A few more days of October and then November. Wow! Can you believe this? October was an interesting month for us with some nice days, but some snow and rain mixed in there as well. Now, November is here. I wonder how this one will go? November is my hunting month, so I am really hoping for some nice days. I didn’t take a summer vacation this year because I wanted to get in a few more days in November. I’m excited about doing that. Getting home to see my mom a little more and getting out in the fall air...that’s my goal. I don’t get back there enough. My own fault. I need to do better at that. I guess we shall see how all of that goes. Remember, this is the weekend that our times changes. You all get to sleep in on Sunday morning. I am expecting all kinds of energy from you.

The choir is getting their parts learned and we are moving in a good direction. We still have not had a rehearsal with everyone there, but I know how busy folks are with things. It is just hard to get you all together. Heather said they had a really turnout for the children’s Christmas program so that is coming together nicely, and they had a good group who turned out for the Haiti trip lunch as well. It was a busy afternoon this past Sunday.

The Mission focus morning was very good. I do think it was a good call to put all of them in the lobby. I know it really fills up that space, but sometimes that is just a good thing. I love to see all the activity in that room. A lot of good church goes on in that space. Great job to those who came and those who helped keep it all going. Great job, Holly! It looked great!

MidWeek is going great this year, as it usually does. We have lots of adults taking classes on Wednesday nights. The most ever.

I am so thrilled with the teachers we have for all of that and for those of you who are participating. Everyone has a nice group of people and we are cover a vast array of subjects. There is some good church going on there too! I love that!

We handed out the Bibles to our third graders on Sunday. I love that our church does that, and we do it well. I do want everyone reading this to be reminded that if you know of someone that doesn’t have one...I mean, anyone, let us know because we would love to get them one. There is not a better gift we could ever give!

The Consistory is working on next year’s budget and once again they do that in such a great way. No complaining from any of them...just very professional. We are always trying to do that the best we can. I believe the people here trust us and we never want to lose that gift. The street is a big item moving forward in these next couple of years. I think you all know that. Go God Go!

We start a new series this coming week. “The Lamb of God”. I am going to use the story of the young Jesus in Jerusalem as the center piece text. I don’t know if I have ever talked about that story very much and so for the next four Sundays we are going to look at that story. It has some interesting moments that give us just one more look into the amazing plan of God. Advent will follow close behind this series. The idea is to set the stage for Christmas by talking about Jesus and what he came to do. How much did he know even as a young boy? We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, Oct 30
6:00pm– Midweek meal-Italian Night
6:30pm– K-5th grade singing
6:45pm– K-8th grade classes
7:00pm– Classes for adults
7:30pm– H.S. Youth Group

Saturday, Nov 2
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
10:00am– Closed AA meeting

Sunday, Nov 3
10:10am– Sunday School
2:30pm– Kid’s Christmas Program Practice
4:00pm– Choir

Monday, Nov 4
7:00pm– Men’s Bible Study

Tuesday, Nov 5
7:00pm– AA

Wednesday, Nov 6
6:00pm– Midweek meal-Breakfast for Supper
6:30pm– K-5th grade singing
6:45pm– K-8th grade classes
7:00pm– Classes for adults
7:30pm– H.S. Youth Group

FINANCES

Sunday, Oct 27, 2019

General: $12,972
Vision: $1,360
Missions: $175
Wed. Night: $255
Sunday School: $5

General YTD: $643,280
Vision YTD: $156,335
Vision Account Balance: $96,495

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

BOOK CLUBS
The morning book club will meet on Thursday, November 14, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. They will be discussing A Lesson Before Dying.
NOTE the change in meeting date. This book club will now be on the second Thursday morning each month (instead of Wednesday).

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, November 19, at 7 pm for a book-connection event at a different location. Please check with Trudi or Lois in the church library for information.

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

THE GIVE
THE GIVE wall in the lobby is a place to donate to local ministries.
Union Gospel Mission– white sugar or powdered cream
Operation Christmas Child– School supplies
LSS of SD– Board Games or Legos
Community Youth Group– old cell phones

JOY CIRCLE
Bible Study-Monday, Nov. 11th @ 9:30am at church. Word: Kindness. NOTE DATE CHANGE.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: The Gideons

FAITH CIRCLE
No Faith Circle in November.
From your church library:

There’s always something going on in your church library. Notice the big display outside the library door. On one side, we are featuring books that tie to the sermons (including Angels by Billy Graham) and books on Bible characters. If you want to introduce your child to Jesus in the Old Testament, look at Jesus Storybook Bible book and videos. On the other side of the display case, the current feature is books that are nominated for this year’s Christy award. This is a major award for excellence in Christian fiction and always has good reading on its list!

As we approach the holiday season, new videos and books are published in that genre. Our library maintains a separate Christmas section year round on one of the display carts in the library. Look for fun items for Christmas including a new VeggieTale DVD and new fiction from some favorite authors.

For parents of young children, we are adding new items into the children’s area including more board books. Kids will enjoy the new Bible Infographics books, the third and fourth books of the Dead Sea Squirrels series, the newest in the Imagination Station series, and a new series of the Money Club (an early chapter book for 1st/2nd graders). For teens, the second and third books of the Code of Silence series are here.

There are new items added each week to the library—books, videos, and more. Check it out!

Your librarians,
Trudi, Lois, Lorena, and Merry

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**PRAYER REQUEST**

- **Clayton Bierwagen** (heart)
- **Jodie Jensen** (cancer)
- **Chelle McMurry’s dad** (multiple myeloma)
- **Ellen Nelson** (chronic airway disease)
- **Lexi Valentine** (auto-immune disease)
- **Jessica Vander Weide** (heart)
- **Lindsey Vander Weide** (heart)
- **Bruce Heinen** (Laura Maloney’s brother-in-law) lymphoma
- **Diane Johnson** (liver disease)
- **Gary Jensen** (cancer)
- **Michelle Carnes' brother, Mike** (cancer)
- **Sara Van Ruler’s dad** (throat cancer)
- **Wade Persson’s mom** (cancer)
- **Al Hoogendoorn** (multiple health issues)
- **Dave Sells** (surgery recovery)
- **Jenna Hoogendoorn** (liver)
- **Melanie Oden’s dad, David** (motorcycle accident)
- **Harriet Valentine** (knee replacement)
- **Carol Long** (knee replacement)
- **Cleone Groen** (surgery)
- **Bill Klein** (infection)
- **David Landegent**, Audrey’s son (cancer)
We had our first Christmas Program practice this week and it was so much fun! These are great kids and there sure are a lot of them! I’ll give them their scripts on Sunday with their roles so they can start gathering costume ideas. You won’t want to miss their performance. Mark your calendars for 12/8/19 to learn from the kids in their Christmas Program. I’m pretty sure you won’t be able to resist tapping your toes or giggling.

HELP WANTED: I’ve got some sewing projects for Christmas Program if any of you want to help create some costumes. Are you in the mood to sew a quick skirt or a few? Let me know.

This past Sunday we got to pray with the 3rd graders. I always love the day those 3rd grade kids get their Bibles. It is fun to see them dive in and read right away. I couldn’t resist poking my head in to see their Sunday School class in action for a minute or two. We have some pretty amazing kids. That is a big blessing!

Here are some tips for helping your kids with reading the Bible:

1. Pray about it and ask God to help them and help you. Pray with your kids about the Bible and their understanding of Living Word.

2. Pick a good Bible that your child can understand. If you need help with that, let me know. I’ve got some great options! The librarians here at church are also very knowledgeable in this area. For the youngest kids, I like the Jesus Storybook Bible lately because it ties even the Old Testament stories clearly to Jesus. The Bible we give the older kids is an NIV Teen Study Bible. I personally like to use NIV but also compare the NIV version to The Message when I’m reading sometimes.

3. Set a good example. Let your kids see you in the Word and see the Word in you. Talk to your kids about how the Bible is impacting you. Have discussion as a family about what you are learning and experiencing. Tip: The car is a great place for this kind of conversation if you are feeling like a taxi lately. Don’t turn reading the Bible into a chore or something on a list of things people “should” do but allow them to experience grace, joy, peace and much more.

4. Read together!

5. Help them find a place to start. Where they might like to start depends on the kid! You know them. Do they love adventure? Think Exodus. Luke has the story of Jesus and Christmas. The Psalms are a pretty short read and can be done in smaller bites. Ruth and Esther are both great because the whole story is in one book. Where they start isn’t as important is that they DO start! They can get to all of the books of the Bible eventually.

6. Ask if the child might have questions and just check in to encourage. It is just fine if you don’t have an answer to one of a child’s questions. You can think about it together.

7. Ask good questions. You can ask about facts like “who was on the ark?” An even more fun question might be, “how would you have felt if you were on the ark on the last day before they got to step on land?” However, try to also work your way to questions about how what the child is reading in the Bible connects with what God is doing in his or her life and what each part of the Bible is showing about who God is.

See you soon!
Heather DeWit
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org
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November 2019
Consistory Meeting  
October 10, 2019  
Community Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD  

Attendance: Mark, Curt, Pete, Clyde, Tom, Jolene, Bob, Gerald, Dustin, Mike H., Michael D., Matt W., Jim, Chad O., Matt M., Chad M., Russ, Heather and Liz  

Pete read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. We have all been given gifts which we are meant to share to build up the church. Pete opened with prayer.  

MSA of the September 2019 minutes with the following changes: Salary Committee will include Russ and Matt Marcus in place of Matt Weerheim.  

MSA of the financial reports for September 2019 given by Chad M.  

Old Business:  
Bob gave us a school/road construction update. We will have to pay for a septic and some connection hook ups. This will be approximately $7500.00.  

New Business:  
Liz gave the following report:  
We had almost 190 adults preregister for Mid-week classes. This is about double the number of participants from last year. The Corner continues to be active. Liz had over 30 people participate in The Draw for small groups. We currently have 3 small groups meeting and Liz will be in touch with these groups throughout the year. She plans to do a survey in May to see how things went. The Women’s Retreat went well. This will be the last one for a while as numbers seem to be declining. Choir practice started this past week. Right now, there are not enough people participating to do the concert but the plan is to give it a couple weeks before a final decision is made. Liz is still working out how to use the worship singers and children’s singing time before mid-week is going remarkably well! Liz plans to make a trip to Burke in the next week but will not miss any church activities.  

Heather gave the following report:  
Sunday school is off to a good start. There was a need to rearrange room assignments and this has seemed to help. Mid-Week had their first actual lesson this week. The changes that have been made in the schedule have run smoothly. Heather needs 3 more volunteer spots filled. Doyle is working on scheduling a parent meal soon to have discussion and get input from parents. High school started a series called “You Asked It”. Middle school is discussing the message of the Gospel and is planning an escape room event in October.  

Care team reports were shared.  

MSA to remove the Tablets for the Link and Stage Curtain purchases from the 2019 Capital Budget and replace with purchasing 8 new round tables costing $2658.00 and 40 new chairs for the middle school room costing $850.00 for a total of $3508.00.  

Russ addressed changes that need to be made in the benefit packages and RCA retirement plans being offered to employees that work over 30 hours. Discussion followed regarding these changes. Russ, Chad M. and Clyde will check on a few details and report back next month.  

Pete asked that we bring suggestions for Mission of the Month. There are openings that need to be filled.  

Next Meeting: November 14, 2019. We will have a budget meeting after mid-week on November 20th  

MSA to adjourn. Clyde closed with a time of prayer.  

Respectfully Submitted, Jolene Larson, Clerk
DOYLE’S UPDATE
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Here we are at the end of October - that does not sound right as I write it! It has been so great to continue to build the community within the high school group as we added a fairly large freshman class, and it has been a lot of fun getting back into middle school youth group as well. There are so many differences between the two groups, and it is so fun to work alongside both groups at the same time.

Upcoming in November, the high school ministry will be starting a series in John as we focus on Abiding in Christ. This will further dive into several questions students had asked in October, and be a response to our series in the Gospel in September. Before we get there, however, our final night here in October we will be a night out after we postponed from last week.

Our high school retreat is also coming up in November (the 22nd - 24th). The theme for the weekend is fearless as we focus in on living and sharing boldly in our faith. The weekend will be free for students, and is always an awesome time to connect and build upon relationships within the youth group.

For middle school, we will be going into a you asked it series for them. While the questions are different in wording, there is still plenty of overlap so far which is always interesting to see. While I had originally planned on doing this later in the year, the students have already asked so many good questions this first month, that I decided to spring it forward. Much like the high school group, I don’t claim to know all the answers. However, it is always so fun tapping into students knowledge they already have while getting into hope and promises found in scripture.

As we continue to press on in the year, if you have any questions for the high school or middle school ministries here at Community, feel free to reach out anytime!

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

Looking for someone to write cards from the church to those who are sick or hurting. Interested?
Talk to the church office 336-1475 or connect@communityrc.org.

Check out the table in the lobby for all you need to know about packing a box for a child. Don’t let postage stop you from filling a box! Some generous donors have given money to cover some shipping costs.

IT’S SHOEBOX TIME
Boxes due Nov. 20

DONATIONS NEEDED

Volunteers needed

POST OFFICE

Don’t let postage stop you from filling a box! Some generous donors have given money to cover some shipping costs.

Looking for someone to write cards from the church to those who are sick or hurting. Interested?
Talk to the church office 336-1475 or connect@communityrc.org.
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, Feb. 9 @ 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.