
The Bentheim Bell Tower

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BENTHEIM
REFORMED CHURCH



From the Student Ministries Director's Desk

BY HELEN DERKS

Dear Bentheim Reformed Church Family,

As I look back on our recent mission trip to St. Louis, I am filled with gratitude. Thank you for being such an important part of this trip. While our students and leaders traveled to St. Louis, we knew our church family was with us through your prayers, encouragement, and generous support.

Before we left, many of you prayed over our team, and others committed to praying for a specific student or leader by taking one of our prayer bracelets. Those prayers meant so much to us. Looking back, I truly believe our entire week was covered in prayer, and we saw God's faithfulness again and again.

God cared for us in both big and small ways. Even the weather was a blessing. Instead of the extreme heat we expected, we had milder temperatures for most of the week, making it much easier to serve outdoors each day.

Our students served in many different ways. Some helped in a summer learning program, assisting teachers and encouraging children. Others served elderly and widowed homeowners by mowing lawns, cleaning, and completing projects that allowed them to remain in their homes. In the evenings, we built relationships with families in neighborhood parks and learned more about the history and culture of St. Louis.

While the work we accomplished was meaningful, the greatest blessing was watching God work in the lives of our students. Each evening, we spent time in God's Word and shared where we had seen Him at work throughout the day. It was encouraging to watch our students grow in their faith, serve with joyful hearts, and care for others as Christ does.

One verse that stayed with me throughout the week was 1 John 5:14-15: "This is the confidence we have toward Him: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us." We were reminded that God always hears our prayers. His answers may not always look the way we expect, but He is always faithful. *(continued...)*



(...continued) I want to thank our amazing leaders. They gave their time, energy, and hearts to invest in our students, and this trip would not have been possible without them.

Finally, I am so proud of our students. They worked hard, served with humility, encouraged one another, and represented Christ so well. It was a joy to watch them grow, and I am excited to see how God continues to work in their lives.

Thank you again for partnering with us through your prayers, financial support, and encouragement. You played a vital role in this mission trip, and we are so thankful for our church family.

It is a privilege to serve alongside you.

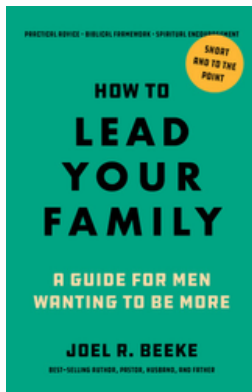
With gratitude,

Helen Derks

Book-of-the-Month

How to Lead Your Family

Joel R. Beeke



If you are a man who wants to learn how to lead your family based on the principles that Jesus modeled in His ministry, then this is the book for you. If you also don't have a long attention span or you just don't really enjoy reading, you will be thrilled to know that this book can be finished in a couple of sittings. While short and to the point, it packs a punch in training men to show up and embrace their call to be prophet, priest, and king to their family. The church and the world desperately need Christ-like men who lead their homes for God's glory! Grab this short book and get the biblical foundation and practical advice you need to grow as a father and husband.

Bible Studies/Classes/Groups for Adults

(continued on the next two pages)

All Church Study

The Book of Mark starting at chapter 10.

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. starting September 23.

Sign up at the Information Center. Contact Russ Lameris with questions.

Bible Study Fellowship

Romans: From Guilt to Grace

Women today face a multitude of challenges, like struggles with insecurity, broken relationships, guilt, overwork or loneliness. Countless women have found peace, comfort, hope, security and answers to life's big questions by exploring God's Word. As a group member, you will personally study Scripture and answer questions each day. Once a week, you will meet for a small-group discussion of the lesson, hear from a teaching leader how the truths of Scripture can be applied to daily life and receive comprehensive notes on the Scripture passages you studied.

Tuesdays at 7 p.m. starting September 15.

Sign up at bsfinternational.org.

Church Made Simple

A new and unique service for those new to their faith journey. We are going back to the basics. No matter where you are in your journey we welcome you to join us. You will be able to gain a much deeper understanding of the Word of God in a simple and basic way with the resources to apply to your everyday life.

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. starting September 23.

No need to sign up, come any week! Contact Renee Breuker with questions.

Coffee Break

Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible: Flawed Women Loved by a Flawless God by Liz Curtis Higgs
Liz Curtis Higgs combines contemporary fiction with a verse-by-verse commentary exploring the lives of a few Old Testament women. Far from evil, yet slightly bad, these women from the book of Genesis stubbed their toes along the rocky path of righteousness.

Sound familiar? These ancient sisters aren't a whole lot different from us. Laced with humor and built on solid research, this book will bring you to the realization that God loves you just the way you are. Flaws and all!

The 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month starting October 1.

Sign up at the Information Center. Contact Renee Breuker with questions.

Post High Group

Respectable Sins by Jerry Bridges

Abortion, adultery, violence---it seems the big sins grab all the headlines. But what about jealousy, selfishness, greed, and "little" faults we live with every day? Opening our eyes to the spiritual dangers of "acceptable" transgressions, Bridges urges us to thoughtfully examine our lives and turn away from more subtle negative behaviors. Includes study guide.

Sundays at 6:30 p.m. (2x/month) at the Hoeve Barn starting September 20.

Sign up at the Information Center. Contact Brinsey Hoeve with questions.

Sunday Morning Class

The Church in History by B.K. Kuiper

A trusted survey chronicling church history from A.D. 33 to modernity, Kuiper's overview has been a textbook of choice for secondary schools and Bible colleges for more than half a century. Detailed and fact-filled, it offers a panoramic view of church growth worldwide. Includes nearly 300 photographs, maps, and timelines in addition to chapter-end study questions. 412 pages, softcover from Eerdmans.

Sunday mornings after Worship starting September 20.

Sign up at the Information Center by August 23. Contact Craig or Jodi Mesbergen with questions.

Sunday Morning Class

Let Your Life Speak by Parker Palmer and *Listening Hearts* by Suzanne G. Farnham

Call is a passion that, when activated, not only brings healing to a hurting world but also brings healing to our souls. Have you ever wondered what it would look like to engage your passion for the Kingdom of God? This class could be the place to discover just that. As a community, we will learn to discern God's voice from the voices of family, friends, culture, and self. We will explore how God has used our experiences to form us into people uniquely prepared to serve him.

Deep within we long to know the meaning and purpose of why God made us. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Eph. 2:10). But what is calling? How do I discern the things God would have me do today, tomorrow, as the overarching theme of my life? How does God's call connect me with the poor and marginalized of the world? How do I know when I have truly discerned God's call and purpose? Come explore this journey with a group committed to seeking after God's call on their lives.

Sunday mornings after worship (two times per month)

Sign up at the Information Center. Contact Al Gemmen with questions.

Women's Bible Study

Rahab: Tracing the Thread of Redemption by Nancy Demoss Wolgemuth

Everybody needs to be rescued. No matter your past and no matter your situation, hope is possible, because Jesus has made redemption possible. See the proof through the life and legacy of Rahab, a woman who God redeemed. With this six-week study on Rahab's life, renew your sense of awe for God's redemptive work in your life.

This study contains memory verses, daily study, and group discussion questions to guide you deep into Joshua 2 and the beauty of God's saving grace.

Tuesdays at 9 a.m. starting September 22.

Sign up at the Information Center. Contact Helen Derks with questions.

Women's Bible Study

More information will be provided when the study has been approved.

Thursdays at 7 p.m. starting September 24.

Sign up at the Information Center. Contact Paula Scholten with questions.

Women's Ministries

Building Your Strengths: Who Am I in God's Eyes (and What Am I Supposed to do About It?)
by Patsy Clairmont

In this Women of Faith Bible study, readers will discover that true strength comes from leaning on God in all situations and using their gifts to shine his light and glory to the world around them.

The 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. ongoing throughout the year. Join any month!
Contact Charity Walters or Helen Zeerip with questions.

Young Adults Group

Matthew: Making Disciples for the Nations (Volume 2) by Jonathan Nielson

The gospel of Matthew is not just the story of Christ's ministry on earth—it's also a wellspring of instruction on day-to-day Christian living. Showing how the new covenant fulfills old covenant promises and how the law of Moses applies today, Matthew writes to make disciples, forming the minds, hearts, and hands of believers.

Designed for groups and individuals, this Reformed Expository Bible Study gives users the resources they need to delve into God's Word and understand and apply it for themselves, leading to biblical transformation. Background information and commentary lay the groundwork before readers observe and analyze the Scripture text. Each of the twenty-six lessons makes connections to the rest of the Bible and to Reformed theology before concluding with a section for personal application and a prayer prompt.

Sundays at 6:30 p.m. (2x/month) starting September 20.

Sign up at the Information Center. Contact Brielle Groenheide or Brea Zoerhof with questions.

June 2026

Financial Report

General Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$44,238.23
Receipts: from offerings	\$71,822.13
Disbursements: for the month	\$54,148.60

Building Fund

Receipts: from offerings	\$5,485.00
Disbursements	\$3,911.00

Mission Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$6,916.67
Receipts: from offerings	\$7,185.00
Disbursements	\$7,763.83



Church Sign donations
through June 2026: \$650

If you would like to contribute to the purchase of the new sign, you can use your giving envelopes, indicate the funds for the Building Fund and note that it is for the church sign

Hand2Hand Needs

We are working on getting our Hand2Hand pantry stocked with food for the upcoming school year. Each week during the school year, volunteers pack bags of food and deliver them to the lockers of kids at Bentheim Elementary whose parents asked for a little assistance.

Our current Hand2Hand needs:

- Pasta Sauce
- Taco Seasoning
- Ranch Dressing Mix
- Meat Sticks
- Canned Tuna
- Snack packs cookies/crackers



Donations can be placed in the basket by the Information Center. (We are not allowed to give out food that is past the expiration date or anything in a glass container).

Thank you for helping us provide nutritious food to kids who need a little extra over the weekends! We will include current needs in each newsletter. If you have any questions or if you would like more information about how you can get involved, please see Jess Hassevoort or Darla Groenheide.



Missionary of the Month:

WordPartners

Moment for Ministry:
Sunday, August 23
during the morning service

Mission

WordPartners exists to elevate God's life-giving Word in the hearts, lives, and ministries of pastors and their people.

Vision

So the Word of God flows powerfully through every church to every nation.

Strategy

Equipping pastors to preach Christ centered, expositional sermons and equipping them to train others to do the same.

Rev. Dave De Haan is a full-time missionary with WordPartners (formerly Leadership Resources International), a global ministry that encourages and equips pastors in challenging places to preach God's Word with God's heart. After more than 15 years of pastoral ministry, Dave's passion for God's Word and pastoral training in the local church brought him to WordPartners where he serves as a global trainer and strategy coach. He travels to Central Asia and North Africa to train pastors who have limited access to biblical/theological training.

Dave and his wife Micki live in Elgin, IL. They have five children and three grandchildren. Their home church is Calvary Baptist Church where Dave serves as an elder.

This ministry of equipping pastors depends on the prayers, partnership, and generosity of God's people.

Pray

Prayer is essential to the work of strengthening pastors and churches. You can commit to pray by subscribing to the WordPartners prayer letter and my personal ministry updates. My goal is to add 40 prayer partners this year.

These updates share opportunities, challenges, and ways to pray for pastors being equipped across the 10/40 window and around the world.

Engage Your Church

Churches can partner by hosting a WordPartners micro-workshop. These training events allow pastors, ministry leaders, and church members to engage directly with the same Bible study principles used to equip pastors globally. They also create opportunities for churches to participate in the broader mission of strengthening pastors around the world.

Financial Partnership

Your church can extend its global outreach by becoming a partner church. In 2026, my goal is to raise \$40,000 in new annual support through recurring monthly gifts to sustain and expand the work of training pastors in hard places such as Central Asia and North Africa. When U.S. churches commit to regular financial support, they are investing in the equipping of the body of Christ worldwide.

Check out the mission's bulletin board for more information and how to get involved.

"...for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea."

Upcoming Events



August 18: Women's Ministries

7 p.m.



August 24: Back to Ministry Night

5-7 p.m.

August Meetings:

August 3: Executive Committee Meeting

August 4: Committee Meetings

August 10: Elders & Consistory Meetings

SUMMER BACKYARD FELLOWSHIP

***AT 5:00 P.M. ON THE CHURCH LAWN:
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16***

***EVERYONE IS WELCOME! WE WILL PROVIDE THE MEAT AND DRINKS.
PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS AND YOUR OWN CHAIR.***

***THERE WILL BE FOOD, GAMES, DEVOTIONAL, MUSIC, FELLOWSHIP,
CAMPFIRE, AND MORE.***

Nursery, Welcome, Hospitality Volunteer Schedules

Date	Nursery	Welcome	Hospitality
August 2	Cherish Nyboer Paula Scholten Joelle Debo Mallorie Koetsier	Rick & Lisa Dirkse	Sandy Hoeve Paula Scholten
August 9	Jen Vander Kolk Ronda Lameris Sutton Geurink Taryn Schurman	Keith & Ann Walters	Sheri Popovitch
August 16	Carolyn Dekker Tammy Bosch Evelyn Busscher Bristol Hoeve	Cris Walters	Darla Groenheide
August 23	Alyssa Schipper Hannah Walters Ellery Lampen Mia Brink	Bruce & Jill LaMar	Erma Eding Nancy Sal
August 30	Brinsey Hoeve Emily Geurink James McCleery Hannah VanDyk	Mike & Lisa Lugten	Brielle Groenheide
September 6	Brielle Groenheide Annie McCleery Morgan Koetsier Oliver McCleery	Sandy Hoeve	Hannah Walters
September 13	Kylee Geurink Nicole Blauwkamp Ava Lengkeek Taylor Patmos	Dan & Jodi Geurink	Meghan Walters
September 20	Charity Walters Averie Brower Claire Debo Sadie Schutter	Dan & Dawn Hoffman	Janine Kooienga
September 27	Michelle Geurink Jodi Geurink Chloe VanDyk Marisa Patmos	Carol Brower	Tom Overhiser

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 - Summer Bible Buddies	3 - 6:30 pm: Executive Committee Meeting	4 - 7 pm: Committee Meetings	5 - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	6	37	8
9 - Summer Bible Buddies	10 - 6:15 pm: Elders' Meeting 7:30 pm: Consistory Meeting	11	12 - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	13	14	15
16 - Summer Bible Buddies - 5 pm: Backyard Fellowship	17	18 - 7 pm: Women's Ministries	19 - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	20	21	22
23 - Summer Bible Buddies	24 - 5-7 pm: Back to Ministry Night	25	26 - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	27	28	29
30 - Summer Bible Buddies	31					