

# Living Faith Messenger

2022 Fall Edition

## From the Pastor's Desk

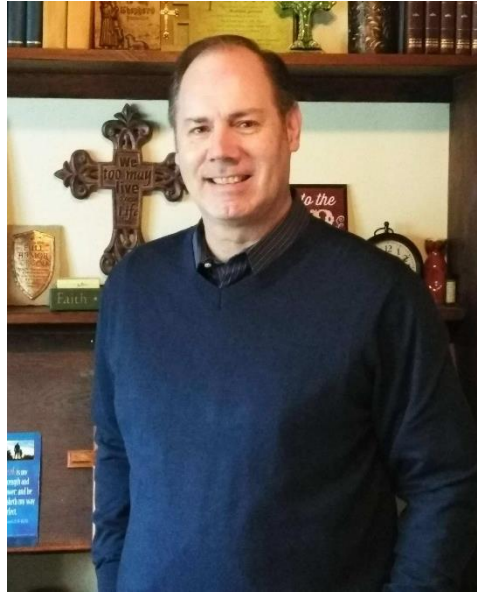
By Pastor Troy Billow

### **"The Next Generation"**

***"What we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us, we will not hide them from our children, we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, about his power, and about the wonders he has done."*** Psalm 78:3-4

I have been thrilled to see a new generation of children running around inside our Living Faith building and playing outside in the yard of our church property. This is so encouraging to me personally to know that we are influencing the next generation for God and passing on to them - ***"the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord"***. I am so very grateful to our Youth Director Megan and those who help her in this all-important children's ministry. When I see these children at church, it lets me know we are fulfilling God's will and preparing to pass the torch of faith on to our own children and also the next generation in our community.

Over my lifetime I've seen some churches fail to focus on passing their faith on to the next generation and begin to become ingrown, shrink in number, and even close their church building. This is often because somewhere in their journey as a congregation they had lost the heart attitude of Jesus that we see in the Gospels, as when he said to the crowd of his followers - ***Don't forsake the little children to come unto me because such is the kingdom of heaven."*** Mat.19:13-14



From this Psalm and the Lord Jesus' own words we see that the people of God need to **focus on** and **share with** the younger generations the wonderful love of Jesus and the powerful redemptive things he has done throughout history. The Psalm goes on to say ***"He has decreed statutes for Jacob, and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds."*** Psalm 78:5-7

In these verses do you see the chain reaction of faith? Do you see the promise? In order for the next generation to know about the God of Jacob who holds redemption and eternal life in his hands, we must be focused on our faith, deliberate in our effort, and honest in our teaching the children about who God is and the wonderful things he has done as recorded in the scriptures. Today's children and this current generation in America are terribly influenced in the school system and on social media by a world that is growing more corrupt and wicked each day. We must be the ones who protect them spiritually and tell them boldly the ***real truth*** from God's word so ***"they will not be like their forefathers – a stubborn and rebellious generation whose hearts were not loyal to God."*** Psalm 78:8 - May God's promises come true at Living Faith!

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## Living Faith Youth Group

By: Megan Bustamante

With all the students back in school summer has officially come to a close for this year. Summer often is a time in youth ministry where attendance is low and the schedule is empty but that was not our case this year! Living Faith youth continued to meet weekly with numbers often similar to our school year and we were able to successfully hold two large events this summer that were enjoyed by many.

Our first event this summer was our annual 5 Day Club in partnership with Child Evangelism Fellowship. In the weeks leading up to our club I was informed that multiple families were going to be out of town for the week or had other conflicts. Honestly, I started to get nervous about how many kids we were going to have. But like always I was surprised at who God brought to club that week. We had an average 8-10 students each day and a couple of them were new to our group. During club I witnessed students really lean into the lessons and missionary stories and gain a new understanding of what they were learning. On top of new Biblical knowledge and growth in their faith, the students also grew closer together as a group. At the end of the week we had students that started out shy and reserved jumping right in to play games and answer questions and other students tell me at the bonfire that they now considered this group some of their close friends. Both the spiritual growth and deepening of friendships within the group made this one of my favorite weeks of the summer.

Our second big event was packing shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The idea to

move this event from it's normal time frame in November to July/August came as a way to free up time during the holidays, but I think it also made it possible for this to be our best year ever. The youth and adults came together on two Thursdays to pack over 50 boxes with gifts that will later this year be shipped around the world. Thanks to generous donations we were able to include many necessary items in each box like a tooth brush, socks, combs, soap and wash cloths; as well as fun gifts such as coloring books, crayons, Barbie dolls, stuffed animals, craft supplies, footballs, race cars and way more! The beauty of these boxes is that they not only are a treasured gift for the child but also used as a tool to share the gospel message of salvation with them. We are praying that the children that receive these boxes will also receive Jesus in their lives. Although we filled all our shoe boxes there is still a financial need for us to help get these boxes on their journey. Operation Christmas Child recommends a \$10 donation/box to help cover the shipping cost of getting these boxes to their child. We would love to try and cover as much of that as we can for the boxes we packed so if you feel led to give in any way please let me know.

The end of summer can bring mixed feelings as school starts back up and the weather changes but as I look back at the summer, I can only be thankful for all that happened within Living Faith Youth Group. God doesn't care if it is winter or summer; He continues His work just the same and for that I am thankful.

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*Thank you Ladies of Lilac Ministry, for  
volunteering to be in charge of Hospitality  
and decorating. Your hard work is truly  
appreciated! And thank you Joyce  
Skowronski for cooking the main dishes for 2  
Family Fellowship Dinner and to all who  
volunteered and brought a dish to share.*  
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## Kingdom Warriors

By Tom Heinrich

God's Warriors, recently renamed Kingdom Warriors, has been blessed this year with so many faithful and reliable volunteers that help make this ministry possible and we are very grateful for all of the help we receive. Our goal has been to bring our church family together outside of Sunday mornings to strengthen our faith, worship our Lord, and build up our love for one another.

We host different types of events for different purposes such as bonfires and game nights to enjoy fellowship with one another while providing a casual atmosphere to invite friends and family outside of our church.

Educational events are held to address the spiritual needs of believers and better equip us for a life of Godliness such as our recent spiritual warfare seminar that provided a deeper understanding of spiritual warfare and how to combat it.

We are excited about our annual fall harvest festival. Everyone who attends will enjoy live music outdoors, games, crafts, and time with family and friends. This is also a great opportunity to bring awareness to others about our church. We are praying that it will be used to introduce unbelievers in our community to our church and to Christ.

Kingdom Warriors will wrap up 2022 with a Thanksgiving event which will be a documentary and explanation of the Bible's influence on America. The documentary explains how our country was formed around biblical principles and where we can still find them today. It also explains how the Bible was translated and mass produced along with the great sacrifice that was made by certain heroic individuals who gave everything in order to give us the privilege of being able to possess our own bible in our native language.

I am so grateful for this ministry and the encouragement it has brought to the leaders and hope to see you at the next event for a time of fellowship!



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## Family Fellowship Night

Our first family Fellowship Night was very well attended with 35. After dinner, the children went to Youth Group and the men and women went to their groups. Here is a summary of what is happening:

### Kingdom Women

The Women's Ministry, now known as "Kingdom Women", will be doing a video study by Tony Evans, entitled "Kingdom Woman" on Right Now Media. It is a 6-week study.

TONY EVANS

*"A kingdom woman gives the devil as much reason to fear as a kingdom man. She lives confidently in the knowledge that Christ died and rose for her so that she can experience the significance of the destiny to which she has been called. In Kingdom Woman, Tony Evans and his daughter, Chrystal Evans Hurst, remind women of their calling from God to be free, delivered, healed, and hopeful. The authors bring insight that encourages women to correct distorted perceptions and understand who they really are in Christ - never settling for less when connected with the One who gives them hope. All believers are covered by God's covenant with Abraham. Evans and Hurst want women to know these rights and confidently claim and live by them. The new covenant offers more than a life of mediocrity. A kingdom woman is called and empowered to live a life of victory through Christ!"*

### Band Of Brothers

The Men's Ministry, Band of Brothers will be doing 6 sessions of "Not A Fan", and it is also on Right Now Media.

Not a Fan By KYLE IDLEMAN

Description

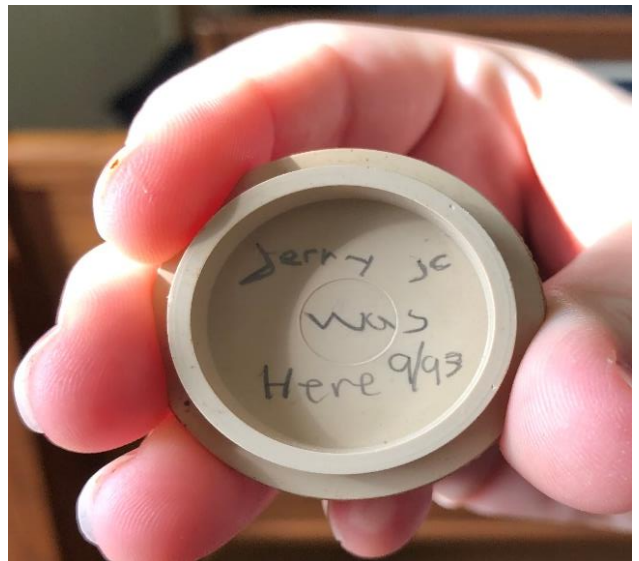
Twenty times in the New Testament, Jesus Christ issued a compelling and challenging invitation: "Follow Me." Jesus is not interested in mere fans. He doesn't want enthusiastic admirers. He wants completely committed followers. Build around the engaging approach of Kyle Idleman, Teaching Pastor at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY, this one of kind small group study, sermon series, movie, and book examines what it means to deny oneself and truly follow Jesus.

**The schedule will be as follows:**

**Sept. 1st, Oct 6th, Nov 3rd**

**Break for Dec, Jan and Feb**

**Continue Mar 2nd, April 13th, May 4th**



Found under the east front pew. Who was Jerry, here in September 1993?

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## Birthdays

April

Samantha Gonzalez

Apr. 6

John Beechy

Apr. 8

Katy Cox

Apr. 14

Isaias Bustamante	Apr. 15
Hannah Blasier	Apr. 25
Becca Gehle	Apr. 30

## May

Sarah Delgado	May 1
Christine Billow	May 2
Janet Tomany	May 2
Marion Kirkland	May 5
Linda Bryk	May 10
Scott Dubbs	May 30

## June

Kimberly Healy	June 10
Maygen Stork	June 21
Chris DeBauche	June 23
Clarence DeBauche	June 24
Sharon Robison	June 28
Lilli Houdek	June 30

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Living Faith Community Church

380 High Road Lockport, IL 60441

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# Living Faith Community Church Messenger

The Quarterly Newsletter Of  
Living Faith Community Church

380 High Road, Lockport, IL 60441

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