

# *THE LOOP*

COQUILLE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

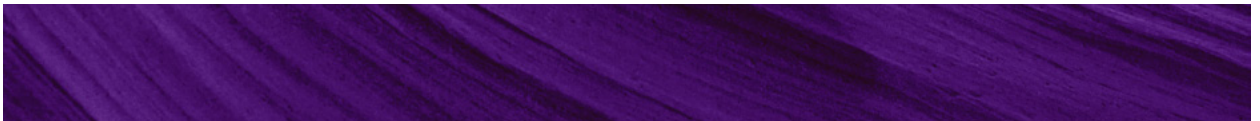
FEBRUARY 2023

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2





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# NAVIGATING THE

## NAVIGATING A FEAR OF THE DARK


KAYLEE HANKS

When I was younger, I was afraid of the dark. Even with the TV on, I was terrified. I did not like getting up in the dark when the TV turned black and the credits rolled after a movie. I did not even like falling asleep without the TV on. I was repulsed by the idea of looking around in the dark

and seeing something that was not really there. I also hated that moment after waking up from a nightmare where I knew I had to open my eyes to prove that it was a dream. My fear was that in the dark, the dream would continue, even though I was awake. And at the same time, by keeping my



# THE INBETWEEN



eyes closed, the dream kept burning itself into my mind.

I remember one night when I was younger, I had a nightmare. I woke up, but I was too scared to open my eyes even though my TV was on. My heart was racing, I was sweating, I couldn't even hear anything from my TV. I was in full panic mode until finally I built up enough strength to cry and yell for my mom. From across the hall, she woke up and heard me, and came into my room to see what was wrong. She sat on my bed, then I opened my eyes. I knew that I could fix my eyes on my mom and she would really be there, and nothing else around, real or not, would matter. My mom was real and she was there. In her attempt to calm me down, she even



REBECCA AND HER DAUGHTERS, FAITH AND GRACE

◀ CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

tried pointing my attention to what was on my TV; it was a rerun episode of Fresh Prince. She said something like, “Hey look, don’t you want to see Carlton dance around in a big blue bird costume?” After listening to my mom’s voice

*TO BE INBETWEEN IS TO BE IN THE TIME,  
SPACE, OR INTERVAL THAT SEPARATES TWO  
THINGS.*

and allowing myself to look around, reality became more clear to me. Little did I know that this fear of the dark was deeper than what my eyes could or couldn’t see.

We are starting a sermon series in the book of 1 Peter called, Navigating the Inbetween. It begs the question: What is the “Inbetween”? To be inbetween is to be in the time, space, or interval that separates two things. Inbetween meetings,

inbetween dreams, inbetween a rock and a hard place. In the context of the book of 1st Peter, Peter calls believers to live a life of holiness in a world of hostility, a life of sanctification in a world of suffering. The believer, then, finds themselves inbetween cultures: the culture of the world and the culture of the Kingdom of God. Does this sound familiar? This journey of learning to navigate our lives as believers and followers of Jesus in a world that exalts idolatry, narcissism, and false truth affects us deeply every day. It is the struggle. It is the adventure. It is the source of tears and emotions. It is the path to healing.

If I have learned anything important in my personal journey with Jesus, it is this: He is in the inbetween. In my life so far, I have found myself navigating between



*KAYLEE, LEE, MOE, ABBY, AND JAZMYN AT THE LADIES' GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY*

the darkness of my old life and the light of my new life in Christ. I have found myself thinking that Jesus is only in the spring-like seasons where life seems to be at its fullest and best, the times when I feel like God is doing mighty things, I am receiving blessing, and I am growing and becoming more of who He wants me to be. I have

found myself feeling like the winter-like seasons inbetween are desolate and lonely. These seasons are where I experience this deeper fear of the dark; this darkness feels like the fogginess of confusion, the emptiness of having a lack of answers, the throbbing pain of unfair circumstances, the riled up urgency of overwhelm, the bitter chill of loneliness,

and the shortened breath of anxiety. This darkness feels like my old life is trying to hunt me down and drag me back into old patterns, habits, and addictions. It feels like I am lost in the wilderness, and like I am running around with my eyes closed, terrified of this darkness, and tripping over branches, stumbling over rocks, and falling off of cliffs in



adrenaline fueled desperation  
to race to the next season  
because that must be where  
Jesus is waiting for me.

*This cannot be any further  
from the truth.*

Jesus does not favor certain  
seasons, and He is not  
ashamed of my seasons  
in the wilderness. He is in  
the wilderness; He is in  
the inbetween, and in the  
inbetween is where I truly get  
to know Him better. There  
are seasons I can bask in  
awe of His glory, His might,  
His wondrous power. But in  
the deepest, darkest, coldest  
valleys of the wilderness,  
I also get to know and be  
comforted more intimately by  
the warmth of His love, His  
kindness, and His sweetness. I  
have learned that I cannot just  
run around in the darkness  
with my eyes closed in an



PASTOR SAM AND PASTOR ERIC FROM BROOKINGS  
FOURSQUARE CHURCH





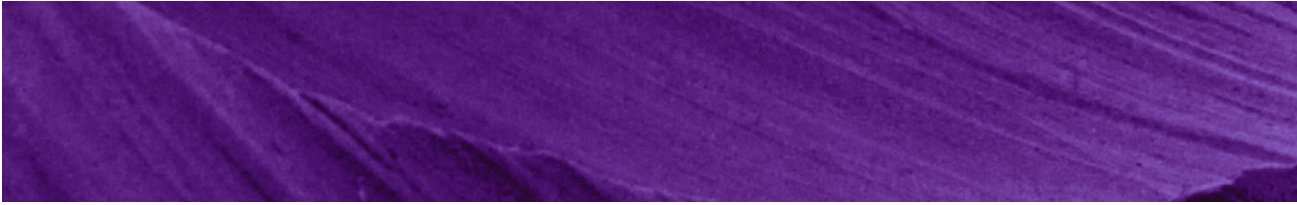
RONI AND MARY KAY

attempt to avoid my fear or else I end up hurting myself even more. I am learning to navigate my inbetween by first stopping, calling on Jesus, opening my eyes, knowing that I can fix them on Him, and listening to His voice so that reality becomes more clear than what is happening in my head. By allowing myself to stop and by shifting my focus to seek Jesus, I find Him, and I get to know Him better as He sticks with me, guiding me carefully, and comforting me in the darkest times. I will never have a complete understanding of who Jesus is, but my getting to know Him will be deeply impaired if I only allow myself to know Him when things are going well. I have to seek and know Him in the wilderness; I have to seek and know Him in the inbetween. ■



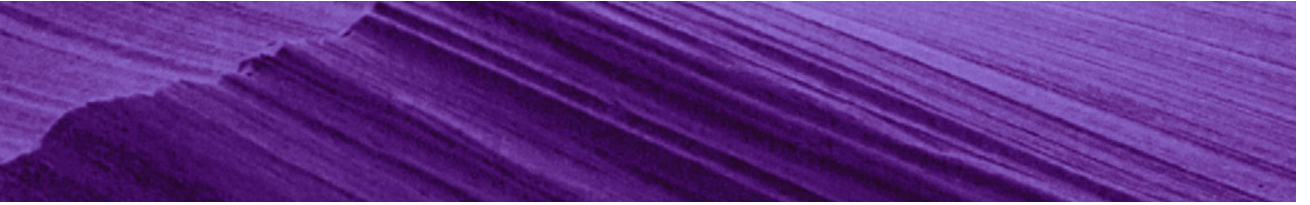
PASTOR SAM, JOE, AND BILL

# FEBRUARY



SUNDAY      MONDAY      TUESDAY      WEDNESDAY      THURSDAY      FRIDAY      SATURDAY

			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
			Grief Share TRIBE	Celebrate Recovery		
<b>5</b> Church	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Mens' Bible Study	<b>8</b> Grief Share TRIBE	<b>9</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Church	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Mens' Bible Study	<b>15</b> Grief Share TRIBE	<b>16</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Church Potluck	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Mens' Bible Study	<b>22</b> Grief Share TRIBE	<b>23</b> Celebrate Recovery	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Church	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Mens' Bible Study				



**Church Service:** Every Sunday Morning at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary.

**Mens' Bible Study:** Every Tuesday Morning at 6:30 AM in the Sanctuary.

*For more details, see Pastor Sam Flaherty.*

**Grief Share:** Every Wednesday Evening, 6:30-8:30 PM in the Sanctuary .

*For more details, see Pastor Sam Flaherty*

**Celebrate Recovery:** Every Thursday Evening at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

*For more details, see Bill Howell.*

**Church Potluck:** Sunday, February 19th after church in the Fellowship Hall.

*For more details, see Pastor Sam Flaherty.*

**TRIBE:** Jr. High and High School Group, every Wednesday Evening at 6:30 - 8 PM in the Fellowship Hall. (See Page 13)

*For more details, see Victoria Flaherty.*

**Save the Date! Family Camp, 2023: June 7-11**



# LIVING STONES

A VISUAL ASSOCIATION DEVO IN 1 PETER 2  
BILL HOWELL

You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor.

And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. As the Scriptures say,

"I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem, chosen for great honor, and anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced."

1 Peter 2:4-6

When trauma is so bad that nothing seems possible then God brings something that has more of an impact on your life that you can anchor on. One of my anchors was when God taught me how to love myself how He loves me

There have been many more moments where God has supernaturally guided me, and I started learning how to listen to His voice

The Israelites built piles of stones as altars when they saw God's faithfulness to them.

ALTARS

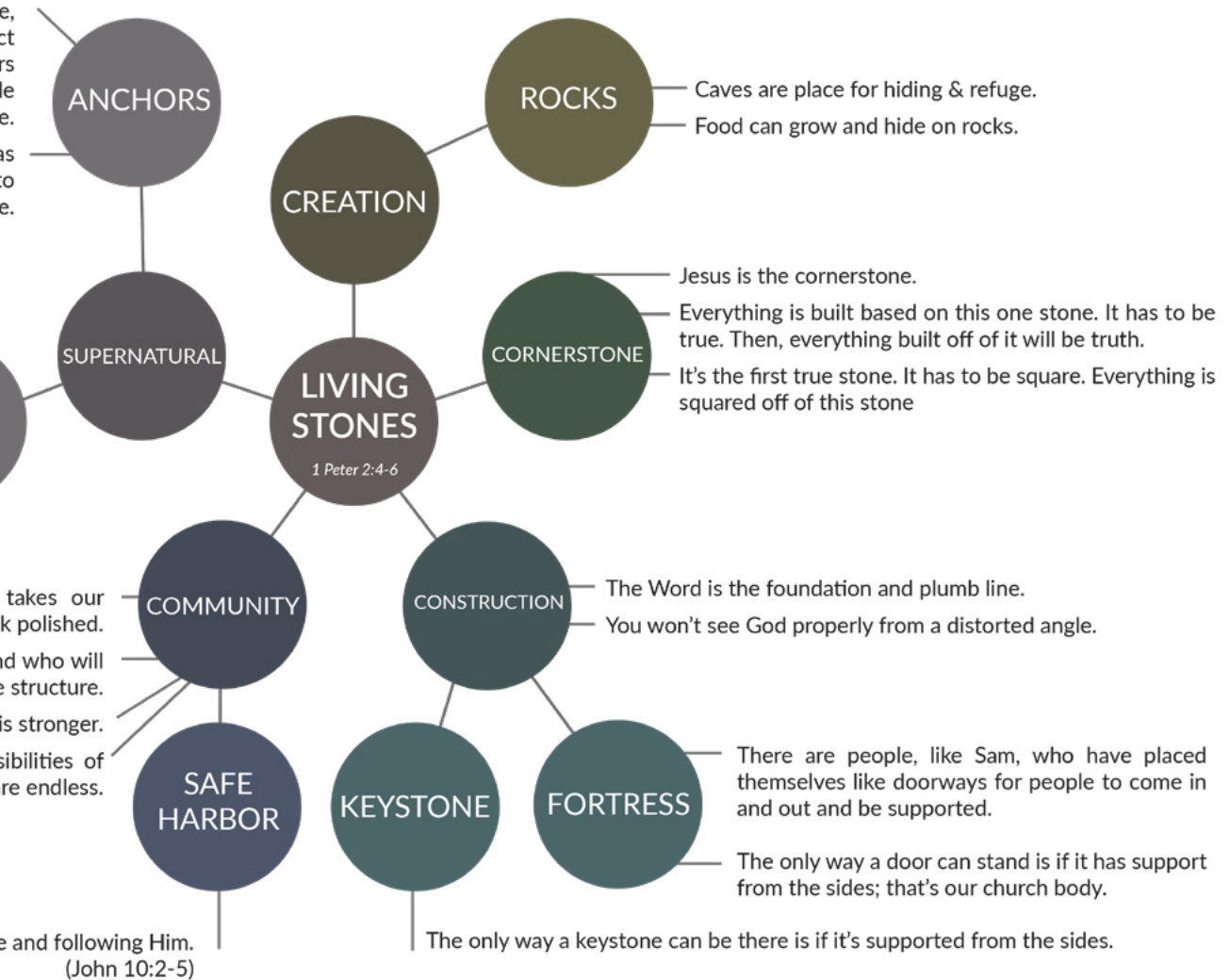
Iron striking iron sharpens us and hones us. It scratches out and makes us almost loo

Church is a safe place with people you can talk to and pray for you. It's this community that makes the

The three braided cord

When I serve, I get out of my own self. The possibility of someone just showing up and serving a

I think about the scripture about knowing Jesus' voice



# SING A NEW SONG

TYLER HARTLEY

I wrote this song all the way back in 2014. It was the beginning of a difficult time in my life. There were some circumstances that I couldn't control and some that were entirely my fault. I found that through all the turbulence, God was holding me firm. When life was at its worst, I would still worship God with my whole heart and feel Him holding me together.

This song came from that feeling of absolute chaos all around me attempting to destroy me and God remaining faithful to me through it all, especially when I didn't deserve it. The title came when Pastor Ken was preaching and he was talking about Jesus being our Living

Stone. It seemed a fitting title. I've held onto this song for myself for many years. It really helped me through my parent's divorce in 2016.

About a year ago God started doing a radical work in my life, and I was reminded of this song. I was really nervous about playing this song at church because it's very personal lyrically and, for me, very different musically. Seeing people respond to something that I wrote that is really personal has been very humbling. It has brought me great joy to see it affecting people. And that's all I have to say about that. ■



## **The Living Stone**

*Tyler Hartley, 2014*

[Verse 1]

My eyes are turned upward  
As the ground moves beneath my feet  
I will not be shaken  
My God has set me free

[Verse 2]

The storms rage all around me  
As I stand on solid ground  
Who could be against me  
When my God has never let me down

[Chorus]

I lift my hands to you, my voice into  
The heavens where I'll sing with the angels  
You set my feet upon this rock I'm on  
The earth may move but you will hold me firm  
The earth may move but you will hold me firm

[Bridge]

The waves crash down  
The walls hit the ground  
Still I will sing Your Name



WORSHIP LEADER,  
TYLER HARTLEY

# TRIBE

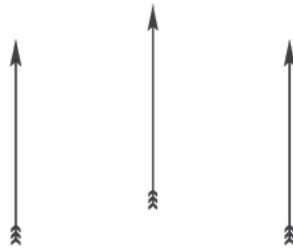
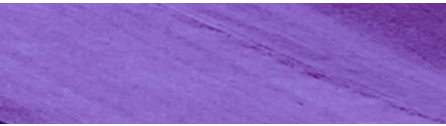
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS, STARTING FEB. 1  
6:30 - 8 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



VICTORIA AND JAZMYN AT TRIBE SKATE NIGHT

VICTORIA FLAHERTY

I remember being in junior high/high school and my need for interaction with others my age. The three places I found relationship in those years were school, sports, and church. I was lucky enough to have access to these places to connect with my peers. (Without them I might have gone crazy. I am an extrovert though.) The biggest one, for me, was youth group. It was a place to have fun, connect, and learn about this God I had always *known about* but never *known*.



T R I B E  
S T U D E N T M I N I S T R Y

The teen years are rough. It's a time of discovering who we are as we're growing more and more independent. Discovery means asking questions, but questions can be scary to ask. It's a vulnerable time indeed (at least in my experience!). There's also so much input, from every which way, trying to influence the direction of our discovery.

Over the past three years my heart has gone out to all the students that were suddenly cut off from the opportunities to be a part of learning and

growing alongside others like I had. This past fall I felt strongly again for our students and I'm so thankful that I am able to fill this need in our church.

The two scriptures I keep coming back to are:

Proverbs 22:6 "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in

speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

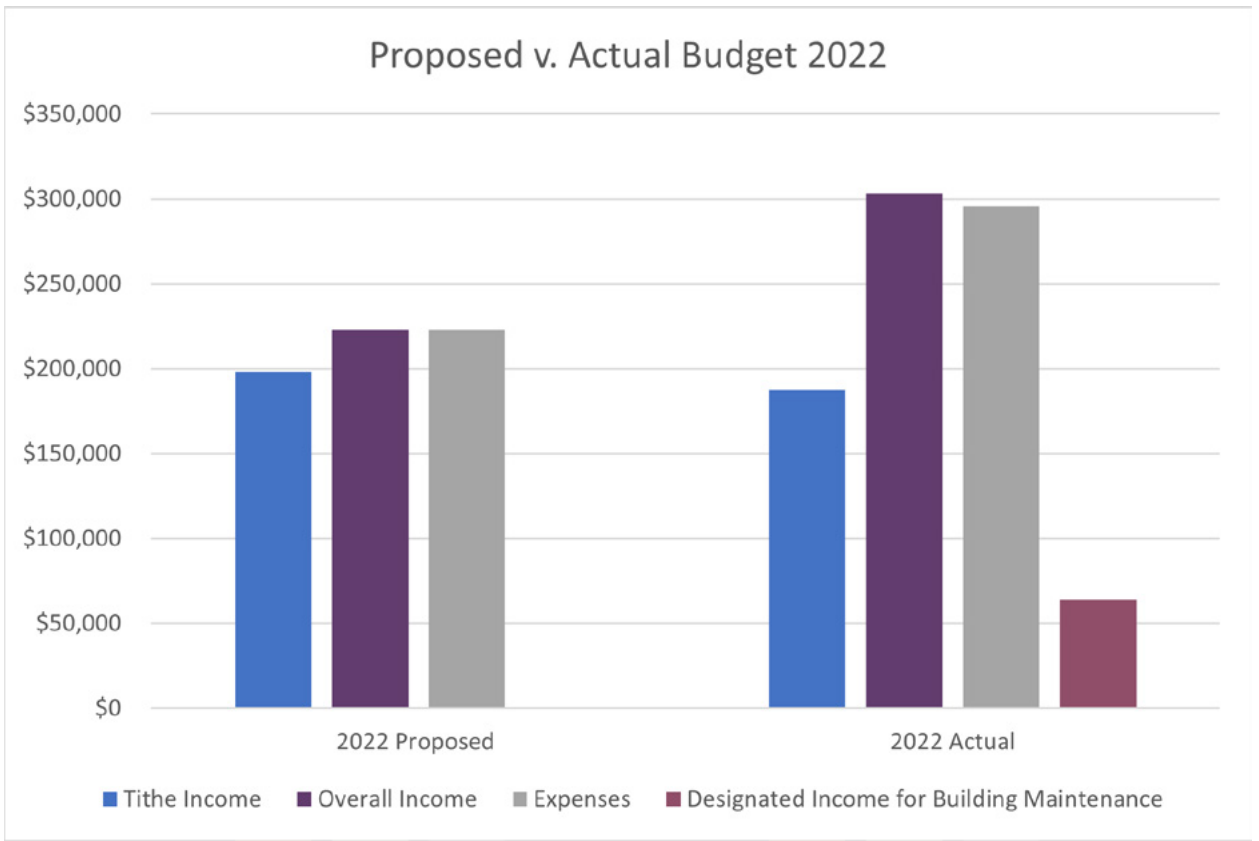
My desire for TRIBE is that it is a place where lasting friendships can be built, God is sought after, questions are comfortably asked, and grace is extended. Young people are amazing and have a unique design and I am excited to see what's in store for the youth here.

Please pray with me for our teens as we being this exciting adventure! ■

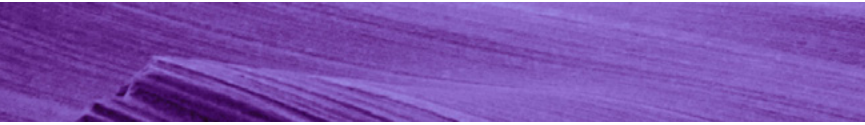


# STAY IN THE LO

SAM FLAHERTY



# OP



Here is a quick summary of the budget and spending proposed for 2022 vs. the actual income and expenses.

The actual overall income includes about \$63,000 of funds that were marked as designated income for building maintenance such as the new roof.

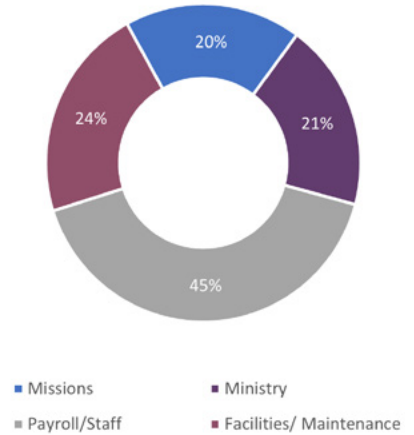
Every month, we set aside 3% of the tithe income to our Missions fund. When you generously give your tithe, you are also giving to local and global missions. This year, the Invitation play was considered part of our local missions. Each month we also set aside \$100 to our Benevolence fund,

\$200 to our Resident Pastor fund, and \$500 to our building fund.

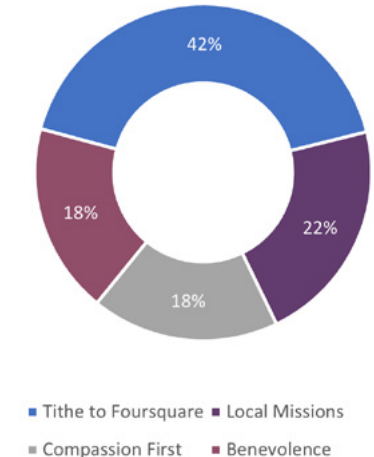
In the coming weeks, our council will set this year's proposed budget and full detailed report of 2022 as well as our proposed budget for 2023 will be done and made available in late February.

Your generosity continues to do Kingdom work locally and globally. These numbers represent a generous, healthy group of believers on mission, growing in relationship with God and others, impacting the world around us. ■

## Expenses



## Missions











# ANTONIO SMALLS WORD SEARCH

C M B G L I K F O U R T H O F J U L Y B S B A  
 S N G R D M G L U T E U S M A X I M U S A Y Y  
 Q H A A P W T W C C L I B E R T Y Z Z O M W K  
 U F L N N R E D W O P N I E T O R P Q R E O R  
 A S F D B G H T G N E R T S Y A K X S N R R E  
 T P N M I A S W V C S B I R F O K C A R I K J  
 S U A A B G S P U T I S S T E A K R O Z C O F  
 P H C S L Y S P E C I R T N I E T O R P A U E  
 M S I M E H R E D W H I T E A N D B L U E T E  
 U U R A S T A R S A N D S T R I P E S D M P B  
 S P E L E E A M O D E E R F A H E E C M E I K  
 C N M L R K N T F I R E W O R K S D A D Q T S  
 L P A S R M D B F I T N E S S P E C I B K I D  
 E T E L L U M S G N I R T S M A H P O W E R A  
 S U S B E P H E S Y S T E M J B R I S K E T U  
 R N L F Z V B J H T I A F R U O Y X E L F B Q

ABS  
 AMERICA  
 AMERICAN FLAG  
 BEEF JERKY  
 BIBLE  
 BICEPS  
 BRISKET  
 EPHESTEM  
 FIREWORKS  
 FITNESS  
 FLEX YOUR FAITH  
 FOURTH OF JULY

FREEDOM  
 GLUTEUS MAXIMUS  
 GRANDMA SMALLS  
 HAMSTRINGS  
 LIBERTY  
 MULLET  
 MUSCLES  
 POWER  
 PROTEIN  
 PROTEIN POWDER  
 PUSHUPS  
 QUADS

RACK OF RIBS  
 RED WHITE AND BLUE  
 SITUPS  
 SQUATS  
 STARS AND STRIPES  
 STEAK  
 STRENGTH  
 TRICEPS  
 TRITIP  
 WORKOUT  
 YAK





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