

genesischurch
boyne | charlevoix | petoskey | mcm

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

A Message from Pastor Norm



Fiesta 2026

Faithfulness Building

One of the things I appreciate about Genesis is seeing how God works through the faithfulness of His people over time. We've seen it through planting churches, giving generously to our global partners, and finding ways to love our neighbors. Our faithfulness is exhibited by praying for God to work, stepping into the opportunities and trusting Him to do what only He can do.

Earlier this year, we took another step by launching Genesis en Español. Thanks to last year's Christmas offering, we purchased translation equipment so our Spanish-speaking friends could better understand the sermons at our later Petoskey Gathering. The Lord also brought Luis and Samantha Perez from Monterrey, Mexico, to help lead and develop this ministry. It has been amazing to see! Here is the interesting thing, for nine years, people at Genesis have been building relationships with Spanish-speaking people in our community. Dr. Ron Vandenbrink and his wife, Jan Biddick, started the annual Fiesta as a way to honor seasonal workers through a special dinner. Many others have faithfully given their time and energy over the years, helping establish the foundation we're building upon today.

This year's Fiesta was an encouraging picture of how these efforts are coming together. Ninety-seven people attended, Luis clearly shared the gospel, and a soccer tournament created another opportunity to build friendships—with Jalisco taking the championship 4-1! Many from Genesis provided food and drinks, cared for children, and served in other ways.

Sometimes the impact shows up in smaller moments. Samantha recently ran into one of our Genesis teens at the grocery store. He had helped distribute Spanish Bibles and headsets at church and greeted her in Spanish. His Spanish was basic, but he made the effort, and it meant a great deal to her. Faithful steps encourage others!

Please pray that we can build relationships, provide translation, and create opportunities to share the gospel, remembering that only God can change hearts and produce lasting spiritual fruit. Pray for Luis and Samantha as they lead and build their team. Pray that God will continue what He has begun!

Reasons to Praise and Pray:

Genesis Governance: Praise God for those helping us prepare for the future. A task force is reviewing organizational roles, decision-making, and team structures to support healthy, long-term growth. **Pray** for wisdom, humility, unity, and clarity as we develop structures that serve our mission.

Petoskey: Praise God for bringing Darin Stevens to serve as Petoskey Pastor beginning in December. **Pray** for Darin, his family, and the Petoskey congregation through this transition.

Genesis Partnership: We are renewing our vision and refining our process for church partnership.

Boyne City: Praise God that nearly \$160,000 has been committed toward our \$200,000 *More for the Mission* goal. **Pray** for God to provide the remaining \$40,000 as we work toward eliminating our building debt.

Let's continue to pray for God to faithfully accomplish what only He can do, while we faithfully do what He has called us to do.

Norm Byers - Lead Pastor

Genesis Shared Ministries Quarterly

Growing in Prayer and Making Room for Mission - Genesis Boyne

We have a lot to thank God for and celebrate at Genesis Boyne this quarter.

More for Mission is our campaign to reduce the debt on the Genesis Center so more of what we give can go directly toward ministry and mission. We set a goal of \$200,000, and so far we've raised \$160,000. We're incredibly grateful for every person who has participated, and as we keep moving toward that goal, there's still opportunity for others to join in.

Our Prayer Nights are helping us learn to pray in response to God's Word together. At our most recent one, we spent the evening in Philippians 4:4-9. We brought specific worries before God, prayed through what Paul tells us to do with them, and left with something we can return to when those worries come back. One person described the night this way:

"We started the evening by writing down some specific things that were on our minds and causing worry in our lives. As we prayed through the verse, I was able to see how what God is saying through Paul really does apply to my life today! The session helped me focus on His message and how He directs me to approach these situations that might make me anxious. Now I can return to the verse when I need guidance in how to process worries. It's a comfort to have this as a resource." —Marcy H.

We're looking forward to the next Prayer Night on October 20th and continuing to grow together in how we pray God's Word.

John Shearhart, Boyne City Pastor



Celebrating God's Faithfulness - Genesis Charlevoix

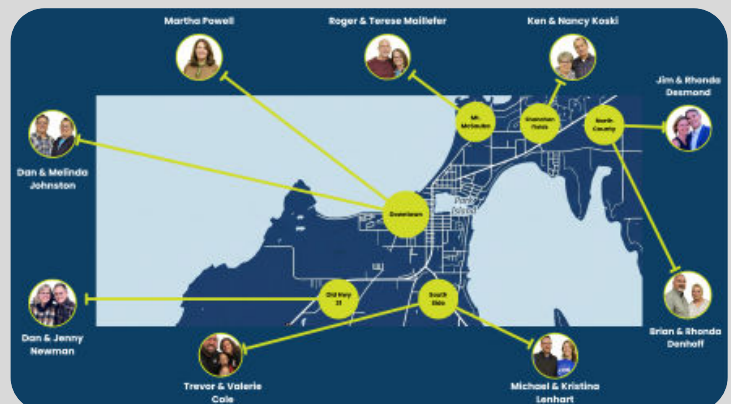
Genesis Charlevoix had a fantastic summer! The energy around here is dynamic! From Grill and Pie Contests, Tea & Testimony and Beach Baptisms, and the launch of our Prayer Team, our church family stayed connected, and new relationships blossomed.

As the Pastors of Genesis Charlevoix, Brian and I sense folks really feel they belong and are expressing a desire for deeper discipleship. We embarked on and finished our first Genesis DNA Study exploring our biblical convictions, ministry philosophy and leadership culture. It was a resounding success. What a joy to have thought provoking and enlightening discussions on all things God and help us transform lives. He is faithful!

Our Life Groups multiplied from 3 to 6 this Fall with two more coming early 2027. How beautiful to see new leaders and hosts following God's call and offering their homes to His glory throughout Charlevoix. Nearly 60 people currently meet in those groups!

With each passing season I am continually astounded by God's blessings. Because of your support Rhonda and Pastor Brian can dedicate more time to Bible studies, shepherding, encouragement, prayers, outreach and helping me teach leaders to reach our neighbors to KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE HIM KNOWN! PRAISE GOD!

Jim Desmond, Charlevoix Pastor



Genesis Shared Ministries Quarterly

Love Your Neighbors Month - Genesis Petoskey

October was Love Your Neighbors Month at Genesis Petoskey, a time to notice the needs around us and put our faith into action.

Matching Gifts: These gifts allow people at Genesis to see a need, donate to help, and have their gift matched through the Care Fund! Because of the great response, we have been able to help neighbors with vehicle and garage door repairs, provide a single mom with much-needed supplies, and support a grandmother raising her grandchildren with supplies and help paying bills, among other needs.

Big Impact Day: More than 100 people signed up to serve through eight different projects on Big Impact Day! Genesis Kids made crafts and delivered them to local assisted living facilities. They also assembled care packages for the Nehemiah Project, our local homeless shelter. Work crews installed a new walkway and painted bedrooms at the Nehemiah Project. Volunteers also completed much-needed home repairs for a single mom and an elderly couple, including installing a wheelchair ramp. Others rolled up their sleeves for cleanup along the Bear River Trail, and yard work for a Boyne Falls Schools and a family in Byone Falls!

A special thanks to our Love Your Neighbors team, who began work on this back in June. Their persistence in going out to see the needs in our community and organizing these projects allowed us to love our neighbors in tangible ways. Glory to God!

Andrea Schuitema, Director of Engagement



Big Impact Day: October 10, 2026

Genesis Shared Ministries Quarterly

Joining the Work: What Our Team Saw in Honduras *Using the resources God has entrusted to us to strengthen his work around the globe*

We didn't go to Honduras to carry God's love into the darkness; we went to discover where His light was already breaking through. In September a group of 13 had the opportunity to serve alongside the local team of Counteract International. We spent time in juvenile detention centers, sharing and hearing testimonies, playing sports, and participating in art therapy workshops. We met young people who have been released from detention and are now living out their faith and making an impact on their communities. Their transformation is remarkable.

The night before we left, we prayed not that God would use us to bring His love to these people, but that He would open our eyes to how His Spirit was already at work among them and show us how we can join in this work. We witnessed God at work in the lives of people affected by gangs, poverty, violence, and abandonment. We saw how Jesus meets people in their unique circumstances and speaks into their unique stories. We saw, very tangibly, the truth that God's grace runs like water and tends to pool in places of deepest despair and suffering.

It was a joy to build relationships with our brothers and sisters in Honduras who are faithfully laboring for the Gospel. The Church is the body of Christ, and getting to know this part of our body gave us a deeper glimpse of God's love and the many ways He is at work in the world and in our own community.

"I could see God at work through the Counteract team loving, caring, coming alongside the children. I witnessed many souls saved for God's Glory! I was able to see how the warmth of the Holy Spirit moved through others as well!" -Josh Viau

"We saw the Holy Spirit working in quiet ways like the hugs and laughs and sparkles of joy. Then we saw The Holy Spirit working in a fierce/passionate way with 28 baptisms in one afternoon!" --Melissa Fay

"God revealed to me that He can use anybody to do His work if you are willing to answer His call. Many of the Counteract staff come from very difficult backgrounds, but are working as His hands and feet, serving those with the greatest need and helping to save and change lives." -Mike Atchison

"I saw that He sends just the right people with just the right talent at just the right time to come alongside others and in HIS time, He will change them." -Kim Redman

"The baptism service transported us to the edge of heaven. Sitting under a big old shade tree in the middle of a dirt prison courtyard surrounded by a rickety galvanized iron fence with a jungle back drop in the heat of the day and the Holy Spirit descends! I almost wondered if flames were going to show up above our heads." -Dianne Forster

Andrea Schuitema, Director of Engagement



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	\$ 844,500	\$1,446,000
Actual Giving/ Income	\$ 738,874	\$1,311,493
Actual Expenses*	\$ 713,501	\$1,177,113
Cash Flow	\$ 25,373	\$ 134,380

*Expenses include estimated 3rd Qtr missions giving