KINSHIP RADIO

AUGUST | 2026

Honoring Gene Stallkamp

Nearly 50 years ago, a man named **Maurice "Maury" Schwen** had not one but two dreams, both in which he saw a radio tower with a lighted message declaring "Jesus is Lord." That dream eventually came into existence in 1983 in Blue Earth with the help of several praying partners, including **Gene & Marilyn Stallkamp**.



In a conversation earlier this month, Gene recalled, "Very few people thought it would work, but God provided in numerous ways. It took a lot of time and patience, but we never had any doubt that God was in this from the beginning. God opened even more opportunities for us to grow with more signals, and we simply trusted Him to work through us to see it happen."

Gene joined Maury to form the Kinship Board of Directors and eventually served as chair until 2023. On June 4, 2026, after 45 years of service, Gene retired from the Board believing Kinship Radio's mission and commitment of helping listeners discover, know, and grow in their relationship with Jesus is moving in the right direction.

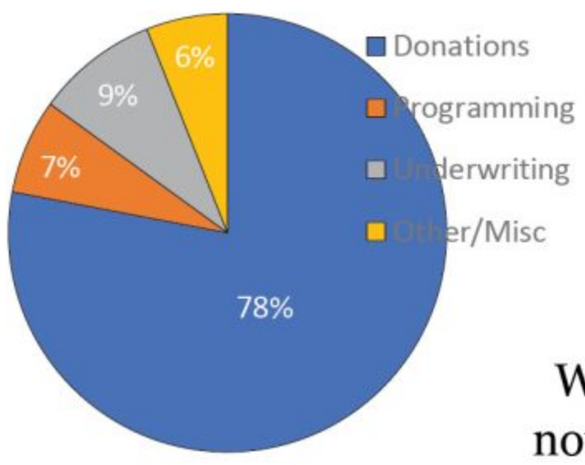
"Things change. Life changes. But I have peace about Kinship Radio in the years ahead. We have a good staff and a good Board. Everybody works together to follow the Bible and God's call to tell listeners about Jesus. It may take a little time, but God's Word doesn't return void. When you listen to Kinship Radio today, it's still the same as it's always been – it's God changing lives."

Gene and his wife, Marilyn, are settling into a less busy life. Married 61 years, they still listen while they work in the lawn and garden. We're grateful for Gene's passion, wisdom, and guidance over more than four decades. We look forward to an even greater outcome of listener response and involvement, in Jesus' name.

Kinship Radio's Fall Share: Oct 6-9

It may surprise you, but we're often asked at Kinship Radio, "How is the station funded?" We love that question as it gives us the chance to talk about God's faithfulness through listener support.

Operating 29 radio stations in the Kinship network is pricey. In our last fiscal year, nearly four of every five dollars given to Kinship Radio came from listeners like you. Your gifts are essential for us to do what we do today, and especially for the months and years ahead.



Gifts are welcome anytime, however, we set aside 3 1/2 days in the spring and again in the fall to request help with what it takes to operate Kinship Radio.

We invite you to pray even now about your support of Kinship Radio. We can and will do more together than we ever could apart. Thank you for your generous support of Kinship Radio.

New Voices to Kinship Radio

Kinship Radio began the summer with a new on-air lineup. The new lineup included the addition of **Heather Erbe**. Born and raised in Michigan, Heather is our weekday host from 10:00am–2:00pm. She started in radio in 1997. Following a ten-year break to start her family, she returned to the mic in 2013. She and her husband have three adult children. Aside from her love of connecting with listeners, she enjoys gardening, reading, and cheering on just about any sporting event.





Also joining the Kinship Radio team is **Kathy Kennedy**. Kathy's on the air weeknights from 6:00-8:00pm. Like Heather, she comes from Michigan but she's lived "all-over" in states like Mississippi and Washington. Unlike Heather, Kathy's full-time work in radio began only six years ago, and she's loved it ever since. Married with two young adult daughters, Kathy loves walking her dogs, going to the movies, and doing 1,000 piece puzzles.

We're thrilled to have both ladies on the team!

Christmas in July

By the time you read this newsletter, Christmas will be 18 weeks away. Not that we're bragging, but Kinship Radio started it's Christmas "shopping" last month when we partnered with Operation Christmas Child to collect toys, school supplies, personal care products and other items for children overseas. Kinship Radio staff and volunteers collected cash and hundreds of items on July 25 in six different locations throughout southern Minnesota and northern Iowa. These items, along with *the* Message of Christmas, will be packed into shoeboxes later this fall and sent to kids, many of whom will experience the joy of Christmas for the first time.



In addition to these holiday plans, Kinship Radio is one of the lead sponsors for the annual Kiwanis Holiday Lights at Sibley Park in Mankato, November 27–December 31. More than 2.1 million visitors had a part in this volunteer-produced event last year. It's a huge way for us to tell the Good News of what Christmas is all about. We'll have several opportunities for you to help with our presence in the park and parade. Watch for details to sign up and be a part with Kinship Radio!

Kinship Radio | August Newsletter

Gift Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

(Fold)

▶ Amount

Please indicate your preferred gift option (1) and monetary amount by checking the corresponding boxes below.

☐ **One-Time Gift**

☐ 1000 ☐ 500 ☐ 200 ☐ 100 ☐ Other _____

☐ **Monthly Gift**

☐ 100 ☐ 50 ☐ 30 ☐ 20 ☐ Other _____

▶ Payment Method

☐ **Check Enclosed** ☐ **Charge Credit Card**

Card # _____ _____ _____ _____

Exp. Date _____ / _____ CVS Code _____

Signature _____

(Tear Off)

GIVE ONLINE

at KinshipRadio.org/home/giving or return your gift using the tear off card and envelope provided

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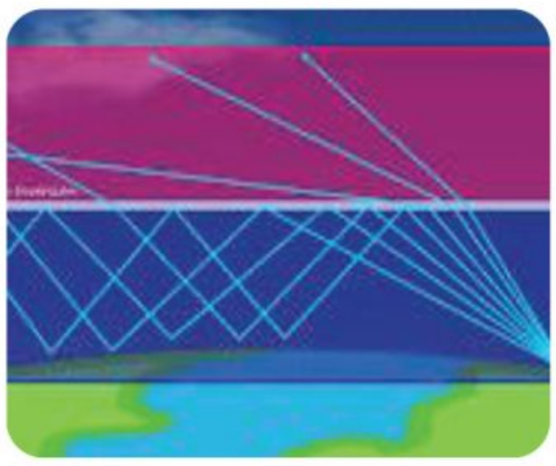
You Could Win $250!

The United States is celebrating 250 years, and we're celebrating, too! Throughout this month, we're inviting you to register your name in the ***Kinship Radio Name Game***. Register your name at our website and then listen for your name to be called out on Kinship Radio. It's that simple, and it could land you $250 for back-to-school supplies, groceries, or whatever you need it for! Find more details at kinshipradio.org.

Due to "Technical Difficulties"

When you're unable to get a reception of Kinship Radio because the signal is fuzzy or interrupted by another station, it may be "technical difficulties," but these days, it's likely due to atmospheric differences that result in what's called ***tropospheric ducting***. ▶

Ducting usually happens in the morning hours of warm summer months. It occurs when a layer of warm, dry air traps a layer of cool, moist air. When an FM radio signal is added to the mix, that signal refracts or "bends," potentially sending the signal in numerous directions over hundreds of miles.



Not every radio signal will be affected at the same time or in the same area. A radio station at 104.5 FM in Mankato may experience ducting while a station 97.9 FM in Mankato may not.

Usually, ducting that causes the fuzziness and static will resolve itself later that evening. If it lasts for several hours, you're welcome to call us at 800.810.5559 to report the issue, allowing us to address it as soon as possible.