

# RBN Net Monthly

A monthly publication of the Reformed Baptist Network  
July/August 2022

Praying for each other more specifically,  
encouraging one another  
with what the LORD is doing,  
"Rejoicing with those who rejoice,  
weeping with those who weep."

## FROM THE COORDINATOR

### RBN Net's MEMBERSHIP PIPELINE

We are thankful to report that the Lord has seen fit to move many to pursue membership with RBN Net. Here is a foretaste of the proposed GA roster, from Pastor Marty Hoffman, the chairman of the Membership Committee.

This year was a very unusual year in which we received a record number of applicants. The membership committee has interviewed 11 churches for full membership and nine individuals for individual membership. We have several more that are in various stages of applying:

#### CHURCHES:

1. Sovereign Grace Church of Middle TN
2. Reformed Baptist Church of Auburn, IN
3. Rivertown Grace Fellowship of Conway, SC
4. Cornerstone Reformed Baptist Church of Terrell, TX
5. Cornerstone Bible Church of Ridgecrest, CA
6. Faith Bible Church of Pataskala, OH
7. Covenant Baptist Church of Lumberton, NJ
8. Christ Bible Church of Kingsport, TN
9. First Baptist Church of Puxico, MO
10. Redeeming Grace Church of Gloucester, VA
11. Faithful and True Baptist Church of Grand Junction, CO

#### INDIVIDUALS:

1. Ricky Garcia
2. Juston Herron
3. Eric Maynard
4. Conrad Mbewe
5. Sam Waldron
6. John Divito
7. Greg Nichols
8. Bryan Bice
9. Jason Edwards

Let's pray that the Lord would continue to draw godly and mighty, men and churches to the Reformed Baptist Network, to our Cave of Adullam, from which we might storm the gates of hell for the cause and glory of our anointed King, Jesus. ☺

– Mark Chanski, RBN Net Coordinator

## MISSION THOUGHTS

### STEADFAST ENDURANCE

Last week I had to take my new lawn mower in the third time for repair! I was frustrated and upset. At the same time, I was preparing a sermon from 2 Thessalonians 3:5 "May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ" (ESV). I was concentrating on word steadfastness. It is translated "patience" in the NKJV. The word means the patient or steadfast endurance of Christ. The Holy Spirit is teaching us that when trials come (big or small) we need our hearts directed to the patient endurance of Christ, and when the Lord answers that prayer a transformation takes place. It did so for me in the middle of one night as I meditated on the sufferings of our Savior: the beating, the mocking, the crown of thorns, and the brutal crucifixion. My heart was calmed. And when this prayer is answered it leads to obedience. In 2 Thess. 3:4, Paul had confidence that these saints would obey the commands given. Why this confidence, Paul? Well, he says because I am praying that your hearts will be directed into the love of God and the patient endurance of Christ. And further Paul is so confident of the answer to his prayer that he can tell the church to no longer let those eat who refuse to work (2 Thess. 3:6–16). This was a hard command. Think of it, to refuse food to friends, saints whom they had come to love. How could they do that? Because Paul prays that they will have hearts directed into the love of God and the patient endurance of Christ.

Now what does this have to do with missions, you ask? Missionaries face much severer trials than a new lawn mower that has to be repaired three times. They face rejection, persecution, health problems, and numerous disappointments in their labor. So, we need to pray that their hearts would be directed into the steadfast endurance of Christ. ☺

– Gordon Taylor, RBN Net Support

The vision of Reformed Baptist Network is to glorify God through fellowship and cooperation in fulfilling the Great Commission to the ends of the earth.

## CHURCH UPDATES

### Iglesia Bíblica del Señor Jesucristo, Santo Domingo, DR

Pastor Salvador Gomez

Dear brethren,

We greatly appreciate your intercession before the throne of grace on our behalf. We are well aware of how God blesses us in response to the prayers of His people.

A reason for thanksgiving is that in August we will be starting the last semester of studies for the group of leaders that we have been training for two years now. The method of using video courses, mentoring meetings, participation in ministries and pastoral meetings has proven to be a great blessing. Please pray for these twelve men, that the Lord may guide them to the different spheres of usefulness that He desires for them, be it as pastors, missionaries, teachers, ministry leaders, etc.

Although we perceive encouraging signs in our prayer meetings, please pray that the Lord would pour out more copious measures of a spirit of supplication and prayer. Today's challenges demand that we remain committed to intensive fellowship in prayer.

We also praise God for our brother GR. His heart is set in moving to India soon. He even got his visa ready, but... the Lord is giving our sister M to be his wife. They plan to marry by the middle of July, and once they get M's visa (pray for that process), fly to India. More about them to our net soon.

There are some activities in our calendar that we would like you to pray for.

**Christian ethics course at CMC, Ndola, Zambia** (July 25–29). For the third time Pastor Salvador Gomez will travel to Zambia to give classes to our brothers.

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**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to vacation schedules and the demands of the 2022 GA, there will be one combined July/August RBN Net Monthly issue and one combined September/October RBN Net Monthly issue.

#### Publication schedule:

- July/Aug. issue: published June 24
- Sept./Oct. issue: published Aug. 26

Thank you for your understanding.

## CHURCH UPDATES

*Iglesia Biblica del Señor Jesucristo, continued...*

**Simeon Trust workshops** (1–3 September). Every year we organize these workshops which have been of great help in the study of the Scriptures for pastors and teachers of our church and other churches in the area.

**Pastoral Intensive 2022** (October 6–9). We thank God that for the first time after the pandemic we can resume our pastoral intensives. Pastors and leaders from various countries meet for a few days to expose themselves to the most important issues on ecclesiology, and to participate in the life of our church in its different facets. These times have proven to be of lasting impact in the lives of the participants and the churches represented.

Pray also that the Lord will grant us wisdom and opportunities as we seek to continue helping churches in Cuba and Venezuela. We know that the gospel thrives even in the most challenging conditions, and the case of our brothers and sisters in those countries is no exception.

Thank you from the bottom of our heart for fighting with us in prayer. 🙏

### **Iglesia Biblica de la Gracia Grand Rapids, MI**

*Tim Elzinga, Pastor*

Dear brethren of RBNet,

Thank you for remembering us in your prayers. This past Easter Sunday we celebrated 13 years as a church. We thank the Lord for His goodness to us over the last several months.

We rejoice that one of our newest members, Juan Carlos Medina, who is a former pastor, has been given the opportunity to plant a church about 30 minutes West of Grand Rapids in Holland, MI. The first meeting was held on April 3. The name they have chosen for the church is Iglesia Biblica Sublime Gracia (Amazing Grace Bible Church). Please pray with us that the Lord would guide and prosper this new ministry, and that a sound Biblical church would be established in that needy area.

We are also looking forward to our family camp which is scheduled for August 26–28. Please pray with us that it would be a time of refreshment and edification. 🙏

## CHURCH UPDATES

### **Redeemer Baptist Church, Rincon, GA**

*Sam Barber, Pastor*

Dear Sister Churches,

Warmest greetings from the elders, deacons, and saints of Redeemer Baptist Church in Rincon, GA! We pray for you weekly and thank God for our partnership with you in the gospel as we spread the name and fame of Christ Jesus to all peoples. As many of you know, last fall, Pastor Nick accepted a call to join the work at Emmanuel Baptist Church in South Florida. In February, he preached his final sermon as the pastor of RBC. We are sad to see Nick go, but we are grateful for the time we had with the Kennicotts (almost 15 years!). We also rejoice in the unity, clarity, and comfort God has granted to the leadership at RBC as we prayerfully work to fill this pastoral role.

Here are a few other things of note:

1. I have been preaching through 1 Timothy, and it has been a warm and rich experience for the saints of God here as we consider life in the household of God.
2. Several years ago, the valedictorian of our first graduating class at the Institute of Pastoral and Theological Training in Nigeria moved his family to our area and joined our church. On Memorial Day weekend, we ordained him to the office of elder. His name is Olumide Olumide.
3. Since March, we have added almost a dozen people to our membership (with more to come, it seems). We thank God for sturdy folks willing to join our church during a pastoral transition!
4. We've been able to provide training to a woman in our church, Becky Bradley, for ministering to survivors of domestic violence. She has been a gift of God to our growing counseling ministry!

In closing, would you thank God for these things and pray that he would do whatever seems right to him with RBC. 🙏



## CHURCH UPDATES

### **Grace Baptist Church, Commerce, GA**

*Murray Brett, Pastor*

Greetings,

Grace Baptist continues to grow ever so slowly in communion with God and in number. Chris Marley's message on the "Bride of Christ" at our GA last September moved me to preach a series of sermons on "Becoming the Most Beautiful Bride" here in our church. From each NT letter, I've sought to sum up the contribution each makes to filling out the Great Commission to fulfill the Covenant of Grace: "I will be your God and you will be My people so that the whole world will know that I am the Sovereign Lord." It's been a great blessing to us all.

In Sunday School, we continue studying the pastoral flow of thought in Romans, Romans 3:19–8:13 and are learning to summarize the problems presented in each remaining sin section—6:15–23; 7:7–25, and 8:5–8, and their solutions in living upon Christ and his righteousness for communion with the Trinity.

We're just finishing up a 40 week study of *Communion with the Triune God*, by John Owen, eds. Taylor and Kopic. Our folks have never commented so much on the benefits of any book we've read, especially Part 3 on "Communion with the Holy Spirit in Consolation." Its great for us as elders to see our people understanding and experiencing the Spirit's power and efficacy in their lives and in our church, and to take up greater thoughts and study of the Spirit's work through the Word for the sake of all. Our next midweek study will be *Rejoice and Tremble*, by Michael Reeves.

We have gone through the process of examination of two men to hold the office of deacon, and will be presenting them to the church for affirmation next month. We marvel at grace and are encouraged for our little church to grow in caring for itself. Please pray for us as we pray for you all, and for the progress of the gospel! 🙏

[admin@reformedbaptistnetwork.com](mailto:admin@reformedbaptistnetwork.com)

860 Peachcrest NE • Grand Rapids, MI 49505

[www.reformedbaptistnetwork.com](http://www.reformedbaptistnetwork.com)