
The Bentheim Bell Tower

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BENTHEIM
REFORMED CHURCH



From the Pastor's Desk

BY KRISTOFFER POPOVITCH

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms in our church and to the future moms too! While Mother's Day isn't a Christian holiday, it is one that is good for us as believers to recognize and celebrate. Simply because the Bible has quite a bit to say about how moms are such a blessing to us. It's good for us then to take a day to recognize our mom's goodness.

As a nation, Mother's Day was officially established in 1914, when it was set aside as a day to honor mothers and the role they play in our lives. While its origins are relatively recent, the heart behind it—honoring and appreciating mothers—has always been deeply rooted in God's Word.

Here are just a few thoughts about what the Bible says regarding moms:

Scripture consistently calls us to honor our parents. We see this in the 10 Commandments, to "Honor your father and your mother," a command that is later reaffirmed in the New Testament in Ephesians 6:1-3. Honoring our mothers is a command from the Lord and is a reflection of the Holy Spirit working in us.

The Bible also highlights the unique influence and strength of a godly mother. Proverbs 31 paints a beautiful picture of a godly woman who fears the Lord, cares for her family, and lives with wisdom and dignity. Verse 28 says, "Her children rise up and call her blessed." What a wonderful reminder of the impact a mother has on her home, and in the church.

We also see the importance of a mother's spiritual investment in passages like 2 Timothy 1:5, where Paul speaks of the sincere faith that lived first in Timothy's grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. Their faith didn't just shape their own lives—it was passed down and helped shape a leader in the early church. I know so many moms in the church are just like Lois and Eunice who make it their top priority to raise children who love Jesus.

Mothers carry a special calling. They nurture, teach, sacrifice, pray, and give of themselves in countless ways—many of which go unseen. My mom was such an encouragement to me. It seemed she always had the right words to say at the right time. So, whether you are raising young children, guiding adult children, or an expectant mom, your role matters deeply to our Lord! *(continued...)*



(...continued) As I wrap up this month's "From the Pastor's Desk", I want to express my thanks to you. Thank you for your faithfulness, your love, and your commitment to your families and to the Lord. I appreciate you, and am grateful for the blessing you are to our church.

In Christ,

Pastor Kris

March 2025 Financial Report

General Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$44,238.23
Receipts: from offerings	\$46,501.56
Disbursements: for the month	\$61,524.94

Building Fund

Receipts: from offerings	\$8,120.00
Disbursements	\$15,715.47

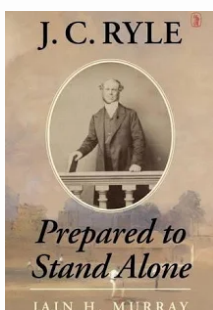
Mission Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$6,916.67
Receipts: from offerings	\$7,195.00
Disbursements	\$7,105.00

Book-of-the-Month

Prepared to Stand Alone

J. C. Ryle



A few weeks ago, I made mention in a sermon that I was reading a biography on J. C. Ryle written by Iain H. Murray. So I suppose it's not that much of a surprise to you that I would be recommending it for May's newsletter book of the month. Many of you know that I am a fan of biographies but I am not a fan of dull and boring biographies. The book entitled, *Prepared to Stand Alone* is anything but dull and boring. Murray paints a wonderful story about Ryle, who is a 19th century preacher from the UK, starting with his childhood and working his way through the end of his life. The amazing thing is that Murray is able to show how applicable Ryle is for us today. Not only in his life's experiences and the challenges he experienced, but also his teaching. J.C Ryle has been referred to as 'a man of granite with the heart of a child' and is as Richard Hobson said, "Bold as a lion for the truth of God's Word and his Gospel." It is easy to detect this courageous man's heart throughout every page of this Christ-honoring book.

I heartily encourage you to get a copy of this excellent text and soak in the riches of a wonderful model of someone who is willing to stand alone for the gospel against persecution and love the sheep for who they are.

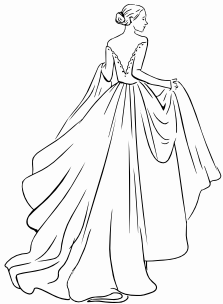
Upcoming Events



May 1: Spring Fever Family Night

6-8 p.m.

There will be a pickle ball tournament and card games along with games and activities for the kids. Dinner is not provided but there will be snacks, drinks and lots of fun!



May 19: Mother Daughter Banquet - We are the Bride of Christ

6 p.m.

May Meetings:

May 4: Executive Committee Meeting

May 5: Committee Meetings

May 11: Elders & Consistory Meetings



May 16: 50s Drive-In Dinner

5-8 p.m

Youth Ministries Fundraiser.

SUMMER BACKYARD FELLOWSHIP

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

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.*



Missionary of the Month: Paradise Bound

**Moment for Ministry:
Sunday, May 10
during the morning service**

Paradise Bound Ministries began working in Guatemala in 1997, and we are privileged to serve alongside local Guatemalan people who are passionate about reaching Guatemala for Christ. Together, we've developed several village outreach opportunities that all point people to Jesus!

Mission Statement

The mission of Paradise Bound is to continue the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ. We accomplish this through His primary example of ministering to physical needs first, building authentic relationships that earn the trust and respect of those we serve, and, ultimately, the opportunity to present the Gospel.

Statement of Faith

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only true, infallible, authoritative Word of God (2 Timothy 3:15-17).
- We believe that there is one God, existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 4:4-6).
- We believe in the deity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His present rule as Head of the Church and His personal return in power and glory (John 1:1-4; Matthew 1:12; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-4 and 4:15; Acts 1:11 and 2:22-24; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4).
- We believe that, for the salvation of lost and sinful men, repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit and that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation (Titus 3:4-7; Luke 24:46-47; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:6; Acts 4:12).
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, whose indwelling enables the Christian to live a godly life (Galatians 5:16-18; Romans 8:9).
- We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the saved unto the resurrection of eternal life and the lost unto damnation and eternal punishment (Revelation 20:11-15; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57).
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ and that all true believers are members of his body, the Church, with equality across race, gender, and class (Ephesians 1:22-23; Corinthians 12:12,27).
- We believe that the ministry of evangelism is a responsibility of both the Church and each Christian (Romans 10:9-15; Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Peter 3:15).

Run for the Rock Event

We invite you to join us as we celebrate the end of our month-long fundraiser to help fund our Refuge on the Rock orphanage in Guatemala!

When: June 6th, 2026

Where: PBM's office 405 Centerstone Ct., Zeeland, MI 49464

PBM's Refuge on the Rock is completely dependent on the generous financial support of our donors, who partner with us to meet the needs of vulnerable children seeking refuge from heartbreaking circumstances. All gifts to our orphanage are used to provide for the physical, emotional, educational, and spiritual needs of the children entrusted to us.

Will you consider a one-time gift to Paradise Bound Ministries in May to help cover the costs of Refuge on the Rock? Will you stand in the gap with us as we accept the responsibility of caring for these young children being raised at the mission base in Guatemala?



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

Nursery, Welcome, Hospitality Volunteer Schedules

Date	Nursery	Welcome	Hospitality
May 3	Ronda Lameris Paula Scholten Clara Busscher Oliver McCleery	Keith & Ann Walters	Meghan Walters
May 10	Tammy Bosch Jen Vander Kolk Marisa Patmos Mia Brink	Carol Brower Jodi Mesbergen	Shawn Hulst
May 17	Renee Breuker Brinsey Hoeve Evelyn Busscher Sadie Schutter	Cris Walters Hannah Walters	Hannah Walters
May 24	Brielle Groenheide Carolyn Dekker Sutton Geurink Ellery Lampen	Dan & Jodi Geurink	Tom Overhiser
May 31	Alyssa Schipper Brea Zoerhof Joelle Debo Chloe VanDyk	Dan & Dawn Hoffman	Sandy Hoeve Paula Scholten
June 7	Emily Geurink Jodi Geurink Ava Lengkeek James McCleery	Keith & Ann Walters	Sheri Popovitch
June 14	Annie McCleery Nicole Blauwkamp Taryn Schurman Bristol Hoeve	Sandy Hoeve Jodi Mesbergen	Darla Groenheide
June 21	Averie Brower Charity Walters Morgan Koetsier Hannah VanDyk	Rick & Lisa Dirkse	Erma Eding Nancy Sal
June 28	Taylor Oosterink Michelle Geurink Taylor Patmos Oliver McCleery	Carol Brower Hannah Walters	Brielle Groenheide

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 - 6 pm: Spring Fever Family Night	2
3 - 6 pm: High School Ministry - 6:30 pm: Young Adults Group	4 - 6:30 pm: Executive Committee Meeting	5 - 7 pm: Committee Meetings - 7 pm: Bible Study Fellowship	6 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 5 pm: Discipling class	7	8	9
10	11 - 6:15 pm: Elders' Meeting - 7:30 pm: Consistory Meeting	12	13 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	14 - 6:30 pm: Systematic Theology Class	15	16 - 8 am-12 pm: Firewood Ministry - 5-8 pm: 50's Drive In Dinner
17 - Senior Recognition Sunday - 2:30 pm: Baccalaureate at Overisel Reformed - 6:30 pm: Young Adults Group	18	19 - 6 pm: Mother Daughter Banquet	20 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	28 - 6:30 pm: Systematic Theology Class	29	30
31 - The Lord's Supper						