

HOPE REFORMED CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter | September 2026

Walking with Jesus, Walking with Others. Serving God, Serving Others.

Church Education Volunteers for 2026/2027

We want to say a big thank you to all the church education teachers and volunteers for the upcoming year! The time, talents, and efforts you give are so appreciated and we thank you for helping the little children and the older ones to grow in their faith.

Sunday School

Co-Superintendents: Abby Reitsma & Brenda Sandbulte
Teachers: Shelly Altena, Abby Reitsma, Kendra Reitsma, Rachel Blake, Brenda Sandbulte, Angie Van Briesen, Kyle Reitsma, and Bert & Sandy Reitsma

Wednesday Evenings

Catechism Teachers: Sarah DeHaan & Brenda Sandbulte
Choir Director: Angie Van Briesen
Piano Player: Vonda Maggert
RCYF Sponsors: Kyle & Abby Reitsma

Prayer for Sunday School Teachers

Heavenly Father,
Thank You for calling our Sunday school teachers to serve. Thank you for their willing hearts, their patience, and their love for the next generation.

Lord, please grant them wisdom to open Your Word and explain the truth clearly, strength on the days when they feel tired or overwhelmed, patience and joy as they guide young hearts and minds, creativity to share ancient stories in fresh, engaging ways. Protect their homes and families. Fill them with Your Holy Spirit so that every lesson planted becomes a seed of faith. May their classrooms be places of peace, grace, and Your powerful presence.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

THIS MONTH AT HOPE:

Wednesday, Sept. 2	6:30PM—Women of Hope Day of Commitment
Sunday, Sept. 6	9:00AM—MESA TF Meeting 10:00AM—Worship Service, Communion
Tuesday, Sept. 8	1:00PM—Esther Circle
Wednesday, Sept. 9	Pairs & Spares 7:00PM—Love Circle
Sunday, Sept. 13	9:00AM—Sunday School Begins 10:00AM—Worship Service 11:00AM—Education TF Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 16	7:00PM—Catechism and RCYF Begins
Sunday, Sept. 20	9:00AM—Sunday School, Worship TF Meeting 10:00AM—Worship Service
Wednesday, Sept. 23	4:30PM—Serve at Bread of Life 7:00PM—Catechism and RCYF
Sunday, Sept. 27	9:00AM—Sunday School 10:00AM—Worship Service 11:00AM—Buildings & Grounds TF Meeting
Monday, Sept. 28	7:00PM—Elders Meeting 7:45PM—Consistory Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 30	7:00PM—Catechism and RCYF

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 4 **Perry & Lori Haack**, Chantell Abshire
- 5 **Jon & Emily Denekas**
- 7 **David & Pasha Grave**
- 8 **Ande & Pat Bruinsma**
- 9 **David & Norma Winkel**
- 10 **Matthew & Melissa Grave**
- 12 **Kyle & Abby Reitsma**
- 18 Mavis Niebrugge
- 19 Khloe Denekas, Madisyn Denekas
- 20 **Spencer & Breckyn Sprock**
- 21 Steve DeHaan
- 23 **Billy & Sara Sprock**
- 26 Wendy Leemkuil
- 28 Glen Geerdes, Claire Van Beek
- 30 Skye Musil

***Bold** = anniversary*

- Gratitude Corner -

Each month this space is used to recognize groups or individuals who help to further the Kingdom by *Serving God and Serving Others*. This month we are grateful for:

Kathy—For all she does with the Bread of Life and to those who help serve and/or donate items...

Nursery Volunteers—To all those who spend time during services with the little ones of our church family...

Thank you!

Esther Circle

Tuesday, September 8 at 1:00pm

Location: Donna Popkes

Lunch & Lesson: Donna Popkes

Devotions: Lois Jurens

Love Circle

Wednesday, September 9 at 7:00pm

Leader: Pam Grave

Lunch & Devotions: Dorene Chapa

Lesson: Growing Together #7 - Mission

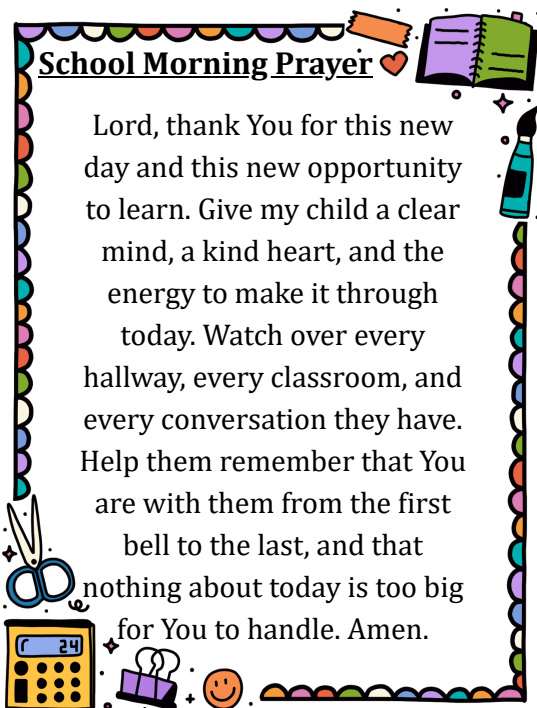
Pairs & Spares

Wednesday, September 9

September Bulletin Board

Shari Kruse

Kaitlin Bechler



DEACON'S REPORT

January-July 2026

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>Budget to Date</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General	\$72,098.93	\$75,381.60	(\$3,282.67)
Benevolent	\$16,909.18	\$23,041.67	(\$6,132.49)
TOTAL	\$89,008.11		

Serving Others

<u>Sep</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Sound</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Children's Sermon</u>	<u>Offering</u>
6	Ryan & DeAnna K.	Brenda S. Rachel B.	Craig S.	Cory A.	Pam G.	Benevolent
13	Jack & Shari, Kaitlin	Angela V.B. Kinsly A.	Bert R.	Sandy R.	Brenda S.	General
20	Mark & Wendy L.	Kallie Z. Hannah D.H.	Pam G.	Brandon V.B.	Sandy R.	General
27	Leuthold/Blake	Melinda D. Isaiah D.H.	Dorene C.	Kyle R.	Kathy A.	General

"Because free will, though it makes evil possible, is also the only thing that makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having." - C.S. Lewis

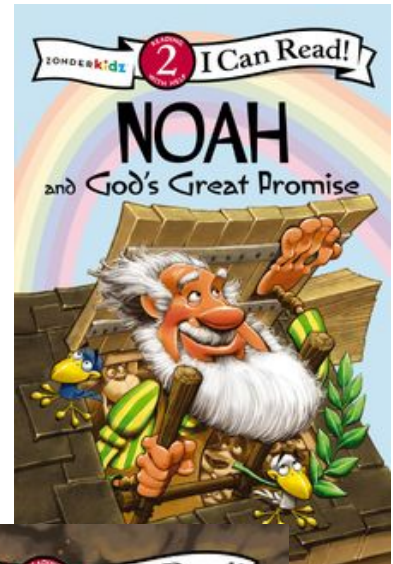
Youth Library Items

Check out some the books that you can find in the basement library!

ZonderKidz I Can Read! Books

I Can Read books are the perfect way to develop your child's reading skills and nurture their spiritual development. Great for beginning readers ages 4-8, learning to read on their own. We have two different series of reading level 2 books in the library and the stories include:

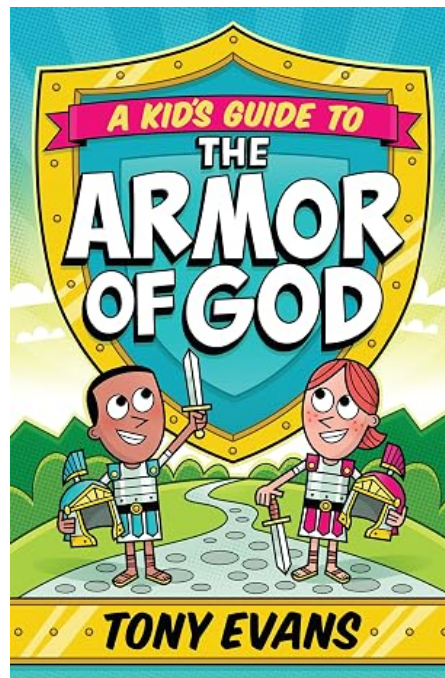
Adam & Eve	Ruth and Naomi
Noah	Facing the Blazing Furnace
David	Brave Queen Esther
Jonah	Miracles of Jesus
Daniel	A Father's Love
Jesus	



September

Pray for SCHOOL

- Administration
- Teachers/Paras
- School Board
- Bus Drivers/bus safety/road safety
- Custodians
- Students
- Those students who struggle with school
- Parents
- Cooks
- Hungry students
- Students who bully and those on the receiving end
- Grace between teachers/students and students/other students
- Extra curricular activities
- Coaches
- Sunday School
- RCYF and Catechism



A Kid's Guide to the Armor of God

Do you want to discover more about the amazing plan God has for your life? You need a spiritual battle plan! In this book pastor and author Tony Evans explains the six pieces of armor God give you to conquer the enemy's sneaky schemes. He helps you understand:

- all Christians--you included!--have a powerful suit of armor and mighty weapons available
- this suit includes a belt of truth and helmet of salvation to wear and a shield of faith to carry into battle
- when you wear every piece of God's armor correctly, the enemy is defeated and you win

By dressing in the armor God provides you'll be able to speak the truth, stand firm in the faith, and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. It's time to suit up!

Thank You

Thank you so much for the outpouring of love, cards, meals, & prayers during Bernie's time in hospice and her passing. Your kindness was a comfort to our family during a difficult season. Love,
Shane, Melinda, Collin, Kyle, & Carly DeLeeuw

BETHEL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2026



Any questions please text Jurnea 712-461-1967

"For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come." Hebrews 13:14

Date: Saturday, October 10th
Time: 9:00 AM- 12:30 PM
Doors Open at 8:15 AM
Venue: Bethel Reformed Church 2314 Highway 9 Lester, Iowa 51242

Must be registered Online to attend.
Please register at:
<https://bethelwomensconference2026.eventbrite.com/>
Limited Seats Available
Cost: Free + Childcare Available
Childcare Must be registered online by: October 1st

[Click Here](#) to register for Bethel's Women's Conference 2026

Lord, help students to find physical, mental, and spiritual rest in you, knowing that you are always by their side, guiding and protecting them. As they face challenges—big emotions, homework, stress, and insecurity—fill them with power, love, and self-control. Keep them steady and sure. Help them not to lose sight of what you have called them to and how you have equipped them. May they feel secure in your perfect love. In Christ's name. Amen.

An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. Proverbs 18:15 ESV

2026 Task Force Members

MESA

Kathy Altena—Deacon & Sec.
Craig Sandbulte—Elder
Gary Jager
Angie Van Briesen
Pam Grave
Floy Korthals

Education

Sandy Reitsma—Elder
Mark Leemkuil—Deacon
Abby Reitsma—Co-Superintendent
Brenda Sandbulte—Co-Superintendent
Shelly Altena—Secretary
Kendra Reitsma
Rachel Blake
Sarah DeHaan
Kyle Reitsma
Angie Van Briesen

Worship

Gerald Grave—Elder/Chair
Jim Rypkema—Deacon
Kaitlin Bechler—Secretary
Dorene Chapa
Wendy Leemkuil
Marlene Stubbe
Vonda Maggert

Building and Grounds

Bert Reitsma—Chair
Matthew Grave—Deacon
Randy Rosenboom—Elder
Kathy Altena—Secretary
Dalton Popkes
Kim Joe Chapa
Abby Reitsma