



AN ABUNDANT HARVEST

Matthew 9:37

Presbytery of Wisconsin & Minnesota



PWM Home Missions
Newsletter April 2025

Welcome to the April 2025 edition of “An Abundant Harvest” the newsletter for Home Missions in the Presbytery of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Upper Peninsula of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

Shining a Spotlight on the Lord’s Work in

Breakwater Church (OPC), South Sheboygan- Church Planter Nate Strom

Breakwater continues to have between 80-100 worshippers each Sunday. The church planter gives thanks for the spiritual fruit in the congregation’s life. For instance: the leadership has been praying that people rise up in the mercy ministry and two ladies have stepped forward to work with a local food bank.

They are working on particularization and things like By-laws. Also six men are being trained for ruling elder and three men are being trained for deacon. Soon some men will be certified to stand for election to office. Pray for humility and wisdom. Give praise to the ascended Lord for pouring out many gifted men for the congregation (Eph 4)!



Ask the Lord to provide a fine part-time Administrative Assistant. They have received few applications so far.

Moving on to Bessemer, MI (UP near Ironwood)



The CHEX Committee approved moving the study to Sunday afternoon and once a month to have a worship service instead of a study. So, May 18th is our first afternoon worship service. RHM Jim will usually be going up once/month to preach and lead worship. But other pastors and ruling elders are being recruited to do so.

There is a new advertising thrust in connection with the move. Several people have indicated they would be much more interested in this arrangement rather than Tuesday night. We will try this pilot program for five months beginning in May.

Also Jim had heard two of the men lead a study of the WCF. They both do a fine job and take hard topics (like election) and make them accessible to children. They also permeate the teaching with Scripture. This will bode well for the group reaching out to people with little background. Praise God for such a blessing!

Moving on to Apple Valley, MN - Valley Reformed Church

The Rogerson family has joined Mission OPC for now since we have no place to receive them at Valley yet. Two of their 4 teenagers made a profession of faith. One of them has been accepted to work at the Boardwalk Chapel for two weeks this summer. The other is on a waiting list for Camp Joy which is an ARP Camp for the developmentally disabled. Great to see young people taking up the tasks of missions and evangelism as well as mercy ministry!

One family is leaving Valley as they move to SC. Pray for newcomers and servants to replace the losses. Pray for the encouragement of the group as the losses become clear.

Moving on to Baxter/Brainerd, Minnesota - Brainerd Lakes Reformed Church

One Bible study had to be cancelled because of lots of sickness. At the most recent study they had 15 people total (4 couples and the rest children). They have added a new couple in recent weeks. Jim will be heading up there in 1 week and will meet with several people in the area.

Moving on to Covenant Life, Shawano, WI - Church Planter Gordon Oliver

A new family with a 9th grader comes regularly to worship. The lady also comes to the women's Bible study. Of course, this is a large encouragement and provides their first teenager or child. Pray that more would come. One man is in hospice care but he may be able to yet come to worship. Pray for him, Chester, a long-time believer in the Lord.

Radio messages and newspaper ads were used to stir people into visiting Covenant Life. They had a special Good Friday Service and invited many to their Easter Service

Moving on to Grantsburg, WI.

The Bible Study continues to go well under the leadership of Ruling Elder Seth Belz. In the next 2-3 weeks, a few of us will meet to discuss plans for the summer and plans to do outreach. The Hammond Session continues to provide a steady guiding hand for this work. Give thanks to God for this session as they skillfully guided St. Paul, Eau Claire, and Anoka in their mission status and helped some of them reach particularization.

During the CHEX Report at Presbytery...

Pastor David Veldhorst shared about some of the blessings of doing a mother-daughter church plant:

- See the joy of dispensing what God has richly given us
- Watch the joy of God providing for His bride
- Develop a bigger vision for the church and in prayer
- A more kingdom-mindedness in prayer
- Learn to not be too attached to the under shepherd but instead the Chief Shepherd. Expecting for the Holy Spirit to be at work
- A growing dependence on God
- Help us be more interconnected with other local OP works
- Remind us not to build a bigger church but keep sending out. God is not a stingy withholding God!
- Ask the Lord to provide more mother-daughter church plants.

Please pray...

- Give thanks that the Lord has kept me safe in all my winter travels.
- Pray for the Lord to raise up new people and new groups - that He would make divine appointments
- Give thanks for the new couple who has joined the Brainerd study.
- Pray for Laila as she serves at Boardwalk Chapel and that an opening would happen for Caryl to serve at Camp Joy.

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