



**Our mission** is to bring glory to God by using His provision to help meet the physical and spiritual needs of those in our community.

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As spring begins to blossom, Jehovah Jireh Ministries of West Michigan continues to move forward in her mission to feed the hungry. Please share this first newsletter published by our Interim Executive Director Geoff McGannon. As a board, we are excited to be able to support Geoff in his acceptance of these new responsibilities as he strives to carry on the rich tradition found here. —Terry Bonebrake, Board President

*“The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, ‘The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness’” (Exodus 34:6)*

Friends of the ministry,

Thank you for your continued support. The need is great right now, and we are grateful for you all! Your prayers, hands, and financial support have carried us through an unknown season.

Introductions are likely in order, for many of you as this may be your first time hearing from me. My name is Geoff McGannon (pictured far left). Jim, Sharon, and the Board have entrusted me (with Taylor by my side - far right!) to take over as acting director of the ministry. It's a joy and privilege to step into this role and be writing to you all, our faithful partners keeping us afloat!



I am married to Heather, have two young boys Isaac (6) and Jonathan (4), and we live in Jenison. I previously worked doing campus ministry with Campus Crusade for Christ at Grand Valley State. After eight years in that work we felt the Lord leading us into a new adventure...here we are! I share these things because I wanted to share a little snapshot of what drives me. I deeply care about God's kingdom coming, his will being done on earth as it is in Heaven, and our knowledge of his scriptures.

One characteristic of God that has been a source of strength and comfort to me is *his abundance of steadfast love*. This is *so* central to who God is that the above verse begins with God saying he was proclaiming his own name in these words he spoke to Moses. *He is defined by his steadfast love and faithfulness*. This is the God who led Jim and Sharon to begin this ministry out of their home. It is He who is still leading us to feed those

who are hungry, in Christ's name to the glory of the Father. Through His provision and His steadfast love we will carry out His to the best of our ability!

### **Getting Our Feet Wet**

I've been employed at JJM for nearly a year now and have *almost* got my head around all Jim and Sharon have done here. Taylor has been on for about half that time. So we are wading into all the wonderful relationships, partners, and churches that are so vital to this organization. Taylor and I both long to steward well all the aspects of this ministry God has grown through the Herrema's faithfulness. We know it will take time to do this and we have our sleeves pulled up and are digging in!

### **Board of Directors**

You may well know this, but I thought it important to mention that the board of directors at JJM are such wonderful people. Knowledgeable, diverse, and passionate. Their discernment and guidance has enabled this transition to happen smoothly. They have asked Jim and Sharon to continue as members of a Legacy Council which will oversee and advise myself and the board on a semi-regular basis, and with any major decisions if asked. We are grateful the Herrema's will continue to have their wisdom and heart known in this way!

The board has tasked me with a few specific things in my first year as director. The stewardship of what is, and the labor for what is to come. I am focusing on care for our shoppers, our volunteers, and food suppliers. Moving forward I am going to be working to grow our recurring faithful giving and our volunteer base.

### **Prayer Requests & Praises**

#### **Please Pray for:**

1. The expansion of our financial support base. We are praying and working toward the goal of the vast majority of our monthly needs being met through monthly or regular giving!
2. Jim and Sharon as they adjust to a new normal and for continued provision for them.
3. Our 25th Anniversary celebration June 12th. We are juggling a lot to plan and enjoy a celebration!

#### **Join us in Thanking the Lord:**

1. For 25 years of stewardship of the abundance of our society to those who are in need.
2. For God's leadership in our organization to gracefully transition leadership and staff.
3. His Provision of our new truck!

#### **Reminders:**

- **Save the Date June 12th for our 25 year celebration!**
  - **Food distribution 10-12**
  - **Open house celebration 1-4**
  - **Both at the Hudsonville fair grounds.**
- Our website has been updated! Check out especially the "Need Help?" and "Get Involved" tabs.

Until next time,



Geoff McGannon - Interim Director

