

# RBN Net Monthly

A monthly publication of the Reformed Baptist Network  
May, 2026

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."

## I LOVE THE REFORMED BAPTIST NETWORK

I love this association of churches. Ten years ago, when I signed my name in Taylors, SC to the covenant of RBN Net, I'd been a Reformed Baptist for 35 years. I'd seen a lot. I'd grown weary of a spirit quenching tendency in churches to drift toward unnecessary controversy, disputes, criticisms, contentions, feuds, and divisions. I ached for a communion of churches that embodied both earnest zeal for truth and gracious love for one another. Nearly a decade later, I'm thankful to report that I found it!

Though we tenaciously hold a like precious faith (1689 Baptist Confession), we're called to love and cooperate with those who may look and minister differently than we do. We don't demand clone-like uniformity of each other. Paul's ministry to synagogue attending Jews in Antioch (Acts 13 OT citations) was strikingly different than to hillbilly rural Gentiles in Lystra (Acts 14 general revelation), or to polished and sophisticated philosophers in Athens (Acts 17 literary quotations). So churches and preaching styles and attire and music may rightly look and sound different in cowboy-western Worland, WY, than in Dutch-cultured Holland, MI, than in S-California Riverside, than in upscale Coconut Creek, FL, than in New England Chicopee, MA, than in cosmopolitan Toronto, or in Spanish speaking Santo Domingo, etc.

I rejoice in the healthy variety displayed in our many local flocks. We seek to have biblical conviction wedded with gracious toleration. These core values of our Theological Center and our Gracious Manner have been maintained only by the tripecta graces of humility, humility, and humility. It's that grace that I see flowering beautifully in RBN Net. And it makes my heart sing. And it makes RBN Net to be, for me, a church association dream come true! I deeply longed for this for decades. Let's all pray for it, seek to preserve it, and promote it all the more. 🌱

— Mark Chanski, RBN Net Coordinator

## MISSION THOUGHTS

### "ATHENS: WHAT PAUL FELT; WHAT PAUL DID"<sup>1</sup>

Acts 17:16, 17 "Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there." (ESV)

Ryle observes that two men can see the same thing and have very different reactions. One may be indifferent while another deeply moved as was Paul. Paul saw men on the broad road to hell. "His spirit was provoked within him."

*Many servants of the Lord work alone. Many work in what we have come to call "hard soil." So much wisdom is needed for this work. So much patience. But these faithful servants labor on.*

What would Paul do? He must do something. So he began in wisdom with his own people in the synagogue. He "reasoned" with them. Thayer's lexicon points out that this means Paul used arguments from the Scripture. So he had formal discussion.

But Paul did not stop with only a synagogue ministry. He also went into the marketplace using the same method "reasoning" — using arguments.

As Ryle points out Paul might have reasoned that to attack a whole city steeped in a philosophy of idolatry and his own people in the synagogue steeped in a false view of the law and since he was alone and a stranger in the city it would be "to beard a lion in his den".<sup>2</sup>

As I read this devotional I thought of our missionaries who are working in places like Athens. Many servants of the Lord work alone. Many work in what we have come to call "hard soil." So much wisdom is needed for this work. So much patience. But these faithful servants labor on. Such servants of the Lord deserve both our prayer and support and God will give the increase. 🌱

<sup>1</sup>These thoughts from "Our Great Redeemer", "365 Days with J.C. Ryle" Nov. 8, 9

<sup>2</sup>Confront a danger, take a risk, as in I went straight to my boss, bearding the lion. This term was originally a Latin proverb based on a Bible story (1 Samuel 17:35) about the shepherd David, who pursued a lion that had stolen a lamb, caught it by its beard, and killed it.

— Gordon Taylor, RBN Net Support

## CHURCH UPDATES

Grace Fellowship Church  
Bremen, IN

Jon Hueni, Colin Horne,  
Jeremy Sarber, Pastors

Brothers and sisters, greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God for His continued kindness, as He builds His church and adds to our number according to His good pleasure.

In October 2025, the Lord was pleased to provide for our shepherding needs by installing Jeremy Sarber as our third pastor. We are grateful, recognizing that Christ, the Chief Shepherd, continues to care for His flock by giving pastors and teachers to equip the saints.

We continue to see encouraging signs of growth. In recent months, the Lord has added four members to our fellowship, and we anticipate, God willing, the baptism of two believers in the coming weeks. We rejoice in these evidences of grace, praying that those who have begun well would continue, bearing fruit in keeping with repentance.

Our preaching ministry continues steadily. Pastor Jon Hueni recently concluded a two-year series through the Gospel of Mark. Pastor Colin is nearing the end of a series through 1 Corinthians, exhorting us toward holiness, order, and love within the body.

Midweek, we are seeking to cultivate deeper fellowship and maturity. Our men are studying friendship, considering how "iron sharpens iron" as we stir one another up to love and good works. Our women are studying what it means to love the Lord with all their minds, pursuing greater devotion by taking every thought captive to obey Christ.

In March, the Lord blessed Pastor Jon's ministry trip to Kenya, where he taught at Trinity Pastors College in Nairobi and visited two national church planters we support.

Please pray that the Word of Christ would dwell richly among us, that our unity would be preserved, and that the Lord would continue to save and sanctify. We are thankful to labor together with you in the gospel. All glory be to God. 🌱



## CHURCH UPDATES

Pioneer Valley Baptist Chapel  
Chicopee, MA

Andrew Guidara Pastor

Dear RBNET and friends,  
2025 Marked the 50th anniversary of Pioneer Valley Baptist Chapel (PVBC) in Chicopee MA. Furthermore, it marked 50 years of the faithful service and ministry of Pastor Steven Graham and his lovely wife Paula. On April 18th we held a formal 50th anniversary celebration banquet for them. Not only has Pastor Steve been used to found PVBC but has also been used by God in the formation and success of RBNET.

I have been a member of PVBC for 17 years and ordained as an elder for 8 years. I cannot express how influential Pastor Steve has been and continues to be for me. I cannot imagine a better role model, mentor, pastor, and now co-pastor. God has tremendously blessed me, PVBC, and RBNET with a man of the spiritual caliber, wisdom, and approachability of Pastor Steve. In my knowledge and experience it is quite rare for a man to faithfully serve a single church for over 50 years. Praise be to God!

Things at the church are going quite well. On October 26, 2025, I baptized 5 people, which included a nine-year-old and a twelve-year-old. PVBC does not have “baptism Sundays” or announce a specific Lord’s Day when we will conduct baptisms. Instead, in God’s providence, all these people sought out Pastor Steve and I, wanting to be baptized. One dear lady, who is originally from Cameroon and a former Presbyterian, was baptized and taken into membership. That day we also took more people into membership.

As far as the preaching and teaching goes, I recently finished teaching through Galatians for Sunday School. Now I am teaching through Genesis. For morning worship, I am preaching through Romans (for about 7 years now) and am in Chapter 13. For evening worship Pastor Steve is preaching through Job. Thank God for His inspired, inerrant, infallible, and preserved Word

Pastor Steve and I look forward to seeing you all in Texas for the General Assembly! 🌍

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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.

## CHURCH UPDATES

Jersey Reformed Baptist Church  
Jersey, OH

Paul Huston, Pastor

The best possible update for this small church in Jersey, Ohio and really for every church is that Jesus Christ is still head of the church and is present and working for good every situation that comes our way. Even in a small church such as ours (usual attendance 15-25) there are many things to give thanks for and many petitions to be brought before His mighty throne.

The deployment of Army Chaplin and fellow elder Seth Curtis is a cause to rejoice in that Seth will likely have many opportunities to share the hope of the gospel with the soldiers with whom he has contact. His deployment is also a cause to petition our Lord for his safety and for his family.

We give thanks to God for the arrival of potential new members and pray for their spiritual well-being, just as we pray for those who attend regularly but have not yet realized their need to not just attend but to unite with a local Christian church.

We also give thanks for the spiritual growth that has been evident among those who are faithful in Christ. We confess that such growth is only by the grace of God and indeed it is only by His working that any one of us walks through that front door on Sunday morning or attends one of our discipleship groups.

As in any church we have those who are advancing in age with its accompanying challenges; we have our health issues and we have our extended family concerns; fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers who have yet to come to Christ.

As Pastor of Jersey Reformed, both my prayer and my thanksgiving is for the week-by-week continuing grace of God which continues to encourage and sustain us; giving us hope and a message to be shared. 🌍



## CHURCH UPDATES

Reformed Baptist Church  
Lafayette, NJ

Patrick Harrison &  
Phil Horjus, Pastors

To our fellow churches of RBNet, we extend our warm and hearty greetings..

We thank the Lord for the refreshing winds of encouragement he has been pleased to send upon our fellowship in recent months. In December we had a token of such encouragement, as we appointed another of our men to the diaconate.

Within the last five months, four families as well as four individuals have been consistently attending our Sunday morning services. We are trusting that the Lord would be pleased to direct them toward ultimately becoming members of our fellowship.

As far as the pulpit ministry is concerned, Pastor Harrison has been expounding the Book of Revelation on Sunday Mornings, and the Epistle of 1 Timothy on Wednesday evenings. In his monthly sermons, Pastor Horjus is undertaking a series of studies in the Book of Jeremiah. We praise the Lord for the growing enthusiasm and steady development of two of our deacons in their periodic preaching of the Word. Their willingness to fill in for Pastor Harrison or Pastor Horjus on various occasions has truly been a great blessing.

The Lord continues to favor us with a spirit of love and unity. Whereas a few of our members have been through health challenges in recent months, the Lord has faithfully kept their spirits & faith intact.

In terms of matters for prayer, we ask that you petition the Lord that he would enable us to exhibit the love and grace of Christ to our visitors as we minister to them. Please pray that the Lord would greatly bless our summer outreach activities. At the same time, we pray that the Lord would continue to favor all our churches with His richest blessings, and that He would grant the leadership of RBNet continued wisdom and guidance in the great work they are doing on our behalf.



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