

REFRESHING TIMES

"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



GOODBYE TO BABE

Our last picture of Babe, taken shortly before she left us.

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.



Remembering Marilyn Barrett

Home with Jesus 9/11/2021



It is so hard when a member of our team is gone. We are such a small interwoven team that in the event of a loss the whole ministry feels it. On top of that, I was in Southern Missouri, and unable to attend Marilyn's service. I would like to share the words I wrote, that were read at Marilyn Barrett's Service.

Where does one start to put into words the impact of Marilyn on countless numbers of people and a ministry? First of all, I want to say that there are no adequate words. For those of you who may not know this, Marilyn was the Events Coordinator for The Wilderness Fellowship Ministries. She and Mark came here I believe to use one of our Prayer Cabins in celebration of their 25th Anniversary, but soon found themselves serving in whatever project was pressing at the time. It seemed there was an immediate connection. That "How can we serve" mindset was a blessing beyond words from both Mark and Marilyn to TWFM. The founder of TWFM often said "I just want to be the one back stage, who draws open the curtain, so the drama of Jesus can unfold in someone else's life." Marilyn lived out that governing motto to a T. She was always working in the "background". She was never pushing to be up front or in the spotlight. Just the opposite was true of her. She was always quietly working "behind the scenes" to make sure that an event went smoothly and did her best to navigate any potential distractions or speed bumps that would seek to diminish the impact of the event's purpose, plan or mission on people's lives who were attending or needed to hear the message presented. She was a true servant, never complaining but instead wanting with all her heart to fulfill the need to the best of her ability with joy and humble service. She was a compliment to the staff team at TWFM and a pure joy to work with. I doubt that on this side of heaven the totality of her impact could ever be counted or recorded, but I believe that every act of kindness and service did not go unnoticed by her King and Lord Jesus Christ. Her crown will be loaded with jewels as she takes her place alongside a "great crowd of witnesses" cheering us on as we continue on,

trying to fill in the huge gap left in our own lives and ministry by Marilyn's passing. She has crossed the finish line and the checkered flag saying, "Well done my good and faithful servant" was, I am sure, waving frantically at her graduation party from this temporal existence to her heavenly home. That she will be missed is definitely an understatement, but we also know that heaven and eternity were impacted hugely before she left and will be again now that she is home.

On behalf of all whom she touched through her work with us at TWFM, the whole staff team, the Board of Directors and myself, we extend our deepest love, thanks, and prayers for Mark and all of the family. May the Peace of Jesus wash over you all in this time of sadness and loss.

-Randy Klawitter, Executive Director, TWFM

P.S. Please pray with us as we seek the Lord's guidance to fill this important position.

Caleb Accepts New Call

Many of you have been blessed by Caleb as he has seen you to Prayer Cabins or other facilities here at TWFM over the last 3 years or so. He often prayed over or even shared a "word" from the Lord or shared a picture God gave him in his mind while he prayed for you when showing you to a cabin. As Caleb's dad, I have also been blessed to listen and watch him minister to our guests. I have received many encouraging comments from guests who were blessed by his sharing. Caleb spent many hours listening to the Word of God, or teaching podcasts, while riding the lawn mower for 8-10 hours a week, which was his "quiet time". Through all this time riding and listening, he grew significantly in the wisdom, knowledge, and love for the Lord. In his letter of resignation, he stated, "God's voice has never been so clear than above those whirling blades!" As Caleb shared with me that he felt the Lord was leading him to accept a call from Adventure Church in Siren, WI, to become their full time Youth Pastor, rivers of tears flowed both in joy for the exciting ministry ahead, but also in sadness of both our hearts because that would mean he'd be leaving the TWFM staff team. Scripture says, "There is no greater joy than for a father to know his children are walking with the Lord!" That joy is mine, not only for Caleb and Katie, his wife, but for all my children and their spouses. I would ask that you rejoice with Caleb and lift him in prayer as he steps into this new adventure. I will forever be grateful for the gift of having all of our children working with me here at TWFM for a time. Perhaps God will someday send him back to serve again at TWFM. He will be missed by us all but at least we get to see him each week at church!! Yeah!



Prayer Cabin Village Conditional Use Permit (CUP)

Recently I made application for a CUP for up to 12 new Prayer Cabins. On Nov 2, the Land Use Board unanimously approved our permit request! PTL!! With this permit we can move ahead on Prayer Cabin # 9 (the Hope Cabin) which is already funded, plus begin laying plans for building 11 more. But there is a catch!! This permit is only good for 3 years! Now those of you who really know us, know that

we do not borrow money. We operate debt free by God's clear leading. So, perhaps this will be a "Red Sea Moment" for us. I could be seriously overwhelmed with this, but GOD IS BIG ENOUGH. Nothing is impossible for Him. So I ask, "Could it be that He wants to do what seems humanly impossible here and raise up teams of skilled laborers, diggers, framers, electricians, roofers, plumbers, tilers, finishers, designers/architects, siding-ers, etc., etc...and bring in all the \$\$'s necessary to do almost double in 3 years what has taken 30 years to accomplish so far?" The need is huge. People are coming from all over the USA to make use of our Prayer Cabins. I am constantly grateful and amazed. We don't "fund raise" or beg for money. We call out to God our great provider who for 49 years of ministry now, has proven He is able! He can do it! Would you join us in prayer for His clear leading, and provision for everything HE WANTS TO DO? And that we would be content to walk according to His word and provision? I do not want to do this in our own strength, but in the strength of the Lord. Pray with us. If it is in His heart to do this, I see many more doors of opportunity opening to meet the need for marriage retreats and parenting retreats, to impact families. I also see the need for additional staff to support this expansion of ministry. May God's wisdom prevail in and through us as we seek him. We will keep you posted.

One other point of importance is that when we get the first cabin done in the "New Village," (which will be cabin #10), we will also need to have the new Shower House done. I know that a shower house does not seem too spiritual, but it is a mandated piece to have done when we put even the first Prayer Cabin of the new village into use. So please pray with us that God will raise up the provisions for this necessary piece as well. God could provide it all in one super large gift. He is in control! Join us in prayer and let's watch what God does. Thanks!!

Newest Prayer Cabin Named: Embrace Cabin



Have you ever just really needed a good hug? Or just wanted to feel that safe and secure hug from one who you know really loves you? Children can often be seen running to their parents or grandparents, arms wide open, as they jump and we



scoop them up into our welcoming arms. Well, this is the picture I see happening as you run to Jesus. He scoops you up in a big wide Embrace and says, "I love you". This new prayer cabin has been built with

that in mind. It is our desire that you feel the "Embrace of Jesus". He loves you and bids you come, climb up into His lap as you sink into His loving Embrace. That's how He feels about you. That's what we want you to feel! His Embrace! He says "Come and I will speak tenderly to you." His Embrace changes things. Run to it! Hopefully open soon.

Candles Needed

If you have any old candles or find old candles that others want to throw away, would you bring them to The Wilderness with you when you come? We melt them down and make fire starters with them to help our guests start fires in the winter months at the group cabins and the Fellowship Center. Any old wax candles will do. Candles in "freebie" boxes at garage sales, even those cute white candles from Christmas candlelight services are great. Thanks!



Volunteer Workers



JAMIE

Throughout the years TWFM has been built on, I am sure by now, thousands of volunteers who have helped with every aspect of this ministry. We would not be who and what we are today without this huge army of helpers. For this we are so grateful. Recently I got a call from one such blessing bringer. Jamie called and asked if I could use some help for 3 days. ABSOLUTELY! In those 3 days this is what Jamie helped get done: helped Ethan finish the new outhouse pit; filled the wood room at the Fellowship Center; cleaned up Maintenance Center gardens for winter; blew leaves on the Log Cabin septic area; blew leaves off the roofs of Log Cabin and Shower house; made an inventory list of a bunch of tools that had recently been donated to TWFM; did the roofing on the new outhouse. HUGE THANKS! Wow what a blessing. If you would be interested in helping with a project here please let us know. It's a huge blessing to us and to all who come. One area that surfaced this week was a need for deep cleaning the Group Cabins in the spring and early summer. Let us know if interested.

-Randy



Randy Klawitter is married to Renee, and they have four children, five grandchildren, two sons-in-law, 2 daughters-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, equipment operator, etc, and fills in wherever needed. If you have questions or comments, email Randy at randy@wildernessfellowship.com.

Out of Wilderness Maple Syrup

It's been a very sweet part of this ministry for nearly our whole ministry life: 49+ years. But, although I had hoped that the "jar of oil/syrup" would never run out....it has. 2018 was the last year we cooked our own syrup. Near the middle of October 2021, we sold our last bottle. Many have enjoyed our own Wilderness Maple Syrup and I'm sure for months to come we will have people asking for it, but not all is lost. Our sap has been collected by Morley's Maple Syrup and processed into a variety of flavored Maple Syrups. We plan to carry his product here for sale so that perhaps some of our sap can still find its way onto your pancakes and waffles. Hopefully you will be happy to have some variety and more options. We hope to get our samples soon. Sweetest!



Invitation to share your Prayer Cabin floor plan ideas

With the potential of 10-12 more Prayer Cabins on the horizon, we are looking for designs that could incorporate these things within different floor plans. If you are interested in helping with creative thinking and won't be hurt if we have to adjust for certain reasons, then I'd invite you to send design and floor plan ideas for single level cabins.

- Under 400 sq ft.
- Large picture window for dinner table and chairs to sit by
- Queen bed and loveseat hide-a-bed
- Rocking Chair
- Small kitchen counter
- Screen porch
- Gas fireplace
- Mini-Split air source heat pump for heating and cooling

Marriage Retreat Oct 2021 And Looking Forward.

The October Marriage Retreat was fantastic! Jonny and Amy knocked it out of the park again. We quickly had registrations that filled the retreat to capacity with 20 couples. However, last minute cancellations left us at about 9 couples. The late cancellations did not leave enough time to fill those spots, so we are changing how registrations work. If we meet capacity on any of the Marriage Retreats, thus closing any further registrations for that retreat, we will be asking for confirmations on existing registrations. If we have cancellations at that point, we will open registration again to accommodate others. We don't want empty seats. This Marriage Retreat message is so incredible and powerful that we encourage all couples of both struggling and healthy marriages to come. You will not regret it. You will fall deeper in love. You will go away with a greater understanding of God's intended design and plan for your marriage. Register NOW!

THE ULTIMATE Marriage Retreat

WITH JON & AMY CLAUSSEN



JON & AMY

**2022 DATES: FEBRUARY 4-6, APRIL 22-24,
SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 2**

The Ultimate Marriage Retreat is a call to hope, greatness, and destiny for every marriage. We begin with the Father's original culture, and from His starting point, we drop a plumb line to help you build the ultimate marriage. It's time to learn what heaven's idea about marriage truly is - because it's way bigger than you think!

Prayer Cabins and The Farm House at The Wilderness have been made available for those attending The Ultimate Marriage Retreat. Make your reservations now as we expect our lodging to fill up quickly. You can also search online for Motels/Hotels, Bed and Breakfasts, and Airbnbs in nearby Grantsburg, Siren or Frederic. Call The Wilderness office at 715-488-8564 to find out more details and to register. Or you can register online at: www.wildernessfellowship.com/events.

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>.

NEEDS/WISH LIST:

- 4 door, 4x4 Geo Tracker
- As we grow the need for an additional enclosed side by side unit would be a great help
- Large front load washer and dryer to handle Prayer Cabin quilts and spreads.



PERSONALIZED GIFT CERTIFICATES



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

Memorials

GIVEN BY

IN MEMORY OF

Todd & Cheryl Riggs

Dr. Hugo Wolf; Louise Wolf Novak; Gordon McKinnon, Jr.; Jeff Palmer

Steve & Naomi Staruch

Timothy G. Olson

Joshua & Kasey Taylor

Kellie Taylor

Chuck & Cheryl Liesch

Betty Liesch

Jan Larson

Bill Shultz

Harvey & Amy Matheson

MaraNatha Marshaw

Mike and Teresa Snyder

Mark Robie; Marilyn Barrett

Dale & Arleth Anderson

Marilyn Barrett

Andrew & Penny Robinson

Marilyn Barrett

Greg & Kathy Stark

Jeff Palmer

Honorariums

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David & Staci Wright

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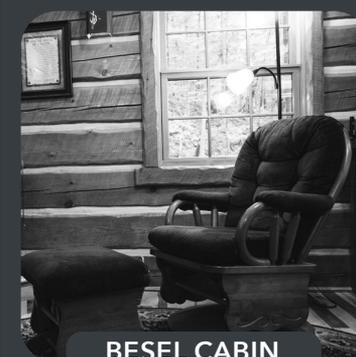
GUEST FEEDBACK

It remains the same. "God's Hand is on This Place." Once again it is time to leave this precious place. But in the leaving I am burden free, restored and refreshed. I am leaving in sweet, quiet, rest. God does all things well. Thanks to all the staff for your dedication and willing hearts to make this possible. Blessings to All. - **BVD**

We loved our time here so much! Thank you for this beautiful place! - **A&AJ**

Thank you so much for providing this place to stay for our family. This has been the only place we have been coming to for our family vacations for the last 2 years. - **A&MD**

Honestly, words cannot express my gratitude. The Lord filled me up this week. I have a full journal that testifies of His filling, healing, and speaking. Many Thanks! - **JA**



BESEL CABIN

Re: Marriage Conference: Thank you for providing this wonderful conference. Our marriage is being restored and strengthened though this ministry and through Jon & Amy's God-breathed words and conference. - **R&EF**

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 4 - 6 – ULTIMATE MARRIAGE RETREAT WITH JON & AMY CLAUSSEN

The Ultimate Marriage Retreat is a call to hope, greatness, and destiny for every marriage. We begin with the Father's original culture, and from His starting point, we drop a plumb line to help you build the ultimate marriage. It's time to learn what heaven's idea about marriage truly is – because it's way bigger than you think! Register today for one of our 2022 Marriage Retreats by calling the office at: 715-488-8564!

FEBRUARY 20, 2022 – ANNUAL MEETING – 3:00PM

A time of looking back at what God has done over the last year here at The Wilderness. We invite you to come and be a part! There will also be delicious desserts! You don't want to miss this!

WILDERNESS WORSHIP – 3RD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH – 7:00PM

An hour and a half of worshiping the Lord in song! No agenda, no preaching, just worship. If you're unable to attend in person you can join us on our FaceBook livestream. **There will be no worship nights in December and January due to some scheduling conflicts, but we will be back in February 2022!**

NORTHWOODS CONFERENCE: HIS VOICE – MARCH 25-26, 2022

Can a whisper be deafening? Can a shout not be heard? With noise all around us, have we become hard of hearing? Yet, in the midst of more noise than ever before, there is a voice that whispers loudly over the crowd. It calls! It beckons! It speaks in the midst of the thunder! Can you hear it? It's promised to always be there if we will listen. If you want to learn to hear, recognize, and respond, join us for the Northwoods Conference March 25-26 as together we learn to hear-- His Voice! You can register for the conference by calling the office at: 715-488-8564 today! More info coming soon on our website!

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

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