

OVERVIEW

OVERISEL REFORMED CHURCH



Missionary Spotlight: Chad & Dara Vanden Bosch

The Vanden Bosches (Chad, Dara, Nede, Luzia, and Julieta) are missionaries serving in the country of Mozambique. Chad has deep roots in West Michigan, being born and raised in Hamilton. Dara grew up in Minnesota. Both Chad and Dara moved to Mozambique around 2010, with Chad serving in the southern part of the country with Audio Scripture Ministries while Dara served as a nurse in the central region. In 2012, they met and were married the following year. They now live in rural central Mozambique with 2 of their 3 daughters (Luzia, 13, and Julieta, 5). The oldest, Nede, is now living in West Michigan where she is working at Holland Public Schools and studying early childhood education.

Chad continues to work with audio Scripture recording and distribution and has also founded New Harvest Farm. New Harvest Farm is a Bible-based agricultural training program working with local smallholder farmers. Dara founded Mvura Ye Upenho (Living Water) Palliative Care, which provides physical, emotional, and spiritual care for those living with incurable diseases. When not working, the VB family enjoys traveling and spending time in some of the beautiful locations in their corner of the world. When not at the farm, Chad can usually be found outside enjoying God's amazing creation. Dara is a visual artist and spends as much of her free time as possible creating. Luzia loves spending time with friends and listening to music. Julieta is a very busy 5-year-old who loves school and being the center of attention. The Vanden Boshes are thankful for the close connections and long-standing ministry partnership with Overisel Reformed Church.



2026 Consistory

Pastors

*Rev. Mike Pitsenberger
Pastor Ken Kleinheksel
Pastor Kevin Kruizenga

Elders

*Steve Schrottenboer
Glenn Kleinheksel
Nate Genzink
*Bob Reimink
Bruce Peters
Jeff Snay

Deacons

Lee Lubbers
David Kraker
*Dean Jipping
Craig Theodore
Scott VanHaitsma
Jonathan Hop

*Executive committee

A Note From Pastor Ken

“Oh Give Thanks”

Psalms 118:1 – Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

This month our country, the United States of America, celebrates 250 years of independence. I think it is safe to say that there will be more fireworks and celebrations than we have seen in previous years. And I think it is right to celebrate that milestone. I wonder if the founding fathers ever thought this country would make it this far? I think the reason we have reached this anniversary is because this nation was founded on Christian principles. I think the Lord has blessed us and helped us to reach this milestone because of those Christian foundations.

But today we see the Evil One working hard to try to break this nation apart. There are things that happen on the streets of the cities of this nation that I would never have thought would happen even ten years ago. It seems like we have lost our way as an independent, God-fearing country and we are trying to view the government as our savior. It seems we are trying every way possible to save ourselves and have pushed God out of the picture. This will not be successful. Living in a “me first” society goes completely against what the Bible teaches.

Those of us who are Christians must stand for the principles of faith and family that have contributed greatly to the centuries-long blessing of our nation. This country cannot, and will not, stand without the blessing of God in Heaven. And he will not continue to bless us if we continually turn from him and his clearly stated principles in His Word. It is to our detriment if we keep asking him to bless us and then constantly turn our backs on what he asks us to do. We as Christians need to live in a way that our Father can continue to bless. If we don't, then we are as much to blame as the unbelievers are when our country falls apart.

If we pray and repent and seek God's face, then he will bless. And then we must thank him for his goodness and his steadfast love. He has been faithful in the past and he is faithful even now and he will be in the future to those who call on his name in true belief. And that is really something to celebrate! Have a good July and I'll see you on the journey as we celebrate together! May God bless us all!

Pastor Ken

july birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Robb Kleinheksel Sean Mather	2 Hailey Brinks Ron Klein Magnolia Mather Bryan Ulberg	3	4 Brian Dozeman Cole Siriano
5 Selah Klaasen Carl VanOrder	6 Bob Dubbink	7 Jill Kroeze Keith Lubbers Fran Slotman Debra Timmer	8 Jamie Bussis Kevin DeNeef	9 Sandy Heavener	10	11 Ken Dannenberg
12	13	14 Joanna LaMar	15 Jerry Broekhuis	16 Steve Boeve Logan Pitsenberger Don Slotman Ronald Wingerter	17 Sarah Essenburg	18 Ruth Verkaik
19 Ken Mol	20 Tom VanHoven	21 Sarah Genzink	22 Kaylie DeYoung	23 Ross Nagelkirk	24 Chad Brinks Clay DeWeerd Pam McDonald	25 Kris Huisingh Taylor Tubergen
26	27 Margeret Wynsma	28 Paul Huisingh Dennis Kroeze	29 Ruth Dannenberg	30 Hans Veldman Rosalind Will	31 Holly Kroeze Ryson Siriano	

Milestone Birthdays



7/04 - Brian Dozeman (50 years)

july anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Lewis & Alyssa Bueschel	6	7	8 Al & Judy Avink	9 Dave & Keri Boeve	10 Glenn & Beth Kleinheksel	11
12	13 Brian & Michelle Dozeman Glenn & Tanya Mudd	14	15	16 Ron & Marcia Klein	17	18
19 Mike & Ruth Verkaik	20	21	22 Gabe & Kaylie Klaasen	23	24	25
26 Matt & Joni DeHaan	27	28 Ben & Daria Koopman	29 Kyle & Martha DeNeef	30 Ronald & Norma DeVries Al & Lisa Gemmen	31	

Milestone Anniversaries



7/13 - Brian & Michelle Dozeman (25 years)



7/16 - Ron & Marcia Klein (50 years)



7/26 - Matt & Joni DeHaan (25 years)

Mary's Monthly Meal

Slow Cooker Chicken & Rice Taco

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 cup long grain white rice
- 15 oz. black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can corn, drained
- 1 can tomatoes with chilies
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1 cup cheddar cheese
- 1 package taco seasoning
- ¼ cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- salt and pepper



INSTRUCTIONS:

- Put chicken breast at the bottom
- In separate bowl, mix: rice, beans, corn, tomatoes, taco seasoning, and chicken broth. Stir well and pour over chicken.
- season with salt and pepper
- Cover low 6-7 hours (or high 3-4 hours)
- When finished, shred chicken
- Sprinkle cheese over the mixture, cover and let rest for 10 minutes
- Garnish with cilantro

Consistory Notes

June 2026

The Consistory has been working on the 5-Year Covenant Renewal with the Alliance of Reformed Churches.

- Key question: “Does Overisel Reformed Church desire to continue their relationship with the Alliance of Reformed Churches?” This process should be completed within the next few months.

The Technology Team installed new software for the Translation Ministry. If anyone desires the sermons to be translated into a different language, please see Pastor Kevin for more information.

Membership Updates:

Kelli, Clayton and Riley Genzink came before the elders and gave their Profession of Faith. Their public POF was in May.

Autumn Flokstra came before the elders and gave her Profession of Faith. Her Public POF will be in July.

Zach Lubbers came before the elders and gave his Profession of Faith. His Public POF date is still to be determined.

Adeline Louwerse was baptized in May.

The following recently became Members of ORC:

- Gabe & Kaylie Klaasen and family
- Derrick DeVries and Saydee Johns
- Ron Wingerter
- John & Annika Gibson and family

Ruthie Gibson will be baptized in August.

The Property Committee is working on finishing work on the pews and it should be completed by the end of July.

We are still searching for a Wednesday Night Meal Coordinator(s). This can be 1 person or a group of people wanting to do this together. Another option we have is to have 4 teams and each team will serve 1 Wednesday Night a month. Please give this some prayerful consideration as we would like this ministry to continue to move forward on Wednesday Nights. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Standard Process For Making Profession Of Faith

The elders have put together a process for making Profession of Faith, as well as having those wishing to make POF, write their testimony and read it to the elders.

1. The youth inquiring about making Profession of Faith will connect with the ORC Youth Director and together they will seek out a mentor.

If someone older than the youth age range is inquiring to make their Profession of Faith, they will connect with one of ORC's Associate Pastors or Youth Director and together they will seek out a mentor.

2. The mentor will walk alongside the student/adult and give Biblical guidance and instruction as they go through the Profession of Faith Booklet.

3. When the student/adult is ready, they and their mentor, and the Youth Director/Associate Pastor will meet with their assigned Branch Elder. At this time their Elder can ask questions and hear the student/adult's Profession of Faith Journey.

4. When the Elder feels the student/adult is ready to proceed, the student and their mentor, (if the student/adult wishes that their mentor is present), will meet with the ORC Board of Elders. At this time, the student/adult will read their written Profession of Journey/Testimony and have discussion with the Elders.

5. When the Elders agree that the student/adult is prepared, the next step is making Public Profession before the congregation of ORC.

GRATEFUL THANKFUL BLESSED

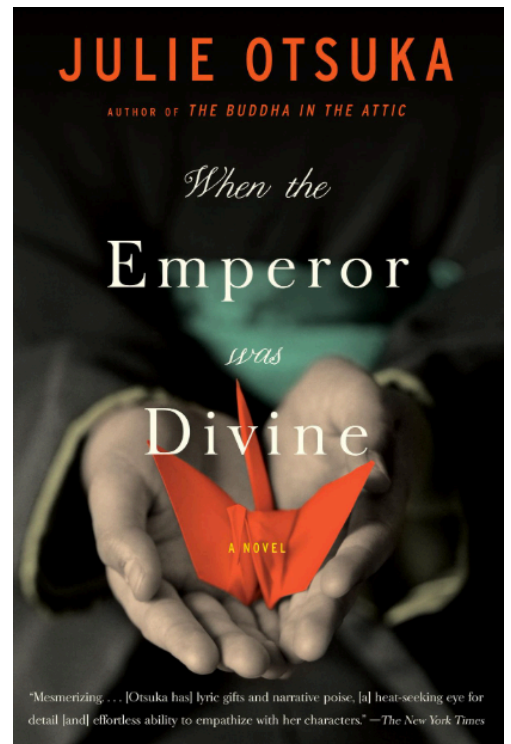
Life was "Normal" for us here at Harvest Hill Farm. We went to bed on 3/20/2013 and all was well. But life changed instantly in the middle of the night, when Ron woke up with excruciating pain in his left shoulder & upper arm. Thinking it was likely a pinched nerve in his neck & that if we went to the Emergency Room they would tell us to call Ron's Primary Care Physician in the Morning, we decided to wait to check with his PCP in the AM, pacing the floors until then. In the Morning, Ron's PCP also thought it was likely a pinched nerve in his neck, so he ordered the appropriate testing for this. PRAY PRAY PRAY. By this time the pain was getting even worse, and the pain was now also in the right shoulder/arm & he was having decreased mobility in both arms too. He was given pain meds and steroids, but nothing helped the pain very much & to add to the stress there was farm work to do. PRAY PRAY PRAY. The test reports came back "normal". Perplexed the PCP referred Ron to a Local Neurologist, where a special neurological test was done, but that test was inconclusive also. PRAY PRAY PRAY. Then suddenly Ron could only whisper and by now Spring Planting was approaching quickly. The local Neurologist referred him to a regional Neurology specialist at St Mary's in Grand Rapids, the only problem with this was that there was a 3 to 4 month wait to be seen there. We made an appointment for the end of July but also asked to be placed on the cancellation list. PRAY PRAY PRAY. I called frequently for cancellations but there were none. Finally, we got a call saying that there had been a cancellation for April 30, 2013. We were so GRATEFUL, as things were not improving and Springtime is crunch time for crop farmers. Ron was amazing and continued to carry on as well as he could in spite of his pain and limitations with Jason's (son), Ross's (son in law), friends' and neighbors' help. We met with the Physician at St Mary's. We were there nearly a whole day with Ron undergoing a battery of tests. At this point the MD was thinking, MD, MS, Huntington's or possibly ALS. PRAY PRAY PRAY. By the end of the day, the MD was certain it was NOT any of those things but possibly a blood/bone disorder...now wait for results. The wait seemed like it was forever. PRAY PRAY PRAY.

The MD called personally on 5/6/2013, my birthday, stating it was probably a Blood/Bone Marrow Cancer and said he needed to be seen by an Oncologist as soon as possible. What a birthday present, but at least we were getting somewhere, even though it was not where we were hoping to go. PRAY PRAY PRAY. He was referred to an Oncologist in Holland that is part of a consortium of Oncology MDs in West Michigan. He met with the Oncology MD on 5/28/13 and of course more unpleasant testing was done. He received the diagnosis of Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia, a rare Bone Marrow, and Lymph node cancer. Ron had 3 Chemotherapy Treatments, but the disease was only getting worse. The Oncologist said that as quickly as it was increasing if it could not be controlled, he would not likely live until Christmas. With the local Oncologist, we decided another opinion was needed. PRAY PRAY PRAY. He was referred to Oncology at U of M in Ann Arbor. Again, more tests. They agreed with the diagnosis and came up with an alternative Chemotherapy Treatment plan that could be done in the Holland Oncology Clinic. The only catch was that this new formula eliminated the possibility for a Stem Cell Transplant and potential cure. We felt we had no choice but to proceed with this new formula. PRAY PRAY PRAY. Ron received 6 rounds of this new Chemotherapy & remission (not cure) was obtained; he regained his voice & some but not all movement in his arms; the pain decreased but did not totally go away. We were so THANKFUL that this worked! Gradually he came out of remission and needed another 6 rounds of Chemotherapy in 2020. The Chemotherapy has been hard on his kidneys causing mid-stage kidney failure. At this point His Waldenström's is fairly stable but slowly increasing again. He was recently diagnosed with aggressive Prostate cancer, for which he just completed 6 weeks of Radiation Treatments. 13 years ago, we could not envision, but hoped and prayed for a 50th Wedding Anniversary. On 7/16/2026 we will celebrate our 50th Anniversary. We feel so BLESSED! God has been so Good to us in this journey, supplying what we needed, when we needed it and we have been supported and held up with pray by family, friends, & Church family. We do not know what the future holds, but we are comforted knowing who holds the future. Please Praise the Lord with us!

Thank you, Marcia Klein

When The Emperor Was Divine

Julie Otsuka
Historical Fiction



Book Review:

This book completely gripped me. Be warned, you won't be able to look away as others did as their train slowly made its way from California to Utah. You will be forced to stare at someone else's lived experience. But isn't that why you read a book?

The ability to walk a mile in someone else's shoes? It is painful to read this horrific piece of history, but the way to begin to live out Jesus words in the Sermon on the Mount is to refuse to dehumanize others.

Everything's Coming Up Rosie

Courtney Walsh
Contemporary Fiction



Book Review:

How often has life handed us a major plot twist completely out of the blue? This is definitely a lighter and fluffier story, but Courtney still manages to have layers to her characters. I laughed out loud many times.

I loved the personalities of the senior citizens and their observations as their filters fade! Definitely a fun story with a very satisfying twist at the end.

UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

Class of 2026



ALEX POTHOFF
Degree:
Electrical Engineering
from Michigan Tech
University

Future Plans:
Controls Engineer in
Wausau, WI



CARTER POTHOFF
Degree:
Civil Engineering from
Michigan Tech
University

Future Plans:
Engineering
Roundabouts in
Madison, WI



ELLA FOLKERT
Degree:
Integrative Biology
from Michigan State
University

Future Plans:
Jelsema Veterinary
Clinic



LAURA BOEVE
Degree:
Interior Design from
Kendall College Of Art
And Design

Future Plans:
VIA Design in Grand
Rapids



LEAH BLOOD
Degree:
Elementary Education
from Grand Valley
State University



HANS VELDMAN
Degree:
Masters in Mechanical
Engineering from
University of Alabama

Future Plans:
Engineering
Department at Hope
College

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Class of 2026



SOPHIA DEWEERD

Future Plans:
Palette Cosmetology
School



HANNAH VALKEMA

Future Plans:
Study Elementary
Education at GVSU



RYAN FETERS

Future Plans:
Diesel Mechanic



SAWYER KROEZE

Future Plans:
Diesel Mechanic at
Diesel Core Resource



GRANT LANDHEER

Future Plans:
HVAC Lead Team at
Devries Renovations

Additionally Joining
The Volunteer Fire
Department



CALEB OOSTRINK

Future Plans:
Plumber at Edding
Plumbing



BRADY GENZINK

Future Plans:
Maintenance
Technician at
Windwood Property
Services



AUSTIN BOERMAN

Future Plans:
Diesel Mechanic at
K&R



LEVI SLAGH

Future Plans:
Welder



NICK PAGE

Future Plans:
Attend Elite Lineman
Training Institute



MADDISON JIPPING

Future Plans:
Medical Field at
Okland University

Additionally,
Collegiate Volleyball
Player



SOPHIA BLAUWKAMP

Future Plans:
Psychology at
Kalamazoo College

Additionally,
Collegiate Volleyball
Player



JENNA DOZEMAN

Future Plans:
Occupational Therapy
at Indiana Wesleyan
University

Missions Updates



Spreading the Good News of
the Gospel around the world.



Update from **CHAD AND DARA VANDEN BOSCH**



Dear Friends,

Some weeks, or even months, in our life here in Mozambique seem to go on and on, fighting the same old battles and doing the same old routine—homeschool, farm, patient visits, repeat. But not so this last month. A lot seems to be happening recently. Mostly good. Some hard.

First off, we received a shipment of 2,500 audio Bible devices! This was the first in far too long. There had been new regulations and banking hurdles that made it a challenge to import these treasured devices. Much to our delight, we now have them in hand, and God's Word is going out in several languages throughout the country.

Also, the recording team had a busy couple of weeks in the recording studio. During those weeks, they wrapped up the recording of the complete Bible in the Makua Shirima language from northern Mozambique. This was a multi-year project that required over 1,000 hours of studio time to record and edit. We praise the Lord that the million speakers of this language now have God's Word available to them in audio.



May 1 is a public holiday here in Mozambique. It's celebrated as Workers' Day. If you are part of the 5 percent of the population that has formal employment, you really do have something to celebrate—imagine! For the first time, we gathered all of our employees who work with the palliative care program, the farm, and at our house. We served a lunch to 23 people. That's 23 families that can count on a monthly income—when there's only 5 percent of the population in formal employment, this is significant in our little village. For this we need to thank all of our wonderful churches and supporters who make this possible. In addition to the monthly salary, each one of these people need your prayers. Each of these 23 is dear to our hearts in some way. They all have complicated lives and families (as the one employed there comes a lot of pressure), and few of them have good role models or Bible-based churches. They all need more of Jesus and personal encounters with the Lord.



Two more things to share, we also ask for your prayers. From May 14–22, I, Dara, traveled to Ethiopia to do a few palliative care-focused arts in health workshops. This was an opportunity that has arisen from my speaking at the African Palliative Care Association Conference in September. I shared with these already developed palliative care groups how they can enhance their programs by adding an arts emphasis.

Finally, we are feeling the effects of the conflict in the Middle East, and it is significantly impacting our daily lives. Since early April, there has been a major fuel shortage in the country. We were able to store up some fuel in anticipation that this might happen, but we are feeling the crunch. A situation like this really helps you to realize how much you take a steady fuel supply for granted. Though we try not to make the 45-minute journey to “town” very often, we are doing it much less now. It’s making me a bit restless when the furthest I have been is up the dirt road, 20 miles deeper into the bush. And, when we do need fuel for my car to make these trips, we’re paying \$14/gallon. This certainly affects us, but not nearly as much as so many of our neighbors who are already living on the edge



So, there you have it, there's been a lot happening. We haven't mentioned homeschooling a 7th grader and a kindergartener and all else that a family needs.

We are good. We've been healthy despite a significant malaria season but that also has put many demands on us as the local health system doesn't have the resources to meet these needs. We have had to step into that role a bit also. It's a lot. Please keep praying for us and know that we acknowledge that it's only by God's grace that we're sustained, through your prayers.

Thank you for journeying with us. All our love,
Chad, Dara, Luzia, and Julieta

Support our mission!

<https://www.rca.org/global-mission/missionaries/chad-dara-vanden-bosch-2/>

Update From Al & Lisa Gemmen

Dear Friends and Family,

We are in a fast-paced season—though I realize I have started several recent updates with that same sentiment!

Our children are all transitioning into new stages. Josiah finished his first year at Calvin University and, after twelve days at home, flew to Colorado to work at a mountain kids camp. Gideon is completing 10th grade, and Falande is finishing her 9th grade year. Sonia will soon graduate from 8th grade and is looking forward to starting high school this fall. We are deeply thankful for God's unique faithfulness in each of their lives.



I recently completed teaching a six-week course for one of our supporting churches. The course explored our biblical call to care for the marginalized, beginning with acknowledging our own brokenness and then looking to Jesus' example for practical steps to engage our communities. It was an engaging experience as we wrestled with these truths together. Additionally, I have begun teaching the staff at a local homeless outreach ministry. This has been a wonderful opportunity to blend my experience with my passion for discipleship within marginalized communities.

I also wanted to share a meaningful encounter from this afternoon. While leading a chapel service downtown, I ran into a young man I hadn't seen in months. He shared how God has protected him recently and expressed a desire to get his life back on track. We prayed together for the Holy Spirit's guidance. It was a joyful reminder that, just like all of us, he needs the Lord's help to walk in His ways.

Thank you for your continued love, support, and prayers.

God bless,

Al and Lisa Gemmen, Josiah, Gideon, Falande, and Sonia



FROM THE CHAPLAIN



TRANSFORMATION AND THE PATH TO REENTRY

On April 22, 2026, we witnessed a powerful milestone at the Allegan County Corrections Center: the graduation of a dedicated group of

men from our Community Reentry program. Graduation represents more than the completion of a course; it marks a significant turning point in the lives of the participants who have committed themselves to change, growth, and healing.



The Community Reentry Unit (CRU) is an intensive 10-week program where participants live together in a community setting. This immersive environment is designed to foster accountability and mutual support. For five days a week, participants engage in classes based on biblical principles, focusing on the essential life skills needed to successfully navigate the transition back into society.

One of the components of our curriculum is the "Healing the Wounded Heart" class. In this course, we delve deep into the emotional and psychological barriers that often lead to recidivism. We ask difficult questions, such as, "*How can incarceration contribute to trauma?*" The answers we receive are often profound and illuminating.



One participant, Shea Skinner, shared a reflection on March 8, 2026, that captures the internal struggle many face during and after incarceration. Shea writes, "Incarceration has contributed to my trauma

because I feel the series of unfortunate events we've been exposed to is not of the norm. The constant looking over your shoulder, the constant being at war, or having to help your bros if it's not you who's at war, creates a constant panic, or tension. I'm uncertain the definition of 'warrior' but I'm sure it probably defines someone who is constantly at war. Now if you take a 'warrior' from the old days like Rome or from World War 2 so to say and place them in today's society, the warrior sticks out. Things aren't normal for them. 'The nail that sticks out gets hammered'.

Everyday life ain't normal. Take away war from a warrior and you have a fish out of water. The advice you ask from the prisoners around you, from those just as messed up as you, or from other warriors is if not misleading, it's not normal at the least. Therefore our advice, or state of mind, our conversation and reflections of our day to day, is all messed up and after so many days and so much repetition of it, it becomes a habit. Ingrained in us and embeds itself in our genetic makeup. Becomes a self-conscious instinct, like breathing or blinking."



Shea's words highlight the "warrior" mentality—a survival instinct that is necessary inside but can become a hindrance outside. The programming we offer in Allegan aims to help men and women deconstruct these habits and replace them with healthy, constructive ways of living.



The transformation we see in the Community Reentry Unit is only possible through the grace of God and the generous support of our community and volunteers. We invite you to partner with Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry to ensure that other men and women can have the same opportunity for healing and restoration that Shea has experienced. Your donations directly fund the materials, classes, and mentorship that make this ministry possible. Please consider giving today to help us continue this vital work in Allegan County.

PLANTING SEEDS

FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR



Scott Hall

My favorite season is spring! After the brutal winter we experienced this year, this season seems to be particularly enjoyable. As God begins to paint Michigan green and adorn it with beautiful flowering trees, I am once again reminded of

His amazing love for us. What a generous and faithful God we serve, that He would create all of this beauty for us! From tiny seeds comes such incredible life and beauty.

This is the same beauty we experience daily within our county jails. From the seeds of God's Word comes new life for many incarcerated men and women across the state. The farmers planting those seeds are the faithful men and women who serve through this ministry, both staff and volunteers alike.

For 60 years, God has faithfully provided both the seed and the workers to plant fields that have produced a rich harvest of changed lives. As a ministry, we are humbled to be part of this great work, and we ask the Lord to continue allowing us to plant His seeds and watch Him transform and grow the lives of those who find themselves incarcerated.

We thank Him for 60 years of faithful provision, and we look forward to the next 60 years with an abundance of anticipation as we continue to witness His work changing lives, all for His glory.



Ways to Give:

Phone:

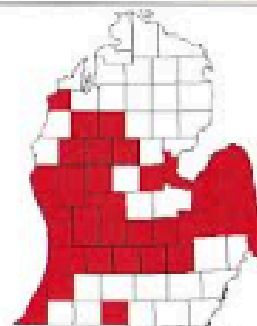
616.784.4620

Online:

jailministry.org

Mail:

1480 Buchanan Ave SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49507



RTF counties in Michigan

Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dependent solely on your generosity



GUIDESTAR



CHARITY NAVIGATOR
Four Star Rating



@RTFjailministry



jailministry.org



@reachtheforgotten

THANK YOU for your prayers & financial support! Our ministry would not be possible without you.

Upendo Update

I pray that you and the church family are doing well. By God's grace, all is well here, and Upendo Home is doing well too. The children recently had their mid-term break and will be reporting back to school next Monday. We thank God for His faithfulness in bringing us this far.

I am currently taking classes together with Sunday School and youth teachers from different places. One thing we are learning is how important it is to teach children and young people God's Word from an early age. In many churches, children and youth are often entertained during services, but sound biblical teaching is essential for their spiritual growth. Please keep us in your prayers that we may teach Christian education properly and faithfully.

Our vocational and skills training program is also progressing well. We are doing all we can to help young people and women learn practical skills that can lead to greater self-sustainability. This week, we are teaching candle-making as a small business opportunity for members of the church and the wider community. Thank you for your continued support of Upendo Home and the ministry here. We are grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in this work.

May God richly bless you.

Heavenly blessing.

David



FIRESIDE CHATS

Lives are *changed* at Camp, where Christ is hope!

Dear Friends at Overisel Reformed Church,

Week one of summer camp is in the books and week two wraps up today! Camp can be a lot for both campers and their parent or guardian. Trying new things can be hard.

Last Monday, a mom called to share that she was feeling anxious about sending her daughter to camp. She also shared concerns and frustrations that her daughter would not be able to keep her phone during the week.

A few days later, on Thursday, she called back.

"Whatever you guys are doing, it's working! My daughter has social anxiety, and this is the first time she has felt excited and safe. My family is blessed by what you are doing here at camp."



At Camp Beechpoint, we intentionally create an environment where campers feel seen, heard, and known. We meet them where they are, build meaningful relationships, and point them to the hope of Christ. As they step away from distractions and into a caring community, God often works in powerful ways, bringing new confidence, peace, and joy.

Lives are being changed at Camp, where Christ is Hope.

Gratefully,

Brent Boresma
Executive Director, Camp Beechpoint



PRAISE

Praise God! Through His provision and the generosity of supporters like you, we have now raised \$130,006 toward our \$150,000 camper scholarship goal.

As summer camp is underway, we are trusting God for the remaining \$19,994 needed to help ensure we can continue saying "yes" to every camper in need of a scholarship.

Thank you for your partnership, generosity, and prayers!

GIVE NOW:

https://givebutter.com/beechnpoint-scholarships?blm_aid=16265

PRAY

Please pray for our 54 summer staff as they faithfully serve campers each day. As the pace of summer camp continues, pray that God would give them patience, endurance, and joy in their work.

Pray also that they would remain focused on the mission before them, sharing the love and hope of Christ with every camper they encounter. May God use them to build meaningful relationships and point young people to Jesus through both their words and actions.

PARTNER

Would you consider donating sidewalk chalk, paint markers, or rocks for painting?

Summer camp is in full swing, and we could use your help keeping our campers creating, exploring, and having fun all summer long!

Thank you to everyone who has already purchased items from our Amazon Wishlist.

AMAZON WISHLIST:

https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/1FLKYS3H0VQYT?ref_=cm_sw_r_cp_ud_ggr-subnav-share_E7VYPQX3PWBB16C477MG&blm_aid=16265





Dear friends at Overisel Reformed,
Thank you so very much for
your donation and continued support
of our mission. We greatly appreciate
Churches like you being so
generous! You help to provide hope
and make a difference in the lives of
foster children. Thanks for being a
blessing!

Becky
Office Assistant

The team at
 Grant
Me Hope