

# THE COMMUNICATOR

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER | 605.336.1475 | NOVEMBER 20, 2019

## PASTOR'S UPDATE

I don't know how we have gotten to this point, but November is half over and we are now nearly to Thanksgiving. Wow! The weather is trying to make us feel a little better, but we lost a lot of valuable fall with that cold weather run. I hope we get that back somehow. I will be gone this whole week in Nebraska hunting. It is the trip you all gave me! My fall retreat you might say. I am hoping for some nice weather and a good time of sitting out in the open. I should be all ready to get back at in on Sunday, so get ready for that! I have gotten to see my mom a little more this month and that's a good thing. She has some goodies in the freezer now so when I get back there, I should be eating well. That's important you know!

The choir is working hard. We are in a good place with things, but that concert will be here before you know it. I am so thankful for the folks who give of their time to do this. I know how busy people are and just how much that takes for people to make it happen. It is hard work at times, but they dig in for us. It is all for the enjoyment of making great music and bringing a meaningful message of hope and Christmas cheer. I really mean that! Music is a big part of the Christmas season and that choir Sunday is a fun day for all of us. I hope we have a great day and a wonderful concert. We are doing our best to get ready!

The kids have been working too. They have to spend a lot of time getting ready and it's not easy coordinating all those people and all those parts. People have complicated schedules these days with their children and finding time to put things together is challenging to say the least. Good job everyone! I know the program is going to a good one!

The 2020 budget is nearly completed. There are not a lot of changes this year which I think most of us are pleased. The only big item will be the cost of that street in front of us.

We will be talking more about that in the spring and summer. We are thinking of a plan to go after that with a little more focus next year. Nothing specific yet, but we are working on it! We have great people to do all of this kind of thing and I want to assure people that you can be very proud of the work those folks do with the whole process of running the finances of this place. It is not a small task. A million-dollar budget must be taken very seriously...and it is! We will be having a meeting to approve the 2020 budget soon.

Looking ahead to Christmas Eve. I told Sheri I would do the leg work to line up nursery for Christmas Eve this year. We tried not having that available last year...not a good idea. We listen! We learn! So, I didn't want Sheri to have to work on that for Christmas Eve. I need families to help out. There are two services that evening...give it some prayer...we have some time. Let me know directly. Make sure I write it down!

Sunday will be the last in the short series from the child Jesus in the temple. This week is our week to prepare a bit for the coming of Advent. There was this crazy "plan" that God put in place to save the world and bring a new kingdom to earth, but first we must complete this final piece of the temple story. Jesus has spoken his first recorded words and now Luke offers us a look at the next years of Jesus' life. This boy knew very much about who he was and what all this might mean...now he must wait. How long? How does he know when to start the next journey? Jesus waits! We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

### NURSERY SCHEDULE

**Nov. 24: 9:00am—**

Tom & Amy Bosch  
Tyler & Laurel Wolf

**11:00am-**

Dustin & Sheri Brouwer  
Jordan Lipp

**Dec. 1: 9:00am—**

Darren & Tracee Ellwein  
Nick & Abbie Langerock

**11:00am-**

Jason & Jamie VanSloten  
Zariah Sittig

### THE LINK SCHEDULE

**Nov 24: 9:00am—** Chad & Diane McKee

**11:00am—** Alexander Hoogendoorn

**Dec 1: 9:00am—** Gerald & Deb Teunissen

**11:00am—** Karen Roetman

### COFFEE SCHEDULE

**Nov. 24:** Dick & Jeannette Jennings

**Dec. 1:** Joel & Lisa Blankers

**Dec. 8:** Joel & Lisa Blankers

### GREETER SCHEDULE

**Nov 24**

**9:00am—**

Jeris & Maylene VanZee  
Doug & Sharon Harms  
Ron & Juanita Palsma

**11:00am—**

Donna Humme  
Mike & Jolene Hilbrands

**Dec. 1**

**9:00am—**

Jean Nollmann  
Dennis & Helen Robinson  
Nic & LaDonna Frieberg

**11:00am—**

Jean Nollmann  
Dennis & Helen Robinson



## KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE

### SUNDAYS

2:30PM

Ages 3-preschool practice during Sunday School hour.

K-5 kids practice on Sunday afternoons at 2:30pm. Christmas program: Dec. 8th @ 4:00pm.

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

ANGEL TREE

## THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27

7:00PM

Join us for our annual Thanksgiving Eve Service. No midweek meal.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Wednesday, Nov 20

6:00pm– Midweek meal-Taco/ Chicken Salad  
 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 23

7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)  
 10:00am– Closed AA meeting

### Sunday, Nov 24

10:10am– Sunday School  
 2:30pm– Kid's Christmas Program Practice  
 4:00pm– Choir

### Monday, Nov 25

7:00pm– Men's Bible Study

### Tuesday, Nov 26

7:00pm– AA

### Wednesday, Nov 27

7:00pm– Thanksgiving Eve Service

## UPCOMING MINISTRIES

### AA BIG BOOK MEETING

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

### JOY CIRCLE

Christmas Party: MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 Fellowship Hall at Community  
 10:45 Cooking demonstration  
 12:00 Noon Lunch  
 Please sign up at the Link

**SENIOR CITIZENS:** Seniors will meet on Dec. 9th at Noon at the Eastside Pizza Ranch.

### FAITH CIRCLE

Faith Circle will meet for their annual Christmas gathering on Monday, December 16, 11:30am at the All Day Cafe, 2101 W 41st Street. Please **RSVP by December 10** to Connie 275-0030. Hope you can join us.

## FINANCES

Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019

General:..... \$12,944  
 Vision: ..... \$2,980  
 Missions: ..... \$370  
 Wed. Night: ..... \$309  
 Sunday School:..... \$200  
 Faith Ave. .... \$450

General YTD: \$688,361  
 Vision YTD: \$176,773  
 Vision Account Balance: \$101,926

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.

## LIZ'S UPDATE

# Adult Discipleship/Worship



As we move ever closer to Thanksgiving (as of today, Monday, it's only 10 days away!) things at church continue full speed ahead for our special holiday events. Here are a few things to keep in mind.

November 20	Regular Mid-Week Activities
November 27	Thanksgiving Eve Service (No Mid-Week Activities)
December 4	Regular Mid-Week Activities
December 8	Children's Christmas Program 4:00pm
December 11	Final Mid-Week for 2019
December 15	Adult Christmas Choir Concerts at 9:00 and 11:00 services
December 24	Christmas Eve Services
January 8	Mid-Week Activities Resume

Also, this week, I'd like to take a bit of space to talk about Christmas at the Cathedral. For the past 5 years, I've had the privilege to be a part of this incredible event as the pianist with the orchestra. Christmas at the Cathedral combines a live orchestra, professional soloists, outstanding actors, and a full choir all in the splendor of the cathedral to share the good news of Jesus' birth. It is held at The Cathedral of St. Joseph here in Sioux Falls during the week of December 17 with performances December 19-22.

If you have never attended Christmas at the Cathedral, I strongly encourage you to consider it this year. Many of you have probably seen it on TV but trust me when I tell you that being there in person is an experience you will never forget. One of the things I love most about this whole experience is that people from different Christian backgrounds (Baptist, Methodist, Reformed, Catholic, Lutheran, etc.) come together to share the Good News with the world. This isn't just a Catholic event. It's a Christian event. In a time when there is so much division among people, it is deeply encouraging and heart-warming to see people come together in unity of Godly and spiritual purpose. I've made some wonderful friends in my years with Christmas at the Cathedral, and I'm deeply thankful I have the opportunity to participate. All that to say, if you are able, I think you should attend one of the performances. ☺ I know you will be blessed!

Have a great week!

Liz

[Liz.Teel@communityrc.org](mailto:Liz.Teel@communityrc.org)

## PRAYER REQUEST

- **Clayton Bierwagen** (heart)
- **Jodie Jensen** (cancer)
- **Chelle McMurrey'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)
- **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)
- **Cleone Groen** (surgery)
- **David Landegent**, Audrey's son (cancer)
- **Verle Valentine** (back)
- **Gary Rames** (knee replacement)
- **Dree Mayer** (shoulder surgery)

## HEATHER'S UPDATE

# KIDS

# MINISTRY

Hi Everyone! I hope you are having a great week. Please remember to drop of your Christmas Child shoeboxes on Wednesday if you didn't get them here on Sunday.

- At Midweek, the K-5 kiddos watched a Superbook movie about Daniel and the Lions this week. During Fun Zone, some of the kids were using the play sand to make a "Lion's Den." I heard them saying things like, "God will be with me" and "I will pray to God no matter what." When they discovered a cookie cutter to make zebra shapes, poor Daniel was thrown into the "Zebra's Den" for a bit. They really had me giggling! I guess God is with us, even in the Zebra's Den! 😊
- This Wednesday, the K-5 kids will dive into the book of Jonah. God's forgiveness is a topic that I see kids really wrap their hearts around differently than some of us do as adults. It is inspiring. The lesson this week should be a fun and challenging one for the kids. They'll make their own board games featuring a few of their favorite moments from the Jonah story. I'm anticipating some fun and learning as we decide which spaces to include like "don't go to Nineveh, lose a turn" or "obey God, go ahead 3 spaces." As we do some of these Old Testament books, I've been struck by how easy it is to see them as "stories" rather than historical events. In some ways, that isn't a bad thing. We get into the Bible in a way that we wouldn't usually think or feel when talking about history in a history textbook. However, as I keep reminding the kids, these events really happened! They are real people. God is real. The places are real. The Biblical truths are real. After all of this fun with Daniel, Jonah and others, we'll zoom into our Christmas lessons.
- In Sunday School, the 3 year old and Preschool age kids learned that we can talk with God. They made their own toy using a party horn where Jonah goes right in the mouth of that great big fish! Jonah sat in the fish tummy and talked with God and we can too! Next week, these classes will start their Christmas lessons.
- The K-2 Sunday School classes are learning in the Old Testament as well. They learned about Isaiah this week and God's Rescue Plan. "He will wipe away every tear from every eye." Next week they will revisit Daniel and learn about how Daniel can point us to Jesus. This is big stuff for little kids but they are doing great!
- The 3-5 grade crew is tackling big stuff on Sunday mornings too. They are talking about Heaven and eternity and next they'll talk about forgiveness.

For kids in the Christmas Program, please remember to work on your lines this week since next week is our last practice before the day of the program. That went quickly! Our program is on 12/8/19 at 4pm with K-5 kids arriving at 3pm.

Heather DeWit

[Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org](mailto:Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org)

## DOYLE'S UPDATE

# MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Our high school retreat is coming up this weekend! I'm excited to get away for a weekend and focus on how we can be bold in sharing our faith. We have been doing a series in "Abiding In Christ" this month and it will serve as a great lead up to our retreat. Swan Lake has been so great with hosting retreats in the past and they have been great to work with leading up to our weekend. This week, we will be talking about Abiding with Christ through Prayer. What a blessing it is to be able to go directly to our Heavenly Father in prayer.

The middle school group had a lot of fun bowling this past Sunday. It's so fun seeing how the group comes together and continues to build relationships within the group. It's also a great way for me to continue to get to know students better as well. For Wednesday nights, we have been in a "You Asked It" series. Students have asked a lot of great questions and it has been fun to get into those this onto. Last week, we had a great discussion on Heaven. It's fun to imagine and dream what that may be like. And while I don't know exactly what that looks like, we do know we will be in the presence of Christ! So excited for that! We also had some discussion on creation. While there is a lot out there on how the earth came to be, we went back to God as Creator.

Please continue to pray for our youth ministry here at Community. If there are any questions you have, please send them my way!

Doyle Burnside  
[Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org](mailto:Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org)  
605-310-2561

## THE GIVE

THE GIVE wall in the lobby is a place to donate to local ministries.

**Union Gospel Mission**– caps, scarves & gloves

**Child Protection Services**– stuffed animals & blankets

**Community Nursery**– 2T-5T clothes  
(used for kids if they spill or have an accident)

**Lexi's Christmas Closet**– books, toys, electronics & gift items  
(items given to children/parents that in the hospital over the holidays)

# THANK YOU!

Community, thank you for your thoughts & prayers over these past few months for Lexi & Harriett. Our whole family appreciates your prayers. Thank you!

The Valentine Family

## VOLUNTEER INFO



Are you volunteering for the nursery or The Link?

Community is now using a software system called Church Community Builder (CCB) for scheduling. If you are a volunteer, you will receive a text or an email from <https://ccb.ms/3JH1-5B3V2W>. It'll be named: "Check out your new serving opportunities."

### WHAT DO I DO WHEN I GET THE TEXT OR EMAIL?

- 1) Click on the link
- 2) Click Serving Requests
- 3) Click on the specific serving request
- 4) Click on a response:
  - A: Accept– I'll be there!
  - B: Swap with Someone– this is where you would pick a date that works for you and then a text will go to the volunteers on that date. They would respond if they can or cannot swap with you.
  - C. Message Scheduler– This would notify the scheduler that you cannot serve.

### DO I GET A REMINDER OF WHEN I'M SERVING?

Yes! You'll receive 2 text reminders during the week that you serve. Please make sure your scheduler has your cell phone number and provider.

Questions?  
Contact Sheri Brouwer  
([sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org](mailto:sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org)) or  
Holli Jans ([connect@communityrc.org](mailto:connect@communityrc.org))



### TREE MOVERS

Volunteers needed to move the Christmas trees from the garage to the worship center after the Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, Nov. 27th. Contact Joel Blankers if you can help 366-7826.

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### CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING HELP NEEDED NOVEMBER 29TH @ NOON

We have ornaments and hooks - but now we need help getting the ornaments on the eight trees that will be assembled in the sanctuary.

If you have time to hang a few or more, please give Brenda Thornton a call @ 605.484.3142.

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
Permit No. 7119

Nov. 20, 2019

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## INFO YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW...

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Baptism Service**  
FEB 9

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### 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.

### REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP & BAPTISM...

If you would like to request membership or baptism, please e-mail the church office at [connect@communityrc.org](mailto: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.**

**Pastor Clyde Teel**  
[pastor@communityrc.org](mailto:pastor@communityrc.org)

**Liz Teel**  
Director of Discipleship & Worship  
[Liz.teel@communityrc.org](mailto:Liz.teel@communityrc.org)

**John Thornton**  
Part-time Visitation Pastor  
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**Holli Jans**  
Communications Coordinator  
[connect@communityrc.org](mailto:connect@communityrc.org)

**Heather DeWit**  
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**Doyle Burnside**  
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**Sheri Brouwer**  
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**Lisa Blankers**  
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**Josiah Dunlap**  
Part-Time IT Coordinator