

# MINISTRY UPDATES

Greater Grace Newsletter from Mike Thompson

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## Mike's InFaith Mission Focus

Here is a brief overview of my ministry focus with InFaith.

1. **Planting and strengthening residential recovery ministries** and rescue missions through developing, and coaching leaders and providing structure and gospel centered recovery related curriculum.
2. **Strengthening churches and non-profit ministries** by equipping leaders & teams to align their ministry with their God-given mission.

## Front Lines Updates

### GOSPEL CENTERED RECOVERY HOUSES

#### The Branches—In Mora, MN

On September 27th we held a public meeting to introduce The Branches to our local churches. 30 people attended in person and more than a 1200 viewed the livestream event on Facebook. Several people signed up to serve and support this vital ministry. Here is a link to the video. <https://youtu.be/4ypf4u8wxPI>

An urgent-immediate need is to form an Admin Team that can help with social media, web site development and other office and organizational tasks. If you are tech savvy and have decent office skills please consider signing up to volunteer. You do not need to live in Mora to participate. You can see some of the curriculum we will use for daily programming at [www.pastormikethompson.org](http://www.pastormikethompson.org) under the "InFaith" button.

Note: The building we are purchasing is located at 114 Maple Street in Mora, MN.

Beginning Mid-October I will be donating half of my missions time to The Branches to help them get ready to receive men into the program this winter. When we open I will direct the daily programming and train others to teach the curriculum and lead the programs. We take a discipleship and mentoring approach. Success in leadership is measured in multiplication. My success will be measured in how many are equipped to do the things I am equipped to do.

### NON-PROFITS AND CHURCHES

I continue to serve as interim pastor of Fish Lake Chapel, which is an InFaith associated church. As an InFaith missionary I am serving this church beginning with a one year commitment as Interim Pastor. October will mark one year of my interim assignment.

We have moved from traditional music only to a blended service that includes contemporary music. We are also hosting an AA group and have taken other steps to minister to those outside the church. There are many exciting ministry updates that are in the works. Please continue to pray for this fellowship that has been faithful to the word of God and the Lord for many decades.

### ADVANCED DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM (ADP)

On May 7th we launched a 3 year Advanced Discipleship Program for local ministry leaders, pastors from Liberia and Haiti, and others interested in growing in their bible study and leadership skills. Some hope to complete the entire program and become licensed with various denominations for vocational ministry. Other will take courses that line up with their interests. We completed Bible Study Tools and Methods and begin Ministry Coaching Skills this week.

### INFAITH UPDATES

Our Regional Director visited Fish Lake Chapel and then met with Dawn and I for several hours. We prayed and discussed several aspects of ministry. He challenged me to take on a roll of helping other InFaith churches and pastors in Minnesota. This is in addition to the ministries with which I am presently involved. Pray for God's wisdom, guidance and favor. After connecting with other churches and pastors in the area we will assess the best options for providing a Pastor's Conference.

### PICTURED BELOW

Ministry pics, family activities and more. Dawn and I celebrated our 1 year anniversary.

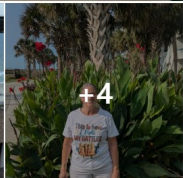
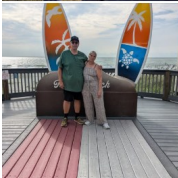
UPDATES IN PICTURES



Informational Meeting Sept 27th 2025



Happy anniversary to the love of my life Dawn Thompson. It's been an incredible year of sharing many things and working alongside each other.



Praise Reports Prayer Requests

| PRAISES                                                                       | PRAYERS                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Meaningful connections with other pastors and ministries in the area          | We need people to serve on an Admin Team for the branches.                   |
| Dawn’s women’s study is thriving and well attended                            | God will lead many to faith through The Branches & Fish Lake Chapel          |
| Regular monthly support has increased. Thank you for supporting this ministry | Health and fitness goals will be met. Trying to extend my expiration date :) |
| God’s favor with working toward the opening of The Branches Recovery Min.     | My family members would all grow closer to Jesus or come to faith in Christ  |

Contact & Other Information

MINISTRY PAGE: <https://infaith.org/ministries/michael-thompson>  
Michael Thompson  
411 Central Ave West  
Mora, MN 55051  
Mthompson@infaith.org  
715-661-3254



Note: Ministry page (QR Code and/or web site link above) has a ministry overview and a link/button for donations

TEXT TO GIVE: (484) 897-7097 Mthompson Dollar-amount  
(Note: Include a space between Mthompson and the dollar amount. Don't use decimals, only whole numbers please)

**InFaith Home Office:** (send checks via U.S. mail) (Include my name in memo)  
145 John Robert Thomas Drive, Exton, PA 19341  
610-527-4439

# Bonus Devotional Thought

## 2 Timothy 2:24-26 ESV

<sup>24</sup> **And the Lord's servant** (Doulos) **must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil,** <sup>25</sup> **correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth,** <sup>26</sup> **and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.**

### Who Is Addressed?

The Lord's Servant: Pastor, Father (US)

Qualification: Able to teach

### Action Commanded: (the way we conduct ourselves as we teach)

(what) endure evil      (how) Patiently

(what) Correcting opponents      (how) with gentleness

### What is God's Part?

God's part is to grant repentance. The first result of God granting repentance is that a knowledge of the truth is possible

A second result of God granting repentance is that people may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the Devil who captured them. What are the shackles that bind those captured? It is a blindness of the truth which is covered over by worldly philosophies and work against the knowledge of God and promote self-worship.

**(End Result) The end result of God granting repentance which leads to a knowledge of the truth and people coming to their senses is that people formerly captured by the Devil can** Do God's will.

### Role of Human Agent (Traits God Uses)

**Able to Teach:** When God grants repentance, he does not speak the gospel into their souls without a preacher. Faith comes by hearing the word of God. Repentance is in response to truth. Where did that truth come from? It came from the person able to teach. The Lord's servant is used by God to put truth in place. We put the truth in place and God opens their eyes.

"Able to teach" it matters that we teach well and learn to communicate truth.

"Correct" We competently correct wrong teaching. We do so in a humble posture.

### Traits of God's Servant (leader / teacher):

**Not Quarrelsome:** A peacemaker, someone who is not quickly angered or stirs up strife. Not just argumentative.

**Patiently:** We don't write people off or punk them on social media or gossip about them and write them off. We endure evil without getting hooked by silly talk of those who oppose our ideas and the word.

**Love:** (summing up traits) Kindness, not quarrelsome, patience, endurance.

### SUMMARY

We give truth in kind, patient, and gentle manner in the prayer that God will grant repentance. Yes, God is sovereign in granting repentance. But we should never say "God will change their mind and I'm off the hook and don't have to put up with these people."

God uses means to change people. The Lord's servant is essential to the salvation of souls.

God makes the objects of the miracle of repentance (we who are redeemed) the agents of the miracle of repentance. **Acts 26:18** He sends us to open the eyes of the blind. He uses means to accomplish this miracle. He supercharges the message preached and makes it land with conviction.

Lastly, Patience, kindness, and endurance are the work of the Holy Spirit. If we lose these qualities we become less like Jesus as we bark loveless words at the world. This will convict and convince few. When I get barky, I know it is time to reconnect my heart and mind with Jesus so that I can communicate the things I have learned from Jesus with the attitude of Jesus.

Blessings and love in Christ  
Mike Thompson