

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

HOPE CABIN IS OPEN!

See more info on pg. 2

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.

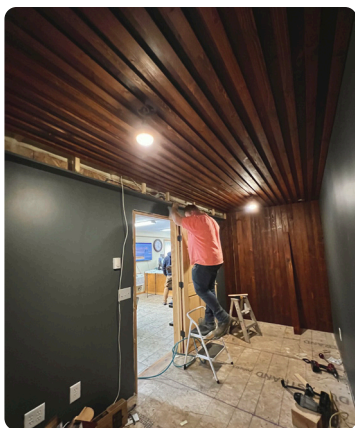


All the Way My Savior Leads Me

As we move into another new year, we do so knowing for sure that our Lord Jesus will be our Shepherd and will lead us each and every day. With so many things happening around us not only in the world but also here at The Wilderness, we need His divine guidance, divine direction and divine appointments. We just finished the Hope Prayer Cabin and still currently have 3 more construction projects in the works and just finishing the plans for a 4th so we can move ahead with applying for the building permit. I am daily humbled at how God is using this ministry and recognize the need to daily cry out to Him for daily direction, protection, provision and wisdom, without which we would never be able to fulfill the mission He has entrusted to us. Please keep us in prayer that we would always be able to see clearly where our Shepherd Jesus is leading us in both the small and the big and that in His timing, He would stir people (divine appointments) to join us in this work whether it be monthly financial support, building another prayer cabin, come volunteer, help supply funds for special equipment needs, update or help us improve the facilities and on and on it goes. I know God has to be the one to stir their hearts. That is not my job so we depend on Him and look to Him because He sees the end from the beginning and knows every need even before we do. With that said, I do believe that at least 3 prayer cabins will be opened for guests in 2023 and many more divine appointments to come. WOW! That's God all the way! Praise Him with us!

New Office Being Added

As we experience "growing pains" we are taking more phone calls, reservations, and visits than ever before. This growth has also raised our awareness that we need to create some additional spaces/offices apart from the main office entryway for the bookkeeping needs of ministry. Cheryl does a fantastic job of wearing so many hats as office manager/administrator but is finding it harder to do the technical work of paying bills and doing the bookkeeping in the noise and traffic of the front desk, her work station for about 9 years now. So, by making a new office space more conducive to meeting that need, we also open up another space for additional office help that is needed. This also means new computers and equipment needed to set up this opened up office space. Please pray for God's provision of finances to meet this need as well.



Say Hi to Cindy

Some days she's a new voice on the phone, but not new to TWFM. Cindy was on staff here at TWFM back in the late 70's. Oh so much has changed since then and she agrees. But Cindy and her husband Larry (former TWFM board member and now the builder of all of our major construction projects) are literally our neighbors, as their land rests up against our southern border fence line. That is NOT to say they are



Larry & Cindy Merrifield

"borderline neighbors", they are GREAT neighbors and a huge blessing to this ministry. Cindy has been volunteering from time to time in the office, helping with phone reservations and office stuff that needs a smile and willing hands. What a blessing Larry and Cindy are!

Hope Prayer Cabin Open!

Had hoped (no pun intended) to have this cabin up and in service by end of February. We didn't quite make that goal, but it's open now! Always hard



to predict these things because of the many variables. However, the cabin turned out beautiful and although it's the same square footage as the other cabins the ceilings being higher make it feel huge-er (is that a word?) and bigger than the others. We are excited about this beautiful addition to the ministry.

There was a long waiting list. You can check out more pictures on the website.

Grace Cabin Going Up!

Last fall we put the posts in the ground before freeze up. Just a couple weeks ago Larry started building the walls and put the rafters up and roof on. So, we have a great start and this one could be put into service early summer. This is exciting. It's the pits but, we have yet to get 2 outhouse pits dug this summer. One by the Grace and one by the Shalom Cabin. We will also need to be plowing in the electric and propane supply lines to these cabins, so much to do and plan for yet. Sure do wish we had a mini ditch witch plow for that.



Shalom Cabin Design

We are excited to announce that the design of Shalom

Prayer Cabin has been finalized. Our hope is to break ground as soon as we can, once the ground is somewhat dried up. We will



Shalom Cabin Design

need to lay out infrastructure for electric service and propane to the site, decide optimal pit toilet location to allow for it to serve two or more cabins, layout and create parking spots, etc. All of these builds demand many decisions, but God is faithful and we are sure He will guide us through, just as He has the past ones. Here is the computer-generated look of Shalom Cabin. Colors, siding, and interior stone, etc., will change, but it will be a cute one. We are excited to get going on it. I just got word that another skilled builder wants to come and help get it framed and closed in. PTL!

Water Is Good At New Showerhouse

Pump and pressure tank is installed and is now running at the new shower house! The well puts out 30+ gallons a minute and the water is good, cool, clear, and has no iron. This is a huge PTL! The sheet rocking is done and all the tile can soon be installed, etc. This facility needs to be done and operational before we can open Grace Cabin. Any help from experienced tile layers would be hugely appreciated.

Prayer Cabin Fund

With the costs of building increasing and the growing difficulty in estimating total costs, the Board feels that we need to have a reserve on hand that is 20% more than the anticipated cost of the build to cover costs or unexpected overages or materials increases. So we invite you to consider making special gifts to the prayer cabin fund to create this cushion.

New 4-Door Tracker

Over the last few years, we have been looking for a 4-door, 6-cylinder, 4x4, auto transmission, Chevy or Geo tracker that we can put the tracks on. You've probably seen it mentioned in the newsletters, hoping someone would have one for us, or buy one for us or something, so we kept putting it out there. Apparently, they are hard to find. Recently, one of our guests who comes from Iowa found one on Craigslist in the Minneapolis area and notified me of it. I followed up on it, and then another donor said they would help pay for it, so voilà! We have it and are excited to be able



to get around better in the winter to remote places of TWFM and even take guests who may not be able to walk the trails out for a comfortable tour. God is good, and we are excited to have this new unit to be used year-round here!

Staff Needs

Would you please be lifting me up in prayer as I seek the Lord's clear leading in the area of hiring. Please pray for everything, including: ~ The right person to fit in with this tight-knit and small staff family ~ God's preparing of us for them and them for us ~ The steady flow of necessary finances ~ God's peace for me as I feel a great sense of responsibility to the ministry, the potential hired, and unity for all of us as to God's will in this need. As a small staff in a growing ministry, adding staff is a very important and critical decision. Thanks!

Buildings Upgrades Fund.

If you are interested in helping us meet the growing needs of upkeep and upgrades to the Fellowship Center, Group Cabins, Shower house, pit toilets, etc., through finances, or offering skill and labor we would be excited to hear from you. A special "Upgrades" fund will hold these special gifts for when they are needed. After 50 years, we are beginning to see some of these older structures show signs of age and want to be able to give them some help. We wait on the Lord's provision and wisdom in all things so we invite you to pray with us for the meeting of these needs.

New Updates to Policies at TWFM

Just letting you know that from time to time we review our governing guidelines and policies. Some changes are procedures that have been adjusted due to growth, which make common sense and allow for smoother, easier practice to make things work well here, and others are policy changes or additions that have come to our attention and needed addressing. Yoga is one issue that stands out as important in our desire to protect and guard this ministry from rising eastern religious practices creeping into the Body of Christ, and showing up here in practice by guests or groups. After months of praying and seeking counsel and wisdom, the Board of Directors has adopted a policy stance on this subject calling for guests to refrain from any of these eastern religious practices while on TWFM property. The policy can soon be viewed on our website. We also have free booklets available at the office on this subject which played a significant role in helping us arrive at this decision.

-Randy



Randy Klawitter is married to Renee, and they have four children, five grandchildren, two sons-in-law and two daughters-in-law. 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.

Needs/Wish List

- Large skid steer snow blower (for winters like this)
- Road sanding bucket to scoop and spread sand on roads and icy hills
- Commercial duty 24" snow blower for trails to PC's
- Old fashioned lawn fertilizer spreader for spreading sand on prayer cabin trails. (call me)
- New couches for Johnson Hall and Founders Fireside Retreat Center (call for info)

Help needed Summer and Fall

- Filling wood baskets
- Chipping trails
- Landscaping
- PC site clearing
- Deep cleaning of Group Cabins, Fellowship Center, and Prayer Cabins
- Staining outhouses
- Pit digging for outhouses
- Volunteers to help spring clean prayer cabins.
- Road side branch trimming

VALUE THE VOICE

Parenting Conference

JULY 28-30

WITH JONNY & AMY CLAUSSEN



Do you have children? Have you ever wished for help in parenting? Well, we are bringing Dr Jonny and Amy Clausen back to lead us through and teach from their experience of raising their 8 children. We need this more than ever as good parenting role models are becoming fewer and fewer. Come learn with us! Whether grand parenting or first time parenting, we can all learn things to pass on to those whom we touch. Call the office or visit our website for more details!

Northwoods Conference 2023

— TRUE IDENTITY —

March 24 & 25, 2023

Jonny & Amy Clausen | Brian Fenimore

A POWERFUL TIME OF WORSHIP & TEACHING!



THE ULTIMATE *Marriage Retreat*

WITH JONNY & AMY CLAUSSEN

OCT. 6-8, 2023

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.



We have now seen nearly 150 couples go through the Ultimate Marriage Course by Jonny and Amy Clausen. It has been a life changing course for so many. Even after going through it 6-8 times, Renee and I are still being impacted by this powerful message. We encourage you to sign up now as Prayer Cabins are already booking for 2024.

BIRCH MERCH & MORLEY'S MAPLE SYRUP
AVAILABLE AT TWFM OFFICE



HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY
Dick Klawitter, Founder of TWFM
JUNE 13TH

Help us celebrate, honor and bless Dick on his 90th birthday! You can send off a quick email note sharing how God has blessed you through Dick and/or the vision God gave him for TWFM. Send your notes to: memories@wildernessfellowship.com with "Happy Birthday Dick" in the subject line.

Memorials

GIVEN BY

IN MEMORY OF

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|----------------------------|--|
| Arleth Anderson | <i>Dale Anderson; Paul Huskamp</i> |
| Mark and Carol Barrett | <i>Marilyn I. Barrett</i> |
| Helen Baxter | <i>Rev. John D. Baxter</i> |
| Clyde and Deb Bloyer | <i>Paul Huskamp</i> |
| Dwain and Ruth Clink | <i>Bud & Mary Hestness</i> |
| Larry and Joanne Cornelius | <i>Debbie (Putnam) Kyllö</i> |
| Carolee Giersdorf | <i>Vi Fladland-Pugh</i> |
| Mark Helling | <i>LTjg Marvin Helling, USN</i> |
| Verona Hoff | <i>Karl Hoff</i> |
| Brett and Sharon Ilgen | <i>Lois Klawitter</i> |
| Mark and Cindy Johnson | <i>Walter Johnson</i> |
| Rey and Julie Miller | <i>Mark Johnson</i> |
| Harland Norderhaug | <i>Marjorie Hathaway</i> |
| Debra Otterby, Ed.D | <i>Violette Fladland</i> |
| Bob and Patty Patch | <i>Karl Hoff</i> |
| Todd and Cheryl Riggs | <i>Kendra Reichert;</i> |
| | <i>Diane Swarmer</i> |
| Paul and Cheri Staswick | <i>Paul Huskamp</i> |
| Randy and Linda Stroming | <i>Rev. Karl & Marion Stroming</i> |
| Loretta Voth | <i>Vi Fladland</i> |
| Paula Wright | <i>Jim Wright</i> |
| Lois Robson | <i>Tom Schomaker</i> |
| Steve and Beth Goblirsch | <i>Virgil Showalter</i> |

Honorariums

GIVEN BY

IN HONOR OF

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|--------------------------|---|
| Arleth Anderson | <i>Randy & Renee Klawitter</i> |
| Steve and Beth Goblirsch | <i>Denny Lokke; Jean Gilbertson;</i> |
| | <i>The Klawitter Family; Virgil &</i> |
| | <i>Mavis Showalter</i> |

GUEST FEEDBACK

Thank you so much for yet another wonderful stay. Our family treasures the memories we have made over the years here at the Wilderness Fellowship. Our kids really enjoyed the bunnies this visit. Blessings to you! – **D.A.S.**

Thank you so much! The homey details and Christ-centered way you've set up the space really blessed me. Grateful for all that make it possible to come here. You are blessing Christ's body. – **G.T.**

Thank you very much - always refreshing to the soul and rewarding! Thank you for serving all who come. – **B.B.**

Thank you for making this space available! I feel filled. I feel lifted. I see a new horizon. The Lord reigns. Thanks again for the part you play! – **J.Z.**

This time alone with the Lord was exactly what I needed. The cabins and the overall environment are so conducive to reconnecting with the Lord. Thank you for making this possible. I am going to try to make this a regular part of my yearly planning. – **S.S.**

Everything you guys are doing here is so wonderful. I am in awe of God's goodness and provision. Thank you for everything, and making us feel like family.

– **M.C.**



EMBRACE CABIN

This is such a beautiful place. The woods and trails are beautiful. As soon as I arrived, I sensed the peace and presence of the Lord. I look forward to coming back again and again!

– **J.R.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

VALUE THE VOICE PARENTING CONFERENCE WITH JONNY & AMY CLAUSSEN – JULY 28-30

Parenting isn't about raising independent children; instead, it is all about transferring our children's dependency from us to the Father. The Value the Voice Parenting Course will help you navigate the greatest job you will ever have! Register today by calling the office at: 715-488-8564!

ULTIMATE MARRIAGE RETREAT WITH JONNY & AMY CLAUSSEN – OCT. 6-8

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 by calling the office at: 715-488-8564!

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

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.

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

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THE WILDERNESS
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