

# THE COMMUNICATOR

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER | 605.336.1475 | NOVEMBER 28, 2018

## PASTOR'S UPDATE

We did have a great week of weather last week for Thanksgiving, but it sounds like maybe winter might be arriving in full force at the end of this week. I can certainly feel the cold right now. I really liked 50 better than 9. I knew that could never last, but it was sure nice while it lasted. We can hope for another warm up though. I have seen that happen in other years and there is really no reason why we can't wish for that again. I had a great time last week doing some hunting back home. I could have done that for a few more days for sure. It was nice weather and things were moving...it was just a great time. I do really love that time back there. My mom thought it was good as well.

We are into the Christmas season now! This coming Sunday is the first Sunday of advent and off we go. The Kid's Christmas program is this coming Sunday at 4pm and then the following Sunday, the choir will bring their concert to us as well. I am planning on a caroling kind of Sunday morning on that day. We are going to invite you to sing along with us a couple of times during the concert. It'll get you in the spirit of Christmas. I haven't seen what the kids have in store, but I'm sure it will be a good one. I remember last year the room was full of people for that performance. I had to remind myself that there are getting to be more and more kids involved which means more parents and grandparents. We will fill that room again this year. I love this time of year!

We have decorations up as well. I know those folks were working very hard on getting this all ready. I have heard there are a couple of other things coming with all that too, and I just say the more the better for me.

That group has sure been flexible with how they put all that together because we have to change that stage so many times with the kid's program and then choir the next week. They have been so understanding about all that. I hope you enjoy the "look". It doesn't just happen magically. There were people here working on it. They do a great job!

We have been planning our Christmas Eve Communion service this year. In all of our planning discussions we have been trying put a new look to all of that. I know...it's just fine and I need to be careful with making too many changes. If it isn't broke...don't fix it! I understand that. In our planning we typically have the family sing for that night. This year we might change that some and not sing as much...we don't want it to be just about that. You can give me some feedback on that if you wish. I am just always looking for ways to make it better. Communion in that room on Christmas Eve is almost enough just by itself. There is something about that setting that really works for everyone. You can offer a comment or two...your input matters.

Sunday is the first Sunday of advent and this year our theme is "Celebration". It's all upbeat and all about joy. I am doing the messages on Promise, Prophets, Provision, and Proclamation! This week is all about "promise". Hope was born that night in Bethlehem. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

## NURSERY SCHEDULE

### December 2: 9:00am—

Andy & Tessa Benson  
Corey & Laurel Feenstra  
**11:00am-**  
Doug & Sharen Harms  
Kristi Olson

### December 9: 9:00am—

Tyler & Laurel Wolf  
Shawn & Lori Blom  
**11:00am-**  
Tyler & Amber Nieuwsma  
Jordan Lipp

## THE LINK SCHEDULE

### Dec 2:

**9:00am-** Angeline Lavin  
**11:00am-** Jerralynne Tjeerdsm

### Dec 9:

**9:00am-** Daryl & Char DuBois  
**11:00am-** Darren & Tracee Ellwein

## COFFEE SCHEDULE

Dec. 2: Steve & Becky Lee  
Dec. 9: Denny & Sue Brunsting  
Dec. 16: Dick & Jeannette Jennings

## GREETER SCHEDULE

### Dec. 2

**9:00am-**  
Jean Nollmann  
Irwin & Helen Van Leeuwen  
Daron & Sherri Van Beek  
**11:00am-**  
Jean Nollmann  
Ken & Susan Vos

### Dec. 9

**9:00am-**  
Donna Humme  
Bruce Wentzel & Bonnie Overweg  
Nic & LaDonna Freiborg  
**11:00am-**  
Donna Humme  
Larry & Gloria Smyrak



## KID'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

LAST PRACTICE:  
DEC. 1 @ 2:00PM

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:  
DEC. 2ND @ 4:00PM

## CHRISTMAS CHOIR

SUNDAY, DEC. 9  
9:00am & 11:00am

'Tis the season! Join us for a special Sunday where our Christmas Choir performs at our 9:00am & 11:00am services.

**(NEW)**

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

MONDAY, DEC. 24  
4:00PM & 6:00PM

Celebrate the real reason for the season! Join us for one of our Christmas Eve Communion Services.

## FINANCES

Sunday, November 25, 2018

General:..... \$12,906  
Vision: ..... \$960  
Missions: ..... \$1,194  
Wed Night: ..... \$—

General YTD:           \$697,904  
Vision YTD:            \$183,382

Vision Account Balance: \$105,194

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Wednesday, Nov 28

6:00pm- Chicken Salad/Taco Salad  
7:00pm- Classes for all ages & Youth groups

### Saturday, Dec. 1

7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)  
10:00am- Closed AA meeting  
2:00pm—Kid's Christmas Program Practice

### Sunday, Dec. 2

10:10am- Sunday School  
4:00pm- Kid's Christmas Program  
6:00pm- Choir

### Monday, Dec. 3

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

### Tues, Dec. 4

7:00pm- Open AA Meeting

### Wednesday, Dec. 5

6:00pm- Soup  
7:00pm- Classes for all ages & Youth groups

## UPCOMING MINISTRIES

### COMMUNITY BOOK CLUBS

**The morning book club** will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 9am at the Bagel Boy on MN Ave. We will be discussing *The Joy Luck Club* by Tan.

**The evening book club** will meet Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 7pm at the E. Panera. We will be discussing *Sarah's Key* By deRosnay.

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

### SENIOR CITIZENS

Meet at the E. Pizza Ranch on Monday, Dec 10 @ Noon.

### AA BIG BOOK MEETING

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

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SAFE FAMILIES INFO MEETING

Monday, December 3, 7-8pm

At the Bethany Christian Services office  
400 S Sycamore Ave, Suite 103-1

# PRAYER REQUESTS

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- **Pete Valentine**
- **Natallie Baker** (seizure disorder)
- **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)
- William VamBram's wife, **Cynthia** (heart)
- **Gloria Wierda**. Laura Maloney's mom (stage 4 breast cancer)
- **Sara Van Ruler's dad** (throat cancer)

- **Joe Johnson** (cancer)
  - Lori Hein's mom, **Joan** (heart)
  - Wade Persson's mom (cancer)
  - **Randy Grotenhuis** (inflammation of the inner ear)
  - **Cahlen Vanderlip** (grandson of Mike & Jolene Hilbrands)
  - **Grace Vanden Hueval** (surgery recovery)
  - **Kara Schouten** (kidney transplant)
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## 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.

**Love Lexi & Friends Christmas Closet: gifts for children hospitalized over Christmas- all ages**

**Union Gospel mission:** Hooded sweatshirts XL-5XL

**The Banquet-** new hoodies & socks

### MISSION OF THE MONTH:

Bishop Dudley House

### UNION GOSPEL MISSION:

Hooded sweatshirts XL-5XL  
Please place in the designated bin at The Give in the lobby.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### FAITH CIRCLE

Mark your calendars for our Christmas Gathering on Monday, Dec. 3, 11:15am at CJ Callaways, (500 E. 69th St.)

### JOY CIRCLE

Tuesday, Dec. 18th Christmas Party  
CJ Callaways @ 11:30am  
Please RSVP to Char at 366-1341

### HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle meet on Dec 18th at 6:00pm.  
Hostess: Helen.

### MOMS OF NEWBORNS

#### MONDAYS from 6:30-7:30pm

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. Then this group is for you! Hosted by Jolene Larson.  
Jmlarson@alliancecom.net

Dates: December 3, 10, 17.

## LIZ'S UPDATE

# Adult Discipleship/Worship



I hope everyone had a lovely Thanksgiving weekend, and maybe even had a chance to take a break from the craziness of our schedules. As we get into the holiday season, it always seems like there's more we want to do than we can possibly get done in the time we have! The church Christmas Choir concerts are coming up on December 9 at both the 9:00 and 11:00 services. It's hard to believe we are at this point in the year, but you can't argue with the calendar! The choir has worked extremely hard this year on some very challenging pieces, and I'm excited for them to share their work with everyone. December 9 will be an excellent day to invite friends to church. Hint, hint. ☺

Of course, all of this planning and scheduling has me thinking about how I spend my time. Here's something I've been wrestling with: I've been wondering if wasting time is sinful. Now I'm not talking about rest, or sabbath, or taking a vacation from work. We definitely need time where we don't do much, especially in our busy society. Instead, I'm talking about wasting time. The definition of waste in this case is "to use or expend carelessly, extravagantly, or to no purpose." Ouch, right?

We try very hard to not waste water, food, or money, but isn't it interesting that we don't apply this to time? Sometimes, we actually say that we have time to waste while we wait for something more important to come along. Maybe it's because I'm in my 40s, but I can safely say that I'm starting to look at time with much more value than I used to. Our time on this planet is limited. Our time is finite. There's only so much of it. And what's even a bit more unsettling is that we don't know how much time we have. I'm saddened by my own choices when I choose to spend my valuable time doing something meaningless.

Once again, I'm not trying to imply that every second of every day needs to have meaning, or that we need to squeeze purpose out of every drop of work we do. I simply want to encourage you to think about how you spend your time. Are you spending it carelessly or to no purpose as the definition says? If so, I challenge you to spend some time talking to God about it. Our times are in His hands, and I have a feeling He'll help us straighten it out if we only ask. ☺

Have a good week!

Liz  
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org



'TIS THE SEASON  
**CHRISTMAS  
CHOIR**

**DECEMBER 9TH  
9:00AM | 11:00AM**

## HEATHER'S UPDATE

# Kids MINISTRY



Hello Everyone!

Christmas Program time is coming really soon so we have some reminders:

- **The Kids' Christmas Program is Sunday, December 2 at 4pm.** The 3 year olds and Preschool age kids will do their program first and they certainly do make a Joyful Noise! Then the K-5 kids with the band/orchestra will perform "Too Busy!" They have all worked really hard so I think it will be a great time for everyone. Everyone will practice their singing one more time during Sunday School this week.

**Our dress rehearsal for the K-5 and Middle Schoolers will start at 2pm THIS Saturday, Dec. 1** but please try to come early enough so that your child is in their costume and has props ready before practice starts. The band/orchestra should come get warmed up and tuned as well please. We plan on us finishing practice around 3:30pm. If your child needs props like shopping bags, etc. and you'd like me to bring them for them, please send me a quick email so I have everything ready. Please remind kids with lines that they should have them all memorized before practice this week.

Our Midweek lesson this week is from 1 Corinthians 12. If you have a K-5 kid in Midweek, ask them what an epistle is. After Wednesday you could ask them why they think Paul chose to compare the church to a body. Ask them about the games we played! After that we are in our Christmas lessons until 2019 when we return to the New Testament Letters.

Our Sunday School classes are all deep into their lessons for the year. There is a wide variety of topics so I really encourage you to ask your children about what they are learning. Sometimes it helps to ask them BEFORE Sunday School to remember one thing they want to tell you about after Sunday School. 😊

I've been wondering how many kids/youth/adults are using our "sermon notes" that are available with colored pencils for use during church. If you or someone you know likes to use those, could you send me a quick email or text? I'm considering discontinuing them or changing the format but I won't do that if anyone is enjoying them.

See you soon everyone!

Heather  
Heather.DeWit@communityrc.org

kids  
**Christmasprogram**  
DECEMBER 2 4:00PM



## SARA'S UPDATE

# MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY



November has gone by so quickly. Next week will be December already. With that coming up, our Christmas party is approaching. Every year we have a Christmas party where the students exchange a pair of unused Christmas socks that are filled with goodies inside. This can be anything from candy to fun trinkets. This year I am going to be awarding the most creative. During the night we also play games and have different competitions. The festivities will be on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and will begin at 6:30. If you can get your middle school kiddos there to eat at six, that would be great! If not, they can jump right in when they arrive. Also note, if you arrive and realize your socks have been forgotten or your child wants to invite a friend, I always stuff a few extra socks just in case!

This week we are going to look at how the story of the woman caught in adultery in John Chapter 8 is very relevant to us in our digital age. This is where Jesus commands the person who has never sinned to cast the first stone against this woman who has sinned. In some ways people are having stones cast at them on media all the time. We are going to talk this week about how we can use media to point people towards Jesus. The man who doesn't cast a stone but chooses to open his arms and say "come to me." I mentioned that we would be doing different media challenges during this series. This week there are two challenges wrapped into one. I am going to challenge the kids to speak, comment, or say something positive to someone that they think might need it. The second part of the challenge is to pray for them continuously throughout the week. As I mentioned before I welcome you to partner with your students and encourage them if they decide to rise to the challenge. I hope you all have a great week!

Sarah Powell  
powell.sarahellen@gmail.com

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## CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Clayton Bierwagen for the recent passing of his nephew, Matthew Bierwagen.

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Our condolences also go out to Laura Maloney for the passing of her uncle, Dave Hulsart.

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Please keep these families in your prayers.



"JESUS THE BOAT ROCKER" t-shirts will be on clearance THIS SUNDAY. Grab your t-shirt for \$5 instead of \$10. (THIS IS COMMUNITY shirts are still \$10.) Cash or check only please.

# December 2018

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
							1 7:00am-Prayer 10:00am-AA Meeting 2pm-Kids Christmas program practice
2	10:10am-Sunday School 4:00pm-Kid's Christmas Program 6:00pm-Choir Practice	3 9:30am-Joy Bible Study 11:15am-Faith Circle (Callaway's) 7pm-Men's Bible Study	4 7pm-AA Meeting	5 6pm-Soup 7pm-Classes for all	6	7	8 7:00am-Prayer 10:00am-AA Meeting
9	10:10am-Sunday School 9 & 11am-Choir Concert	10 Noon-Seniors @ E. Pizza Ranch 7pm-Men's Bible Study	11 7pm-AA Meeting	12 9am-Book Club ( Bagel Boy on MN) 6pm-Tacos 7pm-Classes for all	13	14	15 7:00am-Prayer 10:00am-AA Meeting
16	10:10am-Sunday School	17 7pm-Men's Bible Study	18 11:30am-Joy Circle (Callaways) 7pm-Book Club @ E Panera 6pm-Hope Circle 7pm-AA Meeting	19 No Midweek	20 7pm-Elders 8pm-Consistory	21	22 7:00am-Prayer 10:00am-AA Meeting
23	No Sunday School	24 Office Closed Communion Christmas Eve Services 4 & 6pm	25 Merry Christmas!	26 No Midweek	27 6:30pm-Random Acts of Kindness Scavenger Hunt	28	29 7:00am-Prayer 10:00am-AA Meeting
30	No Sunday School	31 Office Closed					

# Community Reformed Church

6800 E 41 Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

November 28, 2018

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

«Directory Name»  
«Address»  
«City», «State» «Zip Code»

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## INFO YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW...

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Baptism Service**  
MARCH 31

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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, March 31 @ 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  
[prayerline@communityrc.org](mailto:prayerline@communityrc.org)

**Holli Jans**  
Communications Coordinator  
[connect@communityrc.org](mailto:connect@communityrc.org)

**Heather DeWit**  
Director of Children's & Youth Ministries  
[Heather.dewit@communityrc.org](mailto:Heather.dewit@communityrc.org)

**Doyle Burnside**  
Part-time Senior High Youth Director  
[Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org](mailto:Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org)

**Sarah Powell**  
Part-time Middle School Youth  
[Powell.sarahellen@gmail.com](mailto:Powell.sarahellen@gmail.com)

**Sheri Brouwer**  
Part-Time Nursery Coordinator  
[Sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org](mailto:Sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org)

**Lisa Blankers**  
Part-Time Financial Administrator  
[accounting@communityrc.org](mailto:accounting@communityrc.org)

**Josiah Dunlap**  
Part-Time IT Coordinator