

ACT3 Ministry

THE STAR

Summer Issue 2024 / Vol 4

#Fight the Fade

#Follow your Star

#Find your Place

Message from Jeff



I've been captivated this summer by a sign posted along a field by which I passed multiples times a day, for multiples days over several weeks. The sign simply reads, WHAT'S NEXT HAPPENS HERE. That phrase has gotten in my head. I hope I can get it into yours.

The company behind the sign is a generational leader in seed technology and yield improvement. Every farmer is in no small way driven to produce more grain from the same fields. Our eyes are always looking for what's new and improved. The company promises if we will look "here" we'll get an eye full!

You don't have to be a farmer to want this season of life to be your best yet. I know so many 3rd Stagers who deserve a WHAT'S NEXT HAPPENS HERE sign beside the life they are now living. They have figured out how God has invested in them for decades, shaped them for this very season of opportunities, and where God wanted to plant them.

Let me post some WHAT'S NEXT HAPPENS HERE signs along some beautiful fields I've noticed.

- At a ramp built by volunteers from ACT3 serving the handicapped through the Saws Ministry.
- In the life of a 7 th grader being mentored by one of our alumni through Bridges Outreach.
- In a ministry serving college students through one of our husband and wife serving teams.
- In the kitchens receiving groceries originated through Samaritan Caregivers and delivered by ACT3 alumni.
- At Godsend Garage where widows and single moms take their cars for repair.

Those are only a few mentions of the fields of opportunity where you can get an eye full of exciting impact.

Let ACT3 know if we can help you figure out how to find the field where God wants to plant you and live a life that exemplifies WHAT'S NEXT HAPPENS HERE!

A Gift of \$39.00 Provides for One Participant:

- All **Course Material** for one participant
 - **Clifton Strengths Test**
 - Connection to a dynamic website -**Galaxy Digital**
 - **Transformational experience** of reassessing life
- Donate today**



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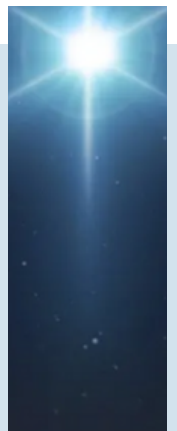
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FOLLOW YOUR STAR

Connecting 3rd Stagers to people and opportunities to serve in alignment with their calling

FIND YOUR PLACE!





Save the Date!

August 17th 9:00am-noon
ACT3 Participants will have the opportunity to help build beds for local children. For many, it is their first bed. Also we will prepare the linens.



Program Spotlight

CSI Ministry

John Key- Executive Director

Ryan Small - Administrative Team Support

CSI is a short-term mission organization serving in North America, Jamaica, Belize, and beyond. They do many projects including building homes for the homeless, evangelism outreach or by providing emergency relief for those impacted by natural disasters and systemic neglect. Their goal is to see new spiritual life begin with people hearing about their need for Jesus Christ as their Savior.

A group of ACT3 servants from Crossroads Community Church got to go to Jamaica this year. The team left February 13th and returned the 20th. Their week consisted of 2 travel days, one church day (usually the sponsor church), 4 days of project and one cultural day. They helped construct two homes as well as other projects like painting beds and ministering at the Pringle orphanage. They spent time with missionaries, Bob and Rebecca Weaver and their four children, and enjoyed making bracelets with Samatha. "One of the greatest blessings was making crafts and having devotions with the girls at the orphanage," Jodi Bentzler (participant).

Not only do they organize short term mission trips, but they also provide a ministry opportunity right here in our community providing beautiful beds for children that do not have a bed. You would be amazed to know the number of impoverished children in our community. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in this needed opportunity.

Volunteer Spotlight

Doug Cunningham

Doug has been very involved in ACT3 Ministry since 2022. He has help build three ramps/decks with SAWs Ministry and has been to Jamaica twice building homes for those in need.

He works for Jeff Harlow on the farm and heard from Jeff about ACT3 ministry and joined out of curiosity about the program. During the cohort he began to see how, “the retired years you have an opportunity to volunteer your strengths and use your strengths to help other people within the church and even outside the church and share the fellowship with them. It is why I do what I do.” Shortly after he began to volunteer in opportunities offered that matched his skills and strengths.

Doug’s experience in lumber makes him the perfect fit for the precision cuts for these construction jobs. His organizational strength also helps keep all the right pieces in the right spots for assembly.

Recently, he participated in a SAWs build for an elderly couple in Kokomo. Even though temperatures reached 90's and he had anticipated leaving earlier, Doug committed to stay until Bob called it quits for the day. His day didn’t begin and end with just the build, he had volunteered to drive the trailer with all the equipment and materials to and from the site.



When asked about why a church should consider adopting ACT3's program, he stated, “I think it strengthens the membership of the church and it helps build camaraderie. It also helps you connect with other people with like skills and interests. It strengthens the overall organization.”

**“It is why I do
what I do!”**



If you haven't been a part of one of our Connecting Serving and Fellowship Events, you are missing out!

HERE'S WHAT IS NEW

By Pam Givens - Engagement Director

I have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know some of you through our Connecting Serving and Fellowship events. We have ministered to shut ins through letters and shopping for groceries, served lunch to our neighbors at the Kokomo Rescue Mission, provided a lunch for the workers at Habitat for Humanity (which were some of our ACT3 participants!), and we have helped provide freedom to a couple through building a ramp.

The goals for these events are to provide a sense of community while serving and to introduce you to some of our nonprofits. I am thrilled to see that some of you have gotten connected to the passion of a nonprofit organization and continue to serve monthly. You have no idea how much that blesses my soul! Our nonprofit organizations need us to fill in the gap to help them minister to our community.

Our goals going into fall will also focus on fostering volunteerism while providing community and fellowship opportunities. We will be planning some Alumni cohort gatherings so that you can reconnect with those from your cohort as well as other events in serving.

New cohorts will also be starting in Indiana, Texas and Michigan! Please be in prayer for these groups!

On the horizon, we are looking for ways that we can meet the needs of 3rd Stagers in our community and foster a heart of serving. We are investigating ideas, such as, a retirement workshop, a Give 5 initiative for serving, and other avenues to reach out to those in our community. We would love to hear any feedback and ideas from you.

We would also treasure the opportunity to share at your church or organization.

Please let us know of any opportunities!

Get Connected Tip



Can I record hours for an Event?

Yes and No...To record hours for an event there must be an opportunity associated with it. Our monthly events for **Connecting Serving and Fellowship** have an opportunity. You must **first login** to the ACT3 Galaxy Digital Site.

Remember, you can view opportunities and programs *without* being logged in. Choose the **Opportunity Tab** on the left. Select Connecting Serving and Fellowship. Then on the top right select **RESPOND**. Once you respond, you will be able to go to your profile and record hours.

Does your church want to engage 3rd Stagers?

We are looking for churches to partner with us and engage their 3rd stagers in living missionally for Jesus in their third stage of life. We would provide the support to integrate it into their own missional objectives. The tools are well developed, and the digital platform is ready to engage them with their community. Our ministry is independent from the church.

Approximately 10,000 Baby boomers are retiring every day in this country, and many are falling away from the church. We would love the opportunity to share what ACT3 Ministry could offer to the Church to meet this need.

Our communities need the skills, experience, and gifts of those in their third stage of life.