



FAMILY SHIELD

Express



P.O. Box 230015, St. Louis, MO 63123 • 314.772.6070 • email@familyshieldministries.com Winter 2012

THE VISION

Family Shield Ministries is an innovative-collaborative leader in family ministry and evangelism. Working in partnership with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and other Gospel-oriented Christian organizations, it will impact the world for Christ and transform lives in time for eternity.

THE MISSION

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

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

Dear Friend of Family Shield,



Kay L. Meyer

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ! God's word says, "This was how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they were married, she found out that she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit"

(Matt. 1:18). "Joseph was a righteous man, so he did not want to disgrace Mary publicly. He made plans to break the engagement privately. While he was thinking about doing this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. She will have a son and you will name Him Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins.'" The Savior has come. Praise the Lord!

I love to tell the story of Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection. I know you do, too. One way you do this is through your support of Family Shield Ministries. As our partner, you share the message of Christ's forgiveness with thousands of people every week through the *Family Shield* radio program heard on over 50 stations in 25 states; and also through other Family Shield ministries. Thank you!

Ongoing financial support is critical as we share the Gospel (John 3:16 and Eph. 2:8-9) and help build strong, healthy families for Christ. Sadly, many today believe they are saved by their good works instead of faith in Jesus Christ. *Family Shield* boldly proclaims that Jesus is the only means of salvation (Acts 4:12). **And although the Gospel is free, radio airtime is not. Your prayers, volunteer service, and financial support of \$100 or more allow us to continue reaching and equipping individuals and their families to know Christ.**

Your prayers and support allow us to reach people like

Continued on page 2

Why is Family Ministry so Important in Today's World?

WHY SHOULD WE WORK TOGETHER TO REACH BEYOND THE WALLS OF THE CHURCH WITH THE SAVING GOSPEL MESSAGE OF CHRIST?

- The United States is now the third largest mission field in the world.
- The United States appears to be going through an unprecedented change in religious practices. Large numbers of American adults are disaffiliating themselves from Christianity and organized religion. 76.5% (159 million) Americans identify themselves as Christian. This is a major shift from 86.2% in 1990. Identification with Christianity has suffered a loss of 9.7% in 11 years—about 0.9 % per year.
- 14.1% of United States citizens do not follow any organized religion. This is an unusually rapid increase. . . almost a doubling. . . from 8% in 1990.
- What about The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod? How is it doing in making disciples? At the Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) convention in Canada last

summer one of the presenters shared the following statistics in a sectional. Fifty (50)% of all children baptized in the LCMS never get confirmed. And fifty (50)% of the youth confirmed in the LCMS are no longer members by the age of 18-20.

- George Barna research states that the leading influences in American society today are movies, television, the Internet, books, music, public policy, law, and the family. The Body of Christ (i.e. the church), is no longer among the top influences. . . a far cry from the way things used to be.

The good news is that the *family* is still a leading influence.

Join hands with Family Shield Ministries as we reach and equip individuals and their families for Christ.

“Larry.” He was interested in learning about God so he began listening to Christian radio. There he learned, for the first time, that Jesus loved him, suffered in his place, and was his Savior. It took time, but he placed his faith in Christ. We referred him to a local congregation and helped him learn about the Savior. Today he is a Christian who is active in his congregation and volunteers as a youth leader.

Your support also allowed us to equip “Barb.” She attended a Family Shield *Witnessing—a Lifestyle* seminar and requested prayers for her husband who is not a Christian.

“Jackie”, who is 70 years old, had been studying with Jehovah’s Witnesses. She told her son she had begun to doubt her Christian faith so he called and asked for our help. It took several months, and many telephone calls, but Jackie eventually called to thank us and said she is no longer studying with the Jehovah’s Witnesses. She especially wanted to thank us for the free Counter-Cult ministry resources we sent to her.

“Christine” is a single mom trying to raise three young children to know and love Jesus. She listens to the radio program each week and told us, “The program is a lifeline of hope and help. It always encourages me in my faith.”

Join us in praising God for sending His only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior and Lord. *“And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men’” (Luke 2:13).*

Pray for Family Shield’s outreach and please support us financially so we can continue to impact people’s lives for Christ. *

The Board of Directors of Family Shield Ministries pray you and your family have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In His service and yours,

Kay L Meyer

Kay L Meyer

President, Family Shield Ministries and Host of *Family Shield*



* Gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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Take Me Out to the Ball Game—Trivia Night

Take Me Out to the Ball Game is the theme for the 2013 Trivia Night, in partnership with Our Lady’s Inn. Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, January 19, 2013**. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church in Sappington, MO. The event includes trivia, an auction, drinks, snacks, and more. The cost in advance is \$20.00 per person. Register at <http://donate.ourladyinn.org>. ***This event is in celebration of the life God’s gives us.***



FSM Speakers Bureau and Recommended Links

Family Shield Ministries has a **Speakers Bureau**. A few of our speakers include: Susan Fuessel, Annetta Dellinger, Karen Boerger, Kay Meyer and His Little Lambs Ministry. Sample topics, along with a brief bio are included on the website, along with contact information. Learn more at www.familyshieldministries.com/speakers_bureau.html.

Another resource is the Family Shield Ministries “**Recommended Links**” (www.familyshieldministries.com/links.html.) There you will find websites for resources related to children, youth, family, creation science, apologetics, missions, and Lutheran organizations/congregations.

ROC LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES
REGIONAL OUTREACH CONFERENCES

Be inspired, energized, and equipped to share God’s love, nurture your family, and witness to the community!

- Compelling messages from well-known presenters
- Practical breakout sessions on hard-hitting topics to reach today’s culture
- Opportunities to connect with ministries that can help you share the Gospel

Sacramento California February 22-23 Hilton Arden West	Long Beach California March 1-2 The Queen Mary
Winnipeg Manitoba July 5-7 Canal Inns Destination Centre Fort Garry	Richmond Virginia August 2-4 Holiday Inn Koger Center
Cleveland Ohio August 9-10 Holiday Inn Westlake	Nashville Tennessee September 6-7 Millennium Maxwell House Hotel
Omaha Nebraska October 18-19 Parade Plaza Omaha	Houston Texas November 2013 Vikoo TED

www.lhm.org/roc

Eat Meals Together to Strengthen Your Family

Research shows that children and teens who eat with their families are less likely to drink, smoke, do drugs, get pregnant outside of marriage, suffer from depression, or develop eating disorders. Children who enjoy family meals together have a larger vocabulary, better manners, higher self-esteem and more resilience. Research from the University of Michigan found that the amount of mealtimes children share with their families was the single strongest predictor of high academic achievement scores. *So let's eat meals with our family and grow healthy families for Christ!*

Ideas for the Holidays

Organize a Birthday Celebration for Jesus

Invite several families and friends to a birthday celebration for Jesus at your home or congregation in December. Ask those who attend to bring an unwrapped gift to be donated to a prisoner's child, a Seminary student's child, or another Christian ministry that gives gifts to children during the holidays.

During your birthday celebration, why not create your own wrapping paper? Using butcher block paper create potato prints or decorate the wrapping paper with fingerprint art using colored stamp pads. Magic markers and crayons can also be used. Encourage the families to work together.

After you've completed the wrapping paper allow it to dry. Then wrap your gift. Invite everyone to create a homemade Christmas card to put inside the gift. Encourage them to think about ways the card can communicate God's love.

The birthday celebration can also include games, snacks, and other activities. A few other ideas are below. Conclude the evening with a prayer.



A Holiday Tablecloth of Memories

A great activity for families with younger children is to put a plastic tablecloth on the table or floor and allow the children to draw a picture of why they are thankful for family and faith during the holiday. Make sure you write their name and the year next to the picture. Allow them to explain their picture to the family. Reuse the tablecloth each year. You can also have the adults share why they are thankful. It will become a treasured memory.

Fruit Flavored Popcorn

8 Cups unsalted popcorn ½ Cup margarine
¼ Cup light corn syrup ¼ tsp. Baking soda
One package 3 oz. flavored jello (red or green works well for Christmas)

Precook popcorn and put aside. Microwave margarine in one quart glass bowl 30–45 seconds on high or until melted. Stir in jello and corn syrup. Microwave on high uncovered 2–3 minutes or until mixture comes to full boil, stirring once. Mix in baking soda until well blended. Mixture will foam up. Pour over popcorn and toss to coat popcorn evenly. Microwave on high 4–5 minutes (stopping once every minute to stir) until mixture is evenly coated. Turn onto wax paper, spread out to cool, break into small pieces.

FSM is a Thrivent Choice Dollars Organization

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans you can donate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Family Shield Ministries. Call us to learn more at 314.772.6070 or go to the Thrivent website at www.thrivent.com. Thank you for supporting Family Shield through your Thrivent Choice Dollars.

YES, I/we want to support Family Shield Ministries!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone number: _____

E-mail: _____

My/our gift of: ___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$250 ___\$500 ___\$1,000 or

\$_____ is enclosed. (You may also pay using PayPal at www.familyshieldministries.com or by credit card using the form below.)

___ I/we would like information about giving through Thrivent Choice Dollars.

___ I/we will keep Family Shield in prayer.

If Giving By Credit Card: ___ Visa ___ Master Card

Credit Card # _____

Amount \$ _____ Exp. Date ___ Month/Year ___

Signature _____

Donors who give in December can receive a Family Shield Ministries Lapel Pin if requested with their donation.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS & SUPPORT!

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**Reach and Equip
 Families for Christ!**
 (Join us for Trivia Night January 19)

About Family Shield Ministries

The *Family Shield* radio program is now heard on over 50 stations in 25 states and internationally through several links. Listen any time/anywhere to the past month's programs at www.globalgospelbeacon.com. You can also download an App and listen anywhere and anytime at www.kxen1010am.com. A list of radio stations, locations, and times the radio program is aired can be found at www.familyshieldministries.com/radio.html.

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

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

National ALMA Conference

Association of Lutheran Mission Agencies (ALMA)



Jan. 31 to Feb. 1, 2013

**Crowne Plaza St. Louis
 Airport Hotel**

11228 Lone Eagle Drive • Bridgeton, MO 63044

Conference Registration: **\$95** per person

Regular ALMA Membership: **\$150** annually

Special for new ALMA members:

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To register or for more information:

www.almanetwork.org or 314-780-3553.

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