

EBENEZER HAPPENINGS



SEPTEMBER 2026

The Monthly Newsletter of
Ebenezer Reformed Church
Morrison IL

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Ebenezer
Reformed Church

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Our Mission: Helping people
find & follow Jesus

Dear Ebenezer Family,

September often feels like a season of new beginnings. Students return to school, families settle back into familiar routines, and many of our church ministries resume after the summer months. At Ebenezer, we are especially excited to welcome our children and young people back to two important weekly programs.

On Sunday mornings, Heaven's Express will resume for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. On Wednesday evenings, AfterShock will begin again for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. We are grateful for the teachers, leaders, helpers, parents, and volunteers who invest their time and energy in these ministries. Please pray that every child who participates will grow in biblical knowledge, experience the love of our church family, and come to know Jesus Christ more deeply.

Our Sunday morning worship will also continue to take us through the story told by the stained-glass windows in our sanctuary. These windows are much more than beautiful decorations. Through their colors, images, and symbols, they point us toward the great truths of Scripture and remind us of the faith handed down through generations of believers. As we study them together, my hope is that we will not merely admire their beauty, but allow the biblical truths they portray to shape our faith and our lives.

That desire—to see biblical truth shape the whole of life—was also at the heart of the Alliance of Reformed Churches Gathering held in August. Much of the emphasis during the main sessions was on discipleship and its importance for strengthening the vitality of our churches and denomination.

“Discipleship” is a familiar church word, but what does it actually mean?

Biblical discipleship is the lifelong process of following Jesus Christ, becoming more like Him, and helping others do the same. It begins when Christ calls us to repent, believe the Gospel, and follow Him. But discipleship does not end with conversion or church membership. Jesus calls us to continue learning from Him, obeying His Word, growing in holiness, serving others, and participating in His mission.

A disciple is more than someone who knows facts about Jesus. A disciple learns to live under the lordship of Jesus.

Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19–20 remains central to the Church's mission: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” Notice that Jesus did not simply tell His followers to attract crowds, or organize programs. He commanded us to make disciples—people whose beliefs, priorities, relationships, habits, and actions are increasingly shaped by Him.

Discipleship also requires relationships. We grow through the ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, but we ordinarily do so alongside other believers. Mature Christians encourage younger believers. Parents teach their children. Teachers guide their students. Friends pray for one another. Church members worship, study, serve, correct, forgive, and persevere together. This is why discipleship is not merely another church program. It is a way of understanding everything the church is called to be and do.

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Sunday Worship – September 2026



6

Series: God's Story in Stained Glass (Part 3)

Sermon: **"A Breath of New Life"**

Scripture: John 14:15-27

Speaker: Pastor J.T. Bean



13

Series: God's Story in Stained Glass (Pt.4)

Sermon: **"Holy Smoke"**

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8

Speaker: Pastor J.T. Bean



20

Series: God's Story in Stained Glass

Sermon: **"Stuck in the Mud"**

Scripture: Jeremiah 38:1-13

Speaker: Pastor J.T. Bean



27

Series: God's Story in Stained Glass (Pt. 6)

Sermon: **"The Hidden Doorway of Idolatry"**

Scripture: Ezekiel 8:1-13

Speaker: Pastor J.T. Bean

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The ARC Gathering challenged us to consider how intentionally we are helping people move from simply attending church to actively following Christ. Are we equipping believers to read and apply Scripture? Are we helping parents disciple their children? Are we developing new leaders? Are we creating relationships in which people can ask honest questions, receive encouragement, and be held accountable? Are we preparing every generation to share the Gospel and help others follow Jesus?

These are important questions, and we will be exploring them more carefully in the months ahead. We are not looking for a passing trend or a quick new program. We want to recover and strengthen a deeply biblical calling that has always belonged to the Church.

In many ways, that work is already happening. It happens in worship, Bible studies, prayer gatherings, children's ministries, youth programs, personal conversations, pastoral care, and acts of service. Our opportunity now is to become more prayerful, purposeful, and united in that work.

As our fall ministries begin, let us remember that the goal is larger than filling classrooms or maintaining a schedule. Whether we are teaching a child in Heaven's Express, encouraging a student at AfterShock, studying the images in our stained-glass windows, or walking beside another believer, we are participating in Christ's call to make disciples.

May God give Ebenezer renewed vitality—not merely by making us busier, but by making us more faithful followers of Jesus who help others follow Him too.

A Joy to Serve You,

J.T. Bean
Lead Pastor



September 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Worship Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. ↓		 1 Welcome Table 5:30	 2 Women's Bible Study 1:30pm AfterShock Volunteers Mtg. 5:30pm	3 Food Bank 9:45am Worship Team Mtg 5:15pm Exec Mtg. 6:30pm	4	 5 Men's Bible Study 7:30am
6 Youth/Ed Cmt. 10:45am Mid-High Class 10:45am	7 Labor Day Office Closed 	8 Church Life 10:00am O.M.E. Task Force 4:30pm Bldg & Property Cmt. 6:30pm	9  Kickoff Night! 5:30-7pm	10 Food Bank 9:45am	11	12  Men's Bible Study 7:30am
13 Hayride to Church 9am  Fun Fair 10:45am	14 Deac/Elds 6pm Consistory 6:30pm	15  All-Church Prayer Mtg. 6pm	16 Ladies' Aid 1:30pm AfterShock 5:30-7pm	17 Food Bank 9:45am	18	19  Men's Bible Study 7:30am
20 Mid-High Class 10:45am	21	22	23 AfterShock 5:30-7pm	24 Food Bank 9:45am	25	26 Men's Pancake Breakfast 7:30am 
27 Mid-High Class 10:45am	28	29 Staff Mtg. 10am	30 AfterShock 5:30-7pm	OCT 1	OCT 2	OCT 3

September Birthdays

1 Lyle Upton	10 Molly Brackemyer	19 Barney Habben	26 Maisie Renkes
2 Dave Schaver	12 Dave Weber	20 Emily Yarbrough	26 Sophia Pitcher*
6 Sheri Tichler	13 Michelle Hook	21 Keith Wiersema	28 Jeremy Bush
6 Tim Bush	14 Arlyn Tichler	20 Deb Szabo	28 Karen Landheer
7 Nick Hamstra	14 Jeff Weets	20 Theresa Stout	28 Mathew Wiersema
8 Jason Buikema	14 Ron Williams	21 Susan Wiersema	28 Shelley Meurs
8 Shawn Soenksen	15 Velma Dean	23 Dale Bull	29 Tonia Weaver
9 Jan Wiersema (Bob)	16 Brock Brackemyer	24 Preston Bush	30 Selah Johnson*
9 Jane Brooks	16 Mart Wegener	26 Jackie Damhoff	30 Tim Stout

* = Missionary family

→ Please contact the church office to make sure your birthday is on our list.

♥ Also: If you are married, tell us your wedding anniversary.

Ladies Aid

Ladies Aid will meet on Wednesday, September 16. Ken Renkes will present the program and Maisie Renkes will provide refreshments.

Women's Bible Study

Please join us for a Bible Study the first Wednesday of the month (September 2) at 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Our leader is Doris Bielema.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study is open to young and old. We meet every Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your Bible. Coffee and donuts will be served. We are currently going through a study of 2nd Corinthians.

Mid-High Bible Study

The Mid-High class is for Middle School and High School students. We meet after worship around 10:45 a.m. most Sundays with Pastor J.T.

Consistory Mtg.

The Consistory will meet on Monday, September 14th. Elders and Deacons meet separately at 6:00 p.m. The Consistory will come together at 6:30 p.m.

Prayer Concerns

- Pray for those who need restored health, healing, and encouragement: Jeg Weets, Allison Weaver, and Jack Haynes. Pray also for those with special needs or unspoken prayer requests, as well as our shut-ins and nursing/assisted-living residents.



- Pray also for our military men serving in the U.S. Armed Forces:
Gregory Bush (Air Force)
Tyler Haan (Air Force)
Brevin Pruis (Navy)

- Pray for our missionaries: Andrew & Sophia Pitcher with Wycliffe Bible Translators, Roger & Sue Scheenstra in Africa, Ben & Kelita Johnson in Honduras, and Jeff & Chelsea Lampen in Germany, Angel Lopez in Mexico, Joel & Seiko Lovestrand in Japan, and the Ryan Karp family with Chosen People Ministries.

- This month's all-church prayer meeting is Tuesday, August 11th at 6pm.

- Prayer is available after each Sunday worship service. There is always an elder there to meet in the prayer room to pray about whatever concerns are on your heart.

- Contact the pastor or church office to put a prayer request on the email "prayer line". Prayer requests will be sent out as soon as the pastor is able to do so.

August Meetings At-a-Glance

Wed. 9/2 - Ladies Bible Study 1:30 p.m.
 Thurs. 9/3 - Worship Team 5:15 p.m.
 Thurs. 9/3 - Executive Cmt. 6:30 p.m.
 Tues. 9/8 - Church Life Cmt. 10:30 a.m.
 Tues. 9/8 - Bldg/Property Cmt. 6:30 p.m.
 Tues. 9/8 - O.M.E. Task Force 4:30 p.m.
 Mon. 9/14 - Elders & Deacons 6:00 p.m.
 Mon. 9/14 - Consistory 6:30 p.m.
 Tues. 9/15 - All-Church Prayer Mtg. 6 p.m.
 Wed. 9/16 - Ladies Aid 1:30 p.m.



NURSERY HELPERS

Sept 6 - Beth Milnes & Kinlee Prins
 Sept. 13 - Shawn & Kevin Soenksen
 Sept. 20 - Jackie & Alicen Wiersema
 Sept. 27 - Angie Tichler



SUNDAY GREETERS

Sept 6 - Pat Zuidema & Morines
 Sept. 13 - Deb Adolph & Karen Landheer
 Sept. 20 - Shelly Meurs & Kathy Vanderlaan
 Sept. 27 - Harvey Zuidema & Barb Domdey



WELCOME CENTER

Sept. 6 - Keith & Joyce Hamstra
 Sept. 13 - Sharon Reisenbigler & Ken Jansma
 Sept. 20 - Jack & Susan Bland
 Sept. 27 - Dave & Darlene Schipper



TECH TEAM

Sept. 6 - Jenny & William Patton
 Sept. 13 - Scott Meurs & Phil Ardapple
 Sept. 20 - Gregg Wiersema & Scott Meurs
 Sept. 27 - Scott Meurs & Jovie Patton



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Sept. 6 - Jack & Susan Bland
 Sept. 13 - Schavers & Wiebengas
 Sept. 20 - Ken & Glenda Jansma
 Sept. 27 - Alan & Shelly Meurs



BELL RINGERS

Sept. 6 - Jefferson Weaver
 Sept. 13 - Kevin Hook
 Sept. 20 - Larry Tichler
 Sept. 27 - Alan Meurs



NE DOOR AFTER WORSHIP

Sept. 6 - Darlene Schipper
 Sept. 13 - Brian Tichler
 Sept. 20 - Sandi Wilkens
 Sept. 27 - Pastor J.T.



ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 14 - Lance and Lesa Wiersema
 Sept. 17 - Ken & Glenda Jansma
 Sept. 26 - Ben & Kelita Johnson



Missionary Spotlight Ben & Kelita Johnson



Ben & Kelita Johnson, who have served since July of 2023 with GiveHope2Kids, (an orphanage in Central America's country of Honduras) have recently been a family "on the move"--both in terms of moving into a nearby town a half hour from the orphanage, but also in terms of "moving" into a new area of ministry.

Here are some updates from their July Newsletter—and an excerpt from a personal message from Kelita, received just 3 weeks ago.

Update from July Newsletter—Since moving to the town of LaCeiba this past spring, which is 30 minutes from the GiveHope2Kids Orphanage, Ben & Kelita have: **(1)** Ministered to the children of the town and taught the Easter Story to them and the importance of staying connected to Christ—**Prayer Request**—That these kids will continue to have a clearer understanding of God's Love for them. **(2)** The Johnsons had a great opportunity to babysit a missionary friend's foster babies—always a blessing and it even happened during Kelita's birthday (March 29)—what a great "gift". Kelita has also grown in her knowledge and ability to do biblical counseling since enrolling in a biblical counseling class. **(3)** Ben attended a pastor's conference in Las Brisas and was able to pass out a new study Bible to each pastor! **(4)** In May their children concluded another year of bilingual school & enjoyed celebrating Thaddeus' accomplishments as a Kindergarten grad. **(5)** April–June were busy months for Ben as he served GiveHope2Kids in many ways while giving pastoral care to parents & teens. *He worked on tying up loose ends, with a goal of leaving GH2K in better condition than he found it. He spent every Monday night with the young people of GH2K doing a discipleship class, which leads us...*

To a time of transitioning and update from Kelita in an Aug 3rd Message:

Kelita's States: "Hello dear Ebenezer family! We pray this update finds you well. I enjoy reading your newsletters and email devotionals from Pastor J.T. In July it was such a blessing to see our children, Thaddeus & Haven, listed in July birthdays. Thank you for being family to us & loving us from afar. We are so grateful for each of you & the ways you partner with us!"

In July we also celebrated our 3rd year of living in beautiful Honduras, which leads me to this announcement. As we mentioned in earlier updates, we have moved off the GH2K campus this spring, and into the city—a blessing to us as we are closer to our kids' school, and our church, called Gran Comision. This church has a lot of young people, and Zander has become involved on their tech & worship team. Our move has allowed us to host missionary families to have a place in the city to come and rest and enjoy a meal with us. On Friday nights we meet with other believers as a small group which we have hosted in our home.

A Major Change in Ministry: Our major update is that in June our role with GiveHope2Kids ended. This has been a difficult transition for us. During our time there, we were diligent to love on the children and the parents of the ministry as best we could. It was very important to us to make sure the parents knew how much we loved them and how much God loved them! This transition has left us in a place of needing to seek the Lord and to rest in His Presence. We know His ways are not always our ways and we find hope in knowing that He is in control. But, now having a specific role and ministry to be a part of has been challenging.

Please Note that we are still with our sending organization, Cornerstone International, who have been wonderful in walking us through this season.

PRAYER REQUEST: Please pray for us as we ask the Lord to reveal to us our next assignment. With that in mind, we have been encouraged to attend a debrief/retreat in Arkansas from Oct. 12-20, as we take time to seek the Lord. Please also join us in praying for the ministry and children of GIVEHOPE2KIDS, and for all of the work the Lord is doing there. Our greatest desire is to see His Kingdom come to earth as it is in Heaven.

→ With grateful hearts, **BEN & KELITA JOHNSON**
(w/ ZANDER, SELAH, HAVEN & THADDEUS)

(Update from the O.M.E. Committee of Ebenezer: The Morrison Vacation Bible School held at Emmanuel Church raised \$1,400 in offerings, which were given to this ministry to purchase more playground equipment. This is surely a most exciting and timely gift! We thank those of you at Ebenezer who donated towards this gift!) The Johnson's have served with Cornerstone International headquartered in Wilmore Kentucky—our church supports them with an annual amount of \$2,000.

By the way—Daughter, Selah, will celebrate her birthday on Sept. 12.

You can email her a birthday wish at: kelita.j@cornerstoneinternational.org

or at: ben.j@cornerstoneinternational.org.



AFTER SHOCK

STARTING UP AGAIN...
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th 2026
5:30 to 7 p.m.

SEPT. LESSONS:

Sept. 9 The Israelites Wanted a King
 Sept. 16 Saul Rescued Israel
 Sept. 23 Saul Disobeyed God
 Sept. 30 Samuel Anointed David

MENU'S:

Sept. 9 Hamburger or Hot Dog, Chips, and Baked Beans
 Sept. 16 Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread
 Sept. 23 Walking Tacos, Nachos
 Sept. 30 Sloppy Joes, French Fries, Corn



VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION...
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd
5:30 p.m.



This is our Sunday morning children's church for grade-school age kids. We will be starting this up again on...

Sunday, September 13!

There will be a hay ride to church starting at 9:00 a.m. Also a special children's sermon from Pastor J.T. and a mini Fun Fair after church in on the east lawn...



Hay Ride to Church!

Sunday, September 13

We're picking up kids at the far west end of Park Street (down by the old golf course). Farmer Jon will driving the tractor with a trailer full of hay, fun music and goodies for all the kids. Parents bring your kids at 9:00 a.m. to the drop off and we'll hay ride them to church for the kick off of our Heaven's Express class. The morning will end with an outdoor "Fun Fair" in the parking lot with lots of games and the bouncy house. Join us for a great day of worship at church and fun for kids of all ages!

Giving & Attendance

Here's an update on our numbers
for the month of August:

Date	Attendance	Offering
Aug. 2	131	\$3,857
Aug. 9	129	\$4,351
Aug. 16	158	\$8,572
Aug. 23	99	\$475
Aug. 30	117	9,897
	Avg. 127	Total: \$26,882

August Breakdown:

General Fund: \$26,882

Assistance Fund: \$350

Aftershock: \$2,040

Organ Fund: \$4,000

Tithe.ly (online giving): \$3,044

Total: \$36,316



Join the E-mail List

Stay informed of everything that's going on at Ebenezer: J.T. sends out a weekly "Note From the Pastor" as well as regular prayer chain emails as they come in to him. To get on the list, simply email Pastor J.T. and request to be added:

pastorjt@ercmorrison.com

Note & Disclaimer

All Ebenezer Happenings article submissions need to be received by the 21st day of each month to guarantee inclusion in the next edition. We apologize for any missing or inaccurate information within this newsletter. If there are additions or corrections to be made, please call the church office at (815) 772-2472 or e-mail Sue Bond at:

office@ercmorrison.com



Find us on
Facebook



Keep up with current happenings, watch videos, and browse through photos and new posts.

Be sure to **"Like"** the Ebenezer Reformed Church Facebook page.

"Share" our posts to help spread the word about what's happening here.

Watch the Sunday morning Live-stream and post a comment to let us know who's watching and where you're watching from!

We also have a YouTube channel where you can view sermons and other video content: [@ebenezerreformedchurch2021](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeBenezerReformedChurch2021)

This newsletter is a publication of:

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Sue Bond, Office Manager

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Office hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. to 1p.m.

Sunday Morning Services:

Worship Celebration - 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hour - 10:45 a.m.

Youth Bible Study Hour - 10:45 a.m.

Helping people find and follow Jesus

2026 Consistory

Elders: J. T. Bean, Phil Ardapple, Keith Hamstra, Melinda Hamstra, Jon Kophamer, Barney Habben, Sandi Wilkens

Deacons: Jenny Patton, Randy Renkes, Darlene Schipper, Brian Tichler, Dave Weber, Gregg Wiersema

2026 Executive Team

J.T. Bean (Pastor)
Sandi Wilkens (Vice President)
Dave Weber (Deacon Chair)
Gregg Wiersema (Treasurer)
Melinda Hamstra (Clerk)

Elders Meeting Minutes - August 10, 2026 - Attendance: All were present.

Devotions & Prayer: Pastor J.T. opened the meeting at 6pm with scripture from Psalm 149 followed by questions and prayer.

Constitutional Question: The constitutional question was asked and answered in the positive with discussion.

Sacraments Update: Next communion will be August 23rd at the Emmanuel/Ebenezer combined service. It was noted that at-home communion should be done the following week. We are working on a communion checklist in the event the members of the committee need help or are not available. This will ensure that everything is set up properly for communion to be served and nothing is missing. Brian & Angie Tichler, parents of Ellie Tichler has requested an infant baptism for her. This will be done sometime in September.

Membership Care Groups: Reminder to review assigned care groups and make proper contacts as needed.

Elder Prayer Room Assignments: Reminder to review assigned dates for prayer room.

Approve Minutes from June Meeting: M/S to approve minutes M/C

Next meeting: Monday, September 14th @ 6pm

Motion to Adjourn: M/S to adjourn after closing in prayer M/C

Closing Prayer: Jon Kophamer closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Melinda Hamstra, Clerk

Consistory Meeting Minutes - August 10, 2026

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. All were present.

Devotions & Prayer: Pastor J.T. opened the meeting with devotions from Psalm 149, followed by discussion and prayer.

Pastor's Report: Pastor J.T. completed the sermon series through Philippians along with the mini-series on "Signs & Symbols of Christian Faith" and has begun our new series "God's Story in Stained Glass," using the stained-glass windows of our sanctuary as a launching point for teaching the great truths and stories of Scripture. Pastor J.T. and Lo traveled to Sully, IA June 11-13 for the annual gathering of the Upper Mississippi Valley Network. This year's gathering placed a special emphasis on the history and importance of Christian discipleship and the current discipleship needs facing the church. Pastor J.T. continues to visit those in the...

Consistory Meeting Minutes - (Continued from page 9)...

...hospital, nursing homes and anyone in need. This summer has been a very busy one. July 4th, 35 people showed up to the movie matinee featuring *A Great Awakening*. The week of July 13th the kids went to Camp Manitoqua. July 19th, we had BBQ Trivia starring Stan Doyle and Bobby Clobber, which was very well attended with several visitors from outside our church. Water fun night for the kids was a success bringing more than 50 kids! Thanks to all who helped out! And with the biggest highlight of the summer was Vacation Bible School August 3-7. Nearly 200 children participated this year. Pastor J.T. will be attending the Annual Alliance of Reformed Churches Gathering in Zeeland Michigan Aug 19-21. Also, Pastor J.T. is giving Sue Bond her yearly review. **M/S She was awarded a bonus for her great job of keeping the office in order and going above and beyond, M/C.**

Where have we seen God at work at ERC?

-Water fun night great attendance -Camp Manitoqua -Vacation Bible School -Organ Fund nearly complete!
-More attending the Welcome Table -Increased attendance in church

Elders Report: Melinda (see Elders minutes)

Deacons Report: Discussed creating an agenda for future meetings. They would like to give God's Will here in Morrison a gift of \$500 to go toward things in need. The assistance fund is sitting at \$4,708.¹⁹ currently.

Finance: Gregg reviewed the finance/budget report as of June and July 2026 **M/S to Approve Financial Report/Budget M/C.**

Building/Property: The first stage of the parking lot repair has been completed. The conversion of the porch into a three seasons room on the parsonage is scheduled to be done before it gets too cold. **M/S to approve moving forward on the porch project M/C** There has been a leak in the Bell tower, which was discovered to need Tuck Pointing. Will be getting estimate on the cost for this repair. The Brick House rental needs new windows. We are still working on the lighting issues in the sanctuary. The office Air Conditioning unit for the office needs to be replaced and had an estimate of \$8500. **M/S to approve \$8500 for Air Condition replacement M/C** The white stone portion of the building needs cleaning on the front side of the church. **M/S to hire professional power washing to be done M/C**

Church Life: No report

Worship/Music: Last meeting July: reviewed previous and upcoming services: The congregation and Praise team to sing the song from the movie "A Great Awakening" entitled "Awaken Us Today" Sunday July 5th. The children helped a Sunday with collecting the offering. Just need to make sure the deacons are aware of them doing this in the future. The Organ Fund money keeps coming in. Deb will keep us informed as to when the organ will be installed. The congregation seems to be more involved with the Blended music. There has been a couple of times when the Facebook streaming was not working, but everything seems to be fixed and working well now. There will be discussion in the upcoming month for the Prayers for Schools. The combined service is August 23rd. Pastor J.T. plans on preaching a series on the stained-glass windows in our church. For Advent we will be planning on showing a Saturday matinee like last year and the message on Sunday will be revolved around a different movie. It was brought up that we need to have a plan in place if an emergency arises and Pastor J.T. would not be able to preach. Pastor Craig would fill in if he is available. Other suggestions were made to have a video, sharing of favorite verses, hymn sing.

Youth/Education: Good attendance at Water Fun Night. Aftershock will start up September 9th. There will be a staff meeting of those helping with Aftershock on September 2nd. We are also in need of more volunteers, if anyone is interested, please let Sandi Wilkens know. Heavens Express will start September 13.

Consistory Meeting Minutes - (Continued from page 10)...

Assistance/Memorial: Assistance fund is at \$4,708.¹⁹. There were a couple of Memorial donations that totaled \$1,850 that were designated to go to the Organ Fund. It was mentioned to give God's Will of Morrison a donation of \$500 to help with their cause.

Sacraments: Communion will be served next at the combined service with Emmanuel on August 23rd.

O.M.E. Task Force: July's *Welcome Table* brought 14 unchurched people in attendance. They are looking for people willing to prepare food for this event in the futures months.

Approve minutes: M/S to approve June Meeting minutes. M/C

New Business: -Pastor Evaluation consistory members, please turn in promptly to Sandi Wilkens by Aug 24.
-Start reviewing budget needs for 2027 -Sabbatical funding (still in review) - Children/Youth Ministry hire Pastor J.T. will get some information from Chemistry Staffing at the Annual ARC meeting held in Zeeland Michigan. It was also suggested to ask Sam Hamstra also for some help with this. Consistory nominations – need to be looking for 4 people to help fill 2 deacons and 2 elders positions for next year's consistory openings.

Old Business: - ARC Gathering 2026 – Aug 19-21 in Zeeland, MI

Next Meeting: Monday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: M/S to Adjourn following prayer. M/C

Closing Prayer: Keith Hamstra closed in Prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Melinda Hamstra, Clerk

MEMORY VERSES

OF THE MONTH...



JEREMIAH 17:5 and 17:7

5

This is what the LORD says:

“Cursed is the one who trusts in man,
who draws strength from mere flesh
and whose heart turns away from the LORD.

7

“But **blessed** is the one
who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in Him.”



EBENEZER
REFORMED CHURCH