

The Federated Messenger

March 2024

“Drinking from a Firehose!”

by Pastor Malcolm Beall

Have you ever tried to take a drink from a firehose? Yeah, me either 😊 I bet what you have done is tried to take a drink from a hose outside of your house or a friend's house and had



someone think it was funny to turn it up way too high and the water goes up your nose, all over your face, gets you soaked, and very little even makes it down your throat because it has taken your breath away.

I am sure you have heard of the saying “drinking from the firehose”. It is a metaphor explaining the experience of being presented with an overwhelming amount of new information while simultaneously attempting to understand, remember, and apply it. This had to be what the disciples felt like at the Passover meal. We are taking 3 months to examine what Jesus' last week was leading up to His death and resurrection according to the Gospel of John, and the vast majority of that portion of scripture was presented to the disciples in a matter of a few hours! Can you even imagine?! They were definitely “drinking from the firehose”!

As we continue to study what Jesus had to say to His disciples, we will continue to read major amounts of helpful instructions for when He is no longer physically with them. All of His words to the disciples are also for us as well. It might seem overwhelming to you to think about putting into practice all Jesus taught His disciples that last night; don't worry, it was very overwhelming for them too!

May I encourage you to look at the examples of the disciples after Jesus returned to Heaven. They focused on the “majors” of Jesus message to them: to love the Lord with everything (Matt 22:37); love others how he loved us (John 13:34); to Abide in Him (John 15:1-17); to rely on the power of the Holy Spirit (John 14:24-25, Acts 2 Cor 3:17-18); to continue to pray, and then pray some more (all through Acts). As we approach Easter this year, I encourage you to continue to focus on the majors! Love God above all, love others, Abide in Him, be guided always by the Holy Spirit, and PRAY!!

Meanwhile, back at the Ranch...

by Christy Preston

March . . . many would say this isn't a very exciting month with all the mud and weather that just says "bleh." But at WLD, March is the start of our busy season, which is exciting for all that it brings. March includes a full session of horse lessons, the Married Couples' Retreat (March 22-23), and Girl Scouts. April continues with horse lessons and retreats and starts Rough Riders, our therapeutic riding program. May introduces field days and various opportunities to serve school groups throughout the week, in addition to the weekend retreats. Don't forget about our Spring Open House on Saturday, May 11 (11am-5pm), a great opportunity to bring family and friends out to experience at day at WLD Ranch!

Spring may be a busy season upon us, but the intensity of summer is just around the corner and our thoughts are never far from plans for summer program and staff. Summer camp registrations are pouring in, so don't delay in registering your kids for summer camp. Certain weeks fill up quickly! Look for our summer brochures in the mail or head to www.wldranch.com to get dates and prices for this summer's round-ups. (If you do not have children who can attend camp, have you considered sponsoring a child this summer? Contact me for more information about camper sponsorships – christy@wldranch.com.)

We also need teens and college students committed to serving the Lord to fill various summer staff positions as counseling staff, kitchen staff, dining room staff, maintenance staff, and more. Pray that the Lord would send the right staff members our way. (Do you know any high school or college age students who desire to serve the Lord in a camp setting? Contact Joseph for more information about available positions – joseph@wldranch.com.)

Camp is a powerful tool that can transform the lives of all who are involved. Campers hear the truth of the Gospel and see Christ's love lived out by the staff members every day. Their

faith develops through each interaction as they focus on learning particular skills, build friendships with each other and staff members, and immerse themselves into the FUN of camp life. But campers aren't the only ones whose lives are changed. Staff members will learn skills they can use the rest of their lives in leadership, work ethic, and social interactions with campers and fellow staff members. Becoming part of a camp family forges friendships that will last a lifetime, because those who serve the Lord together in a camp setting are bonded uniquely to each other. And who says campers are the only ones who have FUN at camp? From the first day of staff training to the final day of camp, staff members continue to learn in the midst of WLD-style adventure and create memories to cherish for years to come.

Please continue to pray for our full-time and year-round staff this spring as we minister to those God brings our way and plan for the summer camp season. Pray also that the right summer staff members would come to WLD for a summer of ministry. Pray for hearts to change – those of the campers who attend summer camp and those of the staff who show campers God's love. We appreciate your prayers and support as we strive to fulfill our mission and guide others to Jesus. To God be the glory!

Springfield Senior Center



On Tuesday, March 12 Springfield Senior Center will get back into full swing with Pastor Keith Nitschke leading devotions. Kirk and Jane Hamza will provide a program of Musical Memories playing the accordion and singing Irish music. It all begins at 9:45 a.m. with a wonderful lunch served at Noon, all for a \$3.00 donation.





We have the 2023 total number of shoeboxes to share with you this month and it's exciting! But these are so much more than numbers. Each number represents a child hearing about Jesus as he/she receives a shoebox and hears the gospel-So as you read these numbers keep that in mind.

- Worldwide—11,330,126 shoeboxes
- USA—10,051,570 shoeboxes
- Mid-Atlantic Region (PA & NJ)- 632,597 shoeboxes
- NW PA Team 17,725 + 22,400 special access boxes= 40,125 shoeboxes
- Federated Church 508 (Packing Party) + 118 brought in= 626 shoeboxes

Read that again and instead of shoeboxes, read 11,330,126 children were reached with the Gospel because people in 11 countries packed shoeboxes. And just because of what our church packed and brought in, 626 children heard about Jesus. Now that is exciting! We want to continue the good work and are collecting all year long until our fall packing party again. We are going to aim to pack 500 Boys & Girls boxes for 5-9 year olds.

For the month of March we are collecting the following items and any similar items for the packing party:

Coloring Books, Card Games, Playing Cards, Drawing Paper, Markers, Stickers, Water Paints (dry only)

Please note: we have an Amazon Wish list you can access with this QR code and also a Walmart gift registry under "any occasion" Federated Church Operation Christmas Child.



Mark your calendar now for the following OCC events:

- OCC Bake Sale, Sunday, April 28
- Packing Party-Monday, October 14 & Tuesday, October 15

Here is a new statistic from Samaritan's Purse: 1 child every 10 seconds accepts Jesus as a result of Operation Christmas Child efforts! Together we are making an eternal difference!

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25

SPRINGFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. SWISS STEAK DINNER

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024
FEDERATED CHURCH FAMILY CENTER
11 AM TO 2 PM

SERVING:

Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Apple Sauce or Cole Slaw, Roll, Dessert and Beverage



COST:

Adults-\$15.00, Children (under 12)-\$8.00

TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE

Please come and support your local volunteers

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Maundy Thursday Worship
March 28, 7 PM in the sanctuary
- Northwestern Community Good Friday Service, Friday, March 29, 7 p.m.
Albion Assembly, Route 18, Albion
- Easter Egg-Stravaganza, Saturday, March 30, 10:00 AM to Noon, open to kids birth to 5th grade
- Resurrection Sunday, March 31
Breakfast: (to benefit WLD Ranch)
8-10:30 AM, Family Center
- Worship: 9 & 11 AM, Sanctuary
- Baptism: 10:45 AM, Sanctuary



For the Egg Hunt, we are requesting donations of bags of small, individually wrapped, nut-free candy. Donation bins are located in the Welcome Center.



FAMILY CAMP IN MARCH 22-23

Connect with other Fed Families over food, fun and

camping in the church! Friday 5 p.m. through 11 a.m. Saturday. Dinner and breakfast included. \$20 per family. Sign up at the Kids Sign-In Desk

**Adult Sunday
School Classes**

◆ **Celebration Class** –

All are invited to this class for people celebrating their “mature” years in the church dining room for prayer and Bible study on the current sermon series.

- ◆ **Men’s Class** – Studying Judges, led by Pastor Rick, Bob Pettis and others, meet in the Family Center Rooms 10/11
- ◆ **Ladies Class** – Studying, “Don’t Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table” by Louie Giglio, led by Suzanne Barton, Room 10 in the church basement.
- ◆ **Faith Chapel Ladies Class** – a study of 2 Peter entitled “How to be kept from Falling”, led by Christina Corbett.
- ◆ **Sanctuary Class** – a verse by verse study of the book of Proverbs, led by Jerry Hills in the sanctuary.
- ◆ **Kingdom Bound Class** – studying the current sermon topics, led by Andy Ward in the church basement, Room 29.
- ◆ **College & Young Adult Class** – Family Center Room 12, exploring what the Bible says about topics relative to life, led by Mike and Cheryl Anderson.
- ◆ **Good News Class** – Family Center, Rooms 6 & 7, studying the book of John with Seth Huntley and Sam Ring leading.
- ◆ **Couples Class** – for married and engaged couples, led by Rick Fails, Jamie Greig, and Melissa Pratt, Room 31 in the church basement.
- ◆ **Heart and Soul Class** – studying in the book of John, led by Paul Burgess in Room 28 of the church basement.
- ◆ **The Upper Room Class** – led by Pastor Mal Beall and Paula Adams. Open to Young Adults both single and married. Meeting in the big room upstairs in the church. Study to be determined soon.



Kidz Church is for children 4 years old thru 5th grade in the Family Center. The children should be signed

in at the Family Center desk by a parent/caregiver before services and promptly picked up afterward.

Infant and Toddler care: During the 8:15 a.m. service, unsupervised Infant/Toddler rooms are available for families to use. Also, there is a nursing mother’s room available during both services at the back of the sanctuary. Infant and Toddler care *is* available during the 11 a.m. service in the Family Center. **MORE VOLUNTEERS** are needed to care for the children. If you can help, please contact the Church Office.



The following folks were welcomed into church membership Sunday, February 4

- ♥ Erika and Travis Burns
- ♥ Edwin and Katie Elvir
- ♥ Ruth Freeman
- ♥ Heather Moore
- ♥ Bonnie Neely
- ♥ Kyle Thomas
- ♥ Aaron and Elissa Yeager





**Missions Weekend
MARCH 16 & 17**

Please join us Saturday evening for a dessert social (6:00 p.m.) and in our Sunday services for updates from Phil and Rita Warkentien (Brazil), Andrew and Mary Marshall (Ukraine), and our local Chi-Alpha college missionaries!



We have a couple ways to give electronically: Text “GIVE” to 814-402-8798 or follow the link from our website www.fedchurch.net

MARCH

SUNDAY	MON.	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 4 PM Teen Ensemble 5:30 PM Game On!/Praise Choir 5:45 PM Ignite	4	5	6 10 AM Golden Circle 6:30 PM JOURNEY 7 PM Prayer Meeting	7 10 AM Women's Group 3:30 PM SALT 6:30 PM CR	8	9 Turn clocks ahead before going to bed! 
10 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School Small Groups	11	12 9:45 AM Senior Center 6:30 PM Elders & Deacons	13 10 AM Golden Circle 6:30 PM JOURNEY 7 PM Prayer Meeting	14 3:30 PM SALT 6:30 PM CR	15	16 6 PM Missions Weekend
17 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 4 PM Teen Ensemble 5:00 PM Praise Choir 5:30 PM Game On!/5:45 Ignite 6 PM Annual Meeting	18	19	20 10 AM Golden Circle 6:30 PM JOURNEY 7 PM Prayer Meeting	21 10 AM Women's Group 3:30 PM SALT 6:30 PM CR	22	23 <div> Married Couples Retreat, WLD Ranch Family Camp-In 5 PM Friday to 11 AM Saturday </div>
24 8:15 & 11 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School SVFD Swiss Steak Dinner Small Groups	25 11 AM Food Pantry	26 6:30 PM Women's Worship Night	27 10 AM Golden Circle NO JOURNEY OR Prayer Meeting	28 10 AM Women's Group 7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship Communion	29 7 PM Good Friday Worship Albion Assembly Church	30 10 AM Easter Egg Stravaganza
31 Resurrection Sunday! 8-10:30 AM Breakfast 10:45 AM Baptism 9 & 11 AM Worship	