

What a great day of fun was had by an enthusiastic group on Sunday, August 19th! Thanks to Pastor Steve for organizing and to everyone who participated and enjoyed the time together.



**FUN IN
THE SUN**



Fall Ministries Begin!

Sunday School Classes: Sept. 23

Church & Community

Awana Kickoff: Oct. 3

Picnic: Sept. 16

Men's Bible
Studies: Sept. 9 & 25

Women's Bible
Studies: Sept. 18 & 20

B.I.G. (Bible Instruction Group)
8th-11th grade: Oct. 3

Wednesday Night
Dinners: Oct. 3

Name Change Edition #2

Proposed new name:



Anchor Point Bible Church

“We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...” Hebrews 6:19



Membership Vote: September 9, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.



I love the name!! As the only surviving member of Rev. Harry Bultema's immediate family, I give you my blessing. Plus, my brother, John, would strongly approve, I am sure! Berean has always been an “anchor” of the gospel in the Muskegon area. How appropriate! God's blessings as you go forward in His Name.

Gloria Bultema Velting



For over 90 years, the name **Berean Church**, located in Muskegon, Michigan has communicated significant ideas...the searching of Scriptures...the proclamation of truth... even the transformation of lives through Biblical Study. The name has served us well and the ideas associated with the name will always remain foundational to the ministry based here in Norton Shores.

But it's a new day...new generations...new trends...new opportunities. In a world marked by chaos, **ANCHOR** communicates stability...in a day filled with anxiety, **ANCHOR** speaks of security...to generations plagued by upheaval, **ANCHOR** suggests steadfastness, and all of this is founded upon the veracity and power of the BIBLE.

I commend the leadership and congregation of Berean for your vision, sensitivity and courage displayed in addressing the name change. I firmly believe the shift to **ANCHOR POINT BIBLE CHURCH** will be a positive step in letting the greater Muskegon area know you are a solid, welcoming community of believers where individuals and families will be loved, supported and encouraged in their walk with God through Christ His Son. [Pastor Jim Carlson, 1973-1987]

Thanks for including on the website your church's thinking and history regarding the proposed name change. Feel free to include me in the list of Bereans who can support **Anchor Point Bible Church**. Though it's just a name, there is richness and depth to it. I pray it will open doors to invitation, evangelism, and growth in our Savior, Jesus Christ. All the best to the saints in Norton Shores! [Pastor Wayne Bickel, 1992-1998]



We have heard of the proposal to change the name of the church from “Berean Church” to “**Anchor Point Bible Church**” and we both think it's an excellent idea. Even in typing out this paragraph on my computer my spellcheck has underlined the word “Berean” in red, not because it's misspelled, but because the word is foreign to it's vocabulary. And for many years the same has been true for the vast majority of people in the community. The word “Berean” holds no meaning for them. But every one of the four words of the proposed new name paints a meaningful mental picture in the mind. For that reason we are hopeful the congregation will agree with the Board's proposal and affirm this name change with overwhelming support. [Pastor Craig & Pat Apel, 1999-2015]



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Do you recall the excitement of getting a new pair of shoes or some other new clothes as a gift or because you really wanted them? It was such a thrill to put them on and proudly wear them! However, I can also remember that there were times that I tried to toss the old version which really needed updating — and I hesitated because of how comfortable it was and how many memories there were in that “experienced” piece of clothing.

Well, this could quite possibly be the last new newsletter that you will hear from me as Lead Pastor of Berean Church! There is great excitement and anticipation as we move closer to our important members’ vote on September 9th to become “**Anchor Point Bible Church.**” I was talking to a friend of the church last week about how pleased I am by the attitude of our church family regarding this proposal of changing our church name and the unity and support of the Board’s leadership and vision for the future of our ministry here in Muskegon.

But, at the same time, we all love Berean Church, and so we have spent the past months communicating what will NOT be changing as we potentially take off the old cloth which has served us so well for all these years and prepare to put on the new to help us reach new generations with the love of Christ and His Word!

✦ We will still have a **Grace Doctrinal Position** which describes our dispensational approach and understanding of the Word. The name “Grace” was highly thought of and discussed as part of the change for our church, but due to at least 12 other churches and ministries in our community with the word “Grace” in their name, the Committee felt it did not mark a definitive feature or identification for us, so it was not pursued. But our Grace doctrine will not waver or change with our proposed name change to “**Anchor Point Bible Church.**”

✦ We will always be “**Bereans**” in the study of God’s Word (Acts 17:24). There was unanimous sentiment by all our leadership teams that the inclusion of “Bible” in our proposed name was an important addition and identification of who we are and what we believe, with the Bible at the center of all we do. Our desire is to carry forward our heritage with the focus on studying and applying the Scriptures. We always have been in spirit and commitment a “Bible Church” and now plan to proudly make this a centerpiece of our identity as a church by including it in our name.

It has been a good and healthy time of discussion as you have had multiple opportunities to interact and share thoughts and questions with the Board and Name Change Committee. The time is quickly approaching for our church members to vote on this historic opportunity and possibility and hopefully approve our name change to **Anchor Point Bible Church** on September 9th at our special meeting following the morning worship service.

I certainly love you all and am so honored to be your pastor and friend. My heart is for our unity in the midst of change and I echo once again the rationale for this proposal: *With a burden to reach our community for Jesus Christ and to glorify God in the process [we] have felt led of the Lord to prayerfully and humbly suggest the consideration of the name **Anchor Point Bible Church** with which to identify our church.*

May God bless us as we work together for His glory and may our unity be evident to all as we vote on this change.

Because He Lives,

Pastor Bob



The Judy DeBrie Memorial Children's Playground



Thank you to the awesome team of workers that spent over 75 total work hours preparing for and putting up our new playset in front of the Children’s Wing. A fence and base is coming soon to complete the play area and we are so excited for the blessing of the Judy DeBrie memorial gifts that made this possible. A special thanks to the Heisser family and a number of Judy’s family and friends that worked to make this possible. What a great addition to our family friendly atmosphere for years to come! Praise the Lord!

