



November 29, 2017

COMMUNITY

Pastor's Update

Well, let's just start off the week's newsletter with the news that I wasn't actually wrong when I thought Sunday **wasn't** the first Sunday of Advent. However, I was wrong when I switched my thoughts to say that it **was** the first Sunday of Advent...so I'm not sure if that makes me right or wrong. Maybe it just means I need to trust my planning a bit more. Whatever did occur, I do think that most of you would agree that the message for Sunday was just the right word for so many of our people and I had nothing to do with setting that all into place. That is what God does in my life and for that I am most grateful.

I do hope that many of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with the special folks in your life. Our Thanksgiving day was nice with our family, but I won't say much about the rest of the weekend, as it was very full and very sad in many ways for many of the folks I was sharing with. I just felt so bad for so many of you who were dealing with some very sad times during those few days. I am hoping God will be near as you move through the coming days. Nothing like this is ever easy.

We are getting excited about the big Christmas concert coming on the 10th. The choir has worked so hard and do mean that this year with all the enthusiasm I can put into that word. This is a very demanding performance for the choir and I think we have pushed them to the limit, but it is sure going to be wonderful experience for you the listeners. We are praying for some good weather because you just never know what might happen in December.

The kids Christmas program is this coming Sunday and what I have noticed about all that is the number of people who have stepped up to help with all the planning and details. It is going to be a great day for them so make plans to attend that this coming Sunday. I know, it doesn't seem like Christmas should be here yet, but it is. We might as well jump in!

I also want to take the time to make a plug for the 60th anniversary open house on the 9th of December. Now that's just a couple of weeks away from 2pm to 4pm. We are going to have a little short program and share some good food and spend some time sharing about the foundations of this place we call Community. Abbie has put all this together. She just felt as though we need to make so much more out of the history that has made us who we are. I think it is a great idea, and just so you know... that girl can plan an open house! You will not want to miss it. If you are a part of this church, you need to stop in if only for a few minutes. It is who we are!

I can now do my entire Christmas series of Joseph because I was right...or wrong...or whatever I was. Anyway...he will be our theme for this year's Advent season. His role is very different than Mary's. His heart is going to be tested. His willingness to move forward is going to be challenged. He is going to see God moving in ways that one would not expect. Does that sound like your life? It sure sounds like mine. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

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**Kids Christmas Program
December 3 at 4pm
3year olds through 5th grade**



NURSERY SCHEDULE

November 26: 9:00am—

Val Huber
Amy Smit
Lorena Szazama
Linda Zwart

11:00am—

Tyler & Amber Nieuwsma
Dustin Brouwer

December 3: 9:00am—

Corey & Molly Karmazin
Nathan & Amber Van Roekel

11:00am—

Jason & Jamie Van Sloten
Amanda Wielenga

COFFEE SCHEDULE

Dec. 3: Steve & Becky Lee
Dec. 10: Daryl & Char DuBois
Dec. 17: Joel & Lisa Blankers

THE LINK SCHEDULE

Dec 3

9:00am— Tom Van Roekel
11:00am— Lance & Robyn
Niewenhuis

Dec 10

9:00am— OPEN
11:00am— Mark & Pat Koll

GREETER SCHEDULE

December 3:

9:00am— Wade & Diane Friese,
Monty & Marlene Van Meeteren,
Rich & Carolyn Odens
11:00am— Jean Nollman, Bill & Dar
Kiezer, Donna Humme

December 10:

9:00am— Denny & Sue Brunsting,
Dennis & Helen Robinson, Josh &
Molly Kuehl
11:00am— Jerralynne Tjeerdmsa,
Dennis & Helen Robinson, Ken &
Deb Meyer

December Mission of the month is

Bethany Christian Services— Safe Families for Children program

- 1) Keep children safe during a family crisis such as homelessness, hospitalization or domestic violence in an effort to prevent child abuse or neglect.
- 2) Support and stabilize families in crisis by surrounding them with caring, compassionate community.
- 3) Reunite families and reduce the number of children entering the child welfare system.

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUBS

Morning Book Club will be meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 9am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Stein.

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

Joy Circle— Christmas Party at CJ Callawyas on Dec. 18th @ 11:30am. Sign up the The Link by Dec. 10th.

Faith Circle will be going to Minervas on Monday, Dec. 18th at 1pm. Call: Audrey at 605-371-1282 by Dec. 11.

Hope Circle meets on Dec. 19th at 7:00pm at Helen's house.

The Union Gospel love gift for December is money for the Christmas Day meal. Please make the check payable to church and designate Union Gospel Mission in the memo.

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
- Natallie 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)
- Susan Bierwagen (chronic hives)
- Ember
- Stan Deelstra (heart attack)
- Gary VanDenHoek (surgery recovery)
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Marlys VanBruggen (breast cancer)
- Annetta Wiese
- William VamBram's wife, Cynthia (heart)
- Troy Hartman (prostate cancer)
- Gary VanDenHoek (surgery recovery)
- Marilyn Bosch's mom, Vivian
- Cleone Groen (leg surgery)

Liz's Update

I've heard several people mention that they've read my recent articles and challenges and they are taking it to heart! And to be honest, when I've been chatting with others about those challenges, I've been reminded to keep going with them in my own life! It is my sincere hope that small changes like these can make our Christmas season even more meaningful. Carry on, friends!

For this week, I'll note a few upcoming events:

Sunday, December 3 at 4:00pm
Saturday, December 9 from 2:00-4:00
Sunday, December 10 at 9:00 and 11:00
Wednesday, December 13
Sunday, December 24 10:00am
Sunday, December 24 4:00 and 6:00pm

Children's Christmas Program
60th Anniversary Open House for Church
Christmas Choir Concerts
Last night of Mid-Week until 2018
Morning Church Service
Christmas Eve Communion Services

I'll be hosting the youth group Christmas Party at my house next week on December 6. I'll be handing out invitations at youth group this week, and I would sure love to be prayed up for this event! I cook soups and bake rolls for around 40 students every year, and we fill my house to the brim that night! It's always a lot of fun to get together with those high school students during the Christmas season!

That's it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz
youthpastor@communityrc.org



We are looking for anyone who is interested in working the nursery at 10:00 am, 4:00 or 6:00 pm on Christmas Eve.

Please contact Sheri at 605-261-2153 if you are interested in helping out.

60 YEARS ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Saturday, December 9th
OPEN HOUSE
2:00-4:00pm

Come celebrate Community's 60 year anniversary!
We are going to have a little short program and share some good food and spend some time sharing about the foundations of Community.

Heather's Update



Hi Everyone,

I hope that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I enjoyed a busy long weekend filled with family, fun and of course food. Our ten year old daughter, Addi Joy, celebrated her 10th birthday on Thanksgiving Day so we added cake to our Thanksgiving meals.

For my little family of four, Thanksgiving and Christmas can become times that are full to the brim with family gatherings. My parents divorced and remarried while I was pretty young so I get to have Christmas on "my side of the family" quite a few different times! Then when Jaron and I got married, that added a few more Christmas gatherings. Sometimes so many get together can feel a little overwhelming but it truly is a great blessing to have so many people who love us. This year at Thanksgiving as we were driving from our 3rd Thanksgiving gathering to our 4th, I really started thinking about how important it is for me to pray for people that feel lonely at this time of year. Even people who have a lot of folks to be around can feel lonely and loss and sorrow can also make the holidays tough. It can be so easy to forget that in the hustle of the season but it is on my heart to remember this year. If you are feeling a little sad or lonely, please know I'm thinking about you and praying for you. For those of you that are feeling a little overwhelmed and too busy, I'm thinking about you and praying for you as well. Try to catch a moment here and there.

If you haven't already put it on your calendar to join us for the Kids' Christmas Program, you might want to. It is going to be really fun.

Our dress rehearsal is on Saturday for the K-5 kids so we will be all wound up and ready for some fun. The little kids (3 years old through preschool) are practicing on Sunday morning during Sunday School one last time. They are so sweet with their bells and smiles.

I'll see you soon!
Heather DeWit
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org

*But the angel said to them,
"Do not be afraid.
I bring you good news that
will cause great joy
for all the people.
Luke 2:10*



**Kids' Christmas Program
December 3 at 4pm
3year olds through 5th
grade**

Dec 3– All kids arrive at 3:30pm–
Parent volunteers needed to help
keep everyone calm while we get
ready to start. :)

The 3 year olds and Pre-K kids do
ALL of their practicing during Sun-
day School on Sunday mornings.

Kindergarten through Fifth Grade
kids participating in the program-

**Dec 2– Dress Rehearsal in
Sanctuary 10am to 11:45**
Remember your costume stuff
and props please, especially magi
gifts and stuffed animals. :)

December 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2 7am-Prayer Time 10am- Kid's program dress rehearsal
3 10:10am- Sunday School 4pm- Kids Christmas Program 6pm- Choir	4 7pm- Men's Bible Study	5	6 6pm- Pork 7pm- Classes H.S Christmas party at	7	8	9 7am-Prayer Time 2-4pm- Anniversary party
10 10:10am- Sunday School 9 & 11am- Choir Concert	11 Noon- Seniors @ E. Pizza Ranch 7pm- Men's Bible Study	12	13 9am- Book Club (Bagel Boy on MN) 6pm- BBQ 7pm- Classes	14	15	16 7am-Prayer Time
17 10:10am- Sunday School	18 11:30am- Joy @ Callaways 1pm- Faith @ Minervas 7pm- Men's Bible	19 7pm- Hope Circle	20 No Midweek	21	22	23 7am-Prayer Time
24 No Sunday School 10am Sunday morning Service 4 & 6pm Christmas	25 Merry Christmas!	26	27 No Midweek	28	29	30 7am-Prayer Time
31						

What's Happening @ Community

Wednesday, November 29

6:00pm—Midweek meal—Taco
7:00pm—Classes for all ages

Saturday, December 2

7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)

Sunday, December 3

10:10am— Sunday School
10:10am— Adult Sunday School (Chapel)
4:00pm— Kid's Christmas Program
6-7:30pm— Choir

Monday, December 4

7:00pm— Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, December 6

6:00pm— Midweek meal— Pork Sandwiches
7:00pm— Classes for all ages



Christmas Eve lands on a Sunday so...

10:00am Combined Sunday Morning Service
4:00 & 6:00pm Christmas Eve Services

**Finances at a Glance:
November 26, 2017**

General:..... \$10,811
2017 Weekly Goal:..... \$15,033
Ahead/(Behind):..... \$(4,221)
Vision: \$3,600
Missions:\$285
Thanksgiving: \$1,059

YEAR-TO-DATE STATUS 11/26/17

Year-To-Date Offering: \$716,432
Year-To-Date Goal: \$721,588
Ahead (Behind): \$5,156
Year-To-Date Vision: \$331,331

Vision Account Balance: \$187,850

60 YEARS ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Saturday, December 9th
OPEN HOUSE
2:00-4:00pm

Come celebrate
Community's
60 year anniversary!

We are going to have a little short program and share some good food and spend some time sharing about the foundations of Community.

christmasgiving

Lexi Valentine is collecting gifts for the Sanford Children's Hospital and NICU through December 17th. Gifts are available for children in the NICU and Castle during the holidays.

Any kind of toy, any size new clothing, books, make-up, hair care, etc... Are appreciated. For a more complete list, they can contact Lexi at 376-4989.

Please drop off your gifts at the church office.



Mission Trip UPDATE

Here's what we know:
March 6-13 2018
(can be flexible a day or two on each side until flights are confirmed)

Sign Up deadline is
December 3rd
Contact Jaron with questions or to sign up.
jarondewit@gmail.com

HIGH SCHOOL MISSIONtrip

High school Youth Mission Trip Planning Meeting
Wednesday, November 29 at 5:30pm-6:00pm in the office area.

Kids and parents are welcome!

Tentative dates of the trip are approximately March 29 through April 2.

Contact Rhonda Niewenhuis if you have any questions 605.310.5120

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.

Community Reformed Church

6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

November 29, 2017

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

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.

Nov. 26— Jolene Larson
Dec. 3— Bob Hein
Dec. 10—Pete Mellema

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!



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