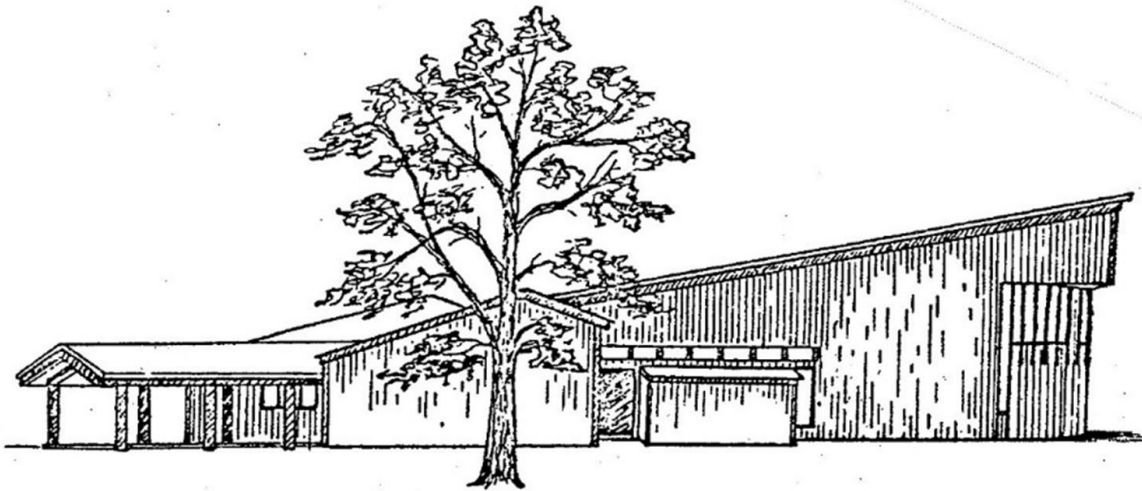


Reflections of Faith -- October 2025



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL



**"As we GROW in Christ's Love and the Word,
we will SHARE Christ's Love with the World."**

4009 Irving St. Marinette, WI 54143– Member LCMS

CHURCH: (715) 735-6506
PRESCHOOL: (715) 732-9903

marinettefaithlutheran@gmail.com
flpmarinette@gmail.com

www.faithmarinette.org

FAITH LUTHERAN STAFF

Officiant: Rev. James Krueger
revjfk@hotmail.com
989.293.5335

Pastor 'office hours' for October:

Monday – Thursday from 8:00am – 1:00pm
These hours may be subject to change, so please call ahead if you would like to meet with Pastor.

Church Office:

marinettefaithlutheran@gmail.com
715.735.6506

Church office hours for October

Monday – Thursday from 8:30am–1:30pm

Preschool Director / Teacher : Kat Ehlers

flpmarinette@gmail.com
715.732.9903

Assistant Teacher: Marianne Evancheck

FAITH LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP

President : Jim Zill
jzill@new.rr.com
907.654.0123

Vice-President : Keith Mueller
keith.mueller1227@yahoo.com
920.621.0071

Financial Secretary : Lori Okrasinski
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Treasurer : Roxanne Mueller
roxanne.mueller@yahoo.com
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Calendars

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| • Worship Service | 9:00am |
| • Fellowship Time | 10:15am |
| • Bible Study | 10:30am (September-May) |
| • Sunday School | 10:30am (September-May) |

WEDNESDAY

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| • Discipleship Class | 6:00pm (September-May) |
|----------------------|------------------------|

THURSDAY

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| • Choir Practice | 6:00pm (September-May) |
|------------------|------------------------|

"As we GROW in Christ's Love and the Word, we will SHARE Christ's Love with the World."

“Taking Care of Your Body as the Dwelling Place of the Holy Spirit”

The Bible contains descriptive and direct teachings that are given to guide our life choices for our physical bodies which are the 'temple of the Holy Spirit.'

1 Corinthians 6:19-20, "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, Whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So, glorify God in your body."

1 Corinthians 10:31, "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."



“DON'T DRINK AND FLY”

We're used to the phrase, "Don't drink and drive." How about this one – "Don't drink and fly"?

A small study shows that consuming alcoholic drinks while flying can put a strain on your heart. Researchers at the Institute of Aerospace Medicine found that the low cabin air pressure in an airplane tends to decrease oxygen levels in the blood and increase the heart rate – and alcohol does the same thing.

The researchers had 48 people, ages 18-40, spend two nights in the altitude chamber: one night after drinking alcohol and the other after no alcohol was consumed. The combination of alcohol and high-altitude conditions led to a reduction in sleep quality, long periods of low-blood oxygen levels, and ultimately a strain on the cardiovascular system.

"CLIMBING STAIRS HELPS YOUR HEART"

A combined nine studies involving 480,479 participants found that regularly climbing stairs plays a role in reducing the risks of cardiovascular disease and premature death.

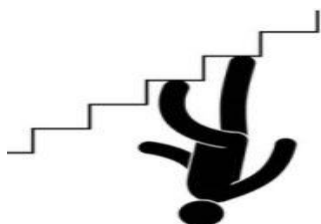
Compared with NOT climbing stairs, stair climbing was associated with a 24% reduced risk of dying from any cause and a 39% lower likelihood of dying from cardiovascular disease.

Stair climbing was also linked with a reduced risk of cardiovascular disease including heart attack, heart failure and stroke.

The participants in the studies included both healthy people and those with a previous history of heart attacks. Ages ranged from 35 to 84 years old and 53% of the participants were women.

Climbing stairs also burns calories – up to four times as many as walking for the same amount of time.

The conclusion by researchers was this: if you have a choice of taking the stairs or taking an escalator or elevator, choose the stairs because doing so will help your heart.



Benefits of Stair climbing

- **Strengthens** your legs and glutes
- Boosts your **heart health**
- Helps burn **more calories**
- Improves **balance** and **coordination**
- Easy and **convenient**

For more information,
contact:
www.physio360.biz



“SMARTPHONES CONTINUE TO DEVASTATE THE MENTAL HEALTH OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE”

(an article by Thom S. Rainer, founder of Rainer Ministries)

When you hear that depression among teenage girls has increased by 145% and that suicide attempts have risen by 188%, it does more than catch your attention – it grips your soul. These are not dry statistics. These are lives. Sons and daughters. Grandchildren. Students. Members of our churches.

What happened?

The answer, in part, is as close as your pocket or right in your hand. It is called the 'Smartphone.'

In 2007, Apple introduced the first iPhone. By 2010, selfies were a thing. By 2013, the smartphone was in the vast majority of American homes. Around that same time, we started seeing an alarming spike in mental health issues among adolescents – particularly girls.

THAT TIMELINE IS NOT INCIDENTAL.



Jonathan Haidt, in his sobering book “The Anxious Generation,” calls it “the great rewiring of childhood.” I believe he is right. The very nature of growing up [and communication] has completely changed, and the smartphone is a primary driver of that change!

Let us be clear: correlation does not always equal causation. But when rates of depression, anxiety, self-harm, and suicide all began to rise dramatically after the smartphone became mainstream, we are no longer dealing with coincidence—we are staring at causality in the face.

So, what exactly are smartphones doing to our kids?

1. They are Creating a Crisis of Comparison

Teenagers today are constantly connected – but chronically lonely. Through apps like Instagram, Snapchat, and TikTok, they are bombarded with curated, filtered versions of other people's lives. They compare their unfiltered reality to everyone else's highlight reel. And they always come up short.



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Self-worth has become a numbers game: How many likes? How many followers? How many views? The phone becomes a mirror—and the reflection is never good enough.

Self-worth has become a numbers game: How many likes? How many followers? How many views? The phone becomes a mirror—and the reflection is never good enough.

2. They are Disrupting Sleep—and Health

Teenagers need sleep. A lot of it. But smartphones are stealing it minute by minute hour by hour – night after night.

The blue light emitted from screens suppresses melatonin, the hormone responsible for sleep. Add to that the dopamine-driven addiction of endless scrolling, and many teens are staying up well past midnight. They are wired, exhausted, and emotionally raw.

Sleep deprivation does not just make teens grumpy. It impairs memory, weakens emotional regulation, and fuels depression. It is hard to fight anxiety when your body and brain are running on empty.

3. They've Made Bullying Inescapable

Years ago, bullying ended when the school bell rang. Not anymore. Today, a child can be harassed 24/7 through their smartphone. The insults do not stop when they get home. They follow them into their bedroom and into the night.

Cyberbullying is relentless, often anonymous, and deeply harmful. Victims are at a higher risk for depression, anxiety, and suicide. And parents are often unaware if it is happening—until the damage is done.

Let us not sugarcoat this. The smartphone has turned many bedrooms into battlegrounds.

4. They have Contributed to a Youth Suicide Surge

It is one of the most tragic realities of our time: suicide rates among children and teens are rising.

Among girls ages 10–14, suicide increased by 167% from 2010 to 2020. Among boys, it rose by 91%.

Yes, some of this could be attributed to better reporting and a decrease in stigma. But that does not explain the rise in emergency room visits for self-harm—up 48% for boys and a staggering 188% for girls in that same decade.

Something real is happening. And something devastating.



5. They've Amplified Isolation

Despite their ability to "connect," smartphones have made many young people feel more isolated than ever.

Real conversations have been replaced with emojis. Eye contact has been replaced with screen time. Teenagers are lonelier, more disconnected, and more anxious—even while being more "plugged in."

Smartphones were supposed to unite us. But for many young people, they have become a prison with no walls and no curfew.

As a grandfather, I am heartbroken. As a church leader, I am burdened. And as a follower of Christ, I am hopeful—but only if we act.

Parents cannot be passive. Pastors cannot be silent. Churches must step into this moment, not with condemnation, but with compassion and wisdom.

Let us create smartphone-free zones. Let us invite our teenage children and grandchildren into real conversations, face-to-face community, and unfiltered love. Let us preach the gospel to a generation whose screens have taught them they are not enough and remind them that in Christ, they are fully known and fully loved.

The mental health of our young people is at stake, and the church must not look away. Our children – who are both the present and future of the church – are in crisis – a preventable and manageable crisis. Will you be part of the healing process?

SUMMER IS THE TIME TO FILL OUR SCHOOL BAGS FOR



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

We wish to say, "THANK YOU" to everyone who made a financial donation towards our recent collection for "Back to School Bags." Your generosity is very much appreciated, AND your impact on needy families is a tribute to your 'servant-heart.' Thanks from Marla & Rosie!



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF CELEBRATES 80 YEARS OF CARING AND SHARING

LWR was founded in the aftermath of WWII. By the end of 1944, Europe was enveloped by a tremendous displacement crisis as the war marched on. In response to this desperate situation, members fasted during the Lenten season and collected the funds they saved in an offering to meet the needs of displaced Europeans including: food, clothing and quilts. By the end of the 1940's, LWR was also sending relief aid to those affected by conflicts in Palestine, Hong Kong, Korea, and Bangladesh.

In the 1950's, LWR was called again to respond to the suffering of war, establishing 140 feeding centers and distributed 31,000 meals a day across Korea in the aftermath of the Korean War.

In the 1960's, LWR convened evangelical churches across the U.S. to send food and clothing to Vietnam during that war. The work broadened extensively with President John F. Kennedy's "Food for Peace" committee to get food to some of the world's poorest communities.

In the 1970's (after the Vietnam War), LWR continued moving in its mission, working with the U.S. government to build the national resettlement program which welcomed refugees fleeing conflict in places like Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. LWR began relationships with farming cooperatives to increase rural incomes and food security in the developing world. In 1979, LWR opened its first regional office in Peru.

During the 1980's-1990's, LWR responded to the African famine by shipping over 5,000 tons of wheat to northern Ethiopia and opened a regional office in West Africa. LWR became the first faith-based organization to receive the Presidential End Hunger award.

Since the year 2000, LWR has increased its emphasis in the area of agriculture and responded to major natural disasters and humanitarian crises around the world. As of 2023, LWR maintains ongoing operations in 29 countries in Central/South America, Arica, the Middle East, Asia, and Oceania.

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SPIRITUAL MESSAGES NEEDED FOR DIGITAL BILLBOARD

Earlier this year the Faith Endowment Committee approved a grant for a four-week rental of the digital billboard on the south side of Highway 41 for displaying daily spiritual messages which will be visible to everyone traveling into Marinette. The rental period will be from November 30 through December 27, 2025.

Our church's vision statement is "As we GROW in Christ's Love and the Word, we will SHARE Christ's Love with the World". The purpose of the billboard messages is not to increase our church membership count but rather to share the wonderful message of God's saving grace to as many people as possible.

Creativity plays a vital role in the success of billboard effectiveness. A well-designed billboard that captures attention and conveys a clear, compelling message can leave a lasting impression. Short messages such as the following are good examples of effective billboard displays:



We are asking everyone to submit their ideas for short messages to be displayed on the billboard. Write your ideas on a piece of paper and place them in mailbox # 160. Selected messages will be designed and then sent electronically via a software application provided by Jones Sign Company. If anyone has a question, please speak with Keith Mueller. We can have the message change daily which allows us the opportunity to have up to 28 different messages, so get those creative juices flowing!

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BECOMING AN “ELDER”

Have you ever thought about becoming an “Elder” here at Faith? or what is required of an elder? how much time does it take up? Well let me help with some of the questions or “misconceptions”. First of all, you do NOT need to be asked to be a member of the Board of Elders – though every new member must be approved by the existing board members per our Constitution here at Faith. If becoming an elder is something you have thought about or want more information about, you can talk with any one of the existing members or simply check the box on your Time and Talents sheet later this year. Second, not everyone is made the same way so while some are better at certain aspects of the responsibilities, others may be better at other aspects – we all work together to ensure that the spiritual needs of the congregation are met.



The Leadership of The Church



Some individuals in the past have thought that they need to be able to conduct a service or deliver a sermon in those “emergency” situations that arise now and then – we are all good at something but not all good at the same things which, again, is why we work together as a team to accomplish what needs to be done! In the past months you’ve heard or read about the “Elder Assistant” that we have been promoting and this is another excellent path to learning what it is we do on Sunday’s. If you have an interest or just a question or two, please contact any one of us as we are always there to assist. There is currently one open position on the board and I know there are more than a few men in our congregation more than capable of “doing what we do”. Being an elder is a very rewarding experience allowing each member to work closely with the Pastor and members of the congregation to maintain a happy, healthy, and very spiritual church life here at Faith.

In HIS service,
The members of the Board of Elders

"As we GROW in Christ's Love and the Word, we will SHARE Christ's Love with the World."

faithful

"Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful" (1 Cor. 4:2).

What is the standard to which a steward is held? Ask the average person, and they might talk about percentages, tithes, and commitments. Too often, the default mode of measuring stewards is by how much and how frequently they give. This is not helpful. Measuring activity without any connection to baptismal identity is a recipe for disaster. It can either breed a sense of superiority and self-righteousness or create a culture of scarcity and despair. Neither outcome is godly or helpful.

This standard reflects the stewardship portrayed in the Gospels where Jesus entrusts varying amounts, each according to ability.

The commended stewards were recognized for their faithfulness in their vocation, not the amounts they managed. Conversely, the condemned stewards were not castigated for their lack of performance but for their lack of faithfulness.

This is not to say that stewardship should be regarded as "no big deal." St. Paul, within his discussion of the ministry to which he has been called, sets the standard of accountability for the steward: faithfulness. This removes any sense of superiority or self-righteousness and dispels scarcity and despair. When a steward manages what the Lord has entrusted to them — resources and all aspects of life — for God's purposes, the focus is not on how much or how frequently they give.



What does this mean for the steward in the pew? The Lord has entrusted you with various things. Luther captures them in his explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer. The familiar couplets of food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals and all possessions are the Lord's, and He has entrusted them to you for His purpose. This trust brings an active realization of thanksgiving.

The Fourth Petition:

Give us this day our daily bread

What does this mean? God gives daily bread indeed without our prayer also to all the wicked; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to know it, and receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What then is meant by daily bread? Everything that belongs to the support and wants of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, field, cattle, money, goods, a pious spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful rulers, good government, good wealth, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

This active thanksgiving is our stewardship. It can be distilled into two questions that the steward regularly needs to answer:

1. How has God blessed me?
2. How is He calling me to respond

The first question is quite simple to answer: if the Lord has entrusted something to you, it is a blessing. This blessing is for God's glory and the benefit of your neighbor. The second question is more challenging to measure; it is not about percentages and charts. Instead, it is about a life of thanksgiving that flows from the mercies of God revealed in Jesus Christ. This thanksgiving starts at and flows from the cross and the empty tomb. Our stewardship of the Gospel drives our stewardship of everything else.

The standard, then, is faithfulness. Faithfulness flows from eyes focused on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. It does not come from our efforts but through the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives, through Word and Sacrament. It begins at the altar in the Divine Service but extends into the world — from hearth and home to workplace and classroom, from commerce to leisure. The mercy of God, freely given in Jesus, leads us to demonstrate a faithfulness that reveals to others the same mercy we have received in Jesus.

This faithfulness cannot be measured empirically. It is simply allowing the Holy Spirit to work in and through us for the glory of God and the benefit of our neighbor. Weekly. Daily. Faithfully.

Revitalization Team Project Update

Rawhide Kitchen Cabinets, Countertops, and Island

The Rawhide kitchen project is almost done. The flooring is going down, then our church group has one more workday to finish up the project.

A special thank you to everyone who supported the project financially and physically. This is a labor of love!

Rawhide invites everyone who supported the project with their time, talents, and treasures to **join us for a special "House Blessing" by Pastor Jim AND LUNCH on Friday, October 10th at noon. Please let Sharon Starks know if you will be attending. 715-923-3863**

BEFORE



AFTER

August 2025 Year-to-Date Financial Summary :

Financial Summary -- August 2025 Year-to-Date Numbers:

Offerings for Operations \$139,987

Operating Expenses \$144,256

Interest Income \$ 863

Loss from Operations \$ (3,406)

Offerings for missions and community outreach projects thru 8-31-25 totaled \$25,398 (over and above the offerings for operations)

Praying God will bless us in order that we may fulfill His calling for each of us as we grow in Christ's love and the word, so that we may share Christ's love with the world. May God continue to bless our time, talents, and treasures as we serve Him, our church, our members, and our community outreach ministries throughout 2025.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8, "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And 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."

Respectfully submitted,
Roxanne Mueller
Treasurer

Update
your
Information

MEMBERS DIRECTORY

ADDRESS CHANGES



September 2025 Steingraber CHRONICLES

Greetings in Christ,

Our first month as a family at Immanuel St. Charles has flown by. Steve was able to lead liturgy at four out of the five weekly services and preach for all five weekly services throughout the month. He also helped with liturgy and the message at a few of the school's chapel services.

Pastor Schmieding, his supervising pastor, has been very good at getting Steve out to visit members in the hospital and their homes. Steve is making his mark as a great traffic director for pickup and drop off before and after school!

Lori is well into the first quarter and enjoying her kids this year. Along with teaching third grade, Lori teaches first through fourth grade Music class each week!

David is over a month into school and has played his first pep band home games for football at Lutheran South High School. Homecoming for him is right around the corner!

Timmy has been busy at school as a sixth grader and switching classes throughout the day. He gets to have a homeroom teacher, and then three other teachers for Science, Social Studies, and Religion classes. Timmy's only complaint is that he needs to haul his books from room to room! Timmy has competed in a few cross-country meets this season and is doing well.

Lori has been blessed with several new music offerings at ILSC. She enjoys playing organ and piano for the sanctuary and fellowship hall services and gets to play handbells and sing in the choir! Steve also was able to sing in a short-term men's choir recently.

We are looking forward to all the opportunities we have to serve and meet our people. Please keep the students and families of both seminaries in your prayers as a new academic year starts again in the fall. Thank you for the prayers and/or support you have given during this time of learning for the whole family. We appreciate you all!

Peace and Love in Christ,
The Steingrabers

801 Seminary Place
St. Louis MO 63105
steingrabers@csl.edu

2025 REVITALIZATION TEAM: OCTOBER UPDATE

Here is the STATUS of our 2025 Revitalization Team Goals as of 9/10/25:

1. Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Services - GOAL OF \$ 969.15 IS **COMPLETED**.
2. Rawhide Youth Home – GOAL OF \$3,600 is **COMPLETED AND SURPASSED**, we are waiting until the floor is finished before cabinet installation can be finalized.
3. Camp David – GOAL OF \$2,000 **HAS NOT YET BEEN ACHIEVED, WE STILL NEED \$ 775 IN DONATIONS** in order to purchase a commercial grade washer/dryer.
4. Marinette County Sheriff's Office – GOAL OF \$ 2,000 **HAS NOT YET BEEN ACHIEVED, WE STILL NEED \$1,350 IN DONATIONS** in order to support two (2) Global Human Oppression Strike Teams. The Marinette County G.H.O.S.T. TEAMS will proactively combat Internet crimes Against Children (ICAC) and Human Trafficking (HT).

We may need to set up a grocery bagging event at Jack's Fresh Market in Menominee, in October, to help raise what is required.

FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL UPDATES

Our first month of preschool has been such a joy! I mentioned to Pastor Jim that the beginning of the school year has been fast, furious, and fun!!

The children are settling into routines, making new friends, and exploring God's world with laughter and curiosity.

We welcomed a couple new students into our preschool family, with more friends planning to join us soon. We have a total of 8 students with the plan for 2 more to join when they turn 3. We thank God for the blessings of each day and ask for your continued prayers as we grow together in His love.

In October we plan to go to Bergeson's Farm Pumpkin Patch. The students have already been talking about and getting excited about going. Of course, they think we are going "right now" instead of having to wait about a month. It is super cute how excited they are.

Thank you again for your prayers and support. Ok, full speed ahead to an amazing school year.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14



We recently received the following letter from Rev. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann in the Dominican Republic.

**THANK YOU FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - Jonathan
and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann
Serving the Lord in the Dominican Republic**



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ at Faith Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your monthly gifts of \$110 to support God's work through us in LCMS missions in the Dominican Republic. We are so grateful to be able to serve in this joyful ministry and appreciate the people such as you who make it possible.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE →

"As we GROW in Christ's Love and the Word, we will SHARE Christ's Love with the World."

We continue to see Bible classes, worship services and weekly evangelism calls bearing fruit. The Seminary and other Lutheran school classes are on summer break and will resume at the end of August.

The five mission congregations each have their own outreach in the form of preaching stations, as well as weekly community visits made by congregation pastors, members, seminary field workers and local deaconesses. Sometimes it seems as if the work grows so fast that we will not be able to keep up with it all. But God is faithful and provides what is needed according to His perfect timing. We do pray that God will send more workers to the field here in Latin America!

Thank you for your prayers in addition to your support and encouragement.

Love in Christ,

Deaconess Cheryl and Pastor Jonathan Naumann

PRAYER

God, protect Jonathan and Cheryl as they travel and do the work You have created for them to do. Increase the faith of those they serve and provide people in the U.S. who will partner with them and support them. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

