



**BIG GIVE**





# Letter from Pastor Joel



At Radiant Church, we value the urgent responsibility and privilege given to us by God to proclaim the Gospel to all people, tribes, and nations. We believe that the Great Commission in Matthew 28 was not just written for a small group of men thousands of years ago – it is for us now. It is a mandate for every follower of Jesus.

As a church, we are engaged in the Great Commission in our community and across the nations of the world. We are going, we are sending, and we are surrounding the work with prayer.

Over the last 200 years, faithful laborers have made incredible progress in spreading the Gospel of the Kingdom around the globe. Despite all the effort and commitment, roughly 3.2 billion people today do not have access to this great news. Many live in a land where the Gospel is unwelcomed, prohibited, and forbidden. It is difficult to determine for sure, but we estimate there are around 60 nations like this in the world today.

These places have been called “closed” nations for decades. When Jesus gave us the Great Commission, He did not offer any exceptions or exemptions for parts of the world that restrict or prohibit typical

Christian ministry. We believe we are living in some of the most exciting times of Christian mission. For the first time ever, we can confidently say that there are followers of Jesus living in every country in the world. With significant technological advances and multiple organizations unifying around a strategic goal, we believe the Bible can be translated into every language in the next ten years. No generation has been able to say these things before.

Our obedience to Jesus’ command requires us to innovate and discover ways to spread the truth in new ways. Access may be greatly limited or prohibited altogether, but it is not impossible. It must be CREATIVE. We serve a creative God who gives us the ability and wisdom to evaluate situations and find creative solutions.

We are not discouraged by the current challenges to the Gospel in our community or these restrictive nations. We see them as exciting opportunities to see what God can do. We believe that we have some of the best frontline strategic partners in the world, and it is an honor to join them in carrying out the vision God has given them to reach the lost.

## We believe there are no closed countries.

Creative Access is not just about making a cover for covert activities. It begins with establishing a legitimate, credible presence in a region. These creative access platforms are viable, God-given means for Christian workers to have relationships and communicate the Gospel to those around them with a sense of integrity. They come in all shapes and sizes, add value, and contribute to the communities being served. Our partners have created access through worship, art, translation, humanitarian aid, business, education, tourism, medicine, sports, and more.

The apostle Paul gave us a model for the mission that has survived the ages. He was a tourist, philosopher, lecturer, fund-raiser, prisoner, and tentmaker. In 1 Corinthians 9:22, he said, “[we] become all things to all men so that by all possible means [we] might save some.”

As I spent time praying ahead of this year’s Big Give season, I felt God highlight this idea of “creative access.” Not long after writing

those thoughts down, some of our amazing partners began to share the creative visions God had laid on their hearts. For many of these partners, this calling requires a lot. It is a calling to a long and difficult road where small gains sometimes come at a high cost for all involved. The love of Jesus compels us to take the path less traveled to reach the lost, knowing He is truly worthy of it all.

We greatly value the safety and security of our partners and do not want to do anything to create unnecessary risk. This means there will be particular projects we can communicate with much more detail than others.

I cannot express my gratitude enough for your participation in this year’s Big Give! Your generous sacrifice is making a tremendous impact.

Pastor Joel



# What is Big Give?

As a church, we have a mandate to expand the Kingdom of God and continue to remember the poor and those in need in our community.

Through Kingdom Builders, Radiant's strategic initiative focused on the local and global expansion of outreach, evangelism, and mercy ministry, you are actively participating in the Great Commission and helping us be RADIANT to our city and across the globe. Every year since 2011, Radiant Church has held the Big Give, where we ask our Radiant family to give above and beyond their regular tithe to a specific focus. YOU are making a difference, and this year is going to be special.

**2023 BIG GIVE  
OFFERING GOAL**  
\$1,000,000





# Local and Global Partners

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# Safe Families for Children



**WHERE?**

Across Southwest Michigan

**WHAT:**

Safe Families for Children has a mission to ensure that children stay secure and families remain united. Rooted in faith and fueled by hospitality and generosity, they aim to construct a network of caring, compassionate volunteers that support families grappling with social isolation. Their core goals include preventing child abuse and neglect, reducing the entry of children into the child welfare system, and working towards the support and stability of families.

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray for families to be empowered to minister to parents and children in our community.
- Pray that many are drawn to a personal relationship with Jesus as they see the love, service, support, and stabilization shown in times of need.

**PROJECT:**

We are actively assisting in establishing a new local chapter of Safe Families for Children in Southwest Michigan. Radiant will contribute \$100,000 toward this ministry to help ensure every child has a safe, nurturing family where they can grow and thrive. Additionally, we are asking for one hundred families from Radiant to sign up and become a 'Safe Family' as immediate needs arise.

**INVESTMENT:**

**\$100,000**  
**+ 100 SAFE**  
**FAMILIES**



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.



**WHERE?**

Kalamazoo, MI



**LOCAL PARTNER**

# Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries

**PROJECT:**

Similar to last year, we are hosting an unforgettable Holiday Party at the Air Zoo for guests of Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries and others in the local homeless community. With an expectation of serving over 300 individuals, there is a large need of volunteers to serve as greeters, table hosts, food service, decorators, carolers, game leaders, set up/tear down, and more.

Additionally, Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries always needs volunteers to help provide daily services to the community. Visit [kzoogospel.org/volunteer](http://kzoogospel.org/volunteer) for more information and volunteer opportunities.

**WHAT:**

Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries serves the community of Southwest Michigan, offering radical hospitality in Jesus' name to people dealing with hunger, homelessness, abuse, addiction, and anyone else in need. Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries has been a Radiant Church Kingdom Builders partner for many years.



**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray for everyone to experience community and the tangible love of Jesus through the entire Holiday Party.
- Pray for guests to move into longer-term programming so they can break their current cycles and walk in the freedom Christ desires.

**INVESTMENT:**

**\$25,000 + 100 VOLUNTEERS**



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.





# Warm Kids Project

## LOCAL PARTNER



### WHERE?

Kalamazoo, MI



### WHAT:

Warm Kids Project invests in Kalamazoo area communities by providing new winter clothing to children in need. Warm Kids Project has been a Kingdom Builders local partner for several years. They work directly with local schools to identify those in need and supply them with winter gear to stay warm and in school.

### PROJECT:

Our goal is to provide new winter gear to children in need across Kalamazoo County. For more than ten years, the Radiant Church family has shown exceptional generosity to secure coats, hats, boots, and gloves for children in our community who need them most.

### PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray that every child in Kalamazoo County will have the gear they need to stay warm while waiting for the bus or walking to school this winter.
- Pray children would feel seen and loved by the Father.
- Pray for the teachers of schools that Warm Kids Project serves.

**INVESTMENT:**  
\$15,000



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.





# Kindness Acts



**WHERE?**

Kalamazoo, MI + Malawi, Africa



**WHAT:**

Kindness Acts is a Kalamazoo-based non-profit founded in 2013 by Radiant Church members Eric and Shannon Myers. Over the past ten years their mission has been to create, facilitate, and administer a Christian discipleship program for homeless adults and children to see lives transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. Their hearts are focused on showing the true love of Jesus to others. They believe there is no greater reward than to be able to serve the Lord and be a blessing to others.

**PROJECT:**

In the first half of 2023, Kindness Acts led a Kingdom Builders Impact Trip to Malawi, Africa. Their commitment to sponsoring a camp for orphans has spanned over three years and, having completed this trip, a vision for their future global impact was born. Kindness Acts has purchased land and plans to establish a camp that will enable the ministry to go beyond serving just orphans, extending its reach to families, married couples, and local children. Furthermore, the site will serve as a training and equipping venue for ministry leaders across Africa.

In the future, the camp will provide opportunities for Impact Trips, Construction Teams, Radiant School of Ministry Expeditions, and training and equipping conferences.



**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray every person who visits the camp would have a moment of encounter with the living God.
- Pray that disciples are produced, strengthened, and multiplied.
- Pray that each event would reach, equip, and train far beyond all that we could ask or imagine.
- Pray the orphans, tribal children, families, married couples, and those in ministry who visit the camp would become fully-formed disciples of Jesus rooted in the Bible.

**INVESTMENT:**

\$150,000



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.





**WHERE?**

Kalamazoo, MI



**LOCAL PARTNER**

# Alternatives of Kalamazoo

**PROJECT:**

We are partnering with Alternatives of Kalamazoo in several ways, including a \$10,000 gift toward general operations, supply drive through Radiant Kids and Radiant Students, and advocacy and volunteer recruitment for their Kalamazoo and Battle Creek locations.

**WHAT:**

Alternatives of Kalamazoo is a pro-life nonprofit organization specializing in education on parenting, pregnancy, women's health, and healthy relationships. They offer free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, STI testing for men and women, parent education, and post-abortion healing ministry. Their mission is to promote the value of human life by serving the unborn and their families through the love of Jesus Christ.



**BIG GIVE**

**INVESTMENT:**

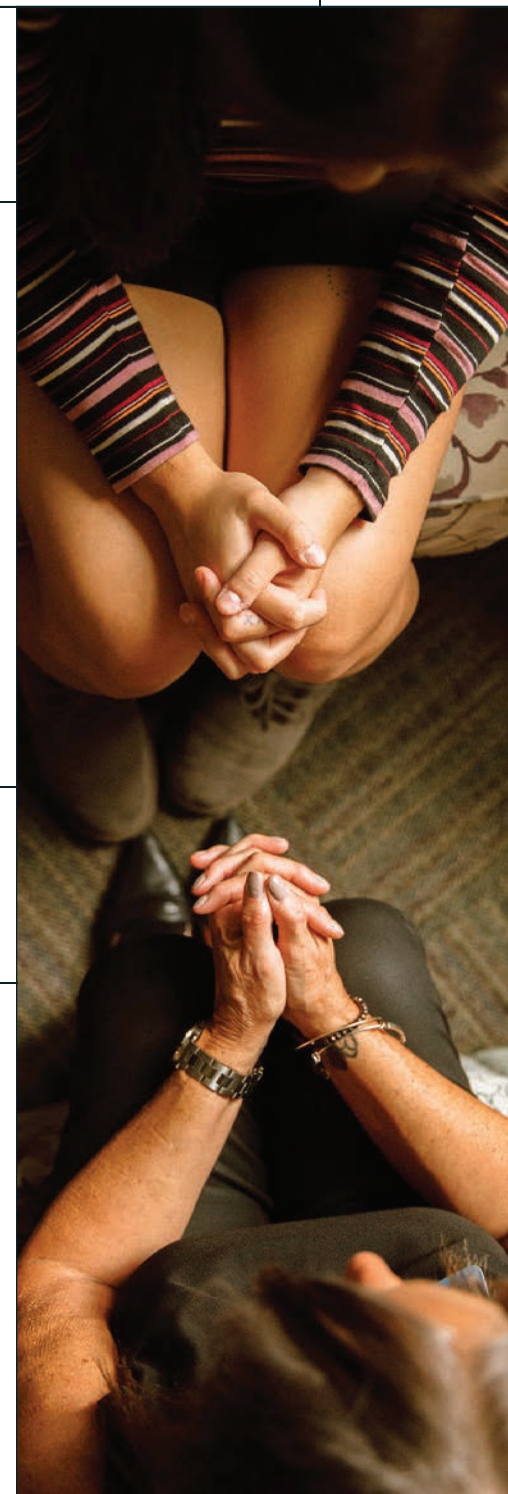
\$10,000

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray that God would provide more volunteer advisors, nurses, OBGYNs, sonographers, radiologists, and educators to allow them to fully receive and engage in the expansion opportunities He is providing.
- Pray that Alternatives of Kalamazoo will become a known and trusted resource to everyone in our community as people receive help and support, they will be open to hope in Christ.



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.



# Radiant Apostolic Ministries



**WHERE?**

Kalamazoo, MI + Across the Globe

**WHAT:**

In the Bible, the Kingdom of God expands through local churches, which God utilizes to influence their regions for Christ. We see examples in churches like the one at Antioch, which God used to expand His kingdom through ministries launched from the church. We call these apostolic ministries because the word “apostle” means “sent one.” There are certain churches that have the apostolic calling to send from their local ministry to expand God’s kingdom.

Radiant is a church with an apostolic influence that extends beyond our local region. Pastor Lee is recognized as an apostolic leader, and the divine calling on his life extends beyond the four walls of our church - it resonates and makes an impact well beyond Kalamazoo.

**PROJECT:**

Radiant has three key apostolic ministries that we will be investing in.

**Radiant Network**

The Radiant Network is a family of churches and leaders who share similar spiritual DNA and have aligned themselves together in a common vision for growing the Kingdom. With over sixty churches across many state lines coming together under the banner of the Radiant Network, this growing movement is a powerful apostolic ministry flowing from our church.

**Radiant School of Ministry**

The Radiant School of Ministry (RSM), located in Kalamazoo, equips the next generation of pastors, worship leaders, ministers, and missionaries. We are training the next generation of leaders for the church, not so they can stay here, but so they can be sent out to impact the world for Christ. It is Radiant’s apostolic investment into the future of the American church.

**Radiant City Music**

Radiant City Music is a collection of worship leaders, songwriters, and musicians who have gathered from across the globe to work alongside each other and build the worship culture of Radiant Church. Fueled by prayer, Radiant City Music is committed to creating music with excellence and sending it beyond Kalamazoo to impact the Church. The songs that have come out of this church are being sung in hundreds of churches across America and the world.



**INVESTMENT:**

\$175,000

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray for the Radiant Network as they equip churches, care for pastors, and expand the Kingdom in new regions.
- Pray for the Radiant School of Ministry as they raise up the next generation of ministers to lead the church and missionaries to finish the great commission.
- Pray for Radiant City Music as they influence the global church with the spiritual life we experience right here at Radiant.



# OneHope



**WHERE?**  
Across the Globe

**WHAT:**

The mission of OneHope is to get God's Word into the hands of every child. They are the largest supplier of Scripture worldwide and have reached 1.9 billion children since 1987. OneHope partners with local churches and has worked in over 200 countries.

**PROJECT:**

In last year's Big Give, we pledged annual funds towards the Thai Bible Translation Project, which will impact 68 million people. Thanks to your generosity, the finalization timeline for this translation has been fast-tracked, moving from 2028 to Fall 2025. This advancement allows Thailand earlier access to this translation than anticipated. By the end of this year, OneHope will have access to the content that has been translated so far, and will begin developing scripture engagement programs for children and youth at the beginning of 2024.



**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray for those without God's Word to receive it in the language they understand best.
- Pray for God to use the power of divine unity among Bible translation organizations to bring Scripture to every people group in the world.

**INVESTMENT:**  
\$200,000



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.





GLOBAL PARTNER



WHERE?  
Undisclosed Location

# Chase & Megan

**WHAT:**

Chase and Megan are Kingdom Builders Partners serving in the Middle East. Their ambition is to see the light of God's Kingdom spread in some of the darkest places on earth as they reach the hurting and un-reached with the Gospel. They aim to see lives transformed and the Father's house established in this nation through the leadership of local believers.



**PROJECT:**

In the Middle East, men are typically the sole earners within a household. However, the work they find often leaves them treated like slaves by their employers. The men are forced into laborious twelve to fourteen-hour days for a salary of just three to four hundred dollars per month, with only two days off in a month. Chase and Megan have a plan to intervene. They intend to launch a Texas BBQ restaurant to employ local Muslim Background Believers (MBBs), offering them an honest salary while capping the workday at eight hours. Included in their plans are a provision of a day of rest each week, and dedicated periods in their schedules for discipleship. The expectation is that this will promote enhancement in their physical and emotional state, spiritual growth, relationships, and financial stability. All profits generated will be channeled into supporting the ministry and ongoing non-profit humanitarian work.

**INVESTMENT:**

\$75,000

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray that God would raise up indigenous leaders and a momentum shift would take place from their ministry.
- Pray that God would expand their team in the next season to be sent out into other areas of the country.
- Pray for their family to find and maintain healthy rhythms in the midst of the busyness of ministry, language-learning, starting a business, and family life.
- Pray for grace and favor in launching a restaurant to employ local believers.



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.



BIG GIVE



**WHERE?**  
Undisclosed Location

# BLACKBOX

**WHAT:**

BLACKBOX exists to fuel indigenous-led missions in some of the most inaccessible locations worldwide and among the most hard-to-reach people groups. Indigenous workers, deeply embedded, operate under challenging conditions to make disciples, plant churches, and preach the Gospel. They do this in the face of considerable persecution and amid strict security considerations. Responding to this unique context, the ministry carefully manages the information about its mission. In order to safeguard the workers and the indigenous communities, it invests in partnering with, promoting, and protecting these crucial workers on the frontline of faith.

**PROJECT:**

**Himalayan Evangelistic Art Program:**

This project proclaims Christ's gospel among unreached Himalayan Tibetan Buddhists. This is achieved by training local artists, musicians, and disciple-makers. This six-month program hones their skills in delivering a familiar Gospel message through culturally-relevant art. Their creative productions will equip local churches and introduce the Good News to unreached communities.

**Empowering Women in Afghanistan Project:**

This project partners with the Afghan underground church and demonstrates Christ's love by aiding women within their community to develop sustainable job skills. Fifteen Christian Afghan women will learn the textile trade with this project and open doors for long-term economic opportunities for these women and their families.

**Indigenous Training Center:**

This project will strategically place a refuge for indigenous believers serving in the most isolated areas and unreached people groups. Here, they will find protection, spiritual training, and an environment to refuel their spirits from the Lord. Believers will return rested, equipped, and empowered to continue the critical Kingdom work of propelling the Gospel into the hardest-to-reach places and people groups.



**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Pray that their frontline strategic partners have increased Gospel opportunities and boldness to press on and witness in the face of tremendous adversity.
- Pray that national Christian believers will stand steadfast and, in faith, continue to reach out in love, even to those that oppose and persecute them.
- Pray for new vision and provision for what may be required next.
- Pray for provision, dreams, visions, and that the called national believers will rise to the challenge of growing the Church amongst the unreached.

**INVESTMENT:**

**\$100,000**



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.



# Jesse & Lauren

## Frontier Alliance International



**WHERE?**  
Undisclosed Location

**WHAT:**

FAI exists to lay foundations for the Gospel in regions of the world where there are currently none. Since launching in 2011, FAI has been laying foundations in strategic regions throughout the 10/40 Window. Like Hudson Taylor's China Inland Mission, these teams are laboring together in a concentrated and coordinated advance into the "interior" regions of our generation, where today there is still no witness.

**PROJECT:**

We're partnering with FAI to launch a new pioneering team into an undisclosed country. Called the Red Sea Basin project, this project employs a creative business platform, enabling proximity to many unreached communities, and will also serve as a training ground for deploying teams into surrounding regions. Our support covers the team's necessities, like airfare, visas, and housing, with the aim of setting up by early 2024.

**INVESTMENT:**

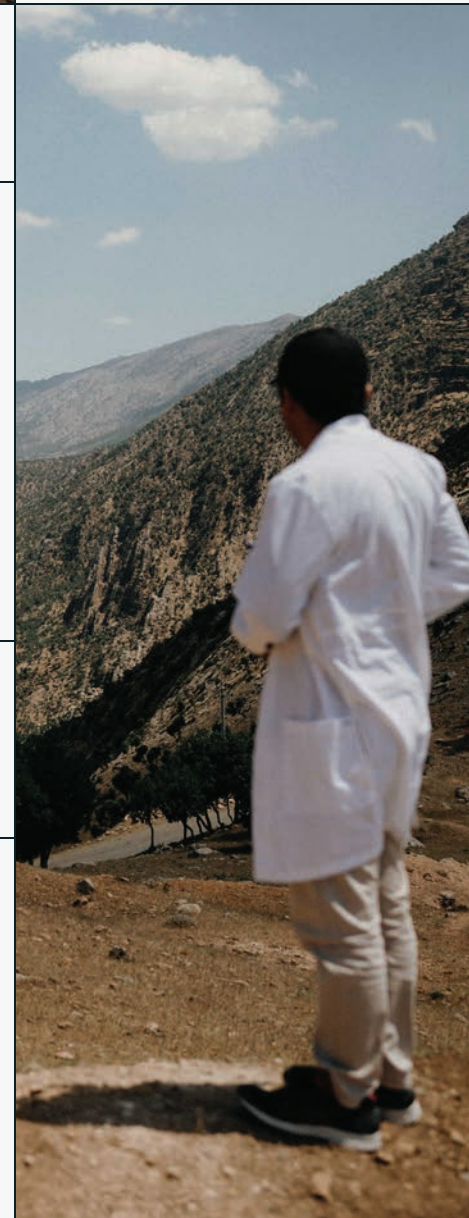
\$150,000

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- Set an alarm and pray each day at 10:40 (10/40 window) for laborers serving among the unreached.
- Pray that God would give them divine wisdom and favor as they live and serve among unreached peoples.
- Pray for divine encounters with people who are hungry and seeking for God.



For more information about this partner, scan to watch a video from Pastor Joel.





# Big Give Offering



Thanksgiving Weekend  
November 26  
In-Person + Online



Scan the QR code to give

You can give online at [radiant.church/give](https://radiant.church/give) by selecting the "Big Give" designation.

Giving will be available through January 31, 2024.



**THANK YOU!**

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for taking the time to learn about this year's Big Give. Your generosity is impacting lives here in Kalamazoo and across the globe. Generations will come to know Jesus because of your faithfulness. Thank you for your investment into the Great Commision and believing with us that there are no closed countries to the Gospel.









**BIG GIVE**