

Busy as a Bee

Our team and incredible volunteers have been hard at work converting the pole barn into a gathering place for the kids and teens.

Last fall at our open house we asked those who attended to come up with a name for the new space. We settled on "The Hive." What an impactful name when you think of a bee hive as the place of community and safety where bees go back and forth, bringing nourishment and go our again into the world.



Lexi sharing on emotional wellness for missionaries.



Learning the Needs of Missionaries

On March 10-15, our staff team – that has now grow to 16 – traveled to our campus for our yearly staff training time. They came from The Netherlands, France, Guatemala, Grenada, and from all over the US. We came together to be refreshed as a team through meal times, laughter but more so to refine, retool and re-equip.

We learned new tools for debriefing, especially for debriefing the youngest missionaries (ages 4-15.) We received resources that we can give to missionary parents to help their kids live in multiple cultures. And we spent every morning looking at different aspect of "soul-care". A few months ago I felt God give me a phrase to help me remember the concept of soul-care. *"Self-care can quickly become selfish care because it is focused on me and how I feel. But soul-care brings life in abundance because it focuses on how I represent the Creator through my whole life."* Every aspect of our personal wellness is important to God: Spiritual, Physical, Emotional, Intellectual, Social and Occupational.



If you would like to join our team by making a monthly commitment or a onetime gift you can go to www.excellingleaders.org and select us as your ministry partners.

Or send a check to Excelling Leaders, 3675 Edington Lane SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508 and put our name on a separate sheet of paper.
Or send a check to GR 1st Missions/Prins, 2100 44th St SW, Wyoming, MI 49519 with our name on the memo line.



Prins News

APRIL 2024



EXCELLING LEADERS
ENCOURAGING & EQUIPPING MISSIONARIES & MISSIONARY FAMILIES

The calendar says spring and Easter shows us the victory and new life that God has promised us. At Excelling Leaders, we are gearing up for an exciting year filled with opportunity, growth, and ministry!

The year started with a mix of emotions for Sue and me as on January 4, Sue's Mom went to experience that new life with Jesus. She was 88 and had battled many years of health issues, but it has left a void in our lives – especially for Sue's Dad as they had been married for almost 65 years. Dad's unconditional love towards Mom was such an example of God's love towards us!



Erik, Hanneka and their two boys.

Important Dates:

April 3-12

RADIANT LIFE RETREAT

Please keep the missionaries who are coming in your prayers as they process their stories, gain the tools and re-equipping needed to re-engage the calling that God has placed in their heart and find rest and renewal in His loving presence.

April 16-25

YWAM

Meetings in Orlando for YWAM Caribbean and North America

May 17-19

SILENT RETREAT

An intentional time set aside for missionaries and ministry leaders to find quietness and connection with the Father. Contact us for more information.

May 25

FUNDRAISER & OPEN HOUSE.

Mark your calendars!
We are kicking off summer with a special event on our property! More details to follow.

Erik and Hanneka shared their vision for a place to minister to women at risk. Human trafficking is a huge problem in the small Island of Aruba.



Ministering at a service in Aruba.



In January, Sue and I headed to Aruba to meet with Erik and Hanneka, the YWAM ministry leaders there. We really enjoyed working with them and helping them think through some legal and new ministry strategies, but we especially loved experiencing a lot of Dutch culture with a Caribbean flair. From there, Sue and I traveled for another week of meetings in Florida for YWAM Caribbean. It is so encouraging to be part of and see the many different ways to share the love of Jesus!