

Redeemer Life

August 2025



A Devotion by Paul Tripp

Earlier this year, I was in Santiago, Chile, for a leadership conference. The pastors who attended, from all across Latin America, spoke Spanish. The previous year, I was in Geneva, Switzerland, where French was the primary language. For these international trips, I need a translator on stage with me to communicate because I speak a different language than those who are listening.

As I prepare these talks, I do so differently than if I were solely speaking or preaching in English. I need to take into consideration that the talk will be twice as long, because everything is said twice. I also need to keep my sentences and thoughts reasonably short so the translator can translate in real time.

And I need to realize that not everything that makes sense to an English-speaking American audience will have an equivalent in a different language and culture.

As I was preparing my talks with this in mind last month, it hit me: often times, I don't prepare the words I say in the context of my own life.

I need to speak a different language. Not Spanish or French. And by "prepare" I don't mean "prepare" as I would a plenary session or sermon. I need to speak with ambassadorial language. And I need to prepare my heart to speak like an ambassador. Because words are war.

I would encourage you to read 2 Corinthians 5:11–21 in its entirety after, but for now, I want to highlight two sentences from the passage:

"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised [...] Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us." (2 Corinthians 5:14–15, 20)

Our lives, and therefore our words, belong to the Lord. Christ died for us so that we may live and speak for him. What does that life look like, and what does that language sound like? Ambassadorial.

Ambassadors are people who have been called away from their homeland to live in another area and represent their leader.

We were created by God, we exist through him, and are redeemed by him to be used for him. We were given the ability to communicate so that our words would help us do his work and bring him glory. God has put us just where he wants us in order to represent him.

Our old lives, which were structured around self-interest, are gone. We have been bought with a price (1 Corinthians 6:20). We are not free to advance our own interests with our words.

We have been called away from our old flesh. We are new creations. Replaced is the heart which only desired our own interests and did just about anything to get what we wanted. Our communication must always have an ambassadorial, selfless, Christ-centered agenda.

But we need to be honest here. As long as sin remains in our heart, there will never be a situation, location, or relationship free from struggle. It will be tempting to move away from God's purposes and toward our own.

Do you prepare your heart for this struggle every day? When you wake up in the morning, do you meditate on this question: "What mission and message does the Great Speaker have for my mouth?"

In the mundane moments and relationships of everyday life, do you ask, "Am I speaking for the King?"

If we continually ask ourselves these questions and continually ask the Holy Spirit for divine intervention, it will dramatically alter our words!

You cannot be a successful ambassador if you are primarily motivated by your own interests. You cannot be an ambassador part-time. You must always remember that you are where you are because you are a representative. You have been sent by the King to speak for him in every moment of everyday life.

May we seek the grace that softens our hearts and shapes our tongue to be an ambassador for Christ!



RedeemerAda



@redeemeropc



(616) 682-0800



8605 E Fulton, Ada, MI 49301

Spotlight-Sunday School 2025/2026!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Welcome to the 2025-2026 Sunday School year! Sunday school starts September 14. Classes are offered starting at age three through high school.

Schedule

- ✓ September 14 through April 26. 11-11:45 AM.
- ✓ The first Sunday of the month is designated as hospitality Sunday and classes do not meet.

REGISTER HERE:



Contact:
ldelange@redeemer-opc.org



 **REDEEMER**
Children's Ministry

Announcements

The Lord's Supper

Will be celebrated during the morning worship service on Sunday, August 3, 2025. Prepare your hearts as we gather at the Lord's table. All items served are gluten free.

Session Meeting

The Session is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Redeemer Open House

The next Redeemer Open House will be on Sunday, August 17, 2025, from 12:00 pm–3:00 pm at the home of Alec and Laurel DeLange. Visitors, new members, and guests are especially welcome and can sign up at any time as space permits. Current members are encouraged to sign up at least a week in advance. Sign up options will be sent out soon. Join us for a great time of fellowship and lunch!

Redeemer Food and Fellowship Labor Day Picnic

We will be having our Praise Service and Food and Fellowship Labor Day Picnic on August 31, 2025, following the PM worship service. Main Entrée and beverages will be provided. Please plan to bring – if your last names starts with:

A-G – Salad or Fruit Salad

H-R – Chips and/or Veggie Platter

S-Z – Cookies or Bars.

Three Opportunities for Prayer

1.) Redeemer Church has Spurgeon's version of the boiler room prayer meeting in Pastor Jeff's office every Sunday at 8:45 a.m.

2.) An Elder of Redeemer Church is available to pray with you at the front of the sanctuary near the ramp. Prayer requests could cover healing, wisdom, salvation for a dear friend or any situation or challenge that you need the Lord's help with. We are a praying church, and this is just one more way we can demonstrate our faith and reliance on our precious Lord. Any questions, please contact Kirk Harmon, harmonk3@comcast.net.

3.) Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. Please join us for prayer in the Conference Room Every Wednesday. If you have questions regarding the prayer meeting, feel free to contact Kirk Harmon at 616-897-0654 or harmonk3@comcast.net.

Women's Prayer Team

The Women's Prayer Team is available to pray with any woman at any time by request.

We invite you to contact one of our members:

Sharon Dykstra – Janet Schamp – Josi Stevens – Cobie Tenbrink – Carolyn Thurow.

LABOR DAY

REDEEMER FOOD & FELLOWSHIP PICNIC

***following the PM worship
service on August 31, 2025***

**If your last name starts with - please
plan on bringing:**

A-G - Salad or Fruit Salad

H-R - Chips and/or Veggie Platter

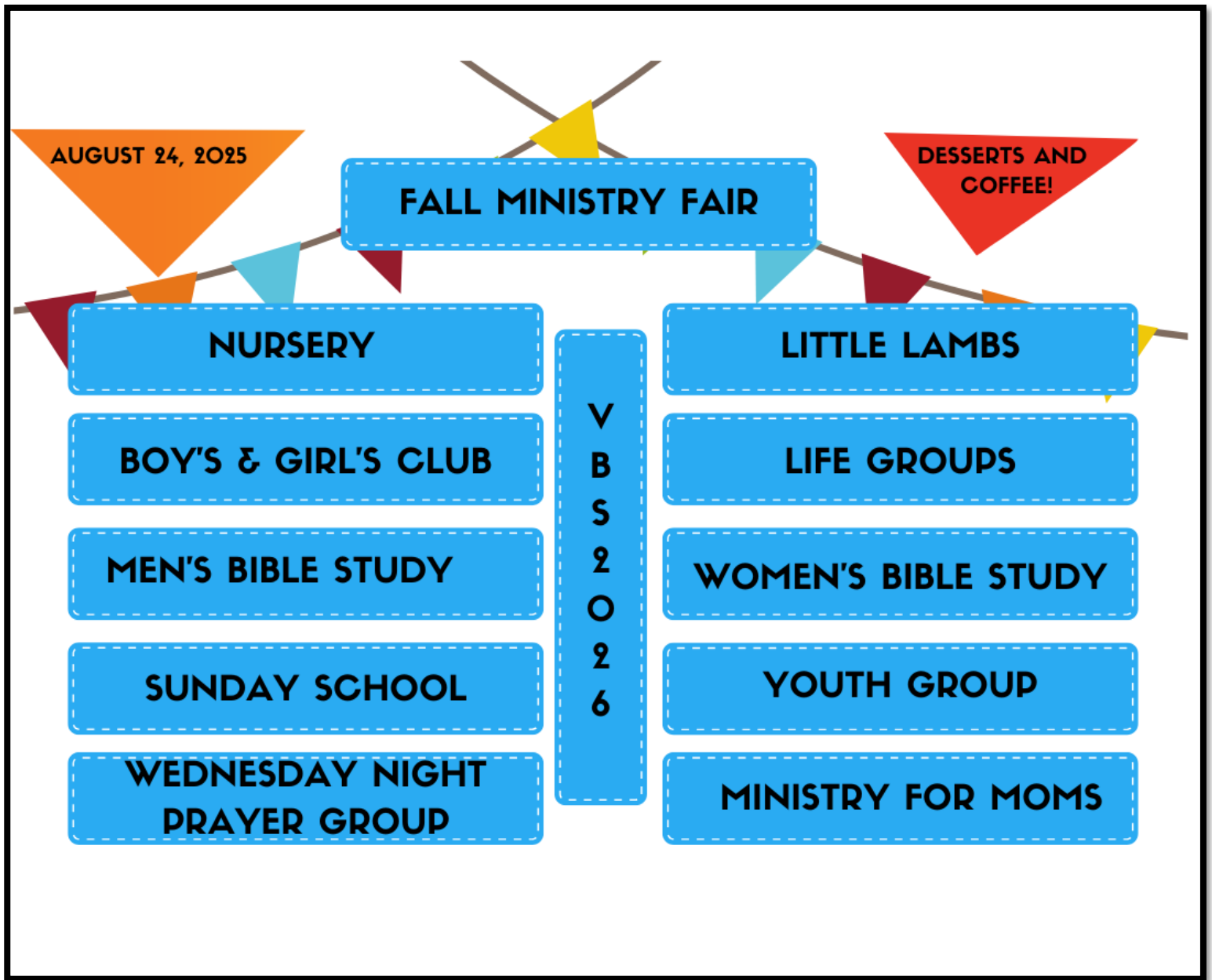
S-Z - Cookies or Bars.

**Main entrée and beverages
will be provided!**



Redeemer Ministry Fair 2025/2026

August 24, 2025 following the AM service in the Fellowship Hall! Come and learn about the opportunities for you and your family.



Redeemer Mission Focus

OPC Worldwide Outreach – Focus: Uganda

The core purpose behind the work of the OPC Worldwide Outreach is that the gospel of sovereign redemption through the substitutionary work of Christ be proclaimed in all its fullness in all the world. This month we wanted to share some recent prayer requests from the Missionaries serving in Uganda and an exciting update from VBS at Redeemer this summer!

Travis and Bonnie Emmett – Facilities Manager in Karamoja, assisting the Mbale station.

Supporting church plants in Karamoja and in Mbale.

1. Pray for good health and daily strength for Travis and Bonnie, Clayton, Adalyn, Jackson, and Dawson.
2. Pray for Travis and Bonnie as they balance the work of the mission with the needs of their family.
3. Pray for Travis as an elder supporting the ministerial members of the mission, Pastor Julius at the Nakaale Presbyterian Church in Karamoja, and Pastor Joseph and the session at All Nations Presbyterian Church in Mbale.
4. Pray that the family will be refreshed and encouraged by their pastor and his wife and by the short-term missionaries visiting this summer.

Leah Hopp – Laboring in community health outreach with Akisyon a Yesu (“Compassion of Jesus”) Presbyterian Clinic (AYPC) in Karamoja. Supporting a church plant in Karamoja.

1. Pray for the night guards on the compound as Leah manages them. Pray for them to find their security in the Lord.
2. Pray for Leah and Chloe as they teach Karimojong language lessons to the Emmetts.
3. Pray for the gospel-centered healthcare at the Compassion of Jesus Clinic (AYPC) and the work of the Clinic chaplain.
4. Pray that the Lord would provide opportunities for the community health team to partner with the evangelistic work of the young men of the ministry team at the Nakaale church plant.

Mike and Jenn Kearney – Laboring to help prepare men for the gospel ministry at Knox School of Theology (KST), and church planting in Mbale and Karamoja. Working with the Presbyterian Church in Uganda and the Reformation Church of East Africa.

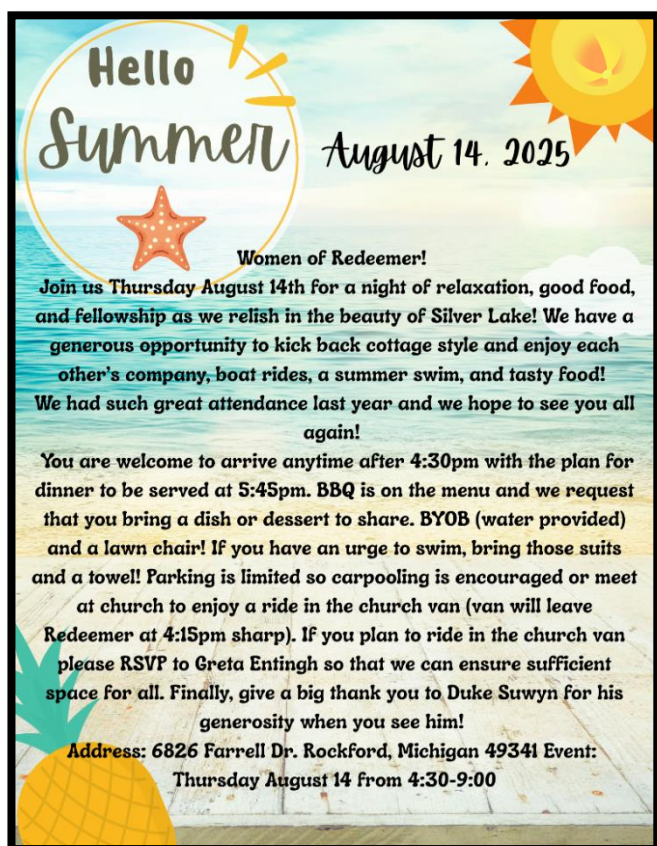
1. Pray for the family as they arrive and acclimate to life in Mbale.
2. Pray for Mike as he prepares to teach courses at Knox School of Theology.
3. Pray for Jenn and Joanna as they plan for Joanna's education on the field.
4. Pray for Mike's work permit process in Uganda that it would go smoothly and swiftly.

By Nathan Wright, Mission Team Member



Genesis 8:22

Women's Ministry Upcoming Events



Hello Summer August 14, 2025


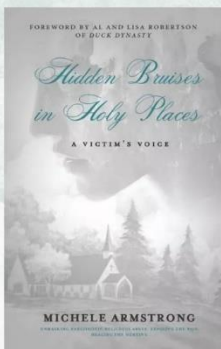
Women of Redeemer!

Join us Thursday August 14th for a night of relaxation, good food, and fellowship as we relish in the beauty of Silver Lake! We have a generous opportunity to kick back cottage style and enjoy each other's company, boat rides, a summer swim, and tasty food! We had such great attendance last year and we hope to see you all again!

You are welcome to arrive anytime after 4:30pm with the plan for dinner to be served at 5:45pm. BBQ is on the menu and we request that you bring a dish or dessert to share. BYOB (water provided) and a lawn chair! If you have an urge to swim, bring those suits and a towel! Parking is limited so carpooling is encouraged or meet at church to enjoy a ride in the church van (van will leave Redeemer at 4:15pm sharp). If you plan to ride in the church van please RSVP to Greta Entingh so that we can ensure sufficient space for all. Finally, give a big thank you to Duke Suwyn for his generosity when you see him!

Address: 6826 Farrell Dr. Rockford, Michigan 49341 Event: Thursday August 14 from 4:30-9:00

Save the Date!
Women's
Fellowship
Fall
Event:
October 9




In preparation for our upcoming event on October 18th, Redeemer's Domestic Abuse Care Team Invites Men and Women (high school age and up) to attend a book discussion of:

Hidden Bruises in Holy Places

When: August 25
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Where: Redeemer OPC Youth Room

Use the QR code to purchase the book, or talk with any member of the Domestic Abuse Care Team for assistance purchasing.



**WOMEN'S
FALL FEST**

OCTOBER 9

Ladies of Redeemer, join us at Heidi's Farm Stand and Bakery for an evening of donuts and cider, pumpkin decorating and a corn maze challenge (competitiveness optional 😊). RSVP by October 1st! Come and soak in the fall with us!

6-9pm / \$10 / bit.ly/ROPCFallFest



Heidi's Farm Stand | 11999 Cascade Rd SE, Lowell Township, MI 49331



Christian Education Assistance Fund 2nd Annual Golf Outing!

Redeemer Open House



REDEEMER HIGH SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP

SUMMER SCHEDULE

JUNE 13 - 6-9 PM - POOL PARTY AND HANG OUT AT BREDEWEG'S

JUNE 14 - 10 AM - 12:30 PM - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL AND POOL PARTY AT BANGMA'S

JUNE 21-28 - TASC IN SANBORN, IOWA

JULY 19 - 10 AM - 12:30 PM - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY AT REDEEMER

JULY 21-25 - RYS CONVENTION IN WHEATON, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 2 - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY AT REDEEMER

AUGUST 12 - 4-9 PM SUWYN COTTAGE ON SILVER LAKE

AUGUST 16 - 10 AM - 12:30 PM - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL AND POOL PARTY AT DELANGE'S

REDEEMER MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP

SUMMER SCHEDULE

JUNE 14 - 10 AM - 12:30 PM - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY WITH HIGH SCHOOL GROUP AND POOL PARTY AT BANGMA'S

JUNE 20 - 6-9 PM - BONFIRE AND HANG OUT AT BAKER'S

JULY 19 - 10 AM - 12:30 PM - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY AT REDEEMER

AUGUST 1 - 5-8 PM NIGHT ON THE LAKE AT ROODVOET'S

AUGUST 2 - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY AT REDEEMER

AUGUST 5-7 - MINI "TASC"

AUGUST 16 - 10 AM - 12:30 PM - COMBINED BIBLE STUDY WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL AND POOL PARTY AT DELANGE'S

Young Adult Fellowship

July 13 & 27
August 10 & 24

Following evening service @ the Home of the Bras'

12701 McPherson St NE
Lowell, MI 49331

See Micah or Paige DeBoer for directions or questions.
www.redeemer-opc.org

FELLOWSHIP
PRAYER
FOOD
DISCUSSION

REDEEMER

From the Session



Dear Redeemer Family,

Session held its stated monthly meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, July 8, at the home of Mark Jurries. We were joined by Brad Way, Youth Leader, as a special guest. Having survived the clerk’s cooking, we began with an introduction to Paul Tripp’s “Lead”, the next book we’ll be studying as a body.

We then moved on to assigning elders as either Administrative or Shepherding. Administrative elders still engage in shepherding, but focus more on policies and procedures needed to run the church. Shepherding elders engage in administrative work, but focus more on shepherding work. We had time to discuss where we thought each elder’s strengths were, which was a good time of encouragement and reflecting on the diverse way God gives us unique gifts. In the end, Duane Bras, Mark Jurries, and Jack Oostema were assigned to Administrative, while Bud Beeke, Dick Schamp, Chris Thompson and Tyler VanRee went to shepherding.

This naturally led into assigning elders to members. We agreed to continue this work outside the meeting, and by the time you read this we should have elders for everybody.

We had several further items to address, including updates on Facility Expansion, reviewing details of the July 13 Congregational Meeting, and hearing an update on Youth Ministry from Brad. We concluded with prayer, adjourning at 9:28 PM.

Attendance figures for June are:

	AM	PM
June 1, 2025	347	125
June 8, 2025	302	103
June 15, 2025	323	129
June 22, 2025	348	200
June 29, 2025	326	148

On behalf of session,

Mark Jurries, clerk

Welcome to the Canavan's:

Dear congregation,

During our Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 13, we elected to issue a call to Rev. Andrew Canavan as Associate Pastor. It's with great gladness and thanks that we inform you that he has accepted this call.

There's work to be done to get them out here, including moving and getting his credentials transferred to our Presbytery. We will share updates on timing as we get them.

In the meantime, give God thanks for his gracious provision. Please pray for Andrew and his family as they prepare to move, and that they may find housing out here.

Mark Jurries, clerk

On behalf of session

Prayer Requests:

1. Praise the Lord for answered prayer in soft hearts and encouragement even in sadness as I announced our family's departure to our church in Corona this past Sunday.
2. Please pray for all the details of our transition to come together and for an extra measure of wisdom, grace, and patience for our family in all the joyful challenges of a cross country move.
3. Pray for Corona Presbyterian Church to know the Lord's presence in a season of change and for the next pastor to be identified and called in God's perfect timing.



Redeemer Food Pantry

Matthew 25:35-40

35 For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'



In July, we were blessed to serve 18 families through the food pantry ministry. So many of the families that came this month had tremendous needs and being able to help them with food and prayer was a wonderful opportunity to share Christ's love with them. The food focus for August is Peanut Butter and Jelly. As summer continues and families gear up to go back to school peanut butter and jelly is a great way to help them provide a filling lunch option! Additionally, summer produce you might be growing in your gardens would be a welcome addition; as would bread, milk, eggs, fruit, vegetables, meat and cheese the few days before the 9th of August. Please make sure perishable items are marked "food pantry" and placed in the fridge in the church kitchen or on the counter. This is a great opportunity to get your family involved in serving! Thank you for enabling Redeemer to continue helping an even greater number of families with critical needs and giving to them in Jesus name. Please consider dropping donations off at the Church THIS week or coordinating with the Hill's for pick-up or drop off of perishable items.

Helpers are also needed to serve from 9:00-11:30 Saturday August 9th to set up, serve, and clean up. You will surely be blessed by serving through this outreach in Jesus name. Please call Steve Hill for more information. (616) 286-2419.

Please call Steve Hill for more information. (616) 286-2419.

Servant Schedule

I Corinthians 12:12-13, 27

¹² There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ. ¹³ We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit. And so we are formed into one body...²⁷ You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it.

Preaching Schedule

August 3

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

August 10

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

August 17

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

August 24

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Dale Van Dyke

August 31

AM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

PM: Rev. Jeff DeBoer

August:

Elder On Call

Jack Oostema

Deacon of the Month

Brian Bangma

Alex Overbeek

Mission Prayer Schedule

August 3

CEDE Sports

Prayer Leader: Joel Miedema

August 10

MAF/Zach Francois

Prayer Leader: Duke Suwyn

August 17

Frontline Ministries

Prayer Leader: Andy Thornton

August 24

Mission to the World

Prayer Leader: Andy Baker

August 31

Caleb Nelson

Prayer Leader: Jon Byker

Greeter Schedule

August 3

AM: Alex & Kendra Overbeek

PM: Jane Osborne

August 10

AM: Tom & Emily Paauw

PM: Scott & Sue Packer

August 17

AM: Myron & Wendy Palmer

PM: Eric & Lydia Person

August 24

AM: Steve & El Platt

PM: Rachel & Terry Pierce

August 31

AM: Bryan & Cindy Roodvoets

PM: Laurie Post



Happy Birthday to You!!

Leonor	Hargous	August 02
Santiago	Hargous	August 07
Robert	Bol	August 12
Steve	Entingh	August 12
Jeffrey	Rosendall	August 12
Charles	Miedema	August 14
Lydia	Boersma	August 15
Tracy	Bacigal	August 16
Owen	Beeke	August 16
Benjamin	Thompson	August 16
Wendy	Palmer	August 21
Linda	Faber	August 21
Brad	Way	August 21
David	Stockreef	August 22
Debby	Clayton	August 22
David	Byker	August 22
William	Vermeulen	August 23
John	Sharp	August 23
Duane	Bras	August 24
Lauren	Timmer	August 24
Isaiah	Gaebler	August 24
Eloise	Ford	August 24
Denise	Tornga	August 24
Teresa	Pierce	August 27
Micaiah	Ford	August 29
Parker	VanDyke	August 29
Kezia	Beeke	August 31

