

# Southfield Reformed Presbyterian Church

“Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.” Ps. 124:8 (NKJV)

Dear Fathers and Brethren,

We thank the Lord for His many mercies to our flock over the past year. Here are some of the highlights.

1. Our membership remained steady in 2025, with the arrival of the Cook and Schwartz families serving to offset the departure of the Manring and Van Reenen families. Our total membership is 106 (+3), including 67 communicant members (+1)<sup>1</sup> and 39 baptized members (+2). We received new members through paedobaptism (4), profession of faith (3), and transfer (6), with one covenant child professing her faith and two newborns awaiting baptism. We transferred the two aforementioned families (10) to another Reformed church, dismissed a brother to attend a Baptist church, and mourned the passing of Charlotte Adams, an SRPC member since 1956.
2. Average AM worship attendance inched higher to 88 (+2), while PM attendance climbed to 63 (+10). These numbers are still lower than we would like, but understandable given that the Yang family (6) worships in Grand Rapids, both the Samuls (6) and Lehrs (2) live an hour away, and we have many couples with multiple young children who livestream when one of them is sick. Our Sermon Audio webcast reaches 8-10 households per service, not including the Facebook stream, thus accounting for all of our homebound members on any given week.
3. In addition to weekly sermons from Pastor Kuehner (AM: [Romans](#); PM: Romans, [Titus](#)), elder-led Psalm meditations, and pulpit supply from Rev. Samul and Mr. Schwartz, we conducted sabbath school classes on Bible Survey (young children), Biblical Doctrine & Communicant Membership (older children), and Church History (adults). Mr. Schwartz assumed regular preaching duties on first and fifth sabbath evenings, giving us two services every single week.
4. With the relaunch of the Southfield Bible study, we once again have three midweek meetings (Novi, Southfield, Troy) with each group experiencing a notable increase in participation.

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<sup>1</sup> As of 12/31/25, three of these communicant members are suspended from the privileges of communicant membership. One of these suspensions occurred in 2025 due to fornication. All three still worship with us and are working toward restoration.

5. Local outreach efforts included fifth sabbath evangelistic services, weekly member-led door-to-door evangelism, occasional witnessing at abortion clinics and college campuses, Japanese ESL, and a new bi-monthly Japanese Bible study led by Mr. Schwartz and hosted by the Kims.
6. Pastor Kuehner taught monthly theology classes on *Covenant Theology* (Spring 2025) and *Christology I* (Fall 2025), led a summer book study on Bonar's *Night of Weeping*, coordinated our men's purity program, oversaw Mr. Schwartz's internship, conducted marital counseling, took on a distinct shepherding group, and made progress in his writing project contrasting "Christian" ethno-nationalism with the historic consensus of Reformed political orthodoxy.
7. Rev. Colin Samul preached in the mornings as needed and occasionally attended Session meetings for consultation. In September he was appointed as a provisional elder to help with a sensitive shepherding matter and was a huge help to the Session. He later asked to be removed.
8. Elder Jake Schwartz, whose family transferred their membership to SRPC in the fall, served as our pastoral intern from September to January, provided evening pulpit supply, helped with local outreach, taught a men's class on sexual purity, led occasional midweek meetings, and conducted our new Japanese Bible study (he is rapidly learning Japanese), while working part-time as a freelance tax accountant. Following his graduation from RPTS in May, we plan to extend his internship for two more years, hopefully with the aid of the Home Mission Board's *Resident-in-Training* (RIT) grant. The application for this grant is attached to our report.
9. Under the oversight of the Session and Deacon Board, we conducted officer internships—one elder intern and three diaconal interns—in hopes that the Lord will raise up new officers.
10. Josiah Cook and his family moved to Detroit from Virginia in connection with his new job as a teacher of Bible, Greek, Latin, and Jiu-Jitsu at nearby Bloomfield Christian School. Josiah, who has two Bible degrees from Liberty University (B.A., M.A.T.S.), presently teaches our young children's sabbath school class, takes turns leading a midweek group, and desires to come under care of presbytery so that he can begin online studies at RPTS in the spring quarter.
11. Matt Fernandez completed his sophomore year of biblical studies at Tokyo Christian University and is presently reevaluating if/when to return. A.J. Troutman continues to ace online courses at Reformation Bible College (Orlando, FL) and hopes to pursue on-campus studies in 2027.
12. In March 2025, we hosted the CYPUR Theological Foundations Weekend (TFW) on the doctrine of the church, drawing a record attendance. We recently agreed to host TFW again in March 2026 and are very much looking forward to it.
13. Thanks to the congregation's abundant generosity, the Kuehners were able to purchase a spacious new home in Farmington Hills, just ten minutes from the church. By April, the Schwartz family hopes to begin renting our newly-renovated parsonage, which they will enjoy rent-free upon the commencement of Jake's two-year residency, God willing, in July.

14. Due to steady demand for occasional pastoral meetings with members and adherents, the Session was unable to conduct systematic visitation in 2025. Hopefully, with the addition of a pastoral intern and perhaps the election of new officers, this trend will soon be reversed.
15. On 1/6/26, we addressed two additional instances of sexual sin, adding a fourth name to our list of suspended members, each of whom still worships with us and is actively working through a plan of repentance. In hopes that 2026 may yet be the “year of restoration,” we have appointed a day of congregational prayer and fasting for Saturday 2/21/26.
16. We praise God for blessing us with yet another all-time high in total income for 2025 (\$240,474)—an increase of nearly 12% from 2024, and nearly 24% since 2023. We also received a grant of \$25,000 from the Synod for major renovations to our church auditorium.
17. We are thankful to God for His rich blessing over the past year, recognizing our great need to cultivate deeper trust and humility, as we seek to “fear the LORD and His goodness” in 2026.

#### Recommendations

- 1) That Presbytery receive Jake Schwartz as a student under care of the GLGP with recognition of his licensure to receive a call by the Presbytery of the Alleghenies (RPCNA).
- 2) That Presbytery approve our application for the RPCNA Home Mission Board’s *Resident-in-Training* (RIT) grant to fund Mr. Schwartz’s two-year pastoral internship (July 2026–July 2028) and promptly relay this decision to the HMB.
- 3) That Presbytery receive Josiah Cook as a student under care of the GLGP at this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Session of the Southfield RP Church