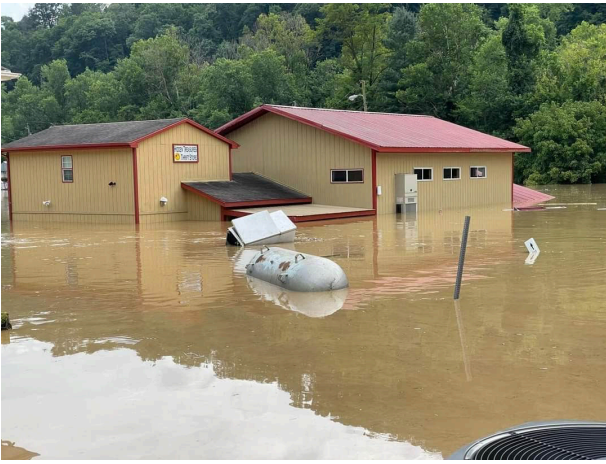


Happy Church

Special Edition: Community Updates

Updates on the Gym, Pantry and the Happy Cash Store

Immediately after the July 27th, 2022 flood:



The gym is one of the lowest buildings on our campus. Due to its proximity to the river, the flood waters rose 10 feet into the building. The damage was devastating and basically everything inside was destroyed. Because of this, the gym had to be totally gutted.

But God is good, and thanks to many volunteer hands, we have made amazing progress in repairing what was lost. Less than a year later and we have already installed spray insulation, board has been hung on the gym, pantry and Happy Cash Store walls. Concrete board has also been put up to start the bathroom tile. Concrete floor has been poured for the pantry and Happy Cash Store floors, and some electrical work has been done. We have been so blessed with what progress has been made, but there is still much to be done. We are in need of electrical work, tile work, plumbing and drywall/board hanging.

During the very beginning of flood cleanup, as soon as the gym was clean enough for use, it quickly became a place for disaster relief items to be dropped off. Donations poured in. Families were able to come get food, cleaning supplies, hygiene products, fans, clothes, tents, sleeping bags, blankets, dehumidifiers and eventually furniture.



We are currently working to get these buildings functioning and ready to minister to our community

once again. We were able to use the gym for Kids' Night on June 1st, 2023. This was the first time we've used the gym for an event since the flood.

We have also been stocking our pantry for our food box ministry and working on getting The Happy Cash Store up and running again.

The food pantry is an area of constant need. If you are interested in making a food donation, this is the list of items always needed.

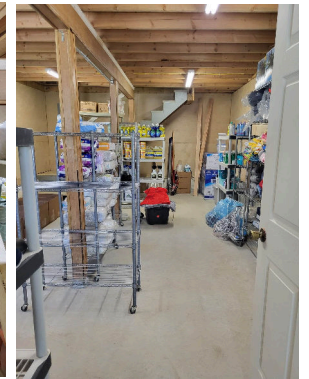
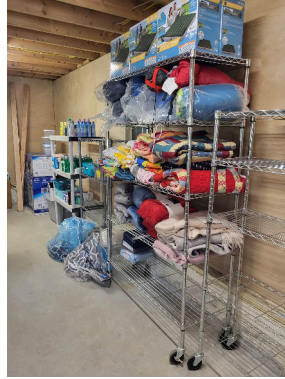
Peanut butter, jelly, ramen noodles, canned: tuna, chicken, soups, Spaghettios, and spaghetti sauce; dry pinto beans, box mac & cheese, dry milk, fruit cups, canned veggies, skillet meals (like hamburger helper) and cereal.

“We want to thank everyone who has volunteered to help get us to where we are. Thank you to all those who shoveled mud and cleaned their way through the muck in the beginning. Thank you to all who sent donations to serve the community. Thank you to all those who have served in part of the reconstruction and lastly thank you for the prayers. God bless you all!” Kimmy Molands

Updated photos of the Gym, Happy Cash Store and Pantry:



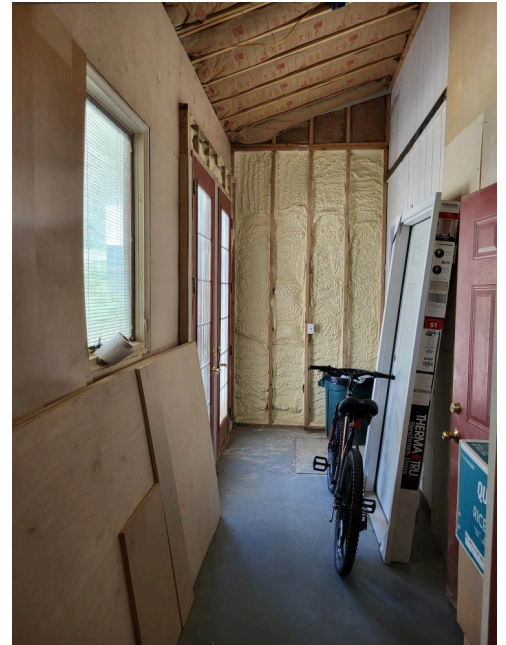
The Gym



Kitchen / Pantry

Storage Room

Hallway between the Gym & Happy Cash Store



Community Outreach Updates

Soon after the flood waters receded, The Happy Church was blessed with time, money, and goods donations. We were overwhelmed by the love of our fellow believers and disaster relief organizations from all over. The upstairs of our church was full. The just-cleaned gymnasium was filled and stayed supplied for months.

Cash was even given to us by people saying, "Help someone out!" We gave this cash to the flooded victims who were out and about helping others. Josh Combs, his sons, and Samantha (Sammi) were among these, all of whom remain without permanent housing as of this writing.

Sammi was at the church. She had just returned from our Momentum Youth conference and was spending time with Tiffany. She waded through the waters rescuing our chickens.



She was heading back for the weed eaters when our Son-in-law stopped her. You see, Sammi was one of our work-study students. We would let her use the church weed eaters to do odd jobs. She didn't want to lose them. My son-in-law promised to get her one if

that one didn't get fixed or replaced, so she relented. Sammi's trailer and belongings were engulfed by flood waters that night as she stayed safe upstairs at The Happy Church. She and her family currently live at a local Catholic church.



Several organizations helped with large donations intended to help those who were now homeless.

Barbe Wooler, Mike Shepherd, and I (Connie Tabor) set out to find a way to use this money to its maximum effect. Barbe and I checked

on mobile home prices, but they were beyond reach. Mike suggested the Amish-built cottages we eventually purchased for three families.



[The picture above is a home like Austin and Brianna's cottage that would soon be delivered.]

God's Warehouse provided many of the supplies and appliances needed to make these shells into homes, and many of you helped provide the labor and additional finances needed. Meet these three families:

Brianna and Austin Imhoff

Brianna and Austin Imhoff could have moved their cottage anywhere but chose to give it to The Happy Church and live and serve here. Brianna is one of our worship leaders and has attended since she was a little girl. Austin has helped with teen night, van ministry, and grounds upkeep. They have been a tremendous blessing.

Austin carried his wife on his back through the flood waters that took their rental home off its foundation and floated it a quarter of a mile downstream. Brianna was "with child" at the time. She and Austin entered their new home only two weeks before Elouise was born.



Austin and Brianna's trailer post-flood:



Cassie, Dennis, and DJ Fouts



Cassie, Dennis, and DJ Fouts had flood waters enter their trailer nearly engulfing it. The camper nearby was also flooded but showed more promise, so that's where they resided



to

until another tragedy hit. Denise was hospitalized with shortness of breath. He tested positive for Covid and was placed on a ventilator. Over 2 weeks passed, and the family was eventually allowed to see him. They were told prepare to make decisions to let him leave this world "easily." They refused. We were thankful that Dennis had assured his home in heaven as he was saved and then baptized in the creek that flooded his home by a pastor with Samaritan's Purse not long before his hospitalization. However, many of us were praying for Dennis and God miraculously moved. Dennis now lives and is fully functional in this new mold-free cottage with his wife and son.

[Their home immediately after the flood - pictured below.]

