Pastor’s Update

Last week I started my letter with a word about the sunshine and the feel of summer. Today it is snowing. Tomorrow sounds like spring again. So there you have it! Spring in South Dakota. It’s coming though. Just be patient. It has been so nice to see the grass began to turn green and did see some of the early apple blossoms starting to show up around town. Spring is in the air and I’m ready for that. April is in full swing now and Easter is coming up this weekend. I am praying for a powerful week in our church. These are important days we get to come together and celebrate. It’s a great time to drill down and set our foundations even deeper.

We finished MidWeek last week as I had mentioned on Sunday morning. It still remains one of the best things we do around here for connecting and discipleship training. I will never remember all the names of people who helped and so I won’t get into all that. It takes lots of people to make all that happen from teachers to cooks. It is a great area of celebration for our church in how that all comes together and it makes a huge difference in the life of this place. Sunday mornings are great things, but those classes and the fellowship time during MidWeek, take this place to a new level. We are not the same place because of what goes on there! Thanks so much for all of you who are a part of making that happen.

The annual Fishing trip is coming up on Friday. I saw a big number of people signed up for that event. I don’t know how many years that have been going, but I know it is a lot. I hope sure hoping they get some nice weather because there has been years when it was one of the coldest days of the spring.

Also…don’t forget there is a Breakfast on Easter Sunday. We have tickets if you would like to pick those up this week. It’s all free, but those tickets are nice to hand out to guest. This is a great weekend to bring a friend.

Maundy Thursday service is at 7pm. It is a part of our church’s tradition and one of the most powerful evenings we spend together. It is all wrapped around the theme of the last supper and Jesus who saw his disciples together for the last time. He became their servant that night by demonstrating his willingness to kneel before them and wash their feet. He will in only few short hours give his life for them as well. We come to remember that sacrifice and be humbled by this amazing love of our Savior. Join us!

We have a congregational meeting coming up in a couple of weeks. Remember we don’t elect now…we let God choose them. It was a great experience last year and I’m looking forward to see what God will do this year. I love saying it that way!

Sunday is Easter. I don’t think I need to say much more than that. I am so excited to get that message going on Sunday. The resurrection message is the most profound story of all time. Jesus is not dead. The tomb did not win! Death has been defeated and victory is at hand! We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
NURSERY SCHEDULE
April 16: 9:00am—
Melissa Beek
Jamie Van Sloten
Robyn Niewenhuis
Lorena Sazama
11:00am—
Brent & Sue Dekker
Leslie Cleveringa
April 23: 9:00am—
Amy Van Es
Melissa Tromblee
Corey & Molly Karmazin
11:00am—
Brad & Katie Kennett
Laura TerWee

COFFEE SCHEDULE
April 16: Irwin & Helen Van Leeuwen
April 23: Dick & Jeannette Jennings
April 30: Jim & Kathleen Ludens
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THE LINK SCHEDULE
April 16
9:00am– Dick & Jeannette Jennings
11:00am– Bob & Lori Hein

April 23
9:00am– Laurie Long
11:00am– Jerralynne Tjeerdsma
...........................................

GREETER SCHEDULE
April 16:
9:00am– Carl Tonjes, Josh & Molly Kuehl, Daron & Sherri VanBeek
11:00am– Carl Tonjes, Willard & Dar Kiezer

April 23:
9:00am– Stan & Elaine Deelstra,
Dennis & Helen Robinson, Rich & Carolyn Odens
11:00am– Ken & Susan Vos, Dennis & Helen Robinson

WOMEN’S MINISTRY
The morning book club will
meeting on Wednesday, May 10, at 9
am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing The Chil-
dren’s Blizzard which includes South Dakota stories.

The evening book club will be
meeting on Tues. April 18, at 7pm at
the Eastside Panera. We will be dis-
cussing the first half of The Poisonwood Bible by Kingsolver.

Copies of each book are available in
the church library.

Both book clubs welcome new par-
ticipants. Feel free to join either at any
time.

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Hope Circle will meet April 18 @
7pm at Barb’s house. Barb will also
have the lesson.

Joy Circle will meet on Monday,
April 17 at church at 7:00pm. We will
be studying lesson 6.

Faith Circle will meet April 17th @
1pm at the church. William Vambram,
a seminary student from Liberia, will
be our guest. He will share his life story
about his family, faith and his country.
Guest are welcome.

Our condolences go out to Clazina VanWyhe on the re-
cent passing of her brother, Jim Veldkamp.

PRAYER REQUESTS
Join us for a time of prayer on Saturdays from 7am-8am at church.

- Natallie Baker (seizure disorder)
- Clayton Bierwagen (heart)
- Jaron DeWit’s grandma
- Julie Dobesh (surgery recovery)
- Randy Grotenhuis (dizziness)
- Jill Hansen’s aunt (cancer)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer)
- Cammy Kuchta (cancer)
- Terry Mayer’s mom, Rose (stroke)
- Gary McCaan (finger infection)
- Chelle McMurray’s dad (multiple myeloma)
- Rhonda (Odens) Meyer (high risk pregnancy)
- Ellen Nelson (chronic airway disease)
- Susan Payne (cancer)
- Gerban & Therissa TeSlaa (hospice– Helen Van Leeuwen’s parents; Sheri Brouwer’s grandparents)
- Mat Timmer (brain tumor)
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart testing)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Marlys VanBruggen (breast cancer-surgery 4/14)
- Annetta Wiese

The Union Gospel Mission love of-
fering for the month of April is cold
cereal. Please put in designated
black basket in the lobby.
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The Bishop Dudley Hospitality House

House in Sioux Falls offers day-
time and overnight emergency
shelter for the homeless and vul-
nerable. For overnight services
there is room for 80 men, 20
women and seven families at the
House. A wide range of other
social service providers offer ad-
tional essential services aimed
at providing a hand up to those
in need.

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meeting on Wednesday, May 10, at 9
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Our condolences go out to Clazina VanWyhe on the re-
cent passing of her brother, Jim Veldkamp.
A blessed Holy Week to you, Community! I’m praying that you all have time to slow down and spend time focusing on Jesus, the cross, and what kind of love it took for Jesus to carry out the Father’s plan. It’s amazing love and amazing grace. What a gift!

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make Mid-Week a colossal success this year! From the kitchen helpers, to the teachers, volunteers, cookie makers, nursery people, and sponsors; Mid-Week would not happen without your help. Thank you! And I’d like to send a special thanks to Heather DeWit for doing such an incredible job with the elementary kids and for raising the bar to a level that kept kids coming back week after week. You are a blessing, Heather!

Remember that the high school kids will continue to meet through the first part of May. Here is the high school youth group schedule:

- April 12  No Youth Group/Holy Week
- April 19 Supper at 6:00 and Lesson at 7:00
- April 26 Easter Egg Hunt at church 7:00-8:00 pm
- May 3 Last night of Youth Group/ Elk Pie and SYG Awards 7:00-8:00 pm

I want to remind the kids to get those Camp Burke registrations in. I’ve set the earlybird deadline for these registrations as April 30. Camp Burke is June 18-23. You don’t need to pay by April 30. Just turn in that registration!

I currently have registrations for:
- Brady Van Holland
- Faith Van Holland
- Max Jacobs
- Abbie Van Meeteren
- Alex Ludens
- Jenna Christensen
- Jeff Mckee
- Katie Mckee
- Brooklyn Petersen
- Evan Rasmussen
- Colton Bultje

And lastly this week, don’t forget to get those Inspiration Hills camp registrations turned in! And remember that Community will pay half of the early bird fee of any camp, for any camper who attends Community. All you have to do is note that you attend Community Reformed on your registration, and then send in your payment directly to IH, minus half of the early bird fee. IH will bill us for everyone at the same time! Please let Heather or me know if you have any questions.

That’s it for me this week.

Happy Easter, everyone!

Liz
youthpastor@communityrc.org
Hi Everyone!
This week I’m going to use my space in the newsletter to express enormous gratitude to our K-5 Midweek Volunteers. I hope you all had a chance to stop back and see the kids in action on a Wednesday this year because the volunteers devoting their Wednesday evenings to the kids are pretty incredible. God has really been working through those people and touching the lives of the kids.
I’m a little afraid to list names because I’m afraid I’ll forget someone but I really do want you all to be able to thank them as well so I’ll give it a try:
Shepherds come every week or team teach to come every other week. They build long term connections to the kids and pray with them each week.
- Kindergarten and 1st Grade Shepherds: Matt Weerheim and Laurel Feenstra
- 2nd and 3rd Grade Shepherds: Chad McKee and Dustin Brouwer
- 4th and 5th Grade Shepherds: Mary Burggraaf and April Kelling
- 3rd and 4th Grade Teacher Every Week: Karen Roetman
- Lesson Teachers (Many of these folks taught 1, 2 or more times every month!)
  - Some taught one time this year and some a few times. (That is a fun thing about the way we do this! The kids get to know many faces from our church and people don’t have to commit to being here every week if they want to take an adult class too.) Many people also donated supplies and materials for lessons.

Steve and Becky Hinderks, Lori Blom and Jaron DeWit also often helped with Fellowship Fun Zone. Please forgive me if I’ve missed someone! You all made a great year with the kids possible! See you soon!

- Heather DeWit

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**URGENT - camp**

Camp Early Sign Up Deadline April 15! Are you planning to send your kids to camp? Community will pay for half of the EARLY BIRD registration at Inspiration Hills! Let me know when they are going so we can pray for them and so we can connect other kids who are hoping to go to camp with kids they know.

www.inspirationhills.org

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Thank you to all of the kids and families that joined us for Palm Sunday. We had so many kids join us!

Thank you to the Larsen family for taking care of making sure the kids had palm branches to wave on Sunday!

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We won’t have Sunday School next week. We’re looking forward to next week and the Easter service and breakfast.

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Free Puppet Show at 1st Reformed Church
Pockets Full of Fun Easter Puppet Show for Preschool to Grade 5
57th and Tomar (use east door)
Wednesday, April 12, 6:30-7 p.m.
Puppets, stories, music and audience participation will focus on the real meaning of Easter
UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 12
6:00pm—Elders prepare communion
7:00pm—H.S. Youth Group
7:00pm—Elders meet
8:00pm—Full Consistory

Thursday, April 13
7:00pm—Maundy Thursday Communion service

Friday, April 14
Office Closed

Saturday, April 15
7:00am—Prayer Ministry

Sunday, April 16
Happy Easter
8:00-11:00am—Easter Breakfast at church
No Sunday School

Monday, April 17
1:00pm—Faith Circle
7:00pm—Joy Circle
No Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, April 18
7:00pm—Book Club (E. Panera)
7:00pm—Hope Circle

Wednesday, April 19
7:00pm—H.S. Youth Group

An Evening in Ukraine with Paul Logan
Sunday, April 30th
@ 7:00pm
Sioux Falls Convention Center
(1201 N West Ave)

Ukrainian Dinner & Dessert, Live Ukrainian Music, ministry update & prayer for Ukraine.

Please RSVP to 605-595-8872 by April 25 or ariseoffice@gmail.com

Free Health Seminar: Advanced Care Planning
Sunday, April 23rd
@ Community
@ 7:00pm

What would happen if you couldn't express your health care wishes? An advanced directive, such as a living will or durable power of attorney for health care, reflects your values of medical care when you are sick and cannot voice your own preferences.

Blessed Journey Giving officially started

Also, Blessed Journey Giving Online giving through the website and the app have been updated so people can contribute to "Vision Fund Four—Blessed Journey."

It’s looking like spring and time for a little spring cleaning. Check for church books & videos to return. After a while, they can look like you’ve always had them on that shelf. We will be sending out reminders for books out for a year or DVDs out for 4 months or more.

It’s a good time to look in our “free” section for a selection of items (duplicates, etc.) that need a new home. Check it out!

Your librarians,
Trudi, Lois, Lorena, & Merry

Finances at a Glance:
April 9, 2017

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YEAR-TO-DATE STATUS 4/9/17

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Join us for worship at 8am, 9am or 11am.
Deaf Interpreting available at 9am service. Check us out on the web: www.communityrc.org or like our Facebook page!