

## **CONNECTIONS**

#### **FORGED MEN'S RETREAT 2023**

FEBRUARY 24TH-25TH



Everyday Christian Men held the second annual men's retreat at Antiochian Village in Bolivar, PA.

The title of this years retreat was Forged of God with speaker Pastor Dan Tourney from Christian Community Church of Gibsonia, PA. Pastor Dan's messages challenged men to ask themselves if they had what it takes to be Forged of God? This means, to allow God to shape and mold them into the men that God has called them to be.





Men were challenged to grow in their faith, prayed for each other, worshiped God and spent the weekend focusing on their relationship with Christ and others. It was a blessing to see men come together to allow God to do a work in their lives.

# CHRISTMAS EVE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER





The Christmas Eve breakfast held at Faith Baptist Church accepted any donation offered by those who attend. The donation was then provided to a local family in need. This year ECMen provided funds to Run Home Camp to sponsor a family to provide Christmas gifts to a family in need. Additionally, funds were given to another family struggling with extensive medical problems and the loss of a job.







ECMen Date Night at Rizzo's Restaurant was a great night. Todd & Gail Cover shared their personal testimony of how God has been so faithful in bringing them together in marriage and strengthening them through hard times as they faced many challenges over the past year. Each couple in attendance was given a prayer card, "Praying for Your Wife" and "Praying for Your Husband" to encourage a healthy spiritual connection together.

#### **WHAT A TRADE**

by Matt Lushko

21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. – 2 Corinthians 5:21

There is a tv show called Barter Kings where two business partners take an item that is of lower value and try to trade up to items of higher value. One episode they started out with an Elvis record and within six trades they had a powerboat. One time they even went from a rock to a car. They are good at finding people who need to get rid of an item and making them think that somehow the item they want to trade them will be a better option. Their goal is to show that it is possible to get what you want without spending a dime.

As crazy as it sounds to start with a rock and end up with a car, there is one trade that will never be beat. Jesus traded our sin for His righteousness. Jesus, the only sinless person to ever walk the earth took on our sin when He went to the cross. It was not a fair trade, in fact it's not even close to a fair trade. He took the punishment that we deserved. God looked at Him and saw our sin so He had to turn away from Him. He paid the price that we could never have paid. Without that we would never be able to get to heaven.

When we accept Christ as our Lord and Savior there is an amazing trade that happens. God looks at the cross, He no longer sees our sin. When He looks at us, He sees Christ. He sees us as forgiven, washed clean, as white as snow.

That's a trade that will never be beat!



# **EVERYDAY DEVOTIONAL**

ECMen sends out a daily devotional via email. You can sign up on the interests form at ECMen.org



- Wild Game Meal Dinner April 23rd.
- Trip to Holy Land in October 2023
- Development of structure for ECMen as an organization.
- Mentoring of men in the community
- New ECMen affiliations with Liberty Grace, Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren, Flood City, and Emmanuel.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

For more information and registration visit www.ecmen.org
This event is men only.



For more information contact Matt Lushko 814-341-1622 / matt@ecmen.org This is open to all individuals. (men & women)



## LEADERSHIP BIBLE STUDY





A leadership Bible study was held every Saturday morning with a group of men each representing 4 different churches in the area. This is the beginning of ECMen affiliations in their own churches to build a ministry group of Everyday Christian Men.



Visit ECMen.org GIVE or use the QR Code

Everyday Christian Men is a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization. All of your donations given to Everyday Christian Men from August 1, 2021 are tax deductible.

If you would like to set up recurring donations you may now do so using the link available on the ECMen.org website GIVE or use the QR code to for a direct link to the site.



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Would you like text reminders for upcoming events?

Complete the ECMen Interests Form and comment "Sign me up for text updates" or Text Matt 814-341-1622