESEL CABIN PROGRESS

Hopefully the next newsletter will contain the “long awaited date” of the dedication of the new Besel Prayer Cabin. Progress is being made. Excitement is growing! We are not far away from the finish line! Please keep this project in your prayers. It’s looking beautiful!

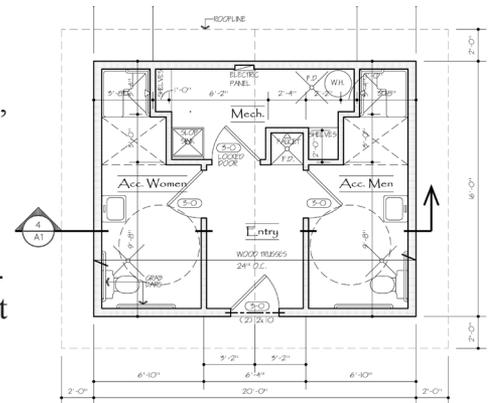


STATE GIVES GO-AHEAD

PRAYER CABIN SHOWER HOUSE PLAN MOVING FORWARD!

As the number of cabins grows in the Prayer Cabin Village we recognize a need for building a bathroom/shower facility to serve our guests there. We had been waiting for word back from the State of Wisconsin as to just how many toilets we must have in this facility to meet the code requirements and growth of the Prayer Cabin Village. Well, on March 2nd I received a letter from the State stating that the plan I submitted

met the necessary requirements for the campground code which we fall under. This is great news and we are now able to move ahead with final plans and cost projections for the construction of the much-needed facility. We have about \$45,500 raised for this building project already but anticipate the need for additional significant funds to cover septic system. Please keep this in your prayers. We are praying for a miracle to happen that would allow us to start and complete this facility yet this summer. This building will be a fully heated year-round building. Miracles do still happen and we need some significant funding to complete this. Here is the floor plan. It will have an entry, two bathroom/shower units, a water jug filling station, and a utility/cleaning room. We are excited about this addition to meet the needs of our guests.



GUEST FEEDBACK

Your comment of “we prayed for you yesterday before you arrived” moved me greatly. I can’t express what it meant. It really set the tone for what God did in my time here. I can’t wait until the next time. Thank you. **-AK**

Two days truly isn’t long enough. The time spent here with my God has been absolutely incredible – no words can do it justice. He has filled me with His most amazing peace, joy and love. NOTHING – NOTHING can beat that!

-Watertown, MN

I am so glad to be here this weekend and in tune with God’s creation. It is wonderful to be in this cabin and connect with the one who created us and all that we have to enjoy in this world. I am so thankful that I had the opportunity to slow down and focus on what is most important in life, and that is a relationship with God. **-KR**

So grateful for this place to reflect and experience God and seek His face for our season ahead. Intimacy with God, our spouse, is such the call on our hearts. **-DMV**



Bo Cabin photo by
Lauretta Jacobsma

Thank you for having a burden to see to it that God’s people have a place of refuge to get away from the cares of the world and get alone with God. I’ve enjoyed a great time of peace and serenity and return home today feeling refreshed and healed. I feel a peace in my heart in knowing that my Savior loves me. **-JL**

Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude. We have truly found rest in the midst of God’s creation, even if for a short time. God’s presence is so THICK here. May you continue to thrive in this powerful ministry. **-RM/SR**

This is an anointed place. Thank you for allowing us the privileged blessing of tasting and seeing the goodness of our God here in the Wilderness. **-JKD**

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

MAY 22ND - 25TH

Excitement is building here at The Wilderness Fellowship Ministries for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. Yet we know at this point you don't have a clue. We want to remind you that there is plenty of space available for everyone to have a fun and relaxing time, whether you have a large family or are single. Your first clue will be forwarded to you when you let us know how many in your family will be joining us. Oh, I can't help but whet your appetite: Jeremiah 29:13.

4TH OF JULY WEEKEND

More info coming soon!

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

More info coming soon!

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