

# The Federated Messenger

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March 2018

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## “Where Are All the Nations?”

by Pastor Ed Huntley

### “Go and make disciples of all nations” - Jesus in Matthew 28:19

Shortly before Jesus ascended back to heaven, He gave His apostles a clear commission. He said, “Go and make disciples of all nations.” Then on the day that He actually departed, He made the commission very specific to His first followers, when He said, “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth!” (Acts 1:8)

It wasn't long before the apostles did what Jesus commanded. With some persecutors pushing them, they went from Jerusalem through Judea and Samaria, and then on to the ends of the earth as they knew it. Paul went west to Italy, while tradition says that Thomas went east as far as India. To make disciples of all nations, they went to all the nations. Many centuries later, missionaries from Europe went to a new nation that they discovered, now known as the United States of America!

By God's grace, many of our ancestors received the gospel message. Then they received the same commission that the apostles received, to go and make disciples of all nations. So the churches of America, including the Federated Church, began sending missionaries out to the ends of the earth. For over 75 years, we have been making disciples in many nations.

But in the 21st Century, something amazing is happening in America: the nations are coming to us! People from all over the world are coming to the United States to study (international students), or to escape from persecution (refugees), or to live and work in our country (immigrants). So where are “all the nations”? They're all over the world and they are here!

Our Missions Weekend Conference on March 3-4 is going to focus on both nations. The Schmidt family will report on their disciple-making in Kenya, and the Wisharts will tell us what God is doing in Indonesia. At the same time, Rich Mendola will challenge us about the opportunities here in America with international students, and Bart and Rachel Karaisz will share how God is calling them to reach internationals and refugees for Christ here in Erie County. I urge all of us to come to our Missions Weekend Conference and hear the call of our Lord to make disciples of all nations, the nations at the ends of the earth, and the nations that are right here in America!

**MISSIONS CONFERENCE ~ MARCH 3 & 4**

**Look at page 3 for names of our guests and a schedule of events!**

## Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch...

By Joseph Preston

Groundhog Day 2018 will not be remembered for Phil's predictions about spring's arrival. The day itself was very cold and I figure spring weather will get here at some random time as it typically does. But we experienced the cold that particular afternoon as we watched the Buckskin Bunkhouse burn.

Christy and I typically park our van in front of the Longhorn Lodge, but that Friday morning we were bringing some groceries in for the weekend church retreat, so we parked by the kitchen. We spent the morning in the offices. Just before lunch, we were hanging pictures in the conference room after repainting and we decided to stay a little longer to get more done. When we went to the van, parked by the kitchen, we backed out to where we could see the Buckskin. My initial thought was that there was a big gust of snow blowing over the bunkhouse, but it was odd and I quickly realized it was smoke. We drove around the driveway and called 911, then watched as smoke billowed out of every vent in the attic space, glass broke in the back right bunk room, and we waited restlessly for the fire crews to arrive. They arrived quickly and were able to contain the fire quickly, but it was a long afternoon as we waited to learn the extent of the damage.

Once the fire was controlled, the fire crew investigated for a cause and suspected an electrical fire. However, the fire analyst who came later did a more thorough evaluation and determined that the probable cause was the exhaust system from the furnace igniting a fire in the attic space.

The damage to the bunkhouse is extensive. The back half of the building is badly burned while the front half sustained extensive heat and smoke damage. Part of the attic is burned as well. We are now in the process with the Ranch Board to determine what the best means of rebuilding will be. Soon we will be able to announce our plans and share with you how you can help us in the recovery process.

While the loss of a building is difficult, we can rebuild a building. We firmly believe that buildings are just tools that God allows us to use so that we can better serve people. The campers and guests who will use the rebuilt facility are our primary focus. We look forward to rebuilding this part of our

facilities so that we can effectively continue to build relationships with campers and guests and guide them to Jesus as the Truth in life. As we rebuild, we rejoice that we have an amazing God whom we can trust even in the difficult situations that life brings our way.

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## Springfield Senior Center

**Tuesday, March 13** ~ Devotions will be presented by Father Jim Kennelley, St. Lawrence Church, Albion. Larry Hudack will provide wonderful Irish music.



**Tuesday, March 27** ~ Devotions will be presented by Pastor Andrew Shields, West Springfield Baptist Church. We will take an exciting road trip to Paul Burgess's Maple Syrup Farm. Transportation will be provided.

The meetings begin at **9:45 AM** but come at **9:30 AM** to join in with the senior ringers and singers! A home-cooked meal will be served at Noon. Good fellowship, blood pressure readings, exercises, lunch all for \$3.

**Snow Closing:** If Northwestern Schools cancel, Senior Center will not meet.



Senior's Trips

**TRAVEL WITH THE SENIORS...** What a great Mother's Day or Birthday gift idea!

**June 1, 2018 to Shipshewana, IN**

We will enjoy the talents of Mark Lowry. Singer, songwriter, author and humorist. Mark Lowry is best known for penning the lyrics to "Mary Did You Know?" Dinner, show and lodging will take place at the **Blue Gate facilities** plus buffet lunch at Potawatomi Inn. Other things are being planned. **Plenty of seats available! Cost per person in a double room: \$246. Triple \$229 and Quad \$220, due no later than March 27<sup>th</sup>.** See flyers in the Welcome Center for additional information and many other trips such as Cleveland in May, Conneaut in June, Presque Isle in July, the Erie Playhouse in August and Pittsburgh in September! Questions/Reservations call Nancy Crabtree, 922-3249 or the Church, 922-3655.



## The Spring Missions Weekend is scheduled for March 3 & 4

Please join us for an opportunity to get re-energized by updates from our supported missionaries.

### SPECIAL GUESTS INCLUDE:

- ❖ Dan and Courtney Schmidt, Kenya
- ❖ Rich Mendola, International Friendships
- ❖ Bart and Rachel Karaisz, Crescent Project (potential missionaries for our support)
- ❖ Jeb and Brooke Wishart, Indonesia (potential missionaries for our support)

There will be a Saturday evening potluck dinner at 6:00 PM in the Family Center followed by small groups. On Sunday morning, missionary updates will be given in both morning services and Sunday School. We will conclude with a 6:00 PM service showing a film entitled "The Insanity of God" – the true story of missionaries Nik and Ruth Ripken.

## SALT - "Students Afterschool Learning Truth"

Our SALT program for elementary children has begun and meets on Thursday afternoons from 3:30-5:30 p.m. until April 26<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed each Thursday to help in this very important ministry. If you can help or are interested in more information, please leave your name and number at the Welcome Center Desk or text/call Josh Pettis, 281-0123.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Ladies Laboring for the Lord

**CALLING ALL TRIPLE L LADIES!**  
Wednesday, March 21

Our spring meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the Spur at the Ranch. Please **bring your calendars** to plan for 2018.

Christy will be sharing a report on the 2017 Kids Christmas Shop as well as the upcoming events for 2018. Field days begin on March 7. The **Open House** for the Ranch will be on **Sunday, May 6.**

Hope to see all current members and welcome **NEW** members!



Any questions call Sharon at 814-602-7571 or Gerry at 814-840-4085

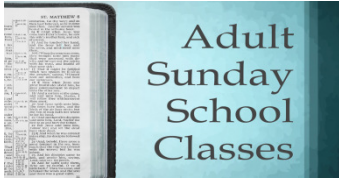
## Marriage Retreats

Want to be more intentional about building and strengthening your marriage? Then invest yourself into one of these two marriage retreats:

**MARCH 23-24 ~ "Re-Calibrate" Marriage Retreat at WLD Ranch** (go to [www.wldranch.com](http://www.wldranch.com) for details)

**APRIL 20-21 ~ "Making Your Marriage Better"** at the Federated Church with Jeff and Laura Edwards. Friday 7:00-9:00 p.m., Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$20 per couple which includes lunch. Sign up in the Welcome Center.

A Ladies Luncheon will be held Saturday, March 24 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM in the Church Dining Room. The theme is "Our Cup Overflows" and Paula Adams will be sharing.



**EQUIPPING  
DISCIPLES IN  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**



**March  
Childcare  
Schedule**

- ◆ **Sanctuary Class** – A verse-by-verse study of the book of Proverbs, led by Jerry Hills in the Family Center.
- ◆ **Good News Class** – Family Center, Room 1, is currently studying the book of Ruth with Seth Huntley and Sam Ring leading.
- ◆ **Kingdom Bound Class** – Led by Andy Ward, studying “His Story, Christ’s Last Week” in Room 12, Family Center.
- ◆ **Celebration Class** – All are invited to this class in the church dining room currently studying the life and teachings of Jesus.
- ◆ **Newcomers Class** – This class led by Paul Burgess in Room 31 in the church, is studying “The Miracles of Jesus”.
- ◆ **Faith Chapel Ladies Class** – This class is studying the book of Revelation with Nancy Wuenschel leading.
- ◆ **Ladies Class** – studying “Thriving in Babylon” in Room 10 on the ground floor of the church, team taught by Chris Naylor and Libby Anderson.
- ◆ **Men’s Class** – Studying various topics, led by Pastor Rick, Bob Pettis, and John Sargent, Family Center Rooms 10 & 11.
- ◆ **College/Young Adult Class 18-24 years** – Rooms 8 & 9 of the Family Center, exploring what the Bible says about topics relative to life, led by Mike and Cheryl Anderson and Brennan and Dorothy Plucknett.
- ◆ **The ACTS Class** which meets in the Family Center coat room is studying the Biblical relevance in our society of A. W. Tozer’s book “Man – The Dwelling Place of God. Jeff Wuenschel is the facilitator.
- ◆ **Moms & Daughters of the King** – come to be refreshed, encouraged and challenged in the journey of motherhood. This class meets in the “Family Room”, upstairs of the sanctuary, behind the balcony.

**Nursery 8:30 AM**

Mar. 4	P. Machacek, S. Barton
Mar. 11	D. Brown, TBA
Mar. 18	C. Repoff, D. Gerety
Mar. 25	TBA

**Nursery 10:00 AM**

Mar. 4	A. Hayes, TBA
Mar. 11	B. Blum, TBA
Mar. 18	B. Hulley, M. Hulley
Mar. 25	S. Johnson, S. Stuyvesant

**Nursery 11:15 AM**

Mar. 4	C. Owens, M. Oaks
Mar. 11	L. Anderson, E. Corbett
Mar. 18	M. Barlow, TBA
Mar. 25	P. Adams, E. Bright

**Toddler 8:30 AM**

Mar. 4	M. Egli, TBA
Mar. 11	C. Durfee, E. Durfee
Mar. 18	T. Pratt, M. Pratt
Mar. 25	TBA

**Toddler 10:00 AM**

Mar. 4	A. Glover
Mar. 11	A. Glover, L. Burgess
Mar. 18	A. Glover, T. Snyder
Mar. 25	A. Glover

**Toddler 11:15 AM**

Mar. 4	B. Hulley, D. Rogers
Mar. 11	J. Huntley, C. Huntley
Mar. 18	B. Crosby, TBA
Mar. 25	V. Sontheimer, K. Wurst

*The next service  
of baptism will be  
held on  
Resurrection  
Sunday, April 1.*



*If you would like to be baptized, plan to attend the Baptism Class Sunday, March 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the Prayer Room.*

# March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
				<b>1</b> 3:30 PM SALT	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:30 AM Elders & Deacons 6 PM Missions Potluck Dinner
<b>4 MISSIONS WEEKEND</b> 8:30 & 11:15 AM Worship 10 AM Sunday School 5 PM Praise Choir 6 PM Missions Service	<b>5 6:30 PM</b> Women's Bible Study 7 PM FOCAS	<b>6</b>	<b>7 10 AM Golden Circle</b> 7 PM Prayer Meeting AND JOURNEY	<b>8</b> 3:30 PM SALT	<b>9</b> 10 AM Tabitha Team	<b>10 5 PM-11 PM</b> Student Ministry Underground Church
<b>11 8:30 &amp; 11:15 AM Worship</b> 10 AM Sunday School 5 PM AWANA, Ignite Small Groups	<b>12</b> 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	<b>13 9:45 AM</b> Senior Center 6:30 PM Elders & Deacons Mtg.	<b>14 10 AM Golden Circle</b> 7 PM Prayer Meeting AND JOURNEY	<b>15</b> 3:30 PM SALT	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 
<b>18 8:30 &amp; 11:15 AM Worship</b> 10 AM Sunday School 5 PM AWANA, Praise Choir 6 PM Annual Meeting	<b>19 6:30 PM</b> Women's Bible Study 7 PM FOCAS	<b>20</b> 	<b>21 10 AM Golden Circle</b> 7 PM Prayer Meeting AND JOURNEY	<b>22 3:30 PM</b> SALT Red Cross Blood Drive	<b>23</b> <div style="background-color: #c8e6c9; padding: 2px;">           Marriage Retreat at WLD         </div>	<b>24 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM</b> Ladies Luncheon
<b>25 Palm Sunday</b> 8:30 & 11:15 AM Worship 10 AM Sunday School SVFD Swiss Steak Dinner 5 PM AWANA, Ignite, Small Groups	<b>26 1 PM</b> Mobile Food Pantry 6:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>27 9:45 AM</b> Senior Center 	<b>28 10 AM Golden Circle</b> NO Prayer Meeting or JOURNEY	<b>29 7 PM</b> Maundy Thursday Worship	<b>30</b> 7 PM Good Friday Worship	<b>31</b>