

ACT3 Ministry

THE STAR

Winter Issue 2023 / Vol 2

#Fight the Fade

#Follow your Star

#Find your Place

Message from Jeff



Will and I enjoyed a record harvest this Fall on the farm our family has harvested for the 159th time. As you would expect from a farmer, we will go into next spring planning and working for the next harvest to be the next record. Though it doesn't always work out as planned, we will sure try.

That farming mindset set me up for how to approach this season of my life, which I rigorously define and defend as my 3rd Stage of a four stage life. My 2nd Stage evidentially ended nearly eleven years ago as I stepped off the Crossroads Church platform for the first time not being her pastor. I don't know what people expected of me, but the die had already been cast. I wasn't done and the record books weren't closed. Grace will always be the saving factor when we give an account for our life. My best serving harvest will never be good enough to buy me a pass into Heaven. But when I stand before Jesus at the Bema Seat Judgment, I want His Well done, Jeff to cover more than just the season that ended in 2013. This season is family first for me. But I'm fully vested in developing ACT3, serving churches, and 3rd Stagers. This season counts every bit as much as my pastoring season.

What about you? When you and Jesus look at the books for 2024, what do you want Him to celebrate as He recounts how you lived it? You get to plan right now with the whole year before you. You get to invest yourself and work hard with the full hope of the harvest you can envision in your heart.

ACT3 is here to help. If you are not sure what seed you have in the barn or which field you can go plant, join us for a Discovery cohort. We are ready for you. Please take a look at the upcoming schedule.

Meanwhile, make 2024 one for the books!

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

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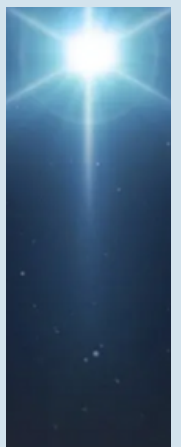
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FOLLOW YOUR STAR

“Nobody finishes well
by accident.”
-John C. Maxwell

FIND YOUR PLACE!



Program Spotlight

Samaritan Caregivers

Jamey Henderson - Executive Director

Grocery shopping is needed for our 45 clients that qualify for \$50 in groceries per month. Volunteers stop at the office and pick up a list and a gift card, go to Meijer or ALDI or Kroger, get the groceries, call the person, deliver them and then drop the receipt back to the office. It doesn't take that long to buy \$50 worth of groceries! If you're buying your own groceries at the same time...it isn't a huge time commitment. This is also a great group activity for a small group. They can stop by and pick up six or so lists and then go shopping together. Groceries can then be delivered as a group or delivered individually to save on time. The Bible says to whom much is given much will be required...He's talking about us.

Our greatest need right now is drivers because of the snowbirds that leave during this time of year. I'd love to have four to six more people available for driving. All rides are all done on a case-by-case basis so it will fit in with the volunteer's schedule. Our clients just really need some one-on-one assistance: to get their coat on and get their front door locked and get down their steps and get into a car to get to the doctor's office, follow up appointments, to the bank, to the pharmacy, and to get lab work done. We want to treat our seniors with respect, and we don't want to have to turn anybody down when they ask for a ride.

Samaritan Caregivers is so blessed that we are a small local nonprofit, and we can be flexible and responsive as needed. We can offer no cost assistance because we use volunteers...like ACT3 participants. We utilize grant money and operating money for our office function and use volunteers to deliver the service. You don't really need a lot of special training to volunteer, you can just take whatever it is that God has blessed you with and put it to good use to bless others.



Samaritan Caregivers relies on volunteers to provide free help to people 65 and over still living at home in Howard County, Indiana.

We need help grocery shopping, transporting, and offering companionship to seniors in our area.

"Those that qualify are not able to grocery shop for themselves, they don't drive, and they don't have support of a family. Because of their financial limitations they must make those hard decisions about heating or cooling their house, buying medication, or eating. "

Volunteer Spotlight

Terri Cross

In 2005 I felt God speak into me that I was to minister to the weary and broken. We had a special needs granddaughter born in 2007. I can't count how many times that we almost lost her. Then in 2014, our daughter was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer. I kind of thought, "Lord, you've called me to the weary, but I am weary and am not ministering past my family's needs. Where's my ministry Lord, where's the ministry that you gave me." God reminded me of the scripture that he gave me, Isaiah 50:4 "The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary", while I was working through the Journey Map assignment in the ACT3 Discovery Cohort. This brought back the vision and the beauty of Him allowing me to hold his weary ones. My coaching conversation really settled it in my mind that I HAD been doing His ministry in my family.

Since my husband retired, we've also been drawn to McAllister's to visit, pray and minister to those we meet. I think through the suffering that I've walked through in our families that I know what that weariness looks like and can see it in others. I see how crisis in their lives has just taken their joy... it took my joy, but I can say I've got my joy back. I really can't express it in words. I think the biggest thing that the enemy has taken from us, as believers, is our joy. We forget it's our strength. I just want to be faithful and let others know that it is okay to share our burdens. It's OK to be weary and to share that weariness with one another, but I also want to show them that there's a joy on the other side. If I can, in any way, encourage anyone, the glory belongs to God.

I've been recording hours with the trips I take with daughter for treatments, my time ministering at McAllister's, and Cross America's prayer group and Quality Control Room.



There are no words that can even express my gratitude for ACT3 and the words of wisdom spoken to me. **As I enter my hours, it's an honor to say, "God thank you for using me because every day is a gift!"** We have a purpose, and through this class, you can find out what your purpose is. I just want to say, "To God be the glory because he's faithful me, He is faithful to you, He's going to be faithful to our children and grandchildren.

"When the Lord blesses us, we have to share it. I think as seniors, it's during this time of transition, that it is hard to realize that we still have a purpose."

Holiday Open House



Kim Spray, Ellen Boles, Courtney Salati, and Becky Harlow share rich fellowship at the Holiday Open House held at Cross America. Cross America's Doubting Thomas Cafe was open, cookies were enjoyed, and many appreciated looking at and purchasing items from the Christian bookstore. We were also excited that DeWayne McNally, board member, was able to join us!

Winter cohorts are about to start. We are excited to see God illuminate His calling for each one participating. Please continue to pray for this process as we are constantly refining it so that it provides an excellent experience for those participating. Cohort opportunities will be expanding to other states!

If you haven't followed us on social media, we invite you to do so. We are on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitter](#), and [Linked In](#). Please help share our message through these medias.

We would also treasure the opportunity to share at your church or organization. Please let us know of any opportunities!

HERE'S WHAT IS NEW

By Pam Givens - Engagement Director

With the closing of 2023 and the beginning of 2024, ACT3 Ministry is full of expectation as we watch God move in a mighty way! We have partnered with a marketing group that has fallen in love with the vision ACT3 Ministry has for the 3rd Stager. We are excited to see how this will impact the reach of the ministry and God's Kingdom. Please join us in praying for God's direction in our ministry and the motivation of 3rd stagers to live out their calling.

Since August we have partnered with Turn About Community Center, Samaritan Caregivers, Kokomo Symphony Orchestra. If you haven't had a chance to see what all the organizations offer, please visit our [programs page](#). There are plenty opportunities for all skills!

Get Connected Tip



Wanting to record hours?

We pray that you have **unveiled the masterpiece that God created in you** and **have partnered with opportunities** that are helping you reach your full potential.

Part of managing ourselves well is **setting goals and measuring** to see if we are meeting those goals. *Recording hours is a great way to see if you are reaching your serving hour goals.*

It is easy to record hours through our app **Cause Connect!** Get the app, sign in with your e-mail you used to create a profile and password.

Remember you must respond to the opportunity to record hours.

ACT3 Ministry Opportunity - Check your Calling Star!

As we grow there are opportunities to volunteer in ACT3 Ministry staffing. One of those opportunities is in joining our [Coaching Team](#). The role of the ACT3 Coach is to support them through the cohort then lead a participant in the review their Calling Star and walk them through their Serving Exploration Worksheet.

This process is designed to build on the reflections, prayers, conversations, and further reflections of the ACT3 Discovery Growth Group Experience for the participant and motivation to action by the Holy Spirit and then, through the guidance of the Coach, get participants engaged in serving.

Do you have mentor, teacher, developer or relator? God might be calling you to the ministry of coaching!