

# THE COMMUNICATOR

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER | 605.336.1475 | FEBRUARY 13, 2019

## PASTOR'S UPDATE

It's the second week of February and still very cold. I think we are in for one of those periods during each winter where we can go several weeks before we see 32 degrees. It always gets us and that time seems to be now. I know we are all very anxious for this to change, but maybe just settle in for a few days. Winter is not going away!

I want to again put in a word for the Senior High Youth and their annual fund-raiser we call the Spring Fling. Those tickets are for sale in lobby. I know they are working very hard for all of us to have a nice evening. It's an evening of fine dining, good friends, great desserts, and a fun activity to close the evening. Support the kids...buy a ticket... see you all there!

I have a birthday this week. I never know what to do with that. I know the years sure do go by quickly. This past year was not the best one in some ways that was for sure. It seemed like every plan I made had to be changed or got changed. I have to say that so far this new year is coming along much better so maybe things have turned around some. I'm not in charge of that...at least not all of it. ☺ I have already received some nice cards and words from folks. I'm in a good place!

I have been having a number of extra meetings lately with many of folks from the RCA. Those meetings have been around a number of issues that our denomination is dealing with right now. It's all very interesting and at the same time a bit concerning. Tracking all of this and wondering what to do is just not an easy thing for us to do. Pray for clarity and for the right people who have the right voice to speak into some of these important items. I know we don't really notice on a local level

much of this discussion, but it's out there. I always have maintained that no matter how all of this goes we will still have church on a Sunday. I don't want us to get bogged down in all that political wrangling. Keep Jesus first!

Keep the Haiti mission trip on your prayers as well. There are a few of our folks getting ready to do this. If you still have questions you can call us or talk to Jaron DeWitt on Sunday mornings. I know that deadline is coming up pretty fast.

I noticed several groups of folks talking on Sunday morning. We had a nice group talking our softball teams and there was another group talking about safe families. It was a busy hour at 10 on Sunday morning. There is a lot of "church" going on between those two services. I love that! The life of this place is not just during the worship times. It is peopling meeting people and ministries giving out info. It's the heartbeat of this place and it matters.

Sunday we will continue our messages on "Born Again". We will be leaving the Nicodemus story now and begin to focus on other elements of this amazing transformational process of being born of the spirit. As we talked about on Sunday, flesh can give birth to flesh, but only the Spirit can give birth to the spirit. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

## NURSERY SCHEDULE

**February 17: 9:00am—**

Emma & Lydia Niessink  
Barb Niessink  
Lyndee Kamrath

**11:00am-**

Jason & Jamie Van Sloten  
Kristi Olson

**February 24: 9:00am—**

Lucas & Lindsey Leloux  
Mike & Angie Boyenga

**11:00am-**

Abbie Van Meeteren  
Tanner Van Meeteren  
Andrea Fisher

## THE LINK SCHEDULE

**Feb. 17:**

**9:00am—** Mark & Pat Koll

**11:00am—** Tom & Robin Jacobs

**Feb. 24:**

**9:00am—** Angeline Lavin

**11:00am—** Bill & Dar Keizer

## COFFEE SCHEDULE

**Feb. 17:** Dick & Jeannette Jennings

**Feb. 24:** Harvey & Karen Odens

**March 3:** Steve & Becky Lee

## GREETER SCHEDULE

**February 17**

**9:00am—**

Jerralynne Tjeerdsma  
Irwin & Helen Van Leeuwen  
Ron & Juanita Palsma

**11:00am—**

Jerralynne Tjeerdsma  
Ken & Deb Meyer

**February 24**

**9:00am—**

Jean Nollmann  
Dave & Trish Mayer  
Jerralynne Tjeerdsma

**11:00am—**

Donna Humme  
Mike & Jolene Hilbrands



## SPRING FLING

MARCH 2

6:00PM

Ready for a great catered meal, delicious desserts to be auctioned and free childcare? Spring Fling time is almost here! Get your tickets on Sunday morning, email Doyle or call the church office. Tickets \$25.

**(NEW)**

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

MARCH 23

9:00AM-NOON

Ladies, get ready for a morning of truth and fellowship. Hosted by Liz Teel & Abbie Coffey. Theme for the morning: "If You're Happy and You Know It..." No childcare provided.

## THE GIVE

Check out THE GIVE wall in the lobby. It's a place to donate to local ministries.

**Safe Families**– diapers (size 2 & up)/ wipes

**LSS**– Alarm clocks, light bulbs

**Mission Haiti**– hotel shampoos & soap

**Union Gospel Mission**– Regular Coffee

## MISSION OF THE

**MONTH:** Safe Families

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Wednesday, February 13

6:00pm– Ham/ Cheesy Potatoes  
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

### Thursday, February 14

7:00pm– Elders  
8:00pm– Consistory

### Saturday, February 16

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

### Sunday, February 17

10:10am– Sunday School  
5:00pm– M.S. Tubing @ Great Bear

### Monday, February 18

7:00pm– Men's Bible Study

### Tuesday, February 19

7:00pm– AA Meeting  
7:00pm– Hope Circle  
7:00pm– Book Club (E. Panera)

### Wednesday, February 20

6:00pm– BBQ  
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

## FINANCES

Sunday, February 10, 2019

General: .....\$10,308

Vision: .....\$1,245

Missions: .....\$355

Wednesday night: .....\$122

General YTD: .....\$86,579

Vision YTD: .....\$29,935

Vision Account Balance: \$99,230

## UPCOMING MINISTRIES

### COMMUNITY BOOK CLUBS

The **evening book club** will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 7 pm at the Eastside Panera on Foss Ave. We will be discussing *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Stein.

**New participants welcome.** Book Club

Contact Trudi Nelson 371-3512

### AA BIG BOOK MEETING

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

### HOPE CIRCLE

We'll will meet on Feb. 19 at 7:00pm. Jerralynne– host. Jeanie– lesson.

## OPPORTUNITY!

## WRITERS' GROUP

Do you enjoy writing?

Do you wish you enjoyed writing?

Come on a Lenten Journey!

Join Abbie Coffey

Monday nights

@ Community

7-8pm

March 4 - April 15

All levels welcome!

Questions? Email [abbieteel@yahoo.com](mailto:abbieteel@yahoo.com)

## LIZ'S UPDATE

# Adult Discipleship/Worship



This week, I'd like to focus a bit on one of the adult classes I've been facilitating at church that doesn't meet on Wednesday nights. You may have heard of me talk about "The Journey" before, but I'd like to tell you a bit more about it. "The Journey" is a small group of adults who work their way through a series of discussions concerning who God is, who we are, and the ways God has been and is currently working in our world. This study is about 8 months long, and it involves reading and interacting with many different authors, questions, Scripture, and studies. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> time I've taken a group of adults through "The Journey," and it's as powerful as it's ever been. I'm always blown away by the groups God brings together and how He uses these discussions to draw us closer to each other and to Him. I'm taking time this week to talk a bit about this study because we will be offering it again next year, and I'm hoping that one or two of our past facilitators will be willing to facilitate groups. If you are a past facilitator and would be willing to lead a group, please let me know. And if you are an adult who thinks you might like to experience "The Journey" please let me know!

I'd like to use a little space in my article this week to say a very public thank you to Syl Casperson for all of her years of playing the piano at the 8:00 service. Syl has played nearly 20 years at Community, and we have been blessed by her willingness to play and by the way she contributed to our worship.

Syl has decided that it's time for her to step away from that commitment, but I couldn't let that happen without saying thank you! Thanks, Syl, for all of those hours spent practicing and preparing, and for being willing to share in the responsibility of playing for worship. I greatly appreciate all you've done!

And lastly this week, I'm going to whet your appetite for Sunday morning worship. One of the songs I've scheduled for worship comes with a fabulous story and a powerful Bible verse. But if you want to hear about it, you'll have to come to church on Sunday. And I'll end by saying this; be careful that you don't make any snap judgments when you see the first worship song on the screen. 😊  
Have a great week!

Liz  
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

## PRAYER REQUESTS



- **Pete Valentine** (pace maker surgery)
- **Natalie 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) (surgery 12/18)
- **Jessica Vander Weide** (heart)
- **Lindsey Vander Weide** (heart)
- **Bruce Heinen** (Laura Maloney's brother-in-law) lymphoma
- **Joe Johnson** (cancer)
- **Sara Van Ruler's dad** (throat cancer)
- Lori Hein's mom, **Joan** (heart)
- Wade Persson's mom (cancer)
- **Randy Grotenhuis** (inflammation of the inner ear)
- **Al Hoogendoorn** (multiple health issues)
- **Jim Ludens** (radiation treatments)
- **Harriet Valentine** (breast cancer)
- **Junella Wesselink** (appendix surgery)
- **Duane** (Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's son-in-law )
- **Randy** (Al & Dolly Hoogendoorn's son)

Our condolences go out to Rich Odens for the recent passing of his sister, Clarice Adema from Mitchell, SD. Please keep their family in your prayers.



## HEATHER'S UPDATE



Hello,

I usually write my newsletter page on Monday mornings and this morning I've got "achievement" on my heart so I figured I'd chat with all of you about that a bit. I've been drawn in a bit lately at how often we expect our children and youth (and ourselves) to do everything possible to reach our maximum potential. We want to maximize productivity, strive for greatness and never miss an opportunity. When our children are tiny babies, we often see in them immense potential and even chase every opportunity to enhance their growth. That might be reading the best parenting blogs, tummy time, reading to our children, avoiding screen time, etc. As they get older we try so hard to encourage their growth physically, cognitively, emotionally and even spiritually. We get excited when they reach a milestone early and we feel anxious if they aren't achieving each step ahead of or at least with their peers. Sometimes, we even sign our kids up for classes or activities because we are afraid that if we don't get them started right away, they may miss their chance to be excellent at a particular skill or activity. However, God has created each of us and each of our children to be unique individuals. We are not called as parents to ensure that they are excellent or advanced in everything. In fact, we are called to love Jesus and follow Jesus in front of our children in such a way that they can follow Him too. That requires time together and moments of tenderness and peace. Not every "missed opportunity" is a loss. Sometimes, our children are not called to be challenged or to achieve but instead they are called to have Jesus shine through them in the ordinary moments of daily living. We can't all be the best at everything. God is pushing me right now to be thankful for those opportunities as well.

Now, don't get me wrong. I'm not saying we are to stop nudging our children to do their best. Instilling the ability to work hard, focus, or be a team player has value. I'm also not saying excellence, academics or activities are a bad thing. I can get pretty excited when I see joy in a kid doing something they love. However, I do think perhaps as a society we've started to believe the lie that our children must excel in everything. There is also a lie that our kids must be a "music kid" or an "athletic kid" or even a "church kid." I think our time and energy would be better invested in praying for our children and with our children and asking God for guidance. If kids have gifts and talents that they are excited to grow, we can give them balanced opportunities to do that but not at the cost of all else. It is a strange thing to parent children in a world that draws us into extremes when it comes to academics, athletics and the arts, particularly when I think our hearts feel a tug toward a simpler life. It is hard to find balance for our kids when finding balance for ourselves is such a challenge. I think asking God to transform us and follow His lead are our only chance at raising healthy kids. What my article boils down to in the end is that we have in our corner, everything we need to survive parenting in a broken world. We don't have to figure it out on our own and letting go of some control is necessary because God is truly in control and we'll just wear ourselves out. Parenting blogs often make it seem as though we should invest our energy in watching our kids and following their potential. Our kids will do better when they can see us following Jesus.

Heather DeWit  
 Director of Children's Ministry  
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Interested in learning more about this trip to Haiti?  
 Email Jaron DeWit ([jarondewit@gmail.com](mailto:jarondewit@gmail.com)).  
 Deadline to contact Jaron is Feb. 24th.





## SARAH'S UPDATE

# MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

Hello Community,

I hope you are doing well! This week we are going to have a discussion on identity. The most accurate understanding of who we are will always come from God, but it can be easy to get wrapped up in what others say or maybe even in the things that we tell ourselves. That can be an especially challenging thing to understand in middle school, so I am looking forward to talking with the students about that. We will be talking some about the story of Zacchaeus in Luke. His community saw only what was bad about Zacchaeus. Jesus could see those parts of him but knew who Zacchaeus really was and who God created him to be. We will talk about how that's true for us too.

Next week we are going to discuss a little bit about what the Bible has to say about dating. It is a topic that has come up and I think it will be good to talk about as a group.

I know there will be many people traveling with the Presidents' Day break coming up so travel safely and enjoy some time away if you get the chance to! However, if you are planning to stay in town, don't forget that the Middle School Youth Group is going tubing on Sunday from 5-8pm. Nothing says fun like speeding down a hill in the cold on an inner tube! Feel free to reach out if you have any questions about what we have coming up.

Sarah Powell  
[Powell.SarahEllen@gmail.com](mailto:Powell.SarahEllen@gmail.com)  
Middle School Youth Group Coordinator

## DOYLE'S UPDATE

# HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Hello again!

We are getting closer to the Spring Fling, which also hopefully means spring will be here soon as well. March 2nd is the big day and tickets are still available on Sunday mornings or by contacting me. Tickets are \$25 a person and there is free childcare for those that need it! I know this is my first year, but I am changing things up just a little. We are going with a new game show this year. If you have been wondering/wanting to donate a prize for this years event let me know. With the change, we will not be doing any zonks like the past few years, but will hopefully still have some fun entertainment after our meal. I am so thankful for everyone who has been available and willing to help with the event this year and am looking forward to it!!

Our students are going through the book of Philipians this month. Our first week we focused on celebrating and giving God praise for Salvation, continuing to grow in our faith (God is still working in our lives!) and praying for one another. Students prayed Philipians 1:9-11 over one another at the end as we are encouraged and thoughtful of continuing to grow in our knowledge, love, wisdom and faith in who Jesus is. What a great God we have - who continues to work in our life and who does not abandon us.

That's, it for this week. If you have any questions about the high school ministry, feel free to contact me anytime!

Doyle Burnside  
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605-310-2561



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U.S. Postage Paid  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
Permit No. 7119

February 13, 2019

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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**  
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