

Home Missions Today

This is John Shaw reporting the September 16, 2020, edition of *Home Missions Today*. God is using your prayers to develop the ministries of Orthodox Presbyterian mission works across North America.

OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN — Bob and Grace Holda

Faithful attendance in worship, a newly started Sunday School program, and upwards of 20 regular visitors who are interested in membership, are just a few of the good things happening at Resurrection Presbyterian Church (RPC). Pastor Bob Holda shares that the congregation continues to serve a Swahili-speaking family. He now gives the salutation and benediction in Swahili and English, and this fall the congregation hopes to learn a few simple praise songs in Swahili so that their Congolese brothers and sisters can participate more fully in worship. Please continue to pray for effectiveness in this ministry, but also that the Lord might expand it to other refugees in the Oshkosh area. As RPC finishes denominational support this month, Pastor Holda says, “We are so grateful for the support we have received from CHMCE and all the churches who have been praying for us over the past four years. So much of the fruitfulness we have enjoyed is, no doubt, a result of the Lord giving us things that others are asking him on our behalf. Thank you for your many prayers. Please don’t stop praying! Particularly, pray that we would be able to address areas of needed development in our ministry over the next year. We are hoping to petition our presbytery next spring with, Lord willing, organization taking place in fall 2021.”

SANDUSKY, OHIO — Larry and Kalynn Oldaker

Pastor Larry Oldaker shares the good news: “‘Finally, but that is just the beginning!’ The Presbytery of Ohio held a service of recognition, ordination, and installation for Firelands Grace OPC in Sandusky, OH on July 24, 2020. It was postponed because of the pandemic, and a smaller than originally planned group gathered to hear God’s Word and to praise Him for His goodness. Though years in coming and after bringing new families and people to a vital knowledge of Christ and the reformed faith, we’ve only just begun. People were joyous at the election, ordination, and installation of two of our own as our first elders: Cody Goff and Chris Vandergoot. Though Covid-19 has made outreach challenging, we continue to reach out online with gospel preaching. We’ve had visitors from other church backgrounds find us because we are open with in-person worship. They are hearing the Word and responding with interest. We have focused on some discipleship of several individuals. We will be having a congregation-wide discussion about interest in, support of, and commitment to outreach activities, Bible studies, and fellowship opportunities. Please pray as we ‘roll our sleeves up’ to get to work in sharing the gospel in these needy and tumultuous times. Thank you for your prayerful support.”

HOUSTON, TEXAS — Nick and Rosemarie Lammé

The Lord has greatly blessed the work of Nick Lammé, Harvey Houston Evangelist, over the past two years. Now as he completes denominational support, he shares an update on the future of his work there: “As a result of the Bible study in Crosby, we are now endeavoring to plant a church there under the oversight of Providence OPC’s session. At the end of July, we began worshiping in a Southeast Texas Cowboy Church, though this arrangement is temporary. We are in talks with another church to utilize their facility on a more permanent basis. The Lord has truly preserved this group, and added to it, throughout Covid-19. We continued the Bible study in-person throughout the lockdown, though for families who did not feel safe joining us, we provided Zoom streaming. During the Sunday stream, we invited as many as were willing to come to our home and worship with us. We had as many as 25-30 people at our house every Sunday morning as we streamed for both Providence and the Friendswood Church of Christ. The Lord blessed these services, and they became the catalyst for the attempt to hold worship services on Sunday evenings in Crosby. Providence has acted to give oversight to the work. I rejoice in the Lord’s faithfulness during this time and solicit your prayers on behalf of this work.”

NEON, KENTUCKY — Jay and Andrea Bennett

Neon Presbyterian Church has good things to report. Pastor Jay Bennett writes, “We’ve continued to hold in-person services with only minor changes. We’ve also continued to meet for our weekly Bible studies through Zoom. The platform works quite well. Since our last report, we’ve been out several times knocking on doors to share the gospel and invite folks to worship. Pray for continued faithfulness and fruit. About three weeks ago I approached the director of the new men’s addiction recovery center in Neon. He was thankful and very welcoming. I am currently leading about 25 men in a discussion-oriented Bible study on Thursday’s from 6:00-7:15pm. Please pray for my ministry to these men. They have expressed much appreciation and seem to be very excited to learn and grow together. Giving continues to be ‘up.’ The Lord has been very kind to us.”

Look for the next Home Missions Today on Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

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