PASTOR’S UPDATE

The third week of March and it is starting to look like maybe we have broken through the winter stuff. I don’t really know what is coming, but I do hope spring gets here soon. I feel bad for the folks who got water in basements and those people who lost so much more. Nebraska has a mess going there. It has affected scores of people and businesses.

Pray for a speedy recovery and for life to get back to some kind of normal. It was an amazing storm. The cold weather got us in trouble. The ice in those streams never melted and then when it had to move from the rain…it didn’t want to go. When it finally broke loose, those large pieces are bad news for roads and bridges. We will remember this one for bit. Out west, they are cleaning up from a blizzard. They have lots of snow to deal with. Seems like everyone has something going on. Pray for those in middle of all the mess.

Sunday morning was a great day of church. Thanks to all the prayer warriors and just the heart of this place. There were lives changed on Sunday. I have already received some very nice emails from folks. It was a good day to rededicate ourselves to the work of the church. It wasn’t that Community lost its way. I feel we have stayed on message pretty well, but Sunday was day to say it for everyone to hear. We made our focus known! We will be doing that closing prayer after each service throughout the season of Lent. It was a good day.

Liz and Abbie are doing the women’s retreat on Saturday morning. If you haven’t signed up for that you can still come. I know they are hoping for a few more gals. The Sunday signup sheets have been a little difficult with all the weather-related issues. It will be a good morning. Bring a friend! Doyle said the ticket sales are up for the “Spring Fling”, but there is still room for more. I want to encourage you to grab a friend or two and come. It is a good night to be in the church. I am looking forward to being there with you all.

Ballets for Elders and Deacons. I have been watching of that unfold this year and I can tell that’s not easy for us. I know there are so many names on that list. It can almost be overwhelming at times. This is one of those areas that becomes cumbersome when a church gets to our size. We just can’t know everyone…and we never will. That day is gone. So, we might have to consider working on that problem. I have no answers right now, but I am going to work on that. Growing pains!

Sunday will be the third Sunday of Lent and our series “Father Forgive Them”. We started with “promise”, last week was “praise” and this week is “prophet”. The prophets had been saying for years that Messiah was coming, but when it finally came to pass many missed it. How did they get off track? What happened to create this confusion? Was God not clear? Did he miss lead them? We will talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, March 20
6:00pm– BBQ
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

Saturday, March 23
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
9:00-Noon– Women’s Retreat
10:00am– Closed AA meeting

Sunday, March 24
10:10am– Sunday School

Monday, March 25
7:00pm– Men’s Bible Study
7:00pm– Writers’ Group

Tuesday, March 26
7:00pm– AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 27
6:00pm– Ham/ Cheesy Potatoes
7:00pm– Classes for all ages

FINANCES
Sunday, March 17, 2019

General: $20,300
Vision: $4,126
Missions: $215
Sunday School: $72
Wednesday night: $110

General YTD: $161,744
Vision YTD: $57,090
Vision Account Balance: $98,578

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUBS
The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, April 10, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing One Perfect Spring by Irene Hannon.

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, April 16th at 7 pm at the Panera on Foss Ave (Eastside). We will be discussing True To You by Becky Wade.

New participants welcome. Book Club Contact: Trudi Nelson 371-3512

GRIEF SUPPORT CLASS
Starts April 17. Brochures can be found at The Link or The Corner. Pre-registration to this class is required. Please read Liz’s article for more info.

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

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/ pull-ups
Simon Says Give—new toys
Community Kids—plastic table cloths
Union Gospel Mission—Canned vegetables

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Mission Haiti
This Saturday, March 23, Abbie and I will be hosting another Women’s Retreat from 9:00-noon at church! We have almost 50 women who have already registered for the event, and we have room for many more! You do not have to RSVP to the event, but it is helpful as we plan. Our topic is “The Happiness Factor; If You’re Happy and You Know It...” You might be surprised at how we will approach the topic of “happiness.” Remember that we do not offer childcare during these events because we want the women to be able to fully participate in the morning without the possibility of being called away to the nursery. So, men, we need you to step up and help with the child care at home for Saturday! We’ll be having yummy snacks mid-morning provided by Joel Blankers, and there will also be an extended quiet time for women to meet with God one on one. It is always our prayer that God will meet us that morning to challenge us, give life to our souls, and give us a burst of growth in our spiritual lives. You can RSVP by contacting me or Abbie, or you can contact the church office. We hope to see many of you on Saturday morning!

I announced the Grief Support Class this past Sunday morning, and I’m really looking forward to seeing how God will move in this group of people. Fliers can be picked up at The Link or in The Corner. The fliers contain information about who the group is for, the dates of the meetings (it begins April 17), and how the group will be structured. Within the flier, you’ll find a preregistration form that will need to be filled out by those who are interested in participating. With this group, we want to make sure that we make the classes as effective as possible, so it will require a bit more preparation and planning prior to the class beginning. Then once the class members are set, it’s a closed class, meaning that you won’t be able to join in the middle of the sessions. However, we are already planning for 2nd and 3rd sessions for new groups to meet throughout the year, so if you miss the registration for the first session, you’ll still be able to participate in a later session. Laura Maloney and Julie Brown will be facilitating our Spring session, and you can connect with them if you have any questions. And of course, you can always check in with me if you have questions.

And lastly this week, I want to let the adults know that on the last two nights of Mid-Week (April 3 and April 10) I will have a short survey on all of the tables for you to fill out regarding next year’s classes for adults, a new schedule for children, and the meals. It’s been several years since we’ve done a survey and asked for your thoughts about Mid-Week. I’d appreciate it if you’d take a little time when you see those surveys to fill one out and hand it to me.

Have a great week!
Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

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**LIZ’S UPDATE**

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

- **Pete Valentine** (hospice)
- **Natallie 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)
- **Jessica Vander Weide** (heart)
- **Lindsey Vander Weide** (heart)
- **Bruce Heinen** (Laura Maloney’s brother-in-law) lymphoma
- **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)
- **Harriet Valentine** (breast cancer)
- **Duane** (Jerralynne Tjeerdsma’s son-in-law)
- **Randy** (Al & Dolly Hoogendoorn’s son)
- **Rika VanDenTop**
- **Trentin Kooima’s son** (NICU)
Hi Everyone!
Our Easter event for kids is coming up soon!
April 13 from 10am to noon (open house style)

We need some volunteers to join us. Can you help?

We need folks to lead small group stations in a few different rooms. We’d love adult helpers,
Middle School help and High School help:
  Craft station leaders and helpers
  Science station leaders and helpers
  Game station leaders and helpers
  Photo Booth
  Welcome crew

Please email or call me if we can count on your help. Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org

Please be sure to invite friends to join the fun. We have a lot of fun planned for the kids!

See you soon!

Heather DeWit
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org
Hello community! This week we are going to look at the beatitudes. We will be talking about how this view might change the way we think of blessings.

Next week we going to help take down tree sweaters and then have our annual youth group game night. The kids look forward to this each year.

That’s it for me. Have a great rest of your week!

Sarah Powell
Powell.sarahellen@gmail.com

Our condolences to out to Pastor John & Marcia Thornton on the recent passing of Mabel, Marsh’s mom. Please continue to pray for their family.

I don’t know about you, but I have actually been excited to be outside recently. The warmer weather has brought about its own problems with all that water, but it has been great to see and enjoy the sun. At my house, we have been cooped up inside a little too long.

Our Spring Fling is getting close once again, and it has been great to have a Sunday not wondering if weather would get in the way. There are still tickets available, and you can get those on Sunday mornings or by emailing me at doyle.burnside@communityrc.org. I keep hearing great things about previous years and am looking forward to the 6th! One final reminder – if you purchased tickets before we postponed, and the new date does not work, please let me know. It will allow us to keep track of numbers and will allow us to reimburse you for those tickets.

This month is our March Madness series for our midweek. Last week we got into some discussion on relationships with our parents and friends and how they can be an influence on who/how we date. Our community plays a huge role in our life and it is important to not push that community out due to dating. This week, we will turn our focus on our dating relationships.

Finally, this Sunday we will be having a soup/game night here at Community. High school students can bring their favorite games, I will make chicken noodle soup, and we will enjoy some time together. We will start at 5:30 and call it a night at 8. Students, feel welcome to come and go as you are able!

That’s it for this week, feel free to send any questions my way!

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org
605-310-2561
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, March 31 @ 3pm.

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.

INFO YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW...

IMPORTANT DATES

Baptism Service
MARCH 31
JUNE 30

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.