



REAL PRESENCE RADIO

# Evangelizing *Through Connection*

Isaiah 6:8: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"

Fall 2025 NewsLetter



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## Listener *Testimony*

“In the last year of my friend’s life, the rosary became an important part of his daily prayer. Everyday at 8 pm, he turned on your radio station to pray. Thank you for making this available for him and all your listeners.”

## NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### Thank you so much for your continued support !

Between your generous gifts and your thoughtful feedback, we are working hard to evangelize as effectively as we can. Your survey responses and insights help us put the right content on the radio, content that we pray will inspire hearts and bring people closer to Christ.

As I pondered what to share in this newsletter, I found myself drawn again to the Church's call to evangelization. At one point, I had three papal encyclicals on my desk, at least six books, and a Bible, just on my desk. It was overwhelming. But maybe not surprising. The Church and those who love her have a lot to say about evangelization.

And we know why.

In *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (On Evangelization in the Modern World), Pope Paul VI writes:

"Anyone who rereads in the New Testament the origins of the Church, follows her history step by step and watches her live and act, sees that she is linked to evangelization in her most intimate being."

Fifteen years later, Pope John Paul II continued to stress this urgency in *Redemptoris Missio* (The Mission of the Redeemer), where he reminds us of 1 Corinthians 9:16:

"For if I preach the Gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!"

Even more recently, in July, the Vatican hosted the first-ever Jubilee for Catholic Influencers and Digital Missionaries, urging attendees to not just generate content, but as evangelizers it's about "creating an encounter between hearts."

But why? As the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church so eloquently states:

"Discovering that they are loved by God, people come to understand their own transcendent dignity, they learn not to be satisfied with only themselves but to encounter their neighbour in a network of relationships that are ever more authentically human."

The truth? Just getting myself to heaven isn't enough. Our time on earth is short, and we're called to invite others into the gift of everlasting life and to live better and more fulfilling lives on earth. We have to figure out how to do it and truthfully, maybe our own salvation is tied to these invitations.

Some of you are already good at this. Margaret's story of "*Marigold Evangelization*" (yes, I just made that up and kind of love it) really inspired me. Am I ready for those conversations? I can say that years of listening to Real Presence Radio have prepared me in ways that seemed impossible 12 years ago. And now? I'm even more ready. I really, *really* want to plant Marigolds.

So, thank you for your prayers, your encouragement, and your support of this mission. In this mission, you are fellow evangelizers, and you help spread the Word to many.

We *love* being part of the new evangelization. We love encountering others with the love of Christ. And most of all, we love the work Christ is doing through this apostolate. Let's remember this isn't about boasting. It's about fulfilling our Catholic duty in a world that needs hope, truth, and salvation.

Lastly, thank you for your financial gifts. We still have a way to go to meet some of our basic needs for 2025. But thanks to your generosity, we've kept the mission going and the bills paid. Because of you, we're still here.

with gratitude and hope,

**Lynne Devitt**



# Planting Seeds:

## The Subtleness of Evangelization

Evangelization can sound like a grand, public act, but it doesn't have to be. As Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers reminded us at a recent RPR fundraising banquet, "Just plant the seeds and then get out of the way so the Holy Spirit can do His work."

Last July, while planting marigolds outside her home, RPR Duluth Listener Relationship Coordinator, Margaret Ricci had a brief encounter that became something more. A gentleman walking his dog stopped to admire her flowers. Margaret shared that they were marigolds, and how they are connected to the Blessed Virgin Mary. That simple meeting opened the door for a heartfelt conversation. The man, Matthew McCormack, told Margaret he had grown up Catholic and had a deep devotion to Jesus and Our Blessed Mother.

As a child, he frequently prayed the rosary with his family and even made rosaries to send around the world. But after a season of painful loss, including the sudden deaths of both his brother-in-law and mother, Matthew sought guidance from a priest.

When he didn't receive a response, he felt adrift. Out of desperation, he joined the Jehovah's Witnesses after two members appeared at his door.

In joining that denomination, Matthew was told to dispose of anything from his Catholic faith, including his Bible, crucifixes, and even his late father's engraved rosary. Though he became active in their church, over time, he began noticing inconsistencies between their teachings and Scripture. "I started to see things that weren't even in the Bible," he said. Eventually, he knew he had to walk away.

He tried reaching out to another priest, but again left discouraged. Still, he prayed and waited. "I told Jesus I wasn't giving up," he said. He continued reading devotionals, praying, and occasionally attending Mass, but wasn't quite ready to return fully. He described the feeling as one of being homesick.

Then, the day before meeting Margaret, Matthew had decided: It's time to go back. After leaving the Jehovah's Witnesses, he bought a crucifix, a Catholic Bible, and made a rosary for himself, the first one since his mother passed away.

Now, he makes about ten rosaries each week and leaves them at the Cathedral in Duluth for anyone in need. "I go to church about a half hour early just to sit in the beauty of the Cathedral and meditate," he said. "The peace I feel now is like nothing else I've experienced."

Today, Matthew is back in the Catholic Church and is living out his renewed faith through prayer, Scripture, and service. He joined the Knights of Columbus and asked Margaret to attend his induction, calling her his mentor. One seed. One conversation. That's how the Holy Spirit works, quietly, deeply, and powerfully. Margaret planted, the Holy Spirit watered. Now, Matthew is planting seeds of his own.

## Where do you listen?

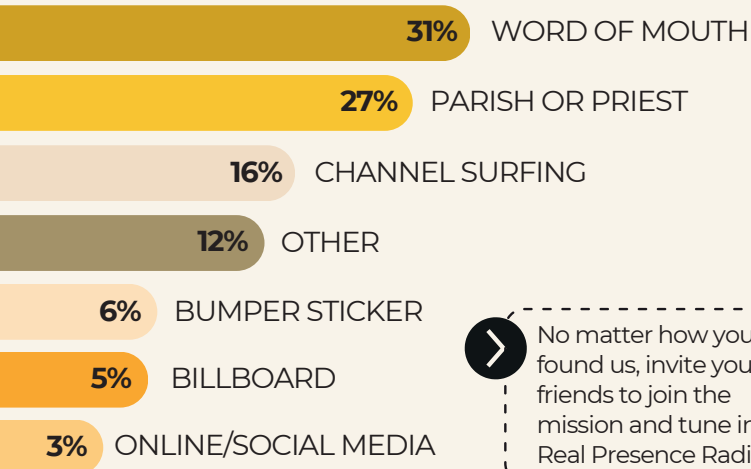


**NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE,**  
GET ACCESS TO LIVE BROADCASTS,  
PODCASTS, PRAYERS, AND MORE!

# And The Survey Says...

Preliminary Results from our 2025 Listener Survey

## HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT RPR?



➤ No matter how you found us, invite your friends to join the mission and tune in to Real Presence Radio!

## Frequently Asked Question

**Q:** How can I listen to content & people from my local area?

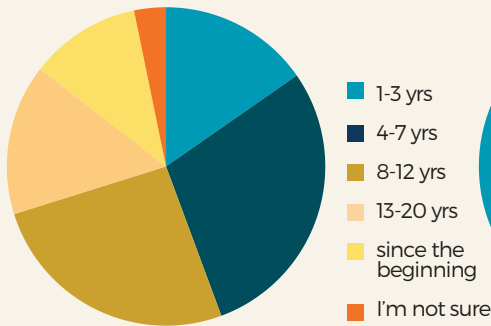
Real Presence Radio loves sharing stories from across our 5-state network, but we know there's something special about hearing voices and stories from your own backyard!

Here are a few ways to make sure you catch local content:

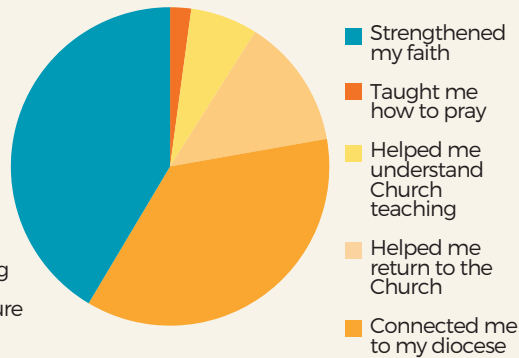
- [Watch your Monday email!](#)
- Each Monday, we send out a schedule that highlights upcoming guests, hosts, and where they're from, so you can plan to tune in live when someone from your area is featured.
- [Check out our Friday podcast email!](#)
- On Fridays, we send out links to some of the week's best content. It's a quick way to catch up and go straight to the stories that interest you most, especially the local ones.
- [Send us your ideas!](#)
- Do you know someone doing something beautiful in your parish or community? Let us know! We're always looking for inspiring local stories and Catholic voices to feature on the air.

Whether it's live or on-demand, we're grateful to walk with you and your neighbors in faith.

## HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING TO RPR?



## HOW HAS RPR IMPACTED YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY?



download our *Mobile App*

### ✦ JUST A TAP AWAY

DOWNLOAD OUR FREE MOBILE APP AND LISTEN ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

Update coming in 2026



# TESTIMONIES

“

“All this listening to Real Presence Radio, even just scripture, becomes part of you. You may never be Dr. David Anders, but you’re certainly not the person you were when you first started listening to Real Presence Radio.”

-Tom

I just love  
Real Presence Radio!  
Thank you for  
all you do.  
I count the  
radio personalities  
among my  
best friends!



“To hear someone on the radio talking about their conversion, people start going to mass again, start going to confession again. That’s life-changing.”

-Bishop John LeVoir, Bishop Emeritus



“It’s a great place to have your dial set so you can tune in. You know you have a station that’s 100% Catholic; it’s 100% going to give you the full teachings of the Church.”

-Fr. James Mason



Share how RPR has affected you.

# Love is *on the air*

Meet the Engaged Couples working at RPR!



*Sebastian & Rachel* first crossed paths in August 2023, when he got a job working in the RPR business office, where Rachel also worked part-time. For the month they worked together, their relationship was strictly professional. But their coworker Theresa foresaw something deeper. As she trained Sebastian, Theresa secretly texted Rachel about his many good qualities. Two weeks later, Theresa encouraged Sebastian to ask Rachel on a date. Liking this suggestion – but wanting to avoid any potential awkwardness that could arise from a workplace romance (or rejection) – Sebastian waited until Rachel's final day of work. As they walked out to their cars together, he asked if she would like to go out to dinner, and she said yes. Fourteen months later, Sebastian asked her another question. She said yes again. Their wedding date is set for October 2025!



*Micah & Annah's* ties to RPR can be traced back to the fall of 2023, an opening in the staff, and a Jimmy John's sandwich. Annah was rounding out her senior year at NDSU and was in desperate search of an internship. Micah was a delivery driver for Jimmy John's and was coincidentally making quite a few trips to the RPR office. On one of these many trips, the staff eventually caught on to Micah's joyful disposition and noticed the crucifix he would wear every day. Conversation sparked, and they asked if Micah was interested in a marketing internship with them. Micah was happy to tell them he knew just the person, and almost as if God had planned it Himself, Annah started her job at RPR just a few weeks later and has been here ever since. Annah and Micah got engaged on July 1st!



*Marcus & Heather* were introduced by a mutual friend, and their shared background in media, Heather in radio and Marcus owning a newspaper, sparked an instant connection. That connection deepened when Marcus discovered Real Presence Radio, which played a key role in his journey to the Catholic faith. After relocating to South Dakota, their friendship blossomed into a relationship, leading to their engagement and upcoming marriage this January. Their mutual love for Real Presence Radio strengthened not only their individual faith but also their commitment to building a Christ-centered future together.



UPCOMING  
**Banquets**



◆ **DICKINSON, ND**  
October 30  
Patty Schneier



**BISMARCK, ND**  
November 04  
◆ **ROCHESTER, MN**  
November 13  
**GRAND FORKS, ND**  
December 02  
Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers



◆ **SIoux FALLS, SD**  
November 18  
Cy Kellett



**RAPID CITY, SD**  
November 20  
◆ **FARGO, ND**  
February 02  
**DULUTH, MN**  
March 03  
Dr. David Anders

# 2025-26 Banquets

Join us for an inspiring evening featuring Patty Schneier in Dickinson, ND, Dr. David Anders in Rapid City, SD, and more! Enjoy powerful speakers, a delicious meal, and uplifting fellowship with fellow Real Presence Radio listeners.

◆ **Discover our podcasts to learn more about our keynote speakers.**

**ANYWHERE YOU LISTEN TO PODCASTS**



[ARCHIVE.REALPRESENCERADIO.COM](https://archive.realpresenceradio.com)

If you are interested in sponsoring a banquet, contact your local LRC.



# MEET THE New Staff!

## Cammy Brechtel

Hello listeners,

I am happy you are here! I live in the beautiful Black Hills and look forward to meeting you soon! By God's hand, I am here as your representative for western South Dakota. My husband and I have been blessed to raise our five children here in this beautiful landscape and enjoy camping, hiking and soaking up time with family.

In all her wisdom, my grandmother always taught us to love one another (John 13:34), to pray to St. Anthony when we were lost or had lost something, and to turn to Mary, who always has Jesus' ear. I remember lying on the soft living room carpet on summer Sunday evenings while my grandparents prayed the rosary.

There are many moments that God has touched my life, and He continues to bless me and my family in abundance. Being aware and acting out of faith fuels me to face my fears, endure suffering, and evangelize others. I aspire to walk in faith with all I meet and share the love of Christ with them. Please pray for me as I am praying for you each day!

\*Here's the RPR LRC team that Cammy is excited to be a part of!



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# AUGUST IS MAKE A WILL MONTH

## 1. MANY PEOPLE THINK ESTATE PLANNING IS ONLY FOR THE ELDERLY OR WEALTHY

but that's simply not true. Life is unpredictable, and having a will ensures your wishes are honored, not left up to chance.

## 2. THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING A WILL

- **Make your wishes known:**
  - A will lets you decide how your belongings are shared and helps avoid family conflict.
- **Care for your loved ones:**
  - You can name guardians for your children, choose who will care for your pets, and help protect your family's future.
- **Ease the burden:**
  - A will makes things easier for your family by giving clear instructions during a difficult time.
- **Include digital assets:**
  - Modern wills can cover things like online accounts, passwords, and even cryptocurrency.
- **Find peace of mind:**
  - Having a will in place means everything is in order and that's a great feeling.

## 3. AS YOU MAKE THESE IMPORTANT DECISIONS,

consider including Real Presence Radio in your will. To learn about the ways you can give, visit "[Create Your Legacy](#)" on our website.



"I can't stand on the street corner and preach, but I can support a tremendous organization that will do that for me; that is why Sharon and I have included Real Presence Radio in our wills. This will allow future generations to know and learn more about the truth about their Catholic faith."

-Jerry & Sharon Meier



"The reason we wanted to continue to give to RPR is because it has benefited us so greatly. When recently constructing our estate plan, we included Real Presence Radio as one of the beneficiaries, desiring to leave a spiritual legacy."

- Dr. Ray & Joyce Gruby

Mark your calendars for our

# Fall Live Drive

 877-795-0122

## SEPT 9 - 11

This Fall Live Drive, we're on a mission of evangelization and HOPE! Join us as we share powerful testimonies, inspiring stories of faith, and special broadcasts. Tune in 7 am - 7 pm CT each day.

### How to Support us

Call in during our Live Drive or scan the QR codes for more ways to give!



**venmo**



◆ *Where is our fundraising goal at for 2025?*



**Overall goal: \$2,500,000**  
**Where we are now: \$1,010,775**

*Help us reach this goal by showing your support during our Fall Live drive!*



- ◆ Donate \$1000+ to receive a sacred heart rosary box.
- ◆ New, lapsed, or existing donors who increase their current pledge by \$10+, will receive an RPR T-shirt!

**Real Presence Radio**  
**1351 Page Drive S STE. 300**  
**Fargo, ND 58103**

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*"Do not be afraid to be*  
**SAINTS**

*Follow Jesus Christ, who is the source of freedom and light. Be open to the Lord so that He may lighten up all your ways.*  
- Pope St. John Paul II

**SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!**

*Scan this code to begin the easy enrollment process or schedule a personal tour:*



**PreK (ages 3-5) to Grade 5:**  
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Saint Anne Elementary School  
St. Mary's Elementary School

**Grades 6-8**  
St. Mary's Academy

**Grades 9-12**  
St. Mary's Central High School

Call: 701-354-7067

Email: [sindovina@lightofchristschools.org](mailto:sindovina@lightofchristschools.org)

Online: [lightofchristschools.org/enrollment](http://lightofchristschools.org/enrollment)



**Light of Christ Catholic Schools**