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the MESSENGER

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The final steps of construction are wrapping up, furniture is on its way, and we expect that by the end of the month we will be able to begin opening the doors of the Gathering Place for church ministry and to our community! We are, again, deeply grateful to the many people who have lent their expertise and time to get this project to near completion.

At the beginning of the year, Consistory put together a Gathering Place Oversight Team made up of Rita Hookstead, Shirley Schueler, Ken Ireland, Jason Kok & me to handle final transitions and to organize and promote its use. We are waiting on a few things to allow us to put dates on the calendar, but the plan is to have the Gathering Place open for church use by the end of March. High School Sunday School and youth groups will begin meeting there on Sundays, and other groups such as GriefShare or Bible studies will be welcome to experiment with using the space. If we have everything we need, I also hope to host our Maundy Thursday Communion service at the Gathering Place on April 2. Once Easter is past, we plan on holding a dedication service to thank all contributors to the project and ask for God's blessing going forward.

In the months of March and April, we hope to get feedback from groups using the space so we can iron out any kinks in time to invite the Randolph community in for a May Open House. We have already received at least five requests for use of the space from both church and community members. We're thankful that God has granted us the opportunity to serve our neighbors right off the bat! In preparation, the Gathering Place Oversight Team is working on a sign-up system and calendar along with regular cleaning arrangements. If you or someone you know is interested in utilizing the Gathering Place, feel free to contact Rita Hookstead (920-296-8375) for information on our building policy and rental agreement.

As we near completion of our latest building project, I'm put in mind of the several places in Scripture where building gets special focus. Whether the wilderness Tabernacle or Solomon's Temple or Revelation's New Jerusalem, Scripture seems to show a contractor's attentiveness to measurements and materials. However, in each case, the true success of a structure remains dependent on the heart of the people who fill it. As King Solomon prayed, "Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below - you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way" (1Kgs.8:23). For all our plans, I believe we see right now only a portion of God's intention in this gift. As we hope for success, may every space of our church, old and new, be filled with people seeking his glory above all!

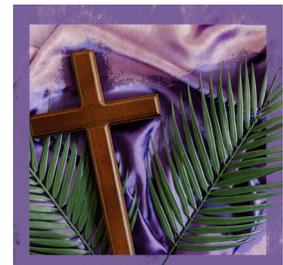
God's Kingdom come,  
Pastor Luke



Sunday, March 8

Inside this issue.....

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# Birthdays and Anniversaries



## Happy Birthday

- 1 Jacqui Hollander
- 3 John Haima  
Patti Hiley
- 4 Pat Van Buren
- 5 Bill Roach
- 6 Hugh Roberts
- 7 Phil Schaalma
- 8 Terry Braaksma  
Tammie Tietz  
Treena Homan  
Mark Johnson
- 9 Amber Alvin  
Arlene Runkel
- 11 Darlyn DeYoung
- 12 Darrell Lenz
- 14 Graham Jahnke
- 15 Talen Roberts
- 16 Maeve Roberts
- 17 Gracyan Homan
- 18 Phyllis Fuller
- 19 Barb Lenz
- 20 Leia Agnew
- 21 Barry VanBeek
- 22 Susan Vander Werff  
Donna DeYoung  
Doris DeYoung
- 23 Mackenzie Waterworth
- 25 Barb Westra
- 27 Marlene Alsum  
Darlene Missall
- 30 Dave Hughes  
Stacy Saeman
- 31 Wilma Vander Velde

## Happy Anniversary

- 28 Stan and Wendy Holwerda

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



### Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29  
9:00 a.m.  
SS Love Offering



### Maundy Thursday

Communion  
Thursday, April 2  
6:00 p.m.



### Good Friday

Friday, April 3 6:00pm  
Joint Service with Courtland  
United Methodist Church



### Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5  
9:00 a.m.  
He is RISEN!!



### Easter Cantata

Sunday, March 29 6:00pm  
First Reformed Church

Sunday, April 5 7:00pm  
Bethel CRC—Waupun



Easter Sunrise Service at  
Courtland UMC  
Sunday, April 5  
6:00am  
Easter Breakfast at  
Randolph UMC 7:00am

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or wrong, please contact Jana at 210-2784 or [1strandolphoffice@gmail.com](mailto:1strandolphoffice@gmail.com)

# Thank You

To our beloved Church Family: There aren't enough words to express our sincere gratitude to you all for the cards, love, prayers and support you have given to our family over the many years. When it comes to our Christopher and everything he has been through, it was felt even deeper. Thank you, Pastor Luke, for the heartfelt message you gave at Christopher's Celebration of Life service. The words you spoke reflected so much of who CJ really was, and how much he impacted everyone who met him. Thank you to all the helping hands who helped set up, prepared and serve the luncheon. Our friends and family were truly amazed at the amount of food brought in and how smoothly everything went. Thanks Randy and Pastor Luke for your technology expertise. We are truly blessed for being a part of this loving church family and can't imagine having walked this journey without you all being beside us.  
In Christian Love,  
-Don and Jackie

Once again thank you for remembering me during the Christmas season. Billy Graham books are always insightful and makes for a good perspective of the day. It is wonderful to be part of a caring church.  
-Karen Alderden

Dear First Reformed Church, Thank you so much for your beyond generous gift of \$2,162! I am so blown away by your generosity, your gifts and prayers have been so sustaining as I prepare for spring semester. So many exciting things to come! I will continue to pray that the Lord blesses you greatly in the New Year.  
-Emily Dykstra

Thank you to Harold and Darlyn, Daryl and Brenda for the wonderful dinner prepared for the Widow & Widower's. For the fun games and the fellowship they provided. It was a most enjoyable afternoon. Thanks to Jana for the Church Directory. Fun to see New Faces and their names. Thank you to the Elders Mary, Rita, Todd, John and Hugh that have shared Communion with me. For Pastor Luke's visits and calls. These events help me to feel connected to Randolph Church.  
-Wink Tillema

Thank you to everyone for your prayers, phone calls, visits and cards after my knee replacement surgery. I am blessed to be a part of such a caring and loving church family.  
-Hugh Roberts

Dear First Reformed Church, Thank you for your donation of \$445 and also for the generous donations of food to PAVE. Because of your donations, we can affirm that ours is a community that values the hopes, dreams, and lives of survivors of domestic violence, and for that we are truly grateful.  
-Emily Shier, Executive Dir.

Dear First Reformed Church, Thank you kindly for the \$385 check to the Pregnancy Resource Center in Portage. The financial support is appreciated to "keep the lights on" and to offer another day of availability to our clients. Again, much thanks so we can continue to serve women and family through pregnancy and beyond.  
Love, Peace and Joy,  
-PRC Board of Directors

We would like to give a big thank you to Harold, Darlyn, Daryl and Brenda for the wonderful time we had at the Valentine party that was given for us. For the delicious meal, the fun fellowship and love shown to us. We look very forward to this time together. We are very thankful for each of you. We have been blessed!  
-With Love from your,  
Sisters in Christ

To my church family, I would like to offer a sincere thank you for the love and support that I felt these last few months as I recovered from my surgery. My family and I are so grateful. Thank you so much for everyone who brought meals, sent cards and took the time to check in on me. And for all the prayers that were lifted up on my behalf. It is truly a blessing to be back in my home church. It has brought me so much comfort these last few months. God is good! With sincere thanks and gratitude,  
-Jill

Dear Friends, Thank you for your generous donation of \$415. Church Health Services, Inc. has had a positive impact on many individuals and families. Your donation enables us to continue to serve those in need. We continue to have a positive impact on our area communities where for many we are the only access to care! We couldn't do it without you.  
-With gratitude,  
Mary Vogl Rauscher

Dear Friends, Thank you for your generous gift of \$325 in support of Bethany Christian Services. Thank you for standing with us for children close to home and around the world.  
-Blessings, Bethany Family

## Serving the Congregation

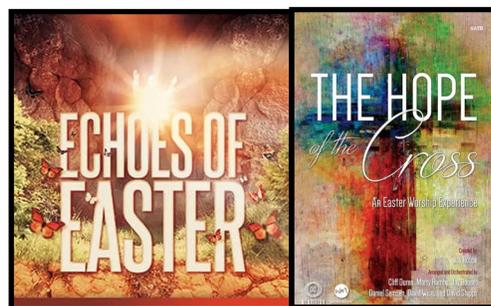
DATE	NURSERY	KIDS CHURCH
March 1	Jenna Retzlaff	Kim & Aria Park Saige Pfeffer
March 8	Jessica Spors	Lydia VanBuren, Tessa Reed & Emma Grieger
March 15	Tessa Reed	Niki VanBeek, Harold & Frederick Baneck
March 22	Kati Hiley	Holly & Saige Pfeffer Aria Park
March 29	Aubrynn Leystra	Spring Break

## Events



**Lenten Tuesday Soup Supper** - Looking ahead, the days will still be cool enough to make a steamy soup the perfect way to end a Tuesday this Lenten season! Each Tuesday evening, 5:30 with a short service at 6:15. RFC will be hosting a simple soup supper in the fellowship hall - a chance to share food, pray together and be nourished in our faith. All our welcome for this free meal. sponsored by the Kitchen Fund. Freewill offering for RCF Food for Families

Date	Menu	Helpers
March 3	Greek Lemon Chicken Beef Stew	Darlyn DeYoung Nadia Dybvik
March 10	Broccoli Cheese Chicken & Dumplings	JoAnn Rose Amy Vredevelde
March 17	Chicken & Rice Tomato & Grilled Cheese	Dick & Diane Hicks
March 24	Ham & Potato Minestrone	Rita Hookstead Keri VerHage



The Randolph Community Choir  
Presents:

### **Echoes of Easter: The Hope of the Cross**

March 29 @ 6:00pm  
First Reformed Church.

Please join us for a time of refreshments after the cantata in the fellowship hall.

If you are able we are looking for 1doz bars or cookies.

Thank you for your support!

## Consistory Meeting January 12, 2026 - 7:00pm

**Present:** Pastor Luke, John VerHage, Randy Paul, Deb Cupery, Hugh Roberts, Mike Grieger, Darren Alsum, Aaron Retzlaff, Kyle Roberts & Nick Leystra. Devotion and Prayer – **John Verhage**

**CONSISTORY ORIENTATION**-Jana reviewed orientation information for the new Consistory. This included schedules, by-laws, Safe Church Policy & duties of Church Teams. New Consistory members were given a copy of the Code of Conduct for Ministry Leaders to sign and return.

### CHURCH OFFICER REPORTS

#### Pastor's Report – Pastor Luke:

- New small groups (Evening Bible Study & Bible Read-Thru) are off to a good start
- A new Gathering Place Oversight Team is being assembled to plan the furnishing, dedication and use policies for The Gathering Place

#### Elders Report – Hugh Roberts

- Reviewed updates to Shepherd lists
- Met with Vicki Minnig for a membership request and met with Trevor & Mackenzie Waterworth for a membership request along with a baptism request for their daughter, Elaine. Elaine's baptism is scheduled for February 15.

### TEAM REPORTS

#### Finance Report – Kyle Roberts

-*General Fund:* \$147,082.96 -*Benevolent Fund:* \$29,453.63 (Gathering Place: \$175,999.81) -*Building Fund:* \$50,670.17 (Sign: \$5,620.59) -**MSC** to approve the Finance Report -**MSC** to designate \$1500 of Pastor Luke's 2026 salary as *Parsonage Allowance*

-**MSC** to set the 2026 W2 Parsonage Housing rate at \$14,400 (\$1200/mo)

#### Education Report – John VerHage

- Update from Shirley on youth group activities
- Youth Mission Trip planned for June 7-13 to South Dakota

#### Decorating Team – Mike Grieger

- 30 chair covers purchased for the Christmas Program, can be utilized for other things
- Decorating Team will consider adding furniture to the narthex, funded in part from Marge Cupery Memorial Fund contributions
- Shirley would like to "retire" from decorating the narthex bulletin board, would like to hand this task on to someone else

#### Mission Report – Aaron Retzlaff

- MSC** to approve the following missionary pledges for 2026 (in addition to our PIM shares)

*Julie Claassen (Fishers of Men)* \$1200 \$100/mo  
*Chris & Sarah Pollasch (France)* \$3000 \$250/mo  
*Emily Dykstra (CRU-Milwaukee)* \$3900 \$325/mo

- Consistory discussed ways to more aggressively spend down the Benevolence Fund. Consistory also discussed how to regularly inform the congregation of how Benevolence is being used to meet local needs while preserving the privacy of those helped.

#### Music/Tech Report – Randy Paul

- Practice has begun for the 2026 Easter Cantata, about 40 are currently participating

### OLD BUSINESS

- Many of the elders/deacons had good stories to share about making their Christmas visits with the church's widows/widowers

### NEW BUSINESS

- New Consistory Church Team reps were appointed

- MSC** to confirm the following Consistory Officers

*Consistory Vice President* Randy Paul

*Deacon Chair* Darren Alsum

*Deacon Vice Chair* Kyle Roberts

- The position of Consistory Clerk was not yet confirmed

- Pastor Luke suggested the use of A.I. note-taking as a way of taking the Minutes burden off of the Consistory Clerk. Consistory may experiment with A.I. note-taking at the next meeting.

**MSC** to adjourn. Closing prayer offered by Pastor Luke

December 2025	Financial Report
<b>General Fund:</b>	
Offerings	\$ 24,842.00
Disbursements	\$ 17,830.28
<b>Benevolent Fund:</b>	
General Offering	\$ 4,175.00
Special Offering	\$ 1,199.23
Gathering Place	\$ 7,000.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 22,200.58
Memorial	\$ 1,200.00
Disbursements	
PIM	\$ 3,937.50
Fishers of Men	\$ 100.00
Emily Dykstra	\$ 325.00
Pollasch Family	\$ 250.00
Special Offering	\$ 1,200.00
Local Needs	\$ 1,522.65
Thanksgiving	\$ 22,700.58
Gathering Place	\$ 62,340.30
<b>Building Fund:</b>	
Offerings	\$ 525.00

## Consistory Meeting February 9, 2026 - 7:00pm

**Present:** Pastor Luke, John VerHage, Randy Paul, Deb Cupery, Hugh Roberts, Ken Ireland, Mike Grieger, Darren Alsum, Aaron Retzlaff, Kyle Roberts & Nick Leystra Devotion and Opening Prayer – Hugh Roberts

### **CHURCH OFFICER REPORTS**

#### **Pastor's Report – Pastor Luke:**

- Preparing for Ash Wednesday and Lenten worship services after the Tuesday soup suppers. Since Gathering Place furnishings won't be in on time, Ash Wednesday will be held in the sanctuary.
- Will be contacting ARC representative Seth Sundstrom soon for an informational meeting.
- Passed along Pastor Keith Buist's announcement that he will be leaving SCRC for a new call in Appleton in May.

#### **Elders Report – Hugh Roberts**

- Met with Sam & Kim Wilcox for membership request, along with a baptism request for their daughter, KaeLynn. Membership was approved and the baptism date set for March 15. In light of prior meetings, the Elder Board also approved Stephanie Wilcox, Darrell & Barb Lenz and Rick & Debbie Schilling as members.
- Lois Wendlandt is scheduled to preach on April 12 when Pastor Luke is out of town

### **TEAM REPORTS**

#### **Finance Report – Kyle Roberts**

*-General Fund: \$136,731.37 -Benevolent Fund: \$29,203.63 (Gathering Place: \$152,532.27) -Building Fund: \$50,875.56 (Sign: \$5,620.59) -MSC to approve the Finance Report*

#### **Decorating Team – Mike Grieger**

- Still working on someone to take over upkeep on the narthex bulletin board

#### **Mission Report – Aaron Retzlaff**

- Deacons discussed setting a 2026 Benevolence goal for giving to local needs. This could include the congregation in helping to identify needs in the community. As the deacons flesh out the idea, it will also explore ways to consistently hand out gospel material and information about the church.

#### **Property – Nick Leystra**

- Sign Project acknowledgment set for Palm Sunday (3/29)
- An early estimate for septic pipe repair is \$13,500. Nick is get other quotes. An anonymous donor has come forward offering \$10,000 to help with these repairs.
- Suggests that improved sanctuary lighting could be a possible near-future project

#### **Music/Tech Report – Randy Paul**

- A few suggested tech improvement to consider in the near future: A tv screen for the back of the sanctuary for pastor/song leaders to follow slides Sound board replacement (possibly move the sound booth upstairs?) Potential donation for more cordless microphones
- Jason Kok is coordinating our various computer systems (pastor, secretary, sound desk) into a single platform through Google Workspace.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Consistory is grateful to Jana for her work on the new photo directory. Nearly 70% of church members submitted photos.
- Ken shared information about the Ruby's Pantry food distribution program, a ministry possibility for the Gathering Place.
- Consistory discussed the furnishings proposal brought by the Gathering Place Oversight Team in consultation with Jerilyn Alsum. To allow time to gather further information and have more Consistory members see the inside of the Gathering Place, the Consistory deferred a vote. The plan is to hold a vote very soon.

**MSC to adjourn.** Closing prayer offered by Pastor Luke

### **January 2026 Financial Report**

#### **General Fund:**

Offerings	\$18,969.00
Disbursements	\$30,234.01

#### **Benevolent Fund:**

General Offering	\$ 425.00
Special Offering	\$ 1,366.00
Gathering Place	\$ 2,500.00

Disbursements	
Emily Dykstra	\$ 325.00
Fishers of Men	\$ 100.00
Pollasch	\$ 250.00
A Family in Need	\$ 700.00
Gideon's Intl	\$ 1,366.00
Gathering Place	\$ 26,105.00

#### **Building Fund:**

Offerings	\$ 175.00
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# Youth Group News

February 22 Cornerstone did a little Foot Painting! They started by painting a sand and water scene on canvas. Once that was done they painted the bottom of their feet and pressed them lightly on their canvas. Painting the bottom of their feet was interesting to say the least.

They all turned out pretty nice. While painting we talked about how the colors they were using related to God. Their footprints were a reminder that God is always walking with them.



# Youth Group News

On Friday, February 13, we had 13 middle school and 4 high school students, myself and Tony Huizenga, attended Quake at the Wilderness in Wisconsin Dells, February 13-15. The theme this year was "ANCHORED", Hebrew 6:19, "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." The speaker was Packer Dave, he reminded us that no matter what storms and waves we go through in life, we can go through anything if we stay anchored in Jesus. It was a great weekend of worship, praising God, attending workshops, a wacky wardrobe night, group devotions, playing games with each other, frozen yogurt, fun times, and even a little time in the water park. Thanks to Tony for spending the weekend with us. Jim VanderVelde for driving students to the Dells and Matt VanBuren for coming to get them. Also for your prayers and support of our young people.



## Youth Group Events



### Eat Pizza!! Support our Youth Group!

Who: Cornerstone & RCYF Students  
When: Wednesday, March 25 4-8:00pm  
Where: Beaver Dam Pizza Ranch

The Youth Group students will be volunteering their time and the money raised will go towards the summer mission trip and for transportation.



## Kids Church Update



We have been having a fantastic time in Kids Church downstairs, while the grownups worship upstairs! In September, we began using RightNowMedia for our lessons. Each week, we watch a show from the RightNowMedia library, have activity time with the leader and helpers, and have a snack. (Favorite snacks have been Goldfish crackers lately!) During activity time, the kids can choose from a number of games or coloring pages while we play worship music in the background. Lots of kids like to color, but very popular are the magnet tiles, Jenga, and Connect4!! Our goal is to make Kids Church FUN, while introducing Bible stories and Christian values through the shows we watch. We have a great group of leaders and helpers! Our helpers also check in on, and are available to help the nursery if needed. Kids Church will continue through May 10th. Thank you for supporting us as we minister to the young children of our church!



## Meet Our New Members

We are excited to welcome **Kayla Smith** to our church family! Kayla professed her faith and officially joined us in January.

Originally from Bartlesville, Oklahoma, Kayla moved to the area in 2020. While most of her family lives in the South, her mother and brother reside in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. Growing up, Kayla faithfully attended church on Wednesday afternoons, and although her attendance became less consistent as she got older, her faith has remained an important part of her life.

Kayla is engaged to Jared Prager, (wedding in August 2026) and she shares a close relationship with his family as well. She is currently attending Moraine Park Technical College, where she is studying to become a Surgical Technologist. She is set to graduate in May 2027—what an exciting milestone ahead!

In her free time, Kayla enjoys arts and crafts, shopping, and relaxing with a good cup of coffee. We are grateful she has chosen to make our church her home and look forward to seeing how God continues to work in her life!



**Jared Prager** publicly professed his faith in Christ and became a member of our church family in January. Welcoming him into our church family is a true blessing.

Jared has grown up in Randolph and attended school in the Randolph School District. He is the son of Scott and Sara, and he has one brother, Westyn, and one sister, Makaela.

Jared is a farmer and draws much satisfaction and joy from his work. In his free time, he enjoys sports, video games, and farming. He is looking forward to marrying Kayla Smith in August 2026.

We are grateful for Jared's commitment to the Lord and are thankful to have him as part of our church family.

### Welcome to **David and Patti Stowell!**

We are delighted to welcome David and Patti Stowell into our church family by Profession of Faith!

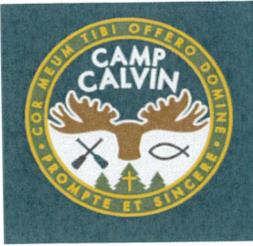
David is a Tool Design Engineer, and Patti is a Certified Medical Assistant. Together they enjoy taking walks, visiting craft shows, listening to music, and kayaking.

The Stowells previously worshiped at St. Jerome Catholic Church in Columbus, where they were active and dedicated members of the parish. Patti generously volunteered at many parish events, served as a lay minister and Reader, and organized a youth music ensemble that led worship at occasional Masses. David also served in several important roles, including teaching, lay preaching, and serving as an elder.

You may see family members worshipping alongside them on any given Sunday!

We are truly blessed by your presence, David and Patti, and we look forward to growing together in God's Word and in Christian fellowship.





## Camp Calvin



There are some major changes with Camp Calvin this year.

**Camp will be August 3-8, 2026.**

Camp Calvin is a Christian overnight summer camp for boys and girls entering 4th through 9th grades. First Reformed Church has been sending campers to Camp Calvin for over 40 years. This is a fun week filled with swimming, canoeing, games, crafts, making new friends, and experiencing God's great outdoors! Twice-daily worship sessions are all about connecting with Jesus through amazing singing, worship, and challenging guest speakers. Get ready for the best week of your summer with an excitement-packed, Jesus-filled week at Camp Calvin!

### New location

The Woods  
9025 Camp Awana Rd  
Fredonia, Wisconsin 53021



The camp sits on 125 beautiful acres with a lake and offers an impressive variety of activities. The Woods' staff handles all the behind-the-scenes work, allowing our Camp Calvin staff to focus on what matters most—our campers.

The facilities at The Woods, including campers' cabins and worship auditorium, are all air-conditioned, and well-maintained! Campers sleep on bunk beds and all cabins have easy access to showers and restroom facilities.

The Camp Calvin Board of Directors is still determining the registration start date and cost of camp.

**The church has generously agreed to paying half of the cost of the camp. More details will follow once registration opens.**

More information can be found at [www.campcalvin.com](http://www.campcalvin.com)



— a message from —

# EMILY DYKSTRA

MAKING MULTIETHNIC MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES IN THE MILWAUKEE METRO AREA

## STUDENTS EMBRACE JESUS AT WINTER CONFERENCE

“I was so anxious right before Winter Conference,” Alivyah, a freshman at UWM started, “but when I was at Winter Conference, there was something about the worship and what the speaker, Beth, said that helped me address all the fears I was facing. That freed me to embrace Jesus. I loved getting to hear about the world and God’s mission. I just kept hear him say ‘Alivyah, go, go, go...’” It was such a joy to hear what God had done in Alivyah’s life at Winter Conference once we got back to campus. “What’s next for you, do you think?” I responded. “I really want to go to PCB or Jersey Shore. I just love the idea of going to the world and sharing with others about Jesus,” she replied. I love knowing that Winter Conference gathers students like Alivyah and encounter Jesus and find their place in the mission of God. I can’t wait to go on Spring Break with her to Panama City Beach with her to experience the joy of sharing Jesus with others!

Right: Alivyah (center) and other UWM students heading to Winter Conference



Right: The Milwaukee Metro group at Winter Conference!

### Ways to Pray:

- Praise God for students like Alivyah encountering Jesus at Winter Conference!
- Praise God for the the most attended ‘January Leadership Overnight’ with perspective leaders in recent history! Over 70 Metro students were in attendance!
- Pray for our upcoming outreach at UWM “Is Christianity Good for the World?” A presentation and open discussion with speaker Abdu Murray on February 11th.



Left: I had the pleasure of being the speaker liaison this year. You can spot me praying for speaker Beth Guckenberger who sits on Cru’s Board of Directors

Because of your prayers and support, students are encountering Jesus and finding their role in the mission of God! Thank you so much! I would love to know how I can be praying for you this month!

For the Kingdom,

*Emily*

# Fishers of Men Year-End Review



The Year of  
2025

Julie Claassen, Director

January 29, 2026

Dear Fishers of Men partners,

As I sit here at my desk in my office with a birds-eye view, not only of Refuge Ranch, but of the imposing live volcano, Popocatepetl, I am overwhelmed with gratitude to God for His presence, love, grace, faithfulness, mercy and so much more, as well as gratitude for each of you and your generosity and faithfulness in prayer and financial support of Fishers of Men throughout 2025. I am also overwhelmed by the task of summarizing what the Lord did this past year through you! Please know that what I can share in black print on a white page does not begin to plumb the depths nor reach the width of what God has done in 2025!

The Evangelistic Medical Mission Caravans flourished under the first full year of leadership of Kevin and Yueminis Gonzales. A **volunteer base of nearly 100 individuals** worked together to **provide nearly 5000 free medical services** over **9 caravans** in multiple states throughout Mexico, requiring **over 3000 miles in travel**. While each caravan feels unique based on the volunteers who participate, the local church that hosts the team and the community that welcomes our teams, all of the caravans hold steadfast to the purpose and vision that the Lord has given us to share the Good News of Jesus Christ by meeting the physical needs of the suffering through medical care, dental services, eye exams and glasses, prescriptions, physical therapy, children's ministry activities and



clothing, all free of charge... thanks to YOU! Through those efforts, **903 individuals prayed to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior**, changing their eternal destiny and transforming their lives here on earth.

Summarizing a year in the life of any family can be challenging, but such a task presents unique challenges for our family. Here is a snapshot of who we are: \* one mom \* 26 children over 22 years of ministry \* 11 children and one granddaughter currently living at Refuge Ranch \* 6 grandchildren so far with another granddaughter on the way \* 4 sons-in-law \* one dog \* one cat \* multiple chickens and goldfish. Of course, each one of these numbers represents lives full of dreams and disappointments, challenges and successes, trauma and forgiveness, abandonment and acceptance, rejection and restoration played out upon the canvas of daily life: homeschool, chores, birthdays, soccer games, brushing teeth and so much more! The common thread? Experiencing the healing power of God's perfect love expressed through an imperfect FAMILY. My children's stories are theirs to tell, but they are stories that would not be able to be told without YOUR participation! It is a privilege beyond measure to watch their stories unfold: one step, one tear, one struggle, one victory, one decision, one day at a time!



In Christ,  
Julie Claassen  
Founder/Director Fishers of Men

## Contact Information

**Mailing address:** Fishers of Men, P.O. Box 940, Shelbyville, IN 46176

**Phone:** 419-704-6793

**Email:** fishersofmenmexico@gmail.com **Web site:** fishersofmenmexico.org **Facebook:** Fishers of Men - Mexico

# March Bible Reading Plan



## Using Your Gifts

### Topical Bible Study Plan

- Day 1: Romans 12:6-8
- Day 2: 1 Cor 12:4-6
- Day 3: 1 Peter 4:10-11
- Day 4: Ephesians 4:11-13
- Day 5: Exodus 35:10
- Day 6: 1 Cor 12:7
- Day 7: Matthew 25:14-30
- Day 8: Romans 12:1
- Day 9: Ephesians 2:10
- Day 10: 2 Timothy 1:6-7
- Day 11: 1 Cor 12:12-14
- Day 12: Exodus 31:3-5
- Day 13: Proverbs 22:29
- Day 14: Psalm 139:14
- Day 15: Colossians 3:23-24
- Day 16: 1 Timothy 4:14
- Day 17: Ephesians 4:7
- Day 18: James 1:17
- Day 19: Luke 12:48
- Day 20: Philippians 2:13
- Day 21: Psalm 33:3
- Day 22: 1 Cor 14:12
- Day 23: 2 Timothy 2:15
- Day 24: 1 Chronicles 28:9
- Day 25: Proverbs 3:5-6
- Day 26: John 15:8
- Day 27: Hebrews 6:10
- Day 28: Matthew 5:16
- Day 29: 2 Cor 9:8
- Day 30: Galatians 6:4
- Day 31: Philippians 4:13

Kingdom Bloggers

# March Bible Reading Plan

## Study and Reflection Questions

### Study Questions

1. What does the Bible say about the purpose of our gifts?
2. How did Jesus use His gifts during His ministry on earth?
3. What are some examples of spiritual gifts mentioned in the Bible?
4. How did the Apostle Paul encourage Timothy to use his gifts?
5. What role does the Holy Spirit play in equipping us with spiritual gifts?
6. How can we discern what our spiritual gifts are?
7. What is the difference between natural talents and spiritual gifts?
8. How did early Christians use their gifts to serve the church and the community?
9. Why is it important to use our gifts for the glory of God rather than personal gain?
10. What are the consequences of neglecting or misusing our spiritual gifts?

### Reflection Questions

1. What gifts do you believe God has given you?
2. How are you currently using your gifts to serve others?
3. In what ways can you further develop and use your gifts for God's glory?
4. Have you ever felt hesitant or afraid to use your gifts? Why?
5. How can you overcome obstacles that prevent you from using your gifts?
6. Think of a time when you used your gifts and saw a positive impact. How did that make you feel?
7. How can you encourage others to discover and use their gifts?
8. What steps can you take to ensure you are using your gifts in alignment with God's will?
9. How do you balance using your gifts for God's work with other responsibilities in your life?
10. Reflect on the parable of the talents. How does this story inspire you to use your gifts more effectively?



# march

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	6:30pm Women's Bible Study Lesson 33	5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper -Lemon Orzo -Beef Stew				8:30am Grief-Share
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9am Worship Daylight Savings Time Spring Ahead	6:30pm Elder's Meeting 7pm Consistory	5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper -Chicken Dumpling -Broccoli Cheddar	3:30pm Catechism			8:30am Grief-Share
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9am Worship	6:30pm Women's Bible Study Lesson 34	5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper -Chicken & Rice -Tomato	3:30pm Catechism			8:30am Grief-Share
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9am Worship  <b>Flower Orders Due</b>		5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper -Ham & Potato -Minestrone	3:30pm Catechism  Youth Group Fundraiser at Pizza Ranch 4-8pm	Maundy Thursday Service 6:00pm	Good Friday Service 6pm @ Courtland UMC	8:30am Grief-Share
29	30	31				
Palm Sunday 9am Worship SS Love Offering						