
The Bentheim Bell Tower

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BENTHEIM
REFORMED CHURCH



From the Pastor's Desk

BY KRISTOFFER POPOVITCH

Dear Bentheim Reformed Church,

As I write these words, I do so with a heart filled with gratitude. Three years ago, God, in His providence, brought our paths together. As Sheri's and my ministry comes to a close here at Bentheim Reformed Church, I find myself reflecting on countless memories and giving thanks to the Lord for the privilege of serving as your pastor. I know Sheri feels the same way as she remembers the wonderful moments serving alongside of so many of you.

Let me begin by simply saying thank you for welcoming us into the congregation, your homes, and your lives. Thank you for entrusting me with the sacred responsibility of preaching God's Word, administering the sacraments, and walking alongside you through the many seasons of life.

One of the greatest privileges of pastoral ministry is sharing in the significant moments of a family's story. Thank you for allowing me to stand beside you on joyful wedding days as vows were exchanged and new families were formed. Thank you for allowing me to stand with you in moments of grief, presiding over the funerals of loved ones and proclaiming the hope of the resurrection in Christ. Thank you for welcoming me into hospital rooms, family celebrations, prayer gatherings, and everyday conversations. I want to also thank you for your friendship. Standing next to you and cheering for your children at their sporting events, plays, and recitals, was so much fun and a blessing to Sheri and me. These moments are treasures that I will carry with me as I begin to my next chapter in ministry.

I am especially thankful for each of you who attended Bible studies, participated in ministry, served faithfully, asked thoughtful questions, and sought to grow in your knowledge and love of Christ. It has been a joy to open the Scriptures together and witness God's Spirit at work among us. The growth that has taken place at Bentheim Reformed Church is not the work of one pastor, but the evidence of God's grace working through a congregation committed to His Word.



There is a saying that has proven true in my own experience: the Gospel not only brings people to Christ, it knits hearts together. Though ministry assignments may change and miles may separate us, we remain united in our Savior.

And so I leave you with this thought: The memories we cherish are not simply memories of people and places; they are reminders of God's faithfulness to us in every season. When we look back on these years, may we see above all the goodness of our Lord, who has been with us every step of the way.

Thank you, Bentheim Reformed Church, for allowing me the privilege of serving as your pastor. Thank you for the Gospel-filled memories, the friendships, the laughter, the prayers, and even the tears. I leave with a full heart and with confidence that the God who has been faithful to this congregation for generations will continue to guide and bless her in the years ahead.

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Blessings,

Pastor Kris



Pastor Kris and Sheri's last Sunday with us will be July 12. We would like to send them off with lots of love and appreciation for the way they have served us these past three years. A basket is at the Information Center for any cards or notes of encouragement you would like to give them.

Book-of-the-Month

The Bible

It is only fitting that, as I write my final Book-of-the-Month entry for the newsletter, I conclude by recommending the supreme Book of all—the Bible.

At its heart, the Bible is a love story. It tells of God's steadfast love for His people and reveals His gracious solution to mankind's rebellion against Him. Throughout its pages, we encounter His unfailing kindness and discover countless examples of His patience and covenant faithfulness. In His mercy, God demonstrates His steadfast love even when those whom He came to redeem prove themselves unfaithful.

Although the Bible is non-fiction—in the truest sense of the term—it is unlike any other book ever written. It is infallible, inerrant, and living. There is no greater Author. "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Within its pages we find God's unfolding plan of redemption, accomplished through the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Unlike other books, the Bible is not merely meant to inform us, but to transform us. It comforts the weary, convicts the sinner, strengthens the saint, and points us continually to Christ. It speaks with timeless relevance because its Author is eternal and unchanging. Though written over many centuries by many human authors, it tells one unified story: God's redeeming love for sinners through His Son.

No other book has been read by more people, translated into more languages, or endured more scrutiny. Yet generation after generation has found its promises trustworthy and its message life-giving. Kings and peasants, scholars and children, saints and sinners alike have discovered that its pages contain wisdom for life and hope for eternity.

Every good book eventually reaches its final chapter, but the Bible tells of a kingdom that will never end. Its final pages leave us with a promise and a prayer: "Surely I am coming soon." And the church responds, "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20).

So I will give this Book 5 stars. I highly recommended it—not merely for a month, but for a lifetime. Read it everyday and read it to your children and grandchildren. Talk to others about it and tell them just how wonderful God's Book really is!

In Awe of Christ,

Pastor Kris

May 2026

Financial Report

General Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$44,238.23
Receipts: from offerings	\$39,972.36
Disbursements: for the month	\$32,230.66

Building Fund

Receipts: from offerings	\$7,385.00
Disbursements	\$2,401.01

Mission Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$6,916.67
Receipts: from offerings	\$7,195.00
Disbursements	\$6,473.52

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:

- Cream of Chicken/Mushroom Soup
- Chicken Flavored Rice
- Instant Potatoes
- Noodles
- Pasta Sauce
- Gravy Packets
- Small Packages of Crackers (approx. 1 oz.)
- Fruit Cups
- Stuffing
- Single Serve Cereal



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: Backyard Fellowship

Join us for an evening of food, fun, fellowship, and faith at Backyard Fellowship this Summer!

July 19 and August 16 at 5:00 PM on the church lawn

What to Expect:

- Delicious food
- Yard games and activities
- Music and worship
- A brief devotional
- Great conversation and fellowship

Bring: A dish to pass and a lawn chair

Provided: Meat, drinks, and all the extras!



Our own Grill Master Brian Scholten will be serving up delicious hamburgers and hot dogs fresh from the grill.

Everyone is welcome! Whether you are a longtime member, a first-time visitor, a neighbor, or a friend, we would love to have you join us. Please invite a friend and enjoy an evening of fellowship with the Bentheim community.

Why Backyard Fellowship? Backyard Fellowship creates opportunities for people to connect in a relaxed and welcoming environment. These gatherings help build relationships, encourage spiritual growth through devotion and prayer, and provide a comfortable way for new families and friends to become part of our church community. Together we celebrate God's blessings, strengthen friendships, and grow in faith.

Come hungry, bring a friend, and enjoy an evening of fellowship and community!



Upcoming Events



July 21: Women's Ministries

7 p.m.

SUMMER BACKYARD FELLOWSHIP

AT 5:00 P.M. ON THE CHURCH LAWN:

SUNDAY, JULY 19

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
July 5	Carie Hoeve Leah Walters Rylan Schutter Claire Debo	Sandy Hoeve	Meghan Walters
July 12	Kiel Patmos Gail Schutter Kelsey Geurink Evie Boeve	Dan & Jodi Geurink	Shawn Hulst
July 19	Amanda Schurman Laura Lengkeek Clara Busscher Chloe VanDyk	Dan & Dawn Hoffman	Hannah Walters
July 26	Kelly Eding Kylee Geurink Marisa Patmos Sadie Schutter	Carol Brower	Tom Overhiser
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

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	9	10	11
12 - Summer Bible Buddies	13	14	15 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	16	17	18
19 - Summer Bible Buddies - 5 pm: Backyard Fellowship	20	21 - 7 pm: Women's Ministries	22 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	23	24	25
26 - Summer Bible Buddies - The Lord's Supper	27	28	29	30	31	