

# RBN Net Monthly

A monthly publication of the Reformed Baptist Network  
September/October 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

### PREPARE BY PRAYER FOR RBN Net's GA

We're hopeful that significant forward strides will be made for the Kingdom this year with a teeming roster of new churches and individuals being proposed for membership. Electronic GA packets have been recently sent out with significant proposals and details for our members to peruse and evaluate.

We're gearing up with preparations for annual RBN Net General Assembly in Bremen, IN, at Grace Fellowship Church, Sept 19–22, with our keynote speaker David Campbell.

I look forward to seeing you at the GA.

But more importantly, we all look forward to seeing the Lord's hand at the GA. That's because in 2022 the enemy stands in war formation against us as His servants. Our battle isn't against flesh and blood. Left to ourselves, we're helpless and hopeless. Our cause in Bremen is a fool's errand. But if the Lord shows up, we'll see triumphs. So let's pray:

"Bow your heavens, O Lord, and come down! Touch the mountains so that they smoke! Flash forth the lightning and scatter them; send out your arrows and rout them!" (Ps 144:5–6).

Think of a fierce enemy army strutting in battle array, then stormed by thunder and lightning bolts. As scared kittens, they run away. That's what the Lord can do in Bremen, if He shows up. If not, we may touch the mountains, but they will never smoke.

So let's pray: "Come, Lord Jesus!"

If you haven't yet registered, I encourage you to seize the day! We're heading toward a capacity full-house, and plan to close registration on August 31. ☺

– Mark Chanski, RBN Net Coordinator

## MISSION THOUGHTS

### GOD'S KINGDOM, THE GLORY, A MOTIVATION FOR MISSIONS

Psalm 72 is a Messianic Psalm! We see Christ in all the Psalm. And Psalm 72 is a missionary Psalm. Why do I say that? Because the Psalm describes in the most glorious terms God's kingdom, a picture of the gospel church. 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.

Many of the Puritans looked at a Psalm like this and saw the glorious reign of Christ that would be ushered in through great revivals. It is not my purpose to give a lesson on eschatology, but rather to show how the knowledge of Christ's blessed kingdom can be a great motivation for missions.

There are 7 characteristics of this glorious kingdom found in Psalm 72 which can, if we let them, be an inspiration for missionary activity.

This kingdom is a Righteous Kingdom. Psalm 72: 1, 2 "Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!" (ESV).

The world longs for justice. As I write this many are aghast at the unjust invasion of Ukraine by Mr. Putin. O, Lord how long before such evil stops? But the kingdom of Christ is different! The poor and justice are mentioned in the same verse! All too often the poor are not given justice but they are in Christ's kingdom! When the gospel is preached and sinners are saved the poor are given justice. The evidence is seen as the church cares for the poor, even as Paul said, "they asked us to remember the poor the very thing I was eager to do" (Galatians 2:10). Where the gospel goes there soon follows rescue missions, schools, hospitals, care for orphans, pregnancy care centers, etc.

All of us want justice and righteousness in the world. This is one reason why we pray for laborers, send out missionaries, and support them as they preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

There are 6 more characteristics of this glorious kingdom which I must save for another time. ☺

– Gordon Taylor, RBN Net Support

## CHURCH UPDATES

### Grace Fellowship Church, Bremen, IN

Pastor Jon Hueni

#### Prayer Requests:

1. We are looking forward to seeing many of you in September as we host our General Assembly. Over 200 are registered. We ask you to pray for us to not overlook anything, as we want to make your stay with us both edifying & enjoyable. Pray for our speakers, for more workers to be raised up and sent out, and for the work of the kingdom of Christ to flourish in us and through us.
2. There has been a lot of work in updating the older portion of our building. Do help us give thanks to God for the willing volunteers who have undertaken so much of the work involved and for the blessing of God upon their labors.
3. We are thankful for 25 new visitors over the past several months, all of which are continuing with us. Pray that we might be used to press them on to Christ in whatever ways are needed and that they also would be a blessing to us.
4. Please pray for more teachers in our Sunday School and Wednesday evening ministries to our youth, and for our need of another pastor. We are glad to be sheep in Jesus' fold and stand in need of His continual reviving of our hearts with love and zeal for Him. ☺

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.

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

- The November issue will be published at the end of October.

Thank you for your understanding.

## CHURCH UPDATES

### Grace Chapel of Sanford Sanford, FL

Mark Bigenho, *Pastor*

Dear Brothers/Sisters in the RBnet,

We began 2022 with a budget proposal to our congregation and for the first time included a building fund savings account. We knew the funds in that account were just a start and would not even get us close to purchasing a permanent facility anytime soon. As you know, God's plans and timing often surprises us and leaves us in awe of his power and grace. After 15+ years of meeting in funeral homes, hotel conference rooms, Christians academies, and etc. the Lord opened up the door to merge/adopt with another group of 10 believers in town and move into their facility. Their building was purchased debt-free many years ago and we look forward to continuing the work of the ministry from its walls. All glory be to God!

More importantly, Grace Chapel has the blessed opportunity to bring those 10 believers into our membership and under our leadership. The elders at Grace Chapel count it a great privilege and serious work to shepherd and love these saints in the Lord. They have a desire for God's Word, a love for each other, humble attitude, and a passion to see people reached for Christ. We could not ask for anything more.

Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to work through this process of merging two churches. We need prayer for unity. The legal "i" dotting and "t" crossing can be a challenge, so ask the Lord to guide us here as well. Also pray that we would be a lighthouse in our community; now with a visible presence.

Please know we pray for the RBnet sister churches weekly on the Lord's day during our corporate prayer. If we can be praying for you specifically please let us know. 🙏

*In Christ,*

*Mark Bigenho (on behalf of the elders)*

*Grace Chapel*

## CHURCH UPDATES

### Providence Baptist Church, Lecanto, FL

*Marty Hoffman &  
Steve Watson , Pastors*

Greetings in Christ,

The church here has had an unusual 6 months of both blessings and challenges. While we came through the past 2 years with no virus outbreaks, we have had 2 in the last 6 months. The 1st week of January around 70% of the church became ill within a week. While all recovered, we were hit hard and some were very ill for weeks. It took about 2 months for all to recover before we could finally proceed with the baptism of 3 ladies. As we prepared for that blessed event, a valve stuck and the tank overflowed flooding the sanctuary. It took several weeks to dry everything out before we were able to proceed with the baptism.

We have also had the blessing of taking the greatest number of new members in the past 6 months than at anytime in our history. Then the 1st week of July we were hit with the latest variant. This time over 90% of us were sick, but thankfully most cases were very mild and it did not hinder our youth from participating in youth camp. It only took about 2 weeks for everyone to recover and return for worship just in time for a lightening strike. Lightening took out our sound system and a good part of our security system. We are still in the recovery stages of that trying to get everything replaced and fixed. We look back at this season praising God for His care and we tell everyone that we are so unified that we even all get sick at the same time.

#### Pray for the following:

1. Pray that we can have a season of quietness. Pastor Watson has started a Sabbatical and we all could use some calm.
2. Pray for the incorporation into the body of the new members that have come from many backgrounds.
3. Pray for our youth and God's work of grace in their hearts. 🙏

*Thank-you for your prayers.*

*Pastors Marty Hoffman & Steve Watson*

## CHURCH UPDATES

### Reformed Baptist Church, Riverside, CA

*Robert Elliott, Pastor*

Greetings,

Please pray for the church plant in Tijuana MX. We are currently receiving testimonies from those who wish to be members and our hope is that by the time we see you all in Bremen we will have fixed a date for baptizing a number of folks and constituting the plant as a local church. There have been some deep disappointments along the way and yet some wonderful encouragements too.

S and E are settling well in "SEA Land." Language work is a top priority just now and we are happy to say both are doing well with it. They are realizing the great practical challenges of raising kids in a land where they look very different and don't speak the language well. Pray that the Lord would work in the hearts of their two little ones and that they would grow to love the Lord Jesus and the work their parents have been called to.

Locally we are blessed to see the Lord work in our local Spanish ministry. New faces appear regularly and the committed saints are growing in love for Christ and one another. Recently we have been asked to give some help and oversight to another Spanish church a few miles away. Please pray that we will have wisdom and that our input will not be severely hindered by the fact that only one of our four Elders speak Spanish.

While we continue to see good and much loved members leave for Red States we are also continuing to see many visitors. Our new member applications have been keeping the pastors busy and we have enjoyed seeing some baptisms.

A young man named Alex Torres who has a desire to church plant in Spain has come to us for a pastoral internship as part of his preparation. He is well thought of by the brethren of Heartcry and with their assistance we are hoping to send him off to Spain in around a year. 🙏

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admin@reformedbaptistnetwork.com

860 Peachcrest NE • Grand Rapids, MI 49505

www.reformedbaptistnetwork.com