PASTOR’S UPDATE

As the new year keeps moving forward, I am reminded how quickly the days can pass. We will already nearly be halfway through this month this coming weekend. I have sure been enjoying the warmer temps. I know there is a little cool down and some wind coming this week, but it has been a good year so far in that regards. I hope this doesn’t mean more snow and cold for later in the year. One thing I have learned from living around here my whole life is that you can never really know for sure until the day comes. Trying to figure all of this out is just too much work and usually only makes a person tired. I say we just enjoy what we have right now!

This coming Sunday morning during the 10 am time frame, we will be doing our annual congregational meeting to approve the new budget as well as talk a little bit about that planned new street that is coming. As I talked about Sunday in church, I just think this is going to be some exciting news for us and this place we call Community. I know it is going to cost some money and we are going to have to get a plan together to handle that, but I am just confident we can do it. I am so positive that God is all over this. From the day we bought this land, He knew how this was all going to go. I hope we can stay focused on the mission that is ahead. It’s a good day for us!

MidWeek is back in full swing as well. I know we had a smaller crowd last week as we were just trying to get going again after the holiday break, but I am sure those numbers will change. There are some great opportunities for classes for all the adults and so many things for the kids to do. If you have never been a part of that, I would like to encourage you to do it. It is still the best way to connect with this place.

I hope to see a few new faces there as the weeks move along. Also, Heather is always looking for a presenter or two for the weekly class session for the kids. You only have to commit to one week at a time...not the whole year. It is incredibly user friendly. Get in touch with her if you would like to help out!

Go Stand In The Corner! That place continues to be a good thing for us. Each week a couple or two finds their way into that space with questions or to say "hi". I want to encourage folks to use that space for new folks or even for those of you who have questions. It is a great resource for so many things. That has been a good idea that keeps on giving!

We have been putting plans together for some of the calendar’s upcoming events. There will be some great things coming this winter/spring season. I do hope you will be able to take some those in. It’s amazing to think that we are already thinking about spring things, but it will be here. How’s that for “looking up”?

Sunday our message is the second in the series on “Looking Up!” This week we stay on the wise men, but now the story is going to start to look at their first challenge which is this king who seems to want something very different than they want. They find themselves in battle and even though they aren’t aware of that battle...God is! I wonder what he is going to do? We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2019
10:10AM
This meeting is to approve the 2019 budget and to talk about the impending new street going in.

SENIOR CITIZENS
MONDAY, JANUARY 14
NOON
Seniors, join us at the Eastside Pizza Ranch on January 14th @ noon.

LEGACY JOURNEY
STARTS JANUARY 16
WEDNESDAYS @ 6:45PM
This course will lead you deeper into investing, basic estate planning, safeguarding your legacy, and discovering the keys to generational wealth. Taking Financial Peace University first is recommended by not required. Any questions, contact Josiah Dunlap (josiah.dunlap@communityrc.org)

FINANCES
General: $11,790
Vision: $9,916
Missions: $355
Wednesday night: $189

General YTD: $11,790
Vision YTD: $9,916
Vision Account Balance: $196,798

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, January 9
6:00pm– ham/ cheesy potatoes
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

Thursday, January 10
7:00pm– Elders
8:00pm– Consistory

Saturday, January 12
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
10:00am– Closed AA meeting

Sunday, January 13
10:10am– Sunday School
10:10am– Congregational Meeting

Monday, January 14
Noon– Seniors (E Pizza Ranch)
7:00pm– Men’s Bible Study

Tuesday, January 15
7:00pm– AA Meeting
7:00pm– Book Club (E. Panera)
7:00pm– Hope Circle

Wednesday, January 16
6:00pm– chicken/taco salad
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

UPCOMING MINISTRIES
COMMUNITY BOOK CLUBS
The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing I Am Malala by Yousafzai.

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 7 pm at the Panera on Foss Ave. We will be discussing The Joy Luck Club by Tan.

New participants welcome. Book Club Contact Trudi Nelson 371-3512

AA BIG BOOK MEETING
Every Tues at 7pm at Community– Open meeting. Use east door. Every Saturday at 10am Closed (Addicts/Alcoholics only) meeting.

SENIOR CITIZENS
Meet at the E. Pizza Ranch on Monday, Jan. 14 @ Noon
PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pete Valentine
- Natallie Baker (seizure disorder)
- Clayton Bierwagen (heart)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer)
- Chelle McMurray’s dad (multiple myeloma)
- Ellen Nelson (chronic airway disease)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease) (surgery 12/18)
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- William VamBram’s wife, Cynthia (heart)
- Gloria Wierda, Laura Maloney’s mom (stage 4 breast cancer)
- Joe Johnson (cancer)
- Sara Van Ruler’s dad (throat cancer)
- Lori Hein’s mom, Joan (heart)
- Wade Persson’s mom (cancer)
- Randy Grotenhuis (inflammation of the inner ear)
- Kara Schouten (kidney transplant)
- Al Hoogendoorn (multiple health issues)
- Dee Elliott (back surgery 12/20)
- Jim Ludens (radiation treatments)
- Verle Valentine (kidney stones)
- Harriet Valentine (breast cancer)
- Mark Groenweg (broken hip)

MISSIONS

THE GIVE
Check out THE GIVE wall in the lobby. It’s a place to donate to local ministries. We’ll highlight 4 each month.

- Safe Families– diapers (size 2 & up)/ wipes
- LSS– Alarm clocks, light bulbs
- Mission Haiti– hotel shampoos & soap
- Union Gospel Mission– Regular Coffee

MISSION OF THE MONTH:
The Klays– SIM

WOMEN’S MINISTRY

HOPE CIRCLE
Hope Circle will meet on January 15 at 7:00pm. Donna is hostess and Helen has the lesson. Donna’s address:4510 E 49th St. Sioux Falls, SD 57110.

FAITH CIRCLE
Faith Circle will not be meeting the months of January, February and March. If anyone has ideas for the April meeting, please contact Dolly, Florene or Connie.

MOMS OF NEWBORNS
This is a new group at Community open to any woman who is caring for a newborn. Do you feel overwhelmed? Do you have more questions than answers? Contact Jolene Larson if you’re interested in learning more about this group.
Jmlarson@alliancecom.net

JOY CIRCLE
Joy Circle will not be meeting the months of January, February and March.
I have found myself considering Pastor Clyde’s sermon from Sunday. “Look up.” Looking up is a lot easier to say, and imagine, and agree with than it is to actually do.

I’ve been thinking about when I actually look up...

I look up when things are going as well as they can go, and my feelings of thanksgiving for the goodness and gifts of God are off the charts. It’s pretty easy to look up then.

I also look up when things are going about as bad as they can go, and my feelings of hopelessness, doubt, and fear are off the charts. I look up then because I have nowhere else to look. I’m embarrassed to say it, but at those times, I usually look up because God is my last option.

Here’s the kicker that I’ve been fussing with since Sunday morning: I think God is inviting us to look up during the average sameness of our day to day lives.

Let’s face it, most of our days are lived somewhere in the emotional middle. All of our days aren’t wonderful, and all of our days aren’t terrible. Those extremes make up only a handful of days in our lives. The huge majority of our lives is spent not on the mountain and not in the valley but somewhere in the middle, where not much exciting happens, and the routine of our days fills our time. Would we even be so bold as to say it can be boring?? (Now, I know some of you would give anything for a few boring days but stick with me for a bit. 😊)

I find it especially challenging to look up on days of normalcy, yet I believe it’s one of the best things I can do to further my relationship with God. On most days of my life, when most days are normal, maybe even a bit boring, with nothing massive to celebrate and nothing looming to fear, those are the days when I need to look up. Who knows what I might be missing in my normal every-day life because I forget to look up??

And remember that in this case, looking up is not the same as doing a daily devotional or praying. I’m viewing this as an intentional focus, on God, in faith and trust, to carry out the good work He is already doing, in that moment. May God give us eyes to not only look up, but to see what and Who is there when we do.

Have a good week, and remember to LOOK UP!

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org
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<td><strong>H.S. Red Carpet night</strong></td>
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The new year is here, and I am so excited for it! I often picture one of the old Nintendo games and how they used to freeze. When it wasn’t working, or you wanted to start over, all you had to do was hit the reset button and it started over. While we can’t just go back to the beginning, I often relate this back to the new life I have in Christ. Praise God for his mercy and grace as he makes us new again through the work of His son Jesus!

As we get into this new year, I feel like there are so many things coming up and I am so excited for it all. For January, we are starting a series on Eternity. How does the promise of eternal life change our perspective, and how can it change the way we think and view things we are going through now. As I have been preparing for the lessons, I have been encouraged and challenged and am looking forward to diving in with the students.

We are bringing back an old event from when Liz was the youth director, Red-Carpet Night. On January 18th, we will be dressing up and going out to eat before coming back to church for an old school movie. Students – January 16th is the day to sign up by, so let me know if you are planning on coming so I can make arrangements!

Looking ahead a little, I am working on some Mission Trip plans, the Spring Fling fundraiser, and summer camp. But there will be more on that later this month!

If you have any questions regarding senior high ministries here at Community feel free to send them my way!

Doyle Burnside
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org
605-310-2561

Hey Community! It seems like everyone is getting back in the swing of things after the holidays. I’m really excited about what we have coming up on Wednesday night. This week we are going to talk about not knowing how to pray or not knowing what to say. I know there have been times where I have found myself in that place and I think it happens to more of us than we always think. This week at Midweek, we will talk about how using scripture to pray can help when words are difficult to find. I have found that using scripture or praying scripture helps us understand who God is, can help us resist temptation, and reminds us of God’s promises. We will talk about how different people in the Bible prayed by quoting scripture and how we can use that to keep our focus when we may be at a loss for words.

That’s all I have to update everyone on this week. Next week I will have some more information on our next activity and on our next series as well!

Sarah Powell
Powell.SarahEllen@gmail.com
Middle School Youth Group Coordinator
Hi Everyone!
I have two things for you to note this week.

First, we’ve decided to do an event for children and their families before Easter again this year. We did it last year and decided to give it a try again this year with some adjustments. We need volunteers to make it a success. Can you join us to lead a station, welcome people or just lend a hand? It is on April 13 from 10am to noon. Please mark your calendars to attend, bring friends and/or volunteer!

Second, we’re doing something new in the Children’s Wing at Community. On one of our walls, we’ll do a display to help us all remember that we can do ALL things for the glory of God. Even the little daily moments are an opportunity.

WHATEVER YOU DO, DO IT ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

We need your help! Can you email us some photos that I can print and hang on the wall? If you prefer, you can print them and bring them to church as well. We’d love a lot of photos of kids but also adults too so even if you don’t have kids, join the fun!

We’re looking for photos of our church family and kids doing “whatever we do!” That means a selfie in the drop off lane at school, a quick snap shot at karate, a photo of music practice. Maybe a picture of homework time, playing with a pet, eating a meal, playing a favorite game, running outside, curled up with a book, taking a nap, laughing with a friend, painting, smelling the flowers, enjoying family time, even a photo of some of our grown-ups at work! Share your moments, big and small. You can email or bring a photo and we can add it any time. We’ve got some great photos up already but we want EVERY-ONE from age 0 to 110!

Heather DeWit
Director of Children’s Ministry
(605)336-1475
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org
INFO YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW...

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **Baptism Service**
  MARCH 31

**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, March 31 @ 3pm.**

**NEED GROCERIES? OR GAS?**

Gift cards for HyVee, Fareway & Sunshine can be purchased on a Sunday morning at the coffee bar. 5% of that purchase will go toward our vision fund at church.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

- **Pastor Clyde Teel**
  pastor@communityrc.org
- **Liz Teel**
  Director of Discipleship & Worship
  Liz.teel@communityrc.org
- **John Thornton**
  Part-time Visitation Pastor
  prayerline@communityrc.org
- **Holli Jans**
  Communications Coordinator
  connect@communityrc.org
- **Heather DeWit**
  Director of Children’s & Youth Ministries
  Heather.dewit@communityrc.org
- **Doyle Burnside**
  Part-time Senior High Youth Director
  Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org
- **Sarah Powell**
  Part-time Middle School Youth
  Powell.sarahellen@gmail.com
- **Sheri Brouwer**
  Part-Time Nursery Coordinator
  Sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org
- **Lisa Blankers**
  Part-Time Financial Administrator
  accounting@communityrc.org
- **Josiah Dunlap**
  Part-Time IT Coordinator