



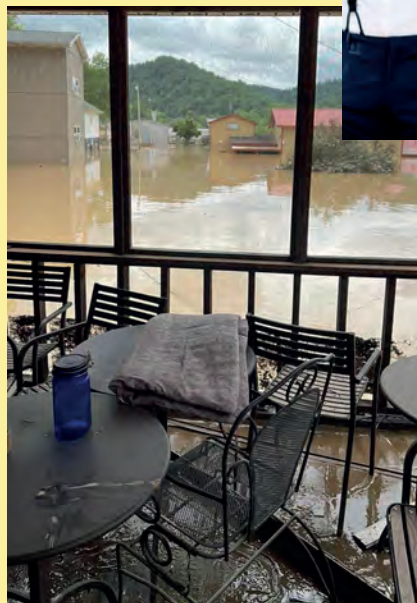
Wow! It sure has been a while since our last update! There have been big changes, challenges, Godsendings, and grace sightings!

Pastor Alan and Allie Keefer along with their children (Ada, Scarlett, and Cillian) have moved back to Ohio to be closer to their families as they raise their wonderful kids. This was a very bittersweet decision that was made after several months of prayer. We are definitely going to miss them, but we are excited for them to continue on the path God has laid. Let's pray for continued spiritual, physical, and emotional blessings for them in all future endeavors.

By the grace of God, the ministry is rebounding from a really tough 5 years. COVID and three big floods have left their marks, but God is greater.

Kid's Night

Our numbers are approaching a weekly average of around 50! Michael Shepherd is doing a great job teaching the Bible lessons. Our kitchen is efficiently run by Penny and Cassandra with help from Jeff and Elise (daughter Gwendaline). In addition to serving amazing food to the kids each week, they have made it their mission to introduce healthier foods to our kids (and our staff). They are assisted in their efforts by Debbie, Lucy, Joyce, some teens and more. Mary Crowe heads up the preschool with help from Wilma Combs, Page Napier and others. Ed and Austin run inside and outside games respectively.





Austin is heading up teen night and is doing a great job.

We are enjoying our journey of training for a Celebrate Recovery styled program. Help from Shauna, Emma, and others is encouraging.

This month our highlighted ministry helper is Mary Beth. Here is a recent post about her and the ministry she is heading up.

To Music, and Beyond!

Once upon a time, a LONG time ago, a kid from Jackson, KY grew up participating in music/drama/ Bible quizzing programs at The Happy Church. These programs taught her the arts, permanently placed hundreds of verses from the Bible in her mind, and took her to several states for competitions where she was able to meet kids who shared her passions. This girl (Mary Beth) eventually became an adult, started a career as a school teacher, and had a kid of her own.

Unfortunately, the Covid pandemic and the fallout from multiple floods halted many of the Happy Church Arts programs. Mary Beth saw the deficit and decided she wanted current Happy Church Kids (including her own son) to have the same opportunities that she had once had. She found people to teach music lessons, found a Bible quizzing program, and the Happy Church Arts program was reborn.

This NOTEworthy (see what I did there :)) program inspires children to pursue their passion for the arts and use it for God's glory. There are currently lessons for piano, drums, guitar, banjo, and voice. It also incorporates Bible quizzing and challenges our kids to learn God's word. We hope to eventually expand to include drama, other interests, and more kids!

We praise God for Mary Beth and her bother, James.

If you would like to be involved in teaching or would like to sponsor a kid (for one or more lessons) or help contribute to instruments, please reach out to Vanessa at 765-661-8987.



Mary Beth with Husband, Lewis, and Lewis Jr.



- Be praying as we are seeking "higher ground" - literally. Land suitable for our ministry is EXTREMELY difficult to find here in Breathitt county.
- We are hoping to finalize grant monies soon for repairing our Clayhole campus. Coming up on 3 years since the flood that damaged it and starting the FEMA assistance process.
- Thank you for your continued and steadfast support. I, pastor Mike, apologize for not keeping you in the loop. Dropped the ball on our newsletters for a minute.
- Pray for more helpers for us.
- We also value your prayers for our finances! While all our bills are paid, our donations have declined over the last few years as expenses have risen. We'd love to hire more staff to replace the Jacobsons and the Keefers, but additions like that add more expense. We have a vision planning meeting this coming Saturday to discuss what God might have in store for the Happy Church ministries. We are excited for what God is doing, and we'd love to move forward with a plan to be even more effective at reaching Breathitt County for Jesus.
You can donate: www.TheHappyChurch.org/donate
- I, Pastor Mike, just turned 62! The first SS check arrives in June. While my responsibilities are the same, I will be taking the SS amount out of my pay to help the church as flooding recovery is still going on and is very hard on the churches finances. Blessed to feel so good! Wish i looked as good as I felt, lol.