PASTOR’S UPDATE

It is the last week of February! This is that short month, but this year we have one more day to add. That’s right, it’s leap year. What are you all going to do that extra day? I have sure been enjoying the mild weather. I know we have all been talking about that. It makes such a difference out here when we are not fighting ice and snow on Saturday nights. I love it! Each week that passes brings us a little closer to spring. One of the reasons I love South Dakota is the change of seasons. I am so looking forward to the change this year. I do hope we have a nice spring.

Spring Fling: Doyle said ticket sales are a little sluggish. So, I am going to ask you again to remember to get that done. I know we all get busy this time of year with all kinds of the things but try to put this on your get-it-done list. We only do a single fundraiser for our kids and this is it. We need you to help us. It is a great event and such a great time to sit and laugh together and enjoy the full company of God’s people doing great work together. Please be praying for that event and grab a friend and join us!

We have been seeing lots of folks who are struggling with loss here lately in the church family. It goes in seasons and right now, there a number of our folks hurting that way. Offer up an encouraging word for them. Prayer works…Go God Go!

Lent will begin this week on Wednesday. Ash Wednesday begins the journey to Easter. This year Abbie and I are putting our minds together and we are writing a daily devotion- al that will take us through Easter. We will bring ideas that will be built around the sermon series in church and give you an opportunity to journey with us through this important time of year. It is a wonderful time to grow your heart and faith. A great time to consider just how much God is willing to for you. We will be posting this in several places. The church app, Facebook, and as many other places as well. If you can’t find it, call the office and we will get you on the right page.

Sunday, we start our Lent series called the Jericho Road. What I am going to do is trace the steps of Jesus as he makes his final journey to Jerusalem. He has been told if he goes back to this city he will be arrested. He has been told that he is not welcomed and could die. He is very aware of those threats and sets his eyes on Jerusalem because something in his heart compels him to do so. Each step of the journey has a story. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!

March 7th @ 6pm
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 26
6:00pm—Breakfast for Supper
6:30pm—K-5 Singing
6:45pm—K-8 Classes
7:00pm—Adult Classes
7:30pm—H.S. Youth Group

Saturday, Feb. 29
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
10:00 am—Closed AA meeting

Sunday, March 1
10:10am—Sunday School

Monday, March 2
7:00pm—Men’s Bible Study

Tuesday, March 3
7:00pm—AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 4
6:00pm—BBQ Night
6:30pm—K-5 Singing
6:45pm—K-8 Classes
7:00pm—Adult Classes
7:30pm—H.S. Youth Group

 Finchances

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020

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UPCOMING MINISTRIES

AA BIG BOOK MEETING
Every Tues at 7pm at Community—Open meeting. Use east door. Every Saturday at 10am Closed (Addicts/Alcoholics only) meeting.

SENIOR CITIZENS: Seniors will meet on March 9th at noon at the eastside Pizza Ranch.

MISSION OF THE MONTH
Call to Freedom provides supportive services for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

HOPE CIRCLE
Hope Circle will meet on March 17th at 7:00pm. Jeanie & Helen are hostesses and Helen has the lesson.

BOOK CLUBS
The morning book club will meet on Thursday, March 12, at 9 a.m. at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. They will be discussing The Invisible Man by H.G. Wells.

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, March 17, at 7 p.m. at the east side Panera on Foss Ave. They will be discussing Book Girl by Clarkson. Each attendee is asked to bring a list of personal top 10 books.

THE GIVE
THE GIVE wall in the lobby is a place to donate to local ministries.

Union Gospel Mission—canned veggies
Sleep in Heavenly Peace—normal sized twin bedding (pillow, pillow cases, sheet sets)
Community Nursery—2T-5T clothing
Believe it or not, both Lent and Leap Year Day are this week! Remember a few weeks ago when I wrote in my article about how you might want to be thinking ahead about these 2 days because they would be here before we know it? Well, they’re here. ☺ So, let’s talk about them!

First of all, the season of Lent begins on Wednesday this week, and runs for the next 40 days up to Easter Sunday. Previously, I had encouraged you to prayerfully consider how you might like to observe the season of Lent. Is there something you might want to give up in sacrifice? Is God inviting you to fast from something (food, entertainment, your phone) this season? Is there something you would like to add to your schedule to grow your relationship with Christ? There are many ways to observe Lent. I’d love to hear from you if you are trying something new this year.

As for me this Lenten season, I’ll be trying something I’ve never done before. Normally, during my daily devotional time, reading takes up the lion’s share of the time. I love to read. I read spiritual books, prayers, Scripture, daily devotionals, an occasional fictional book, and even my old journals. God has used the written word to change and grow me over the course of my life. Lately, I have noticed that reading during my devotional time has turned into a bit of a checklist. I’m not proud of this, but it’s the honest truth. I love what I’m reading, but I have found that being able to check off the “Read It” box is bringing me more joy than the actual reading itself. So, for Lent this year, I can distinctly feel God inviting me to put away my devotional readings. All of them. For 40 days. No devotional reading. Instead, I am being challenged to spend my devotional time in contemplative silence with God. So instead of reading every morning and doing all of the different pieces of my devotion, I am going to sit in silence with God, seeking His Presence, and listening for the still small voice of His Spirit. To be honest, this whole concept makes me a little nervous. Just skipping 40 days of my daily devotional makes my palms sweat! But the truth is, I know I need to take the focus off of the reading itself and put it back on God. I am anticipating that this invitation is going to be challenging, even frustrating at times, yet immeasurably rewarding. So, although I’m a little nervous to practice it, I’m really looking forward to how God is going to use it in my life. I’ll keep you posted as I journey through Lent, and again, I’d love to hear from the rest of you about any new Lenten experiences you might have!

Also, this week, have you considered how you are going to spend your “extra Leap Year day” this year? It’s coming up on Saturday! Don’t waste it, friends. These days are valuable. I encourage you to do something you normally wouldn’t do! That way you’ll have a unique memory of February 29, 2020. To be fair, I haven’t decided what I’m going to do yet either! But I’m thinking about it...

And lastly this week, I’d like to say thank you to everyone who asked and prayed about Abbie with her gallbladder surgery. As of today (Monday) she is feeling better and moving around slowly but steadily. She still has some soreness, but I think she’s on the mend! Thank you for your messages and prayers! It all matters! Have a great week!
Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org
DOYLE'S UPDATE

Hi Everyone!

I wrote about camp earlier this year but now that I’ve seen a little sunshine and it feels as though summer is getting closer, I want to follow up.

There are many amazing camps in our area and kids from Community have connected with God in new and exciting ways at many places. However, the camp that the majority of Community Elementary and Middle School kids attend is Inspiration Hills Bible Camp.

• Our church wants kids to be able to participate in camp and will pay half of the Early Registration (before April 12) fee at Inspiration Hills. (If your child is planning to attend another camp including Camp Judson, just check in with me and I can let you know the amount church is able to pay.)
• There is a display with brochures in the hallway at church or you can visit http://inspirationhills.org/summer-camp.html.
• This is a camp for children in grades 1-12. They also offer Family and Grandparent camps.
• Grades 1-4 can do Day Camp and grades 4 and older have many different options including Lodge Camp, Wilderness and some specialized camps like Saddle Up or Fishing for some age groups.
• This year the theme at Inspiration Hills is ABIDE. “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.” - John 15:4
• Inspiration Hills offers: Daily Chapels Daily Bible Studies & Devotions, 1 on 1 interaction with your counselor, TAWG time (Time Alone With God), Wednesday night Commitment Chapel, Large Group Games, Friday Final Chapel with all camps (parents invited), Low and/or High Ropes Challenge Course, Canoeing & Archery (limited to certain camps), OAT time (Open Activity Time), Tuesday-Thursday from 2pm-5pm to enjoy the many camp activities offered, Pool time & Slip-N-Slide, Canteen (Tuesday-Friday), Good Food!
• I've gotten to meet some of their staff and heard the testimony of students who attended and I really think it is a great place to go.
• If you have questions after checking out the Inspiration Hills Bible Camp web page, I’m happy to help! If you sign your child up, please be sure to send me a quick email so I can add them to my list for prayer as well as take care of any payment.

It is important to note, our High School kids will have the opportunity to attend Camp Pickerel together at the end of June. If you’d like more information on that, talk with Doyle. It sounds like a great experience!

See you soon!

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

DOYLE'S UPDATE

Hi everyone!

It has been a pretty busy start to the year as we finalized registration for Rocky Mountain High, our summer Mission Trip to Denver and get ready for the Spring Fling fundraiser. I am so excited for all that is coming up, and while there is a lot of detailed work to put in prior to each thing, I am looking forward to it all.

If you have been waiting to get your tickets for Spring Fling, this Sunday is the final day to do so. If you are not going to be here Sunday, you can always email me as well to get tickets. So many people have made this event come together and I am so thankful for all the work and time already put in this year. If you have any questions about this years fundraiser, please call, email or text me anytime!

Our high school students are having their Red Carpet night this Friday. I feel like this may be one of the events students look forward to the most. It is a lot of fun getting together outside of the normal hours, dressing up and enjoying a meal and conversation as a group!

As we meet for the last Wednesday this month, we also finish our time together in Ephesians. I have loved our series this month as we have focused on resting in the work of Christ, walking in love and finish this week with standing firm. I love the way Paul writes and feel like I learn something new every time I read through his letters.

That’s it for this week!

Doyle Burnside
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org
605-310-2561
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March 2020
Consistory Meeting  
February 13th, 2020

**Attendees:** John, Clyde, Curt, Dustin, Bob, Mike, Gerald, Tom, Matt W., Russ, Matt M., Nick, Chad M., Chad O.

Nick read a devotional on change with Christ

MSA of the minutes for January

MSA of the Financial Reports for January given by Chad M.

**Old Business**
Bob gave updates on Faith Ave. A temporary easement may be needed for the driveway into the church. We will get another update at March Consistory meeting.

MSA to approve Doyle’s salary to reflect the work he is doing.

MSA budget adjustment of $1300.00 to the Evangelism and Outreach budget.

Budget operations were discussed. Matt M reviewed the new Budget Operations and Expense Procedure document with the Consistory.

**New Business**
Liz report was handed out.

Doyle Report were handed out.

Heather Report was handed out.

Clyde gave an update on the RCA meetings.

Mission Haiti
- MSA financial support for mission teams, $250 per person. There will be 10 people on the mission team.
- MSA for financial support of $1100.00 for shirts. These shirts will be used during VBS at Mission Haiti.

Other
- None

MSA to adjourn

Clyde closed in time of prayer

Respectfully submitted, Tom Jacobs
Thank you to everyone who attended the Movie Night fundraiser for the 2020 Mission Haiti team. Your generosity is helping us to provide VBS for the Frede-rique School and overall support to the entire team’s efforts for the week. Your generosity encourages us in the knowledge that Community supports us as representatives of our church and of Christ.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Jan Rames & Judy Rew for the recent passing of their brother.

Our condolences go out to Nancy Vos and her family on the recent death of her mother, Gertrude. (Darin Vos’ grandmother)

Our condolences also go out the family of Diane Johnson. Diane’s funeral is Friday at Community.

Our condolences go out to Charlene Hopf on the recent passing of her brother, Ed.

VOTING FOR CONSISTORY

Now accepting nominations for elders/deacons. A list of eligible people can be found at The Link in the lobby.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Movie Night fundraiser for the 2020 Mission Haiti team. Your generosity is helping us to provide VBS for the Frede-rique School and overall support to the entire team’s efforts for the week. Your generosity encourages us in the knowledge that Community supports us as representatives of our church and of Christ.

Join us!

Spring Fling

Saturday, March 7th @ 6:00PM

Don’t miss out on this fun event to raise money for Community’s H.S. Youth Group. Come for a delicious catered meal, dessert auction & game show!

Tickets are on sale Sunday in the lobby! Tickets are $25/person.

FREE CHILDCARE!
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).

Next Baptism Service: Sunday, June 7 @ 3pm.