



NEWSLETTER

Michigan State WAC

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Editor:

Stefanie Shope

Trinity FWB Church

Shopes2005@yahoo.com

President’s Corner by Katy Taylor *Marching On*

Dear Ladies,

All of us probably have someone in our family that has served or are presently serving in the military. Some have served in major events.

My husband’s great, great grandfather was taken prisoner at Cumberland Gap during the Civil war. He was taken to Camp Douglas, a confederate prison in Chicago. He survived despite horrendous conditions and had to pledge allegiance to the new United States to be released and make his way back home in Virginia. Many that have served did not come back home over the years.

There are many men and women serving today. Each one deserves our prayers. Make sure they know that they are important enough to be taken to the throne of our mighty God. We have chaplains in our denomination that need our prayers as they minister to the soldiers and their families. You can find their names and contact information in The Home Mission directories. Posters and directories can be obtained free of charge by calling 615-731-6812 and ask for Home Missions Department. One set of missionary cards are free with a minimal cost for additional sets. One of our chaplains offered the prayer last

Memorial day at Arlington Cemetery. That was Col. Terry Austin in Washington, D.C.

As Christians, we are called to duty as soldiers in 2 Timothy 2:3. It states “Join me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus”. It will not be an easy task. But it is so necessary. Much prayer and preparation is needed to see souls saved. We have had 4 saved



in the last month. Two were saved on visitation and the other two in services.

God is still saving souls. Are we doing our part? Do you know the Roman Road? Could you lead someone to the Lord using scripture?

Souls are dying and we need to be about our Father’s business. We do not know how long we have to rescue the perishing.

We will have special prayer for our soldiers at the State meeting. Bring the names of those in your life that are serving our country that day so their names can be called out before our prayer.

Family Matters by Stefanie Shope

The following is an excerpt from *Proverbs31 Ministries "How I Learned to Stop Being So Afraid"* by Alli Worthington

I leaned up against the closed door, grateful I'd waited until he said goodbye before I let those first few tears fall. *How did we get here so quickly?*

We moved my eldest son into his college dorm recently, and let me tell you, it triggered some serious "mom-fear" in me. It seemed like only yesterday I was obsessing over baby milestones and cutting grapes in quarters, and now here he was, living on his own.

The fear that something bad will happen and the anxiety we can't protect them from harm is enough to turn the most confident mom into a big pile of raw nerves. We play out a million *what-ifs* in our head from the time we learn we're pregnant. (And let's face it — even if we don't have kids, it's easy to second-guess ourselves!)

If pregnancy and infancy don't leave us curled up in the fetal position out of fear, then we have to will ourselves to survive the fears of the toddler years.

Then it's on to the school years and beyond where we fear they will join the wrong crowd, make bad decisions, text and drive, fall in love with the wrong person, etc.

Wouldn't it be great if the Bible had a whole book devoted to parenting our little angels, especially on those days when we feel like our fears might overtake us?

The hypothetical *Parenting 2:14* could tell us if we really need to feed our babies organic, hand-mashed baby food.

Parenting 4:3 would explain the exact amount of screen time for a 3-year-old.

I'd really love the reassurance in *Parenting 35:7* that says when your children act like heathens it's totally not your fault. But when they're angels, you receive all the credit. Amen!

But we know the Bible isn't written like that. Although God didn't give us a step-by-step manual, He did give us some pretty solid basics, backed up with the incredible guidance of the Holy Spirit.

So how do we use those solid basics and the guidance of the Holy Spirit when fear overwhelms us?

Here are three ways I learned how to stop being so afraid all the time:

Decide if the Fear is Real or Perceived

When I am freaked out, I ask myself, "Is this something that's likely to happen, or is this something I've allowed fear to create in my mind?"

If it's real, I have to be wise and make a good plan, then rest in the comfort I can trust God. If it's not real, I say, "Alli, this isn't real," then pray and release the fear to God.

Don't Feed Fear

Through the years I've learned not to Google every illness, or allow myself to be influenced by particularly anxious friends. And, I've learned not to talk (too much) about my fears, because sometimes

the more I talk about them the worse they get.

Lean on Battle Buddies

I have a few friends who listen to my fears and encourage me when I need it, while helping me gain perspective and pointing me back to Jesus.

It's easy to love our children so much that we forget we didn't create them. God did. Psalm 139:13,16 reminds us, *"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb ... Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."*



We don't have to fear what will happen to our children because God has ordained the whole of their lives.

All we have to do for our children is love them, guide them and trust the One who loves them even more than we do.

God's care for our children is always better than our control.

Lord, thank You for the comfort that comes from knowing You are in control of the world, including the lives of my children. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Free Will Baptist Missions



Tim and Kristi
Johnson, SPAIN



Steve and Becky
Riggs, FRANCE



Shannon Little
JAPAN



Verlin and Debbie
Anderson, CHSC



Josh and Kimberly
Hampton, MT USA

Field News from France – Steve and Becky Riggs

Dear Friends,

On my way to English class the other day, I suddenly realized three things. The first one was that I am about the same age as my students in my class, most of them being retired. Of course, I told myself that French folks retire earlier than Americans, so perhaps it's not too bad. The second one was that I am starting to drive under the speed limit. Up to this point, generally, it's the older folks who drive like that. Over here, they are usually driving Citroens. Well, I guess I am getting closer and closer to this group, though I don't drive a Citroen yet! And lastly, but most importantly, my cows were gone. They're missing. My favorite cow in the whole wide world was no longer where she was supposed to be. And the only thing that went through my mind was that Châteaubriant is the center of the meat market industry. I tell you, it's enough to make you be a vegetarian!

Although we don't have many sheep around here, we do have cows. Herds and herds of cows. The Bible talks about shepherding a flock, but if all I have to work with is cows, can't I shepherd cows? I consider myself a shepherd on a limited level. If you consider that a shepherd cares for a flock, then I'm a shepherd. If a shepherd tries to lead his sheep in safe paths, then I'm a shepherd. If a shepherd worries and prays over his flock, then I am most certainly a shepherd. If a shepherd finds that one of his sheep is sick and tries to get them help, then I'm a shepherd.

My flock is not necessarily those in church. I consider my flock to be anyone within my outreach of influence. I consider my flock to be those outside of the church who need to experience Christ

in their lives. I want to share with you just a couple of my flock or herd so that you can pray with me for them.

I shared last fall that I would be getting involved teaching English. I know that many of you prayed for me and I so appreciate it. Looking back on my apprehension and lack of confidence about teaching this class makes me smile now. Of all of the ministries and outreaches that I have been involved with since the beginning of our ministry in France, I have to say that teaching English to my older group of students is absolutely my favorite. They are a riot to be with. As they are learning English and things about the American culture, I am continuing to learn about the French language and the French culture.

My class takes place as part of an association that is non-religious. So I have to be careful about sharing my faith without being asked about it. But just a couple of weeks ago, I shared the life story of Corrie Ten Boom and just how all-important her faith was to her, just what an impact she had on people's lives. My students were receptive and since then, they seem to be opening up to me little by little. One man came up to me after class and shared with me how his wife was taken by an awful disease a few years ago. Now these are people that I call by their first names, but they rarely open up about their personal lives. I have another woman who is from Algeria and is Muslim. She has only been in France for about two years. I have learned that she does not know many people and does not socialize much. After class last week, as this woman was leaving the classroom, I pulled her aside and asked if she would like to get together for a coffee. She got a huge smile on her face and told me that

MI WAC State Meeting

April 28th

Belleville FWB Church

Registration begins at
9:00am, meeting at
9:30am

All churches are
encouraged to bring
displays of their
provision closet
contributions to share.

she would really like that. So, she and I will be meeting and visiting together. I would like to share their real names with you but I want to be careful because of security issues for them and also certain laws that protect their privacy. Before taking the attached photo, I asked them if they would mind me taking it. I need to have them agree to have their photos taken. This is all part of the consideration to people's privacy when photos and names are published.



Most of you know that I went through a very deep depression early last year. I have a good friend who became my life saver. She got me in touch with a wonderful Christian psychologist when my insurance didn't have anyone to propose to me. She met with me weekly to listen as we took walks. She never

condemned me but was a constant encouragement. She knew the right questions to ask to get me to open up and to really think about what I was going through. Now I have the same opportunity to help someone else who is living a period of depression. In fact, I see many of her symptoms as mine last year. I have tried to do with her what someone else did for me. I have met with her weekly and listened but not condemned. I have encouraged her and prayed for her mental, physical and spiritual health. Honestly, I don't know if I would be able to understand and support her if I had not gone through a depression myself. As awful an experience as it was, boy have I ever learned a lot and thank God that He has given me the opportunity to be there for someone just as my friend was for me. Please pray as her life is filled with much uncertainty right now. Pray for health in all areas of her life.

In closing, I want to thank you all for caring for French people, for our family and our outreach here. Thank you for financially giving so that we can minister here. We appreciate you all.



Here's a picture of my real herd (of course, I did not have to ask permission before taking this photo)!!!

Renewed

Michigan Free Will Baptist
Women Active for Christ

Featuring Special Guest
Kristi Johnson

September 20-22, 2018
Berlin, OH

Come share in the joy of our Lord, stories, inspiration, music, laughter, learning, prayer, good food, the beauty of the Amish country and some well-deserved rest.

Cost per person: \$125 (based on 4 person occupancy and includes Thursday night and Friday night lodging, Fridays breakfast and dinner - and Saturdays breakfast)

For more information contact Susan Newton at susan@altronint.com

And be not conformed to this World but be TRANSFORMED by the Renewing OF YOUR MIND that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect. WILL of GOD. ROMANS 12:2