

OVERVIEW

OVERISEL REFORMED CHURCH



Missionary Spotlight: Kitty VanderWey

When I was preparing for marriage I told my to be husband that I felt God calling me into mission work, but I really didn't know how that was going to work with a ranching lifestyle because it's a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week job. Little did I know what He had planned! This is a picture of my husband Rick on the left, Jimmy Fortune (tenor singer of the Statler Brothers) in the middle and myself on the right. My husband and I met playing guitars and singing and it is our main hobby to do together. We fill in at church when our two pianists are unable to play and we also sing for funerals and community events. Our life of running a ranch takes up the majority of our time, but each September we sneak away for a weekend of music at the WJ Ranch near Crofton, Ne. (This is where the photo was taken.) We run about a 600 cow/calf operation on close to 10,000 acres of land that is spread out 30 some miles in two different directions, so our time is mostly spent caring for them in one way or another. I'm also the director of Prairie Light Youth Camp here on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in Lakeview, South Dakota. Camp is held at Lakeview Christian Reformed Church for one week in the middle of July with the help of various teams that come in to help us. It's a glorified VBS program, in which we add a science class to our elementary programming and a STEM class for the middle schoolers. This is also something different than a standard VBS program in that our program goes from 5 year olds going into Kindergarten through kids going into 8th grade. We offer our graduates the opportunity to come back as counselors for the middle school program where they can continue to learn about Christ and His love for them while helping with classes. You can see more about Prairie Light Youth Camp on our page on Facebook.



PS: I keep praying that we can make a trip out there and I can meet you all face to face!!

2026 Consistory

Pastors

*Rev. Mike Pitsenberger
Pastor Ken Kleinheksel
Pastor Kevin Kruizenga

Elders

*Steve Schrotenboer
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

Pray

1 Thessalonians 5:17 – Pray without ceasing

This is one of the shortest verses in the Bible, but also one of the most powerful. Praying without ceasing means we are in constant communication with the Heavenly Father. We pray when things go good, or when things do not go good. When there are questions that seem hard to answer. When we have difficulty with another person. When there is too much precipitation or too little. There is never a shortage of things to pray about.

Right now in our church we need to be praying about the process of selecting elders and deacons to serve on the consistory. And the teachers and helpers in the education program. We need to pray for the pastors and staff members. We need to pray for safety for all who attend worship services and classes. And we need to pray that we stay true to the Word of God in all we do and say.

We also need to pray for our nation as there are elections coming soon in our government. For the national and state and local leaders to lead well in their elected positions.

We need to pray for the farmers in the harvest season. Pray for safety and for a bountiful harvest.

Pray for your grandparents and parents and children. And for other relatives. Maybe pray for relationships, for Godly mates for your children or grandchildren.

Maybe you are contemplating a job change for various reasons. What affect will that have on family members or on yourself?

As you can see, there are countless things to be in prayer about. But the wonderful thing about all of them (and more) is that our Father is concerned about all of them. And He is ready and waiting to help, all we need to do is ask. So go to Him first with your concerns rather than after you've tied everything else. I know that's a hard thing to do sometimes, but it's what He tells us to do.

So as you go through the month of October, pray without ceasing. And I'll see you on the journey!

Pastor Ken

october birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Al Avink	2 Izzy Essenburg Al Naber Karen Naber Sharon Nyhof	3
4 Sally Kreuze Kim Mentzer Jael Tirado	5	6	7 Brady Genzink Foster Kooyers	8 Nathan Nagelkirk Valora VanVuren	9 Lynn Bos Roger Slotman	10 Megan VanHaitsma
11 Kerri DeWeerd Sonia Gemmen Kelsey Helmus Chris McDonald	12 Luke Siriano	13	14 Bonnie Garvelink	15	16 Elaine Flokstra Kaitlyn Lubbers Carol Nagelkirk Mary Okkema	17 Madison Heavener Erin Rathjen
18	19 Larry Sternberg	20	21 Gina Pitsenberger	22 Cindi Kooyers	23 Mollie Borr Paige Genzink Jose Tirado Betty VanderVeen	24 Maeve Kooyers
25 Tracy Lubbers Jane Naber	26 Jill Jipping Liam Pothoff	27 Keri Boeve Hannah Valkema	28 Linda Johnston Alaina Kroeze	29 Jessica Nagelkirk	30 Eloise Rathjen	31 Lyn Becksford Mike Verkaik

Milestone Birthdays



10/16 - Carol Nagelkirk (70 years)



10/21 - Gina Pitsenberger (60 years)

october anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Justin & Aryn Machiela	3
4 Brenen & Becca Louwerse	5 Jeff & Barb Laarman	6	7 Tim & Tracy Lubbers John & Beth Zoet	8 Kevin & Carrie DeNeef Lon & Carole Koops	9	10 John & Joni DeNeef
11	12 Lester & Faye Eding	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 John & Emily Bronson	21	22 Brent & Kerri DeWeerd	23 Ken & Nancee Kleinheksel	24
25 Dave & Kathy Jurries Jeff & Nancy Snay	26	27	28	29	30	31

Milestone Anniversaries



10/05 - Jeff & Barb Laarman (30 years)

Mary's Monthly Recipe

HAMBURGER SOUP

INGREDIENTS:

2 lbs. hamburger
2 onions, chopped
6 potatoes, diced
2 celery ribs, cut-up
4 carrots, diced
1 c. cabbage, chopped (optional)
6 c. water
2 beef bouillon cubes
1 can tomato soup
1 can pork & beans
2 c. canned peas
2 c. canned corn
salt & pepper to taste



COOKING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Brown hamburger, drain, put in a large kettle
2. Add all the raw vegetables and the 6 cups of water
3. Cook until done
4. Add beef bouillon, tomato soup, pork & beans, peas, and corn
5. Add salt & pepper to taste
6. Enjoy!!



**Update on the Alliance of Reformed Churches
5 Year Congregational Covenant Renewal**

The ORC Consistory recently met with a representative of the Harvest Network Covenant Keepers Team.

Discussion centered around Unifying Beliefs, Theological Beliefs, Relational Beliefs, and Structural Beliefs.

The Missional Alignment: Overisel Reformed Church affirms and renews our commitment and covenant with the Alliance of Reformed Churches to encourage and equip our congregation to:

- *Make disciples who follow Jesus
- *Equip people for the Kingdom work (personally, locally, regionally, and globally)
- *Bring new ministries to life that share the gospel in their context

On September 14, 2026 M/S/C by the ORC Consistory to Affirm and Renew our commitment and covenant with the Alliance of Reformed Churches.

The next step in the process is the approval by Harvest Network Board, then the approval of the Global Network Board of the Alliance of Reformed Churches.

The consistory will keep the congregation informed as the process moves forward.

The Overisel Reformed Church Consistory

Overisel Reformed Church

Christian Service Flag

October 2026

Submitted by Glenn Kleinheksel/Mission Team

The Christian Service Flag hangs on the sanctuary's west wall. A plaque beneath the flag lists the names, dates, and areas of service of those whose stars appear on it.

Presently, there are 71 stars on the flag. The stars represent people from our congregation who have given their lives to Christian Services, mostly as ministers or missionaries. The gold stars represent those who are no longer living. There are 42 of them. The white stars represent those who are living. There are 29 of them.

The Christian Service Flag is not a "trophy case"; rather it's purpose is to praise God for His work in raising up individuals from our church who are called to full time ministry or missionary work. Also, to be an encouragement for others to consider God calling them to dedicated Christian Service.

Below is a listing of the 42 persons represented by the gold stars. (Those who are deceased)

Ministers

Rev. Gerrit John Nykerk
Rev. Peter Lepeltak
Rev. Mannes Kiekenvelt
Rev. Gerrit Dangremond
Rev. John Hoffman
Rev. John Hoekje
Rev. Gerrit H. Dubbink
Rev. George E. Cook
Rev. Benjamin Hoffman
Rev. Gerrit Kooiker
Rev. Jacob Brummel
Rev. Henry Tellman
Rev. John Wolterink
Rev. Milton J. Hoffman
Rev. Lambertus Hekhuis
Rev. Richard VanDenBerg
Rev. Dr. Henry D. TerKeurst
Rev. Arthur Maatman
Rev. James E. Hoffman
Rev. Justin H. Hoffman
Rev. Bert Brower
Rev. Stanley D. Schipper

Rev. Harold Arink
Rev. Harvey Hoffman
Rev. Harold Hoffman
Rev. Benjamin J. Hoffman
Rev. Morris G. Folkert
Rev. Joseph H. DeVries
Rev. Robert Folkert
Rev. Wendell Pyle
Rev. Roger Kleinheksel
Rev. Carl Folkert

Missionaries or Pastor's wives which at one time was considered a calling

Alice Voorhorst Oltmans
Emma Kollen Pieters
Nettie Kleinheksel Boot
Jennie Voorhorst
Jennie Immink Hekhuis
Jennie Dubbink
Sena Kooiker DeMez
Sena Albers Hoffman
Margaret Kollen Dubbink
Ruth VanDenBerg Holleman

Below is a listing of the 29 persons represented by the white stars. (Those who are living)

Ministers

Rev. Robert Hoffman

- Son of Jo Hoffman

Rev. Terry Nyhuis

- Son of Clinton Nyhuis

Rev. Kevin Kleinheksel

- Son of Earl & Arlene Kleinheksel

Rev. Earl Slotman

- Brother of Roger Slotman & Judy Boeve

Rev. Kirk VanderMolen

- Former Youth Pastor at ORC

Rev. Steven Hemmeke

- Son of Linda Hemmeke

Rev. Jeremy Kreuze

- Son of Ken & Sally Kreuze

Rev. Amy Klanderman

- Daughter of Bob & Shirley VandenBosch

Pastor Ken Kleinheksel

- Son of Lester & Ruth Kleinheksel
- Brother of Glenn Kleinheksel

Pastor Kevin Kruizenga

Missionaries

Jean Becksvoot Busscher TerMeer

- Sister-in-law of Linda Hemmeke & Eileen Timmer

Ruth Kleinheksel Stanley

- Sister of Earl Kleinheksel

Rose Folkert Moore

- Daughter of Wayne & Jereen Folkert

Roger Sneller

Barbara Sikkema Sneller

- Son & former daughter-in-law of Lois Genzink

Jane Naber

- Daughter of the church

Marti Peters Sparling

- Daughter of Gary & Barb Peters

Rebecca Laarman

- Daughter of Ken & Mary Laarman

Michael Dubbink

- Son of Bob & Belva Dubbink

Chad VandenBosch

- Son of Bob & Shirley VandenBosch

Gary Peters

- Son of the church and former membebr

Barb Peters

- Former member of ORC

Tabitha Heth Zurita

- Daughter of Brenda VanAanhold

Bradley Harrington

- Son of Jeff & Ginny Harrington

Lindsey Burton

- Granddaughter of Shelley & Elnora Burton
- Daughter of Todd & Kathy Burton

Al Gemmen

Lisa Gemmen

Matthew Schrotenboer

- Son of Steve & Amy Schrotenboer

Gracie Immink

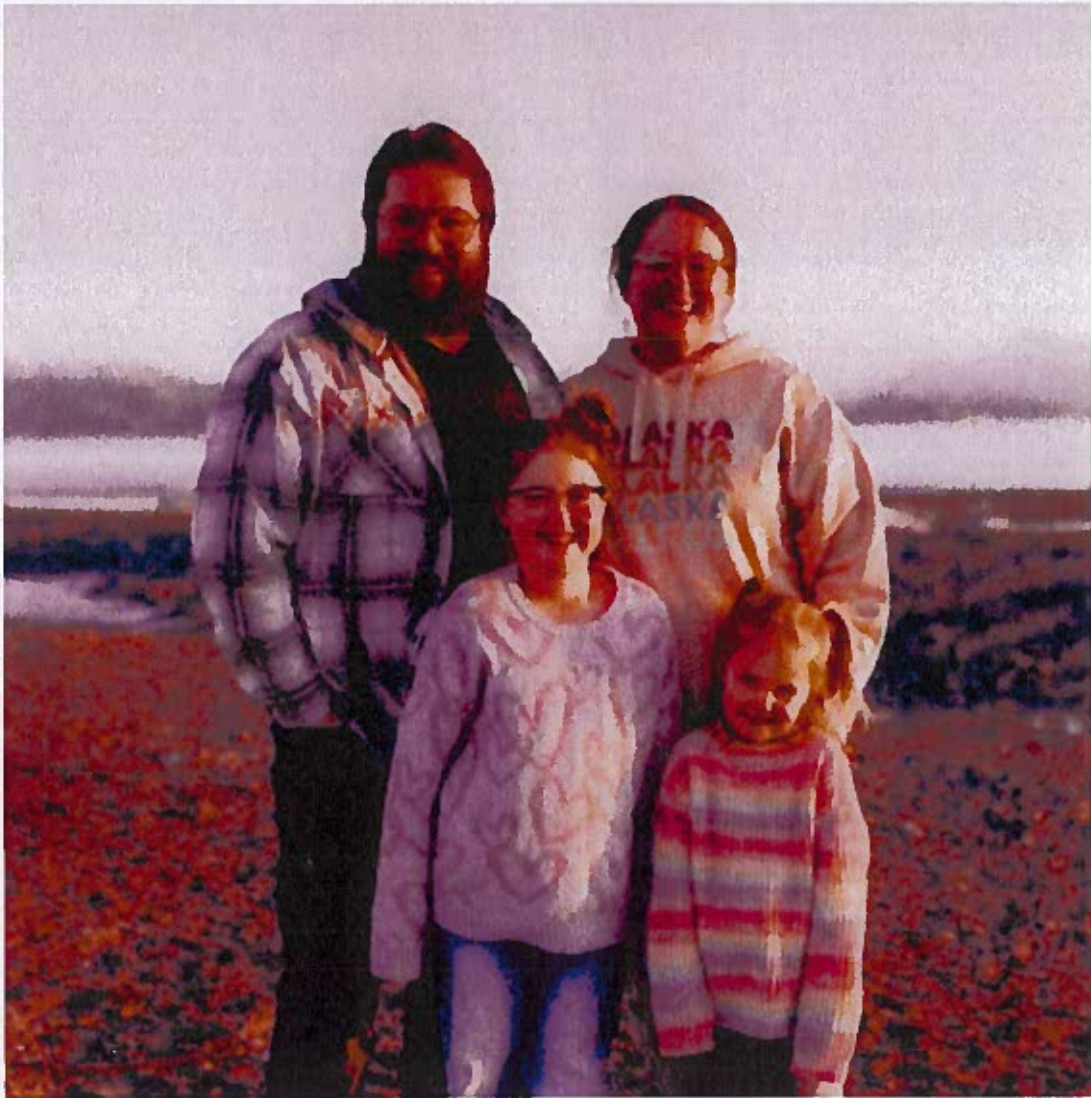
- Daughter of Bryan & Connie Immink

Missions Updates



Spreading the Good News of
the Gospel around the world.

MEET OUR NEWEST ORC MISSIONARIES!!



McQueen Family Mission - Homer, Alaska

Bringing Christ to the Kitchen

We are the McQueens, and we serve with Alaska Village Missions at Alaska Bible Institute as Kitchen Supervisors and Missionary Care. We are passionate about bringing students together around the table for food, fellowship, and discipleship. We are also answering God's call to missionary care, ensuring those in year-round seclusion are remembered and supported. For the past two years, we have served in the kitchen at ABI and participated in short-term mission trips to a village in Alaska, with plans to serve in multiple villages.

OUR MINISTRY PHILOSOPHY

Serving with Alaska Village Missions (AVM) at Alaska Bible Institute (ABI)

Why We Serve

We believe that the Great Commission is a command, not a suggestion, and that Jesus' command to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matt 28:19) includes the far-off and often-forgotten corners of our very own country. There are about 239 recognized native villages in Alaska, and they are some of the hardest places to reach with the gospel. Many Alaskan villages have never been connected to the road system and can only be reached by plane or boat. Most of them suffer generational trauma, addiction, suicide, tough terrain, and harsh weather. We know God has not forgotten these places, and neither should His church

Core Convictions

1. **Ministry Happens Around the Table.** Some of the best discipleship happens around a table, not in the classroom. Something about sharing a meal with people opens hearts to be vulnerable and receptive. If you feed them, they will come. For the past 3 years, our ministry in the kitchen at ABI has been done in the kitchen and around the dinner table. Feeding the students has never been the goal of what we do, but rather building long-lasting relationships with those we are blessed to serve through real conversations, real mentorship, and investing real time into the men and women God is preparing to send out into the harvest field.
2. **Ministry is Sustained Behind-the-Scenes.** Missionaries on the front line need behind-the-scenes support. We believe that hands-on help and support is a vital role to keep missionaries in the field from feeling forgotten. Whether we are cooking meals, coordinating supplies, checking in regularly, or stocking a guest house, it is no less of a calling than preaching or teaching. Taking care of practical needs for missionaries serving in the field is what helps prevent their burnout and early return home from their mission. Depression, lack of resources, and long stints in the field are all threats to their calling, and we believe that caring for and supporting them in any way they need will keep the gospel moving forward.
3. **Our ministry hits close to home.** Lexi and I both experienced brokenness in our homes, and we believe God uses our past to inspire our ministry. We don't serve because we have it all together, but because we know what it's like to experience God's mercy and grace. This is what shapes how we do ministry. We want to love and support the students and missionaries by helping them feel God's mercy and grace through hospitality.

What This Looks Like Daily

- Serving full-time in the kitchen at Alaska Bible Institute, discipling students daily through meaningful relationship and hospitality.
- Helping build a missionary support/logistics program for Alaska Village Missions; coordinating logistics and supplies, stocking and cleaning AVM Guest House, and checking in regularly with missionary families serving in the native village.

- Planning and coordinating short-term mission trips to the villages to assist AVM missionary families and ABI interns with their needs.
- Praying with and for the people we serve to be sustained and strengthened by God and continue forwarding the gospel message.

Our Invitation to You

We can't do any of this alone, and we were never meant to. The body of Christ coming together to fulfill the Great Commission is the only way this will ever happen. When a church, organization, or individual partners with us, they are caring for current and future missionaries by ensuring they are not forgotten.

If this philosophy connects with you or your church's heart for missions, we would love to invite you to participate in this ministry as the Lord leads.

3-5 Year Ministry Plan

Where We're Heading

This plan lays out where we believe God is leading us in the next 3-5 years in ministry and financial partnership to sustain our family and ministry. Over this season, we hope to fully transition out of the kitchen ministry into full-time missionary support/logistics, further missionary care training, and a private pilot's license to better reach the village families, and ultimately secure a duplex home that lets us offer missionaries a place of rest as they come out of the villages. This plan is not rigid; it is a direction. We plan to revisit and adjust as God leads and as needs on the ground change.

The Plan

Timeframe	Ministry Focus (AVM/ABI)	Financial and Support Goals
Year 1	Lay a foundation for the AVM missionary support/logistics program and formalize it as an official ministry track; a supply coordination system, a regular check-in rhythm with village missionary families, written procedures, and a communication process between the field and support base.	Begin building partnerships for prayer and financial support while continuing to serve in the ABI kitchen.
Year 2	Run the formalized missionary support/logistics program and the kitchen ministry at ABI.	Lexi will pursue further education/training specific to missionary care (member care, counseling, or crisis-support training), and Zach will begin working toward a private pilot's license to increase access to remote villages.
Year 3	Bring kitchen ministry to an end so missionary support/logistics becomes our full-time focus, strengthened by a year of dedicated training.	Grow the support base to fully cover a full-time missionary support/logistics role with a pilot flying to and from villages.
Year 4	Add care elements: scheduling respite support for missionary families as they need, a resource library for isolation and burnout, and stronger coordination with missionaries.	Begin planning and preparing for a duplex property to serve as a missionary respite space.
Year 5	Missionary support/logistical program is fully operational and includes a physical respite space for missionaries leaving the villages.	Move into and operate from a duplex, living in one unit while the second unit serves as a dedicated getaway/place to stay for missionaries coming out of the village for the rest.

Dear Overisel Reformed Church,

**As we reflected on those who
have faithfully walked alongside
us, your church came to mind.**

**Thank you for your continued
prayers, generosity, and
partnership. It is a joy to serve
together as God works through
his people around the world.**

**Gratefully,
RCA Global Mission**



**RCA
Global
Mission**

POSITIVE OPTIONS



HOLLAND

QUARTERLY CENTER NEWS

Hello Friends,

SUMMER has been a full and meaningful season at the Holland Center, and we continue to be grateful for the Lord's faithfulness in the work happening each day.

As we look ahead to a busy fall, we're excited for the opportunities before us—from upcoming events and new ways to connect with our community, to continuing to walk alongside women, men, and families with compassionate, Christ-centered care.

Your prayers, generosity, and faithful support make this ministry possible. Thank you for standing with us and helping us continue to offer hope and support to those who walk through our doors.

We are grateful for all the Lord has done and look forward with anticipation to what He has ahead.

With gratitude,
Jessica Starks
Holland Center Director

MINISTRY UPDATES



Celebrate Life: A New Tradition for Our Community

This past June, we were blessed to be the recipient of a beautiful community event that celebrates the gift of life in a unique and meaningful way.

For several years, the Hernandez family has hosted Celebrate Life, an annual baby shower supporting pregnancy centers. While living in another state, they opened their home each year, inviting their community to celebrate life together and collect gifts for families facing unexpected pregnancies. After moving to West Michigan, they brought that tradition with them—and this year, Positive Options had the honor of being the beneficiary.

They once again opened their home, welcoming individuals and families from churches throughout the community to gather for an afternoon of fellowship, refreshments, and generosity. Guests brought unwrapped baby items, financial gifts, and donations that will directly support the women, men, and babies we serve every day.

It was a special reminder that supporting life is something we can do together. Seeing people from different churches and backgrounds unite around a shared desire to care for local families was both encouraging and inspiring.

Every package of diapers, every outfit, every can of formula, and every financial gift will help ensure that parents who come through our doors are met with practical support, compassionate care, and hope. We are incredibly grateful to this family for sharing their tradition with our community and for opening their home so generously. Their vision will bless countless families, and we are honored that Positive Options could be part of its first year here in West Michigan.

To everyone who attended, donated, and helped make Celebrate Life such a wonderful afternoon—thank you. Your generosity is making a lasting difference for local families, and together, we truly celebrated life.



Zeelmania

This summer, our Holland Center team had the opportunity to join the fun at Zeelmania, a family-friendly festival in downtown Zeeland! Our Positive Options booth was a busy spot throughout the evening as kids stopped by to choose a temporary tattoo and families had a chance to connect with our team.

Events like Zeelmania give us a unique opportunity to be present in the community we serve. Throughout the evening, we connected with people who already knew and supported the ministry of Positive Options, while also introducing ourselves to families who were hearing about our services for the first time. We were able to share about the support, education, and resources available to women, men, and families in our community—all while simply enjoying the opportunity to love on families and be part of a fun summer evening.

We are grateful for opportunities like these to build relationships and increase awareness of Positive Options. Each connection helps ensure that when someone in our community faces an unexpected pregnancy or needs support in their parenting journey, they know there is a place where they can find compassionate care, practical help, and hope. Thank you to our supporters who make it possible for us to show up and serve our community in so many different ways. We are grateful to partner with you as we continue to make Positive Options known throughout the Holland and Zeeland communities!

NOW HIRING!

Join Our Team!

We are currently looking for mission-minded individuals to join our Holland team as a **Client Advocate**, **Donations Manager**, and **Nurse Manager**.

Client Advocate

Walk alongside women and families facing pregnancy decisions by providing compassionate support, helpful information, and connections to resources.

Donations Manager

Support our development efforts through donor stewardship, database management, fundraising support, and administrative coordination.

Nurse Manager

Provide leadership and oversight for our medical services, supporting our nursing team and ensuring excellent, compassionate patient care.

If you—or someone you know—would be a great fit for one of these positions, we'd love to hear from you!

If this sounds like you—or someone you know—please email

rachel.bell@lpcenters.com or apply online at: <https://www.lpcenters.com/job-opportunities>

Life. The Other Choice!



RIGHT TO LIFE
OF HOLLAND AREA

Volume 37 September 2026

607 Heritage Court, Holland, MI 49423 ~ 616.395.1037 ~ rtlholland@eg1.net
www.rtlhofholland.org ~ <https://www.facebook.com/RighttoLifeofHolland>

What does it mean to be Pro-Life?

1 John 3:17-18 says, "If any one of you has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in you? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth." James 2:14-17 says, "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if people claim to have faith but have no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

As Christians, we are called to demonstrate our faith and love to others by ensuring their physical, emotional, and safety needs are met. If we are truly pro-life, we should be concerned about the quality of life people are living, and through relationships with people in our community, we can work toward providing tangible help to those who are in need.

For me, being pro-life means being pro-adoption, pro-foster care, and pro-social programs. Life is more than just birth, as many of you well know. Our job as a parent didn't end once we helped bring children into the world — that's really when the job began. Our kids have many needs that must be met every day and as they become older and more independent, their needs seem to become more complicated. Ensuring their needs are met is one of the most challenging responsibilities we have. And, thankfully, we have help in meeting their needs - a spouse who co-parents with us, help from parents and in-laws, a loving and caring community, and a supportive church congregation!

Current estimates state that close to 1 in 4 kids in the United States of America live in poverty (National Center for Children in Poverty, 2014) and this number goes up to close to 1 in 2 kids if you use a slightly different

measurement tool. This should be a startling statistic for us both as Americans and as Christians. In one of the wealthiest nations in the world, how is that so many kids are poor? For me, being pro-life means that I am concerned about the living conditions of children in this country (and around the world, for that matter). And while there is no quick-and-easy solution to fix poverty, being pro-life means we should be having conversations about how to get kids and families out of poverty.

If we are truly pro-life, we should be concerned about the quality of life people are living, and through relationships with people in our community, we can work toward providing tangible help to those who are in need. Here are some ways you can do this:

- Become a foster parent or provide respite care. This typically requires completing a training program and becoming certified, but providing care for kids in foster care can be a powerful way to demonstrate Christ's love to children and families in need.
- Provide assistance and not condemnation or judgment to pregnant or parenting singles.
- Volunteer for agencies who help at-risk kids and families, such as your local domestic violence shelter or an after school program or pregnancy resource centers like Positive Options and Family Life Center.

Encourage your church to develop an outreach focus or programs that come alongside individuals and families in need both within and outside your congregation.

Focus on Life Annual Benefit Dinner
October 20, 2026 at
The Pinnacle Center in Hudsonville, MI
Doors Open at 6:30pm
Program Starts at 7:00pm

Tickets:

\$60 - Individual
\$432 - Table of 8
\$486 - Table of 9
\$540 - Table of 10
(w/10% discount)



Guest Speaker Lydia Taylor Davis: Lydia is a Christian, Pro-life activist, social media influencer, and national spokesperson for Students for Life National. She is best known for her viral pro-life content on TikTok.

Invite your teens, youth group, Sunday School class, small group Bible study to hear this dynamic speaker, who is passionately working to make her generation the most prolife yet!

To reserve your seat or table - make check payable to: Right to Life of Holland Area (memo line dinner) and mail to: 607 Heritage Court, Holland, MI 49423. Once we receive your payment, your tickets will be sent to you in the mail.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!!



Pro-Life
that radical
idea that you
shouldn't
kill human
beings

To visit our website directly: Use your cellphone camera, center on the QR code below (should see a yellow square) and press OPEN on your camera screen.



Stand With Us!

a mission to live by - Ez. 22:30



La
Misión
Iglesia Cristiana





Mother's Day

The moms from our discipleship program **Los Seguidores** and **La Misión Iglesia Cristiana** enjoyed a beautiful celebration in honor of their special day.

The morning was filled with delicious food, games, prizes, and lots of laughter.

Andrea shared a simple yet meaningful message of encouragement with all the ladies. Thank you for supporting activities like these that bring joy and blessing to our community, me!



Father's Day



Last June, during our Father's Day celebration at La Misión, I opened with a question: "What is the most courageous thing you have ever done?"

We often think courage means doing something extraordinary. But I reminded the men that some of the greatest acts of courage happen quietly every day—**showing up, staying present,**

loving our wives, guiding our children, providing for our families, and leading them toward Christ.

Of the nearly 40 families we walk alongside, only **12 men joined us that day.** Those empty seats were a powerful reminder that our community doesn't simply need more programs—it needs **men who are willing to be present.**

We are grateful for the men who came, and we pray for those we still hope to reach. May God raise up fathers and young men who understand that sometimes courage begins with something very simple:



Show up. Stay present. Love your family. Follow Jesus.



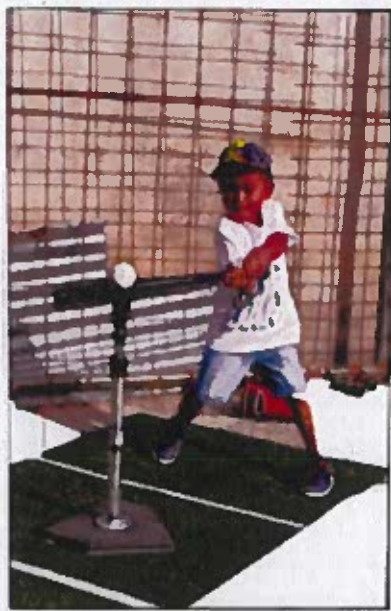
More than Baseball!!

Baseball is still brand new for our **Los Seguidores** kids, but little by little, they're getting it! Every practice brings plenty of learning, laughter, and a few missed balls—but also opportunities to pray together and speak into their lives.

One of my favorite parts has been having **my own kids alongside me, helping train and encourage them.** We've also started seeing parents come to watch practices, turning baseball into another beautiful way to connect with families

Maybe baseball wasn't just one of my crazy ideas after all! God is using a simple game to build relationships, awaken dreams, and remind these kids that **their lives matter and their future is worth investing in.**

For us, it will always be **more than baseball—it's another opportunity to love them and point them to Jesus.**



Finding their voice through music

Our **Music Academy** is preparing for a very special milestone—our students' **first recital on October 31st!** We're excited to see them share what they've been working so hard to learn.

But recently, they gave us an unexpected preview. During Guatemala's Independence and Culture Week, schools held talent shows, and some of our students surprised us by performing a song **on their instruments in front of their classmates!**

For us, that was a big win. We're not only watching kids learn notes and songs—we're watching them **grow in confidence, discover their abilities, and have the courage to share them with others.**

Moments like this remind us why we invest in them. Sometimes all a child needs is an opportunity, someone who believes in them, and a safe place to discover, "*I can do this.*"

And now... **October 31st, here we come!**



We don't serve alone



We are just days away from welcoming a mission team from **Ridgecrest Church in Missouri!** Erica Kerr and Jennifer Smith have been faithfully planning these trips since last year, and we are incredibly grateful that not one, but **two teams** will be joining us—September 25th and October 16th.

They will come alongside us through English classes, baseball training, VBS, and even help us close out the year with Los Seguidores through a very special **Spelling Bee Contest**.



There is something deeply encouraging about knowing that people are willing to leave home, travel to Guatemala, and simply **show up for our kids**. Their presence reminds us that we don't carry the beautiful responsibility of ministry alone.

And perhaps this is also an invitation to you. **Come and see what God is doing here.** Meet the kids, serve alongside us, share what God has placed in your hands—and discover how He might use your presence in someone's story.

There is always room for someone willing to stand in the gap with us.

A personal note to you

As we celebrate these six years, we want you to know that **you are an essential part of this story**.

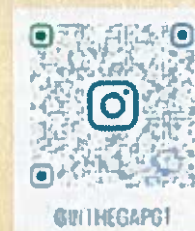
Every prayer, every encouraging message, every gift, every visit, and every time you have shared our ministry with someone else has helped us continue showing up for the children and families God has placed before us.

Some of you may never meet the children whose lives you are touching or sit with the families you are helping us serve, but your fingerprints are all over these stories. **You have stood in the gap with us.** Thank you for believing in this mission, for trusting us, and most of all, for allowing your own light to shine alongside ours.

These six years belong to you, too.



Follow us on Instagram



For donations please go to:

https://mysc.onlinegiving.org/donate/guest_donate?&fund=In+the+Gap&lf=1

PEEK INTO PAPUA

September 2026

HOME ASSIGNMENT | June-December 2026

We arrived back on U.S. soil at the end of May to visit family, churches, supporters, and for Mark to do recurrency training as well as catch up on projects that he doesn't have time to get to while also flying in Indonesia.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS SUMMER

- just being 'home' on the farm. Enjoying longer days and milder temperatures.



- Reuniting with family



- Attending church camp and building relationship with many new and long-time friends.
- Going to Oshkosh, WI for the annual fly-in and air show.



The boys are all in school now. Micah is in his last year of college with plans to graduate in May with a degree in mechanical engineering. Levi is in his junior year at Tremont High School, and Andrew started his Freshman year. Mark just completed two weeks of recurrency training at JAARS in North Carolina. He hopes to complete other work for Yajasi, the organization in Indonesia where JAARS sends their pilots, during his 'office time' here in the U.S. Mark is also teaching ground school and doing some flight lessons for Micah and Levi and well as a couple of other young men from our church. We will also be sharing at some of the churches that support us and are asking God to provide a slight increase to our monthly support. We look forward to spending Thanksgiving and Christmas with our families and then returning to Indonesia in January.

We are so grateful for your love and prayers. Please continue to pray with us

- for peace and security in Papua. Only Jesus can bring real peace.
- that God would use this time in each of our boys' lives as they attend school, relate with friends, learn under different teachers and leaders, and experience different challenges.
- for wisdom for Mark as he leads and relates to our team members in Indonesia
- for God's continued leading in our lives as both children and parents get older.
- for necessary funding to return to Papua in January.

Serving together,
Mark and Kathy Hoving



FIRESIDE CHATS

Lives are *changed* at Camp, where Christ is hope!



Dear Friends at Overisel Reformed Church,

With the majority of our campers coming to camp on scholarship, we give them the opportunity to write a "thank you" letter to YOU!

After reading through hundreds of these letters, I wanted to share a few with you. As I read them, I was reminded again of how meaningful a week at camp can be for a young person.

Some campers write about their favorite activities. Others mention their cabin leader, a new friend, or something they learned about Jesus. And sometimes, a few simple words say more than a long story ever could.

These letters are a small glimpse of the difference you help make possible.

Thank you!

Because of you, I got to have fun and learn about God at camp! Thank you for making a way for me to come to Camp Beechpoint.

Some of the things that I did this week were...

At camp I got to sing about God, learn new songs and verses, also I got to zipline. I learnt that God is unchanging and his love never change for us even when we do something wrong. I also learned that God wants me to talk to him, like he's my best friend.

Sincerely,

Lylaiah

Thank you!

Because of you, I got to have fun and learn about God at camp! Thank you for making a way for me to come to Camp Beechpoint.

Some of the things that I did this week were...

I was able to open up to other people about my struggles that have been feeling like a weight on my heart. I was able to meet people with very strong faith that is contagious and a love that will lift any burden.

Sincerely,

Ghanny

Thank you!

Because of you, I got to have fun and learn about God at camp! Thank you for making a way for me to come to Camp Beechpoint.

Some of the things that I did this week were...

Some of the many things I did at camp was riding horses and swimming. I also went fishing and had fun! I liked chapel and firesides gave me a deeper and more personal connection to God and Jesus. I like when it is rest time and I read the book because I like listening to stories in the bible.

Sincerely,

Aubriel

As we like to say, "campers say it best!"

I would love to invite you to come out to Camp for our Fall Fundraiser on October 19th to hear more stories and testimonies of impact. Our theme for the evening is "A Summer to Remember," and it will be a meaningful opportunity to reflect on what God has done through another summer of ministry.

Event Details: https://beechpoint.org/fallfundraiser/?blm_id=16265

Lives are changed at Camp, where Christ is hope!

Gratefully,
Brent Boersma
Executive Director, Camp Beechpoint



PRAY

Pray for Camp as we prepare to serve guest groups from churches, schools, and other ministries this fall season.

Additionally, our camper post cards go out next week for Fall and Winter Camp! Pray that they would reach the families who need them most.



PARTNER

Join us in the Camp Beechpoint Lodge on Monday, October 19th for our annual Fall Fundraiser!

We would love for you to celebrate with us as we reflect on the impact of A Summer to Remember!



PRAISE

Dani Way, our Camp Director, and Michelle Bechler, our Operations Director, spent the week in Chicago visiting summer staff, ministry partners, and potential new partners!

Praising God for beautiful friendships and partnerships!

The Ouano Family Gazette

From Our Home to Yours

Hello dear friends, family, and partners in ministry.

It feels like just yesterday we were sending out our last update, and yet here we are in the middle of rainy season! Life has been busy and full of blessings. We are so grateful for your continued prayers and support.

As the kids grow (Anaiah and Josiah is now 11th grade and Jude Gideon in 6th grade), we are reminded of the importance of being good stewards of the blessings God has given us. We want to share a transparent look into our monthly budget and how we manage the resources we have.

We would also love your prayer covering as we navigate our commitments to our family, the church, and our community.

Monthly Budget & Finance Snapshot

We believe in living transparently and wisely. Below is a breakdown of our typical monthly budget to help you understand our needs and how we allocate our finances. (Note: All figures are illustrative examples based on an average Filipino household/ministry lifestyle).

Category	Monthly Budget (PHP)	Notes
Family Needs	P22,000	Groceries, utilities (water/electricity), transportation, and medical fund.
Children's Education	P10,000	Tuition, school supplies, and allowance for Anaiah, Josiah, and Gideon
Car Amortization	P13,000	Monthly payment for the family vehicle (used for ministry transport).
Ministry Needs	P6,000	Outreach materials, gas for ministry trips, and tithes/offering
Savings & Emergency	P5,000	Rainy day fund for unexpected repairs or needs
Total Monthly Needs	P56,000	Our target monthly support goal

A Closer Look at Our Priorities

1. **Car Amortization.** The family vehicle is not just a luxury; it is a tool for the Kingdom. We use it to transport kids to school, but also to visit remote communities for outreach and to pick up volunteers for church events. We are currently paying off the loan and are halfway there!
 2. **Children's Education.** We believe in raising the next generation. We are investing in their future by ensuring they attend a good school with a solid values-based curriculum.
 3. **Ministry Needs.** Our hearts are specifically burdened for the youth in our barangay. Our monthly ministry budget covers the cost of snacks for Bible studies, printing of tracts, and fuel to visit families in need.
-

Prayer Requests

We would be honored if you could lift these requests up to the Lord for us:

1. **Wisdom in Finances:** That we may continue to be good stewards of the funds we receive and that God would multiply our resources as we give to others.
 2. **Health:** That God would protect us from sickness as the kids go back to school.
 3. **Outreach:** For the upcoming "Relief operation" we are planning next month. We pray for the community to receive the Gospel message.
-

Join Our Support Team!

We are always looking for prayer partners and financial supporters. If you feel led to help us reach our monthly budget goal, please consider the following:

- **Prayer:** Commit to praying for us daily.
- **Financial Giving:** If you wish to support us, you can send your support via Reach Office Philippines or Reach Ministries International if outside the Philippines just specify the amount for Josue and Sharlet.
- **Gifts in Kind:** School supplies or groceries are always welcomed for our outreach programs.

Thank you for being a part of our story. We can't do this without you!

With love and gratitude,
The Ouano Family