

THE COMMUNICATOR

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER | 605.336.1475 | DECEMBER 4, 2019

PASTOR'S UPDATE

I guess we survived the first snow events of the year. That was an interesting few days. I do know many travel plans were affected. It affected ours. I know that there is much more snow in almost every direction from Sioux Falls. I was ok with the amount that we got, but I wish sometimes the timing of things was more to my liking. I don't really have too much to say about that. If you did get back home or if you had lots of family over, I hope it was a good time with those people. We are into the Christmas season now full scale. The trees are up in the church and everything is beginning to look a lot like Christmas. You all know how very much I enjoy this time of year. Now if we could get the weather to be nice to us...all would be well. Enjoy the season...it is here!

The kids Christmas program is this coming Sunday afternoon at 4pm. They have all their work done now and so they are ready for the big day. I have seen and heard a few of the parts myself and the program is going to be a good one. Make your plans now to attend.

The choir has one more rehearsal and then we perform in a couple of weeks. December 15 at the 9 and 11 services. Just a reminder, we don't do 8 am that week. It is a great selection of music from many different styles. I always feel like that Sunday gets us in the Christmas mood. All the carols being sung and the trees up...it's just a great way to bring Christmas up a notch. I love that! The choir has worked very hard...come out and enjoy them.

Most of my hunting is over...everything is safe again. (In case some of you were worried.) I did have a good week on that Nebraska hunt, but my South Dakota one got carved up with this last fight with the weather.

They got a lot of snow back home which shut down my efforts to get back and do more. I need to make some changes next year to how I went about scheduling all of that. I so enjoy that time and it just never worked out this year. My mom probably wasn't too happy about either. Need to keep her happy!

MidWeek gets going this week and we only do a couple of Wednesday nights and then we have completed the first half of the year. Can you believe that? We are half done with MidWeek already! It is amazing how quickly that goes. It takes a lot of hard work and planning to get all those moving parts to work, but we do it with a high degree of proficiency. At least most of the time.

I'm sure you have all noticed the décor is up for Christmas. There was a busy crew running around here last weekend getting all that done. I'm not sure it's all finished yet as they seem to add to pieces as the time moves along. It does take a lot of work. Thanks to all those who do so much to keep things looking "right". I don't know all the names and I wouldn't want to miss some, but I know Brenda Thornton does a lot of the organizing. Thanks again to that team!

Sunday the series on "time" continues and this week we turn our attention to Mary and Joseph and the timing of this for their lives. Of course, it wasn't the best time of any of this to happen. One could argue that it was the worst time for them. Interesting isn't it? Grace had a price as it were. Something to think about this Christmas. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Dec. 8: 9:00am—

Alex Anderson
Kim Becker
Bob & Katie Deelstra
11:00am-
Leslie Cleveringa
Zach & Jordan Seefeldt

Dec. 15: 9:00am—

Nick & Abbie Langerock
Linda Zwart
11:00am-
Josephine Bonnema
Brent & Sue Dekker

THE LINK SCHEDULE

Dec 8: 9:00am- Angeline Lavin
11:00am- Brian & Holli Jans

Dec 15: 9:00am- Bob & Lori Hein
11:00am- Mike & Jolene Hilbrands

COFFEE SCHEDULE

Dec. 8: Joel & Lisa Blankers
Dec. 15: Denny & Sue Brunsting
Dec. 22: Steve & Becky Lee

GREETER SCHEDULE

Dec. 8

9:00am—
Jerralynne Tjeerdsma
Bruce Wentzel & Bonnie Overweg
Chad & Diane McKee
11:00am—
Jerralynne Tjeerdsma
Mark & Pat Koll

Dec. 15

9:00am—
Donna Humme
Wade & Diane Friese
Galen & Mavis Schoffelman
11:00am—
Donna Humme
Al & Sherri Price



MISSION OF THE MONTH

LUNCH IS SERVED

KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

SUNDAY, DEC. 8TH
4:00PM

CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONCERT

SUNDAY, DEC. 15th
9:00AM & 11:00AM
NO 8:00am Service

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DEC. 24
3:00PM & 5:00PM
Childcare will be provided.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, Dec. 4

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

Saturday, Dec 7

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

Sunday, Dec. 8

10:10am–Sunday School
4:00pm– Kids Christmas Program
6:30pm– Choir Practice

Monday, Dec. 9

10:45am– Joy Circle
Noon– Senior Citizens at E. Pizza Ranch
7:00pm– Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, Dec 10

7:00pm– AA

Wednesday, Dec. 11

6:00pm– Midweek meal– Tacos
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, Dec. 1, 2019

General:..... \$7,112
Vision: \$2,300
Missions: \$305

General YTD: \$793,030
Vision YTD: \$182,983
Vision Account Balance: \$100,521

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

BOOK CLUBS

The morning book club will meet on **Thursday**, December 12, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. They will be discussing *Whose Waves These Are*.

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, December 17, at 7 pm at the E. Panera Break. They will be discussing *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Robinson.

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.

HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will hold its Christmas party on Dec. 17th at 6:15. Hostess is Helen.

Adult Discipleship/Worship



December is here! Snow is here! The holidays are here! Can you tell I'm a fan of this time of year? 😊

I think it might be wise for me to always include the most recent schedule updates in my article until we are in the new year. So, once again, here is the list for the most recent upcoming events at church:

December 4	Regular Mid-Week Activities
December 8	Children's Christmas Program 4:00pm
December 8	Adult Christmas Choir Final Rehearsal 6:30pm
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 at 3:00 and 5:00pm
January 8	Mid-Week Activities Resume

One of the things I appreciate about the holidays is that they help us to focus on *others*. During the holiday season, we spend a lot of extra time thinking about special people in our lives. We consider what gifts would be especially perfect for certain people. We plan dinners out and coffee dates and cookie baking parties so we can spend time with people we love and value.

And we look for unique ways to show others how much we love them. We even do this for people we don't know personally. Have you ever donated money to a non-profit organization or volunteered to help out somewhere at Christmas time? Generally speaking, you probably don't know these people personally, but you are showing them love.

This has been a common theme that God keeps bringing to my attention. Loving others. People's love toward one another is often life-changing and incredibly uplifting. But God's love toward us is on a whole other level. It's not only life-changing, it's nature-changing; meaning that God's love changes the very nature of who we are. We go from being fallen and broken people to becoming redeemed and restored people. I'm still learning what the fullness of that means. I love it!

Have a great week!

Liz
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)
- Jamelee Van Donge's dad, DeLyle (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)
- **Dree Mayer** (shoulder surgery)
- **Beth Halverson** (3 year old who experienced seizures)

HEATHER'S UPDATE

KIDS

MINISTRY

Hi Everyone!

For K-8 kids in the Christmas Program, please remember to work on your lines this week since the next time we get together is our program day! Our program is on 12/8/19 at 4pm with K-5 kids arriving at 3pm. The 3 year olds and Preschool age kids come at 3:30 and have been doing their practicing during Sunday School.

K-8 kids, remember your costumes/ outfits for the program when you come at 3pm please. Looking forward, we'll take some days off around Christmas as well to allow volunteers to be with their family: Dec. 18, 25, Jan 1-No Midweek & December 22, 29-No Sunday School

If you know me well, you know I am not a big fan of the cold weather. However, I do love that fluffy white stuff that comes floating down all too often in South Dakota (when it is falling, not when it stays on the ground for more than a day or two.) It struck me that the snow is something that fascinates kids, no matter how often they see it. Most kids like to stomp in snow, throw it, make things with it, feel it or just look at it through the window with a mug of hot cocoa in hand. (I myself prefer that last option.) This natural curiosity presents a great opportunity for Bible connections for kids. The Bible has many, many verses that mention snow and some of them are impactful and clear in teaching us about how God handles us and our sin. Some verses describe incredible moments in history that are described in the Bible. I encourage you to strike up some conversations with your family or friends regarding the verses you find regarding snow. It might just make the next few months a little more fun. ☺

ISAIAH 1:18 (NIV) "COME NOW, LET US SETTLE THE MATTER," SAYS THE LORD. "THOUGH YOUR SINS ARE LIKE SCARLET, THEY SHALL BE AS WHITE AS **SNOW**; THOUGH THEY ARE RED AS CRIMSON, THEY SHALL BE LIKE WOOL.

JESUS HAS RISEN- MATTHEW 28 (NIV) AFTER THE SABBATH, AT DAWN ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, MARY MAGDALENE AND THE OTHER MARY WENT TO LOOK AT THE TOMB. 2 THERE WAS A VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE, FOR AN ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN AND, GOING TO THE TOMB, ROLLED BACK THE STONE AND SAT ON IT. 3 HIS APPEARANCE WAS LIKE LIGHTNING, AND HIS CLOTHES WERE WHITE AS **SNOW**.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org
(605)336-1475





2019 Holiday Wish List for Lexi's Christmas Closet At The Castle

Infant/Todder

- Wub-A-Nubs
- Hardcover books
- Infant rattles, links
- Infant musical toys
- Infant clothing
- Bath Toys

School Age

- Lego Sets
- Playdoh packs
- Trains, tractors, matchbox cars
- Crayola Coloring Sets
- Board Games
- Barbies
- Fisher Price Medical Kits

Teen/ Adults

- Gift cards (gas, restaurant, retail, groceries, Visa/MasterCard)
- Adult coloring books
- Cellphone accessories, ear buds, speakers
- Sports caps or clothing
- Activity kits (cars, jewelry, science, etc.)
- Card Games



NEW QUILTING GROUP

Interested in quilting? There's a new group you may want to check out! All skill levels welcomed! Contact Trudi Nelson if you want to get involved.
trudinelson@sio.midco.net



A special thank you to those who sent flowers, cards & prayers after my knee replacement surgery.

What a blessing to have to have such a wonderful church family!

Carol Long

Community Reformed Church

6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

Dec. 4, 2019

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

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

INFO YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW...

IMPORTANT DATES

Baptism Service
FEB 9

.....

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 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

Liz Teel
Director of Discipleship & Worship
Liz.teel@communityrc.org

John Thornton
Part-time Visitation Pastor
prayerline@communityrc.org

Holli Jans
Communications Coordinator
connect@communityrc.org

Heather DeWit
Director of Children & Youth Ministries
Heather.dewit@communityrc.org

Doyle Burnside
Part-time Senior High & Middle School Youth Director
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

Sheri Brouwer
Part-Time Nursery Coordinator
Sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org

Lisa Blankers
Part-Time Financial Administrator
accounting@communityrc.org

Josiah Dunlap
Part-Time IT Coordinator