

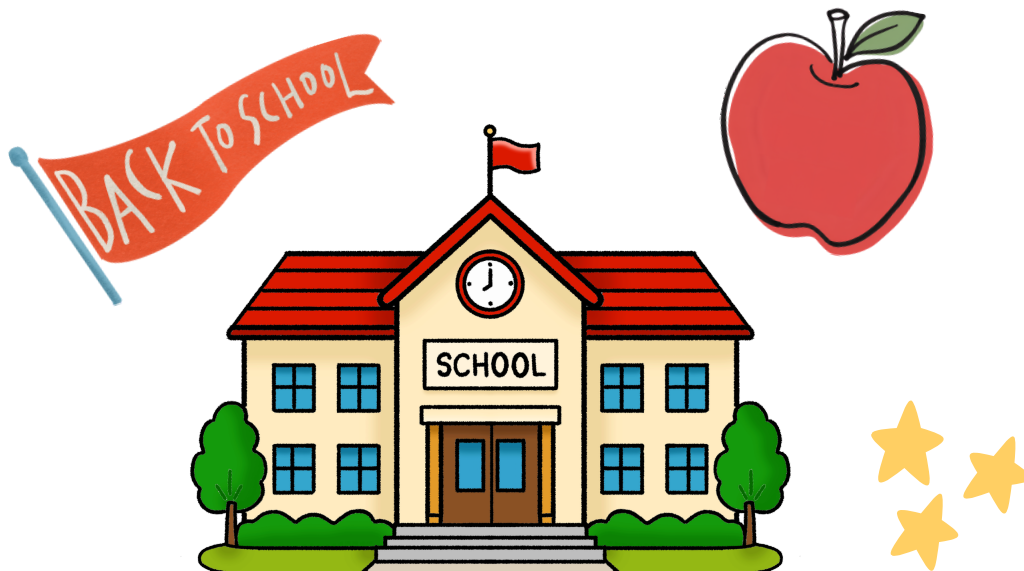
OVERVIEW

OVERISEL REFORMED CHURCH



Consistory Updates:

The Consistory has approved the 5-year renewal with The Alliance of Reformed Churches. Part of this process is that the Consistory will meet with the Harvest Network Covenant Keepers Team this fall. We will continue to update the congregation during this process.



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

“Anxieties”

1 Peter 5:7 – ...casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.

September is a month that can be filled with anxieties. There is the return to school that I always used to dread. Not so much because I was a poor student, but just because summer was a different routine. Even though there was farm work and chores to be done, there wasn't the requirement to be in school every day. And I've always enjoyed field work. Even today, I enjoy sitting on the lawn tractor and mowing grass. Gives me time to think and talk with God.

But there are many other anxieties that can come in the fall. For farmers it can be waiting for the harvest to ripen and praying for good weather and no pests or diseases to harm the crop. For business it can be seeing the summer workers going back to school and trying to get the employees to fill all those positions that the students filled for the summer. For the teachers it can be getting back to the daily routine and finding out what the students are going to be like for the year. Figuring out which ones will be a challenge and which ones won't.

Those are just a short list of possible anxieties. There may have been a move during the summer. Or you may have graduated and are starting college. Or maybe a change in finances or family life. There could have been a loss of someone close. There may have been a medical diagnosis that is causing anxiety. Or maybe an issue that continues to linger for weeks or months without resolution.

But isn't it good to know that no matter what the issue is, our God says to throw it all on him? I like that it says "cast". That gives me a mental picture of throwing it on God. Not gently placing it in his lap, throwing it at him. Gives the implication that we are sick of carrying the burden and trying to figure things out.

And we can do that because he tells us to because he cares for us. Think of that. The God of the universe cares for each of us as individuals. He is mindful of what is causing you anxiety and he says "let me help you, give it to me".

So as you anticipate September coming fast, remember that God loves you and stands ready to take those anxieties from you. He wants you to lean on him and grow in your relationship with him because he created you and knows you better than you know yourself. What a fantastic reality!

Have a great month of September and I'll see you on the journey!
Pastor Ken

september birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Ben Koopman	2 Kate Blauwkamp Connie Immink	3 Jenny Blood Brenda VanAanhold	4 Dennis DeWeerd	5 Jenna Schierbeek
6 Justin Essink Madison Jipping	7 Jim Bussis Ruth Lubbers	8 Nick McDonald Saul Ramos Phil Sneller	9	10	11 Tara Blood Riley Jipping	12 Hazel Gunneman Jaynet Immink Heidi Michalak Eleanor Nyhof
13 Joan Voorhorst	14 Mary Beth Bueschel Leon Klaasen	15 Lori Scholten	16 Patti DeWeerd	17	18 Issac Flokstra Ken Kreuze	19 Elyse DeNeef Nancy Klingenberg Virginia Lohman Julieta VandenBosch
20 Matt DeHaan Michelle Dozeman Megan Siriano	21 Vern DeWeerd Glenn Heavener Joan Herweyer Jeff Snay	22 Ryan Dalman Lauren Essenburg	23 Cal Becksvoort Beverly Kreuze Lori VanDussen	24 Glenn Mudd Amy Valkema	25 Andrew Peerbolte Nede VandenBosch	26 Larry Loser John Mentzer Kyle Theodore
27 Kristie Postma	28 Brianna Laarman	29 Joni DeHaan Bob Fields	30 Al Gemmen Caleb Klaasen Mike Zuverink			

Milestone Birthdays



9/3 - Jenny Blood (80 years old)



9/12 - Eleanor Nyhof (90 years old)



9/8 - Phil Sneller (70 years old)



9/23 - Beverly Kreuze (70 years old)



9/12 - Heidi Michalak (50 years old)



9/26 - Larry Loser (80 years old)

september anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Larry & Karen Naaber	2	3	4	5
6 Don & Lyn Becksford Larry & Beverly Grotenhuis Jeff & Ginny Harrington Nick & Ashlyn McDonald	7	8	9	10 Jonathan & Abby Hop	11	12 Ken & Mary Laarman Craig & Lisa Theodore
13	14	15 Mike & Gina Pitsenberger	16	17	18	19
20 Chad & Kate Blauwkamp Steven & Amy Valkema	21	22	23 Brad & Natasha Grew	24 Henry & Rose Moore	25	26
27	28 Glenn & Sandy Heavener Chris & Kristie Postma	29	30 Bob & Bettye Fields			

Milestone Anniversaries



Mary's Monthly Recipe

Hashbrown Chicken Casserole

INGREDIENTS:

16 oz. hashbrowns, thawed
1 rotisserie chicken, 2-3 cups
8 strips of bacon
2 cups cheddar cheese, shredded
2 cups frozen mixed veggies
22 oz. (2 cans) cream of chicken soup
1 cup milk
2 cups cornflakes, crushed
1 t. thyme
½ t. salt



COOKING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees
2. In a large bowl combine hashbrowns, chicken, bacon, cheese, veggies, soup, milk, and spices
3. Grease 9x13 dish, add mixture into dish
4. Top with crushed cornflakes and additional cheese
5. Cover and bake for 30 minutes
6. Uncover and bake for an additional 15 minutes





Book Club Books



2026-2027

DATE

BOOK

FACILITATOR

September 15	Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm by Kate Douglas Wiggin	Glenda
October 20	Fearless by Eric Blehm	Jodie
November 17	Family of Spies by Christine Hehn	Connie
January 19	A Founding Mother by Stephanie Dray & Laura Kamoie	
February 16	Theo of Golden by Allen Levi	
March 16	The Gift of 476 Days: Selah Faith's Broken Heart Journey of Miracles, Hope and Love by Barbara Revor	Jane
April 20	Mission At Nuremberg; An American Army Chaplin and the Trial of the Nazis by Tim Townsend	Joanna
May 18	Persuasion by Jane Austen	
June 15	The Great Divorce by C.S. Lewis	Glenda



Heaven's Grocery Store



I was walking down life's highway a long time ago. One day I saw a sign that read HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE. I got a little closer, the door came open wide, when I came to myself, I was standing inside. I saw a host of Angels. They were standing everywhere, one handed me a basket and said "my child, shop with care." Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store. And all you couldn't carry, you could come back the next day for more.

First, I got some PATIENCE, LOVE was in the same row. Further down was UNDERSTANDING, you need that everywhere you go. I got a box or two of WISDOM, a box or two of FAITH, I just could not miss the HOLY GHOST for it was all over the place. I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE to help me run the race. By then my basket was getting full, but I remembered that I needed GRACE. I did not forget SALVATION, for salvation, that was free. So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then, I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill, for I thought that I had everything to do my master's will. As I went up to the aisle I saw PRAYER and just had to put that in. For I knew when I stepped outside I would run right into sin.

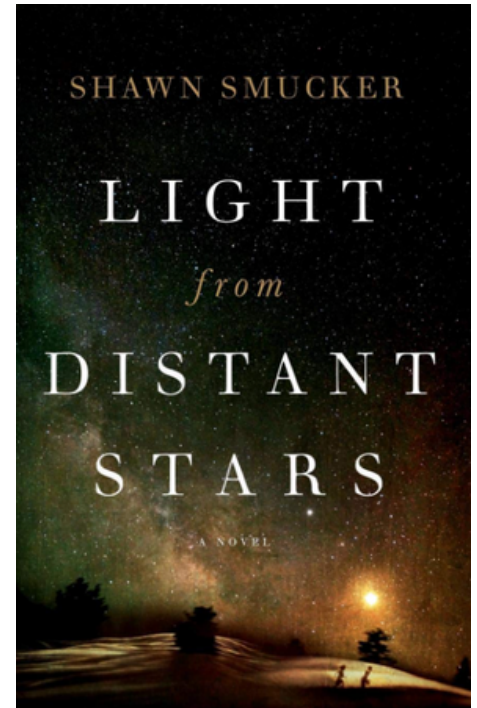
PEACE and JOY were plentiful, they were on the last self. SONGS and PRAISES were hanging near so I just helped myself. Then I said to the angel, "How much now do I OWE" He said, "my child, Jesus paid your bill a long time ago."

– Author Unknown

This was taken from a book I read a long time ago – Titled: A Hero's Journey
Toward Glory
Submitted by – Marian Brinkhuis

Light from Distant Stars

Shawn Smucker
Christian Fiction



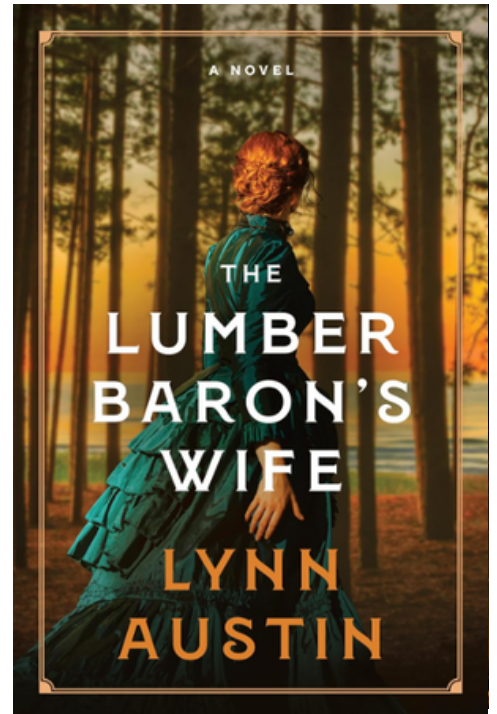
Book Review:

Shawn Smucker is another new author for our library, but one I've been wanting to introduce to you. His stories feel a bit like a psychological thriller meets Frank Peretti. As he explores the boundaries of memory and reality, you will find yourself completely invested and hooked. I highly recommend it!

The Lumber Baron's Wife

Lynn Austin

Christian Fiction



Book Review:

For those of you waiting, Lynn Austin's newest book is finally in the library – and she signed it for us! Also, this is her first book where part of it takes place in the present day! If you've ever been up to the Hackley Memorial Library, you might recognize it as she uses it for parts of her story since Muskegon was once a booming lumber town.

As someone who's read a lot of Lynn's books, this one (in my view) marks a new shift of her growing as a storyteller. Enjoy!!

Missions Updates



Spreading the Good News of
the Gospel around the world.



11th annual

FALL FAMILY FUNFEST

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Saturday, September 19, 2026 | Holland Town Center
Nelis' Dutch Village At the southeast corner of U.S. 31 & James Street in Holland!

Festivities Include

- ADMISSION TO NELIS' DUTCH VILLAGE
- A PICNIC LUNCH
- SEMI-TRUCK SHOW
- CUSTOM CAR SHOW
- MOTORCYCLE SHOW

(\$20 to enter a car. Awards for best in show!)



GENERAL ADMISSION:

FREE WILL DONATION



Fun for the whole family!



www.grantmehope.org/FUNFEST





RIGHT TO LIFE
OF HOLLAND AREA

Life. The Other Choice!

Volume 37 August 2026

607 Heritage Court, Holland, MI 49423 ~ 616.396.1037 ~ rtlholland@eg1.net
www.rtlhofholland.org ~ <https://www.facebook.com/RighttoLifeofHolland>

Welcoming All Humans Throughout Life

Abortion is one of the most divisive issues in modern society, with strong opinions on both sides. At Americans United for Life (AUL), we believe in the sanctity of human life, and that every human being has inherent dignity and worth. That's why we advocate for [pro-life policies that protect both women and their unborn children](#). We're working hard towards the day when all humans are welcomed in life and protected by law.

The Humanity of Pre-Born Children

At the heart of the pro-life view is the belief in the sanctity of human life. In opposing abortion, we acknowledge the humanity of the child in the womb which fuels our effort to protect the pre-born child's life. From conception, the preborn human being has a unique and complete genetic composition derived from both the mother and the father. As early as five (5) weeks' gestation, the preborn human being's heart begins beating. The preborn human being begins to move about in the womb at approximately eight (8) weeks' gestation.

Every Human Life Matters

We believe that every human being, from conception to natural death, has inherent dignity and worth. This belief is based on our understanding that human life is a gift, and that we as a society have a responsibility to protect and cherish human life. We reject the notion that some lives are more valuable than others, and that it is acceptable to end the life of an unborn child for any reason. We believe every human is valuable and should be protected. All humans, including babies in the womb, deserve the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. One human's pursuit of happiness does not allow them to end the life of another.

Protecting Women and Children

We believe that [protecting women](#) and children is essential to building a culture of life. We never advocate for harm to come to women. In fact, abortion is what harms not only the pre-born child but also the mother, both physically and emotionally. [Women who undergo abortions are at increased risk for a range of health](#)

[complications](#), including breast cancer, infertility, and psychological trauma. The child, on the other hand, is denied the right to life and the opportunity to fulfill his or her potential. In our support of mothers, we're working to ease the burden of childbearing by [making birth free](#). We believe that every woman deserves access to comprehensive health care that respects her dignity and protects her health and well-being.

The Reality of Abortion

It is important to understand the reality of abortion: it ends a human life. Consider the impact of over 60 million human lives that have been ended. How many future presidents, sports stars, or cultural icons have been aborted? We will never quite know the impact of the reality of abortion because our potential as humans is so infinite. Abortion is not a simple medical procedure, but a life-changing decision that has significant consequences for women, their future families, and our society. In the United States, more than 60 million abortions have been performed since Roe v. Wade legalized abortion in 1973. That's 60 million lives that were never given a chance to live and make a contribution to society. We believe that this is a tragedy that must be addressed. Americans United for Life works in advocating for [pro-life policies and programs](#) that provide alternatives to abortion and support for women and their families.

Building A Culture of Life

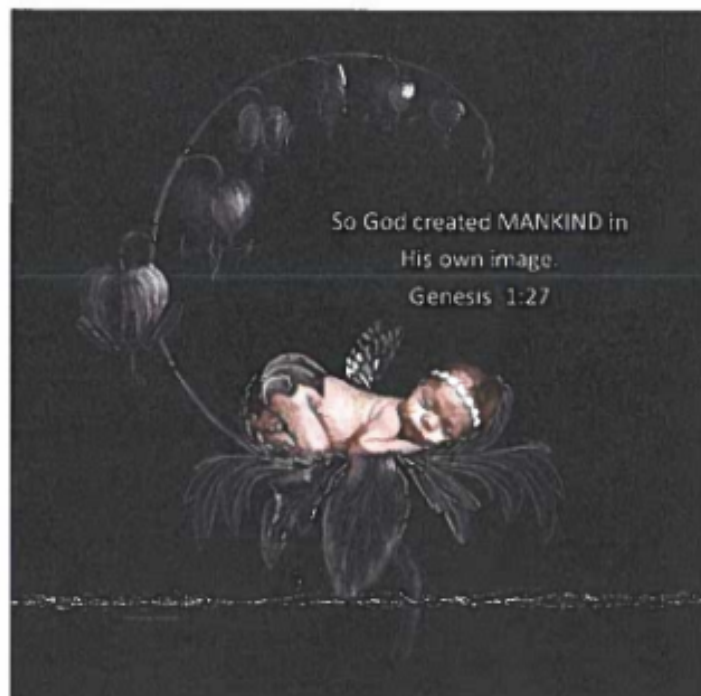
At Americans United for Life, we are committed to building a culture of life that respects the dignity of every human being. We believe that every life matters, and that it is our duty to protect the most vulnerable among us. We advocate for pro-life solutions that promote the health and well-being of women and their unborn children, and we work to raise awareness about the reality of abortion and its impact on society. [Join us in this important work](#), and together, we can build a world where every life is cherished and protected.

~By Americans United for Life~

Did you know about Right to Life in MI?

There are:

- ♦ 289,550+ members in communities across our state
- ♦ 80+ affiliates throughout MI and growing
- ♦ 229 Electoral victories in 2024
- ♦ 269,633+ lives saved through just one law (no tax-payer funding of abortion)
- ♦ 50+ Life affirming protections for women and children passed into law



To visit our website directly: Use your cellphone camera, center on the QR code below (should see a yellow square) and press OPEN on your camera screen.



~August 24-29 Hudsonville Fair

~ October 20th - Annual Focus on Life Dinner
with guest speaker Lydia Taylor, she is a pro-life activist, social media influencer, and national spokesperson for Students for Life of America.

Prolife Ballot Generator Instructions:

1. Visit - www.rtl.org
2. Scroll down to Elections and click GET INVOLVED
3. Click GENERATE YOUR BALLOT
4. Type in your information
5. Click GET MY BALLOT

Matt Schrotenboer Update

Dear Overisel Family,

There has been a lot of life and growth that has happened over the past several weeks that we praise God for!

In late July, we hosted a Vacation Bible Camp for children in our neighborhood. We had 12 children show up and participate with us, and we had several high school students come and be leaders as well. Some of the children were ones that we have been ministering to regularly and a few were children who we have not seen in a while, and it was a joy to see them again! We spent the week talking about who Jesus is. That He is God who came down to take on flesh to die for us as a ransom for our sins. Each day we highlighted a different aspect of His life: His birth, ministry, death and resurrection, and ascension and return. We also had fun playing a variety of games, making, crafts, and snacks with them. On the final day, we invited their families to join us. We had all of their parents and siblings join us to play water games and hear about how we should be waiting for Jesus to return. Our parking lot was full of laughter, voices, and water, and everyone had a wonderful time! We are praying for more opportunities to connect with families throughout the week, as well as be connected with new families around our church. It has been a little slower than anticipated, but we know that God can use any of the seeds we plant and water, and that they are ultimately in His hands.

In early August, we took about 85 people to Wisconsin for summer camp. We worked with multiple churches across Chicago and were able to tell about 65 students about building our life on Jesus. I oversaw the younger boys ages 9-13. There were 14 of them, and I had 7 in my cabin. One of the best parts was that the other male counselors and junior counselors for that age group had all been a camper in my cabin over the years of me being at camp! I was in awe of how God has been at work in the lives of these young men! 8 of the 14 campers had been to camp before, and all of the campers in my cabin had expressed a desire to want to hear God speak to them and to listen to what He says. They were in awe that God can speak to them, forgive their sins, and that the choice to follow Jesus has eternal significance. On the last night we had had such a deep conversation about what it means that God forgives us that we lost track of time and almost (emphasis on almost!) missed have s'mores by the campfire. Along with the spiritual growth, the camp we went to had a new private lake that we were able to use that all of the campers enjoyed! We were able to paddleboard, swim, go rock climbing, play games, and have a great time together. I am in awe of how God can use even the children to be a part of His kingdom, and I am looking forward to seeing how these seed grow!

Please join us in prayer that the seeds of our outreach would take root and grow to produce much fruit in the lives of our neighbors all over the city!

– Matt Schrotenboer

Gemmen Family Update

MISSION CONFERENCE FOLLOW UP

Dear friends and family,



Thank you to all who prayed for us. The conference was a wonderful time to be refreshed and renewed in the ministry God has called us to. We gathered with about 600 NOVO staff from all over the world which also included several InnerCHANGE missionaries (see photo included). We were also able to pick up Josiah, who is serving at a camp over the summer, and spend a few days vacationing as a family.

The conference included times of worship, prayer, and teaching. We also were able to connect with fellow missionaries that we only get to see every 4 years. The kids had their own program with times geared more towards their age group. It was fun to see them reconnecting with friends from across the globe.

A trip like this wouldn't be complete without our van breaking down. Thankfully, I had taken enough tools along to rebuild a small car. So, when we sprung a coolant leak in the mountains a quick application of duct tape got us to the next town where I could properly fix it. With some help from a local mechanic (tending to our A/C compressor going out) we were back on the road with little inconvenience.

We are grateful for this trip and how God continues to be faithful to our family.

Thank you again for your prayers,

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



Upendo Orphanage

Thank you for the love, prayers, and support you continue to share with us. We are very thankful for your kindness and for the way you care about the children.

The children are doing well, and during these school holidays, they have been learning valuable skills such as agriculture, computer skills, and dressmaking. We are grateful that they are using this time to learn practical skills that will benefit them in the future.

The school will reopen on the 24th of this month, and we are trusting God to provide everything each of these children needs as they prepare to return to school.

Please continue to pray with us for every provision and for God's guidance, protection, and blessing upon each child. We are truly grateful for your partnership and love.

The gospel in this part continues to spread, and last week we had the privilege of baptising 44 new believers. In the photos, I am the one doing the baptisms.

May God richly bless you and continue to use you for His glory.

David

