

OVERVIEW

OVERISEL REFORMED CHURCH



Missionary Spotlight:

“Uncle” Tim Marsh | I.C.B.M. |

My name is “Uncle” Tim Marsh. My wife, Laurel and I started in full-time children’s ministry back in 1980. I took over at RBM for Uncle Bob Sieglar in Allegan County. Sandyview Elementary was the first place he took me to meet the children. Some 46 years later our VBS’s and Released Time ministries are slowly winding down. I still reach 140 children each month in Bloomingdale and do two Vacation Bible Schools in the summer. We do many other kids programs as well. I am a part time assistant pastor at “The Master’s Feet Discipleship Ministries” in Otsego, preaching on occasion and doing the children’s ministry there. I enjoy collecting Matchbox cars and fishing when I can. Laurel and I are now in the surgery season of our lives. Knees and shoulders replaced and a few spinal fusions. Once these are all done we will be ready for another 100,000 mile warranty. Thank you for your prayers and support over all these years. You’ve been a big part in reaching the children with the gospel of Christ.



2026 Consistory

Pastors

*Rev. Mike Pitsenberger
 Pastor Ken Kleinheksel
 Pastor Kevin Kruizenga

Elders

*Steve Schrottenboer
 Glenn Kleinheksel
 Nate Genzink
 *Bob Reimink
 Bruce Peters
 Jeff Snay

Deacons

Lee Lubbers
 David Kraker
 *Dean Jipping
 Craig Theodore
 Scott VanHaitsma
 Jonathan Hop

*Executive committee

A Note From Pastor Ken

“Trust and Acknowledge”

Proverbs 3:5-6. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

What happens when men and women don't follow the advice of these verses? We get the chaos we have in the world today. We get homosexuality, multiple genders, fraud, greed, fighting within a nation and around the world, murders, theft, in short – all kinds of sin.

That's what happens when God's truth is replaced by man's truth. Everybody wants what fulfills their desires and not God's. When a sinners truth becomes the basis of their thoughts and actions all you get is more sin. When we start with a faulty basis, the final result will be faulty also.

That's why it is so important to test everything against God's Word, the Bible. If a thought, word, or deed is contrary to what God teaches in the Bible, then it is not something we should proceed with.

We need to go back to the beginning and understand that God created us and has our best interest at heart. We were created to glorify God and praise him. That is God's desire for us. So if that is why we are here on this earth, why is it so hard to follow his rules? Because of the sin that so easily besets us. When mankind fell in the Garden of Eden and ruined God's perfect plan the devil thought he had won the battle with God. Not so. Easter proved that God was, and is, still in control.

The way to a blessed life is given to us plain and simple in the verses above. It's all right there if we would only do what they say. We still sin and fail, but nevertheless, God still forgives and restores and gives us a new start every time when we repent.

Trust him and acknowledge him. That's your challenge and mine for the month of April and beyond. We won't always succeed, but that's why Easter reminds us to keep trying. Not relying on our strength, but on God's Word. Have a wonderful, joy filled month. Keep trusting God and watch what he does with your life. God bless you all and I'll see you on the journey!

Pastor Ken

april birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Elnora Burton Dale Flokstra	2 Phyllis Zeilenga	3 Amanda Flokstra Hannah Tenpas Landon Timmer	4 Margie Harper
5 Jodi Boeve	6 John Rathjen	7 Matthew Bueschel Donna Klaasen	8 Chad Blauwkamp John DeNeef Carol Lemmen	9 Hannah Bronson Earle Immink Bob VandenBosch	10 Ada Rathjen	11
12	13 Adrianna Dekker	14 Joni DeNeef Gavin VanderKamp Shirley VanOrder	15	16 Adalynn Caswell	17	18
19 Nadia Peerbolte	20	21 Matthew Dozeman	22 Tim Boeve Ron Nienhuis Annie Prinsen	23 Caroline Dyke	24 Faye Eding Glenda Peters	25 Dennis Harper Shanley Kruiuzenga
26 Ryan DeWeerd Kevin Kruiuzenga Sandy Stob	27 Laurie Lubbers	28 Beza Laasen	29 Sierra Prince	30 Audrey Bronson Tim Halstead Ashlyn McDonald Kevin Schierbeek Jennifer Tenpas		

Milestone Birthdays



4/14 - Shirley VanOrder (80 years)




4/30 - Jennifer Tenpas (50 years)


april anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Gary & Lori Scholten	3 Dean & Jill Jipping	4
5	6 Todd & Carrie Klaasen	7 Cal & Jill Kroeze	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Robb & Krista Kleinheksel	17 Carl & Shirley VanOrder	18 Tim & Sherri Halstead Bob & Shirley VandenBosch
19	20 Jerry & Joan Herweyer Bryan & Connie Immink Dennis & Holly Kroeze Tim & Stacy Smith	21 Rich & Barb Hoving	22	23	24	25 Keith & Laurie Lubbers
26 Al & Gloria Naber	27	28	29	30 Tim & Carla Borr		

Milestone Anniversaries

 4/18 - Tim & Sherri Halstead (40 years)

 4/20 - Tim & Stacy Smith (30 years)

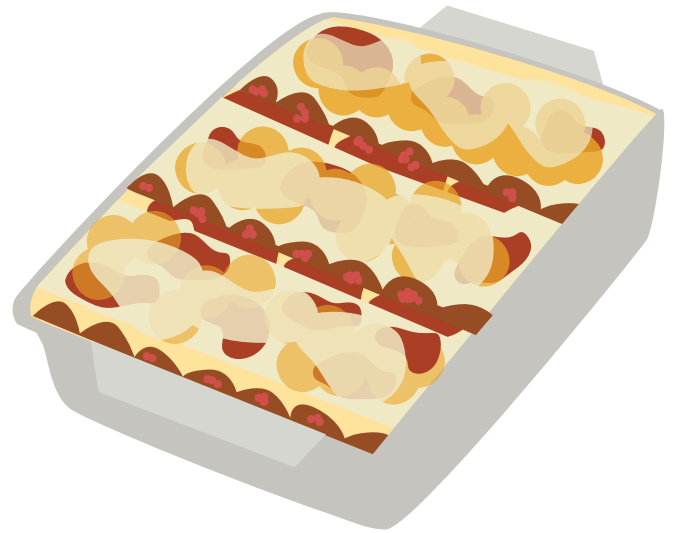
 4/25 - Keith & Laurie Lubbers (40 years)

Mary's Monthly Meal

Baked Fettuccine Lasagna

INGREDIENTS:

- 12 oz. Fettuccine pasta
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 T. butter
- 1 cup onion, chopped
- 1 cup red bell pepper, chopped
- 29 oz. diced tomatoes
- 4 oz. sliced mushrooms, canned
- 3 T. chopped black olives
- 2 t. oregano
- 1 cup cheddar cheese
- 1 cup mozzarella cheese
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- ¼ cup beef broth
- ¼ cup parmesan cheese



INSTRUCTIONS:

- Cook pasta 8-10 minutes
- Brown ground beef, drain, set aside in a bowl
- Melt butter, cook onion and bell pepper until tender. Then stir in tomatoes, mushrooms, olives, and beef. Season with oregano
- Simmer for 10 minutes
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9x13 dish
- Arrange ½ of pasta, top with ½ of beef and ½ of cheddar, ½ of mozzarella. Repeat layers
- Mix soup and beef broth. Pour over casserole and sprinkle parmesan cheese
- Bake for 30-35 minutes

CONSISTORY NOTES

- On the second Sunday of January we had “On To Glory”, honoring those who passed in 2025, and it was perceived well. We will be continuing this practice in January every year.
- Discussions have been taking place about our Youth Ministry and the need for a new Youth Leader/Director this year. This process will be continuing to move forward.
- We would like to thank John and Jennifer TenPas for their service as Custodians at The Hall. Tim Halstead has taken over custodial responsibilities at The Hall.
- We would like to thank Dennis and Margie Harper for their many years of Custodial service here at ORC, as they recently resigned from their Custodial position.
- Coming up this year will be five years that we have been aligned with The ARC. We are looking forward to committing to another five years. Along with this, there are over 190 congregations affiliated with The ARC at this time.
- As you know, the Doxology is being sung when the offering is being brought forth to the pulpit. This practice will be continuing going forward.

Membership:

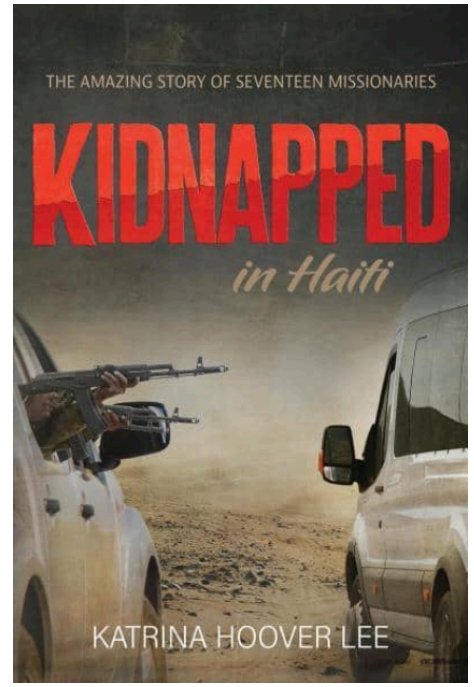
1. Brenen and Becca Louwerson came to the Elders for a request for Baptism for their infant daughter, Adeline Sue. The baptism will take place in May.
 2. Gabe and Kaylie Klaasen made Affirmation of Faith and will be welcomed publicly at ORC at an upcoming service.
- Harvest Network Annual Gathering will be taking place at ORC on April 23-24. The congregation is invited to attend part or all of the Gathering if they wish.
 - There was an update from The Mission Committee that Gracie Immink will no longer be serving ORC as missionary with Word Of Life. The Groenevelt family is no longer serving as missionaries with Alaska Bible Institute.
 - ORC hosted Hamilton High School Woman’s Chorale this winter and it was well received. We look forward to them coming back next year.
 - A railing will be installed on the ramp to the stage sometime this spring.
 - VBS will be held July 6-9. Sign ups will be coming soon.
 - Security is working to install more security cameras on the church property.

Updates on the ORC properties:

1. Looking into getting a Pelican System for The Hall.
2. Looking into running power to the Flagpole by the playground or moving it to a different location.
3. Looking to do some refreshing around the Parsonage: Such as possibly moving the fence and doing some work to the rock wall.
4. Looking into moving and replacing ground cover on the Playground.
5. The Well will also be getting a Refresh this April.

Kidnapped In Haiti

Katrina Hoover Lee
Non-fiction



Book Review:

seventeen missionaries in October 2021 were captured by a gang and held for two months. The kidnapping quickly became a to news item in the states and abroad. Everyone hoped that no lives would be lost. Should they try to escape? Yes, and God blessed them with no loss of life.

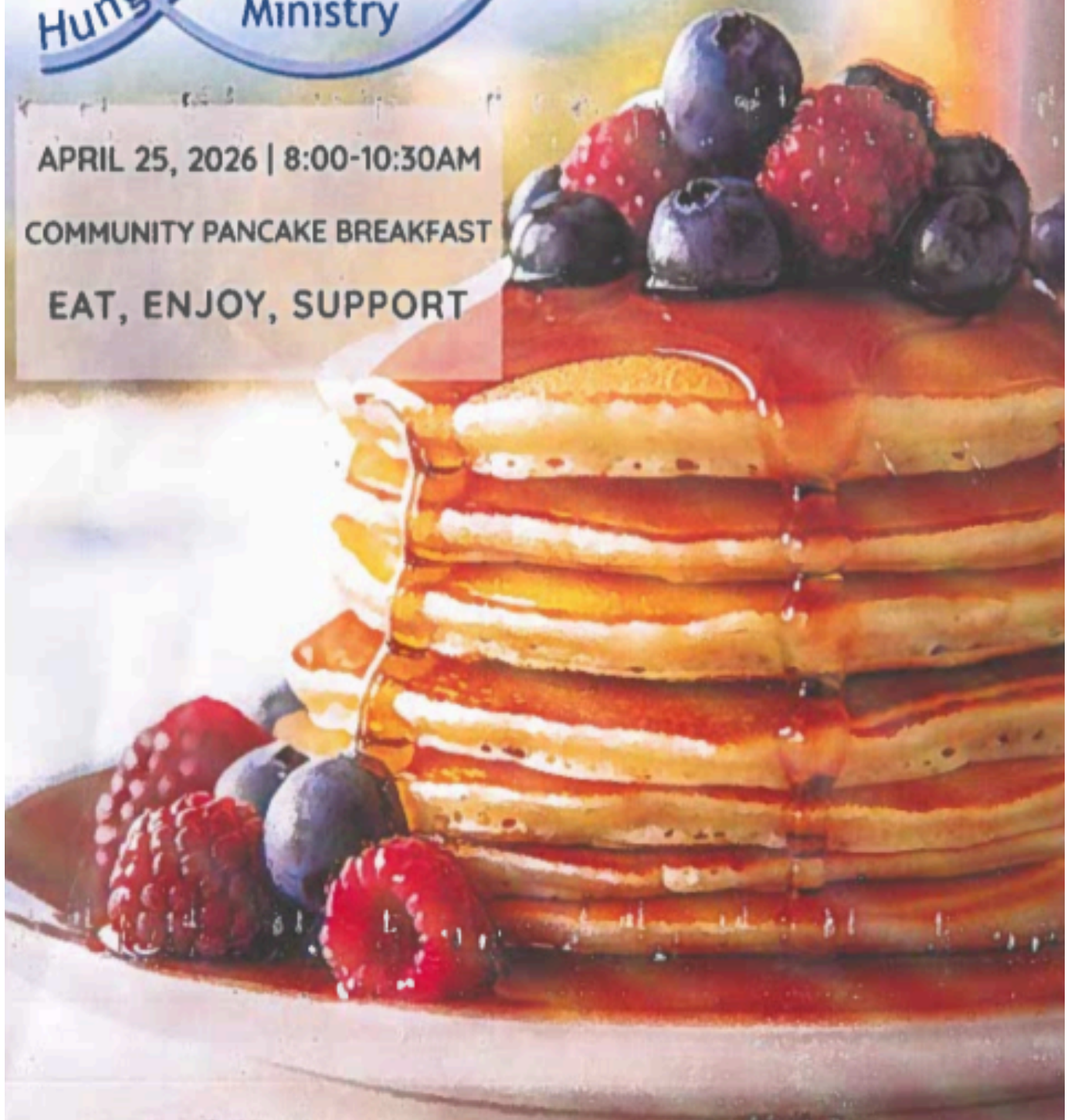
SAVE THE DATE! YOU'RE INVITED!



APRIL 25, 2026 | 8:00-10:30AM

COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

EAT, ENJOY, SUPPORT



THIS IS A FREE EVENT
DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED



HUNGRY FOR CHRIST
4565 135TH AVE
HAMILTON, MI 49419

Missions Updates



Spreading the Good News of
the Gospel around the world.



We are pleased to share a progress update regarding UPENDO Skill Training Center. We are grateful for your continued support, which is making a meaningful difference in the lives of our children. We are happy to report that the center is doing very well, especially in the ICT and Tailoring departments.

ICT Program:

The ICT classes are progressing successfully. The students are gaining practical computer skills, including basic computer operations, typing, use of common software applications, and internet research. Their confidence in using technology has greatly improved, and many are now able to complete assignments independently. Attendance and enthusiasm remain high, so far 9 young people have graduated from this program.

Tailoring Program:

The tailoring section is also performing well. The trainees are learning garment cutting, stitching, pattern making, and machine handling. They have already begun producing quality items such as school uniforms, simple dresses, and reusable bags. Their skills are improving steadily, and we are proud of the creativity and commitment they are showing.

Plumbing Program:

In the plumbing section, we were able to train 13 young people until December of this last year, all are now doing well. But due to financial limitations, we have put this course on hold until the June/July session. We remain in prayer that this great skill will be returned to our classes to help young people who desperately need this training, for their future self-reliance.

Overall, the Skill Training Center continues to empower the young people and needy women by equipping them with practical skills that continue to help them become self-reliant in the future. Your support has played a vital role in achieving this progress.

As we continue to grow and pray for sustainable ways to increase our impact, we are praying for an income generating project of crop farming. This project will not only strengthen our financial sustainability but also provide an opportunity to train more young people and women in good farming techniques, modern agricultural practices, and self-reliance skills.

To successfully launch this venture, we estimate that we will need approximately \$2,800. These funds will cover essential startup costs such as seeds, tools, land preparation, and basic training materials.

Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment to the children and other young people. We look forward to sharing more updates.

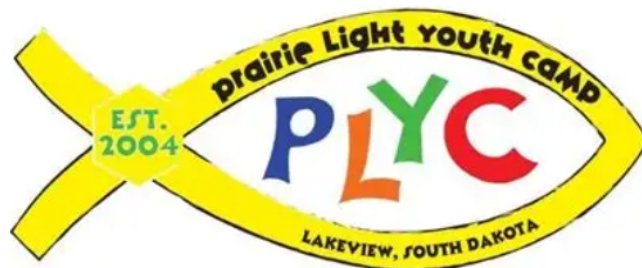
**Love and Blessings,
David**

Ongoing ICT Program:



Ongoing Tailoring Program:





Hello one and all! Blessings to all of you, our precious donors, who sustain us through our year of activities with your finances and prayers. We receive messages from you throughout the year and we can not even begin to tell you how uplifting they are and always perfectly timed. Thank you!

Being blessed with a mild winter, the Sioux Falls Christian School was able to make almost all of their meeting dates in Rosebud. This group has been ministering to an average attendance of 40-50 kids ranging from elementary through high school aged kids. The little Rosebud Lutheran Church is a bustling hive for a few hours while the kids eat a walking taco meal, learn a Bible lesson, enjoy a related craft, and have fun playing games. So many of the meeting dates had such nice weather that they were even able to play outside. What a blessing! Unfortunately, in December they had a severe winter storm go through Sioux Falls that made it unsafe for them to make the trip, even though weather was nice in Rosebud. We have local kids that check in with us on Facebook messenger to make sure of the meeting dates, they don't want to miss it!

Lakeview Religion Release Update:

The junior high group has been going through an overview of the Bible – how its organized and a birds-eye view of what's in each section. Our elementary and young children have been learning Bible stories through the Old Testament. (Though we've only just finished Genesis at this time). Marlys Walking has been helping Pastor Josh every week with set-up and helping the children follow the lesson. We continue to meet every Wednesday afternoon, alternating between junior high (6 students) and elementary (11 students in 3rd-5th & 5 students in K-2nd).

JDC Update:

Pastor Josh and Julie Letellier go every Tuesday either together or individually. The overall numbers at JDC have been less this year and there have been some weeks when there haven't been any kids attending. Generally they have two sessions. For example, recently they had one boy come for the first session and two girls come for the second session. They have been teaching the kids and overview of what the Bible teaches about God and salvation through Jesus.

Camp Update:

We were so excited to maintain an average attendance this year, around 85 kids per day. There was a total of 124 youth ministered to this year, 3 of which were Rosebud high school kids that returned to help! Our programming was from Children's Ministry Deals and was titled, "What a Mess!". Monday started with a memory verse of "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" Romans 3:23. The story of Adam & Eve dealing with their sin, helped hit home of how the world is a messy place because of sin. Tuesday was "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" Romans 5:8. The story of the rich young ruler helped show how Jesus loves messy people and all of us are messy.

In the evening we had a fun night to get the teams to mesh together and get to know each other better, At the lodge we shared a potluck style supper and played a game of singing different advertisement jingles. The kid's ads were short little diddys while the adult ones were more song structured, we were definitely showing the generational age gap. We had a jingle off at the end, where the kids won because they created their own "song". Wednesday we had the memory verse of 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." The sinner's prayers of the praying tax collector vs. the Pharisee from Luke 18:9-14 taught us how God wants us to be honest about our mess. Wednesday evening we had special guests that had joined us for the day, Marcus, Ciji, and Brenden Brandenburg from Collision. Collision is the group that helped us make the connections with Sioux Falls Christian School to get the monthly meetings going again. PLYC fed the teams supper, then Marcus shared how Collision comes alongside youth outreach ministries and is a networking organization for them. Ciji shared her testimony and then Brenden shared the 3 circles. Basically the 3 circles are the stages of sin, life in Christ, and Jesus. It's a tool used to share the gospel with others, which is brief, quick, and effective. Thursday the memory verse was "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1a. The prodigal son showed how God's grace covers our mess. Friday's Bible story was from Matthew 7:1-5 about judging others. Our memory verse, "Bear with each other and forgive one another as the Lord forgave you" from Colossians 3:13 taught us that other people are messy too. Forgive like Jesus!

While God has blessed us with many wonderful donors we thought we would let you know the amounts of some of our yearly expenses for camp. If God so leads you to donate to one of the specific expenses, please let us know on a note with your donation. It is nice to let the kids know who is supplying the blessing to them. Our largest expense is the insurance, gas, and upkeep of our vans. This takes a little over \$5,000.00 each year. Supplies for camp each year run around \$2,000.00 and food is around \$1,600.00. The t-shirts we buy and get our logo printed on, then give to the kids at the end of camp as well as our youth workers run about \$1,000.00. As much as money is important to be able to run camp, your prayers are always the most important thing we can receive. As of right now Collision is working on finding us a person or group to fulfill our music class. This is always a tough class to fill and our science guy would do it, but then that leaves another tough spot to fill. So please pray the right person or group is found for this spot. As far as the rest of camp, it looks like we have all our leaders for the rest of the classes, which is a blessing this early in the planning! What a praise to rejoice over!

Thank you all for your continued support in all that God is doing out here on the Rosebud Reservation!

In His Light,
Kitty Wander Wey
Prairie Light Youth Camp Director



THE HITCHING POST



Spring Is Here!

As crazy as that is, it's true! Springtime is now upon us, but let's take a quick look back at the winter months to see how God was moving at CranHill. The cold and ice couldn't stop God from moving this winter! February brought an end to our Elevate Teen Retreats where we served 1,029 middle and high school students. Winterfest landed on the coldest and warmest days of the winter, but we still had over 1100 guests visit CranHill. Now that Spring is here, we look forward to our upcoming retreats and hope to see you here!



Urgent Need: Camper Scholarship Fund



Camp plays an important and unique role in the lives of kids of all ages and experiences. Right now, there's a child praying for the chance to come to camp at CranHill.

They've heard about CranHill, and how camp means lasting friendships, fun memories, and meaningful growth in their faith. They're dreaming of a week that could impact their entire life. But without financial support, that dream might not be possible this summer.

That's where CranHill's Camper Scholarship Fund is designed to step in.

When you give to the Camper Scholarship Fund, you're helping provide kids with the opportunity to experience camp, build relationships, and grow in their faith.

Summer is just around the corner, and our Camper Scholarship Fund is at a critical point.

By this point in the year, we typically have \$80,000 available to aid families who couldn't otherwise afford a week of camp. Today, we have only \$27,000. This means that right now, only half of kids needing scholarships will be able to come to camp.

Annually, CranHill gives away over \$50,000 in scholarships because every child deserves the chance to encounter Jesus, regardless of their family's financial situation. Our scholarship fund exists solely through the generosity of donors who join us in the push to get every kid to camp.



Will you help us meet our goal of \$80,000 in Camper Scholarships for 2026?



What Makes CranHill Different?

At CranHill, kids don't just have fun (though they definitely do that, with incredible activities and amazing staff!). They experience something deeper; something eternal. At CranHill, we intentionally create space for children to learn about Jesus, ask their hardest questions, seek truth, and make the decision that transforms everything: accepting Christ as their Savior. At CranHill, we will always share the life-changing message of Jesus to every camper.

Year after year, we praise God for the stories of kids who came to camp carrying heavy burdens and left with the life-altering hope that only Jesus can give.

Your Gift Helps Campers Meet Jesus and Grow in Faith

- \$1,050 sends two children to camp
- \$525 covers one full week of camp
- \$213 covers half a week of camp

Any amount helps make camp possible!

Will You Help a Child Get to Camp?

Right now, some families are facing the possibility of telling their child that they can't attend camp this summer.

You can help change that!

Please consider giving to CranHill Camper Scholarship Fund today. Together, we can open doors for kids to be here this summer have the opportunity to experience Jesus!

To give, click the donate button or contact Joel Russcher, Advancement Director, at joel@cranhillranch.com.





Every gift, no matter the size, helps us reach our \$80,000 goal and welcome more campers this summer.

Donate Today!

<https://www.ultracamp.com/donations/DonationSelection.aspx?idCamp=575&campcode=chr&lang=en-US>

Upcoming Events:

Grab your Boots and Mark your Calendars!



Join us this spring for our brand-new After-School Equine Education Program!

This program is designed for students to immerse themselves in an equine environment, with a focus on introducing basic horse care and riding skills. Students will split time between advancing riding skills at all levels and learning the basics of individual horse care. All students will learn the basics of grooming, tacking, feeding, and training at their personal level.

This program is open for students ages 7-17, and students will be divided into classes based on age and riding experience. Students will work with our large herd of horses, learning and practicing safe handling and riding skills.

No prior horse or riding experience is required!

To Register: <https://www.cranhillranch.com/after-school-equine-education>

Spring 2026 Dates:

March 16
March 23
March 30
April 6
April 13
April 20

Student Drop-off 3:30-3:45 PM
Student Pick-up 6:30-6:45 PM

Register now to guarantee your spot! Spaces are limited. For more information, and links to register, follow the link or call our office at (231) 796-7669.

Refresh Women's Retreat April 17-19, 2026

Join us for a weekend of rest, renewal, and connection. Step away from the demands of daily life and spend time being encouraged in your faith through meaningful chapels, great meals, and inviting accommodations. With flexible options to attend, you can come for a night or for the weekend, whatever fits your schedule best.

For more information, and a link to register, click below!

<https://www.cranhillranch.com/womens-retreat>



Mother-Son & Daddy-Daughter Days! Register Today!

Mother Son Day: May 9

Come celebrate the bond between moms and sons through fun, fellowship, and faith-filled community. Enjoy target sports, going on pony rides, and climbing our rock wall - then end the day with our "Denim & Pearls" banquet dinner along with the Mother-Son Dance.

Daddy Daughter Day: May 16

Make meaningful memories in a Christ-centered setting while celebrating the unique relationships between dads and daughters. Take a ride on a pony, work on target sports, and make some crafts - then wrap up the fun with our "Denim & Pearls" banquet dinner with the Daddy-Daughter Dance.



<https://www.cranhillranch.com/mother-son-day>

<https://www.cranhillranch.com/daddy-daughterday>

Sporting Clays Fundraiser

Thursday, May 14, 2026



Two Hats Ranch - Big Rapids

Join us on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at Two Hats Ranch for CranHill Ranch's Sporting Clays Fundraiser. Proceeds from the event directly support our Summer Youth Camp programs, helping us continue to provide life-changing, Christ-centered experiences for children and families.

Teams of four will compete across 14 shooting stations, including a special "flurry" shoot.

- Individual: \$225
- Team (4 Shooters): \$900

Enter for a chance to win one of several rifles.

Tickets: \$25 each - 5 for \$100 - 12 for \$200

Registration closes May 10, 2026!

<https://www.ultracamp.com/info/sessiondetail.aspx?idCamp=575&campCode=chr&idSession=577386>

Become a Sponsor:

Help support CranHill's youth programs while gaining meaningful visibility for your business. Sponsorships include brand exposure across event signage, our website, and social media, plus the opportunity to engage employees or clients through team participation. Email Joel at joel@cranhillranch.com to get started!

Major Sponsorships:

- Title - \$10,000 (3 Teams)
- Gold - \$5,000 (2 Teams)
- Silver - \$3,500 (1 Team)
- Bronze - \$2,500 (2 Shooters)

Supporting Sponsorships:

- Ammunition - \$4,000 (1 Team + logo at all stations)
- Lunch - \$3,000 (1 Team + event meal branding)
- Registration - \$2,000 (2 Shooters + registration branding)
- Snack - \$750 (1 Shooter)

Station Sponsorships:

- Single Station - \$250 (Logo at one station)
- All Stations - \$3,500 (1 Team + logo at every station)

Rifle Sponsor:

- Purchase the rifle of your choice for the Rifle Raffle



New Faces at CranHill!

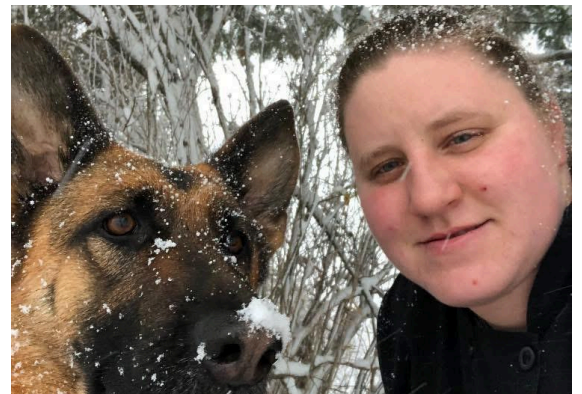


Cody McNulty - Program Manager

Cody and his wife Chloe, along with their two kids, Landon and Willow, recently joined the CranHill Family. Cody grew up in camp ministry, where the Lord used those early experiences to deeply shape his faith and calling. With seven summers of hands-on camp ministry experience, Cody has developed a heart of discipleship, leadership, and creating Christ-centered environments where lives can be transformed. He is overjoyed to be back in camp ministry, serving in a place where he truly feels God has uniquely gifted and equipped him to make an impact for His Kingdom."

Holly Eckert - Food Service Assistant Manager

Holly grew up in a large family where she learned to cook and enjoyed it so much that she made it her career. She went on to get her associates in baking and pastry and has been commercially cooking for over 10 years now. Some of her favorite things are pretty much all animals, except snakes and she loves exploring new places and is a big fan of the outdoors!



Kaleb Peterson - Barn Store Manager

Kaleb and his wife Carlie are both Michigan natives and met while working at a camp in Northern Michigan. Once they got married they moved to California to pursue camp ministry and then welcomed their first son Blake. Then after they found out they were expecting their second son, Austin, they moved back to Michigan to be near family. Kaleb has stepped into the Store Manager role with customer service, management, and banking experience, and cannot wait to see where God leads their family!

Jovie - Horse

Jovie joined the CranHill Family on January 31st and hasn't slowed down since! She loves to run, play, and explore wherever she can. She is very eager to make friends and gets along with everyone. She is also a professional napper and will give you tips if you need them! Make sure to stop by and say "hi!"



Join Summer Staff 2026!



Looking for a summer that matters? Step into the role of a Male Cabin Leader at CranHill and help lead and equip the next generation of believers to impact God's Kingdom. You must be 18 or older and have a passion for Christ and kids. You'll live on-site, build strong relationships with your campers, and walk alongside them as a mentor and a spiritual leader. From daily devotionss to worship sessions, you will have a direct impact in helping shape camper's lives and be a part of what God is doing through camp all summer long.

Other Positions Include:

Food Service, Accommodations/Housekeeping, Worship Leader, Health Officer, Photographer, Videographer, Maintenance, Adventure Staff, Beach Staff, Barn Store and more!

Ready to make an impact? Apply today!

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/CranHillRanch/cranhillsummerstaffapplication>

CranHill Family Minute

With Abiah Brown – Horsemanship and Volunteer Director

Dear CranHill Family,

As I drove around the ranch caring for the herd lately, I was in awe of God's beauty, power, and creativity. With all the ice and snow that we got, it seemed like the earth appeared to be encased in glass. Every branch, leaf, and wire fence was covered in a thick coating of ice. A stunning visual, yet so fragile. Very quickly you realize that this beauty has overwhelmed the area. Large branches, limbs, and trees have succumbed to the weight of the ice that covered them. It was a humbling reminder to me that while we experience beautiful things on this side of Heaven, brokenness is still all around us here on earth.

Yet there is hope! In the book of Romans 8:18-21, the Apostle Paul writes, "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God."

We see creation groaning. We feel its weight like the ice on the branches. Some can bear it, while other break under the pressure. We can admire the beauty, but also know that it's not supposed to be this way! So what of this hope? We will be liberated from the bondage and decay, and brought into freedom! And here is the glorious part... It is not by our own doing, but by Christ (Romans 5:1-8). It has already been done for those who confess Him as their Lord and Savior.

So, this is where my hope comes from. That one day we will experience beauty and glory to its fullest effect, with no brokenness, death, mourning, tears, or pain (Revelation 21:4-5). Today the broken branches and trees are a reminder that the weight of the world breaks things, but the weight of the eternity restores them forever.



Allegan County

A MESSAGE

from our executive director

In 2025, Love INC celebrated 25 years of serving our community and living out Christ's love in tangible, life-changing ways. For a quarter of a century, volunteers have given their time, talents, and hearts to walk alongside neighbors in need. Donors have faithfully invested resources to ensure that help, hope, and dignity are offered to those facing difficult seasons. Lives have been transformed, families strengthened, and our community has been changed for the better.

Over these 25 years, we've seen countless stories of hope unfold—stories of people discovering they're not alone, they're valued, and, with support and encouragement, new beginnings are possible. As you read this report, you'll see that our 25th year continued to be a testament to our mission.

And as we step into year 26, we do so with deep gratitude and humility. Thank you to all





who've believed in the mission of Love INC, those who've stood with us through the years, and those who've been the hands and feet of Christ in our community. Your partnership has left an enduring legacy, and we are excited to see how God will continue to work through us, together, in the years ahead.

Rev. Barry Lucas D. Min.
Executive Director


Financial Update

2025 Total Expenses: \$593,877
2025 Total Revenue: \$570,582


\$251,315/\$570,582 revenue from monetary donations


\$19,267/\$570,582 revenue from our Heart to Heart Resale Store

10 Homes for 10 Families


\$391,237 of our initial \$300,000 goal raised since 2022, \$127,968 in 2025.
While \$286,657 has been spent on the program thus far, we've adjusted our goal to \$450,000 to account for inflation.

Volunteer Update

240 volunteers served 10,987 hours, answered 450 requests for help through our **Connection Center**, met 3,266 needs in our community, and served 456 adults and 406 children.

108 volunteers and 13 mentors served 1,975 hours over 308 mentor sessions to 69 families in our **LIFE Skills Program** where we held 92 class sessions and celebrated 4 graduates.

16 volunteers from 7 local churches served a collective 80+ hours to give 40 mentor sessions to 5 families who were provided with housing through our **Homes of Hope Program**.

51 volunteers served 1,289 hours in our **10 Homes for 10 Families Program**, where we housed 3 families in 2025 and have 2 more homes in the renovation stage that will house 2 more families in 2026.

A LIFE Skills Participant

Kari's Story

I came to Love INC in one of the hardest seasons of my life. In a matter of months, I had lost my fiancé to a sudden battle with cancer, had to leave our home and rehome our pets, and then faced the heartbreak of losing the job I'd held for 13 years. Everything familiar seemed to slip away at once, and I found myself overwhelmed, exhausted, and unsure of how to start again.

When I reached out to Love INC, I thought I was simply asking for help with basics (food, personal items, and diapers for my son). What I found instead was a community that wrapped around me with friendship, encouragement, and faith. I was amazed by the depth of support they offered and even more surprised by how quickly Love INC became a place of refuge. Through their compassion, I've experienced healing, built meaningful relationships, and grown in my walk with God.

As I write this, my son and I have been in our new home for almost six months, and we may soon be blessed with a larger, more suitable place to live. I've also been working at a new job (one that pays more than the job I lost) and we attend church regularly. Not long ago, I was even invited to speak at a ladies' event. That moment felt monumental, because when I first called Love INC, I could barely get through a sentence without breaking down in tears. Now, I'm standing strong, filled with gratitude for how far we've come.





Dear friends at Overisel Reformed,

Thank you for your generous donation and support of our mission. We greatly appreciate it!

Thanks for being a blessing, an answer to prayer, and for making a difference in the lives of foster children!

Becky
Office Assistant

