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OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

JR & TEEN TALENT 2026

Michigan Church of God is excited to announce that Junior & Teen Talent will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026. This is a powerful opportunity for students to develop and share their God-given gifts in music, drama, art, writing, media, and more.

- Registration Opens: February 8, 2026
- Registration Closes: April 5, 2026

We encourage all students to take part, whether they're stepping onto the stage for the first time or returning to grow in their talents. Don't miss this chance to celebrate creativity and lift up Jesus through your gifts!

More details and registration information will be available through the Michigan Church of God office and website.



2025–2026 MISSIONS GOAL: \$30,000

Together, we are believing to give \$30,000 in missions over the next year—\$25,000 for YWEA and at least \$5,000 combined for OR4H and the NCR. This goal is within reach if every church gives just \$350. Imagine the impact if we go beyond! Let's join together and make a lasting difference.



FOR EMERGING LEADERS

Make plans to join us in Lexington, Kentucky, October 24–26, 2025, for the Emerging Leaders Conference. This event is designed to equip and inspire the next generation of leaders through powerful sessions and connection with others. Register now at: inspire.cogwm.org



THE RESURGENCE EXPERIENCE IS COMING TO MICHIGAN!

1199 Stewart Road, Monroe, MI | Friday, Nov 14 beginning at 7 PM through Saturday, Nov 15 from 9 AM–3 PM
Presented by the Michigan COG Evangelism Department



Join us at Stewart Road Church of God for a weekend designed to reignite your vision and purpose in ministry.

Experience powerful teaching with Bishop David Kemp and the Michigan COG Evangelism team—practical, inspiring, and life-giving.

What to Expect:

- Engaging sessions + workbook
- Friday night fellowship
- Saturday coffee, donuts & lunch
- Connection with leaders across Michigan

Cost: Free (offering Friday night)

Register today: scan the QR code or contact Ron Schubert at 734-320-1725.

CHURCH REPORTING

*Full copies of this month's report are available at the bottom of this newsletter.

We are excited to see God moving across our state through the Church of God! Every report tells the story of lives being changed, churches growing, and communities being reached with the Gospel. Thank you, pastors and leaders, for your faithfulness in reporting—it's more than numbers, it's a testimony of Kingdom impact. Together, we celebrate what God is doing and look forward with expectation for even greater things ahead!

SCAN ME



THE STATS

SCAN ME



ATTENDANCE

GOING INTO *December*

CHRISTMAS GATHERING 2025

Friday, December 5 | 6:30 PM

**Location: Church of God Tabernacle |
Fenton, MI**

"For unto us a Son is born, unto us a Savior is given..." Step into the wonder of Christmas as we gather for a night of worship, fellowship, and celebration of the One who came to bring hope and light to the world.

- Powerful worship & Word
- Christmas treats + community fellowship
- A time to rejoice in the miracle of His birth



A STATEMENT FROM BISHOP AND FIRST LADY



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BUCKET LISTS OR LANDMARKS?



We are such collectors. We collect various items, including pictures, videos, and even people (whom we refer to as “friends” and “followers”), as well as collectibles (such as the California Raisins). The list goes on and on. There is nothing that epitomizes our passion for collecting things like our love affair with “Bucket Lists.” Whether official or unofficial, clear or vague, most of us have a list of things we want to do and places we want to go before we die.

We’ve all done it. Come back from a vacation exhausted because we determined to check off several things on our bucket list. But the word “list” is a dead giveaway. What do we do with lists? We check them off, and then the lists no longer matter. It’s the following list that matters. Checking off all the things on our list feels really good...for a few minutes. But come tomorrow morning, we will be doodling out a brand-new list. Yesterday’s feel-good moment is history, and now we’re off to the races again. My friend, there’s a better way; I call it landmarking memories. I got the idea from a book I read over twenty years ago titled *Soul Salsa*, by Leonard Sweet. Sweet wrote: “There is one day in your life that will be your best day.

There is one day in your life that will be your worst day. It’s essential to recognize when you’re experiencing one of life’s most memorable moments and its opposite. Landmark both.” As the idea for this letter began to take shape in my mind, a landmark moment occurred to me on a summer afternoon in Bismarck, ND. Ruby, my granddaughter, and I were on the back porch watering some plants. Ruby was about two years old at the time, and she was fascinated by the water hose. When I finished, I adjusted the water spouts lightly and adjusted the water pressure, then handed her the water hose. She eagerly pressed the handle on the nozzle, and the water shot up into the sky. She was indescribably thrilled, raptured into bliss. I’ll never forget the look on her face and the wonder in her eyes. Her entire body was vibrating with almost uncontrollable excitement. I remember thinking to myself,

“I must never forget this moment.” And I haven’t; I landmarked it by recording it in my journal and by putting a recurring reminder in my calendar. Here’s the fantastic thing about landmarks and what makes them different from bucket lists...Once the bucket list deed is checked off, you have to move on to the next thing to feel that excitement again.

But when you have a landmark moment, every time you revisit that moment, you experience the joy again. In fact, landmark moments become increasingly precious as the years pass. While serving in the Dakotas and Montana, I experienced several moments that checked off my bucket list. Yellowstone and Old Faithful were amazing. The Grand Tetons and Glacier National Park were even better.

I was surprised at how moving it was to visit Mt. Rushmore, and the ND Badlands were like something from another world...the first time. Every time we had guests come over, they also wanted to see those things (they had a bucket list). I was glad to take them to see these things, but each time I went, it was never the same again. I’d already done those things and checked them off my list. But landmark moments –they never grow old nor lose their appeal. And that leads me to what I really want to say: Michigan Church of God, we must not turn church into a Bucket List. Sunday worship must not be just another item on our weekly to-do list. We can’t let the church become just another string of activities and programs. We must come expecting every Sunday, every event, and every activity to be a landmark moment—a moment when God can truly and actually show up to do something transforming.

Bottom line, whatever we do, we must never lose the wonder—for when the wonder is gone, the joy is also gone and all we have left is duty and memories. That’s not how it is meant to be. Here’s praying for landmark moments for the Michigan Church of God!

**Blessings, David L. Kemp
Administrative Bishop**

ONCE UPON A TIME...



Once upon a time... We had a new member potluck at our house. I thought it started at 6:30pm. It didn't. It started at 6:00. I hadn't been out of the shower for very long, when the doorbell rang! I hurriedly got dressed, went downstairs and began to entertain. I was chattering like a magpie to hide my confusion and to top it all, I didn't know any of them personally! Wow! Not my finest hour! David came in about 6:40 and we finally started the meal. We had a nice time talking and eating and the evening ended better than it started. Does your life ever leave you feeling like you are 30 minutes late and unsure of what is going on? Probably. But in our times of confusion and doubt, we must never forget that we have a resource outside of our own strength and understanding.

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." ~ 2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV

Depend on it; when the going gets rough, you are not alone, God is right there with you. "All things" means - allthings, even potluck dinner guests you do not know. "All grace" means you don't have to do life in your own limited ability. He's got your back. "You will abound" assures us that the ending will be better than the start.

Believing the best for you and for MICOOG,

Sonja Kemp

AUGUST TITHE STATS



Church of God in Michigan
2025 August Tithe Stats

Church and Pastor	Tithes	Worship
Stewart Road Church of God, Mark Ingram	57,227.81	510
Dexter Lake Church of God, Paul Tindall	44,981.00	196
Oak-Crest Church of God, Richard D. Rogers	30,713.43	198
Victorious Life, Scott Weaver	25,962.53	122
The River, William E. Wahl	25,923.00	177
New Hope Community, Victor Williams	22,135.00	93
Walton Blvd Church of God, M. Tony Barbour	19,089.89	104
Grace Point Church, Jeff McNally, Jr.	15,865.00	220
Hill Creek, Wesley Hunter	14,636.31	79
LifePoint, Ronald Schubert	14,213.80	139
Family Worship, Eric Rogers	13,849.67	77
Maranatha Church of God, Ryan Sharpe	11,448.92	71
Victory Temple, Dennis Wick	11,345.25	54
White Cloud Church, James Fader	10,418.18	74
Durand Church of God, Mark Fernandez	10,063.00	104
Big Jackson, John McGhee	9,719.75	91
The Summit, Jim Morrison	8,634.00	60
Hope Community Church, Glenn Gilman	8,607.99	49
Kingdom Life Church of God, Steven Bishop	8,157.00	162
New Covenant, Ronald Jacobs II	7,847.50	62
Heritage Park, Robert Rennie	7,748.47	56
Redemption Outreach, Scott Tysick	7,394.00	121
Connection Point, Thomas E. Rea	7,286.90	36
Grand Haven, Nathan Strom	7,125.38	40
International Church of God, Joy John	7,000.00	200
Heritage Community Church, Adam Schultz	6,661.06	50
Holly Church of God, Eugene Blankenship	6,185.00	44
Kalkaska, Church Alive, David Morrison Jr.	6,131.92	34
New Harvest, John Criswell	6,066.50	30
Family Life Center, Ryan Snyder	6,035.17	80
Highest Praise, Wesley Starr	5,748.25	49
Lighthouse Worship, Roger Fleming	5,648.16	63
Upper Room Church of God, Alex Fernandez	5,240.00	88
Harvest International, Frederick Nichols	5,201.14	22
Lapeer Church of God, Dakota Leming	4,458.03	60
Sandusky Church of God, Jeffrey Noble	4,390.40	23
Central Church of God, Chris Johnson	4,332.00	56

Trinity Church of God, Mark Wellhousen	4,174.00	21
The Point, Ellis Fortune	4,105.08	0
Christian Church for all Nations, Danielle Andre	3,378.76	30
Harrison Church of God, Willis Pilman	3,364.00	18
Fountain of Praise, Debra Schilling	3,020.00	18
Redemption Place, Deborah Leshner	3,009.20	35
Family Tabernacle, Jeffrey Howard	3,000.00	34
North Point Worship Cntr, Michael B. Arp	2,988.30	35
Living Word, Frankie Lucas	2,854.57	26
Living Word, Jephtha Bryant	2,775.00	25
Garden City Church of God, John H Stamper, III	2,632.00	23
Lawton Church of God, David R. Cripps	2,433.00	12
Lighthouse Village, Anthony M. Fields	2,216.82	28
Family Life Worship, Charles Kiesgen	2,126.00	35
New Hope Ministries, J. Ron Dunn	2,066.00	18
Flat Rock Church of God, James Williams	2,053.00	21
Inland Lighthouse, David Goheen	1,958.00	15
Hastings Church of God, Jeremy Singleton	1,725.40	12
Redford Church of God, Shirley Stafford	1,700.00	36
House of Hope God's House, Tom Coppens	1,640.00	10
Strong Tower, Doug Trudell	1,640.00	36
Sheridan Church of God, Robert Carpenter	1,248.00	8
Faith Chapel, Betty Marlow	200.00	8
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
Clinton Church of God, Gary Adams	N/R	0
Cornerstone, Warren R. Davis	N/R	0
Crossroads Church of God, Daniel W Blankenship	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
Houghton Lake Church of God, Jacob Nicoletti	N/R	0
Lake Orion Church of God, William S. Curnell	N/R	0
Lighthouse Church of God, Matthew West	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

River of Life, Justin Candela	N/R	0
Sebewa, Thomas Jablonski	N/R	0
Solid Rock, Wayne Ramey	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
Mission Churches:		
Clio, Life Line, Linda Adamczewski		
Gwinn, Upper Room, Charissa Renner		
Mt. Pleasant, Curtis Asmore		
Sheridan, Robert Carpenter		

AUGUST MORNING WORSHIP ATTENDANCE STATS



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