

Happy Church June 2023 Newsletter

Hello, all!



My name is Allison Keefer. If we have not met, my husband is Alan Keefer. We joined the Happy Church staff in 2022 and moved from Dayton, OH to Jackson, KY in October of last year. If you tune in for a Sunday service you may catch Alan giving a sermon. We have two baby girls Ada (2.5 years) and Scarlet (1 year old). In addition to Jesus and my Family 😊 I love gardening, making sourdough, crocheting and drinking an excessive amount of seltzer water and coffee.

I am excited to take on the task of writing the monthly newsletter and sharing exciting updates with you all! Please feel free to reach out to me via email @ allie@thehappychurch.org

if you have anything specific that you would like to see updates on each month. I would love feedback!

If you are reading this, thank you. Thank you for your support in prayer and finances. Thank you for your time spent volunteering on our campus and in our community. Thank you for your interest in what the Lord is doing here.

Kids Night

Kids Night kicked off on the Happy Church campus on Thursday, May 11th. We are so excited to be in a place where we can host again. Please pray that the Lord will bless this ministry and increase our numbers, as we feel like we are starting from square one post flood/covid. So many of our kids have moved away, but we are already seeing an increase in attendance each week.



(Kids night 5/11/23)

Ladies Craft Night

Big thanks to Tiffany for hosting our weekly craft night. As it turns out, we have a pretty big group of women who love to craft in all different capacities. We have loved getting together on Friday nights to enjoy fun snacks and company as we crochet, knit, sew, embroider, etc. 😊

Connie's Bible Study

Connie just kicked off a Bible Study on Wednesday mornings. They will be going through "Discerning the Voice of God" by Pricilla Shirer.

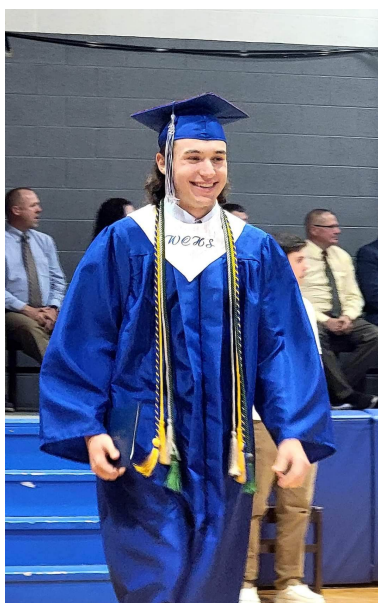
Allie's Bible Study

I am also doing a Bible Study with a group of Happy Church mamas. We are working our way through the One Year Bible. Big thank you to Connie, who has been chasing our little ones so that we can have our hands free during Bible study.

Graduates



Cody Fouts - Just graduated from Morehead State University with his Bachelors in Engineering & Technology Management. He is currently working at the KYTC District 10 District Office as a student intern in the planning and design department. Cody is our 6th Happy Soles scholarship recipient to receive his Bachelor's degree.



Truett Molands - Our most recent Happy Soles Scholarship fund recipient - is heading off to Kentucky Christian University in

Graceland KY this fall. He has a scholarship for archery and will be majoring in nursing.

Food Pantry

Thank you to those who have contributed already! We have already distributed all items that were donated. We have funds allotted for replenishing the pantry, but would welcome donations. We regularly have church and community members request food bags. This is an area of constant need. Here is a list of items needed.

Peanut butter, jelly, ramen noodles, canned: tuna, chicken, soups, Spaghettios, and spaghetti sauce; dry pinto beans, box mac & cheese, dry milk, fruit cups, canned veggies, skillet meals (like hamburger helper) and cereal.

Campus Updates

Be on the lookout for our Special Edition - Campus Update Newsletter.

We couldn't fit all the pictures and stories into this one newsletter, so we will be sending out another newsletter to show you some of the progress on our campus and in our community. But for now, here is a teaser and an update from Austin and Brianna. (Bigger pictures will be in the Campus Update Newsletter.)

Austin & Brianna

(Brianna) Pre-flood, my husband and I lived on 476 (Clayhole) for about a month or so before we were flooded. I was also one month

pregnant at the time of the flood. Thankfully, we were just renting the house- it was a complete loss. The house was actually completely ripped from its foundation and drifted quite a distance from its original location. Post-flood, my husband and 3 month old are living in a tiny home that has been placed on the Happy Church campus. Originally, it was just the shell of a home; it wasn't even built with studs inside! However, with the blessing of many volunteers, it is practically completely finished. We have lived in the home since late February or so. The only thing that needs finished on it at this point is painting the rest of the trim/baseboards, the gutter work, and porch roofing if I recollect correctly.

The Happy Church has helped us along the way with initially providing us with the home. We would have had to move at least 45 minutes away otherwise- and we have both lived in Jackson our entire lives (I've also attended the Happy Church since I was about 8 years old). A wonderful lady donated the funds to purchase the tiny home, and the Happy Church has connected with many amazing volunteers to get it where it is today.

I am actively involved in ministry by leading/helping lead worship at the Happy Church. I try to help with kids' night when I can. My husband, Austin, helps by leading teen

night on occasion, helping with kids' night on occasion, and driving the van routes to pick up children sometimes. He feels led to pursue ministry in some capacity, and the Happy Church has really given him an opportunity to explore that passion. The Happy Church has truly changed my life since childhood, and it is so exciting to help with the church's ministry today.

Before



After



Before



After



Prayer Requests

- We hope to start a Celebrate Recovery group & bring back our Summer Girls Kids Club (ages 8-preteen). We used to do everything from gymnastics and baking classes to hair & nails. Then they would serve brunch and have a small devotional. We would love to get this ministry up and running again.
- We are currently spending more than we are bringing in as more skilled labor and replacement items are needed. Please pray for continued provision.
- Please pray that we will get into a rhythm with Kids Night. That God will move in this ministry and that we will be able to bless these kids with food and point them to Jesus.

- Please pray that people in our community who are displaced will find housing, in or close to Jackson, outside of the floodplain.
- Please pray over the Clayhole campus as the church must be demolished. The gym will be preserved and we hope to use it as a multipurpose building and we are hoping to start services there again very soon.

Financial Update

As most of you know, we were devastated with a 1000-year flood in July of last year. Since that time, the focus of our staff has been rebuilding our campus and making structures more impervious should something like this happen again. Since the flood, thanks to your donations, we have spent \$375,000 rebuilding our Jackson campus, and roughly \$130,000 in benevolence to our community who was equally devastated. At this point in time our cash reserves are currently lower than they've been in years. But we are thankful to you all, that God has worked through you to provide in an amazing way, so that we can still minister to the impoverished community where God has placed us!

Praise Report

"At least 3 people are scheduled to be baptized on Sunday, June 4th! Thank you again for keeping us in your prayers. It matters! God bless." - Mike Tabor

