

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

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.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Greetings friends,

One of the blessings of growth and bringing on new people to help carry the load is that we also bring into the team new gifts, skills and abilities. With the growth that the Lord is bringing here, I have long felt that the days of being a "One Pony Show" - when one person had to be good at everything - are passing. We need more than ever to take on the new focus of TEAM. Each one of us has valuable gifts that we bring to the table. I am learning to look for the things I need to be letting go of, knowing that I can fully trust the Lord to carry on even better using the resources, gifts and talents that He has brought into this gifted team. So, with that, I just wanted to let you know that the newsletter you are now reading is being managed, edited and put into production by Cindy Merrifield in concert with Ethan Deal's gifts of graphic design and layout! More than capable hands will continue to bring you the exciting news of what God is doing here as He grows The Wilderness Fellowship Ministries for His glory and praise. We are all so excited for what God is doing here and thrilled to be a part of impacting lives for His eternal Kingdom. Please join us in praying for His clear leading, direction and growth in the years to come! The best is yet to come! Thank you!

Randy Klawitter

Executive Director TWFM



Grace Cabin Update

The Grace Cabin interior siding was sanded smooth (thanks Rahm family!) and interior finished in October. The tenth cabin in our Prayer Cabin village is SO close to being finished. Along with the cabin, however, the outhouse and new shower house must also be functional per state regulations. The need continues to grow and we will continue to build as the Lord provides finances, labor and His blessing as He grows this ministry. Please be praying about whether God would like you to fund (or be part of funding) another prayer cabin — we still have nine sites available!



Friend and frequent guest Ken Flannery has graciously done all the rough-in wiring and finish electrical work on the last four prayer cabins. What a huge gift to the Prayer Cabin ministry. Recently, he informed us that after the Grace he is unable to continue. We are so thankful for his excellent service. However, we have a huge need for an electrician who might be willing to pick up the mantle of this special service for the Shalom Cabin and others going forward. If you are interested, please, please give us a call. The Lord will provide.

Shalom Cabin Progress

Holes were dug and foundation posts put in in September. Britt Gonyea and his crew came and framed in the cabin in one day, walls were constructed and raised, roof trusses were put in place and sheeting was



on the porch at the end of the day! Praise the Lord! Since then, the sheeting is on the entire roof along with tar paper. Shingles will go on Nov 4-5 by volunteers Dan and Tom



Vetsch. We will keep you posted on the progress. As soon as the cabin is ready, it will be visible on our website under facilities. www.wildernessfellowship.com/prayer-cabins

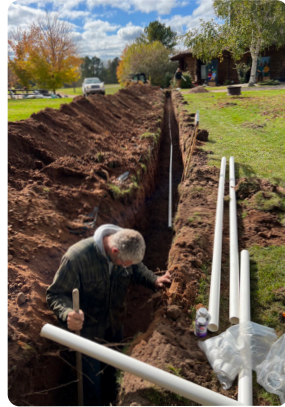
Ever Heard Of A Leaverite Rock?



Michael and Randy found a leaverite rock – you leaverite there!! – as they were digging in the gas line to the new Shalom Cabin. We are convinced that Michael must be part mole, as he has done so much digging and trenching in recent weeks for the two new prayer cabins, outhouses and shower house. Thank you so much, Michael, for your persistence and faithfulness in this VERY challenging job!

Trenching

150' of trenching was accomplished at the Fellowship Center as a necessary improvement/repair of the heating system using a rented Bobcat mini excavator, and it was an all-day project. We are so grateful to have accomplished that before freezing temperatures set in.



and help us check off the never-ending list of tasks that need to be done, we would LOVE to have you! Give our office a call (715-488-8564) and we will be so very happy to accommodate you!

Marriage Retreat

We had a very successful marriage retreat again, with 19 couples participating. As always, Dr. Jonny and Amy were wonderful teachers, bringing a vision of God's intended plan for marriage. It is always a huge blessing to have Larry and Wilma, Amy's folks, along to minister in prayer to the attendees. If you are interested in attending one, you can register online at wildernessfellowship.com/events. The dates for 2024 are January 26-28, April 26-28 and October 4-6. We would love to have you join us, whether you've been married a few months or several decades. Marriage is God's plan and He loves to see them strengthened and even restored. Many thanks to Betsy (TWFM events coordinator) for all of your time and effort in putting these retreats and conferences together. (Huge thanks to Bonnie and Jerry who always come and volunteer to make that weekend so powerful.)

Lakeside Update

As many of you know, especially those of you who frequent Lakeside, there was an issue with the gas refrigerator this summer... it died. It was finally resolved through a long process, thanks to Michael, Randy and Ethan K. figuring out and implementing the best plan of action. Thanks for getting that done!

Parenting Conference 2024 Cancelled

We are sorry to report that the Parenting Conference is cancelled for July of 2024 due to scheduling conflicts. Hopefully we will be able to re-engage in 2025 with a Parenting Conference. If you are interested, please let us know to give us a better idea of whether this is serving the body of Christ here.

Volunteers

A huge shout out to ALL of our volunteers who have come alongside us here in this ministry to help clean cabins, construct cabins, fill wood baskets, help out at retreats, and the list goes on and on and on. If you, your church group, your Bible study or your family have a little time to spare to come



The Hofer/Geiser group helped deep clean cabins!

Audit

Due to some very significant, generous gifts to fund two prayer cabins and the new prayer cabin shower house, The Wilderness has been undergoing a state-mandated audit recently, which has required many, many hours on the part of Cheryl and Brian Stephany (board member). Thank you so much for your dedication to this time-consuming project!

Seasonal Changes To Be Aware Of When Coming To The Wilderness

SPRING: Fireplaces in prayer cabins are turned off starting Memorial Day and turned back on Labor Day.

FALL: Conversely – the group shower house at Lakeside is open by Memorial Day and closed down once temperatures turn to freezing – think frozen pipes! If you will be staying at a campsite or group cabin during the fall, check with the office the week of your reservation to find out if it will be open during your stay.

Disc Golf

We have a 9-hole disc golf course here at The Wilderness, however some of our discs that we have made available at the office have gone astray. If you happen to have unused discs lying around at your home or happen to find some at garage sales that you would like to donate, we would love to replenish our supply!



New Board Member JOE KUCHINKA



JOE & AMY

Growing the ministry means growing the Board. Last year we introduced you to Andy Neimi who is new to the Board. We are now excited to also introduce yet another new member to The Wilderness Board of Directors. Joe Kuchinka and his family have been longtime guests of TWFM and they love what God is doing here. Joe, wife Amy, and their family have shared this ministry with many others for years and now Joe brings to the Board expertise and insight in various arenas. We will share more in another letter as this was just a recent development and short notice to this newsletter. But—Welcome aboard Joe.

We invite all who read this newsletter to be in prayer for the Lord's clear leading for additional Board members of His choosing to help bring increased direction and leadership in this season of growth. It's an exciting time here at The Wilderness!

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



Needs/Wish List

- Large skid steer snow blower
- 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 for info)
- New couches for Johnson Hall and Founders Fireside Retreat Center (call for info)
- Semi tire chains 22.5s single to use on the skid steer for snow plowing
- Old candles for making fire starters
- Electrician for the next prayer cabin(s) – rough in and finish.
- Volunteers to fill wood baskets for the winter heating season.
- Underground wire locator

THE ULTIMATE *Marriage Retreat*

WITH JONNY & AMY CLAUSSEN

2024 DATES

JAN. 26-28

APR. 26-28

OCT. 4-6

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.



PERSONALIZED GIFT CERTIFICATES



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

www.wildernessfellowship.com



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**THE WILDERNESS
FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES**

Honorariums

GIVEN BY

IN HONOR OF

Andrew Goblirsch

*Dick & Louise Klawitter
& son Keith*

Jacquelyn Todd

Dick Klawitter's 90th Birthday

Reed and Roni Schoephoerster

47 years of marriage

Beth Goblirsch

*Steve Goblirsch, husband, and
our wedding anniversary*

Memorials

GIVEN BY

IN MEMORY OF

Arleth Anderson

Alma Karels; Louise Klawitter

Arnold and Cynthia Courneya

Louise Klawitter

Beverly Lahners

Louise Klawitter

Bruce and Laurel Stumbo

Louise Klawitter

Charles and Betty Linden

Louise Klawitter

David and Mary Jo Trapp

Louise Klawitter

Debbie Sardo

Louise Klawitter

Dorothy Richard

Louise Klawitter

Dorothy Schomaker

Louise Klawitter

Doug and Sue Segelstrom

Louise Klawitter

Fritz and Nancy Rathke

Louise Klawitter

Gail Lando

Louise Klawitter

Gordon and Betty Olson

Louise Klawitter

Harvy and Sharon Christensen

Chris French

Jerry and Cheri Steffen

Louise Klawitter

Jerry and Bonnie Van Domelen

Jean Schafer; Louise Klawitter

John and Sandra Agrimson

Louise Klawitter

John and Priscilla Hill

Louise Klawitter

Linda Roetzer

Luella Roetzer

Mark Helling

LTJG Marvin Helling, USN

Marvin and Vi Flodin

Louise Klawitter

Michael and Lois Carrizales

Monnie Holmquist

Mike and Sue Forester

Louise Klawitter

Paul Kragness

Louise Klawitter; Verona Hoff

Richard Smalkoski and

Louise Klawitter

Patricia Walcheski

Louise Klawitter

Richard and Jane Trapp

Louise Klawitter

Roland Birkebak

Louise Klawitter

Sheryl Amstutz

Louise Klawitter

Timothy and Diane Ryden

Jim Brinkman

Todd and Cheryl Riggs

Ellen Clark; Jeff Johansen;

Tay Kersey

GUEST COMMENTS

We love you, TWFM! Thank you for being here for weary souls!

M.H.

Thank you for this beautiful place! **S.W.**

God bless this place! A retreat from the daily routine. A time and place to come and STOP and turn and focus on God, draw closer to Him and leave with a bigger fire inside!! All for His Glory! IN JESUS NAME. **R.J.**

Thank you for providing a place to meet with Jesus in my own personal desert & wilderness. I know God is everywhere, but here He is profoundly present – so peaceful, so safe. **J.T.**

I come to The Wilderness anticipating an uninterrupted time of intimacy with my precious Savior. God is my expectation and He never disappoints. I always leave The Wilderness So Loved and So Blessed. May the Lord continue to Bless and prosper the staff here at TWFM with His Fullness & Love. **B.V.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 MARRIAGE RETREAT DATES:

ULTIMATE MARRIAGE RETREAT WITH JONNY & AMY CLAUSSEN

JAN. 26-28, 2024 | APR. 26-28, 2024 | OCT. 4-6, 2024

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!

NORTHWOODS CONFERENCE – APRIL 12 & 13

SAVE THE DATE for the Northwoods Conference April 12-13, 2024. Theme and speakers yet to be determined – be praying about this with us and stay tuned for the details!

WILDERNESS WORSHIP – 3RD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH (EXCEPT DEC.) – 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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