

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.*

The Wilderness Fellowship
Ministries

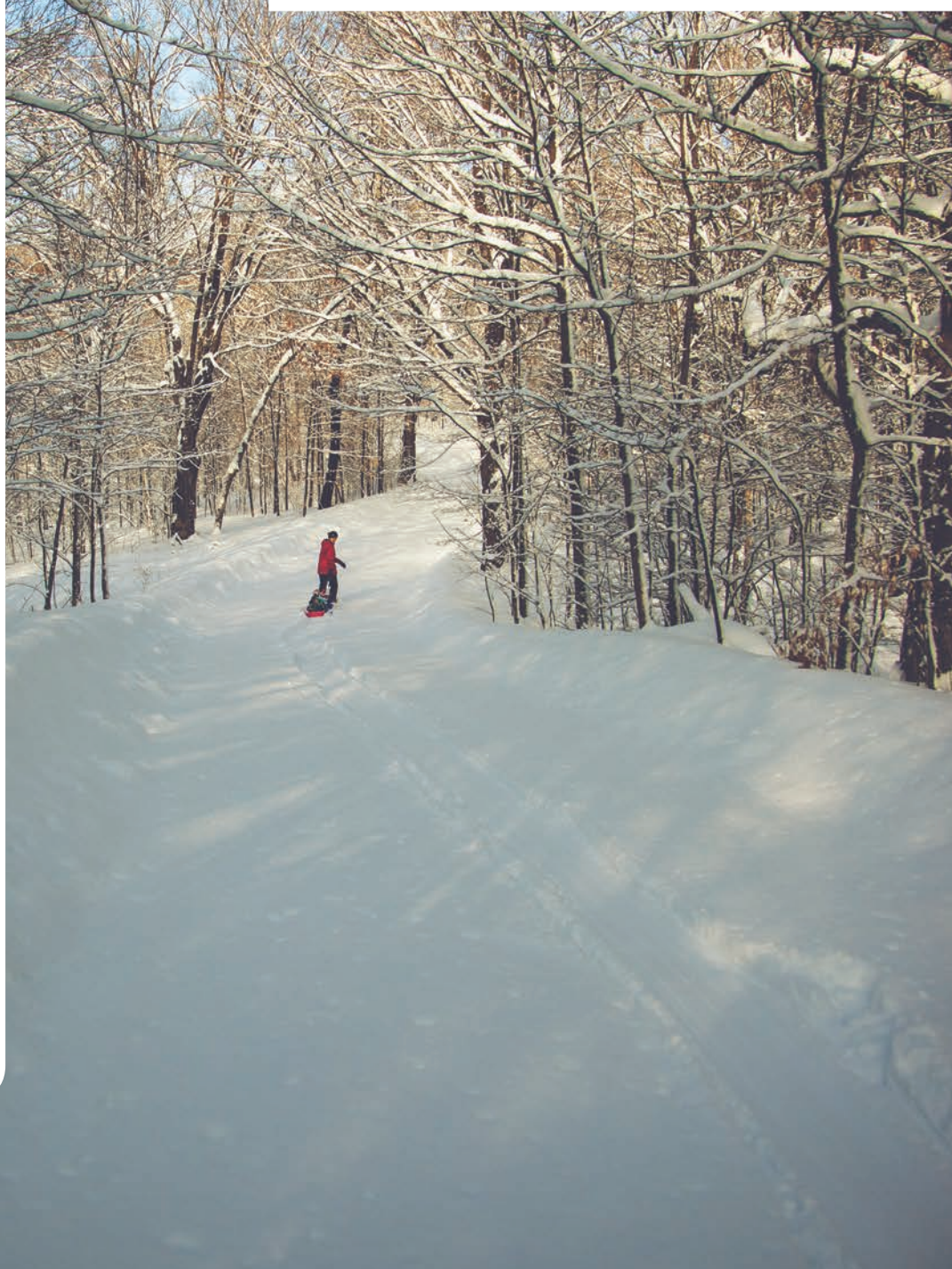
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"I will take my children into the wilderness and there I will speak tenderly to them. I will restore their fruitfulness and turn their valley of trouble into a door of hope."

Hosea 2:14-15a

MACHE CONFERENCE

Renee and I were blessed to meet and visit with hundreds of people at the MACHE (Minnesota Association of Christian Home Educators) conference held at the Rochester Convention Center and



share The Wilderness Fellowship Ministries with them. We were able to unveil a new "booth look" with a new banner, new magnetic business cards, video/picture screen, picture boards and display. The new 8' x 30" banner stretched across the back of our booth, answered the most commonly asked question: "What is this?". It drew many weary homeschool moms and dads into the booth so we could share even more with them. If any of you would like us to come to your church or group and share about The Wilderness let us know.

PREPARE SERIES

We are looking at some changes to this offering to the community. After 3 years, with 31 sessions covering over 25 different topics, we are thankful for those who have been taking part in these great days of teaching and training. We still believe that the Lord wants to use TWFM in powerful ways to build up the body of Christ, but also feel that perhaps a few changes could make what we offer more effective, productive, and fruitful. The Lord brought these scriptures to mind.

Psalm 22:3 But You oh Lord are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

Revelation 22:1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Isaiah 43:19-21 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. The beast of the field shall honor me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen. This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise.

It's our goal to be a people of praise, where the Lord is enthroned on our praises! We want this river of life to flow out healing, deliverance, restoration, grace, mercy, joy, peace, growth, and power! We want to wade in deep and be renewed and washed in His river of life flowing from the throne of praise!

Thus, the back-story to the new "Experience the River" series starting this fall. Let there be such a "power-full" river flowing from the Fellowship Center hill, flowing the mighty works of God into the surrounding community and beyond. Please be in prayer with us for this. We will keep you posted! (Please visit <https://www.wildernessfellowship.com/stay-informed/> to receive periodic email updates on what is happening here at The Wilderness)

MERCY CABIN GOING UP!

Well, we thought that spring was here, so the construction of the Mercy Prayer Cabin has started in earnest. But now

it looks like maybe we skipped summer and jumped right back into winter! Good Grief! Anyway, the deck is on, most of the walls are up and rafters are being set. Before you receive this newsletter the roof could be on and the building closed in. Exciting to see this happening! We are anxious to get it into service early summer. But what if the Mercy was only the first one in 2018? If we could build 2 prayer cabins in 2018 that would be a first!! There is no doubt in my mind that we could fill it if we had it. Prayer Cabin usage is increasing and this special, almost "niche-type" ministry is being sought after. Funds are somewhere for the next cabin.

My prayer: "Lord please supply our every need for your name's sake and your glory!" See the comments page of this newsletter, from guests who have come and have been so blessed.



2018 EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Only the 4th time in 45 years that we were inside for the sunrise service. But either way it was a great time of fellowship and celebration. The temperature that morning was -2 degrees! So, seeing that a very cold morning was coming, Ethan and I talked about filming the sunrise with the hopes that we could play that back on the screen inside the Fellowship Center and all still watch the sunrise. It worked beautifully. Check out the pic here! About 42 people joined us as we started out with a video on "He is our King" then went into *Crown Him with Many Crowns*, then moved into prayer, followed by another worship song, in which we inserted the resurrection story, and then did the last verse. Pastor CJ from Adventure Church brought a message calling us to Jesus and committing our lives to Him. Then we closed with the



song *How Great the Father's Love for Us*. Then all eagerly consumed the famous egg dish and homemade cinnamon rolls! What a blessed time and all were thankful to be inside the Fellowship Center for this worship time.

MAPLE SYRUP MAKING TIME AGAIN

What a different year for making syrup this has been. Winter just does not want to let go its grip! Last year we were nearly done cooking by mid April. Looks like we may just be really getting going at that time this year. We have 1200 taps in and the pipeline up and ready. So thankful for volunteer helpers, Rich Besel and Mark Barrett who helped us get the lines repaired and ready. We were also able to have Matt Waller back with us for a week for tapping and getting things set up. What a blessing, as Ethan and I could never have gotten it all done by ourselves. As

of this writing (beginning of April) we have made about 110 gallons of syrup, but the deep freeze returned and shut it all down. Spring will come, but that may happen fast and furious which means that the syrup season may follow suit. Please help us move the syrup out our doors. It is mostly through our guests that the syrup moves. It is a big help to the ministry, so remember, Christmas is coming and syrup makes great gifts. Thanks.



Sunday morning. Then on Sunday Night we are having a fun guy, The Amazing Jeffo, back with us again. He is a blind magician who will entertain the kids and adults. The in-between times can be spent enjoying the woods and trails or playing games with friends or family. Join us for a relaxing fun fellowship weekend! Campsites are still available. I do not think snow is in the forecast! Sign up to get our update posts at <https://www.wildernessfellowship.com/stay-informed/>. You will get a notice anytime we have added a post.

- Randy

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Oh how we are looking forward to warmer weather with less white stuff. What ever happened to "March....in like a lion out like a lamb"? Hopefully by the end of May we will have much, much less of this white cold fluffy stuff lying around. We would love to have you join us here for a weekend of teaching and family time. Critters and Company will be with us for Saturday morning and evening, followed by a time of worship and sharing together



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 X

By Dick Klawitter, Founder of TWFM



During my summer break, between my 1st and 2nd year of Bible School, I once again found myself involved with young adults and many faith-stretching challenging opportunities to do something I'd never done before. One of them was to build a water diversion dam in the mountains at Holden Village, a retreat center in the Cascades of Washington state. Once again, God brought into my life a diverse training through Bible teachers and young adults who assisted me in this most unusual, challenging and faith stretching opportunity!! The dam is still providing water for the hydro plant and domestic water for the village.

Back to Bible School.... My senior year began with great anticipation! #1- A new baby girl was soon to be born into our family of 5. Needless to say, our family received great attention on campus!! #2 a new faculty member to teach youth ministry classes and recruit new students. You may recognize his name—Don Fladland. Watch for his name to show up in a future - "Did you know" article. Don mentored me in Youth Ministries and gave me the opportunity to work with him in developing Impact Teams of students, that became student recruiters and evangelists, as they met with church youth groups for various activities. (Young adults again impact my walk with Jesus!)



NEW ADDITION TO THE FAMILY!



WATER DIVERSION DAM

O Yes! Our baby girl did arrive on Oct. 23, 1965, and Suzie brought joy and activity to our family as faculty, students and friends stopped by to rejoice with us. (Never before had a new-born baby lived on campus.)

Yes, I did graduate in the spring! Loaded with uncountable blessings!! Now what? Where?

Wilderness MAPLE SYRUP

O TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD. PSALM 34:8

WILDERNESS MAPLE SYRUP CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE WILDERNESS AND AT THESE LOCATIONS:
WURDEMANN CHIROPRACTIC IN NORTH BRANCH, MN
SYREN GENERAL STORE IN SIREN, WI



THE WILDERNESS

A PLACE TO GET YOUR STRENGTH RENEWED

BY DAVE JORE TWFM BOARD MEMBER

For several years the Lay Ministry Training Center held a yearly retreat at The Wilderness. At one of these retreats, when I was president, I found myself feeling “down” for some reason. In that emotional state I walked over early to the Fellowship Center before our evening. I was planning to spend some time in prayer.

Randy was already there, rehearsing for leading our time of worship that evening. As I entered the Fellowship Center, I heard Randy singing a song of praise. I don’t even think he saw me as I quietly sat down. As soon as I walked through the door, I sensed the very real presence of Jesus. As I looked through the large windows in the front of the Fellowship Center, I experienced something else. I saw an eagle take off. The presence of Jesus was even more real. My tears began to flow as I felt my joy and my strength being restored.

Almost immediately those familiar verses in Isaiah 40:30-31 came to my mind, “Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.” Needless to say, I had been touched and encouraged by the living God in a surprising way even before our worship service began!

I have been restored and renewed by Jesus many times when I have been at The Wilderness. I can’t think of any better place to go to have your strength renewed than this “set apart” and “prayed over” place. Jesus may just surprise you as to how he does it.

BIG NEED!

Pray with us, that God would supply funds to put down gravel on all of The Wilderness roads! This year has been a terrible year for mud, making some of our roads impassible at times. The estimated cost of graveling all of the roads is around \$30,000, so we are praying for God’s provision in this area!

WORSHIP NIGHTS

We continue to be blown away by the response to the Wilderness Worship Nights! Our last two worship nights (at the time of writing this) have had over a hundred people in attendance. Each night seems to get better and better as the body of Christ in this community comes together to lift praises to our King!



**TWFM
SOCIAL
MEDIA**



Like us on Facebook
**THE WILDERNESS
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Look for our logo



GUEST FEEDBACK

"Thanks so much for this quiet, beautiful sanctuary in which to listen to, read, and share the Lord's word with each other. It was a very healing and uplifting time in the word." – **DN**

"I was so grateful to have the opportunity to come back to TWFM – this is my favorite place to come for a retreat! I always find the peace and rest and communion with the Lord, that I so long for!" – **DR**

"You have NO idea how powerful the work you do is for the Kingdom. Thank you so much for creating this place and fulfilling your mission!" – **CL**

"I feel at home in this place, and the presence of God is so tangible in here. God has spoken deep things in my heart in a short period of time." – **BT**

"Thank you! By regularly leaving our routine and coming here, we have experienced gradual but sustained growth." – **RS**

"Thank you so much! Such a perfect place! Thank you for the verse, too. It was exactly what I needed. God bless!"

– **SM**



Besel Cabin Photo
by Ethan Deal

"Thank you so much for everything. This is my 3rd visit here. God has used this place each time to soothe and heal deep wounds and to restore my strength... Here I find the rest and quiet my soul needs – and such a beautiful time with the Savior." – **SP**

PERSONALIZED GIFT CERTIFICATES

Suggestions:

Pastors, Friends, Family, Wedding Gift, Anniversaries



Gift Certificates may be purchased online or by mail. Please follow instructions on our website.

www.wildernessfellowship.com

EMAIL UPDATES AVAILABLE SIGN UP TODAY!

Keep up to speed with what's happening at The Wilderness! Any new needs, special events or program information is sent out via our email list.

It's easy to sign up!

Go to: **www.wildernessfellowship.com/stay-informed**
enter your name and email and
click "keep me informed".

Memorials

GIVEN BY

Larry & Joanne Cornelius
Vi Fladland-Pugh
Dennis & Patricia Lokke

Todd & Cheryl Riggs

Dick & Louise Klawitter

IN MEMORY OF

Debbie Kylo
Don Fladland
Debbie Putman Kylo;
Bud Hestness
Delores Goetz;
David Munro
Margaret Merrifield;
Carl Johnson; Ken Craven;
Don Johnson (Braham);
LaVerne E. Sandberg;
Pastor Ken Hyatt
Edwin & Monica Frieler
Robert E. Rothe
Irene Steffen

Arlene Desombre
Gloria Rothe
Jerry & Cheri Steffen

Honorariums

GIVEN BY

Dick & Louise Klawitter
Edwin Emerson
Mildred Besel

IN HONOR OF

Randy's 58th Birthday
Jane Restrepo
The Besel Family

DONATIONS

ONLINE GIVING

One-time or monthly recurring donations can be given on our website. Click on Ways to Support Us under the Connect With Us menu on our home page.

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

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

THRIVENT CHOICE

Thrivent Financial members: this is a charitable grant program that allows you to recommend where Thrivent distributes part of its charitable funds. You must designate the charity of choice each quarter. Please consider directing to The Wilderness Fellowship.

Visit www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

AMAZON SMILE

The Wilderness Fellowship can earn a small percentage on your purchases, if you select us as the charity of choice when shopping on Amazon: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0175560>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 25TH – 28TH, 2018 – MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND

Open camping all weekend.

SATURDAY

- Critters and Company will be with us for 2 presentations on Saturday, May 26th. Their first presentation will be at 10:30 a.m. on "How To Be Successful When The World's Not Fair". Their second presentation will be at 7:00 p.m. on "7 Attitudes That Make A Difference".

- Saturday night bonfire!

SUNDAY

- Sunday Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

- Amazing Jeffer, Blind Comedy Magician & Motivational Speaker, will be here Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m.

JUNE 16TH, 2018 – PREPARE SERIES - 10AM TO 4PM - BRIAN FENIMORE

BECOMING A PRAYER WARRIOR. A basic, yet powerful guide to prayer for everyone.

Please register on our website: www.wildernessfellowship.com/events

JULY 27TH – 29TH, 2018 – PATTERNS OF EVIDENCE WITH TIM MAHONEY

An exciting community event! Look for more details to follow on our website!

AUGUST 18TH, 2018 – WORSHIP IN THE PARK - 7PM - SIREN, WI

We will be having our August Wilderness Worship Night at Crooked Lake Park in Siren, WI. We want to pack the place out and fill the park with the sound of worship to our King! Invite friends and family and join us for this exciting community event!

WILDERNESS WORSHIP NIGHTS – 3RD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH – 7PM

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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