

genesischurch
boyne | charlevoix | petoskey | mcm

One Church, Multiple Congregations
Celebrating God's Work at Genesis

A Message from Pastor Norm

Dear Genesis Family,

I continue to be encouraged by the ways God is at work throughout Genesis Church. Across every congregation, we're seeing lives changed, people taking steps of faith, and our church growing in its ability to know Christ and make Him known. God has been faithful.

While each congregation has its own unique community and ministry opportunities, we continue to discover that when we work together, our impact is greater. That's why one of our core values is *Better Together*.

As Genesis has grown, we've developed a Shared Ministries structure that helps us coordinate our efforts and align ministries so that every congregation contributes to, and benefits from, the larger mission God has entrusted to us.

Genesis Shared Ministries exists to help us live out our identity as one church with multiple congregations. By sharing leadership, resources, and expertise, we strengthen both our collective mission and the ministry of every congregation. Whether it's finances, human resources, communications, worship support, policies, or other behind-the-scenes ministries, these collaborative efforts allow us to learn from one another, steward God's resources wisely, and extend the reach of the gospel together in ways we never could alone.

My prayer is that The Genesis Shared Ministries Quarterly helps everyone who calls Genesis home stay informed, encouraged, and connected to what God is doing across our church family. Each issue will celebrate stories of life change, share ministry updates, highlight our local and global partnerships, and include a financial report so we can celebrate God's provision and steward His resources with transparency.

I'm also excited to share that, following a congregational vote with 95% affirmation, Darin Stevens has accepted the call to serve as the next Pastor of our Petoskey congregation. We anticipate welcoming him in January 2027.

With Darin's arrival, I'll devote more of my time to serving all of Genesis through Shared Ministries by investing in our pastors and leaders, strengthening our congregations, and helping build a healthy foundation for multiplication.

Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your partnership in the gospel. May the Lord continue to be glorified as we know Christ and make Him known—together.

In Christ,

Norm Byers

Lead Pastor



Darin & Joy Stevens

Genesis Shared Ministries Quarterly

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NextGen Summer at Genesis: Raising Up Leaders

This summer has been full of energy and faithfulness across NextGen at Genesis Church. Young Adults (242), High School, and Middle School groups continued meeting regularly, and we are grateful for the leaders, parents, and students who made the season so meaningful. A special highlight has been our investment in this year's interns, Connor Rice and Jonathan Curlee. The NextGen Internship is one way Genesis chooses to be open-handed with resources—intentionally pouring into home-grown leaders. Over the past five years we have hosted ten internships, giving young men and women the chance to try different areas of ministry and discern their calling. Last year we introduced a Problem-Based Learning approach. Jonathan developed a leadership handbook and onboarding curriculum for NextGen ministry leaders, while Connor researched the possibility of launching NextGen programming in Boyne City and Charlevoix. Both are committed to growing in Christ and aspire to pastoral ministry. This fall Jonathan will begin studies at Calvin Seminary and Connor at Grace Christian College. The rest of NextGen stayed active as well. Genesis 242 gathered for Thursday-morning Bible study and enjoyed monthly gatherings in backyards and at the beach. Middle schoolers spent the summer hiking, swimming, and making plenty of s'mores. High school students continued serving through summer jobs, volunteering at church, and being Christ's witnesses in the community. As we look toward the fall, we ask for prayer that new leadership will rise in our high school ministry. We graduated a large and gifted class this year—students who will be deeply missed. Thank you to everyone who invested time, presence, and prayer this summer.

Johnny Whitcomb, NextGen Pastor at Genesis Petoskey



Interns Connor Rice & Jonathan Curlee



Middle School Youth



Genesis Micro Groups @ North Perk

Celebrating Our Growing Church Family

On June 21, we celebrated child dedication with nine families and fifteen children from our congregation! It was a meaningful opportunity to thank God for what He's entrusted to us and to recognize that raising children to know and follow Jesus isn't something parents are meant to do alone. During the dedication, parents committed themselves to teaching their children God's Word, modeling faith in Christ, praying for them, and raising them within the life of the church. The congregation also made a commitment—to encourage these parents, pray for their families, serve their children, and help point them to Jesus in the years ahead.

The morning was also a reminder of how much God's been doing among our children and families in Boyne City. We're grateful for the many adults and junior leaders who serve faithfully in Genesis Kids each week, creating a place where children are known, cared for, and taught the Bible. Their service helps make moments like child dedication part of something much larger: an ongoing partnership between parents and the church. We're thankful for each of these children and families, and we look forward to watching them grow. Please pray that these children will come to know Christ, trust His Word, and follow Him throughout their lives—and that Genesis will remain faithful in helping their parents raise them in the faith.

John Shearhart, Boyne City Pastor



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Celebrating God's Faithfulness

The Lord has continued to bless the Genesis Charlevoix congregation, and we're grateful for all He has accomplished over the past year. One of the biggest milestones came just one year after launching, when we were able to purchase our beautiful church building. Our goal is to have it paid off within three years, and we're already halfway there. Once again, God has provided beyond our expectations.

As our church family continues to grow, so does the need for shepherding and leadership. In late 2025, we were thrilled to officially welcome Pastor Brian Allison to our Pastoral/Elder Team.

We've also had the joy of celebrating life change through baptism. Over the past year, ten people publicly declared their commitment to follow Jesus, and each baptism has been a powerful reminder of God's work in the lives of our church family.

Community continues to deepen through our Life Groups, where 65 people regularly gather throughout Charlevoix to share meals, discuss Sunday's message, and pray for one another. This September, we're excited to expand from three Life Groups to six as we continue making room for more people to connect and grow in Christ.

This July, we also launched Genesis DNA, a six-week study exploring our biblical convictions, ministry philosophy, and leadership culture. Eighteen people are participating as we dig into Scripture together to better understand what we believe and why we believe it.

We thank God for His faithfulness and are deeply grateful for everyone who serves, gives, and uses their gifts to help make Genesis Charlevoix a place where people can know Christ and make Him known.

Jim Desmond, Charlevoix Pastor



Over the past year, ten people publicly declared their commitment to follow Jesus



The ladies of Genesis Charlevoix spent an evening laughing, snacking, praying and learning to paint! It was a wonderful time and we all discovered our hidden God-Given talents as "Artists."

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God is Raising Up Leaders Around the World. We Get to Be Part of the Story

Using the resources God has entrusted to us to strengthen his work around the globe

Around the world, God is raising up faithful leaders who are passionate about sharing the gospel and serving their communities. At Genesis, we believe one of the greatest opportunities we have is to come alongside these national ministry leaders by investing in the people God has already called.

Our *Love Your Neighbors* strategy is built around partnering with people and organizations who are faithfully advancing God's Kingdom locally, regionally, and globally. Each year, Genesis commits at least 10% of our annual budget to Love Your Neighbors initiatives, allowing us to support strategic partners who are making a lasting impact through the work God has called them to do.

This vision is reflected in our partnerships with global ministries like Ghana Christian Mission and CounterAct International, and we are excited about the possibility of adding a third global partner: Carey International. Carey International equips pastors in remote communities and among unreached people groups around the world. These pastors have a deep love for Jesus and a passion for serving their communities but have never had access to formal biblical training.

Over the past several years, Genesis has supported Carey International's work in Myanmar and Cuba. As we continue exploring a more formal partnership with Carey International, we are excited about the next step in the process: sending Genesis leaders to visit a training site (maybe Cuba, Maybe somewhere in Africa) in the coming year to experience this ministry firsthand.

Thank you, Genesis, for your generosity and your commitment to Love Your Neighbors. Together, we get to participate in the story God is writing through His people everywhere.

Andrea Schuitema, Director of Engagement



"Learning theology has changed the way I preach and interpret the Bible. I have come to know that all our sermons should be Christ-centered."

-Pastor Ling Hung, Myanmar



Andrea with Dr. Tim Beavis, Executive Director of Carey International Pastoral Training

Giving Update

We're part of something much bigger than the congregation we attend each weekend. Thank you for your faithful generosity, which makes this shared mission possible. Every gift supports both the ministry of your local congregation and the shared ministries that help us reach more people with the hope of Christ.

-Norm Byers

Ways to Give:

Giving Box at
the back of the
Gathering Space

Mail to:
1124 Northmen Dr
Petoskey, 49770



Genesis Petoskey Giving

	Petoskey	All Genesis
Budgeted Giving/ Income	\$ 563,000	\$ 980,500
Actual Giving/ Income	\$ 484,172	\$ 898,104
Actual Expenses	\$ 415,448	\$731,885
Cash Flow	\$ 68,725	\$166,219