

# Overisel Overview

| 9:30 AM Worship Schedule                        | 5:00 PM Worship Schedule  | Upcoming Events   |
|---|---|---|
| July 4 - Rev. Mike Pitsenberger                 | July 4 - Rev. Mike Pitsenberger                                       | July 12-15 - VBS  |
| July 11 - Rev. Mike Pitsenberger<br>- Communion | July 11 - Rev. Mike Pitsenberger                                      | July 12 - Consistory  |
| July 18 - Pastor Ty Hogue                       | July 18 - @ 4:00 PM<br>- Installation Service<br>- No 5:00 PM service | July 25-30 - Jars of Clay Summer Service Week                 |
| July 25 - Rev. Mike Pitsenberger                | July 25 - Rev. Mike Pitsenberger                                      | Aug. 14 - Overisel Community Celebration and Car/Tractor Show |



Vacation Bible School at ORC

July 12 - 15 from 6:15-8:00 PM

Ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Online registration is encouraged. Go to <https://vbspro.events/p/4f4495> or find the link at [orcministries.org](http://orcministries.org).

*"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'" (Ps. 122:1)*

Dear friends,

In July we begin the second half of 2021. After five months at Overisel Reformed Church, my heart is filled with a simple thought – I can't wait for Sunday!

I can't wait to gather with you after a long season of restrictions; I can't wait to see you and meet you; I can't wait to sing together, pray together, and fellowship together; and I can't wait to share God's Word on Sundays.

This year July Fourth happens to fall on Sunday. On the Fourth of July we celebrate the birth of American Independence. We thank God for the many freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America. The good old red, white, and blue will be flying all across our country during this special weekend.

This Fourth of July we need to thank God for the freedom to worship. The first Amendment of the United States Constitution says,

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances

You and I have the freedom to gather for worship. No one can prohibit us (or any religious assembly) from exercising our personal and constitutional right to convene and assemble for public worship.

Many countries do not possess the freedoms guaranteed by law in the United States. As a result, limitations on public Christian worship services throughout the world range from mild to severe. Again, we ought to thank and praise God for the privilege of gathering on Sunday to worship together.

However, we got a taste of what it is like in other countries during the pandemic. During this time, we learned how much we miss public worship, and we learned how important it is to gather, sing, pray, worship, fellowship, and hear God's Word together. We also learned how quickly worship privileges can change.

We can be very thankful that our Supreme Court has ruled recently in favor of worship freedoms in various test cases across the land.

This Fourth of July let me encourage you in two ways.

*First, pray for our freedoms, and the freedom of worship, to be preserved in our country.*

The constitution grants all religions the freedom of worship, and this is such a wonderful gift to us and to the world. Many people look at our freedoms and wish their country had them. This is why so many people seek to come to this free land and experience the liberties we Americans can sometimes take for granted. This country as we know it was birthed from people seeking religious and worship freedom.

*Second, ask God to give you a Psalm 122:1 heart: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'."*

Ask the Lord to give you a fresh hunger for Sunday worship. Plead with Him to make you a glad and eager church-goer. If you are a father or mother, ask Jesus to give you a greater longing to attend church as a family and to instill into the hearts of your children a fresh love for worshiping their Creator and Redeemer.

On top of this, a Psalm 122:1 heart will look for ways to invite people to come to worship. And when God leads you to invite someone, make sure you tell them that they can sit with you during worship.

May God give all of us a new-born excitement over the privilege of attending Sunday worship services!

Mostly, let us thank God for the sacrifice and resurrection of His dear Son Jesus Christ. Because of Christ, we can worship God no matter where we are, no matter what country we live in, and no matter what restrictions are in place (Acts 16:25).

I can't wait for Sunday!

Pastor Mike

## JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays:

7/1 Amber, Kayla, Jared Broekhuis, Robb Kleinheksel, Sean Mather  
7/2 Hailey Brinks, Ron Klein, Magnolia Mather, Bryan Ulberg  
7/4 Brian Dozeman  
7/5 Carl VanOrder  
7/6 Bob Dubbink  
7/7 Keith Lubbers, Fran Slotman  
7/8 Jamie Bussis, Kevin DeNeef, Bruce Homkes, Mark Smallegan  
7/11 Ken Dannenberg, Garrett Mulder, Bereket Prince  
7/15 Cindy Bosch, Jerry Broekhuis  
7/16 Steve Boeve, Don Slotman  
7/17 Juella Schrotenboer  
7/18 Ruth Verkaik  
7/19 Ken Mol  
7/20 Tom VanHoven  
7/21 Sarah Genzink  
7/23 Scarlett Harrington, Ross Nagelkirk  
7/24 Chad Brinks, Clay DeWeerd, Pam McDonald  
7/25 Kris Huisingh, Taylor Tubergen  
7/27 Spencer Boeve, Margaret Wynsma  
7/28 Paul Huisingh, Mary Kooyers, Dennis Kroeze  
7/29 Ruth Dannenberg  
7/30 Rosalind Will  
7/31 Holly Kroeze

### Anniversaries:

7/8 Al & Judy Avink  
7/9 Dave & Keri Boeve  
7/10 Glenn & Beth Kleinheksel  
7/12 Ryan & Holly Goodman  
7/13 Brian & Michelle Dozeman, Glenn & Tanya Mudd  
7/16 Ron & Marcia Klein  
7/17 Chad & Deborah Langeland  
7/19 Mike & Ruth Verkaik  
7/23 Mark & Melinda Smallegan  
7/30 Al & Lisa Gemmen

### Special Birthdays (age 85+):

Fran Slotman will be 89 on July 7.  
Ken Dannenberg will be 88 on July 11.  
Garrett Mulder will be 86 on July 11.  
Juella Schrotenboer will be 93 on July 17.  
Mary Kooyers will be 95 on July 28.

Congratulations to Kevin & Shanley Kruiuzenga on the birth of Ezra Michael, born on June 10. Ezra was 8lb 2oz and 20.5" long.

Thank you to ORC for the gift given in offering in April. It was very much appreciated! - Kurt zurBurg

Help needed: The Hall is in need of a part-time custodian beginning in July. The job includes, but not limited to; communication with renters before their event, unlocking the doors before each rental, cleaning up after each rental, as well as general cleaning. Many of the rentals happen on weekends (sometimes 2 on a Saturday), so you must be available to check in between the rentals. If you are interested or have questions regarding this position, contact Grady Kooiker @ 616-834-2387 or Brent DeWeerd @ 269-286-3625.

Please submit any entries for the August Overview to the church office by Monday, August 23.

*Live In-Person From Nashville – Worship Concert Event*



Rick Price & **NEW LEGACY PROJECT**

*Formerly the Blackwood Legacy*  
**FREE NON-DENOMINATIONAL CONCERT**

**SUN – AUG 8 – 6 PM**

**Overisel Christian Reformed Church**  
**4724 142<sup>nd</sup> Ave -- Holland**  
**Info: 616-928-6837**  
**Non-denominational Event – Everyone Welcomed!**

New Legacy Project, formerly the Blackwood Legacy, blend the best of Country Gospel, traditional and edgy newer Southern Gospel, with today's popular worship music, while staying true to the Gospel Message. This Nashville-based group is known for their flawless harmonies, comedy, and homespun humor. Join us for a memorable time of live music, fellowship and fun! Listen for their new radio single "Born For This" and visit them on Facebook or at [www.NewLegacyProject.com](http://www.NewLegacyProject.com)



**Admission is free – A Love Offering Will Be Received**  
**All Recommended Covid-19 Precautions Will be in Place**

July 2021

“Who Do We Trust”

Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

With July 4th in mind, I have been doing some thinking about our country and who it is we trust. Our money says, “In God We Trust”, but many times I think our trust is somewhere else. The media and the politicians would rather we trust in them for every need we might have. But they have proven to be very untrustworthy, and while they try to convince us that everything is going great, our country is crumbling. We as a nation are in trouble because we have forgotten the Christian principles this country was founded on. We have tried to remove Christ from every part of the framework of our nation, and now we are paying the price for that grave error. So, who do we trust?

But I also see the same mistake happening in our RCA denomination. We have a decision to make coming soon about whether or not to remain a part of the RCA. We have parts of the RCA saying that marriage doesn't have to be only between one man and one woman. That there are other ways to interpret the Bible on this and many other issues that we face today. So, do we believe the Word of God is truth or not? Do we believe that the Bible is God-breathed and true? So, who do we trust?

But I also see this problem trying to creep into my own life. The temptation is there to live my life by my own standards and rules rather than God's standards and rules. I want to have the final say over my own life and I don't want to yield to God's authority. And when I reject God's way in favor of my own desires things go off the tracks very quickly. So, who do I trust?

The verse above relates to trusting in worldly leaders and things rather than in the Lord. And chariots and horses are no match for the Lord. And in all aspects of today's world, the chariots and horses are still no match for the Lord even though we have become far more sophisticated in our weaponry. We need to be listening to the Lord and what His still, small voice says amid all the clamor of our society.

So, who do we trust? May it be said of us that we trust in the name of the Lord our God. Remember that this July as we celebrate our independence as a nation. And may we take heed lest we go our own way and lose that independence. Have a great July as we celebrate this great land that the Lord has blessed us with and may we be in prayer for continued peace and freedom.

Have a great month and I'll see you on the journey as we keep trusting in the Lord our God!

Pastor Ken

*“...to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel...” (Rom. 16:25)*

We need strength. We need spiritual strength, moral strength, mental strength, emotional strength, soul strength, family strength, and daily strength.

The book of Judges is an eye-opening book. It portrays Israel's downfall because they forgot God. Time and again God sent them leaders to bring them back to the Lord. But when the leader died, they forgot God and returned to their sinful ways.

The last verse of Judges declares, “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in their own eyes” (Judges 21:25). Without God, humans will do whatever they feel like doing. They will live by their fallen, sinful desires, and say to themselves, “[God] will not call to account” (Ps. 10:13).

We are living in days similar to the days of the judges, and if you are a Christian, you need strength to follow Jesus in these challenging times

The world, the flesh, and the devil work tirelessly to trip you up. Much in this world is orchestrated by Satan to lure you away from Christ so that you grow tired or skeptical or disinterested in following Jesus.

When you don't pray or study the Bible, you will grow cold to the things of Christ. Soon, you will sin and be slow to repent, and then you will begin to push away God's truth from your conscience. When you face temptation and alarm bells no longer ring in your conscience, you possess a hard heart.

Where can we find the strength to live for Jesus? In Romans 16:25-26 God teaches us five ways to acquire gospel strength.

**First, a Christian's gospel strength comes from hearing the gospel preached regularly:** *“Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ” (Rom. 16:25a).*

Preaching Christ isn't only an evangelistic exercise. Believers in Jesus need the gospel seven days a week.

On Sunday Christians need to hear “the preaching of Jesus Christ” because God uses gospel preaching to sanctify the hearts of His people. An awakened Christian loves to hear Christ preached. Their soul is stirred with joy over the preached gospel. If a person becomes bored or tired of hearing Christ preached, their heart is out of tune with Jesus and out of alignment with God.

On Monday through Saturday, you need to preach the gospel to yourself on a regular basis. When you sin, when you are sad or lonely or confused, or when you face trials, preach the gospel of Christ to your aching heart. Tell God how much you need the truth and the promises of the gospel to fill your soul. Sadly, many Christians have never learned to preach gospel promises to their own hearts.

You and I need to hear the gospel preached in order to receive fresh spiritual strength.

**Second, a Christian's gospel strength comes from understanding the gospel's history:** *“...according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed” (Rom. 16:25b).*

The good news of Jesus Christ has a wonderful history.

The gospel was in God's heart at creation. Then God spoke the gospel in pictures, promises, and prophecies throughout the Old Testament. Yet, across those "long ages" as Paul calls them, Jesus Christ and His gospel had not been revealed fully nor made known to the nations of the earth.

But now, all of that has changed. Mary gave birth to Jesus. Jesus proclaimed repentance, faith, and salvation. The Jews and the Romans crucified Jesus. God raised His Son from the dead. Then Jesus ascended into heaven. Following Jesus' ascension, the Father and the Son poured out the Holy Spirit. The church has been proclaiming Jesus Christ for the past 2000 years.

The better you know this long and glorious history of the hidden and revealed gospel, the more strength you will have! Why? Because you will find refuge in the truth that:

- *God fulfilled His promise to send the Messiah.* As a result, you can yield your entire life to your God and Father who fulfills all of His promises.
- *God had a plan for the coming of Christ and He has a plan for your life.* In fact, God's plan for your life includes making Christ known by how you live your life.
- *God's gospel is true.* Surely, this will give you much strength as well. Most people on earth deny that Jesus is God's Son. But you don't deny this because you know that Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven; because you know that you will enter heaven when you die with all sins forgiven; and because you know that when Christ returns God will create a new heaven and earth. All of this enables you find joy, peace, and hope on your toilsome way to glory.

**Third, a Christian's gospel strength comes from knowing that God commands us to bring His gospel to the whole world:** *"...and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God"* (Rom. 16:26b).

Wow! What a thought! The Bible says that the gospel of Jesus Christ is being made known to all nations, just as the Old Testament prophets wrote and God commands!

How does this truth give us strength? Every time you begin to share Christ with someone, the Holy Spirit is there to help you. Every time you start to serve someone in Jesus' name (whether they know it or not), the Holy Spirit of Jesus will help you to reveal Christ's love through your life.

When you know that the gospel is God's one and only message of salvation, you will give your heart and soul, your time and resources and prayers to see the gospel spread to the nations.

**Fourth, a Christian's gospel strength comes from knowing that the people God saves will obey Him:** *"...to bring about the obedience of faith"* (Rom. 16:26c).

The gospel leads believers to obey the Lord. Once a person is born again, their new nature can't wait to obey God and His commandments. The desire and longing to obey God comes from the seed of new life in the soul. Faith in Jesus Christ produces love for Christ and obedience to Him. "And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments" (1 Jn. 2:3).

Your spiritual strength comes from seeing people saved and changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ! When God begins to save people in a congregation, church members awaken with fresh devotion to Christ. The energy new believers bring to a church is a powerful witness that Christ is present.

This is why we want to pray for God to bring unbelievers to Overisel church. This is why you want to invite your unbelieving friends, classmates, co-workers, and family members to one of our two Sunday worship services. Don't be closed mouthed about Christ and His church. Instead, invite, invite, and invite some more! Also, tell people about Jesus Christ. You know so much more about Jesus than any unbeliever. Ask Christ for the strength to witness to people, and He will provide the strength you need.

**Fifth, a Christian's gospel strength comes from wanting to give God glory:** *"...to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen"* (Rom. 16:27).

The universe exists for the glory of God. We exist for the glory of God. And the more we seek to give God glory, the more alert and awake spiritually we will be. Those who seek to do all things for God's glory live in close fellowship with Him. They pray. They read the Bible. They serve others. They witness in word and deed. They give of their time, talents, and treasures. In fact, those who bring God the most glory are those who give to God their complete worship and consecrate their lives to His purposes.

Maybe the Lord is calling you right now to be the best dad or mom you can be. Maybe in this season of your life God wants you to suffer for His glory, step out in faith for His glory, or take some obscure calling or ministry for His glory. It is in seeking God's glory that a Christian finds their deepest joy and spiritual strength in life.

Are you spiritually weak? Is your relationship with Jesus lukewarm? Have you given up on prayer and Bible reading? Are you letting little sins get the best of you? Do you watch or listen to things that harm your soul? If so, confess these sins to the Lord, tell Him that you want to live for His glory, and go forth in the strength of His gospel.

Pastor Mike

OVERISEL COMMUNITY  
CELEBRATION

August 14, 2021

4-8 pm

Food  
5-6:30 pm @ The Hall



The Hall  
4201 47th St.  
Holland, MI 49423  
office@orcministries.org

Volunteer  
sign-ups  
coming soon!

OVERISEL COMMUNITY



To pre-register your car/tractor,  
contact Mike at  
mike.verkaik@gmail.com by Aug. 12.

3-3:30 pm - cars/tractors arrive  
4-8:00 pm - view cars/tractors



CAR & TRACTOR SHOW  
AUGUST 14, 2021

Overisel Reformed Church parking lot  
4706 142nd Ave  
Holland, MI 49423

## ORC LIBRARY REVIEWS

**Title: Whose Waves These Are**

**Author: Amanda Dykes**

**Fiction**

**Brief Description and/or favorite quote:**

In the wake of WWII, a grieving fisherman submits a poem to a local newspaper: a rallying cry for hope, purpose. ... and rocks. Its message? Send me a rock for the person you lost, and I will build something life-giving. When the poem spreads farther than he ever intended, Robert Bliss's humble words change the tide of a nation. Boxes of rocks inundate the harbor village on the coast of Maine, and he sets his callused hands to work.

Decades later, Annie Bliss is summoned back to Ansel-by-the-Sea when GrandBob, the man who gave her refuge during the hardest summer of her youth, is the one in need of help. But what greets her is a mystery: a wall of heavy boxes hiding in his home. Memories of stone ruins on a nearby island ignite a fire in her anthropologist soul to uncover answers.

Together with the handsome and enigmatic town postman, Annie uncovers the story layer by layer, yearning to resurrect the hope GrandBob once held so dear and to know the truth behind the chasm in her family's past. But mending what has been broken for so long may require more of her and those she loves than they are prepared to give.

**Title: Dust Author: Kara Swanson**

**YA Fiction**

**Brief Description and/or favorite quote:**

**The truth about Neverland is far more dangerous than a fairy tale.**

Claire Kenton believes the world is too dark for magic to be real—since her twin brother was stolen away as a child. Now Claire's desperate search points to London... and a boy who shouldn't exist.

Peter Pan is having a beastly time getting back to Neverland. Grounded in London and hunted by his own Lost Boys, Peter searches for the last hope of restoring his crumbling island: a lass with magic in her veins.

The girl who fears her own destiny is on a collision course with the boy who never wanted to grow up. The truth behind this fairy tale is about to unravel everything Claire thought she knew about Peter Pan—and herself.

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