

The Bentheim Bell Tower

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BENTHEIM
REFORMED CHURCH



From the Pastor's Desk

BY PASTOR KRISTOFFER POPOVITCH

October is a significant month in the life of the Church. After all, on October 31 we celebrate Reformation Day. A day pegged on the Church calendar when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Why is this that so important? Well, it's because it started the movement (we could even say a **revival**) across Europe, when the Gospel was preached in the churches once again, declaring we are righteous in the eyes of God solely based on what Jesus Christ accomplished for us in His perfect life, death, and resurrection. Lately there has been a lot of interest and a lot of talk about a **revival**, and that's a good thing. So many people are looking for change- Yet, a **revival** always starts with the true Gospel being preached.

So what is the Gospel then? In summary we can find it spelled out simply in the Scriptures. The Apostle Paul states clearly in Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." What this means is (to quote the old hymn), "Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling; naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die."

This is so important for us to not only understand with our minds but also with our hearts, which should translate to what we do with our hands and feet. We could say this text invokes application. It is useful for everyday life because what this excellent text tells us is what we need to know regarding how we get to heaven. And let me say the "how" is vital for our souls because, as Christians, this is when we can rest in Christ's finished work. The good things we do aren't for a talent show for God to judge; instead all that we do is because Jesus won your salvation and now you are living for Him. How AWESOME is that? We can say in our souls, "phew".....eternal life is guaranteed for all those who place their faith in Jesus Christ and not one thing I do will contribute to my entry into heaven. That's the Gospel! That really is Good News! I am so thankful that my eternity with the Lord is not based on my good works!!

Martin Luther was one of the first teachers to reclaim what the church always taught and always believed (but drifted from for a period of time into a system of believing what we did earned us points to get into heaven). He simply taught what Jesus and His disciples taught. I will say it again, PRETTY AWESOME!!

So this October 31, when you see many children dress up as superheroes.....think of the ultimate superhero! Think of the champion of our salvation, Jesus Christ. And give thanks for His AWESOME work! And let's also give thanks for men like Luther that started the **revival** by preaching the Truth of the Gospel. This is how **revivals** that change the world start and continue! Let's pray for more of this— that the Gospel will be preached so we can see this change we hope for!



With love in Christ,

Pastor Kris

August 2025 Financial Report

General Fund

Receipts needed per month per budget	\$44,238.23
Receipts: from offerings	\$43,217.11
Disbursements: for the month	\$53,605.98

Building Fund

Receipts	\$4,045.00
Disbursements	\$1,759.00

Mission Fund

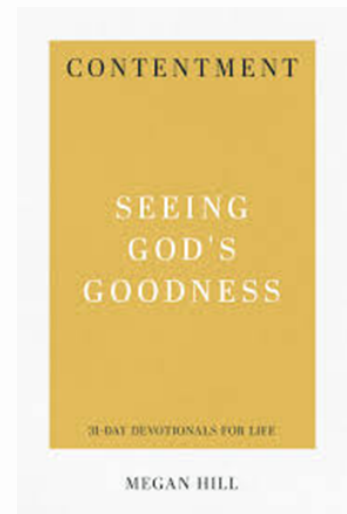
Receipts needed per month per budget	\$6,916.67
Receipts	\$7,261.66
Disbursements	\$5,129.97

Congregational Need

A member of BRC is looking for any leads on an Amigo Mobility Scooter. If you have a lead or information on one, please contact Renee Breuker at renee@bentheim.org or 616-218-7772.

If you have a need that the BRC family may be able to fulfill, please see Renee.

Book-of-the-Month



"Contentment: Seeing God's Goodness" Megan Hill

Many of you have asked me (Pastor Kris) for some advice about selecting a good devotional. "Contentment: Seeing God's Goodness" is one that I would heartily recommend to you. The author is Megan Hill. She is a managing editor for the Gospel Coalition and has written several books, including: Sabbath Rest and Partners in the Gospel.

"Contentment: Seeing God's Goodness" is an outstanding 31-day devotional for those who are seeking real-life application while answering many of our questions concerning our pursuit of God and peace in Him. Sheri and I have known Megan since she was a teenager as she is the daughter of our pastor for much of our married life. Megan is now a pastor's wife and lives in Massachusetts. She has great insight into this challenging topic.



Children's Ministry

NEW - Bible memory program is being revised and relaunched in January. Stay tuned!



Please remember to pick your kids up at 11:00 a.m. if they are NOT participating in God's Gang on Sunday mornings. It would be helpful if you let your child and a leader know ahead of time if they will be participating or not.

Firewood Ministry

We had a great turnout for the firewood ministry on August 30! Thank you to everyone who helped out!





Upcoming Events

October 1: Church Made Simple Kickoff

6:30 p.m. in the old youth building



October 21: Women's Ministries

7 p.m.

September Meetings:

October 6: Executive Committee Meeting

October 7: Committee Meetings

October 13: Elders & Consistory Meetings

From the BRC Deacons

As summer is coming to an end, we are close to completing all projects on the facility for the year. The caulking is getting done at this time to seal up the new construction as well as sealing up around the windows. This should be completed by the end of this month.

In the next couple of weeks, the roof membrane over the carport will be completed which will stop the water leaks and prevent future damage. This should finish the projects we were wanting to tackle for this year.

From a giving stand point, we have been very blessed. We were able to pay for all of these projects from available funding. Our General Fund receipts and expenditures are all on track for the year so far.

If it were not for the generous congregational donations, the Legacy of the Bolks' Fund, and the sweat equity many of the members have given this year, we would not have been able to achieve all of these things. We look forward to continuing to improve our facilities again next year. Thank You.

Missionary of the Month: Barnabas Ministries



Mission

Barnabas Ministries is passionately committed to reaching high-risk teens and their families with the message of freedom, hope, and healing found only in Jesus Christ.

Vision

To create an environment where hurting teens can discover their value in Christ, grow in that knowledge, and then pass that knowledge on to others.

Our Story

Barnabas Ministries is passionately committed to reaching high-risk teens and their families with the message of freedom, hope, and healing found only in Jesus Christ. Our vision is to create an environment where hurting teens can discover their value in Christ, grow in that knowledge, and then pass that knowledge on to others. We have been serving the West Michigan community since 1995, primarily in Allegan and Ottawa Counties.

How to Help

Pray – Join a prayer team

Serve – Volunteer in one of the many youth programs

Give – Make a Donation

[Barnabas Ministries](http://barnabasmin.org)

barnabasmin.org

4670 Pine St, Hamilton, MI 49419

(616) 748-8435

**Check out the Mission
Bulletin Board for more
updates and missionary
news!**

**Moment 4 Ministry:
October 12 during the
morning service**

Nursery, Welcome, Hospitality Volunteer Schedules

Date	Nursery	Welcome	Hospitality
October 5	Jen Vander Kolk Renee Breuker Blake Lugten Hannah VanDyk	Mike & Lisa Lugten	Darla Groenheide
October 12	Alyssa Schipper Paula Scholten Bethany Kalmink Oliver McCleery	Bruce & Jill LaMar	Erma Eding Nancy Sal
October 19	Ronda Lameris Carolyn Dekker Rylan Schutter Brea Geurink	Rick & Lisa Dirkse	Brielle Groenheide
October 26	Andrea Mulder Gail Schutter Taylor Patmos Sadie Schutter	Keith & Ann Walters	Meghan Walters
November 2	Brielle Groenheide Libby Geurink Brinsey Hoeve Chloe VanDyk	Dan & Dawn Hoffman	Shawn Hulst
November 9	Jodi Geurink Brea Zoerhof Marisa Patmos Evelyn Busscher	Keith & Ann Walters	Hannah Walters
November 16	Hannah Walters Annie McCleery Mia Brink Eastyn Geurink	Carol Brower Jodi Mesbergen	Russ Lameris
November 23	Taylor Oosterink Michelle Geurink Claire Debo Mallorie Koetsier	Cris Walters Hannah Walters	Sandy Hoeve Paula Scholten
November 30	Lizzy Hagen Nicole Blauwkamp Kelsey Geurink Evie Boeve	Dan & Jodi Geurink	

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 am: Quilting Ministry - 9 am: Play Group - 5 pm: Supper - 6 pm: Middle School Ministry - 6:15 pm: GEMS - 6:30 pm: All Church Study - 6:30 pm: Church Made Simple	2 - 9 am: Coffee Break - 7 pm: Women's Bible Study	3	4
5 - Walk Out Worship & God's Gang - Faith Builders & Seekers - Marriage Class - 6 pm: High School Ministry	6 - 6:30 pm: Executive Committee Meeting	7 - 9 am: Women's Bible Study - 7 pm: Committee Meetings	8 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 5 pm: Supper - 6:15 pm: Middle School Ministry - 6:15 pm: Cadets - 6:30 pm: All Church Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Church Made Simple	9 - 7 pm: Women's Bible Study	10	11
12 - Walk Out Worship & God's Gang - Faith Builders & Seekers - AI Gemmen's Class - Marriage Class - 6 pm: High School Ministry	13 - 6:15 pm: Elders' Meeting - 7:30 pm: Consistory Meeting	14 - 9 am: Women's Bible Study	15 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 8:30 am: Quilting Ministry - 5 pm: Supper - 6:15 pm: Middle School Ministry - 6:15 pm: GEMS - 6:30 pm: All Church Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Church Made Simple	16 - 9 am: Coffee Break - 7 pm: Women's Bible Study	17	18 - High School Ministry Special Event
19 - Walk Out Worship & God's Gang - Faith Builders & Seekers - Marriage Class - 6:30 pm: Young Adults Group	20 - 6:15 pm: Elders' Meeting - 7:30 pm: Consistory Meeting	21 - 9 am: Women's Bible Study - 7 pm: Women's Ministries	22 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 5 pm: Supper - 6:15 pm: Middle School Ministry - 6:15 pm: Cadets - 6:30 pm: All Church Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Church Made Simple	23 - 7 pm: Women's Bible Study	24	25
26 - AI Gemmen's Class - 6 pm: High School Ministry	27 - 6:15 pm: Elders' Meeting - 7:30 pm: Consistory Meeting	28 - 9 am: Women's Bible Study	29 - 5:30 am: Men's Bible Study - 6:15 pm: Middle School Ministry - 6:15 pm: Cadets & GEMS Special Event - 6:30 pm: All Church Bible Study - 6:30 pm: Church Made Simple	30 - 7 pm: Women's Bible Study	31	