

Jim & Jenny Hodgson - Ministry Update

January 2023

www.oakhills.edu/church-ministries

jimhodgson@oakhills.edu



Dear Family & Friends,

Jenny & I hope that each of you are doing well in 2023 & enjoying this winter! We trust that you had a great Christmas & New Year's season, and got to enjoy time together with your families. We traveled to Rapid City to be with our son & his young family for Christmas, got to hear him preach at their church, but also spent some extra days stuck in a hotel during a SD blizzard. Then all our children and their families gathered for a delayed Christmas in our home over New Years. What a joy to be all together again (picture below w/ our grandkids)!



Jenny's mom, Judy, passed away this past August. Grandma Judy loved Jesus & all her family incredibly well, and is dearly missed. My wife continues to help others grieve well with hope through her Grief Share volunteer ministry (www.griefshare.org), even as she's experiencing grief again herself.

The Lord continues to bless our ministry here through Oak Hills, even making some things flourish during this winter season. Below are some highlights from the last 6 months, with some new opportunities coming up.

Our Rural Certificate program graduated 5 students back in May 2022, who are all serving the Lord faithfully in their local MN & ND ministries. Our 2nd cohort in this online rural pastoral training program has now grown to 14

students, with each being such a joy to know & serve! Thanks for your prayers & support for this

unique effort, and for helping us continue to spread the word about it.

(www.oakhills.edu/church-ministries/rural-certificate). (picture below from Jan. 2023 class)



Our partnerships with other like-minded rural ministries & associations continue to grow nationally, especially with the Evangelical Covenant Church denomination. This week our President, Martin Giese, is speaking at their national conference, and we continue to partner with them in providing rural webinars, as well as our 2nd annual “Rural Impact Leadership Conference” in Alexandria, MN on March 18th (www.ruralimpact.church). For this March conference Marty will present on Rural Contextual Evangelism & I’m hosting a workshop on Rural Mental Health & the Church with a panel of Christian counselors & mental health experts who serve rural areas on this issue. Registration is open including an on-line option, so please consider joining us!



My community engagement continues with our Bemidji Rotary Club (www.bemidjirotary.org), Support Within Reach board (www.supportwithinreach.org), Headwaters Alliance Against Sex Trafficking & Exploitation (HAASTE), & Ruby's Pantry (www.rubyspantry.org). Recently at Rotary, I had the privilege to show the Selma March documentary on MLK Jr. Day with my OHCC teammate Bryant Tucker, and then earlier this week to host a BCA agent friend for a presentation on preventing human trafficking (www.yourcallmn.org). It's a joy to represent Jesus clearly with these community leaders, and to help them find the resources the Lord has put in place to help others flourish.

We thank the Lord for His provision of my missionary support in the past year & are trusting Him for the future. Thank you so much for your encouragement, prayers, & support! We hope some of these ministry resources will be a help to you & have attached our "Rural Impact Leadership Conference" flier & my Regional Ministry Events Calendar.

In Christ,

Jim & Jenny Hodgson
Director of Church & Community Relations
Oak Hills Christian College/Fellowship
1600 Oak Hills Rd - Bemidji, MN 56601
jimhodgson@oakhills.edu
www.oakhills.edu/give
218-556-6277 (cell)
218-751-8670 (office)

