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# The Bentheim Bell Tower

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BENTHEIM  
REFORMED CHURCH

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## From the Pastor's Desk

BY KRISTOFFER POPOVITCH

One of the most endearing aspects of Bentheim Reformed Church is her love for music. I appreciate so many of your comments as you reflect on the songs we sing in worship. You have expressed how they have filled your heart with joy, caused you to reflect on the beauty of Jesus, and also there are songs that bring a great deal of comfort during a time of sadness. I am convinced that in God's grace and mercy, He has given His church the gift of music and wonderfully gifted musicians. Bentheim has benefited from this grace offered by the Lord in a momentous way.

Music has a way of speaking to the heart. If you consider the Psalms for a moment, they were originally set to music; in fact the Psalms were Israel's hymn book, and they offer such wonderful hope in a time of pain and sadness. The inspired words of the penmen of the Lord connect God's heart to His beloved creation. Psalm 56:8 is an example of this idea:

*You have kept count of my tossings;  
put my tears in your bottle.  
Are they not in your book?*

How comforting it is to know that God is near, He knows our pain and sadness, and ministers to us when we are at our lowest. Psalm 34:18-19 echoes something similar:

*The LORD is near to the brokenhearted  
and saves the crushed in spirit.  
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.*

Again-how wonderful and merciful is our great God!

I have been singing a familiar song over the last couple of days that has ministered to my soul. Many of you know it so well, and even more of you have experienced the words so often.

*(continued...)*



(...continued)

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided*

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me*

*Great is Thy Faithfulness* captures the experience each of us has when we cling to His feet when we are hurting. The hymn's words speak to the comfort and nearness of the Lord the Psalmists speak about that floods our souls, giving us what we need, right when we need it. My friends, let us reflect on God's Word when we are low. Let us sing these precious words when pain strikes. Let all of God's people join with the Psalmist when he says, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life...."(Psalm 23:6).

In His Grip,

Pastor Kris

## Student Ministries



Thank you to all who donated, served at,  
and came out to support the Youth  
Group's 50's drive-in dinner!



The youth group will be serving in St. Louis, MO June 20-27. Please pray for the mission team while they serve the Lord and His people in St. Louis. The team will provide updates as often as possible via their blog. More details about the blog and how you can keep the mission team in your prayers will follow in the weeks leading up to the trip.

# April 2026 Financial Report

## General Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$44,238.23
Receipts: from offerings	\$38,905.88
Disbursements: for the month	\$56,826.72

## Building Fund

Receipts: from offerings	\$1,535.00
Disbursements	\$0

## Mission Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$6,916.67
Receipts: from offerings	\$7,840.00
Disbursements	\$5,058.57

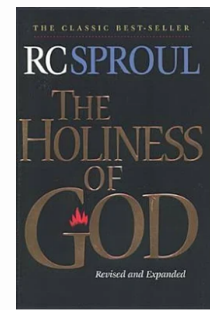
## Pastoral Search Committee Update

Dear church family,

As a search committee, we would like to keep you updated as we seek to find a new pastor for BRC. To date, the search committee has met twice and has had meaningful discussions about the qualities we are seeking in a pastor, as well as what is best for our church.

We covet your prayers during this time. Please pray for each member of the committee, and for unity and for wisdom as we continue moving forward.

The Search Committee



## Book-of-the-Month

*The Holiness of God*

**R.C. Sproul**

One of the most powerful statements in the book comes early on and sets the stage for the entire text when he says, (speaking of Isaiah's encounter with God in Isaiah 6), "He saw the holiness of God. For the first time in his life Isaiah really understood who God was". This captures the wonder of this marvelous book. Sproul is passionate about understanding who God is and describes the "otherness" that separates Him from His creation.

When my family and I (Pastor Kris) read Sproul's masterpiece, we drew closer to the Lord and became more in awe of Him.

I would encourage you to pick this book up and enjoy God's blessing!

# Update from the Deacons

In each member's mailbox are two proposals for a new church sign. For several years, there has been interest in upgrading the sign. With the approval of the historical sign from the State of Michigan, we felt now was a good time to upgrade the sign at the road.

There were many designs reviewed. It was important to have a sign that fits Bentheim Reformed Church well and matches the brick and the building itself. We want to have something that will be timeless and will last for several decades, like the one we currently have.

The options were narrowed down to the two signs pictured below. Option A is a more traditional brick sign. The brick and peak are intended to match the look of the sanctuary. Option B has an aluminum column wrapped in a woodgrain vinyl, which gives it the wood look without the wood upkeep. Both will have a simple digital display so it is easy to change and update for events. Each version will cost around \$45,000.

We would like the members who are interested to vote on the version they would prefer. The ballot box will be at the Information Center with additional ballots available. Each member of BRC gets a vote. Please sign the ballots, fold them, and put them in the ballot box. We would like to collect the ballots after next **Sunday, June 7**.

Some funds have been raised, but we will need donations for this project and do not plan to move forward with the project until all of the money is raised. Please make donations for this project to the Building Fund, and mark them as Church Sign if you would like to donate toward the sign. Our hope is to raise the money needed yet this summery so we can complete it this fall. Thank you.

## Option A



## Option B



# Missionary of the Month:

## Titus 2 Ministries

We are excited to launch a new ministry here at Bentheim Reformed Church! Titus 2 Ministries is our newest ministry to come from our pillar platform under Friendship in Jesus. Titus 2 Ministries is based on the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Titus: "But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children.

This ministry is a mentorship program. The key to having a successful mentoring session is creating a relationship with the mentee that develops naturally through conversation, common interest, and trust. Mentoring involves teaching others to live out the transforming power of the gospel and to be spiritual mentors. This means that we are called to be spiritual leaders who guide others in their faith and encourage them to grow in their understanding and applications of the Bible.

The goal of Titus 2 Ministries is to help others grow into the person God created them to be by applying biblical principles to their life. This involves teaching them to be spiritual leaders who guide others in their faith and encourage them to grow in their understanding and application of biblical principles. The older in age, experience, and faith are needed to train and equip those who are younger. Mentoring is a way to share your firsthand experiences but also to be a sounding board and listen without judgement.

A mentoring relationship is a structured, supportive connection where an experienced individual guides and advises a less experienced person to foster personal and spiritual growth.

Our goal would be for you to mentor someone of a younger age and then in return you would have a mentor that is older than you. Making this ministry a part of our intergenerational ministries as well. Renee Breuker would love to answer any questions you may have about the Titus 2 Ministry and ask that you prayerfully consider joining this new ministry here at Bentheim Church.

Please reach out to Renee Breuker if you are interested in joining the Titus 2 Ministries or if you have any questions ([renee@bentheim.org](mailto:renee@bentheim.org)).

# 4 Pillars of Bentheim Church

## Homelessness

### brc missions

Hand2Hand  
Care Portal  
Wood Ministry

### organizations

Love, INC  
Gateway Missions  
People Helping People  
The Rock

### \*new missions

\*Women & Children  
Transition Home  
Phase: Design & Development

## Evangelism

### brc missions

Bible Release Club  
Vacation Bible School  
**Community Outreach**  
Community Events  
Church Made Simple  
Coffee Break  
\*Men's Ministry  
Women's Ministry  
Welcome Team

### organizations

Eaglecrest Alaska Missions  
Hungry for Christ  
Word Partners  
Paradise Bound  
International Needs  
Growing Hope Globally  
Fellowship of World Global  
Gideons  
Barnabas Ministries  
Mission Church in Bentheim, Germany

### individuals

Overboeks  
Dwayne Johnson  
Al Gemmen  
Allegan County Jail Chaplin  
Groeneveld  
Pintos  
Lampens

## Family/Children

### brc missions

Quilting Ministry  
Baby Ministry  
Summer Camp Assistance  
HAYM/Youth Ministries  
Wednesday Night Meals  
\*Grafted: Homeschool Program

### organizations

Right to Life  
Positive Options  
City on a Hill  
Winning at Home  
Kids Hope  
GVSU Campus Ministry  
Moriah Ministries  
The Gate

### adoption/foster care

Grant Me Hope  
Joy Closet  
Give Hope RV

### camps

Geneva  
Cran-Hill  
SonLife

## \*Friendship in Jesus

### brc missions

\*Senior to Senior Home Visits  
\*Senior Education

### \*titus 2 ministries

70+ to 60s & 50s  
60s to 40s  
50s to 30s  
40s to 20s  
\*Intergenerational Meals

### \*spiritual formation

#### **Discipleship**

Disciple Making Class  
Track Rock  
Devotionals  
Systematic Theology Class  
Bible Studies

### \*kingdom hospitality

Community Gifting  
Community Meals

\*Denotes new ministry ideas

# Upcoming Events



## June 15-17: Kingdom Quest VBS

6-8 p.m.

Dinner will be served from 5-6 p.m. for all – even those not involved in VBS.



## June 16: Women's Ministries

7 p.m.

In the Cornerstone building

### June Meetings:

June 1: Executive Committee Meeting

June 2: Committee Meetings

June 8: Elders & Consistory Meetings

## *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.*

# Nursery, Welcome, Hospitality Volunteer Schedules

Date	Nursery	Welcome	Hospitality
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
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

# June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 - 6:30 pm: Executive Committee Meeting	2 - 7 pm: Committee Meetings	3 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	4	5	6
7 - Summer Bible Buddies - 5 pm: Backyard Fellowship	8 - 6:15 pm: Elders' Meeting - 7:30 pm: Consistory Meeting	9	10 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	11	12	13
14 - Summer Bible Buddies	15 - 5-6 pm: Dinner - 6 pm: VBS	16 - 5-6 pm: Dinner - 6 pm: VBS - 7 pm: Women's Ministries	17 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 5-6 pm: Dinner - 6 pm: VBS - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	18	19	20 - Youth Mission Team Departs
21 - Summer Bible Buddies	22	23	24 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Discipling class	25	26	27 - Youth Mission Team Returns
28 - Summer Bible Buddies	29	30				