Pastor’s Update

Moving through the month of January. This change in the temps has been very nice, but of course it is still winter and it sounds like it is going to return before the week ends. We know how this all goes. It’s not our first rodeo around here. Stay warm everyone, and enjoy this break in the cold. Before you know it things will start to get better again. That’s just how winters are. Why, Easter is just around the corner! I’m trying to keep a good positive spin on things. I hope you can appreciate that.

Sunday’s congregational meeting was a very good. I am so proud of the work our folks do on the budgeting process. You can just tell by all the details that lots of hard work has gone into that from Lisa to the deacons and then all the rest of the folks on Consistory. It takes a little extra time, but it’s all worth in the end. There is a lot to keep a handle on any more and we need this kind of great structure to work from. If you didn’t get a copy of the final budget we’ll try to make sure there are plenty of copies at “The Link” if you would like even more detail. A special thanks to Eric Van Donge on a fine presentation that was concise and yet gave plenty of important detail where needed. It was a celebration of just how great you all are and how wonderful God is blessing this place as we move forward.

There are a number of new things going on in the month of January so make sure you page through the rest of the newsletter to get more information about these new items. There is a new class during the Sunday school hour that Heather has put together... read up on that. The men’s retreat has finally been rescheduled for January 27th. This was the first date available in the church on a Saturday since November. This is a busy place. There is information about that in this week’s newsletter so men make sure you read up on that as well. We have two groups of mission opportunities being put together. A small group heading off to Haiti in a few weeks and another group being put together to do some inner city ministry over Easter break. It’s all going on right now! Go Community Go!

We are back to doing MidWeek once again. It is a cold time of the year and does affect our numbers a bit, but we had a nice group this past week. I am still going to encourage people to come out and join us for that. It still is one of the best things we do around here to connect new people and grow deeper in our faith journey’s. There is a new class coming at the end of the month presented by our good friend JC Chambers. There is more info in the newsletter coming about that. It’s all good stuff.

I’m on this new series now “The Robe”. I felt like Sunday was a powerful start. Bills video was a hit. That will be posted on the new website if you would like to see it again. There are more of those to follow. This week our “robe” series takes us to the story of David and King Saul. It might not be as familiar, but there is a part in there about the king’s robe. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
**NURSERY SCHEDULE**

January 14: 9:00am—
- Grant & Leslie Boltjes
- Jenna Christensen
- Jolene Larson
11:00am—
- Brad & Katie Kennett
- Grace Maciejewski

January 21: 9:00am—
- Tom & Amy Bosch
- Corey & Laurel Feenstra
11:00am—
- Spencer & Rachel Larsen
- Becky Hinderks

**COFFEE SCHEDULE**

Jan. 14: Daryl & Char DuBois
Jan. 21: Steve & Becky Lee
Jan. 28: Joel & Lisa Blankers

**THE LINK SCHEDULE**

Jan 14
- 9:00am– OPEN
- 11:00am– Karen Roetman

Jan 21
- 9:00am– Bruce & Bonnie Wentzel
- 11:00am– Bob & Lori Hein

**GREETER SCHEDULE**

January 14:
- 9:00am– Lyndee Karrath, Rich & Carolyn Odens, Ron & Juanita Palsma
- 11:00am– Jean Nolmann, Brian & Janet Bartcher

January 21:
- 9:00am– Gary & Connie Parmley, Jeris & Maylene VanZee, Tom & Amy Bosch
- 11:00am– Jerralynne Tjeerdsma, Mike & Jolene Hilbrands

**MONTHLY MISSION**

January Mission of the Month:
SIM– Klay Family

The love gift for the Union Gospel Mission in January is cold cereal. (non sugared)

**Community Book Clubs**

**Evening Book Club** will be meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 7pm at the Panera on E. 10th St. We will be discussing The Hunger Games by Collins.

Both book clubs welcome new participants. Contact Trudi Nelson at 371-3512 for more information.

**Faith Circle** will meet at Marlin’s (108 S Minnesota Ave) on Mon. Jan. 15th at 11:30am.

**Joy Circle** will not be meeting the months of January, February and March. Please study lesson 9 for the month of April.

**Prayer Requests**

Join us for a time of prayer on Saturdays from 7am-8am at church.

- Connie Evenson, daughter of Rika VanDenTop (brain cancer)
- Pete Valentine
- Nathalie Baker (seizure disorder)
- Clayton Bierwagen (heart)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer)
- Chelle McMurrey’s dad (multiple myeloma)
- Ellen Nelson (chronic airway disease)
- Susan Payne (cancer)
- Ryan Kortemeyer’s grandma
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Ember
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Marlys VanBruggen (breast cancer)
- Annetta Wiese
- William VamBram’s wife, Cynthia (heart)
- Cleone Groen (leg surgery)
- Denny Robinson (broken leg)
- Dianne Friese-hip replacement
Heather's Update

Hi Everyone!
First, I have to apologize for my error in my previous note on the
retreat at Inspiration Hills. I thought it was only for young ladies at
first but 4-6 grade guys, you are invited too!
We’re already working on plans for Spring and Summer so next
week I’ll have more updates for you. Stay tuned! :) 
I’ll see you soon!
Heather DeWit
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org

Book Study for Busy People:
Starting January 14, 2018
10:25am-10:50am (aprox)
Children’s Wing
We’ll be flexible for the kids :) 
A few of us were interested in taking a
peek at this book so we’re going to
give it a try during the Sunday School
hour. The video seems a little targeted
at women but the content seems use-
ful to all of us so I think the best thing
we can say is our group is good for
anyone interested (and willing to toler-
ate the occasional moment in the
video mentioning “ladies”)

- Cure the disease to please with a biblical understanding of the
  command to love.
- Escape the guilt of disappointing others by learning the secret
  of the small no.
- Overcome the agony of hard choices by embracing a wis-
  dom based decision-making process.
- Rise above the rush of endless demands and discover your
  best yes today.

We’ll start AFTER the kids get done singing which puts us around
10:25 and we’ll be done with the kids dismiss for the day at 10:50.
That doesn’t give us a long time so our sessions will be short but
packed full of video, thought and conversation. Some weeks will
be mostly video and others almost all conversation. This time
frame worked best for many people but if there are folks who
want to break off into discussion groups or use the video later,
that is great too! Don’t worry if you can only stop in here and
there because we’ll try to making it meaningful to everyone.
I think we’ll go for about 10 weeks but we’ll be flexible. :)

4-6 Grade Students:
We want as many students as possi-
ble from Community to enjoy this re-
treat! We’ll coordinate transportation
and have a special rate. Karen R has
volunteered to be at Inspiration Hills
to give our students a familiar face to
help them feel more comfortable.
Let Heather know if you’d like the
registration link and more details: $35

Winter Retreat
4th-6th Grade
February 16th-17th, 2018

Theme: BEAT
What is your heart beating out?

Wanted for VBS decorating:
Old Crates, Carpet Rolls
Old row boat or oars
Liz’s Update

I’ve spent the last several days making calls and working out scheduling for the senior high youth group’s spring activities. I just send out a postcard with all of these dates, but I’ll list them here as well. As always, if you are new to Community, and if you have a son or daughter who is in high school and would like to be a part of youth group, please let me know! I use postcards to deliver information about upcoming events, and I would love to add your son or daughter to my mailing list!

Senior High Youth Group Activities

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<th>Event Details</th>
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<td>Ice Skating at the Scheels Ice Plex at 7:30-9:30pm FREE</td>
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<td>February 23</td>
<td>Red Carpet Night at Minerva’s at 6:00pm. $10</td>
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<td>March 9</td>
<td>Decorating for Spring Fling Fundraiser at 4:00pm</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
<td>Spring Fling Fundraiser Banquet at 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>South Dakota Symphony Concert at 7:30pm FREE-You must RSVP by 1/28</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6-8</td>
<td>Sully Peaks Weekend Retreat FREE</td>
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I will be sending out postcards with details about each of these events. What a Spring! And of course, remember that we always meet on Wednesday nights from 6-8 for a meal and a lesson. It’s never too late to join us!

Let’s talk a bit more about that Spring Fling Fundraiser. 😊 Every year, the Senior High Youth Group does one, and only one, fundraiser for the entire year. We use that money to offset costs associated with events like Cosmic Bowling and Red Carpet Night, and we also use it to pay for big events like the Sully Peaks Retreat. The Spring Fling is a banquet hosted by the Youth Group. The food is catered by Chef Dominque. There is a highly entertaining dessert auction after dinner, and as if that wasn’t enough entertainment, we follow up the meal and dessert with a rousing game show of Let’s Make a Deal, which consists of incredible prizes donated by many people from Community! We even offer free childcare for the evening! It’s such a great way to support the high school kids, and it’s guaranteed to bring a smile to your face and laughter to your soul! Tickets will go on sale February 4. And prizes can be donated any time simply by contacting me. Keep an eye out for our ticket table in February!

And lastly this week, I wanted to note that Gary McCann is going to be hosting a men’s retreat this month. Abbie and I hosted one last January, and this January, Gary is going to take over that ministry! Gary is a fantastic teacher, and I know he has amazing things in store. So men, be on the lookout for more information about this retreat. Abbie and I didn’t leave you hanging. 😊 We just passed the ball to a receiver who is ready to run with this thing! Check it out!

That’s it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz
youthpastor@communityrc.org
**What’s Happening @ Community**

**Wednesday, January 10**
9:00am– Book Club (Bagel Boy on MN)
6pm– Chicken/ Taco Salad
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

**Saturday, January 13**
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)

**Sunday, January 14**
10:10am– Sunday School
10:10am– Adult Sunday School (chapel)
10:20am– The Best Yes (children’s wing)

**Monday, January 15**
7:00pm– Men’s Bible Study

**Tuesday, January 16**
7:00pm– Book Club (E. Panera)

**Wednesday, January 17**
5:00–7:00pm– Kansas City BBQ
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

**Thank You**
Thank you to the Community family for all of the outpouring of support for our family with the loss of Matt, through prayers, hugs, memorials, and gifts of food and meals. A special Thank you to Pastor Clyde and the Praise team for the beautiful message and music at Matt’s service. I have received feedback from many touched by the service.

Delores Peery

**Finances at a Glance:**
**January 7, 2018**

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**January YTD:**

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**Requests for Membership & Baptism...**

If you would like to request membership or baptism, please e-mail the church office at connect@communityrc.org to set up a time to meet with the Elders (2nd or 4th Sundays of the month @ 10:10am).

For baptism, one of the parents needs to be a member at Community. **Next Baptism Service: Sunday, January 21 @ 3pm.**
Health Concerns / Congregational Needs
All needs should be called into the church. Leave a request with the office or on the office Voice Mail. For prayerline, please contact Susan Bierwagen, 331-3996 or John Thornton, 331-3028 (prayerline@communityrc.org). For emergencies during non-office hours, please call Pastor Clyde or the elder on call.

January 14—Randy Grotenhuis
January 21—Mary Burggraaf

Join us for worship at 8am, 9am or 11:00am. Deaf Interpreting available at 9am service. Check us out on the web: www.communityrc.org or like our Facebook page!