



The  
Reformed  
Parish

Please pray for us!  
And if you are able, could  
you help me as I raise  
monthly support?  
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# The Reformed Parish

November 13, 2024

Dear friends & prayer partners:

First of all, a very special 'thank you' to all those who have prayed for us and contributed to RPM. The Lord continues to work among us.

I'm pleased to share that I've continued to take **opportunities to preach in Spanish** at my pastor friend's church in Egg Harbor Township. And the door-to-door parish work is coming along well. The following is one report from that activity, where I engage **a doubter of the Word of God**.

The weekly study in Woodbine continues to go very well. This extended Mexican family (pictures 1 to 3 above) welcomes us in each and every time, and we are now making our way through the Gospel of Luke in Spanish. Peter Rivera (pic. 1), one of our new members from Puerto Rico, has been a great help. These folks have really started to engage more by answering questions and raising questions to learn about God's Word. The Great Physician yet works through the "Good Doctor Luke!" One young man, "Jorge" (pic. 2; not real name), has come to church. So we're presently in the mode of getting a good translation setup for our services. Please pray for the "Ramirez" family, for their salvation, and for us as we assist them in practical life issues.

We are grateful that I'm making steady strides towards full support; but there is a decent way to go. If you could spare something, even a small amount, it would be greatly appreciated! (**About our fundraising**.) If you could become a monthly supporter, that would also be a great encouragement. But in the end, God provides.

Yours for Jesus' sake,

Michael Ives  
[reformedparish.com](http://reformedparish.com) (outreach)  
[westportexperiment.com](http://westportexperiment.com) (theology & missions)

**November 2024**  
Quarterly Update

# “Screwtape” & the parish church

*From a letter to his nephew “Wormwood”*

“You mentioned casually in your last letter that the patient has continued to attend one church, and one only, since he was converted, and that he is not wholly pleased with it. May I ask what you are about? Why have I no report on the causes of his fidelity to the parish church? Do you realise that unless it is due to indifference it is a very bad thing? Surely you know that if a man can’t be cured of churchgoing, the next best thing is to send him all over the neighbourhood looking for the church that ‘suits’ him until he becomes a taster or connoisseur of churches.

“The reasons are obvious. In the first place the parochial organisation should always be attacked, because, being a unity of place and not of likings, it brings people of different classes and psychology together in the kind of unity the Enemy desires. The congregational principle, on the other hand, makes each church into a kind of club, and finally, if all goes well, into a coterie or faction. In the second place, the search for a ‘suitable’ church makes the man a critic where the Enemy wants him to be a pupil.”

## C. S. Lewis

*Screwtape Letters*

(standard disclaimers; Rom. 12:9)



**West Port Experiment**  
On parish missions, the care of souls,  
and all things Reformed

