

Community Reformed Church

VOLUME 20

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PHONE: 605-336-1475

The Communicator

GOD IN, AROUND AND THROUGH US.

Pastor's Column

The weather just keeps reminding us that spring isn't always about being warm, it's about being different than winter. This is my new definition of spring; spring, the different season. It's not about showers, or flowers, or warm sunshine, it's more about change. I do know a warm up is coming, but I am not sure exactly when that will occur. I was told that the frost on Sunday shouldn't have done too much damage because it wasn't cold for a long enough period of time. That is good news for those of you trying to protect those new spring flowers. Let's just hope that we are going to see an end to that frost threat for the rest of this season. I'm ready for the sun.

Sunday was Mother's Day and I so do hope you moms had a great day. I got some nice flowers sent to my mom, but I didn't get to see her. I am hoping to get back there soon. The weeks just go by too fast and it is so easy to lose track of just how quickly it is passing.

There are still tickets available for the concert in the fall yet for sale, but not that many. We have done no advertising as of yet to the surrounding community and we are beginning to consider asking them for a second date. Our church people nearly filled the first one, now the question is, what about the "outreach"? That was our plan all along with this and I know that lots of you bought tickets for others so we are getting that done, but what about the community and other churches? We are considering asking them for the second concert on Sunday afternoon. We'll have to see how that goes.

I don't often put devotional paragraphs in my "newsletter", but today I'm going to make an exception. I always want to make sure everyone fully understands each step of the faith journey. I do not mind repeating myself because I have learned it is the way for us to really grasp these deeper truths we are learning together. Maybe writing it out will help people understand the depth of the meaning even more to what it means to be "saved" and what it means to be "Christ-like". "Saved" by grace is the first step in a person's spiritual life. It is that moment when we fully understand that Jesus gave his life for me, paid my debt, and we come to a place of surrendering ourselves to that truth. I pray that we all understand that salvation is a **gift** from God. We cannot earn this for ourselves. *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.* (Ephesians 2:8, 9) I cannot "save" myself by being a good person. Salvation is a work that Jesus has done for me... I must accept that and ask him to forgive me and to come into my life and make me whole. Once I am there in that new faith place, now what? Is there anything more that God can do for me? The answer is yes. Please read these next sentences carefully so that you'll understand what we as a church are trying to express to our friends.

(please see page 5 for the rest of the story)

Upcoming

Pick up your Ricky Skaggs Concert Tickets from the office. Tickets still on sale.

May 23 is the last day for Sunday School.

Check the VBS info on Liz's page-Karen's column for May 15 workday at Southern Hills.



Events and Updates

THIS SUNDAY, MAY 16...



- Mission offering for Youth Camps—Inspiration Hills and Camp Judson.
- Sacrament of Baptism at the 9am service this Sunday for Zoe Amilake Niewenhuis, daughter of Lance and Robyn Niewenhuis.
- College/young career home-cooked meal—we invite you to join us this Sunday as it will be the last meal served for this school year.
- You can pick up your Ricky Skaggs concert tickets at the office during the week. Please call first.
- There are still tickets available for the Ricky Skaggs concert September 25, 7pm. Cost: \$20.

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- Women's Book Club meets the second Wednesday of the month at Bagel Boy. They are reading *Her Mother's Hope* by Francine Rivers for the month of May.
 - Elders meet on May 13, 7pm; Consistory meets 8pm. Arlan Burggraaf serves.



- Bethany Christian Services is holding its 13th annual Golf Benefit in support of children and families! It will be held on Friday, June 18th at Spring Creek Golf and Country Club with shotgun starting at 12:00 noon. We need one person yet to play a four-person scramble in this benefit—it will cost you nothing to participate. The church gives a donation for the benefit. If you are interested, please call the office. Deadline June 1. Questions, please contact Daron Van Beek 361-9587 or Tom Bosch, 367-9265. Thank you.
- Mark your calendars for the Family Camp at Inspiration Hills August 6-8. We have ten spaces reserved. There are no cabins available this year. Please call the office if you would like to reserve a space. Cost: \$15/space per night for the water/electrical hook-ups. Tents are \$12/night.

FROM THE OFFICE

- If you know of someone attending who would like to receive the weekly newsletter, please let the office know.
- Have you changed addresses, no longer have a landline, new phone number, or e-mail, please contact the office so we can update your record. Thank you.
- We have a few containers/pans that need to be picked up yet in the Gathering Room by the coffee bar. Please pick up this weekend if possible. Thank you.
- Graduates—If you would like to have your high school or college graduation mentioned in *The Communicator*, please contact the office or e-mail by next Monday. Thank you.

Finances at a Glance:

May 9, 2010	
Sun. School	\$ 26.50
General	\$11,538.00
Vision	\$ 3,210.00
Mission	\$ 192.00
April 30, 2010	
Loan—	\$1,589,897.20



YEAR-TO-DATE STATUS

2009 Weekly Goal:	\$ 8,917.00
Year-To-Date Offering:	\$175,082.70
Year-To-Date Goal:	\$165,788.65
Ahead/(Behind):	\$ 9,294.05
Vision Fund Balance:	\$ 94,036.90

VISION FUND II UPDATE

Pledge Goal:	\$1,000,000.00
Amount Pledged:	\$ 684,095.00
Total received:	\$ 399,556.51

Gift Cards:

Hy-Vee and Sunshine gift cards are available each Sunday at church. The church receives 5% of each sale toward our Vision Fund. These gift cards can be used for groceries, gas, pharmacy, etc. This is an easy and painless way to make this fund grow! Please consider purchasing cards. Thank you!

Women's Ministry

SMALL GROUPS MEET

- Faith Small Group meets May 17, 1pm at the church. Leader is Marilyn Brink; Hostesses: Dolly Hoogendoorn & Vi Slechta.
- Hope Small Group meets May 20, 7pm. Hostess—Donna Humme; Carol Long has the lesson.
- Joy Small Group meets on May 20, 7pm

WOMEN OF FAITH—ST. PAUL, MN—First Reformed Church of Sioux Falls would like to invite you to a spirit filled, fun filled, carefree weekend. Plan to attend and invite a friend, sister, mother or daughter. Reserve your spot now.

Package includes: Conference ticket (includes Friday day and evening sessions and Saturday session, bus transportation to St. Paul (conference and mall), choice of attending Friday day conference or shopping at Mall of America, Evening meal at hotel between Friday day and evening sessions, hotel accommodations at the Hampton Inn Suites (one night), Continental breakfast Saturday morning, box lunch Friday and Saturday noon at conference (lunch on your own Friday noon if you choose to shop at Mall), and Salad for Saturday evening meal on bus ride home.

Total package cost: 3-4 people per room \$190 or 2 people per room—\$210.

Bus leaves Oct. 22 at 5:00 AM SHARP! Arrive back to Sioux Falls October 23, approximately 10:00 PM. \$90 deposit due upon reservation. Check made out to First Reformed Church, 4800 Tomar Road, Sioux Falls, SD 57108.

If you have any questions, Lisa Drenth @ First Reformed will be happy to answer them—[338-1553](tel:338-1553).

Prayer Pocket



Keeping you in our prayers!

Concerns:

- Pete Valentine struggles with pain control and weakness.
- Cal Klein remains in Sanford—developed an infection.
- Helen Portz is in Avera—underwent surgery as she has infection in both complete knees.
- Those recuperating from surgeries: Rob Dykstra, Bob Smith, Jan Rames, Ruby Overweg, Kuki Dolittle, Clazina Van Wyhe, Margie DeStigter's Aunt Miny Boon, Linda Sheley
- Betty Cady is at Bethany Christian Nursing Home for a couple weeks of rehab following surgery.
- John & Marcia Thornton & girls while John is on sabbatical.
- Marcia Thornton's mom's health
- Max Voss is struggling with health issues—thinking it could possibly be MS—diagnostic testing will be done when they are on furlough from Papua New Guinea in July.

Lora Saylor's brother, Leo Bos underwent surgery for Kidney Dialysis Monday. He is 52 years old.

Cancer Patients:

- Wade Friese's surgery scheduled May 20th at Mayo.
- Brian Mettler
- Betty Almas

Celebration:

Congratulations to Joel & Kari Kraayenbrink on the birth of their daughter, Kaylee Lynn, born April 22.

Joyce and Chuck Tarrell are new grandparents! Owen Jasper was born May 5, 7 lbs, 14 oz, 21 inches long, to Joyce and Chuck's daughter, Amy, and her husband, Justin Florey.

Community Prayer:

Lord, whole-heartedly we call on You to hold our hands; to wisely and tenderly guide us. Thank you for your eternal love. You are our strength and refuge. Because we love you, we enter Your presence to be near You, to see Your point-of-view. We rise early in the morning to call on You, to be close to You. In the night we study Your Word to be drawn to You. We won't give the devil a foothold in our lives.

You are all we want; we'll tell the world about You. Amen (from Psalm 73; Psalm 119; Ephesians 4)

The Leadership of Community Reformed Church

From the Desk of Liz

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have had our Sunday School meeting. As I type this, I am praying that God will really move during that meeting. I'll be sure to give a report in next week's article about how everything went.

VBS is only twenty-something days away! The sign-up table is in the narthex. VBS is June 6-10. Now, we are in need of gamers and the snack sign up sheets will be ready on Sunday. Also be sure to get your children signed up so we know how many kids to prepare for. Heather told me that we have more students coming this year than ever before! It is so exciting to prepare for God's work in the lives of these young people!

Would anyone be willing to be the contact person for carpooling to and from Inspiration Hills for camp this summer? If this is you, please contact me!

Sunday School is winding down for the year. I have had several people ask me when the last day will be. You can mark your calendars for May 23...this will be the last official day of Sunday School until we start again in the fall.



The senior high students should have received information about the upcoming trip to Valley Fair on June 15th. The kids really need to let me know if they are coming and if they are bringing a friend. Each student can invite ONE friend to come on this day trip. Each student must also fill out a 2010-2011 consent form. The forms arrived in the mail along with the information about the trip. **The deadline for the RSVP is May 30.** So tell those kids to call or text me if they plan on going!

Please note: If you are new to Community and you have kids who want to get involved either in Sunday morning or Wednesday evening programs, please let me know. I keep a huge mailing list of all of these students, and I would love to add your children to my list. ☺

I think that's it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz

youthpastor@communityrc.org

Youth & Adult Events:

VBS Volunteers needed—The High Seas are calling. Please call 371-2207 to confirm with Karen Roetman that you are available Saturday, May 15th at 1 p.m. at Southern Hills church on 49th Street. We'll work a few hours or more as needed. We may need a few men with power tools to help saw carpet rolls as well as middle school kids to adults to help paint docks and piers. If you have an abundance of rope laying around, we could use that as well to lasso those piers. If you can't make it this Saturday – check in with Karen, we may be doing more painting next Saturday as well.

Inspiration Hills camp—church pays 1/2 of the early bird fee. There is still room in most camps.

- VBS—please get your kids signed up; We are in great need of lesson helpers, game leaders/ helpers and clean-up crews in the kitchen.
- Also a SIGN UP sheet for snacks.

MISSIONS

May Mission of the Month is for Youth Camps—Inspiration Hills & Camp Judson. The offering will be taken this Sunday, May 16.

Union Gospel Mission Love Gift for May is monetary for VBS and summer camps. If you want to give to this mission, please designate at the bottom of your check Union Gospel Mission.



THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you for the many prayers while I had knee replacement surgery. I could never have got through it all without you. Thanks too for the cards and visits. God bless each of you. Special thanks to Daryl DuBois for driving me to and from therapy. What a wonderful thing the caring ministry is.

Ruby Overweg

I would like to thank everyone for the cards and calls I received since having my surgery. They are very much appreciated.

Bob Smith

Pastor's Column Continued

First: It does matter how I live my life. I need to show the virtues of Christ's presence in my "new" heart. I need to express love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control to those around me. It does matter. **Second:** God can make this happen in my life. The Holy Spirit can do this work within me. Do you understand that truth? So many people I know do not understand this. They believe they, and they alone are responsible to bring about this "new life" within themselves, but the deeper truth we all must learn is that only God through his Spirit can make this "genuine" change in my life. Anything I do in my own power is but a shadow of what God can do. My efforts will pale in comparison to the power of God's spirit working in my heart. Do you see that? **Third:** I must then learn to depend on Jesus and my relationship with him to change my life. I must ask him to come in and make those changes. I must ask him to change my heart, give me new eyes, and bring about this incredible transformation of my person this "new creation". My new life is a "God built building of faith".

Sunday we continue our journey in this new direction of talking about what we can expect when we begin to surrender our lives to Christ. This is exciting stuff. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

Lyde



OTHER EVENTS

Community SportsLife Camp at Central Baptist Church during the week of July 26-30. Here are the details. Reserve camper spots between now and May 21 and pay only \$89 per camper, down from the regular price of \$99. Reserve for at least 5 camper spots (at discounted \$89 price) by this time, and get one additional camper free (\$100 value)! In addition, registering for at least 5 camper spots allows you to lock in the discounted \$89 price for any additional camper spots you add after May 21 and until the camp begins on July 26th. **If interested, just give a call to 877-601-1122 and speak with anyone in the Service Center or you can contact Liz about it.**

Inspiration Hills news...Memorial Day Summer Kickoff and Fundraiser will be held on Monday, May 31 at Inspiration Hills. The schedule is: 3pm Games for children; 3pm view auction items; 3:30pm Auction; 4:30-6pm Supper will be served. Greetings, updates and introductions from Camp Staff. 6:30pm evening entertainment will be "Worship Team" from The Crossing in Sioux Falls. There will be music for all ages. If you would be willing to help serve the supper on Memorial Day, please let them know when you arrive.

If you would be willing to donate items to the auction, please contact Bev Roos 1-712-724-6559 or Inspiration Hills 1-866-858-3265 or e-mail ihills@inspirationhills.org so they can get the items listed. You can bring your items ahead of time or on that day.

Also, the new pool and playground equipment Open House is Saturday, June 5—free swimming 11am-4pm. Free lunch available from 11:30am-1pm. Everybody welcome!!

Community Reformed Church
6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110



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May 12, 2010

Address Service Requested

MAY 16, 2010 Worship

Health Concerns/ Congregational Needs
All needs should be called into the church. Leave a request with Connie or Voice Mail. For prayerline, please contact Susan Bierwagen, 331-3996. For emergencies in the non-office hours, please call Pastor Clyde or the Elder On Call.

This Week

8:00, 9:00 & 11:00 Worship
9:00 Baptism
10:05 Children's Worship
Sunday School
12:00 Last College Meal
4:00-6:00 Worship Center
Reserved

Next Week, May 23, 2010

8:00, 9:00 & 11:00 Worship
9:00 New Members/Baptism
10:05 Children's Worship
Last day for Sunday School

**Nursery Care—9am,
Sunday School & 11am**

**Nursery Care—9am, Sunday
School & 11am**

Elder on Call
9th—Cleone Leistra
16th—Gerald Teunissen

Check us out on the web!
www.communityrc.org

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