

DUBOIS LIGHT & LIFE CHURCH

# NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **77 Heart: Sunday Mornings at 8:30AM**

Understanding and engaging spiritual discipline's TOGETHER.

Inspired by Jen Marsico's Book : 77 Heart.

Every Sunday morning at 8:30am, downstairs in the dining hall.

### **ABLAZE Youth Group: Tuesdays 6-8PM**

ABLAZE stands for Abiding, Believing, Living, Active Examples for Christ, and is our teen centered youth group for students in 7th grade to 12th grade.

### **AGLOW KIDS NIGHT: Wednesdays 6-8PM**

An opportunity for children in grades Kindergarten through 6th grade to gather weekly for worship, lesson, snack, and playtime. This will be in the church basement.

### **Men's Breakfast: Saturday, November 2nd - 9AM at Eat N Park**

Men of the church join together in fellowship over breakfast.

### **Hot Sauce Challenge Fundraiser: Saturday, November 9th**

Elias Crookham is going on a mission trip soon for graduation requirements for his school and needs our help to go! We are calling all brave souls who want to take up the challenge of tasting a variety of spicy hot sauces. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. Also, if you would like to give towards Elias' mission trip, you can do so by giving on our app and selecting Elias' missions tab.

### **Ladies Night Out: November 21st at 6PM at Eat N Park**

Ladies Night Out is held third Thursday of every month. A time to catch up with the ladies of L&L and have God-centered conversations over food.

### **Men's Life Group & Sit N Stitch: Sunday, November 17th at 4PM**

Men gather together in the sanctuary to connect and learn from each other to grow deeper in Christ challenging you to be strong and courageous men of God.

Women gather in the basement to knit, crochet, and stitch together as they talk about life in Christ.

# HELLO NOVEMBER

Thanksgiving is a national holiday to remind us to give thanks for what we have, whether a lot or not so much. As Christians, we know every "thing" comes from God, and we praise Him for His blessing and the undeserved grace He bestows. Let us remember His goodness throughout the year, not only in this holiday season.

- Jeanne Hoover

I had an amazing conversation with God about a situation we all grapple with; money. My friends live in very different financial circumstances than I do, and I found myself questioning why they don't believe my financial struggles, especially when one of them can afford daycare.

God responded, "You don't know their situation!" I realized He was right. I began to ask, "But why—" He interrupted me firmly saying, "Don't judge." I nodded in agreement, absorbing what we were speaking about.

I tend to think that we humans often compare ourselves to others, thinking, "They have more money...they can do so much." Social media triggers this feeling, with influencers showcasing luxurious cars, designer clothes, and lavish lifestyles. It's easy to fall into the trap of wishing we could live like them, believing they have it easy.

So I asked God, "What can I do to stop judging?" His answer was; "Congratulate them!" At first, it didn't fully resonate, but then He opened my eyes to a new perspective.

Take Johnny, for example. He just got a new car, and his friends tease him, assuming it came from "Daddy's money." But the truth? Johnny worked overnight shifts at McDonald's for a year to save up for that car! Who are we to judge without knowing the journey?

Consider that influencer you see on Instagram. She was once homeless, fought hard for her education, and now earns a good living. Or think about that friend on Facebook who seems to be vacationing more frequently. She finally saved enough to catch up on her bills and treat herself! God reminds us not to judge others based solely on appearances. Just because someone looks like they have it all doesn't mean their journey has been easy. Instead, let's celebrate their achievements and successes. Embracing this mindset transforms our perspective and allows us to uplift each other rather than compare ourselves. Let's congratulate each other and recognize the hard work

behind the scenes!

- Elissa Nelson

# CHILI COOKOFF

Thank you to everyone who came out to this year's chili cookoff! We had a blast hanging out with all of you. We had a hayride, bonfire, and games, and TONS of chili. A whopping 25 chilis in total!!

## Congratulations to the winners of this year's contests!

1st place: A TIE! - Tara Siple & Tricia Wykoff

2nd place: Elias Crookham

3rd place: Dustie & Bryant Dahl

There were two new categories added this year:

Most Unusual: AJ Nicastro

Jim Dixon Memorial for Spiciest Chili: Katie Zeliger

Cornhole Tournament winners: Denny and Haley Wykoff

Brought the most guests: Kimberly Madera

A special thank you to Amy Buehrer for hosting, and Gordon & Jenn for providing the hayrides! And to everyone who helped make this event possible. Thank you all and we can't wait for next year!



# PRAISE REPORT

*"My name is Kimberly and I am a child of GOD, I have always been a believer however I truly did not find GOD until 2016. Life before this was hard I was in a marriage that lacked love, kindness, communication, and more. My marriage had more hardships than it did of love, respect, and happiness. My stepfather was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer and passed away peacefully at home in November of 2015. At that point, I realized how angry I truly was. It was not his passing that made me feel that way. It was everything that led to that point.*

*I am a survivor of abuse that happened for many years as a child. As an adult ready to have my first child, I chose to forgive the person who harmed me. I did not want my children to be brought into a family that held on to anger, hate, or a divide because of this. When I forgave him, I did just that. However, after my father passed, this anger crept back into my heart, my mind, and eventually my spirit.*

*On top of that, my marriage had its concerns that caused me to act quickly packing up my things, my children, and moving into a new home. I began feeling what I thought was peace, it was not calm before the storm. Not only after leaving and only 6 months after my father passed, I began to experience things that were nothing I could put into words. I began to have health concerns that could not be explained. I constantly felt that there was something stuck in my throat. After many doctors, many tests, and there was nothing, except my thyroid which had an ongoing hiccup that I had for years, I began to lose my hair, and I began to shake all day long with an intense fear.*

*I was not able to sleep, I was unable to feel comfortable unless I was with others. I lost weight and fast. I was miserable. I cried all the time I had no social support and lacked the ability at this point to talk to anyone because no one could understand what I was going through. At this point, I tried everything. I switched jobs, I tried making my marriage work getting back together with my husband. I approached people that I went against, and I told secrets that I was ashamed of trying to do whatever I could do to possibly fix what I was going through. Until one day, I could not take it anymore, and I sat up in my bed crying, walked to my basement, and began to work out ending my life. In the process of this, I heard I strong voice telling me to STOP, go open your laptop, and connect with Joyce Myers. I complied. When I opened my laptop there was information about struggles, medical concerns, and the healing power of JESUS. I began to read. There was a 10-week printable lesson that I printed and began to work on myself. However, this was not enough I struggled even more than I did before. I felt that the closer I was getting into that Bible study the more the enemy was attacking me.*

*It was so bad that I paid to live at my house but stay with my mother, weekly packing my three kids up leaving my husband at our home, and living in a separate house. I prayed prayed prayed. I had this fear of life itself that consumed me. I reached out to an online pastor cause at this time I did not attend church. I was lost I didn't know where to go. He listened and had a team connect with me on the phone at this point he told me that the enemy was trying to attack me in every way.*

*Why I am not sure however from that point on I took authority over my life, my spirit, my body, and my family. I found a church that I could connect with and I also studied the word of GOD daily. I lived by the words that GOD gave me. Everything in my life changed. My marriage got better, my relationships with my children got better, I was saved, and baptized, my children and my husband attended church with me weekly. My health changed. The problems slowly went away and I became a child of GOD under his authority,*

*not the enemies." - Kimberly Madera*

# TAKE BACK THE NIGHT



## October 25-27th: Take Back The Night Conference

This conference was intended to equip and empower us to be the light in the darkness during this season!

Friday evening, we engaged in an incredible night of worship and intercession. Saturday brought a full day of events, featuring the history of Halloween by Alan Crookham, and a special guest, Rob Radosti, a former satanist who brought his testimony and incredible teachings/insights to share with us. Not to mention several other powerful testimonies from Hannah Klinger, Athena Sternklar, and Jenn Marsico, and worship from Lemi & Abigail Bibimauri, Andy Burkett, and Light & Life Worship Team. If you missed this event, you can catch up on our app! You will find it in our media archive.



DuBois Light and Life Church

Available in App Stores



Keep up to date on all our events, sermons, and connect with small groups on our church app! If you need help navigating the app, see Dustie!

*“The love you show will cascade out onto others. No matter how difficult it is to show love to some people, DO IT ANYWAY. Show love constantly, it will pay off. Others will see your love and wonder where it is coming from and why. Don’t give into the temptations of anger. Push those escalating, harsh feelings aside and let love push past. People just need more love and less harsh treatment. Let love shine through.”*

*- Jessica Hannah*

# TRUNK OR TREAT

## October 31st: Trunk or Treat

What an incredible night of ministry to our community of DuBois! Not only did we hand out candy, food, and hot drinks, but we also had a prayer tent and ministers who walked around giving out Jesus notes & prophetic words. We handed out 400 gospel messages, 480 scripture bracelets, and there was a total of 19 new salvations! Praise God! A huge THANK YOU to Katie Zeliger for all the hard work that she put into making this event happen. And thank you to everyone who helped serve this night and really blew the community away by your love!

See the next page for an incredible testimony from this night.



# TRUNK OR TREAT (cont.)

"Mary Lou and I walked around with the prophetic notes, and it was amazing to see the written words from the Holy Spirit hit the right people! Every single person was receptive to talking, no one shut us down, and only maybe 3 people didn't want an "encouraging note from Jesus" - but somebody with them always took one!

Two men at different times really stood out to me. They took the note, opened it, and started reading as soon as they began to walk away. Then they would pause, and you could see it written all over their face that the words were meant JUST FOR THEM! 🙌

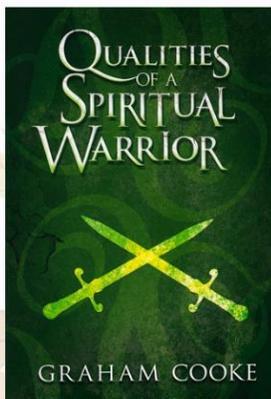
Mary Lou had Christian neighbors praise our church for the annual efforts we do, as they come every year. Another couple, after a short encounter with me, looks at each other and the lady says "Sееее! I told you we should come to church here sometime!" Another lady opened her note, and then with utter surprise and happiness says, "Somebody wrote so many words for me!" (Her note was one of the longer ones.)

The prophetic notes lasted until around 7:40! I then switched to verbal prophecy for those God pointed out. This opened the door to a great conversation with one gentleman about the supernatural, another lady who said (holding back tears)

"I really needed this," and then a couple who both had a cool encounter realizing that God sees them!

Truly, thank you for everyone's efforts! It was really amazing to see it all play out! I can't wait to hear more testimonies! (Also, the kids were HUNGRY to get a note from Jesus!!! There were even adults who saw/heard us handing them out and said they wanted one!!!) "

-Gabrielle Gamble



## Recommended Reading



**"Qualities of a Spiritual Warrior"**  
by **Graham Cooke**

We would love for **YOU** to be part of our next newsletter!

You can submit a praise report, poem, devotional, artwork, or song that you have created and we may feature it in our next newsletter!

You can submit your testimonies or creative work to Dustie!

♥ **THANK YOU FOR READING!** ♥