

***Consecration!***

**RPR**  
**NETWORK**

Real Presence Radio

Spring 2022

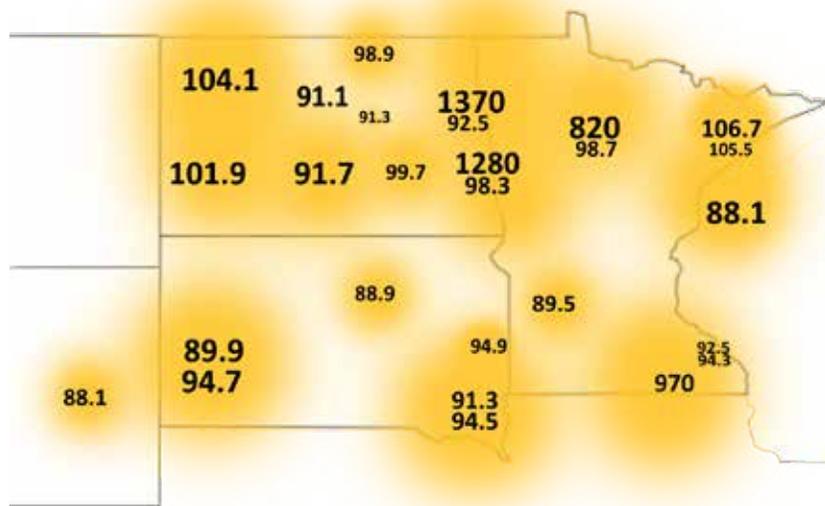


***Your Family of Faith and Hope***



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## RealPresenceRadio.com

Cover Art: Our Lady of Fatima By C. Bosseron Chambers

### REAL PRESENCE RADIO MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is to assist the Roman Catholic Church in drawing all people to the knowledge and love of Jesus and His Church through radio and other mediums, in full accord with the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

# The Wisdom of a Mother

***"... All the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ."  
-1 Corinthians: 12:12***

Recently, I have been asked often, "How is radio treating you?" I answer readily, "Busy!" Truth be told, however, I have not been at peace with this answer, or with my pervasive busyness.

During this most recent Lent, I was reminded of the primacy of prayer, family, and community, and of God's infusion of mercy through them. In March, the world was abuzz about Pope Francis' consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Through various Catholic sources, I was hit with commentaries acknowledging or questioning the validity of past consecrations and doing the same with this one.

While I was initially tempted to get caught up in the debate, I was reminded that world peace does not rest solely on the shoulders of Mary or our clergy. As Our Lady of Fatima repeatedly asserted, it requires everyone's participation. We can criticize or celebrate our Holy Father's methods. We can do the same regarding past popes and past consecrations. But doing so begs the questions: Are we looking for a splinter in our Holy Father's eye while ignoring the beam in our own (Matthew 7:3-5)? Or are we comforting ourselves by thinking we can sit back and rest because the pope has taken care of Our Lady's requests?

If either, I suggest we are incorrect. Our Lady of Fatima explicitly declared that world peace would require not just the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart, and not just the cooperation of all the bishops of the world, but also participation from every one of us. We all have a part to play. Our Lady made it clear that the salvation of our world requires the works of every soul. As St. Paul said, "All the parts of the body, though many, are one body" (1 Cor 12:12). This includes our Holy Father, bishops, priests, religious and the lay people. For our body to function in its fullness, all parts must work together.

First and foremost, I believe we must aim to sanctify our daily lives. Consider some of the following: when we wake, we can declare our intention through a morning offering, consecrate our day to Jesus through Mary, pray a Chaplet of Divine Mercy, pray a prayer of offering at the top of every hour, go to confession regularly, or attend Mass more often than just on Sundays. In addition, Our Lady repeatedly implored us to pray a daily Rosary for the conversion of sinners and to do whatever Jesus tells us (John 2:5).

This brings me to share our coming annual theme: Consecration! Not just in the context of devotion to Jesus through Mary, but also by exploring how Mother Church and Mother Mary invite us to be 'set apart.' We will focus on this theme beginning with our Spring Live Drive (May 11-13) through the end of our banquet season in March 2023. I am so excited to walk this journey alongside you! May you bask in His glow as we still celebrate Easter with our Heavenly Mother and ALL the hosts of Heaven. Our Lady of Fatima...Pray for Us!

*Author's note: Some source credit must be given to Michaelyn Hein and the World Apostolate of Fatima blog, a part of the Blue Army.*



**Mark Hollcraft,  
Executive Director**

***"What I love about Real Presence Radio is it seems whenever I'm struggling with something and I turn on the radio, that seems to be the topic that they are talking about. Thank you Lord for Real Presence Radio in my life!"***

***-RPR Listener***

# Hit By A Bus

A journey of faith 30 years in the making

By Lori Kalgard, Director of Marketing



**Shannon and Peggy Rosera**

We know God works in mysterious ways, and many of us have experienced this first-hand. Would you ever think a city bus wrap would completely change your life? That's what happened to Shannon Rosera of Duluth, after being cut off by a Duluth city bus on an already bad day.

Shannon said, "You can connect the dots going backwards, but not forward. Looking back, I see that Jesus had been putting things right in my face and I never realized it." This particular day in August, Shannon was driving to work, and didn't really know what was upsetting her. "I was crying and praying to God for help and said, 'I can't live like this anymore.'"

She stopped at the red light, and when it changed to green, a bus was making a turn, right in front of her. The city bus had a Real Presence Radio bus wrap on it with the words, "Jesus, I trust in you." She could see the bus driver

apologizing for cutting her off as she began following the bus, reading the words, "Jesus, I trust in you." She said, "It was almost like it was in slow motion. I saw the picture of the Monstrance go by and then read the words and it just clicked." She was sure she had seen the bus before as it has been on the streets of Duluth for about 18 months, but there it was, right in front of her! She immediately called a friend and told her about the words she read and was moved to even more tears.

Why did this bus design have such a profound impact on her? Her faith journey was taking a sharp turn and she was heading down a road she never expected to travel. Shannon was raised Catholic and grew up attending Mass every Sunday, sometimes whether she wanted to or not. She still considered herself Catholic and knew that God was there, but her heart wasn't connecting with her faith.

Her mother, Peggy Rosera, said, "Shannon had some difficult times in her early teens, and God put her dad and me on our knees in prayer for her." When Shannon fell away from the church, Peggy and Dean were very open with her about their faith. They knew that she never turned her back on the Lord. They remained hopeful of her return and set an example by prayer and living their strong Catholic faith.

As she grew into a young adult, she would occasionally attend Mass, but she never made it a priority. She had jobs that required her to work on Sundays, and soon it just got easier to stay home. At times, she would stop and pray at the Adoration Chapel at St. Mary, Star of the Sea, but she didn't attend Mass, except at Christmas and Easter.

Fast forward to 2021: Shannon was now attending college for a degree in medical coding and struggling with terrible anxiety. Sharing what it was like, she said, "I worried all the time; worry was my life. I worried even when there was nothing to worry about!" Then Jesus, in the form of a city bus, met her again at a stop light.

After seeing the bus wrap, she emailed her mom to tell her of her experience and started to research the story behind those five powerful words, "Jesus, I trust in You." Peggy told her the story of St.

Faustina and bought her the *Diary of St. Faustina, Divine Mercy in My Soul*. Though there were still tests and homework to do for her college classes, Shannon read a chapter of St. Faustina's diary every night. She said, "Ever since I saw the bus and started reading St. Faustina's book and praying, I don't worry. I can feel the grace of God in my life and I'm a completely different person. People have even commented about how peaceful I now am."

Shannon believes that Jesus is leading her with baby steps. When reading St. Faustina's diary, she wanted to start praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, but kept hearing 'in time, in time'. This past January she started praying the Chaplet twice a day and has now added a rosary for Lent. "I never envisioned seeing my life like this. Seeing the bus has helped me find Jesus again and now peace has replaced the worry in my life."

Peggy saw the difference in Shannon, too. She said, "It's a big challenge for us to trust, and when Shannon saw the words on the bus it struck her so deeply. God works in the timing of the person, and He must have wanted her to find that trust now. We can see the hand of God leading her every step of the way. Shannon thinks that God is leading her with baby steps; I think God is taking her on giant steps."

Shannon also has a renewed relationship with her parents. "I just love sharing and asking questions about the Catholic faith with Mom and Dad. I'll call Mom with questions, and if she doesn't have the answer, she calls me back later with the answer." Her excitement to share and willingness to learn more about her faith makes it easy for Peggy and Dean to plant more seeds that help to nurture her faith.

When I met Shannon in March, her words to me were, "That bus changed my life." This year, Shannon attended Ash Wednesday Mass and recently went to reconciliation and received the Eucharist for the first time in 30 years! She said, "I was standing in the reconciliation line and wondering if this was the right time to go. I kept hearing, 'it's time, it's time' and then looked up and there was a Divine Mercy picture. I knew what I was supposed to do. When I finished my confession, the priest said two words to me that brought me to tears. He said, "Welcome home."

Now, Shannon looks forward to every day with less worry. The anxiety that used to get the best of her is now replaced with trust. She's seeking the council of our beloved saints, is open to hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit, and loves sharing her faith with her friends, both Catholic and non-Catholic. "I have a friend that I connect with every day, and we read the Bible together. By becoming closer with God, I can hopefully share this joy that I have with other people. God is in control of my life every day. I don't know what tomorrow will bring, but I'm excited about it!"

God knew what Shannon needed to see and hear and when the right time was for her to receive His message. In her case, it came to her by way of a city bus wrap and the words, "Jesus, I trust in You." He does this for all of us if we pay attention to what He puts right in front of us. Shannon was moved by a bus, and now is looking at her former life without her Catholic faith in the rear-view mirror!

*Editor's note: Due to new regulations by the Duluth Transportation Authority, the words, "Jesus, I trust in you" recently had to be removed from the bus design. The bus is still on the streets of Duluth with the beautiful Monstrance and picture of Jesus on it.*



# Spring Live Drive: Donate and win!

Real Presence Radio's Annual Spring Live Drive is May 11-13. Join us as we broadcast from throughout the five-state listening area as we strive to reach our goal of \$650,000! We'll take over the airwaves from 7:00 AM-7:00 PM CT with incredible stories of how Real Presence Radio has played a part in deepening the faith of our hosts and guests, of new members to the Catholic faith, and of those who have returned to their faith!

Sharing these amazing stories is only part of what we have planned! There will be several great prize drawings throughout the three days. Watch your email or check out our website to find out when you can win! Here's a sneak peek:

## Daily Drawing items

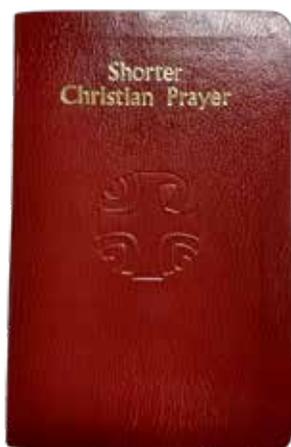
**Shorter Christian Prayer:** This leather-bound book is an abbreviated version of the Liturgy of the Hours containing Morning and Evening Prayer from the Four-Week Psalter and selected texts for the seasons and major feasts of the Church year.

**Homemade Crucifixes:** Matt Schettler from Watford City, ND has again donated four beautiful homemade crucifixes. They measure approximately 13 ½ by 9" and would be a great addition to your home or office.

**Travel mugs:** We're bringing them back for one more Live Drive! This 16 oz. insulated travel mug will keep your beverage hot or cold as you enjoy listening to all the great programming on Real Presence Radio!

## Apostle Level Gift

For those who donate \$1,000 or more, you will receive an Our Lady of Fatima Chaplet. This Chaplet has beautiful blue glass beads and includes the Prayer to Our Lady. The Chaplet has been touched to a reliquary containing clothing from Saints Jacinta and Francisco, which makes the chaplet a third-class relic.



***"I am so grateful for RPR, as I listen to it frequently and have been inspired by many of the interviews and guests telling their stories of conversion, etc. Thank you for all you do to keep this mission going! It is a spark that ignites the flames to closeness with our Lord Jesus Christ. The spirit of evangelization is in our midst!"***

***-Teresa, Diocese of New Ulm***

# 'Honor Our Fathers' recognizes local priests with doughnuts

By Lori Kalgard, Director of Marketing

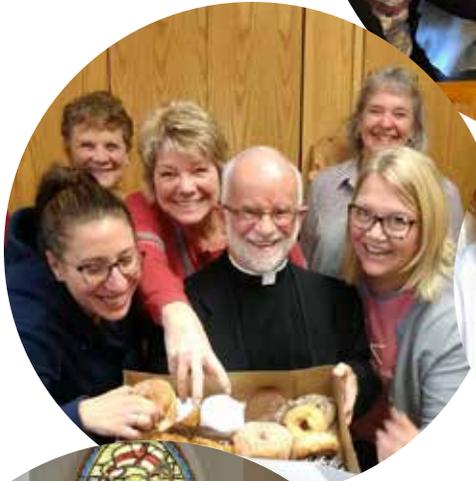
Almost three years ago, RPR's then Executive Director, Steve Splonskowski, and Brandon Clark, former Programming Director, came to me and wanted to brainstorm an idea to acknowledge and celebrate all the incredible priests in our listening area.

It must have been around lunch time, and maybe we were all hungry, but as we wondered how to accomplish that, we immediately went to food and then to doughnuts! A plan was made, a radio spot was recorded, and generous sponsors offered to cover the cost of the doughnuts.

The nominations arrived and continued to arrive, written with so much respect, appreciation, and love for parish priests. They speak to the humanness of our priests who have struggles of their own and how those struggles don't stop them from serving God and their parishes. We read stories of despair or of how priests were with the person every step of the way, and many stories of conversion and reversion!

To date, we have delivered doughnuts to over 120 priests! Our priests expect no accolades or fanfare, because serving their parishes and people is their calling as humble and faithful men of God. With your help, we've been able to acknowledge and appreciate them.

We are still accepting nominations, and I encourage you to nominate your priest by visiting [RealPresenceLive.com/contact](http://RealPresenceLive.com/contact). Tune in weekly to hear which priest will receive doughnuts as we continue to Honor Our Fathers!



# Seeing What God Wants Us to See

Our Blessed Mother helps Mark Hazel find his vocation

By Lori Kalgard, Director of Marketing

Mark Hazel was raised Catholic, and growing up, received all his Sacraments. After his Confirmation at age 15, he stopped going to church. His mother's father, Anthony, was a very faith-filled man, and Mark attributes his prayers for his return to his Catholic faith many years later. "Through his prayers, Our Lady got a hold of me!"



**Anne and Mark Hazel**

One day at work, he was in a conversation with a co-worker who believed anything one does is for selfish reasons, and was giving examples to prove his point. With each example, Mark could find no rebuttal. "With our Blessed Mother in the back of my mind, I asked, 'What about a mother who would give up her life for her child? Is that selfish?' He didn't answer and walked away. Not long after, as I walked alone through the warehouse, I heard a voice ask, 'Do you love me?' I knew Who was asking. I answered, 'Yes.'" That was the first, but not the last, time he realized God's presence in his life.

Mark came from a long line of police officers and thought that was also where he was being called to serve. After graduating from the police academy, he was hired in his hometown. Mark

said, "I saw many things that I didn't understand, but for some reason, God wanted me to see them."

One evening, still wide awake after getting home from his shift that ended at midnight, he happened upon EWTN. Watching soon became a habit he used to unwind. "I started to watch daily Mass with Father Shaughnessy and loved his homilies; his message spoke to me. Then I found Mother Angelica and learned about the Holy Spirit and how to hear God's message by listening—really listening."

After finding EWTN on TV, he wanted to listen to the radio programming at work. While parked near the local electronics store, he received a call to respond to a minor car crash near St. Mary's Catholic Church. As he drove up, he noticed the bumper sticker on the car read "EWTN on Short Wave Radio." He approached the driver to ask for his license and registration, and on the floor were about 20 Mother Angelica CDs. Mark said, "There was Mother Angelica looking up at me and smiling." Just what God wanted him to see! Afterwards, he went back to the electronics store and bought a short-wave radio.

The programming made such a difference in his life, leading Mark to pray about the choices he'd made and how he was living. He was listening to EWTN and attending Mass, but he had this nagging feeling that there was something more he needed to do. He was brought back to when he was younger and was hurt by someone whom he'd never forgiven. Despite hearing story after story about forgiveness, he was determined not to forgive. Mark said, "I was getting beat up by this message of forgiveness, and I had enough! I would go to bookstores and look for books to read and tapes to listen to as a distraction from what I knew I needed to do."

As he was wondering through the bookstore, there it was—a display for a newly released book. The title was *Total Forgiveness*. He surrendered. “I went to another section of the store near the café and said, ‘I forgive’ and gave it up. It was so freeing!” Sitting in the café were two people having coffee. “I wasn’t eavesdropping on their conversation, but I heard one of them say the full name of the person I needed to forgive. The words of the Lord’s Prayer, ‘Forgive us our trespasses *as we forgive those who trespass against us*,’ took on a whole new meaning for me! My eyes were opened and I could now see my own sins.”

With this newfound conviction, each time he attended Mass his sins became present to him. He could see how he had hurt others, and he wanted to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. “I wrote down every sin I could think of; the list was pretty long. “During this time, I prayed to Saint Philomena and then read about the promises of Jesus to Saint Faustina regarding Divine Mercy Sunday, and I said, ‘that’s it! I want to go on Divine Mercy Sunday. So I looked up the date, and it happened to be on my birthday!”

When the weekend of Divine Mercy Sunday arrived, Mark decided to go to reconciliation on Saturday night. He went to the Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge, MA, but “chickened

***“The words of the Lord’s Prayer, ‘Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us,’ took on a whole new meaning for me!”***

out” and left without receiving the Sacrament. Now he knew he had to go on Sunday! Everything around him was telling him not to go. “I turned around to find the nearest exit, and there were two nuns in blue habits behind me praying the rosary loudly and nudging me along in line! The long line in front of me seemed to disappear, and the priest waved me over. I pulled out my list and went through the entire thing. When I was done, his words to me were huge, ‘I absolve you.’ I immediately venerated the Divine Mercy Image, offered a rosary of thanksgiving to St. Philomena, attended the Divine Mercy Mass, and received the Holy Eucharist.”

Time passed, and while Mark was attending Mass and loving the Catholic faith, he was still wondering what vocation God wanted for him. He prayed to St. Raphael and carried a Saint Raphael coin in his pocket. While returning to the Divine Mercy Shrine, he found a grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes and placed the coin under a candle with a prayer to find his vocation, putting his trust in Our Lady.

Not long afterwards, Mark was in the local Catholic gift shop and met Anne. “I saw this beautiful woman behind the counter, and I knew something more was happening here. It wasn’t lost on me!” They started to date in October 2007. During their courtship, they realized that at the same time Mark had placed the St. Raphael coin at Our Lady of Lourdes grotto in Stockbridge, Anne was in Lourdes, France, also praying for direction on her vocation. Mark and Anne went back to the grotto and looked for the coin. It was still there, and they retrieved it.

On October 11, 2008, they were married. They now live in Rapid City, SD and have seven children. One of their daughters was born on Mother Angelica’s birthday. What did they name her? Angelica, of course!

# From lukewarm to on fire!

Pat and Brenda Nistler support RPR with gifts of stock



**The Pat & Brenda Nistler Family**

Pat and Brenda Nistler were a bit skeptical in the early days of Real Presence Radio, wondering how a Catholic radio station could be supported in the upper Midwest. They began cautiously donating, and Pat told then Executive Director, Steve Splonskowski, "You've got a monumental task in front of you; you'd better knock this out of the park." Of RPR, he now says, "It didn't take long for me to realize they knocked it way out of the park!" Their skepticism has now been replaced with full support, and they do it in a financially unique way!

Pat and Brenda met while attending college in Grand Forks. Brenda worked as the music coordinator, and Pat watered the plants at the

UND Newman Center. Pat said, "Truth be told, it was just my way of hanging around with Brenda." They married in 1990 and have four daughters, one of whom has been in heaven since shortly after birth.

In 1999, Brenda's parents, who owned Grouser Products in West Fargo, asked Pat and Brenda to join the company. Pat later took over the position of managing the business with guidance from his father-in-law. Pat said, "He instilled things like ethics, hard work, and passion. He taught me about giving, not just monetarily, but of oneself."

After a retreat, Pat and Brenda felt a new fire for their faith and were looking to learn more. They started listening to RPR. Pat said, "RPR would give you something, even though you weren't searching for it. It continues to do so every day, because there are other people like us who are asking the same questions. All the stories of faith that you hear humble you and make you want to be stronger in your faith."

These stories are why Pat and Brenda support RPR with gifts of stock. This isn't typically something that people think of when they want to support an organization, but Pat says, "This is an easy thing to do with many tax benefits!" He continues, "If I cash out a stock and write RPR a check, I pay taxes on the capital gains. If I donate stock directly to Real Presence Radio, they liquidate the stock and since RPR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, neither of us pay taxes on the gain. This also works for other appreciated assets that a person might wish to donate."

If you are looking to pursue this type of donation, Pat advises you to speak with your financial advisor to find out how simple it really is. "If you donate this way once, you will do it again." Pat is a firm believer in this method of donating. He said, "God isn't asking for your life savings, but He deserves your first fruits in celebration for all you have been blessed to receive. God has blessed us, and He has a way of filling our cup back up after we support organizations such as Real Presence Radio."

*Editor's note: We give thanks to God every day for donors like Pat and Brenda. Our advancement staff can help you create a plan where more support will go to your favorite ministries and less to taxes. For more information, please visit our planned giving website at [rprlegacy.org](http://rprlegacy.org) or call Mike Kiedrowski, CFRE, Director of Advancement at 701-290-4503.*

# RPR thanks Janelle Schanilec for her dedication!

Janelle Schanilec joined Real Presence Radio in 2010 as the second employee and our first Listener Relationship Coordinator. After more than 12 years, Janelle has decided to explore what God has next for her!

Janelle was hired to travel throughout the Fargo and Crookston dioceses and later the Bismarck, Duluth, New Ulm, Rapid City, and Superior dioceses to promote RPR, build relationships, and fundraise. In 2010, there were only two RPR stations, Grand Forks and Fargo. Since then, RPR has grown to 27 signals with a presence in 10 dioceses and 5 states. Janelle said, "It's because of our donors that we've experienced such rapid growth. Thanks be to God and to the wonderful listeners and supporters of Real Presence Radio who have made this a reality!"



Many of our donors know Janelle as a very prayerful person. With careful discernment, Janelle decided to leave Real Presence Radio on April 1 to pursue other opportunities. She is placing her trust in God to guide her, and she requests your prayers as she discerns "what our Good Lord and Blessed Mother desire [her] to do in [her] next job."

The RPR staff and board thank Janelle for sharing her talents and for her unwavering dedication! In turn, she says, "I especially thank the RPR Board of Directors for allowing me to be a part of this great ministry for over 12 years. I've had the pleasure of working with great staff and know they will continue to do a superb job for RPR. I've been blessed to meet so many wonderful people—laity, priests, bishops, deacons and their wives and parish and diocesan staff—and I'm grateful to God for giving me this opportunity to promote Catholicism and the truths of our Catholic faith throughout our listening area."

We wish the best for Janelle in the next chapter of her life and know her faith and devotion to Mary will lead her to do remarkable things as a faithful servant of God!

## Heidi Huss hired as Business Office Assistant

My name is Heidi Huus, and I am excited to be named the new Business Office Assistant at the Fargo office!

I am from Moorhead, MN, and I am a Shanley High School grad (Go Deacons!). I married Dave in 1998 and we have lived in the Fargo/Moorhead area since. We are members of St. Joseph's Church in Moorhead. We have two children, Callie, age 22, and Jack, age 15, and I am proud of all that they are and accomplish! We also have our beloved dog, Cuddles. She is a Black Lab/Basset Hound mix (Bassador) and is unique and beautiful! I love to read, love to travel, and love to be near any kind of body of water!



I have a degree in social work from MSUM in Moorhead. Besides social work, I have experience in real estate, banking, and most recently, as the Administrative Assistant at St. Joseph's School. I was at St. Joe's for 12 school years, and was blessed to be under the same roof as my children every day while they were in elementary and middle school.

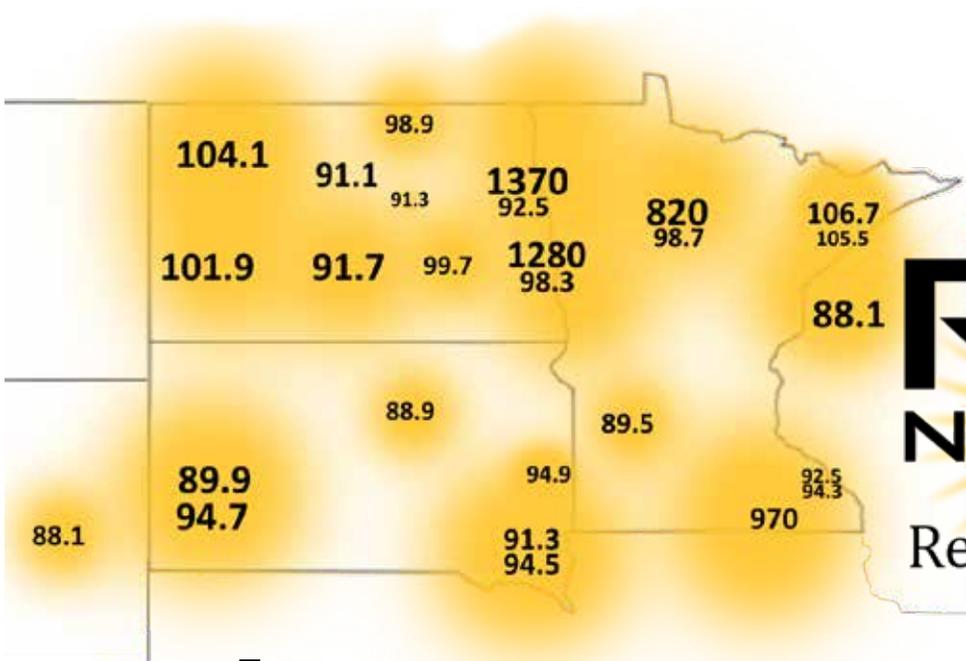
While I have enjoyed a variety of different work environments and tasks, administrative work is what I enjoy the most! I am excited to be at Real Presence Radio, as working in a faith-filled environment is incredibly important to me, and opening my hands in communal prayer at work isn't something everyone is able to do. Being at Real Presence Radio is a blessing, and I know that it's where God, our Creator, wants me—and that's a comfort!



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