

RBNet Monthly

A monthly publication of the Reformed Baptist Network
December, 2025

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."

CALVIN TO THE SPANISH WORLD

Over the past year, I've spent considerable time reading John Calvin's *Institutes of Christian Religion*, and have found J. I. Packer's evaluation to be a bull's eye: "Calvin's *Institutes* is a river of pure, gospel truth. No book outside Scripture has so greatly shaped evangelical Christianity. It breathes doxology, devotion, and disciplined thinking."

Simultaneously, the Lord put into the hands of RBNet a large donation of \$250,000 for kingdom extension purposes. One of the endeavors that shouted out for attention was from Poiema Publishing, headed up by RBNet's new missionary David Adams, who wrote a few months ago:

"In the 1950's, various members of the Christian Reformed Church denomination began working on Spanish-language translation projects of some of the most historically important Reformed resources. Those different initiatives were eventually unified under the banner 'Libros Desafío,' which was owned by the Christian Reformed Church. In recent years, the denomination found it increasingly difficult to continue publishing and decided to close operations and auction off the translations. With the help of a generous donor, we were able to obtain the rights to some great resources, including the best Spanish translation of Calvin's *Institutes*. This resource has been out of print for several years and we are prayerfully hoping to reprint it within a few months!"

David was present in Coconut Creek for our September GA, and upon the assembly's vote to distribute \$20,000 to Poiema for the printing of 2000 copies of the *Institutes*, he immediately notified the printer to fire up the presses. The vision was to make many copies available to seminaries, seminary students, and pastors.

When David held up to his camera, at this week's Missionary-All-Call, the big, fat copy of the two volumes bound into a single book, it made our hearts to sing to think of this whole-counsel-of-God gospel medicine poised to flow into the needy Spanish-speaking world. May the Lord use it for great good in the sphere and ministry God has set before us all. ☺

— Mark Chanski, RBNet Coordinator

MISSION THOUGHTS

WHY?

Ann Judson had kept her husband Adoniram alive while he was in prison, treated harshly, forced to march, and fed very little. She had risked all to feed him, and to tend him. When Adoniram received "The Black-Sealed Letter" informing him of Ann's death, "At once the desolation overwhelmed him . . . He began to weep, softly at first, later with hoarse, racking sobs." (*To the Golden Shore*, p. 371). WHY? That must have been a question on the mind of Adoniram.

The Psalms are full of the questions "why?" and "how long?". For example, Ps. 10:1 "Why do You stand afar off, O LORD? Why do You hide in times of trouble?" Ps. 89:46 "How long, LORD? Will You hide Yourself forever? Will Your wrath burn like fire?"

*Why do You
stand afar
off, O LORD?
Why do You hide
in times of trouble?*

I am quick point out that each of the lament Psalms ends with praise, which indicates a confident faith, and in these Psalms there is often the prayer of faith as illustrated in Ps. 13:3 "Consider and hear me, O LORD my God; Enlighten my eyes, Lest I sleep the sleep of death."

Missionaries know what it means to suffer and experience forms of persecution for the sake of Christ. This has been true throughout missionary history and illustrated most vividly by the life of the great missionary the Apostle Paul. The gospel marches on through the suffering of those who proclaim it. Yet in all the suffering the Lord Jesus prevails and continues to build his church. The Lord granted grace to Adoniram Judson, and he continued his fruitful ministry in Burma and the Lord gave him another faithful wife, Sarah Boardman.

As I write this one of our gospel laborers working in a "closed country" has been ordered to leave. This is a great trial indeed. (And perhaps by the time you read this he and his family will be able to stay . . .). We pray.

It is right for missionaries, and indeed all of us, to pray "Why?" and "How Long?" while we wait in faith, knowing that the Lord Jesus will build his church. ☺

— Gordon Taylor, RBNet Support

CHURCH UPDATES

Northside Reformed Baptist Church,
Evansville, IN

Brandon Lindsey, Pastor

The Lord has been exceedingly kind to Northside Reformed Baptist Church. We are blessed far beyond what we deserve, and His sustaining grace continues to uphold and guide us. This past year brought a difficult season of transition as several families were led away from us, and yet, in His mercy, God has filled our gathering with many new faces. Several of these brothers and sisters have already pursued membership, and their joy, commitment, and hunger for the Word have been a rich encouragement to our congregation.

As we give thanks, we also ask for your continued prayers. Please pray for the assimilation of these new individuals and families—that they would feel truly connected, loved, and shepherded within our church body. Pray for renewed evangelistic zeal among our members, that we would continue to proclaim Christ boldly in our community. Pray, too, as we prepare to launch our Men's and Young Men's Leadership Cohorts in 2026, asking the Lord to use these efforts to strengthen future leaders in head, heart, and hands. Please also pray as we seek to deepen and expand direct partnerships with like-minded Reformed Baptist churches in the coming year, that the Lord would knit us together in mission and mutual encouragement.

We also ask for prayer regarding several minor building needs. Though not urgent, they will require resources and wisdom to address. And please join us in praying for a young man who is considering baptism—may the Lord affirm His work in this soul and continue to draw many to Himself.

We remain deeply thankful for our partnership in the Reformed Baptist Network. The fellowship, support, and shared mission among our sister churches is a gift we do not take lightly, and we pray for them often.

To God be the glory for all He has done, is doing, and will continue to do in and through His church. ☺



CHURCH UPDATES

Redeeming Grace Church,
West Palm Beach, FL

Jarvis Singleton, Pastor

Greetings Everyone, I pray that you are continually being refreshed by the grace of our Lord.

There are exciting things happening at Redeeming Grace. Here are a few highlights:

On Sunday, November 2nd, an historical event happened at our church. We ordained our very first deacon, Mr. David Shapleigh. David and his wife, Sofia, have been with us for over a year, and he has been an incredible servant, influence, and confidant during this time. In addition, he also leads the Sunday school class at the end of the month on the topic of Holiness in the Christian Life. We are so thrilled to have the Shapleighs with us, and we know that the Lord will do great things with them within our congregation.

The day before the ordination, on November 1st, our Women's Ministry held their first ever Tea. It was a great turnout, and many women were encouraged and blessed by the event. I want to thank my wife, Debra, and her team who put on this very successful event. I cannot wait to see how it will evolve, even more next year, Lord willing.

For our Anniversary Service on Sunday September 14th, we were blessed to have Pastor Scott Day from The Gathering Church in West Jefferson, NC. The Gathering has been a tremendous support for us in various ways over the past few years, and it was a true blessing to return back to them some of the ways they have blessed us. Equally, three weeks before this, on August 24th, we were also blessed to have Pastor Raymond Graham from Grace Harbor Jamaica Church speak for us. We are definitely in prayer for Pastor Graham, his family and church, as well as his community in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa. We will be reaching out to see if there are any ways that we can help them get back on their feet.

We ask that you keep us up in prayer as we seek to continue doing the LORD's work in West Palm Beach and please let us know how we can pray for you.

Thank you and may God richly bless you. 🙏

CHURCH UPDATES

Cornerstone Church
Mesa, AZ

Jon Patton, Pastor

Greetings to you, from Mesa, Arizona!

As we look back over this past year we give thanks to the Lord for his mercy and kindness to us as a body. Among the things we rejoice in are the many new members he has strengthened us with in 2025, 7 baptisms, and the back-to-back weddings of three of our young couples (before the year is over)! Please pray with us that we would not take God's grace in this season for granted and that we would be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

In our previous update from the beginning of last year, we shared how the Lord is nourishing us through the ordinary means of grace, and particularly through the regular preaching of his Word through Isaiah and Matthew on Sunday mornings. We are still being fed weekly by that very same manna, but unlike the Israelites in the wilderness, I trust we have not grown weary of it! We return for worship, instruction and fellowship on Sunday evenings where our pastors teach three different classes that our adults can choose from, while our children work through a chronological and Christological study of the Scriptures, along with a catechism.

Pastor Jim continues to travel and minister in Mexico and South America several times throughout the year. He returned from such a trip to Colombia in October and, Lord willing (at the time in which this is published) is presently laboring for Christ's kingdom in Chile. Please pray especially that the Lord would sustain his health through these travels that often take a physical toll.

Above all, pray that Christ would be magnified in and through us as we learn more and more what it means to take up our cross and follow him, laying our lives down in sacrificial love for one another and for this world. 🙏



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CHURCH UPDATES

Reformation Church
Plant City, FL

Eric Ayala, Pastor

We're so thankful for all that God is doing in and through Reformation Church!

Praises: God has truly been at work among us. We're seeing growth in both our congregation and our ministries, a revitalized focus for church planting, and new families joining and growing in fellowship. It's been a joy to see deeper connections forming and hearts stirred toward service, discipleship, and community. We also celebrate the faithful volunteers and leaders who continue to serve with joy and dedication each week.

Prayer Requests: As we continue to grow, we're praying for wisdom and direction in this next season—especially as we seek a larger facility to better serve our congregation and expand our ministry reach. Please also join us in praying for families within our church who are grieving the loss of loved ones and friends, that the Lord would surround them with His comfort and peace. In addition, we lift up members of our church who are facing difficult health diagnoses or ongoing health challenges. We ask for God's healing, strength, and encouragement for them, and for continued good health and protection for our entire church family. 🙏



Please consider a tax deductible, year end gift to RBNet

"What shall I render to the Lord for all of His benefits toward me?" (Psalm 116:12).

You may give via the RBNet website:

To a Particular RBNet [Missionary](#) (current shortfalls highlighted in red),
or

To the RBNet [Special Needs Mission Fund](#) (undesignated donations to meet current shortfalls),
or

To the RBNet [General Fund](#) (supporting the organization expenses)

Thank you for considering and praying!