



FAMILY SHIELD

Express



P.O. Box 230015, St. Louis, MO 63123 • 314.772.6070 • email@familyshieldministries.com Winter 2013

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him" (Psalm 28:7).

THE MISSION

Family Shield Ministries educates and equips people, through the power of the Gospel, to know Christ, to grow in His Word, and to strengthen individuals and their families.

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LOCATION

3617 Texas Ave. St. Louis
 (Please do not mail to this address. Use P.O. box above.)

Dear Friends,



Kay L. Meyer

Thank you for supporting Family Shield Ministries with your time, talents, and treasures. You are special. We are thankful for you and the many opportunities we have to share God's grace with those we touch.

Family Shield Ministries exists to share the saving Gospel message (Romans 1:16, John 3:16, Eph. 2:8,9) and help individuals know Christ and grow in His Word. The organization reaches beyond the walls of the Church through its evangelistic and educational programs, services, and outreach ministries. It answers thousands of calls, e-mails, and letters each year through the follow-up services.

Some of the calls, e-mails and letters are from those who are Christians. Others are from those who are unchurched. They listen to the radio program and contact us because *Family Shield* addresses relevant issues families face every day and helps listeners connect to needed resources.

Some of the unchurched people who contact us are ready to be referred to a local congregation. That is easy follow-up! But many of those who contact us are not YET ready to be referred to a church. As we have expanded the program now heard on 51 stations in over 25 states and internationally, there have been more calls and more follow-up opportunities. Your support allows us to share God's love with those who contact us



Participants putting together a Bible verse about God's promises at the Family Shield Dinner.

The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Phil 4:6-7).

and to continue airing the radio program which reaches thousands of people. Thank you for caring about families and being a partner with us!

Recent *Family Shield* radio programs have addressed parenting, dealing with anger and negative emotions, improving your marriage, and learning how to share God's love with those in our community.

I recently designed a new interactive "God's Promises for Families" educational program for the Family Shield benefit dinner. If you would like to use this program at your church or church group let us know. We would be happy to share it with you.

We also want to announce that the new Family Shield Archive will be available on the homepage at: www.KGNG.org in December. Why not tell a friend about it?

As I prepare for the weekly radio program I read many books by wonderful authors. One was *Broken Parts—Missing Pieces* written by Rev. Dr. Don Johnson. Don is a Native American and the executive director of Lutheran Indian Ministries. I would like to recommend this book to our readers.

Please keep us in your prayers and support us with a gift of \$100 or more this year. Your gifts make this ministry possible.

In His Service and yours,

Kay L. Meyer

Kay L. Meyer
 President and Host of *Family Shield*

Comments from those we Reach, Serve, and Equip...

"Kay, thank you for coming to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Minnesota to do the one-day "Witnessing—A Lifestyle" workshop and sharing what the Lord has taught you about witnessing with our members. I'm pleased you shared so many real life stories of changed lives... a good reminder that the Holy Spirit is still in the business of changing hearts, lives, and families. May the Lord continue to bless you and Family Shield Ministries!" Jerry R.

"The success of [Family Shield Ministries] is a result of a vital need in the community. It is a family-oriented ministry that equips families to deal with problems through God's Word. It is a ministry that encourages people to be strong in their faith and to resist Satan's schemes. And, most importantly, a ministry that provides solid instruction on how to reach out to family members, friends, and neighbors with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. *This ministry is focused on "encouraging," equipping," and "spreading the Good News."* It is truly unique and deserves our support!"

Jim Day, Publisher

St. Louis MetroVoice newspaper

"Kay, I still have your Bible that you gave me 14 years ago when I was pregnant, single, hopeless and alone. Thank you for being my friend and helping me learn to know my Savior." Erin, from a Facebook message.

"Family Shield Ministries is the only ministry within The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that helps people whose loved ones are involved with Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses; and helps them learn to witness in a loving way to those caught in these cults. Thank you! My son converted to Mormonism after being raised in the LCMS. His family (my grandchildren) are being raised as Mormons. I continue to pray for them and I am so thankful for your help and support. I wish more people knew of your work." Sue, a Family Shield Counter Cult Volunteer Missionary

"The program with Michael Newman, on 'Dealing with Anger and Negative Attitudes' was one of the best that I've heard on *Family Shield*. Thank you for your ministry." Carole

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendar!

Trivia Night: The Annual Family Shield Trivia Night in partnership with Our Lady's Inn will be Saturday, January 25, 2014. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Learn more at <http://www.familyshieldministries.com/events.html>.

Association of Lutheran Mission Agencies (ALMA) national conference is January 30 and 31, 2014. The theme is "You Will Be My Witnesses." It will be held at the Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. Learn more at: www.almanetwork.org.

Witnessing—A Lifestyle. A one-day workshop entitled "Witnessing—a Lifestyle" will be presented by Kay Meyer in St. Louis on Saturday, March 15, 2014. In addition to the seminar, participants will receive a copy of Meyer's book by the same name. To learn more call 314.772.6070.

Pray for:

- The Family Shield Board of Directors and other leaders of Family Shield Ministries as we begin a new strategic planning process on Feb. 19, 2014.
- That the financial support needed for the ministry is available.
- Your family and friends. Is there a family or close friend that does not know Christ or needs to hear about the love of Christ again? Why not pray for them and think about sharing Christ's love with them?



Share your prayer request:

Send an email to email@familyshieldministries.com or mail a note with your request to:

Family Shield Ministries

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Why Every Family Needs an Estate Strategy

By Kay L. Meyer

For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he may have enough to finish it; lest perhaps, after he has laid the foundation and is not able to finish, all those seeing begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build and was not able to finish (Luke 14:28-30).

Do you know that the majority of the adults in the United States do not have a will or other formal estate documents? Some people think only those who are wealthy need to have a will or trust for their assets, but in reality we all need them.

I was at an estate planning workshop a few years ago. A young woman in attendance said, "I have few assets. Why do I need a will or trust prepared?" I responded, "You have a young daughter. Don't you want to have some say in the way your daughter is raised if you, God forbid, were to be killed in a tragic car accident? Without a proactive estate strategy, your assets, health care, and the care of your daughter could be controlled by state law and/or the court. Having these legal documents is about putting you in control of your legacy, ensuring the people that are dear to you are taking care of in the way you would desire. I continued, "Let's say because of a tragic car accident, your heirs end up receiving a large settlement from your death. Who do you want to be in charge of the funds that would support your daughter in the future?" This discussion changed her mind about the need for these legal documents.

I would encourage our supporters to prepare a will or trust for the sake of your family. Then tell your loved ones where the documents are kept. Also leave them written information concerning your CPA, lawyer, and financial advisor. Tell them your wishes for your medical care and future living arrangements, in case you are unable to care for yourself at some point in the future.

Once you have all these documents completed, don't forget to review them every ten years or when major changes occur in your life. One thing you can count on is change. After my two adult sons passed away, my husband and I needed to make changes to our trust. Sit down with your professional team of experts (lawyer, financial advisors, and CPA), and

make sure all of your legal documents are updated and appropriate for you and your family today.

Most people want to leave a significant amount of their assets to their family. Many also want to leave a gift to a non-profit organization. You can do this in many and varied ways. One popular way to do this is through a gift annuity. Learn more about gift annuities at: www.lcmsfoundation.org.


If you are a friend of Family Shield Ministries you may want to prayerfully consider establishing a gift annuity. This type of giving helps you use your resources to achieve financial security for yourself and at the same time make a future gift to support Family Shield Ministries. You will receive regular fixed payments now! The gift to us comes later.

You can establish a gift annuity with as little as \$5,000 in cash or securities. Your gift is made along with you signing a contract that entitles you to a lifetime of regular, fixed payments. If you wish, you may name a second person to receive these income payments after your death. At the death of the second income recipient (if one is designated), your gift annuity remaining value goes to the charity of your choice.

The amount of your payment is determined when you establish your gift annuity. Usually it requires a minimum of \$5,000. Your payments are based on the size of your gift, your age, and the age of the person named as the second beneficiary.

If you are interested in learning more, call Family Shield Ministries at 314.772.6070 or contact the LCMS Foundation. They have counselors that can assist you at no charge when you designate LCMS organizations.

Family Shield Ministries is a member of the ALMA (Association of Lutheran Mission Agencies.)



**Mr. & Mrs. William Brauer,
Mr. & Mrs. Tjaden Meyer and
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Neeman underwrote
a portion of the cost of this newsletter.**

YES! I want to support Family Shield Ministries!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone number: _____

E-mail: _____

Enclosed is my gift of: \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 or \$ _____

Family Shield is a Thrivent Choice Dollars Organization. If you would like information about giving through Thrivent Choice Dollars check here.

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* Security Code from back of card -- Required for Authorization.

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You may also donate via PayPal at www.familyshieldministries.com.
(You do not need to have a PayPal account.)
Click the **Donate** button on the home page.

**Family Shield Ministries is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
Contributions are deductible as allowed by law.**



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Save the Date!
Trivia Night January 25, 2014

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Arlo Otto

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About Family Shield Ministries

The *Family Shield* radio program is now heard on 51 stations in over 25 states and internationally through several links.



Kay Meyer and Nancy Stallard in the studio.

Counter-Cult Ministry

The FSM Counter-Cult

Ministry equips Christians to respond and share their faith in Christ with Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons.

Educational Programs

FSM offers educational programs on family life, spiritual growth, apologetics, and learning to witness.

Resources

Referrals, Partnerships, and Collaboration

Learn more at www.familyshieldministries.com

Family Shield Ministries

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314.772.6070

www.familyshieldministries.com

Family Shield is now aired on
AM1320 KSIV in St. Louis.
 Tune in each Saturday at 10 a.m.