

Jubilee

SPRING 2026

JOURNAL

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Dear Friends,

As we begin our 17th school year, we pause in awe and gratitude for all that the Lord has done and continues to do at Jubilee. **These years have gone by so quickly, yet His faithfulness has remained steadfast.** This February, we joyfully welcomed **400 PreK–11th grade students to a new year of learning, growing, and serving Christ.** Our oldest Jubilee alumni, those who graduated from our first 6th grade class in 2016, are now well into their third year at university—a beautiful reminder of how God’s work in the hearts of our students continues long after they leave our campus.



We love celebrating Scripture with our students. It was a joy to witness the excitement of our **3rd graders as they were each presented with a new Children’s Bible.** Our **7th graders also received new youth Bibles** as they entered Middle School, marking an exciting step in their spiritual journey.

This year, our theme verse is [Matthew 28:19-20](#), the Great Commission. Through studying the book of Acts and the lives of courageous missionaries, our students are learning what it truly means to **“go and make disciples of all nations.”** Our students are embracing this call through fervent prayer for nations across the world, while also seeking opportunities to serve their neighbors and share the good news of Christ close to home—especially within their own families. Alessandro’s story (featured inside) reminds us that God calls us to His service at any age—even as a first grader—and can transform the heart and direction of a child and their entire family.

We give heartfelt thanks for all the Lord has accomplished, and for you, our supporters, whose prayers and faithful generosity make this ministry possible.

As we continue through this school year, we’re excited to see how He will keep working in the hearts and minds of our students, equipping them to go and make disciples of all nations.

Please continue to pray that He would stir more hearts and raise up faithful disciple-makers.

In Christ’s Service


David & Emily Romero



GRCHS MISSIONARIES

A Week of Impact

For the past five years, we've partnered with [Grand Rapids Christian Schools](#) through classroom partnerships and "Jump for Jubilee" elementary fundraisers. This January, we were excited to host—for the first time—an enthusiastic team of 18 GRCHS students and two teachers who served at Jubilee.



The visit from the GRCHS team was a meaningful and impactful week of service and fellowship. The team began by contributing to campus improvements through a parking area painting project. [Their trip also included visits to cultural and natural sites in Honduras, like El Picacho, Valle de Ángeles, and La Tigra National Park. Along the way, they built significant relationships with our students and joined a powerful youth retreat with over 50 young people from Jubilee's church.](#)

Since our students were still on the "summer break" before the school year started, the GRCHS team was able to focus on ministry engagement through hosting English and sports camps. Mornings consisted of bootcamps in basketball, soccer and handball. In the afternoons, dedicated time was spent on English lessons. Throughout the week, the team demonstrated a strong commitment to their faith, fostering spiritual encouragement and leaving a lasting positive impact on both students and the broader community.



Jordan, a senior and natural leader on the team, shared the following:

"I'm here because I have a deep passion for Jesus, and I love being involved in Christian ministries and helping wherever I can. Jubilee is an incredible ministry, and since my family already has connections with it, it's been really special to be part of something that is so gospel-centered and passionate about sharing Jesus with others."

We are so grateful for GRCHS and these incredible students and teachers who blessed our community and reminded us what it means to live out the Great Commission.



Jubilee offers children and youth who live in poverty-stricken neighborhoods the opportunity to meet Christ and receive a transformative education while also discipling the student's entire family.

MARCH MISSION TRIP

A Reflect of Matthew 28:19

This March, **we were blessed to spend time with a wonderful team of ladies who poured out their hearts in service to the Lord and the students at Jubilee.** They led meaningful times of cooking, worship, and prayer, filling our campus with joy and love. **Here are some reflections from the team:**



“This was my second year at Jubilee, and it was such a blessing. I thought it would take me longer to return, but the Lord had other plans. **My heart was filled by the students and families**—it was truly a blessing. The love of God is so tangible here; it's hard to put into words. Jesus Christ truly lives here.”
– Katie Peterson

“The children we served are children of Christ, and it's an incredible blessing. **You'll never be the same after coming to Jubilee** because of the love of the children and their hugs.”
– Lisa Buckley



“Visiting Jubilee changes you. **There's so much in Honduras that we as Americans cannot fully understand.** We see things that are ordinary to us, but for them, they are new. Coming here really opens your eyes.”
– Jenn Amo

The dedication of these ladies—leaving their comfort zones to serve—is a beautiful reflection of Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19 to **“go and make disciples of all nations.”** Their commitment shows what it truly means to live out the Great Commission.





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2026 Retreats

REFRESH, REFOCUS, AND RENEW

Have you ever experienced a tropical place surrounded by trees, where a refreshing breeze carries cool, crisp air? That's the setting of our Jubilee retreats—already held five times in 2026, each serving a different age group.

Our first retreat was with Jubilee's youth group, joined by missionaries from GRCHS. What a beautiful time it was! **We felt the Lord's presence in a deep way and witnessed a growing commitment to serve Christ.** Many were encouraged to make bold decisions to serve Him in 2026!

Next came the teacher's retreat. Though the day was cloudy, gathering indoors didn't dim the sense of unity and renewal. **Praising the Lord alongside fellow servants of His Kingdom strengthened our conviction to fully embrace the Great Commission.** During this retreat, we also discovered our verse of the year, inspiring our staff to give our full effort to Christ's mission.

A few weeks later, we held the student retreats. Through "redemption bracelets," students learned not only to make them but also to share their meaning, spreading the Gospel in creative ways. During worship, it felt as if there was no roof above us—our voices rose straight to heaven, and we saw the Holy Spirit touch hearts powerfully.

Every student experienced something personal. A few voices:



Isabella (2nd grade)

"I felt the Lord during worship. My heart was very sensitive because of my parents' situation, but I know the Lord hears my prayers."



Jefferson (8th grade)

"I felt it was time to take a step of faith and reconcile with Christ. I'm ready to follow Jesus. What I felt is indescribable."



Daniel (4th grade)

I feel a desire to grow closer to the Lord every day. My heart is in love with Him. I really enjoyed the retreat and want to share Jesus' message with everyone."



Valerie (11th grade)

I felt God's love in its fullness. No matter what, He is there. I loved seeing how Jubilee is truly a family and how the Lord moved among my friends."

This season reminded us: **When we create space for God to move, He does—every single time. As a new school year unfolds, we're so grateful you're part of the story God is still writing here at Jubilee.**

about sharing His Word.
— Diego Gaitan, 5th grade



Student Feature: Alessandro Sánchez

A LITTLE DISCIPLE WITH A BIG CALLING

At just six years old, Alessandro Sánchez carries a deep desire in his heart: to go and make disciples for the Lord.

Alessandro, a first grader entering his third year at Jubilee, is developing a remarkable connection with God that impacts those around him. His dream is to become a pastor and lead a church centered on Jesus and the redemptive work of Christ. His favorite verse is Matthew 28:19, reflecting his conviction that making disciples is essential to the Christian life.

Like many children, Alessandro faces challenges. **One of his greatest prayer requests is for his father, who lives far away and does not yet know Jesus.** He deeply misses him. In the absence of a nearby father figure, Alessandro has found a meaningful connection with Pastor David. He shared, "When I hug Pastor David, I feel something different in my heart. I feel pure love." Pastor David holds a special place in his life.

Pastor David recalls Alessandro once saying, **"I have a deep need to come to Jubilee Church. It is a strong desire in my heart."** This sincere longing deeply impacted both Pastor David and the congregation.

After struggling to find a church that worked for his family, **Alessandro and his mother started attending Jubilee's church a few months ago.** Soon after, he also desired to attend Sunday services, and through continued prayer, that request was answered as well. Today, he attends Jubilee's church alongside his mother.

Alessandro believes Jubilee is a place where he can grow spiritually. His favorite subject is Spanish, because he is eager to learn to read the Bible. **He loves his school, teachers, and church, and hopes to one day serve the Lord through worship and choreography.** He also dreams of seeing snow and becoming a great athlete.

Alessandro's heart and desire to serve the Lord are remarkable for his age. He lives with a genuine commitment to the words of Jesus: **"Therefore go and make disciples."**

Read more: jubileehn.org/blog

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Farewell Laura, Welcome Yvonne

GRACIOUS TRANSITIONS IN GOD'S TIMING

At Jubilee, we know every season brings new opportunities—valleys and mountaintops. Sometimes that means saying goodbye to people we love, and sometimes it means welcoming new hearts into our family.

This season, we say "farewell" to our beloved Laura Sullivan, who has spent the past five years pouring her heart into Jubilee. Her love for the Lord and dedication to the mission have been inspiring. As she shared, *"For everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven"* (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

Reflecting on her journey, Laura expressed gratitude for the ministry *"It has been a joy getting to know you, our donors, over the past years. When I contacted you, I hope you felt my sincerity and that you are a valued part of this ministry. I felt the Lord calling me to move out of state, knowing my time to depart Jubilee would follow. I'm looking forward to hearing about the continued growth of the ministry and for this next season in my life. Thank you, it has been a privilege to get to know you. Blessings to you, the team, and the donors who make the work possible."* We are deeply thankful for the impact she has made during her time with Jubilee.

While it is difficult to say goodbye, we are excited to welcome **Yvonne Johnson to the Jubilee family as our new Director of Community Engagement**. We first met Yvonne at our Annual Celebration in November, and after joining our March mission trip to Honduras, she experienced firsthand the joy and impact of the ministry.

Yvonne brings 30+ years of experience in Marketing and Communications. **She lives in Rockford, Michigan, with her husband and has two children, one grandson, and another grandbaby on the way.** She shares, *"I'm honored to step into this role. After visiting Jubilee, I was deeply moved by the joy of the Lord in the community and the impact of this mission. I'm excited to share Jubilee's story with others."*

We thank the Lord for both Laura and Yvonne, trusting His perfect timing in this transition. **Please join us in blessing Laura in her next chapter and warmly welcoming Yvonne to the Jubilee family.**

Read more: jubileehn.org/blog



Laura during the July 2023 mission trip in Honduras



Yvonne during the March 2026 mission trip in Honduras

SAVE THE DATE

Raising up Disciple-makers

A JUBILEE CELEBRATION!

NEW DATE → Thursday, Nov 12th, 2026

NEW LOCATION → Calvary Church, 707 E Beltline NE,
Grand Rapids, MI 49525



JOIN US THIS MAY FOR OUR

STUDENT Sponsorship CAMPAIGN

30 STUDENTS. 30 STORIES.
ONE MONTH TO MAKE IT
POSSIBLE



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