

Jimmy JOURNAL

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SERVING YOUTH, FAMILIES, VETERANS & COMMUNITIES THROUGH FISHING & OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

FISHINGFORLIFE.ORG

Letter From CEO TOM GOODRICH

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from all of us at Fishing For Life. On behalf of our staff and board, thank you for being a vital part of our mission, vision, and family!

At our core, Fishing For Life is about so much more than outdoor adventures. Whether it's through our mobile trout ponds, rod and reel rebuilds, fishing and camping events, or moments of fellowship—we are here to touch individual lives. The true transformation we seek comes from the power of Christ, and our goal is to simply be the fragrance of Jesus—drawing people in with His love until they find their way back to a committed Christian community.

Here is a glimpse into our programs and the hopes behind each one:

Reel Hope

Our heart is to reach youth in hard-to-reach environments, with a focus on empowering at-risk youth—especially those facing family instability or socioeconomic challenges. We provide opportunities for outdoor experiences they might not otherwise have. Through multiple events and intentional relationship-building, we point them toward Christ and deeper experiences in nature.

REI (Reel 'Em In)

We aim to mobilize hundreds of volunteers into the mission of Fishing For Life by providing meaningful opportunities to serve. These experiences invite volunteers to move deeper into our programming, purpose, and impact.

Trout Ponds

We offer many children their very first fishing experience through our mobile trout ponds. This simple and joyful moment introduces them to the broader mission of Fishing For Life and provides an easy, impactful way for volunteers to serve outdoors.

Camps

Our camps are some of the richest experiences we offer—both for youth and veterans. Through immersive outdoor adventures and powerful spiritual programming, we fast-track life change and deepen relationships with Christ.

Military Relationships through Recreation (R&R)

We come alongside soldiers and their families from

all branches and all eras of service. Through outdoor-based events, expert-led sessions, and strong community engagement, we offer support for spiritual, emotional, and physical healing—often reaching those who feel isolated. Some events include the entire family, offering a path forward in faith and community.

OWLs (Outdoor Women for Life)

A safe, welcoming, and judgment-free space for women to grow in Christ. Bonds are formed and strengthened through outdoor activities and Bible studies offered throughout the year.

Deep C's

Our monthly men's gatherings create a safe, supportive environment for connection, discipleship, and personal growth. Whether participating or leading, every man is encouraged to grow in faith and engage in our mission.

Special Events

Events such as our Spring Gala and Pastor's Fishing Tournament in late summer bring supporters of our mission together in fellowship, fostering community and opening doors to new partnerships.

Our Chaplain

Though not a program, Chaplain Vaughn provides a spiritual covering for all we do. He serves as a trusted point of contact for volunteers and participants alike—offering prayer, guidance, and Christ-centered care. He meets people where they are and supports them on their journey with God.

As we look ahead, we see a future filled with more opportunities to serve, more of God's nature to share, and more lives to impact. We are excited and hopeful for the blessings to come—knowing God will continue to work through the people of Fishing For Life to bring light, healing, and purpose to those we serve.

With heartfelt sadness, we share the passing of Michael Schlueter, a dear member of our Fishing For Life family. Michael's impact was deep and lasting, and while we mourn his loss, we also celebrate the legacy he leaves behind. *Look inside for a tribute to Michael.*

With gratitude,

Tom Goodrich



Men's and Women's Ministries **DEEP C'S AND OWLS**

Fishing For Life's men's and women's ministry groups—Deep C's and OWLS—are monthly gatherings of faith-filled individuals who come together at various locations throughout the Twin Cities to share stories, learn from one another, and most importantly to encourage one another through faith in Jesus Christ.

This year's theme verse is Exodus 3:14: "God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And he said, 'Say this to the people of Israel: I AM has sent me to you.'"

In alignment with that, the Deep C's men are exploring the seven "I AM" statements of Jesus found in the Gospel of John:

- "I am the bread of life." (John 6:35, 48, 51)
- "I am the light of the world." (John 8:12; 9:5)
- "I am the door of the sheep." (John 10:7, 9)
- "I am the good shepherd." (John 10:11, 14)
- "I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)
- "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:6)
- "I am the true vine." (John 15:1)

The women's group, OWLS, has been studying Psalms 23.

Here's when and where we Deep C's meet each month (all meetings include a meal and run from 6–9 pm):

- Deep C's West – 2nd Tuesday at Cabela's, 20200 Rogers Drive, Rogers
- Deep C's South – 2nd Thursday at Scheels, 8301 Flying Cloud Drive, Eden Prairie
- Deep C's East – 4th Tuesday at Woodbury YMCA, 2175 Radio Drive, Woodbury
- Deep C's North – 4th Thursday at Insurance Brokers of MN, 3351 Round Lake Blvd NW, Anoka

The women's OWLS group meets virtually every other Monday with summers off.

Save the Dates for our annual fall retreats!

- Deep C's Fall Retreat: Thursday, Sept. 11 – Sunday, Sept. 14
- OWLS Fall Retreat: October at Mount Carmel Christian camp

For more details and to register go to FishingForLife.org/calendar/.

We hope you'll join us as we walk in faith, build friendships, and deepen our connection to Christ together.



Dark House Spearing DECEMBER 2024

Last December marked Fishing For Life's 6th Annual Dark House Spearing event at Dixon Lake Lodge on Lake Winnibigoshish. We were honored to serve 22 veterans with two days of spearing, plus some friendly competition in cribbage and pool tournaments.

Heartfelt thanks to our sponsors: Stilwell Holdings and Wounded Warrior Project, and also to Ascentek, who provided us with our Hero Boxes. Their support means the world to us and to the veterans we serve.

Two fantastic days of spearing were expertly led by Dixon Lake Lodge, making this event truly memorable. We extend our warmest congratulations to all the veterans who achieved the incredible milestone of spearing their first Northern ever!

Wayne was the winner of the custom-made spear donated by Dixon Lake Lodge for spearing the most Northerns. The largest Northern was speared by Toua—the first fish he ever speared. It measured 35 inches, and he was awarded an ice saw. There were many other Northerns speared over the two-day event.

One of the most memorable moments was when staff member Michael speared his first Northern Pike. Michael, a veteran himself, joined the event to cook and support fellow veterans. He embodied a true servant's heart and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A highlight of the weekend was the Sunday morning chapel service, where a powerful message was shared, centered on last year's theme verse, John 10:10. Staff member Steve reflected on personal experiences of hardship and the hope and restoration found through Christ.

Special thanks go out to everyone who contributed to this and other Fishing for Life events. Success is never achieved alone—it's through teamwork and shared purpose that Fishing for Life continues to fulfill its mission of building "Relationships through Recreation."

Here's to creating lasting memories and fostering camaraderie on the ice!





Holes 4 Heroes

After a rough 2024 with bad ice and a snowstorm the night before in 2025, we finally got the Holes for Heroes ice fishing tournament for veterans and their families back on Medicine Lake.

This derby offered a unique and meaningful way to honor veterans while fostering community and connection in a frosty outdoor setting. The day began with a fresh 8–12 inches of snow and turned into a sunny afternoon with manageable temps by derby time!

Participants were provided with all necessary gear, warm refreshments, and plenty of safety and support—ensuring a fun, inclusive experience for anglers of all skill levels. Beyond the thrill of friendly competition and the chance to reel in some impressive catches, the tournament created space for bonding, storytelling, and sharing the outdoors. With camaraderie and a strong sense of purpose, the event served as both recreation and recognition for those who have served or are currently serving, and their families.



Ice Castle Ministry Report,

January & February 2025

The Fishing For Life Ice Castle was put on Medicine Lake this year on January 10. The ice was 17" thick. We decided to place the house so anglers could fish at 31 feet, the best depth for crappies. Many fish were caught, including several large northerns. Over 25 families were blessed to stay in the Ice Castle overnight and successfully catch some fish, going home with fish stories to tell.

GRATITUDE GOES OUT TO SANDY YOUNGER

On February 17, 2025, when Sandy Younger found out what we were doing with our Ice Castle, he wanted to know if Fishing For Life would be interested in receiving his Ice Castle as a donation so it could be used in the same manner. We were very grateful for Sandy's generosity. We

immediately took it out to Medicine Lake and set it up next to the original Ice Castle so it could be used for the rest of the season.

ALL GOOD THINGS COME TO AN END... AT LEAST FOR A SEASON!

Like all good things, nothing lasts. We had to remove both Ice Castles from the lake on February 26 due to five inches of water on top of the ice. Safety first!

We can't wait for next year's ice fishing season! If you didn't get a chance to enjoy the Ice Castle this time around, don't worry—there's always next year for some frozen fun and an opportunity for pulling in a great catch!

Calvary on the Ice 2025



On Sunday, February 23, 2025, Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley partnered with Fishing For Life (FFL) for an afternoon of fellowship, food, fishing, and fun.

This was the second time the two groups gathered on the west side of Medicine Lake, and, Lord willing, it won't be the last. God provided a beautiful afternoon with temperatures in the upper 40s, allowing everyone to enjoy the outdoors without needing to retreat into shelters. While over 60 friends signed the guest ledger, many more were in attendance.

A special thank you goes out to:

- Jeff Wuollett (Sunday Gathering Room Lead—Calvary) and Steve Cruikshank (Director of Veterans Programs—FFL), who teamed up as our grill masters, cooking up burgers and brats.
- Dan Thorson (Discipleship Pastor—Calvary) and Jason Beaver (Executive Director—Calvary), who helped promote the event.
- Ron Buster (Calvary & FFL), who provided Split Rock Coffee, hot chocolate, and water.
- Jan Majeski (Calvary), who brought two big boxes of chips.
- Tom Goodrich (Chief Executive Officer—FFL) and Dawn Dresser (Mission & Outreach—Calvary), along with several Calvary kids who participated in the Reel Hope program offered by FFL.

Calvary and Fishing For Life are two of my favorite organizations, and I hope events like this continue to strengthen our church, support FFL's mission, and lead many more to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event happen!
—Kent B. Lillehaugen



Ramy Fish N' Chips



What an incredible day it was at the Ramy Fish 'N Chips event! After 10 years of fishing with Fishing for Life, I finally landed the fish that won me the plaque, a 24.25" northern. The victory wasn't just about the fish, though; it was about the culmination of a decade of struggle, hope, and connection with others who have walked similar paths.

Transitioning out of the Air Force was a tough time for me. All of what I had known for over 6 years vanished overnight. I struggled to find connection and support. That's when I discovered Holes for Heroes and Fishing for Life, offering a small but powerful community of fellow veterans who share my passion for the outdoors.

Thank you, Fishing for Life, for creating such a supportive environment and for the unforgettable experiences. Here's to many more fishing adventures and cherished memories ahead!

—Courtne Mann

Fishing For Life's JOURNEY TO A GOLD SEAL OF TRANSPARENCY



For over two decades, Fishing For Life has been dedicated to serving youth, families, veterans, and communities through faith-based fishing and outdoor programs. While its mission and impact have always been strong, the organization's journey toward greater transparency and credibility has been a strategic effort. Today, Fishing For Life proudly holds the **Gold Seal of Transparency on GuideStar (Candid)**—a significant achievement that demonstrates its commitment to openness, accountability, and trustworthiness.

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS: NO RATING, JUST PASSION

In its early years, Fishing For Life operated with a strong vision and grassroots support but lacked formal recognition on nonprofit evaluation platforms. Like many small nonprofits, it focused primarily on its mission—providing outdoor programs, mentoring, and community engagement—rather than on documenting and showcasing its financial, impact, and governance.

While the passion and dedication of its leadership and volunteers were evident, potential donors and grant makers often sought more assurance regarding financial stewardship and organizational transparency. This realization prompted Fishing For Life to begin building a stronger public profile.

EARNING THE BRONZE SEAL: TAKING THE FIRST STEP

The first milestone came when Fishing For Life achieved the **Bronze Seal of Transparency** on GuideStar. This required the organization to provide basic information, such as its mission statement, leadership details, and foundational structure. While this was a step in the right direction, it became clear that deeper transparency would be necessary to secure larger grants and broader community support.

ADVANCING TO SILVER: STRENGTHENING FINANCIAL AND PROGRAM DETAILS

Building upon its Bronze recognition, Fishing For Life worked to enhance its profile by sharing financial data, program descriptions, and measurable outcomes. This led to earning the **Silver Seal of Transparency**, which indicated a higher level of accountability and credibility. The organization provided insight into how funds were allocated, demonstrating that donations were being used effectively to support youth camps, veteran programs, and community outreach initiatives.

ACHIEVING THE GOLD SEAL: A TESTAMENT TO IMPACT

Understanding the importance of continuous improvement, Fishing For Life took the next step to achieve the **Gold Seal**

of Transparency. This level required more comprehensive reporting, including:

- Detailed financial statements and IRS Form 990 filings.
- Clear goals, strategies, and program descriptions.
- Impact metrics showcasing how Fishing For Life changes lives through its programs.
- Information on board governance, leadership, and long-term sustainability efforts.

By reaching the Gold Seal, Fishing For Life has positioned itself as a **trustworthy and responsible** nonprofit, making it more attractive to donors, sponsors, and grant makers who seek organizations that demonstrate fiscal responsibility and measurable impact.

WHAT'S NEXT? THE ROAD TO PLATINUM

While the Gold Seal is a remarkable accomplishment, Fishing For Life continues to strive for greater excellence. The goal is to achieve the **Platinum Seal of Transparency**, the highest level on GuideStar, which focuses on **impact measurement** and **long-term effectiveness**. This would require even more data on program success, participant testimonials, and long-term community benefits.

WHY TRANSPARENCY MATTERS

Fishing For Life's journey from no rating to **Bronze, Silver, and now Gold** demonstrates a deep commitment to ethical nonprofit management. Transparency builds trust, attracts donors, and ensures the organization can continue making a meaningful impact in the lives of youth, veterans, and families through its outdoor ministry.

With a Gold Seal of Transparency, Fishing For Life is now better positioned than ever to expand its reach, secure additional funding, and continue changing lives—one fishing trip at a time.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

This incredible achievement would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of **Linda Crosson Posavad**. Her leadership and commitment to elevating Fishing For Life's transparency and credibility have played a crucial role in securing the Gold Seal. Her efforts have strengthened the organization's reputation, ensuring that Fishing For Life continues to serve communities with integrity and trust. Thank you, Linda, for your unwavering support and dedication!

CRAPPIE CONTEST 2025



This year the Crappie Contest took on a fresh look with a new venue: the Depot Museum in Wayzata. What a fantastic setting for our event! The city of Wayzata has installed a whole new dock system so there was plenty of room to park all our boats.

A huge thank-you goes out to Tony from ARCO Restorations for providing the incredible food. All I can say is "WOW"—what a fantastic job he did! The menu consisted of egg rolls, grilled broccoli, spam fried rice, marinated chicken breast, and monster cookies. He said he will be back next year, so if you missed out you will have another chance to enjoy a fabulous spread.

The weather didn't cooperate for fishing, so only three crappies were weighed this year. The sun came out after lunch and all the kids were able to receive a new fishing rod, generously donated by Fleet Farm.

Special thanks to John from McGough Construction for sponsoring this great day on the water.



"Experience The Magic!" A NIGHT TO REMEMBER



The 20th Annual *Fishing For Life Gala* was an unforgettable evening of inspiration, transformation, and celebration. We were thrilled to welcome a full house for a night that truly lived up to its theme: *Experience The Magic!*

Our keynote speaker, **Joe Henry** of *Lake of the Woods Tourism*, captivated the audience with heartfelt stories from the *Pay It Forward Trip*—highlighting the life-changing experiences, deep faith connections, and incredible Walleye fishing our veterans enjoy through this cherished program.

CEO Tom Goodrich delivered an impassioned address that energized the crowd. He shared both his compelling origin story behind *Fishing For Life* and our programs as well as a bold vision for its future growth over the next five years, inspiring all in attendance with his dedication to the organization's mission and impact.

The evening reached an emotional high when Program Coordinator Michael Schlueter, despite battling cancer, joined us to pay tribute to his friend and mentor Ode Norberg, who was inducted into the 2025 Fishing For Life Volunteer Hall of Fame.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the incredible volunteers, staff, and supporters who made this event a true success. Special appreciation goes to our Presenting Sponsor Tom Ahles with Edge Home Financing and Supporting Sponsor Luther Auto for their generous contributions.

Here's to another 20 years of changing lives through faith, fishing, and fellowship.





MEET ODE NORBERG – FISHING FOR LIFE'S NEWEST HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

We are proud to welcome **Ode Norberg** into the *Fishing For Life Volunteer Hall of Fame*. Humble, gifted, and deeply committed, Ode has become an integral part of the FFL community through his steadfast dedication and compassionate spirit.

Ode's impact spans across many of our programs—from youth camps to *Reel Hope* and *Military R&R* events—where he's a familiar and reassuring presence. Whether serving as a pontoon helper or guiding from the lakeshore, Ode is always ready to lend a hand: tying knots, selecting the right lure, baiting hooks, and removing fish with patience and care. His passion for mentoring youth and supporting our military families is evident in everything he does.

A driving force behind the success of our *Reel 'Em In (REI)* program, Ode has elevated its organization and efficiency, always seeking ways to improve the quality of our outreach. In his spare time, Ode even gathers his men's church group to clean and sort tackle on his lawn or in his garage—just one example of how he turns everyday moments into acts of service.

Ode is also a talented woodworker, generously donating handmade art to our annual Gala. His custom FFL-branded cribbage boards are fan favorites at our Military R&R events, where they're awarded as prizes during spirited cribbage tournaments.

As a veteran, Ode lives a life of service with a calm, "we'll-get-it-done" attitude that uplifts everyone around him. His quiet leadership and authentic kindness are an inspiration to fellow volunteers and the youth he mentors.

We are honored to recognize Ode Norberg for his outstanding contributions and welcome him into the *Fishing For Life Volunteer Hall of Fame*. Thank you, Ode, for everything you do—you truly embody the heart and mission of FFL.



In Loving Memory of Michael Schlueter.

A Faithful Servant and Friend

Hello Fishing For Life friends,
If you had the opportunity to meet Michael in person, you know what a gift he was. His time with us feels far too short, and I wasn't ready for his passing. The truth is, I'll never be able to replace him—but I hope these words give you a glimpse of who he was and what he meant to all of us.

Michael and I first met through a good friend connected to the Minnetonka fishing team. I was looking for help with my small business, Midwest Shrink wrap. Michael had just retired from a marine dealership and was open to part-time work. From the beginning, I found him engaging and quick on his feet. So, I handed him a hot blow torch and set him to shrink-wrapping boats. What I discovered was a man with many talents and a deep desire to serve others.

Soon after, Michael joined Fishing For Life, helping with our Trout Ponds and the Reel 'Em In program. These roles require more than just logistics—they demand flexibility, a public presence, and the ability to win over volunteers, which is such a strong component of all FFL programming.

Michael could do it all, and he did it with enthusiasm. Tireless in his work, he also took great leaps in his faith, growing steadily and humbly. He decided to get baptized during his tenure with us too!

He had a hard time saying no. I often had to remind him not to burn himself out, but Michael loved working and being with people, something that came easy to him. He recruited countless volunteers for the Trout Pond, often traveling long distances to set them up and run them. One of the most rewarding moments for him was helping a child catch trout for the first time—and getting to do so with his own grandchildren in St. Louis was a blessing he cherished.

Michael also took the Reel 'Em In program to new heights. Collecting, rebuilding, and redistributing rods and reels is

no small task, but he embraced the challenge and grew the program significantly.

Then, suddenly, we got the news. Michael had cancer. We never fully understood how serious it was until it had already spread to his brain. And just like that, he was gone. We are left with the memory of a wonderful man and the difficult task of finding someone who can love as deeply and serve as faithfully as he did. I cannot wait to see him in heaven. I will be looking for him in my top ten!

This is very hard. But it's part of the journey for Fishing For Life.

Please keep Michael's family in your prayers.

In loving memory of a loving man,

Tom Goodrich



In loving memory of
Michael Schlueter

The stories.
The laughter.
The quite moments.

Michael lived in
love and faith.

He will be
remembered
and missed.

His legacy will go on.





Reel Hope

**Empowering Youth through
Fishing and Outdoor Programs**

"I really like that we get to make rods. I needed a new one and since my family stopped fishing I would like to take it upon myself to get out and go fish."

~Reel Hope Attendee

In May of 2024, Fishing for Life (FFL) launched a new grant-funded program called Reel Hope, which is designed to come alongside youth-serving organizations, ministries, churches, schools, and law enforcement to help at-risk youth engage positively with their communities, learn new skills, and build resilience. Our goal with this program is to connect with youth in hard-to-reach environments such as single-parent homes and out-of-home placement and give them an opportunity for outdoor experiences they may not otherwise get. FFL has the opportunity through multiple events to build lasting relationships with these youth and provide deeper outdoor experiences. Above all, we get to point them to Christ and the hope that is only found in Him!

Reel Hope is one program in three phases. In the first phase, participants attend a Reel 'Em In workshop, or REI for short. At this event, participants are taught about the basics and benefits of fishing, and our volunteers also work with them to restore and refurbish rods, reels, and tackle, which they will get to keep. They bring this equipment with them to the second phase, which is a fishing event at a local dock, pier, or shore location. There they are taught how to use their equipment and receive instruction on where to find fish and how to catch them. Youth who participate in the first two phases are eligible for the third and final phase, which is a charter boat trip to Mille Lacs Lake in August.

We are pleased to report that since January of this year, we have had 98 youth complete phase one and 88 youth complete phase two.

In January, we once again had the privilege of being invited into the Coon Rapids High School and hosting a two-day REI event there as part of an elective class. As a result, we were also invited into the Anoka and Andover High Schools to do the same event with the students in those schools in April. We also did a lake event with those groups of students in May, which will be discussed in more detail in the highlights section.

Some other organizations we've had the honor of working with this year are Lakeside Academy, Redeeming Love Church, and the DinoMights hockey team.

In addition to the Reel Hope events, there are two other stand-alone events that fall under the Reel Hope program. Our Badges & Bobbers events and our Community and Sheriffs Together event in Anoka County all provide a unique opportunity for kids to learn about fishing and catch fish while having positive interactions with firefighters and law enforcement officers. We were able to once again hold our annual Badges & Bobbers events in partnership with the cities of Lonsdale and Plymouth in June. The event with the Anoka County Sheriff's Office is scheduled for Friday, August 1, at Lake George in Oak Grove.



Highlights

There are 16 Reel Hope events that have taken place between January and June of this year. Here are some of the highlights.

In January we were privileged to partner with Lakeside Academy in Buffalo to do a Reel 'Em In workshop and an ice fishing lake event. One of the students had only been ice fishing a handful of times and never caught a fish through the ice. After a few minutes of instruction on how to read the sonar, how to get a fish to bite, and how to land it, he sent his small jig tipped with a waxworm down the hole to a waiting school of crappies. As he was watching his jig go down on the screen, he watched a crappie come up from the bottom to meet it. He closed the bail, and the fish bit immediately. A few minutes later he had a nice 12-inch crappie on top of the ice. His response was, "That wasn't so hard." We assured him it wouldn't always be that easy!

In April we had the distinct honor of being invited into the Anoka and Andover High Schools to do a two-day Reel 'Em In workshop with each of them. Our staff and volunteers worked with 36 students between the two schools to teach them about conservation and the basics and benefits of fishing, as well as how to repair fishing equipment and set it up correctly. Some of the students received their very own fishing gear for the first time.

In May we organized two separate lake events for the Coon Rapids High School and the Anoka/Andover High Schools at the Coon Rapids Dam. Through this experience, the students were taught about perseverance, learning through adversity, what to do with success, and how to leave a legacy. One highlight of these two events was that of a young woman who had some experience fishing but had never caught a northern. She mentioned at the Reel 'Em In event that it was a goal of hers to catch a northern during the upcoming fishing trip, and she caught her first one at the Coon Rapids dam!

In June we partnered with the DinoMights hockey team to do the normal Reel Hope events consisting of a Reel 'Em In workshop on the first day and a shore fishing lake event on the second day. On the first day after the students had received their fishing equipment, they were so excited that they couldn't wait and went out that same day on their own to a nearby pond and started catching fish! In addition to the Reel Hope events, there was also a third day added where the students were brought out to fish from boats on Medicine Lake. The sunfish and bluegill bite were exceptional in the afternoon, with one boat bringing in close to 80 fish and another bringing in over 100!

If you would like to get involved with the Reel Hope program or if you know of an organization that could be a good fit, please get in contact with Phil Lambert at 763-203-8009 or phil@fishingforlife.org.





Crappie Camp

The spring quarter of camps began with an incredible kickoff at Crappie Camp—a weekend filled with crappie fishing and appreciation for the beauty of God’s creation.

Set in the deep woods of Hill City, MN, participants learned the techniques of ice fishing for crappie while enjoying warm fellowship, hearty meals, and lodge-based devotions. Evening sessions focused on the qualities of biblical leaders, offering meaningful insights and spiritual growth in a peaceful, faith-centered environment.



Turkey Camp

Turkey camp was full of adventure, early morning gobbling turkeys, cheers of success and awe-inspiring sunrises and sunsets. Campers and guides from all over the state converged in Dent MN, to experience what God wants to show them in the turkey woods.

Each day the campers experience something new in the outdoors, from learning to safely shoot different types of firearms, setting up ground blinds and decoys to calling in the big tom. Then coming together to share in God’s word and tales of victory and defeat in the turkey woods.

As many know, God has a way of placing us exactly where we need to be—and countless stories from camp are a testament to that truth. Moments of connection, growth, and purpose emerge throughout the weekend, reminding us of His guidance and grace.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the supporters who help make these camps possible, including *No Child Left Inside (MN DNR)*, the *National Wild Turkey Federation*, the *City of Dent*, and the *Perham Sportsmen’s Club*. Your generosity continues to impact lives in meaningful and lasting ways.

