Pastor’s Update

He’s hunting! 😄 So I’ll take this opportunity for a short commercial break. I hope you don’t mind. Did you know all the ways you can stay connected to Community? Check those listed to the right and if you still aren’t finding the right information, contact Holli (connect@communityrc.org) and I’d be happy to help!

It’s also getting to be the holiday season so check out our special Thanksgiving Eve service and Christmas Eve services. Times are below. Help us celebrate the true meaning of the season.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 22
7:00pm

Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Eve lands on a Sunday so...

10:00am Combined Sunday Morning Service
4:00 & 6:00pm Christmas Eve Services
NURSERY SCHEDULE
November 12: 9:00am—
Bob & Katie Deelstra
Jodi & Shelby Ackerman
11:00am—
Michael Dick
Shawn & Debbie Hubbard
November 19: 9:00am—
Jodi & Shelby Ackerman
Chris & Briana Behrens
11:00am—
Katie Hansen
Donna DeRuyter
OPEN

COFFEE SCHEDULE
Nov 12: Irwin & Helen Van Leeuwen
Nov 19: Dick & Jeannette Jennings
Nov 26: Jim & Kathleen Ludens

THE LINK SCHEDULE
Nov 12
9:00am— Harlan & Judy Van Meeteren
11:00am— Ross & Jolene Larson
Nov 19
9:00am— Chad & Diane McKee
11:00am— Bill & Dar Keizer

GREETER SCHEDULE
November 12:
9:00am— Lyndee Kammrath, Jeri & Maylene Van Zee, Ron & Juanita Palsma
11:00am— Jean Nollman, Larry & Gloria Smyrak, Gail Babcock

November 19:
9:00am— Gary & Connie Parmely, Randy & Gayle Grotenhuis, Dave & Trish Mayer
11:00am— Bert Roetman, Duane & Rhonda Niewenhuis, Bert & Marcia Groeneweg

November Mission of the month is Angel Tree
Angel Tree®, a program of Prison Fellowship, reaches out to the children of prisoners and their families with the love of Christ. It's an opportunity to share God's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners.

The Union Gospel love gift for November is Men's White socks. Please place in designated bin in lobby.

Community Book Clubs
Morning Book Club will be meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 9am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing The Art of Racing in the Rain by Stein.

Evening Book Club will meet Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 7pm at the Eastside Panera. We will be discussing The Language of Flowers by Diffenbaugh

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

Joy Circle November meeting will be Monday, November 13 @ 7:00pm at church. Please study lessons 8 & 9. Everyone welcome.

Faith Circle will meet at church Monday, Nov. 20th at 1:00pm. Devotions and lesson by Florene and Dar. "The Impossibility of Self Redemption". Hostess - Connie.

Hope Circle – Nov. 21st @ 7pm. Lesson- Helen. Hostess- Jerralynne

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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
- Nataliie 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
- Alysha remily-Huber’s mom (shoulder surgery)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Marlys VanBruggen (breast cancer)
- Annetta Wiese
- William VamBram’s wife, Cynthia (heart)
- Tracee Ellwein’s dad (knee surgery)
- Troy Hartman (prostate cancer)
- Heather DeWit’s step dad

Our condolences go out to Tom & Amy Bosch for the recent passing of Amy’s dad; Holly Mulder & Becky Olsen & Kelly Knips for the passing of Holly’s mom & Becky & Kelly’s grandma; and Marilyn Bosch for the passing of her dad. Please keep all of these families in your prayers.
Liz’s Update

We are well into our fall and pre-Christmas programming at church! It’s hard to believe we are in the 2nd week of November already. And November is a short month! I better be thinking about my Christmas shopping...

The choir rehearsals have been going very well this year! We do have nearly 80 singers in choir, and it is sounding incredible! We still have a lot of work to do, but I know the concert will be a blessing. Be sure to mark your calendars for December 10. The choir will be singing at the 9:00 and 11:00 services. That’s a fantastic Sunday to invite friends to church. It’s a very “Christmassy” Sunday! With special appearances by Dan Goeller, who will be conducting the commissioned piece he wrote for our choir, and Jeff Paul, who is the principle oboist for the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, I promise you’ll be moved and inspired to head into the final weeks before Christmas!

And speaking of Christmas, you might be interested to know the Christmas Eve schedule for church. This year, Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, which makes things interesting around here. After much thought and discussion, we decided that there will be one service, at 10:00 am, on Christmas Eve morning, and the Christmas Eve Communion services will be that afternoon at 4:00 and 6:00 pm. Now you can plan accordingly. 😊

The next high school youth group activity will be Cosmic Bowling November 17. I’ll be sure to send out a postcard soon with all of that information! As always, please let me know if you have questions about high school youth or our activities.

And lastly, we’re in the process of trying to finish my worship album. If God wills it, we’ll finish the recording in the next two weeks, and hopefully we’ll have albums ready for the public by Christmas, if not sooner. If you feel so moved, please pray about this project. It’s been a challenge to get it completed, and we need all of God’s help to finish it up! But I strongly believe this is something God wants us to do. So we’re working on it!

I think that’s it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz
youthpastor@communityrc.org
Hi Everyone,

Thank you so much for all of your prayers and kind words this week after my parents’ accident. My mom is out of the hospital and my step-dad is recovering. It will be a long road but he’s already doing much, much better. Thanks especially to Pastor John for stopping at our hospital to pray with our family. God is good!

This Wednesday at Midweek the kids are packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This has become a tradition I really enjoy and I’m excited for it again this year.

I missed everyone on Sunday but I really appreciate everyone who made Sunday School go smoothly and I will have to listen to the message online. I heard it is a good one again this week. They usually are.

Thank you to Randi and Marty V for running Christmas Program practice in my place while I was at the hospital with my parents. It was nice to be able to stay at Sanford while things were still not stable with my step-dad. It sounds like you had a great practice and I can’t wait to hear all of that music you taught the kids! Thank you also to Trish, Kara and Sue for making the pom-pom “snow” for our Christmas Program blizzard and to Bert for sewing capes for some of our kids. Everyone’s help made it possible for me to sit up at the hospital with my parents and write lessons for Sunday School and mend some Christmas Program costumes. Sometimes that quiet time with God and a needle and thread does this girl’s heart some good, especially on a week that was kind of tough. I suppose it is like when Clyde goes hunting only I don’t have to freeze or adventure in the wilderness. :) You are probably all wondering what the kids and I are up to with this Christmas Program with costumes and blizzards and songs. You’ll have to come see it and find out! The kids are working hard. They have a message to share with us.

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

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

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

Kindergarten through Fifth Grade kids interested in participating in the program will use the following practicing schedule: We had our first practices but it is not too late to join the fun.

-Nov 12– 4:45 to 5:45– Practice in Sanctuary
-Nov 19 Practice IN the Children’s Wing (I may cancel this one but we’ll tentatively plan to do it.) 4:45-5:45
-Nov 26- 4:45 to 5:45– Practice in Sanctuary (with costumes)
-Dec 2– Dress Rehearsal in Sanctuary 11am
-Dec 3– All kids arrive at 3:30pm– Parent volunteers needed to help keep everyone

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Operation Christmas Child Boxes are due Nov 12

Neil Conover has generously volunteered to head this up for Community this year!
Let him know if you have any questions.

1. Grab a box and brochure in the lobby at church
2. Start with a “wow” toy like a doll or soccer ball with pump
3. Add other fun toys, hygiene items or school supplies
4. PRAY for the child and family who will receive your gift and God’s Word.
5. An anonymous donor has taken care of shipping so that we can all pack more boxes!
**What’s Happening @ Community**

**Wednesday, November 8**
- 9:00am– Book Club @ Bagel Boy on MN
- 6:00pm– meal– Chicken/Taco Salad
- 7:00pm– Classes of all ages

**Saturday, November 11**
- 7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)

**Sunday, November 12**
**Operation Christmas Child Deadline**
- 10:10 am—Adult Sunday School (Chapel)
- 10:10am– Sunday School
- 4:45-5:45pm– Kid’s Program Practice
- 6-7:30pm– Choir

**Monday, November 13**
- Noon– Seniors @ E Pizza Ranch
- 7:00pm– Men’s Bible Study

**Wednesday, November 15**
- 6:00pm– meal– ham/cheesy potatoes
- 7:00pm– Classes of all ages

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**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)

Community would like to send 12-15 team members

Sign Up deadline is December 3rd

Contact Jaron with questions or to sign up.
jarondewit@gmail.com

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

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Kindergarten through Fifth Grade

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- Dec 3– All kids arrive at 3:30pm–

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**Adult Baptism Service**

November 19th
4:00pm
At Community

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**Finances at a Glance:**
**November 5, 2017**

General:..................$22,748
2017 Weekly Goal:.........$15,033
Ahead/(Behind):.............$7,715
Vision:.........................$10,730
Missions:........................$1,535
Wed Night:....................$540
Sunday School:................$269

**YEAR-TO-DATE STATUS 11/5/17**

Year-To-Date Offering: $681,669
Year-To-Date Goal: $676,489
Ahead (Behind): $5,182
Year-To-Date Vision: $267,414
Vision Account Balance: $130,342

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**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.**
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 (crcprayerline@gmail.com). For emergencies during non-office hours, please call Pastor Clyde or the elder on call.

Nov. 5—Randy Grotenhuis
Nov. 12—Mary Burggraaf

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!