

# 2025 MINISTRY REPORT



**STURGIS MISSIONARY**  
CHURCH

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# PASTOR'S REPORT

## Overview

We are in a healthy place as a congregation, and God has shown us how to maintain our well-being and grow spiritually. We thank God for guiding us forward. He has revealed important truths in His Word and raised up leaders to help us grow.

Building on this foundation of well-being, we have seen God accomplish significant work this year. One notable example was the fulfillment of the Yalunka Covenant signed in July 2001. We rejoice that a healthy church is with the Yalunka people. This does not mean we will stop praying for them, but we can rejoice knowing we have stayed faithful to our promise to support the Yalunka people until a healthy church was established. At the Missionary Church National Conference, World Partners recognized Sturgis Missionary Church as faithful to the Yalunka Covenant when speaking about the missionary work of Bruce and Dawn Cluckie.

The ministry team and elders took time to determine the core measures for a healthy church. with an emphasis on the culture needed to pursue them.

- Harmony: Attendee is operating as a part of the body of Christ
- Abiding: Attendee is regularly hearing from God
- Transformation: Attendee is working on a righteous change in their life
- Praising God: Attendee glorifying God
- Kingdom Impact: Attendee is participating in God's Work
- Discipling: Attendee is investing spiritually into someone

## Sensory Room

The challenges families face with special needs limit their ability to participate in all aspects of services or children's programming. There are many families in the Sturgis community who are believers without a church home because of the unique needs of their child. Having a place for children with special needs and sensory needs to connect to Jesus in a way that gives them the time they need to communicate and understand things they can't in a normal setting is crucial to holding to our values and vision.

A sensory room is a designated area for neurodivergent individuals and others to retreat from overwhelming church stimuli. These rooms offer tools and a calming environment, with features that help regulate their senses and help them participate in the community without becoming overstimulated or anxious. Our desire would be to eventually offer this as a classroom setting.

To help us navigate next steps, a group of ministry leaders is putting together a plan. Some of the team visited Hope Missionary Church in Bluffton, IN, to tour their sensory room and discuss their special needs ministry.

## Iglesia Misionera en Sturgis

Iglesia Misionera and Sturgis Missionary Church are working to bring Iglesia Misionera into our ministries. Discussions have been made with the Hispanic ministry, regional directions, and Granger Missionary Church, which has a Hispanic ministry.

We look forward to how God will use this new ministry to reach more people for Christ. We were blessed to share services with them before our church picnic and on Christmas Eve.

## **Personal Growth**

At the beginning of the year, I started making changes to how I present my messages. I hope they have been beneficial to everyone. I sought feedback from the elders, the church board, and the ministry team to ensure my changes were appropriate. I have been encouraged to see this as a good change, based on the positive feedback I have received from these groups and other church attendees.

Each month, I attend a healthy church cohort through the North Central Region, and I meet with the three local Missionary Church pastors. Each quarter, I complete five mobile education courses. I also complete various training programs offered by the denomination or region.

## **From Eden to Eternity**

Our main focus for the reading plan was relational, that is, to get to know the heart, mind, and presence of God. We heard so many positive compliments from attendees as they went chronologically through the Bible together. There was encouragement in going through the same sections of scripture together, and comfort in knowing others were also struggling with certain sections of the Bible. We had over fifty individuals start the reading plan at the beginning of the year. Around ten completed the reading plan, and many are still working their way through it. No matter where you land on having completed the reading, still working through it, or having stepped away from it, I'm proud of everyone who went on that journey with us and dedicated a large portion of their time to hearing from God in His Word.

Along the way, we gave glory to God by placing a bean inside a jar each time we allowed God to work through us. I know we did way more for God than our beans show, but I hope it helped us better understand how God is using us, the part we play in the Kingdom of God, and the immensity of God's endeavors through the body of Christ.

## **Peace in God's Guidance: Our Shepherd in Times of Stress**

As the ministry team looks towards God's leading for 2026, there has been a recurring focus on anxiety as a concept to consider. As a church, we will be navigating Peace in God's Guidance amid anxiety, stress, distress, and life's challenges.

We are starting the year off with men's and women's groups finding encouragement from God together. In the spring, the church will rally around the children as we offer Emerald Crossing, a curriculum navigating Psalm 23 and the idea of overcoming anxiety. In our aim to find a worthy community service project that will also have a significant impact for the Kingdom of God, we will invite a professional counselor to speak as part of our outreach to the community.

Our initiative goals are to support each other in overcoming the anxiety and stress that affects many in our community, offering the comfort of God and practical steps to move forward. In addition to establishing a clear mission for church attendees to unite around, it is a brief commitment that showcases visible results and accommodates a diverse range of spiritual gifts and talents.

## MINISTRIES

Youth Gurly Burly  
Youth & Family Lake Day  
Youth Mall Hunt  
Youth Christmas Party  
Youth 8 to 8 All Nighter  
Youth Bigger & Better  
Youth Bake Off  
Youth Pizza Party  
Ignition Youth Conference  
11:1 Mentorship  
Women's Worship Night  
Women's Craft Day  
Women's Progressive Dinner  
Women's Mug-A-Friend  
Women's Care Package Service  
Women's Comedy Night  
Women's Game Night  
Women's Care and Share  
Women's Growing with God

Ladies' Christmas Ensemble  
Women's Angel Tree  
Men's Games and Pizza  
Young Adults Group  
Young Adult Bonfire  
Young Adult Rock Climbing  
Movie & Color Fun  
Feed My Starving Children  
Worship & Breakfast  
Chili Cook-Off  
Prairie Project  
Family Sundays  
Church Picnic  
Trivia Nights  
Christmas Caroling  
Christmas Eve Service  
Game Swap  
Operation Christmas Child  
And so much more!

## GROWTH GROUPS

Mere Christianity  
Hispanic Bible Study  
The Chosen  
Life Lessons  
Experiencing God  
How to be a Christian without being Religious  
The Women of Christmas  
Resisting Satan and Drawing Near to God

Two Wings of Communication  
Pentateuch  
Sons of God  
Sharing the Message of Hope  
Walking by the Spirit  
Proof that Jesus Was Sent by the Father  
Mark 8:22-26  
Exploring Sturgis Missionary Church

## TEACHINGS

Keeping in Step with the Spirit  
Overcoming Desires  
Yahweh's Approval  
Leaning Upon God  
Transformation: Allowing God to Work Through You  
Reassurance for Discouraged  
Our Labor for God  
Yahweh Deserves Our Best  
Don't Strike the Rock  
God's Providence  
Confidence in Life's Trials  
Your Offering is an Act of Worship  
Your Role in God's Mission  
Navigating a Moral Paradox  
Prevailing Over Satan's Discouragement  
Confidence in the LORD  
Shaping Commitment to Yahweh  
Jesus Can Relate  
The Splendor of God's Holiness  
To Promise Before God  
Resisting Satan and Drawing Near to God  
Virtues of a Helper

Gold Plated Grenades  
Strength in Adversity  
Today's Actions Are Everlasting  
If Only God Would Show Up  
Unethical Godliness  
Set Apart for God  
Consecrated Life  
Seeking Yahweh  
Letting God of Our Agenda  
Receiving God's Guidance  
Relatable Illustration  
They Will Know He is Yahweh  
Petitioning God  
Was it for God That You . . . ?  
Overcoming Discouragement  
Jesus' Deity  
Proof That Jesus Was Sent by the Father  
Essentials: Kingdom Impact  
Essentials: Transformation  
Essentials: Praise Yahweh  
Essentials: Harmony  
Essentials: Abiding

Enduring Hardships  
What We Preach  
Freedom from Sin  
Demeanor of Strong Faith  
The Wonder of Jesus' Coming  
The King is Coming

In the Day of My Trouble I Seek the LORD (Ken Mills)  
Missionary Update (Bruce Cluckie)  
How Deep is the Father's Love for Us (Ardi Eichorn)  
Over Halfway There (Eric Ruckert)

### **Analytics**

There are 152 people connected with Sturgis Missionary Church. Of the one hundred fifty-two, one hundred twenty-seven regular attendees, sixteen irregular attendees, seven participants (shared custody or only attend on midweeks), and two are away at college.

Our average Sunday attendance was ninety-five (seventy-three adults and twenty-two children), with eighteen online attendees. We ended the year with fifty-two church members.

During the year, we had three new professions of faith.

### **Thank you**

Thank you for your continued help in fulfilling the vision Yahweh has given Sturgis Missionary Church as we endeavor to be a devoted community of believers rooted, built up, and walking in Christ in their worship of God, making disciples, spreading the gospel so all acquaintances have heard, and no believer is left without a church home.

Blessings,

*Pastor Joshua Brueck*

# CHILDREN'S REPORT

We extend our deepest gratitude to our incredible team of volunteers! Your dedication and passion to our ministry have made this year a resounding success. It is because of your commitment to the spiritual growth & needs of our younger members that our children are learning to know, love & follow Jesus.

**Teachers/Caregivers:** Vicki Eichorn, Carrie Brueck, Matilde Hernandez, Kasey Pack, Miriam Delgado, Elizabeth Delgado, Heather Hartong, Aubrey Rouch, Lindsay Lash, Barbara Esseltine, Diane Schrock and Karen Mills

**Youth Volunteers:** Corban Brueck, Elliot Rouch, Salma Ellis, Ruth Rouch, Alli Ritchie, Cloie Lover and Brianna McDonald

This year has been filled with exciting activities, spiritual growth, and meaningful connections. We've focused on creating a fun and engaging environment where children can learn about God's love and develop a strong foundation of faith.

## Monthly Bible Memory

Each month, we focused on a new memory verse to help the children learn and internalize God's Word. These verses were incorporated into lessons, activities, and became a fun and engaging church-wide initiative.

- January ~ Ephesians 3:18
- February ~ Psalm 33:4
- March ~ John 13:34
- April ~ Nahum 1:7
- May ~ Romans 8:31
- June ~ Titus 3:5
- July ~ Proverbs 3:5-6
- August ~ Joshua 1:9
- September ~ 1 John 4:10
- October ~ Psalm 145:8
- November ~ Philippians 4:6
- December ~ Philippians 4:13

## Welcomed New Babies

We were delighted to welcome Ella and Emily Rouch to our Children's Ministry family!

## Ministry Volunteer Training

We held a successful volunteer training session to equip our team and teens with the resources and skills needed to effectively minister to our children. Thank you for investing in the next generation!

## Operation Christmas Child

Throughout the year, our Upper Elementary Children's Church class worked on bible memory and "earned" items to pack in a Christmas box for a child somewhere in the world. They packed 15 Operation Christmas Child boxes, sharing the love of Jesus with children around the world. What a wonderful opportunity for our children to participate in missionary work, joyful service to others through Samaritan's Purse.

## Looking Forward

As we look to the future, we are excited to continue growing our Children's Ministry and impacting the lives of our children. Our goals for the coming year include:

- Expanding our programs to impact, reach and support our children and families.
- Developing new, ongoing and engaging curriculum to enhance spiritual learning.
- Providing ongoing training and support for our dedicated volunteers.

Thank you for your continued support of our Children's Ministry. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of our children and help them grow in their faith. It has been a joy to serve.

~ Karen McKeith, Children's Coordinator

# YOUTH REPORT

2025 marked our ninth full year of Youth Ministry here at SMC. Thank you for the opportunity to invest in this next generation. The following will include the Youth Group's vision; spiritual wins; teen Sunday school; mid-week youth group; fellowship; Digging Deeper; 11:ONE Mentorship; prayer; and goals for 2026.

## **Vision**

"To unify teens (Grades 6th – 12th) and leaders in the pursuit of knowing, loving, and following Christ. The goal of this pursuit is that teens would be encouraged through loving relationships to use their gifts and develop tools to build God's Kingdom".

## **Wins**

In thinking over the last year there were several highlights of youth ministry that I would consider wins.

- After expressing her concern for an area she was struggling with, one teen said to Brittney in a text, "I also would like to start knowing God more and having him in my life. You probably won't see this till the morning but I would like it to happen sometime." There was more interest in mentorship!
- Several of the teens seem to be growing spiritually. (Allison, Cloie, Simon, Brianna, Corbin)
- Friends of teens inviting friends (There were 21 teens one regular Wednesday night).
- 2 first-time commitments (Brianna and Kate)! Both of them are interested in getting Baptized.
- Several helped to teach a youth lesson (Juli, Tristan, Allison and Cloie).
- Teens came over to our home impromptu and had a blast, which helped develop better connection! (a couple guys even ended up spending the night and another time girls spent the night)
- Several teens are helping with the Children's Church (Allison, Salma, and Brianna).
- Two high school teens helped as young youth leaders (Juli and Tristan).
- One teen helped on the worship team (Juli).

**We are so thankful to God for His work in the lives of the teens.**

## **Teen Sunday School**

The Teen Sunday School started small (couple teens) again this year, but then over this summer we asked teens to come to Sunday school as a sort of mentorship. We started having 6ish teens each Sunday. Having started with Genesis the year before we continued going through the Old testament, reading the major Bible stories and discussing how they apply to our lives today. Over the summer we split the guys and the girls for two different mentorship groups. In the fall we started using the SOAP (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer) method to study the book of John. Our average at the end of the year is around 4 teens.

## **Mid-Week Youth Group**

Wednesday nights are a topical study and include both a game and a snack to help grow relationships and encourage teens to come. The first part of the year we continued with our theme on "Steps to Maturity" with topics on spiritual disciples, work ethic and working for God. We took a break from this series over the summer and had theme nights with lessons that somehow tied to the theme of the night. Some of these theme nights were Pirate Night, Sports, backyard Olympics, Christmas in July, graveyard scavenger hunt, and volleybomb. Normally our attendance is down over the summer, but this last summer we had some of our biggest attendance in a while - consistently 12 to 15 teens.



In the fall we discussed relationships (Authority, Friend, and Guy/Girl relationships) since several of the teens were interested in boyfriends/girlfriends. In the late fall the youth group grew again with an average attendance of 15 or more (with a high of 21!)

## Fellowship

We have scheduled fellowship times in the form of fun events. The goal is to do one fun event each month, the purpose being fellowship, and to encourage youth involvement and unity. Fun activities for 2025 included:

- All nighter (January)
- Girly Burly (March 1st)
- Movie Night (March)
- Ignition Conference (March 21-22)
- Holy Ground Worship night
- Bigger and Better (May)
- Summer Wednesday Night Theme nights (June-August)
- Baking Wars (By Juli and Ayla)
- Color Wars (Church wide)
- Rouch Lake Party (September)
- Back to school Party (September)
- Eichorn Home Hangout (November)
- Caroling Cookie Making Service Event (December)

## Digging Deeper

This was the third year of Digging Deeper Youth Bible Camp. It was held at Sturgis Missionary Church, which was an awesome place to have it! Although Sturgis Missionary plays a big role in the Digging Deeper Youth Bible Camp, we have chosen to make it a community camp. We hold to a belief in God as revealed through His infallible Word, the Bible. Our mission is to help teens 6th through 12th grade grow in desire and ability to read and study the Bible; faith and relationship with God; and relationship with like-minded peers.

This year's theme was "Bring the Word: In, Through, and Out". We talked about how God/God's Word changes us on the inside first, which then affects our actions and words. **God worked in teens' hearts!!**

Following are some of the wins:

- 20 teens from 6 different churches, and 7 counselors (1 was a former Digging Deeper camper), and leaders from multiple churches ate, played, worshiped, prayed, studied the Bible, and grew closer to God together.
- Teens really enjoyed the worship. Multiple teens mentioned that it was a favorite part of their day.
- Bailey Horn was the main speaker. He brought amazing content, and he was very engaging for the teens! Many of the teens really enjoyed him.
- A majority of teens raised their hands saying that they grew at least a little bit in the study of the Bible.
- After camp a mother shared how the camp caused their daughter to grow spiritually and how it seemed that reading God's Word wasn't as intimidating. A father said the camp allowed for multiple conversations about reading the Bible.

To God be the glory!! Thank you to everyone involved for your generosity in time, talents, and resources. Scan the QR code, or go to the [Digging Deeper Facebook page](#) to see a short wrap up video.



## 11:ONE Mentorship

The name, "11:ONE", comes from I Corinthians 11:1 which says "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." "11:ONE" is a way for individuals to invest in and influence people towards Christ. It is not just for teens, but an opportunity for anyone in the church that would like to be mentored or mentor someone. At the beginning of 2025 there were 4 pairs. The mentor/mentee pairs were as follows (Mentor first, then mentee): Anna Camburn with Juli Brueck, Jared Eichorn with Tristen

Smeltzer, Joel Eichorn with Simon Lover, and Brittney Eichorn with Brianna. Julie and Tristan both graduated and are attending Bethel University so they are no longer a part of the mentorship. We are in the process of starting up new mentorships. Thank you to Anna Camburn, Jared Eichorn, and Brittney Eichorn for being willing to serve as mentors.

## **Prayer**

Please be in prayer for:

- Our teens, to grow in their relationship with God, consistency in reading God's Word, and protection from the distractions/pitfalls of the world.
- Our teens to grow in love for their peers and passion for the lost
- The leaders for wisdom to know the best way to influence the teens and make an impact for Christ.

## **Goals for 2026**

Goal #1: Teen growing in \*Bible Reading, Prayer, and \*Relationship with God.

Goal #2: Teens taking ownership of the youth group, which will be seen by their \*desire to invite friends, etc. and to learn, \*live (teens are being kinder to each other), and tell the good news.

Goal #3: Spiritually mature teens stepping up to lead in the youth group.

An (\*) means progress seen in this area.

Thank you to all who have had a part in strengthening the youth group, whether being a mentor, bringing youth to church, giving advice, opening your home, or something else. Thank you God for the work that you are doing in the lives of our youth!! Thank you to all for the opportunity to lead your youth here at SMC!

Blessings,

*Joel and Brittney Eichorn*  
*Youth Coordinators*

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY REPORT

Sturgis Missionary Women started off the year with our annual planning meeting for 2025. Our SMC Women's Ministry leadership team for 2025 consisted of Peggy Modert – Director, Trish Woods – Treasurer, Karen Mills - Missions Leader & Vickie Eichorn – Secretary. We sponsored the Cluckie Family (\$240.00/yr) and Youth for Christ (\$120.00/yr). These amounts are divided into 2 payments each year. The leadership also decided to support Fawn River Missionary Church with their women's conference in the fall by providing financial support

to SMC ladies who wished to attend the conference at the amount of \$25.00 per registrant. The total payment was \$100.00.

Girls Night Out is usually held on the first Tuesday of each month. A schedule is set up on a rotation of local restaurants and we meet at 6:30 p.m. It's a great time to chat, enjoy good food and get to know each other better.

Karen Mills and Peggy Modert hosted a **Comedy Night** on Monday, February 24th. The ladies attending were asked to bring mini appetizers to share with the group. We enjoyed hearing the comedy of Nate Bargatze and we had around 20 ladies present.

SMC Women met on Tuesday, March 18th for a **Craft Night** event with Lindsay Lash and Carrie Brueck as our hostesses. We decorated wooden lanterns that we were able to take home with us. There were over 20 women and their daughters who attended this event. It was a great time of fellowship.

Carrie Brueck hosted **Growing With God** with us on Monday, April 14th for a make and take project of planting indoor greenhouses. We had a great time together while we worked on our projects and chatted with each other.

Vickie Eichorn organized our **Progressive Dinner** which was held on June 17th. We met at the church and then traveled to each destination for a different course of the meal. Our hostesses this year for Salad were Beth Stevens and Karen Mills, Main Dish was Lisa Ross and Dessert was Beth Fisher. We had a good number of women in attendance for this fun evening. Special thanks to our gracious hosts.

We had a ladies tea that we needed to cancel and also a mystery night so we didn't meet as often as we had originally planned.

The SMC Women's **Worship Night** was hosted by Anna Camburn on August 19th. We were welcomed as we settled into a cozy worship area to begin the evening. Anna led us beautifully in this special evening of worship and inspiration.

This year our SMC Women's Ministry **Mug a Friend** was held on Monday night, September 30th. We had a nice evening eating warm soup and enjoying conversation with one another. Trish Woods and Stephanie Weaver served as our hostesses. There were several women in attendance and we watched a video of a women's speaker loaned to us from another church.

After collecting many items from the SMC congregation, we were able to pack 24 **Care Packages** to distribute to the homeless community through the Friday Lunch program at St. John's Episcopal Church. This year the care packages were packed ahead of this night and then taken to the church.

The packages included personal care items, hand warmers, gloves, hats, socks, combs, and many other items. Thank you to our church family for the generous donations made for this worthwhile cause. This was our 4th year sponsoring this event and they appreciate our continued support for the homeless in the Sturgis community. About 9 ladies visited St. John's and enjoyed a tour of their facility and hearing about the programs available to the homeless in our community. Diana Wells-Wilson was our hostess and was very informative about their programming. The ladies returned to SMC afterward to enjoy some delicious pies.

In December, we collected monetary donations from our SMC congregation to give gifts of money to several SMC families this year through the **Angel Tree Ministry**. We were able to give \$400.00 in monetary gifts to 7 families. The funds for the Angel Tree Ministry are donated by our church family and then distributed where best needed.

The **SMC Women's Ministry** group has many purposes. We enjoy fellowship together over food and conversation. We often have Bible based devotions that provide encouragement and inspiration to guide us in our Christian faith. We enjoy hearing the updates on the missionaries we support both financially and prayerfully. Karen Mills provides us with prayer sheets to take home for continued prayer for their needs. Collections are taken at our events to help us with expenses and financial support for these missionaries and other causes. Over the course of the year, we work to build good relationships with one another.

We are looking forward to another exciting year in 2026 and the blessings God will bring to all of us here at SMC. All SMC Women are invited and encouraged to join us for our SMC Women's activities and to invite their friends to participate as well. We hope to see you at our upcoming events!

*Peggy Modert*  
*Women's Ministry Director*

SMC Women's Ministry  
Missions Fund  
2025 Financial Report

<b>Balance – January 1, 2025</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Offerings	\$635.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$635.00</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Bruce & Dawn Cluckie (through SMC)	(\$240.00)	
YFC	(\$120.00)	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>		<b>(\$360.00)</b>
<b>Balance – December 31, 2025</b>		<b>\$275.00</b>

*Trish Woods*  
*Women's Ministry Treasurer*

Women's Missionary International  
Project and Activities Fund  
2025 Financial Report

**Balance – January 1, 2025** **\$1297.26**

INCOME

Angel Tree Deposits \$ 400.00  
Interest \$ 0.25

**Total Income** **\$ 400.25**

**Total Assets** **\$1697.51**

EXPENSES

Meetings (\$200.21)  
Women's Retreat (\$100.00)  
Angel Tree (\$400.00)

**Total Expenses** **\$ 700.21**

**Balance – December 31, 2025** **\$ 997.30**

*Trish Woods*  
*Women's Ministry Treasurer*

# DEACON & ELDER REPORT

Vicky Eichorn, Carrie Brueck, and Heather Hartong were entrusted to serve the SMC congregation in the capacity of Deacon/Deaconesses in 2025 and will continue in those capacities in 2026.

Ardi Eichorn and Eric Ruckert were entrusted to serve the SMC congregation in the capacity as Elders in 2025 and will also continue in those capacities in 2026.

**The Deacon/Deaconesses have served the congregation in various ways in 2025 including:**

- Monthly communion
- Facilitating Church wide events (Chili cook-off, church picnic, caroling)
- Card showers for members
- Pastor Appreciation Month
- Assisting with funerals held at SMC
- Managing the college scholarship fund
- Managing the compassion fund
- Doing their best to offer encouragement to members, along with faithfully praying for the congregation of SMC.

**The Elders have served the congregation in various ways in 2025 including:**

- Offering counseling and Spiritual guidance to SMC members
- Meeting monthly to talk about how to help support the congregation and
- our Pastor
- Teaching classes
- Filling the pulpit, as needed

The Elders, Deacon, and Deaconesses ask that the congregation keep Pastor Josh in their prayers as he leads the congregation in 2026 and leads us in the Psalms 23 initiative.

# MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Here's a brief overview of the Marketing and Communications efforts from 2025.

My goal is to provide effective and efficient communications that inform, inspire, and invite participation in the life, mission, and vision of Sturgis Missionary Church.

A significant portion of my time is spent updating SMC's website and social media channels; creating flyers, graphics, and pre-service announcements; and promoting church events. In 2025, our marketing budget was used for Facebook and Instagram advertising, as well as Google Ads.

Thank you to everyone who has shared photos, interacted with content, and participated in the "Friends of SMC" Facebook group. Trish Woods does a wonderful job moderating the group—thank you! I'm also grateful to Juli Brueck for her help in creating reels and content.

## 2025 Paid Advertising Campaigns

- Feb-May "Looking for a Church" Google Search Ad. *Results: 10.4K local impressions, 120 website clicks, 3 visited "Plan a Visit" page on website*
- March "Church Awareness Campaign" Facebook / Instagram ads. *Results: 142.4K Views, 50,217 people in Sturgis area reached*
- Easter Service Event Facebook Ad. *Results: 15,220 Views, 51 Event Responses*
- Nov. "Looking for a Church Campaign" Facebook / Instagram ads. *Results: 3,976 Views, 2,437 Viewers, 234 Link Clicks*
- Christmas Eve Service Event Facebook Ad. *Results: 3,604 Viewers, 69 Event Responses, (\$2.17 per event response, 4 cents per view)*

## 2025 Digital Impact

- Website: 4.1K users visited SMC's website + 8.4K unique pageviews
- YouTube: 1,280 video views + 13 new subscribers
- Facebook: 230.4K Views, 1.8K Content Interactions, 1.1K Link Clicks, 562 Facebook followers
- Instagram: 18.1K Views, 10.3K Reach, 757 Content Interactions, 114 Instagram followers
- Google My Business (just for Aug-Dec 2025): 528 Profile Interactions, 1,765 Profile Views for search "churches in Sturgis, Mi"

## Looking to 2026

This year, my goal is to build a new website that is more cost effective, get some updated photography, design new church apparel, and run new digital ad campaigns. I welcome your suggestions.

## You can help!

If you haven't already, please consider leaving Sturgis Missionary Church a [5-star Google review](#). This is one of the most effective ways to help people in our local area discover SMC.

As a reminder, you can use the Communication Request form on our website to submit events for promotion: [www.SturgisMissionaryChurch.com/communication-request](http://www.SturgisMissionaryChurch.com/communication-request)

Anna Camburn  
Communications Coordinator



# SMC BOARD MINUTES

## 2025 RECAP

### January

- Eric Ruckert elected as board chair
- Finalized 2025 budget

### February

- Approval to use Blue Heron Ministries for prescribed burn of the prairie

### March

- Discussions of comments from the 2025 ballot, finance committee and board having a joint meeting when setting the 2026 budget, Deer Creek Farm, prayer for offering during the service, and visitors with children

### April

- Asked the women's ministry to recommend missionaries from World Partners for potential church support
- A letter was sent to Deer Creek Farms regarding the movement of their pivot over the church's property and our requirement that no water be sprayed on our prairie
- Discussed missionaries retiring

### May

- Reinstated support for World Partner missionaries, John & Julie Gerig and Bruce and Dawn Cluckie
- Approved Deacon's recommendations for changes to our Christian College Scholarship Application
- Discussed Iglesia Misionera Church and moving board meetings from Monday to Tuesday

### June

- Changed meetings to the fourth Tuesday of the month
- SMC has fulfilled its covenant and is seeking ways to impact the Yalunka people in the future.

### July

- Discussed SMC's Involvement with Digging Deeper and overseeing this ministry

### August

- Discussions of discernment, Digging Deeper, ministry support, playground, board updates to the congregation

### September

- Meetings changed to the third Monday of the month
- Approved the Marriage, Gender, and Appropriate Behavior policy
- Discussed board recommendation for the finance committee meeting when setting the proposed 2026 budget, the membership status of two individuals, playground, board update to the congregation, and Iglesia Misionera Church

## **October**

- Approved Facility Use Agreement
- Kelly Post was placed in charge of creating a missionary committee
- Letter was approved to be sent to two members
- Discussed the need for a sensory room, the 2026 initiative, finalized our recommendations for the finance committee

## **November**

- Tim and Julie Rouch accepted into membership
- Nominations from the committee accepted
- Support of Iglesia Misionera becoming a ministry of Sturgis Missionary Church.
- 2026 budget recommendation sent back to finance committee
- Looked over wattage usage over the past six months

## **December**

- Accepted the 2026 proposed budget
- Discussed the Psalm 23 initiative

# 2025

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## CASH ASSETS 2025

January	\$332,439
December	\$362,508
<b>Difference</b>	<b>+\$30,069</b>

## INCOME

Offering	\$199,732
Building Fund	\$261
Compassion Fund	\$10,160
Mission Fund	\$692
Bethel Scholarship	\$1,000
In/Out Contribution	\$1,525
Digging Deeper	\$1,288
Checking Account Interest	\$32
Reserve Account Interest	\$12,104
Youth Account Transfer	\$6,331
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$233,125</b>

## EXPENSES

Ministry	\$10,277
Building	\$31,882
Partner Organizations	\$17,532
Salaries & Benefits	\$132,130
Prairie Project	\$1,547
Compassion Fund	\$200
Giving Fees (partial, the rest were taken from offering)	\$83
Digging Deeper	\$1,360
In/Out	\$1,603
Other	\$15,333
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$196,614</b>

## Detailed Expenses

Children's Ministry	\$991
Connection Ministry	\$1,616
Worship Ministry	\$234
Youth Ministry	\$1,616
Marketing	\$526
Hospitality	\$136
Office Expenses	\$1,666
Deacon's Supplies	\$36
Licenses/Fees	\$3,931
Miscellaneous	\$122

Janitorial Supplies	\$837
Electric	\$7,395
Heat	\$2,157
Improvements	\$18,514
Maintenance	\$2,071
Insurance	\$10,974
Equipment	\$825
Phone/Internet	\$2,565
Lawn/Snow/Refuse	\$1,840
Kitchen Supplies	\$351
Denominational Assessment	\$4,500
District Assessment	\$4,321
Local Missions	\$1,250
Prairie Camp	\$100
World Partners Missions	\$5,500
Youth For Christ	\$500
Senior Pastor Salary	\$38,176
Senior Pastor Housing	\$30,000
Continuing Education	\$249
Pastor Expense Allowance	\$740
Health Insurance	\$12,000
Retirement	\$6,000
Bethel Scholarship	\$1,000
Office Manager Salary	\$19,032
Janitor	\$3,825
Ministry Staff Salaries	\$22,111
Employer Tax	\$3,148
Life Insurance	\$303
Long Term Disability	\$372

## **RESERVE ACCOUNT EXPENSE**

Water Damage Cleanup	\$6,479
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2026

# PROPOSED BUDGET



## Building Expenses

\$2,800	Heat
\$6,800	Electric
\$11,197	Church Insurance
\$500	Equipment
\$1,000	Maintenance
\$2,200	Lawn/Snow/Refuse
\$500	Kitchen Supplies
\$850	Building Supplies
<u>\$2,640</u>	<u>Phone/Internet</u>
\$28,487	Total

## Partner Organizations

\$5,121	Dist. Assessment
\$3,505	Den. Assessment
\$500	Youth for Christ
\$1	M.C. Scholarship
\$100	Prairie Camp
\$6,000	Missions_ W.P.
<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>Missions_ Local</u>
\$16,227	Total

## Ministry Expenses

\$1,440	Children's Ministry
\$1,200	Youth Ministry
\$2,200	Connection
\$1,200	Worship
\$1,500	Office Expenses
\$2,500	License Fees
\$1,200	Marketing
\$250	Growth Groups
\$632	Website/Emails
<u>\$25</u>	<u>Deacon Supplies</u>
\$12,147	Total

## Salaries & Benefits

\$38,176	S.P. Salary
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\$30,000	S.P. Housing
\$6,000	S.P. Retirement
\$13,484	Health Insurance
\$2,500	S.P. Expense Allowance
\$500	Staff Expense Allowance
\$19,094	Staff Salary
\$18,681	Ministry Staff Salary
\$3,690	Custodian Salary
\$372	Long Term Disability
\$300	Continuing Education
\$168	Life Insurance
<u>\$3,176</u>	<u>Employer Taxes</u>
\$136,141	Total

**\$193,002 Total Expenses<sup>1</sup>**

### One Year Commitment

\$7,200 Psalm 23 Initiative

**\$200,202 Grand Total**

<sup>1</sup> \$190,401 – \$209,133 Potential Income

**KNOW.  
LOVE.  
FOLLOW.**



**STURGIS MISSIONARY**  
CHURCH