You are probably getting tired of my comments about that cold weather, but all I am doing is speaking the truth. It has been a cold one. I have heard there might be some relief coming. We can only wait. I am sitting in my office this morning (on my Birthday) writing out this week’s newsletter. I have received a lot of nice cards and notes from folks already…you are all very special folks. Thanks so much. I’m not sure where all the years have gone, but they have passed. I can remember when I really did think that people who were 65 were so old. I have changed my opinion about that in the past few years. Interesting how reality has a way of shaping a person’s thoughts about things. I think we call that wisdom. I have had some great moments in those 65 years. I have a lot of people to thank for where life has taken me. There are many names that have been so instrumental in my formation as a person. Lots of twists and turns in that road. I have been so fortunate to have had many incredible experiences in my life. I have been blessed that is for sure. I have had my days of sorrow too. Some of those were the most trying. I have walked through some very sad times and there were so many people there too who were standing beside me through it all. That too has been a blessing. I am becoming more and more aware each year that life is fragile. Friendships are precious and God is large and in charge. We get the days we get! I would say to each of you then to make the most of each one. That’s what I’m doing, or at least trying to do to the best of my ability. I pray that God will grant me the grace to be for everyone I meet a brighter spot their day and give them a glimpse into Jesus face. I pray the Christ that is in me will become more and more evident. Less of me…more of Him!

We had a longer Consistory meeting last week. It was a good one! We had lots of things to talk about and lots of work yet to do that is ahead of us. So much of what I have been talking about with them and with many of you, are the things that challenge us as our church continues to grow. It is not always easy work and not always things we want to do, but it is necessary if we are going to reach the next place in our future. Professionals who analyze these kinds of things talk often about the challenges that come to churches at the various stages of their growth. I have known for a long time that we are approaching one of these crossroads. Churches our size work to discover how to do what is needed. We will be talking much more about all this over the course of this year. It’s not a “one time and done” kind of thing. It involves thinking about things differently. I have all the faith in the world that this church can do it. Together we can get this right and move it right along. My reason for saying that is because you are honest people. You speak, you listen, you discern, you value, you care…and that matters. We are working for the Kingdom. This is about what God does in people’s lives. This is about Jesus. I pray we always keep the main the main thing…when we do that all the rest of this will go just fine.

Sunday is the first Sunday of Lent and our series is called “This Is What Kings Do!” Jesus is our king and his final journey is a demonstration of what “real” kings do. His example is what “real” leaders do. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

We are currently in the middle of upgrading software systems at church so please note that if you gave on Sunday, Feb. 11th, your checks will not be processed until the week of the 19th. Thanks for your patience!
NURSERY SCHEDULE
February 18: 9:00am—
  Mike & Jolene Hilbrands
  Nick & Abbie Langerock
11:00am—
  Josiah & Kris Dunlap
  Kelli Fantroy

February 25: 9:00am—
  Melinda Kissell
  LoDonna Freiberg
  Emily VanDeraa
  Robin Niewenhuis
11:00am—
  Zach & Jordan Seefeldt
  Andrea Fisher

COFFEE SCHEDULE
Feb. 18: Jim & Kathleen Ludens
Feb. 25: Daryl & Char DuBois
March 4: Steve & Becky Lee

THE LINK SCHEDULE
Feb 18:
  9:00am– Bruce & Bonnie Wenzel/Overweg
  11:00am– Grant & Leslie Boltjes
Feb 25:
  9:00am– Wilmer & Marilyn Rensink
  11:00am– Bill & Dar Keizer

GREEN SCHEDULE
February 18:
  9:00am– Stan & Elaine Deelstra, Nic & LaDonna Freiberg, Ron & Janita Palma
  11:00am– Donna Humme, Ross & Jolene Larson

February 25:
  9:00am– Gail Babcock, Irwin & Helen VanLeeuwen, Bruce & Bonnie Overweg
  11:00am– Jerralynne Tjeerdema, Ken & Susan Vos

FEEDING SCHEDULE
Feeding South Dakota– Backpack Program.
This program provides at-risk children with nutritious, easy-to-
prepare foods during weekends and holidays when school is not in
session. Food is distributed through the schools because of their rela-
tionship with students, easy access and safe environments.

GREETER SCHEDULE
February 18:
  9:00am— Stan & Elaine Deelstra, Nic & LaDonna Freiberg, Ron & Juanita Palma
  11:00am— Donna Humme, Ross & Jolene Larson

February 25:
  9:00am— Gail Babcock, Irwin & Helen VanLeeuwen, Bruce & Bonnie Overweg
  11:00am— Jerralynne Tjeerdema, Ken & Susan Vos

COFFEE SCHEDULE
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  11:00am– Bill & Dar Keizer

Food is distributed through
the schools because of their rela-
tionship with students, easy access and safe environments.

CALENDAR SCHEDULE
February 20:
  9:00am– Bruce & Bonnie Overweg
  11:00am– Grant & Leslie Boltjes

February 27:
  9:00am– Wilmer & Marilyn Rensink
  11:00am– Bill & Dar Keizer

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

Faith Circle will not be meeting in
March.

Joy Circle will not be meeting the
months of January, February and
March. Please study lesson 9 for the
month of April.

Hope Circle will meet Feb. 20th at
Helen’s house. Lesson: Jerralynne

The love gift for the Union
Gospel Mission in February is pasta.
Please place in designated bin in the
lobby.

February Mission of the Month:
Feeding South Dakota– Backpack Program.
This program provides at-risk chil-
dren with nutritious, easy-to-
prepare foods during weekends
and holidays when school is not in
session. Food is distributed through
the schools because of their rela-
tionship with students, easy access and safe environments.

Community Book Clubs
Evening Book Club will be meeting on
Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 7pm at the
Panera on E. 10th St. We will be dis-
ussing Girl With All The Gifts by
Carey.

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

Faith Circle will not be meeting in
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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
- 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)
- Ember
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Marlys VanBruggen (breast cancer)
- William VamBram’s wife, Cynthia (heart)
- Denny Robinson (broken leg)
- Dianne Friese-hip replacement
- Lori Hein’s mom, Joan (open heart surgery)

Our sympathy goes out to Barb Acheson who lost her hus-
band last week. Please keep her in your prayers.
Heather’s Children’s Ministry Update

Hello, It has been another great week at Community and we’re looking forward to one more to come. This week in Sunday School many of the younger kids were learning about our Good Shepherd. I’m guessing some of you had a few cotton balls stuck to your mittens on the way home. :) This week on Wednesday night our kids will have a bit of a Valentine party. We’ll be playing some Bible games and having fun together while we learn.

On Friday, we have a group of 4th through 6th graders leaving for a retreat at Inspiration Hills. Karen Roetman has volunteered to drive them and stay for the weekend to help make sure everyone feels comfortable. They’ll leave from the church at 5:30 Friday and come back at 6pm on Saturday. The theme is “Beat: What is Your Heart Beating Out.” Proverbs 4:23. Please pray for God to move in the lives of our kids who are attending (and pray for Karen too!), for safe travels and for them to have fun: Emma, Emma’s friend, Addi, Will, Kennedy, Payten, Tara, Sam, Kai

Speaking of Inspiration Hills, camp sign up has open at Inspiration Hills. Community pays for half of the “early bird” tuition for camp for those families that are interested. More information is at: http://inspirationhills.org/summer-camp.html

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

Donations Needed For the Haiti Mission Trip:
Financial Donations are needed for travel costs and supply needs. Also, the Mission Team has a list of needed items on Amazon https://goo.gl/oRHBax.

- Umbrellas (we need enough to give to 4 families in Haiti)
- Plastic reusable dishes (sets for 4 families)
- Silverware (we need 3 more sets)
- Plastic tupperware/ gladware smaller size assorted
- Bungee cords
- Other items are also needed. Please see the Amazon list

We will be distributing hygiene kits to the people of Haiti while they are on their trip in March. To make a kit, place in a Quart Sized Ziplock (stronger plastic):

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Soap
- Shampoo-hotel or travel size
- Deodorant
- Washcloth
- Fingernail Clipper
- Lotion– hotel or travel size
- Comb
- Bandaids– 2 or 3
- (other small items are fine if they travel well but are not necessary.)
- You may donate entire kits or individual items. Both are wonderful

A gentleman receiving a hygiene kit in Haiti.
I’m sorry to be repetitive, but this information needs to be printed every week! Please let me know if you have any questions about the Spring Fling!

* **Tickets are $25 each** and can be purchased at the table in the lobby or by contacting the church office.
  * This is the only fundraiser the high school youth group does all year.
  * **The meal is catered by Chef Dominique.** This year, the catered meal is gluten free, and we are able to accommodate for vegetarian meals. Just let us know!
  * There is a dessert auction after dinner where tables combine their money and try to win specially prepared desserts. (Participation is optional, and everyone will get a homemade cookie no matter what.)
  * We follow up the meal and auction with a rousing game show of Let’s Make a Deal, which consists of incredible prizes donated by many people from Community! If you’d like to make a prize donation, please let me know. We accept prizes as well as money to put toward prizes. And if you have a fantastic “ZONK” prize lying around your house, let me know!
  * We offer free childcare for the evening. All you have to do is register them when you reserve tickets, and then feed them before you bring them that evening. 😊
  * Tickets are available when we’ve received payment, but you can reserve tickets anytime!

The next activity for the Senior High Youth Group is our **Red Carpet Night event on Friday, February 23.** We’ll all dress up and head to Minerva’s for dinner, and then we’ll head back to the church to watch a classic movie from the 1950s. It’s always a very fun night! I do request an RSVP, so we can inform Minerva’s how many will be in our group, so please let me know if you can come!

**Upcoming Senior High Youth Group Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>Red Carpet Night at Minerva’s at 6:00pm. FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>Decorating for Spring Fling Fundraiser at 4:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Spring Fling Fundraiser Banquet at 6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>South Dakota Symphony Concert at 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6-8</td>
<td>Sully Peaks Weekend Retreat FREE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That’s it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz
youthpastor@communityrc.org
**What’s Happening @ Community**

**Wednesday, February 14**
- 6:00pm– Midweek Meal– Soup
- 7:00pm– Classes for all ages

**Saturday, February 17**
- 7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)

**Sunday, February 18**
- 10:10am– Sunday School
- 10:10am– Adult Sunday School (chapel)
- 10:20am– The Best Yes (children’s wing)

**Monday, February 19**
- 7:00pm– Men’s Bible Study

**Tuesday, February 20**
- 7:00pm– Book Club (E. Panera)

**Wednesday, February 21**
- 6:00pm– Midweek Meal– Chicken/Taco Salad
- 7:00pm– Classes for all ages

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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, April 8 @ 3pm.

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**Finances at a Glance:**

**February 4, 2018 (NO NEW DATA)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$13,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>$13,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missions</td>
<td>$335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Night</td>
<td>$204</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General YTD:** $73,689  
**Vision YTD:** $35,970  
**Vision Account Balance:** $157,525

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**MISSING**

Did someone grab the wrong men’s black pea coat on Sunday? Yours is hanging in the coatroom at church 😊

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**NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN**

Check out the blue sheet at The Link to nominate 3 elders and 3 deacons for the upcoming year’s consistory. Nominations due: Feb. 25.

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**Spring Fling**

**Saturday, March 10th**
- 6:00pm

Tickets are $25 and can be purchased in the lobby on Sunday or by contacting the church office.

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**SUNDAYS @ 10:25-10:50am**

**The Best Yes**

Based off of Lisa TerKeurst’s book “The Best Yes”

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**MARRIAGE SEMINAR**

JC Chambers from Stronghold Counseling is back to present a 4 week marriage class “Spice Up Your Marriage in Seven Steps” based off of John Gottman’s book.

**Wednesday Feb. 14, 21**
- 7:00-8:00pm

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**March 3rd**

**9:00am– Noon**

**MEN’S RETREAT**

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**Thank You**

A big thank you for all the Christmas cards and gifts given to us over the holidays! We appreciate everyone’s thoughtfulness and generosity. Also, thank you for all the prayers, cards, messages, kind words, and phone calls during Marcia’s surgery and recovery. Each and one of you meant so much. We are thankful to be part of such a wonderful family of Christ followers.

Marcia and John Thornton

Thank you Community, for your prayers, cards and expressions of sympathy in the loss of my sister, Annette Wiese.

Dolly & Alvin Hoogendoorn

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**REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP & BAPTISM...**

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For baptism, one of the parents needs to be a member at Community.

**Next Baptism Service:** Sunday, April 8 @ 3pm.
Community Reformed Church
6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

February 14, 2018

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.

Feb. 18—Pete Mellema
Feb. 25—Gerald Teunissen

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!