RBNet Monthly

A monthly publication of the Reformed Baptist Network October, 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."

OVERWHELMINGLY THANKFUL FOR THE 2025 GA

We sang like thunder: "Oh church arise and put your armor on!" And that's what happened.

Robert Elliott, our 2024 host back in Riverside, CA was detained from coming this year due to the birthing of twin grandchildren, but by video he greeted us wearing a "CHARLIE" t-shirt, saying: "My prayer is that there will be a real binding and uniting of the churches more and more so that together we might go forward and fulfill this Great Commission we've got that we might take the gospel to the world. That's why we're a Network. It's not just that we might enjoy each other. It's that we might together do something bigger than us--and that is obey our Savior and see the world reached for the gospel."

He was right. We came to conspire, plot, and strategize our ongoing holy invasion against the Prince of Darkness by fiercely storming the gates of hell, with all our might, so help us God. Our mindset was, "a wide door for effective service has opened to us, and there are many adversaries" (1 Cor 16:9). The Lord has swung open a multitude of opportunities, and we needed a Jonathan and his armorbearer "seize the day" brave heart to charge forward and not indecisively hesitate. The Lord showed up, gave us united resolve, and spurred us forward.

We overwhelmingly approved the unleashing of a \$250,000 gift to financially fuel numerous endorsed men and endeavors all over the world, combined with the planning to craft policy for the prudent reception and allocation of future large financial gifts, DV.

New Missionaries Ben Layer (Poland), and Mark & Cheryl (East Asia) were endorsed as RBNet mighty men. Four new churches are in the joining pipeline. Eighteen New Churches who are "spying out the land" gave "brief presentations" expressing interest in possibly joining.

Other Selected Highlights: Jim & Caroline Newheiser excellent teaching, a gripping video about Tiago Olivera & Lisbon & 1st Baptist Church & Martin Bucer Seminary, Justin Miller & Amos Gibello devotionals, presentations

Mission Thoughts

THE FAITHFUL MISSIONARY

What better example of a faithful missionary than the apostle Paul. Recently I heard a sermon by a gifted young preacher, J.T. Stead, who gave an excellent summary of Paul's faithful missionary work as illustrated from Acts 13 and 14. I take the liberty of using his insights.

A STEADY PATTERN

What did Paul do in Antioch of Pisidia? In Iconium? In Lystra? In Derbe? He went to the synagogue and preached the gospel of Jesus Christ. He preached in the power of the Holy Spirit. This preaching caused offense to the Jews especially when Paul included the Gentiles in the message. The offense led to opposition and persecution. So strong was the persecution that in Lystra he was stoned, dragged out of the city and left for dead. The disciples who gathered around Paul saw him get up and go back into the city! In each city no matter the opposition Paul kept preaching unless he was literally driven out.

So the pattern: *Preach. *Opposition. *Persecution. *Response - stay preach more boldly. *Go to another city and do the same thing with the same results!

How does this help us? 1) It helps us to overcome our fears as this is the pattern for missionaries. 2) It reminds us that we need the supernatural power of the Lord Jesus for missionary work. Acts 14:3 says that the Lord Jesus was bearing witness to the Word. Although we do not have have signs and wonders today, we may expect that the Lord will honor His Word.

A SPECIFIC PURPOSE

Acts 14:21-28 teaches that evangelism was not the end for Paul. He went back to the cities, encouraged the new converts, established churches with elders, the team went back to the sending church in Antioch. Can you imagine the joy of the church at Antioch when they heard that the Lord had "opened the door of faith to the Gentiles?" Is this not the same joy we experience when we read about the progress of the Gospel reported by RBNet endorsed missionaries?

CHURCH UPDATES

Faith Reformed Baptist Church,
Media, PA
Tom Wisnewski, for the elders

Gaptist Church of Media, PA. With over 240 members and attenders on our attendance roles and a sanctuary that comfortably seats around 170, each week we have thirty to fifty folks who attend in our adjacent Fellowship Hall. For a couple months, while our building is under construction to replace the roof, we are meeting in the gym of a local college. Our people are greatly enjoying the opportunity for all to meet together in one space, along with the fellowship involved in weekly setup and tear-down. Please pray for future direction: start a capital campaign for a new, larger sanctuary (~\$3M)? meet long-term in another facility while we raise funds? plant a church with a large number of our members?

While we at FRBC are committed to planting churches in the future, the elders have come to recognize the need for a greater commitment to evangelism - a commitment that needs to begin with the elders themselves. Please pray for God to stir within this body a passion and practice of sharing the gospel.

It seems that God is preparing our assembly to engage in church planting by sending us young men who are ideally equipped to serve in advancing His kingdom. Carson, who recently graduated from Westminster Theological Seminary, has been an intern at FRBC for a couple years and is currently in the internship program at Capital Hill Baptist in DC. James will be concluding his studies at WTS in May and we hope to bring him on as an intern for the following year. Both men are theologically astute, people oriented, and love God's church. Pray for our ability to train them well and that God would lead them in how/where they can best serve Him.

Last, while we are experiencing great blessing on many fronts, we are also dealing with a lot of significant challenges. Along with a couple deaths in the last two weeks, six of our members or member's spouses are dealing with cancer or acute heart failure. The congregation is rallying to support these men in extraordinary ways, but the prospect of significantly altered lives is taking a toll on them and their families. Pray for patience, trust in God, strength to persevere, witness to His faithfulness, and comfort through the pain.

Coordinator's Report, continued from previous page...

by Dwayne Baldwin from Serbia & Michael Emadi from witchy Ireland & 3 military men, Sam & Emma in the flesh from SE Asia, David Adams on Poimena, Nick Kennicott playing, and Matt Foreman leading.

Best of all, The LORD was there.

- Mark Chanski, RBNet Coordinator

CHURCH UPDATES

Miller Valley Baptist Church, Prescott Valley, AZ

Chris Marley, Pastor

Greetings to all our sister churches in the Reformed Baptist Network!

This year, our church turned 75 years old, and what a journey it has had. We had hoped to have some kind of celebration this summer, but our renovation and repair project did not allow. Nonetheless, it's been a season of reminiscence and recounting of God's blessings, including the bittersweet farewells as we've seen several saints cross Jordan the last two years.

Our new budget will mark a 2,000% increase in missions over the last 5 years. We've also been enjoying having an intern for this last year who will, Lord willing, become an elder in the near future.

All that being said, please be praying that God would preserve the sweet unity and fellowship of our church. Many of our saints are dealing with personal trials, and we grieve with them together as a body.

I've now seen 16 years of ministry here, and my father has reached 21 years of ministry. We are, as the saying goes, weary *in* the work, but not weary *of* the work. Our God is faithful; we have tasted and seen that He is good.

Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you all, and I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming GA which will have come before you read this. May God grow His saints and His kingdom to the ends of the earth. Soli Deo Gloria.

CHURCH UPDATES

The Gathering Church West Jefferson, NC

Scott Day, Pastor

Greetings from the mountains of North Carolina in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His grace, we are doing well. This month will mark a year since Hurricane Helene which hit us right after returning from the GA last year. We have been busy serving our community and helping with the rebuilding and restoration of our county. Thousands of volunteer hours have been spent in this cause and much fundraising and grant writing has been accomplished. Many of you have come and shared in this ministry and we are grateful! Many have come to know the Lord through this season and we are grateful for His saving work.

In the meantime, the Lord has also raised up two more men to serve as Elders here and we are grateful for them. Pray for Mike and Nathan as they will be voted on this month and then pending that vote, will be ordained and installed in early October, Lord willing.

We have also experienced some growth with 18 new members joining since last fall. We are so encouraged.

Continue to pray for us to be faithful in the Gospel and for missional opportunities as we continue to support several missionaries both domestically and internationally and while we support our church plant Christ Alone Church in Wilkesboro.

Pray for Scott as he finishes an extremely exhausting season of ministry and that he would rest well as he takes a 7-week sabbatical this fall.

Pray for our potential new elders and for other men that God may be raising up.

Pray for our members to guard our unity, fight sin ruthlessly, and glorify God joyously as He uses us as instruments in His hands.

We also have a building project about to start that we would appreciate prayer for as well. Thank you for your prayers for us and for the opportunity to give an update! ®

CHURCH UPDATES

Grace Fellowship Church Hazle Township, PA

Dave Thompson, Pastor

The Lord has dramatically transformed our city in the past 10-15 years. Hazle Township went from being an overwhelmingly European and Eastern European city of immigrants to a city of about a 70% Hispanic (mainly Dominican) immigrants. The Lord has provided in amazing ways for us to minister in Spanish, as a result our congregation is almost 50% Hispanic, and almost one-third of those attending are only Spanish-speaking.

Here are a few things we would love for you to pray for:

- That we would boldly share the gospel out of love and obedience for our Savior.
- That there would be more fellowship among the members of the body. (We are one body even though we have English and Spanish services. All services are translated, so we encourage crossover attendance.)
- That we would have wisdom in leading people from many different cultures. ③

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.

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