

### Seeing our neighbors...

- ✝ God emphasizes in his word our love and respect for **all** our neighbors. This includes folks who come from different backgrounds and the “foreigner living among you.” (Luke 10:25-37; Ephesians 2:14-18; Leviticus 19:33-34)
- ✝ We have a growing Hispanic population in our area. For example, there are **over 80** students in McBain Public Schools who are in the special program for English Language learners (ELL).
- ✝ There are **extremely limited** opportunities for spiritual growth and worship in our area in the Spanish language.
  - There is a small group that worships in the building of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Lake City twice a month.
  - The Roman Catholic Church in Marion occasionally has a Spanish-speaking priest, but this has been only sporadic lately.

### English Language Tutoring at Vogel Center CRC

- ✝ Our church is offering support for our neighbors to improve their English language ability through tutoring relationships.
  - Understanding and speaking English is one of the most important steps for successfully integrating into our community. When we ask our Spanish-speaking neighbors how we can help them, learning English is top of the list.
  - We had a successful program going in 2016, and we are resuming it.
- ✝ The goal is to serve a need but also to **build bridges** of friendships and relationships.
- ✝ We are partnering with the Literacy Council of Cadillac for training, materials, and support.
- ✝ As we resume, we are emphasizing tutoring relationships rather than classes. This means we have **plenty of opportunities** for tutors.
- ✝ The flagship time for tutors and learners to meet in **Thursday evenings from 5-7pm**. Tutors and learners are free to arrange their own meetings, but we encourage them to take advantage of the open-house format of these two hours each week.
  - We will offer light refreshments.
  - Childcare will be available for younger children.
  - Homework help will be available for older children.
  - **There are lots of ways to get involved!**
- ✝ The next round kicks off on Thursday, March 21.

## How to get involved...

- ✝ To learn more, please talk to Pastor Adam or Moria Stoll (231.920.4867)
- ✝ We would love to get as many people involved from our church as possible.
  - Talk up this ministry with friends and neighbors.
  - Encourage folks to come who might be interested in improving their English. There are flyers in the back for invites.
  - Post one of the flyers in a breakroom or other location.
  - ***Get involved*** on Thursdays
    - Become a tutor.
    - Help with food.
    - Watch children.
    - Help with homework.

## Ministry and church planting

- ✝ We are also looking to bring a Spanish-speaking pastor into our area as a chaplain, church-planter, and ministry catalyst.
- ✝ This is a joint effort with all of the churches in our area, though the CRC denomination and Classis Northern Michigan would be major financial supporters.
- ✝ We have a potential pastor from Cuba who is living in Michigan as a candidate.
- ✝ We are forming a leadership team of six people who will oversee and guide his work.
- ✝ We estimate this would be about 20 hours each week.
- ✝ The goal is to develop small faith communities in homes and workplaces around our area, and possibly worship services.
- ✝ Please talk to Pastor Adam to learn more about how to become a prayer or financial supporter of this work.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Jesus in Matthew 22