## STRONG **TOWER** RADIO

Ministry News

89.7 Grand Rapids 90.7 Harrison

90.9 Escanaba 91.3 Ironwood

91.3 Decatur 91.9 Cadillac

91.9 Battle Creek 92.3 Charlotte

93.1 Grand Haven 93.9 Mio

97.3 Kalamazoo 97.9 Newberry

102.7 Alpena 104.7 Lansing 1540 Okemos

TV 23 Cadillac

Cyndi Woods

## Disability Ministries, and Why We Need Them!

Have you ever felt sidelined or not included? It's a feeling that leaves us in a place of sadness, frustration, or even depression. We often see this happen today within the disability community. We also see those with disabilities in the Bible being marginalized, separated, and cast out due to circumstances often beyond their control.

In contrast, Jesus held them in high regard and extended His hands to them. We see Him bring them into ministry by empowering them with His compassionate recognition. Jesus values those with disabilities and views them as members of Christ's body. Let's seek to do the same and be an integrated body in our community.

Often we are unaware of how and when to extend an invitation to a disabled church or community member. We don't know what to do, so often, we do nothing and hope that we avoid hurt feelings. Yet this

can be misconstrued as disinterest or disbelief in Education our disabled members abilities. The first tool in our toolbox to correct this problem continues to be education.

Knowing how to engage with and include those within the disability community is the first step in opening our arms and doors to this "able" group. Out of fear of the unknown, suppose we continue to leave the grounds of disability ministry uncultivated. In that case, we will reap nothing from this field, losing a plentiful harvest thereby. Those with disabilities offer a unique and special perspective, one that

allows them to see the world from a different vantage point which cannot be duplicated

outside of disability.



## **President's Perspective**

At the time of this writing, I am in the process of finalizing the details to order weatherproof equipment racks for our Greenville and

Port Sanilac stations. These racks are about the size of a refrigerator and have heating and air conditioning.

They take up less space than the temperature controlled 8' x 12' shelter that we have typically used at other locations but make for chilly and sometimes wet visits to a tower site during a Michigan winter.

Our design engineers have requested permission from the FCC to move our Greenville station to a better-located tower which will put our primary coverage area over Ionia and reach into Edmore and over to Howard City. No one should have any problem picking up this station at camp meeting next year!

To save on monthly tower rent costs, we are considering lowering our antennas on the Owosso tower from 240 feet to 170 feet. The coverage will remain essentially the same. We will need to request permission from the FCC to do this.

I am getting close to finalizing sites for Bridgman and Tower Hill (IL). Every tower site has unique issues that must be addressed

before we sign a contract. Several of our tower sites will need to have a concrete pad poured and electricity trenched in from the utility entry port, called the H-frame, to where the pad will be located.

In the fall of 2009, I hand-dug a 150-foot trench at the tower site for our first station WGCP. It had to take the long route around an existing equipment shelter! At that site, we put two conduits in, one for electricity and one for

phone/data. What a learning experience. We will be looking for seasoned contractors in the various areas to do that work this time around.



### **Disability Ministries...** (Continued from page 1)

Remember grade school days when two teams were teams to be chosen? Volleyball, kickball, softball, field hockey, or any other sport; do you remember how it felt when you didn't get chosen first, second, or at all?

More than 1 billion people in the world have some form of disability. That translates to more than 15% of the world's population! This number

continues to trend upwards. It is a people group that anyone can suddenly join at any time. Illness, unforeseen accidents, aging, or a combination thereof can enter us into the disability community. It is vitally important that we equip ourselves with the necessary tools to better relate to those with disabilities. But, we often don't know how to find or use these tools.

"Clear Vision Ministry" can help provide these tools. Clear Vision is a set of three seminars designed to increase attendees interest in the disability community, sharpen their focus on the individuality within this group, and awaken them to the gifts and talents present in those with disabilities.

An important yet often overlooked blessing awaits those who engage with our brothers and sisters in the disability community, living breathing persons, each with a heart, mind, and soul. Every member of this community has gifts and abilities that they long to

share with others. Will you be one of those who embraces them and gives those with disabilities the chance to be a blessing? Let's join hands and become of one mind to cultivate this area of great need.

For a dollar or two, you can occupy a city parking space for an hour.

For \$1.25, you can fund 1 minute of STR broadcast covering nearly half the state of Michigan on the FM dial.

For \$75, you can 'occupy' that space for an hour. What space will you occupy today?



3

Plug in to

## CURRENT EVENTS

Have you heard about food deserts, where areas of the world do not have grocery stores? How do

By Tom Mejeur



people secure nutrition, spiritual nutrition? Pastors, visiting speakers, and elders provide weekly spiritual nourishment via the Holy Spirit, and STR can assist with tasty words served up daily by pastors from around the state as well as programs from 3ABN. Is it possible that you hunger for more and are missing the menu on Strong

Tower Radio (STR)?

STRONG

Every Tuesday, suggested bulletin announcements are emailed to bulletin secretaries, communication secretaries, and pastors of record. If you do not find STR announcements in your church bulletin, take action so your church can be a greater food oasis, both on Sabbath and during the week listening to STR! Call Tom at 616-550-3555 or email, Tom@StrongTowerRadio.org

Strong Tower Radio has produced Inspiration and Praise Variety Hours three times so far this year. There are only three more opportunities to join the program and meet us! You will experience what it takes to record a radio program in person & you can say, "I was there!" The next opportunity is at the Troy Seventh-day Adventist Church in Troy, Michigan, August 26<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

About one year ago, we also recorded on-site at the School of **Strong Tower Radio** Missionary Aviation Technology.

Using portable digital recorders, we

captured the ambiance of student pilots taking off from runways, two-way radio conversations in the background, and talking to students & teachers in this setting. It provides a compelling "you are there" experience.

Recording, producing, and editing on-site programs takes eight times more time (than in-studio programs), but listener engagement is worth it all! These on-location interviews & Variety Hours are done by staff, often at their expense.

# Changed Lives: Scot Fawthrop

Scot Fawthrop was raised in a conservative Baptist home and continued that tradition as an adult and with his family. More recently, a careful study of the Bible led Scot on a 10-year journey from his Baptist heritage to a



Kam Ferguson

church that teaches the truth unmixed with tradition.

The more he studied God's Word, the more he saw things that didn't align with church teachings. At the

Three area Baptist churches that Scot attended, Each pastor responded to his question, "Why

aren't we following the Bible on this subject?" with, "I have to stick with what I was taught at the seminary." Not only at church, but even the Christian radio station he'd listened to for many years also migrated to unchristian music, and some programs contained unscriptural teachings!

The Holy Spirit continued leading Scot into all truth, and one day Scot scanned the radio dial for a Christian station that broadcasts only truth and music that glorified God.

He discovered Strong Tower Radio (STR), 90.7 FM, in Harrison and began listening. Convicted about the Sabbath, Scot began attending a Seventh-day Baptist

BIBLE ANSWERS LIVE



church. He continued studying and listening to STR and particularly liked *Bible Answers* 

*Live*, though at first, he contended with some of the answers that pastors Batchelor and Ross provided.

After listening to STR for several years, Scot visited a nearby Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) church. The

speaker that day used many Ellen G. White references in the sermon, and this unnerved Scot. He had heard cultic allegations about SDAs from Baptist churches he'd been in, so he stopped attending any church for a time.

He kept listening to STR, now finding that instead of his helping Doug Batchelor have the correct answer; Pastor Doug was helping him. Scot was impressed to return to the SDA church he'd visited previously and was soon content to attend there weekly, though he wasn't ready to join just yet.

### Changed Lives Scot... (Continued from page 5)

Along came the Covid-19 experience, with most churches shutting down. As some churches began to re-open, Scot said, "I'm not shutting down, I'll find somewhere to worship." He went to the phone book, found the Gladwin SDA church, and then drove there to see if they were open. He walked in and found four women there and asked, "Where are the men!?"

Scot attended the Gladwin church for a few weeks and prayed for guidance on which church he should attend long-term. He was impressed to attend and serve in Gladwin, as the other church he'd attended had a larger membership. New pastor Grady Yonas studied with Scot, answered his questions clearly from God's Word, and Scot made his choice. He embraced the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ, signified via baptism on May 28, 2022, at the Gladwin SDA church, where he actively serves. Praise God for another life being changed!

Scot continues listening to STR and states, "Because of STR, and everyone there (including the guy that mows the lawn), I'm a Seventh-day Adventist today!" We say glory to God, Who continues using this ministry as a tool in your hands to reach seeking souls like Scot with the everlasting gospel.

#### **Current Events** (Continued from page 4)

Your continued generous giving sustains this ministry, including these and many other captivating programs. We have six full-time employees for 15 stations with a monthly operating budget of only \$51,000!!!

Please call **231-468-2087** or go online to **STR.** *fm* & hit the donate button or mail a donation to Strong Tower Radio, P.O. Box 567, Cadillac, MI 49601.

### Attention:



Those who have donated funds for the purchase of a Detroit area radio station please contact Kam Ferguson at 423-381-9414.



### In Christ, We Are Able

July was disability awareness month, and it

National

reminded me of how I learned that people in the world live with limits. As a young boy, I visited my grandmother in a nursing home in Cedar Springs, MI, and noticed many people in



Kam Ferguson

wheelchairs, some using walkers or residing there due to other limitations. I would talk with them, shake their hands, and occasionally help them with simple tasks.

I'm glad my parents taught me, both in words and through experience, to be unafraid to touch people with disabilities. We all can relate to disability. We're all disabled by sin. The Bible tells us that "without holiness, no person will see God." [Heb 12:14]

We can't obtain holiness in our own strength. We need Jesus Christ in us, the hope of glory, His character living within, to be ready to meet Jesus when He returns to Earth.

While on Earth, Jesus wasn't afraid to touch us. Some criticized Him for it, others marveled at His healing. He still seeks to touch us through the Holy Spirit to transform us into His likeness. As Jesus works in us (with our surrender to Him) to will and do of His good pleasure, we reflect more of His

character. We start becoming aware and unafraid of the needs around us as we see them more through Jesus' eyes.

This character we each need, and this is the character that

Strong Tower Radio proclaims, the beautiful character of Jesus Christ. Many are listening and responding in faith, hallelujah! God works through your energetic prayers, sharing, and



financial support to keep this ministry broadcasting and expanding to reach more listeners with life-changing truths.

Thank you for courageously reaching out and touching others! Lives are being changed!



Disability Ministries, And Why We Need Them August 2023

Strong Tower Radio Ministry News Cadillac, MI 49601 P.O. Box 567

StrongTowerRadio.org 231-468-2087



STR E	STR Engagements:		
8/2	8/5 11:00 a.m.	Kam Ferguson	Mio SDA Church Rededication
8/12	8/12 11:00 a.m.	<b>David Bolduc</b>	Marion Seventh-day Adventist Church
8/19	8/19 9:30 a.m.	Kam Ferguson	Big Rapids Seventh-day Adventist Church
8/19	8/19 3:00 p.m.	Kam Ferguson	Reed City Seventh-day Adventist Church
8/26	8/26 11:00 a.m.	Kam Ferguson	Cornerstone Seventh-day Adventist Church Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Canada
8/26	8/26 6:00 p.m.	Variety Hour	Troy Seventh-day Adventist Church

When moving, please contact us with your new address,

231-468-2087 the Post Office WILL CHARGE us for each returned newsletter.

U.S. Postage Paid Permit #87 Organization Cadillac, MI Non-Profit