MICHIGAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



BISHOP AND SONJA KEMP

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP (CONCLUDED AT END OF NEWSLETTER)

Helen Keller, who lost her sight and hearing at 19 months, was once asked if there was anything worse than having to live one's life without sight. Her response came quickly: "Yes, being born with sight but having no vision."

For many years, one of my frequent "diagnostic questions" has been:
"What do you see?"





Women's Ministry

When I was growing up, daytime television was all about game shows. One of my favorites was "Let's Make A Deal." People would dress up in silly costumes and hope to make it to the final round, where they would be given the chance to select door number one, two, or three. When I played along, I would usually shout, "I'll take door number two!" Sometimes the Big Deal would be revealed behind this door, and sometimes I would get "zonked." Since I was playing along at home, the choice I made was inconsequential and meaningless.

But life is not a television game show, and the things we "take hold of" certainly do make a difference.

In Acts 27:22, Paul says to his traveling companions: "Take courage! None of you will lose your lives." In verse 25, he repeats the deal: "Take courage! For I believe God." "Take courage" can also be translated as "take heart."

Recent, horrific events in our country remind us that we are living in discouraging and disheartening times. Life often comes at us fast and furious, like a Mac truck barreling toward us on a one-way street, leaving us shaken and disturbed. But... we have a choice. We can take courage, or we can take fear. We can believe His words and take heart, or we can doubt and become disheartened.

Why not trade in our fears and doubts for the sure reward that awaits a life of believing faith?

"As the Scripture tells us, 'Anyone who believes in Him will not be disappointed.'" ~ Romans 10:11 NLT

Or to put it in game-show jargon - anyone who believes in Him will never be 'zonked'!!

Love & Blessings... Sonja

p.s. Ladies... Please take note of the Save the Date card!

Women's Ministry



Dates and Events

MICHIGAN YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S LEADERS ASSOCIATION

MIYLA SCHEDULE

DAVID KEMP

AUGUST 14TH

ERICH D. LACKS.

YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR.

MICHIGAN CHURCH OF GOD

SEPTEMBER 4TH

ADMINISTRATIVE BISHOP.

MICHIGAN CHURCH OF GOD

OCTOBER 2ND

SCOTTIE HAGER YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR.

TENNESSEE CHURCH OF GOD

NOVEMBER 6TH

ROB BAILEY YOUTH PASTOR. WESTMORE COG

CLEVELAND, TN

DECEMBER 4TH

YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR.

MICHIGAN CHURCH OF GOD

JANUARY 8TH

CALEB CROOMS

YOUTH AND DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR.

ALABAMA CHURCH OF GOD

DIRECTOR@MICHIGANCOG.ORG

WE MEET VIA ZOOM ON THESE DATES AT 2:30 P.M. ALL MEETINGS ARE RECORDED.







May Statistics:

Church of God in Michigan		
May, 2025 Stats		
Tithe		
Church and Pastor	Tithes	Morning Worship
Stewart Road Church of God, Mark Ingram	81,083.35	563
Dexter Lake Church of God, Paul Tindall	48,678.00	201
Oak-Crest Church of God, Richard D. Rogers	28,524.86	240
Victorious Life, Scott Weaver	23,760.00	133
Big Jackson, John McGhee	17,200.00	59
Grace Point Church, Jeff McNally, Jr.	16,750.00	225
The River, William E. Wahl	16,406.00	173
LifePoint, Ronald Schubert	16,161.45	131
Walton Blvd Church of God, M. Tony Barbour	15,938.00	114
New Hope Community, Victor Williams	15,180.00	96
Hill Creek, Wesley Hunter	13,727.81	65
Maranatha Church of God, Ryan Sharpe	9,791.00	68
International Church of God, Joy John	9,500.00	150
Houghton Lake Church of God, Jacob Nicoletti	9,379.00	49
Family Worship, Eric Rogers	9,235.30	69
The Church, Nick Heine	8,994.00	75
White Cloud Church, James Fader	8,593.39	85
Genesee Rd Church of God, Vaughn Eller	8,543.07	86
Victory Temple, Dennis Wick	8,503.00	58
Hope Community Church, Glenn Gilman	8,164.93	112
Kingdom Life Church of God, Steven Bishop	7,824.00	124
The Summit, Jim Morrison	7,286.37	73
Durand Church of God, Mark Fernandez	7,217.00	98
Grand Haven, Nathan Strom	7,032.83	34
Heritage Community Church, Adam Schultz	7,017.27	60
Heritage Park, Robert Rennie	6,250.76	41
El Bethel, Thomas E. Rea	6,137.76	29
Redemption Outreach, Scott Tysick	6,000.00	125
Lighthouse Church of God, Matthew West	5,933.95	79
Lapeer Church of God, Dakota Leming	5,814.00	60
Kalkaska, Church Alive, David Morrison Jr.	5,666.08	27
Holly Church of God, Eugene Blankenship	5,087.23	42
Family Life Center, Ryan Snyder	5,085.77	80
Highest Praise, Wesley Starr	4,993.00	55
Lighthouse Worship, Roger Fleming	4,917.87	73

May Statistics:

New Harvest, John Criswell	4,870.00	30	
Sandusky Church of God, Jeffrey Noble	4,379.48	33	
Fountain of Praise, Debra Schilling	4,368.10	16	
Trinity Church of God, Mark Wellhousen	3,976.00	28	
Upper Room Church of God, Alex Fernandez	3,838.00	88	
Christian Church for all Nations, Danielle Andre	3,604.00	26	
Central Church of God, Chris Johnson	3,306.00	59	
Harrison Church of God, Willis Pilman	3,238.00	18	
New Covenant, Ronald Jacobs II	3,163.00	60	
Redemption Place, Deborah Lesher	2,822.40	25	
North Point Worship Cntr, Michael B. Arp	2,622.50	35	
Solid Rock, Wayne Ramey	2,586.15	22	
Family Tabernacle, Jeffrey Howard	2,540.00	28	
West Branch Church, Keith Misany	2,494.00	15	
Living Word, Frankie Lucas	2,487.99	28	
Living Word, Jeptha Bryant	2,417.00	24	
River of Life, Justin Candela	2,379.00	26	
Clinton Church of God, Gary Adams	2,367.00	0	
Lawton Church of God, David R. Cripps	2,281.00	15	
Trenton, Donald Drews	2,196.00	12	
Family Life Worship, Charles Kiesgen	1,980.00	30	
Garden City Church of God, John H Stamper, III	1,954.00	26	
Harvest Intern'l Min., Michael Czarnik	1,910.00	30	
Flat Rock Church of God, James Williams	1,898.00	23	
New Hope Ministries, J. Ron Dunn	1,804.80	13	
Redford Church of God, Shirley Stafford	1,648.00	32	
Lighthouse Village, Anthony M. Fields	1,570.62	27	
The Point, Ellis Fortune	1,458.00	0	
Inland Lighthouse, David Goheen	1,386.00	9	
Zeeland Church of God, Douglas Koglin	1,385.00	15	
Strong Tower, Doug Trudell	1,258.00	37	
Hastings Church of God, Jeremy Singleton	730.70	15	
Cornerstone, Warren R. Davis	610.00	30	
Lake Orion Church of God, William S. Curnell	440.00	9	
Faith Chapel, Betty Marlow	125.00	28	
Abundant Life, Richard South	N/R	0	
Andrus Street Church of God, Don Browning, Jr.	N/R	0	
City Church, Steve Totten	N/R	0	
Crossroads Church of God, Daniel W Blankensh	N/R	0	
Fresh Manna, John Evans	N/R	0	

May Statistics:

Harbor Lights, Anthony Morrison	N/R	0
Harvest International, Frederick Nichols	N/R	0
No Limits Ministries, Robert Renfro	N/R	0
Power & Praise, Christopher Blankenship	N/R	0
Ray of Light, Mary Hoots	N/R	0
Restoration Pointe, Gregory Gitter	N/R	0
Revival Center, Greg Casto	N/R	0
Sebewa, Thomas Jablonski	N/R	0
Sheridan Church of God, Robert Carpenter	N/R	0
The Harbor Church of God, Frederick Weaver	N/R	0

June Statistics:

Church of God in Michigan				
2025 June Stats				
Morning Worship				
Church and Pastor	Tithes	Morning W	orship	
Stewart Road Church of God, Mark Ingram	96,637.50	523		
Oak-Crest Church of God, Richard D. Rogers	35,405.67	225		
Grace Point Church, Jeff McNally, Jr.	22,032.00	217		
Dexter Lake Church of God, Paul Tindall	47,135.00	214		
The River, William E. Wahl	28,983.00	179		
International Church of God, Joy John	8,000.00	150		
Victorious Life, Scott Weaver	23,992.80	146		
LifePoint, Ronald Schubert	13,967.50	144		
Kingdom Life Church of God, Steven Bishop	5,745.87	138		
Redemption Outreach, Scott Tysick	6,500.00	121		
New Hope Community, Victor Williams	17,240.00	114		
Durand Church of God, Mark Fernandez	12,290.00	110		
Walton Blvd Church of God, M. Tony Barbour	18,790.27	103		
Hill Creek, Wesley Hunter	25,958.30	91		
Upper Room Church of God, Alex Fernandez	5,755.00	88		
Maranatha Church of God, Ryan Sharpe	15,633.00	86		
Genesee Rd Church of God, Vaughn Eller	10,803.68	82		
Family Life Center, Ryan Snyder	5,491.52	80		
White Cloud Church, James Fader	11,004.40	76		
The Church, Nick Heine	11,973.00	75		
Lighthouse Church of God, Matthew West	5,390.49	72		
Lighthouse Worship, Roger Fleming	5,591.76	71		
Family Worship, Eric Rogers	15,817.00	68		
Big Jackson, John McGhee	8,985.00	68		
New Covenant, Ronald Jacobs II	4,597.00	65		
The Summit, Jim Morrison	10,844.00	63		
Heritage Community Church, Adam Schultz	6,901.94	60		
Lapeer Church of God, Dakota Leming	5,738.73	60		
Central Church of God, Chris Johnson	4,717.00	60		
Highest Praise, Wesley Starr	5,543.00	53		
Victory Temple, Dennis Wick	10,806.00	50		
Heritage Park, Robert Rennie	7,203.76	49		
Hope Community Church, Glenn Gilman	7,358.36	45		
Houghton Lake Church of God, Jacob Nicoletti	5,814.00	45		
Grand Haven, Nathan Strom	7,854.81	42		

June Statistics:

Holly Church of God, Eugene Blankenship	5,526.92	42	
Revival Center, Greg Casto	3,215.00	40	
Kalkaska, Church Alive, David Morrison Jr.	5,631.51	37	
Strong Tower, Doug Trudell	1,479.00	36	
Family Tabernacle, Jeffrey Howard	3,100.00	35	
North Point Worship Cntr, Michael B. Arp	2,927.70	35	
Living Word, Frankie Lucas	3,394.04	33	
New Harvest, John Criswell	5,766.00	30	
Family Life Worship, Charles Kiesgen	2,340.00	30	
Cornerstone, Warren R. Davis	548.00	30	
El Bethel, Thomas E. Rea	6,027.42	28	
Trinity Church of God, Mark Wellhousen	4,311.00	27	
Living Word, Jeptha Bryant	2,890.00	26	
Lighthouse Village, Anthony M. Fields	1,215.00	26	
Redemption Place, Deborah Lesher	2,538.50	25	
Solid Rock, Wayne Ramey	2,008.15	25	
Faith Chapel, Betty Marlow	185.00	25	
River of Life, Justin Candela	4,789.00	24	
Sandusky Church of God, Jeffrey Noble	3,779.39	24	
Garden City Church of God, John H Stamper, I	-	23	
Fountain of Praise, Debra Schilling	3,148.20	20	
Redford Church of God, Shirley Stafford	1,000.00	20	
Flat Rock Church of God, James Williams	2,148.00	19	
Harrison Church of God, Willis Pilman	4,817.00	18	
New Hope Ministries, J. Ron Dunn	1,826.70	18	
Lawton Church of God, David R. Cripps	2,952.00	17	
Zeeland Church of God, Douglas Koglin	2,176.00	17	
Trenton, Donald Drews	280,459.00	15	
Hastings Church of God, Jeremy Singleton	998.56	15	
Inland Lighthouse, David Goheen	2,077.00	13	
Lake Orion Church of God, William S. Curnell	1,542.00	8	
The Point, Ellis Fortune	3,707.15	0	
Clinton Church of God, Gary Adams	2,483.00	0	
West Branch Church, Keith Misany	N/R	0	
The Harbor Church of God, Frederick Weaver	N/R	0	
Sheridan Church of God, Robert Carpenter	N/R	0	
Sebewa, Thomas Jablonski	N/R	0	
Restoration Pointe, Gregory Gitter	N/R	0	
Ray of Light, Mary Hoots	N/R	0	
Power & Praise, Christopher Blankenship	N/R	0	

June Statistics:

No Limits Ministries, Robert Renfro	N/R	0	
Harvest International, Frederick Nichols	N/R	0	
Harvest Intern'l Min., Michael Czarnik	N/R	0	
Harbor Lights, Anthony Morrison	N/R	0	
Fresh Manna, John Evans	N/R	0	
Crossroads Church of God, Daniel W Blankens	N/R	0	
City Church, Steve Totten	N/R	0	
Christian Church for all Nations, Danielle Andre	N/R	0	
Andrus Street Church of God, Don Browning, J	N/R	0	
Abundant Life, Richard South	N/R	0	

July Statistics:

Church of God in Michigan			
2025 July Stats			
Tithe			
Church and Pastor	Tithes	Worship	
Stewart Road Church of God, Mark Ingram	87,875.78	510	
Dexter Lake Church of God, Paul Tindall	52,249.00	226	
Oak-Crest Church of God, Richard D. Rogers	39,421.17	176	
The River, William E. Wahl	23,975.00	177	
Victorious Life, Scott Weaver	22,965.42	111	
New Hope Community, Victor Williams	19,442.50	98	
Grace Point Church, Jeff McNally, Jr.	18,005.00	193	
Family Worship, Eric Rogers	16,477.00	75	
Walton Blvd Church of God, M. Tony Barbour	14,284.66	104	
Hill Creek, Wesley Hunter	12,433.90	87	
Big Jackson, John McGhee	11,952.89	72	
Victory Temple, Dennis Wick	11,084.85	56	
LifePoint, Ronald Schubert	10,554.30	139	
White Cloud Church, James Fader	9,517.37	82	
Houghton Lake Church of God, Jacob Nicoletti	8,730.00	0	
Maranatha Church of God, Ryan Sharpe	8,629.00	71	
International Church of God, Joy John	8,500.00	160	
Heritage Park, Robert Rennie	7,022.62	55	
Kingdom Life Church of God, Steven Bishop	6,879.33	150	
Grand Haven, Nathan Strom	6,566.07	47	
Hope Community Church, Glenn Gilman	6,334.46	48	
The Summit, Jim Morrison	6,183.00	65	
Durand Church of God, Mark Fernandez	5,557.43	110	
El Bethel, Thomas E. Rea	5,423.63	22	
Redemption Outreach, Scott Tysick	5,300.00	115	
Lighthouse Worship, Roger Fleming	5,149.26	70	
Holly Church of God, Eugene Blankenship	5,033.00	45	
Kalkaska, Church Alive, David Morrison Jr.	4,944.23	23	
Upper Room Church of God, Alex Fernandez	4,835.00	88	
Family Life Center, Ryan Snyder	4,805.20		
North Point Worship Cntr, Michael B. Arp	4,302.60	35	
Sandusky Church of God, Jeffrey Noble	3,979.99	20	
Trinity Church of God, Mark Wellhousen	3,687.00	20	
Living Word, Frankie Lucas	3,674.54	27	
Highest Praise, Wesley Starr	3,194.00	56	

July Statistics:

Revival Center, Greg Casto	3,125.00	40
Harrison Church of God, Willis Pilman	3,096.00	15
Central Church of God, Chris Johnson	3,056.00	61
Solid Rock, Wayne Ramey	2,977.54	24
Fountain of Praise, Debra Schilling	2,610.00	17
Redemption Place, Deborah Lesher	2,577.10	25
New Covenant, Ronald Jacobs II	2,328.05	60
Lawton Church of God, David R. Cripps	2,324.00	17
Garden City Church of God, John H Stamper, II	2,160.00	21
Family Life Worship, Charles Kiesgen	2,100.00	30
Lighthouse Village, Anthony M. Fields	1,929.00	28
Family Tabernacle, Jeffrey Howard	1,922.00	27
Flat Rock Church of God, James Williams	1,884.00	20
The Point, Ellis Fortune	1,871.85	0
Living Word, Jeptha Bryant	1,781.00	25
New Hope Ministries, J. Ron Dunn	1,523.00	16
Inland Lighthouse, David Goheen	1,250.00	12
Strong Tower, Doug Trudell	1,057.00	35
Hastings Church of God, Jeremy Singleton	949.48	12
Cornerstone, Warren R. Davis	502.00	30
Faith Chapel, Betty Marlow	202.00	13
Abundant Life, Richard South	N/R	0
Andrus Street Church of God, Don Browning, J	N/R	0
Christian Church for all Nations, Danielle Andre	N/R	0
City Church, Steve Totten	N/R	0
Clinton Church of God, Gary Adams	N/R	0
Crossroads Church of God, Daniel W Blankens	N/R	0
Fresh Manna, John Evans	N/R	0
Genesee Rd Church of God, Vaughn Eller	N/R	0
Harbor Lights, Anthony Morrison	N/R	0
Harvest Intern'l Min., Michael Czarnik	N/R	0
Harvest International, Frederick Nichols	N/R	0
Heritage Community Church, Adam Schultz	N/R	0
Lake Orion Church of God, William S. Curnell	N/R	0
Lapeer Church of God, Dakota Leming	N/R	0
Lighthouse Church of God, Matthew West	N/R	0
New Harvest, John Criswell	N/R	0
No Limits Ministries, Robert Renfro	N/R	0
Power & Praise, Christopher Blankenship	N/R	0
Ray of Light, Mary Hoots	N/R	0

July Statistics:

Redford Church of God, Shirley Stafford	N/R	0	
Restoration Pointe, Gregory Gitter	N/R	0	
River of Life, Justin Candela	N/R	0	
Sebewa, Thomas Jablonski	N/R	0	
Sheridan Church of God, Robert Carpenter	N/R	0	
The Church, Nick Heine	N/R	0	
The Harbor Church of God, Frederick Weaver	N/R	0	
Trenton, Donald Drews	N/R	0	
West Branch Church, Keith Misany	N/R	0	
Zeeland Church of God, Douglas Koglin	N/R	0	

State Calendar



2025-26 ANNUAL CALENDAR

ост

- 4: MIP & CAMS
- 4: Senior Legacy Day

Houghton Lake)

24-26: Emerging Leaders-KY 26: ONE NIGHT REVIVALS: (Wyoming/Pontiac & APR

- 5: Easter Sunday
- State Office Closed/Easter Monday
- 11: MIP
- 12: YWEA/Camp Raly-Wyoming

NOV

- 1: MIP
- 6: Ministerial Testing
- 14-15: Resurgence-Stewart Road 26-27: Office Closed/Thanksgiving

APR

- 18: Teen Talent-location TBA
- 24-26: Midwest Kidfest-Cincinnatti
- MIP @ State Office
 YWEA/Camp Rally-Houghton Lake

DEC

- 5: State Christmas Gathering
- 6: MIP/CAMS
- 12-1/4: State Office Closed for Christmas

MAY

- 1-2 Women's Conference Location TBA
- 1-2: Smoky Kidfest-Gatlinburg
- 15: MIP Commissioning-TN
- 17: YWEA/Camp Rally-Escanaba
- 25 Memorial Day-Office Closed

JAN

- 3: MIP
- 4: State Office Opens
- 18: YWEA/Camp Rally: Midland
- 19: Office Closed/MLK Day
- 24: Mens Conference-Location TBA

JUNE

22-26 State Camp Meeting

FEB

- 7-8: MIP
- 13-15: Amplify TN
- 15: YWEA/Camp Rally-Lapeer
- 27-28: Focus TN
- 28: MIP

JULY

6-10 TENTATIVE YOUTH CAMP

WATCH FOR NEW LOCATION DETAILS!!

27-31 General Assembly

MAR

- YWEA/Camp Rally: Monroe, Stewart Road
- 6-8: Smoky Mt Winterfest
- 12-13 Prayer Conference
- 14: TOOLS Conference

Bishop's Message Continued

- What do you see for your future?
- What do you see for your marriage?
 - What do you see for your career?
 - What do you see for your church?

There are dozens of applications.

But what truly grieves me is that many (most?) see nothing or, if they do, it is only vague generalities with little clarity or passion.

For them, life mostly just happens. They live from one Sunday to the next, from one paycheck to the next, from one season to the next — and on it goes. There's no agenda, no clear passion or purpose, no life-changing goals or noble God-given vision; they live day-to-day, hoping that things will work out.

But what's even sadder is to observe someone who does have a plan. They see clearly what needs to be done. They have a sense of calling on their lives. But like a potential mother who is too weak to give birth to the child within her (Isaiah 3:3), they fail to exert the sustained, disciplined effort required to bring forth the Godcalled vision and mission upon their lives.

In both cases, they are content just to let life happen.

It's like working in an ice cream factory and never eating anything besides vanilla ice cream.

It's like people living in a valley surrounded by beautiful mountains that have hidden meadows and peaks resplendent with wild flowers, waterfalls, exotic wildlife, and majestic views, but never witnessing them because they're so busy just doing life that they never get around to making the trek.

I remember the first time I saw the ocean. Not just a picture of the ocean, no, the first time I experienced the ocean – the smell of saltwater, the feel of sand washing out from under my feet as the waves washed over them, the thunder of waves crashing up on the shore, the sun dipping beneath the distant horizon, the wind blowing in my hair, the sound of sea gulls...I never got over it.

Conclusion of Bishop's Message

In the same way, I've learned, once you're truly captured by a vision of how things could be, you never get over it.

My dear Michigan COG family, we can live our lives trying not to make waves, living and letting live, narrowing down our horizon to survival mode—living a secure, vanilla existence by not making waves.

But making no waves means that you never get to experience the joy of the ocean. Yes, there are a lot worse things than being blind; it's being able to see but having no vision.

All that to say, Sonja and I are so thankful to be in Michigan. I look forward to my "sight" improving as I spend time with you. But this I already see:

I see your life, ministry, and church getting better, stronger, and more fruitful because we are here. Not because we are anything special, but because I believe we were sent here as a part of God's plan for our lives and yours. We are here on purpose and for a purpose. It may be a small key, but I do believe that we hold a key that will open a door of God's blessing and favor upon the Church of God in Michigan that would not have opened if we had not come.

Like the Scout Motto: It is my determined goal to leave the campsite better than I found it. I pledge to you my best effort as we climb the mountain together, make waves together, and hopefully eat some amazing ice cream along the way.

Let me close with this...

Anthony Browne, the private secretary for Winston Churchill during his second term as Prime Minister, recounts one morning when the then 79-year-old Churchill asked, "Has anything happened overnight?" Browne replied, "No, Sir." Browne then records that Churchill, with a twinkle in his eye, said: "Then let's make something happen!"

Michigan Church of God, together, let's make something happen!

I see better days ahead as we do.

Blessings to you, David L. Kemp Administrative Bishop for the Church of God in Michigan



Erich & Emily Lacks Youth & Discipleship Director



David and Sonja Kemp Administrative Bishop Women's Ministry



Ron & Robin Schubert Evangelism Director