I know we are all wishing for a little more sunshine. I know we can get into these long stretches of no sun and rainy/wet weather. It is all a part of the place we live. I have enjoyed the change in the season, but I know we all get a little frustrated with not seeing the light. I think there might be a sermon in there somewhere. I’ll have to go to work on that. Enjoy the spring…it could be snowing you know.

I had a good day with my mom and sisters on Sunday afternoon. I don’t always get an opportunity to get together with all of them so when I do that is a special time. Sundays can be a busy day for me, but we got it all done and my mom, although we passed on a new tiller, had a good day with your family. The food was great as always my sister was a great host for the day. I hope that all of you had a great day and got to share some good memories and stories with your families.

We showed Lexi Valentine’s video on Sunday morning at 9, but we told 11 we would wait till this coming week to get that done. It is a great little video of telling the story of her journey and the challenges that face her each and every day, but at the end when you hear her speak in Lexi’s soft gentle way you get a deep sense of the peace she has in her heart and soul. She is being carried along by something greater than herself and it shows. We will be putting it on the website shortly along with Randi’s story as well. We can see that God is always busy. I sure heard that a bunch this past week.

There is a group of people who have put together a little “shindig” for Liz this coming Sunday morning. We are celebrating 16 years of youth ministry. I am not sure if many of you are aware, but most youth pastors last for only about 2 years. She has crushed that average for sure. It’s not the kind of attention Liz is very comfortable with, but it really is something we need to do. Valuing people is what we, at Community, have strived to be about. I have had many ask what she is doing next, and just to keep everyone informed, she has applied along with several others for the discipleship job and the worship position. That seemed most fair to all involved. She has given much to us and I think we all would agree she has impacted this place. That’s worth a few cookies and friendly gesture of thanks. May God bless her in whatever might be next.

On the heels of that paragraph just let me offer a prayer challenge to the church. We are in the final stages of choosing people for all of these positions we have been advertising for the last month. We want the spirit to be thick in that room when that committee meets. We are praying that God himself will guide us in this choosing. Prayer warriors…go to work! This is a very important time in the life and future of what our church will look like in the coming years. These are not just pieces of paper we are reading over or positions listed on a website. These are people. These are people seeking God’s calling for what is next for them as well. Remember our sermon series. There is always something “greater” going on that what we perceive. Go God Go!

Sunday we keep moving through Ezra. This week the temple is still going to be our subject of conversation. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
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)
Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
William VamBram’s wife, Cynthia (heart)
Gloria Wierda. Laura Maloney’s mom (stage 4 breast cancer)
Sara Van Ruler’s dad (throat cancer)

Phyllis DeHaai (lymphoma)
Lori Blom’s relative, Mark (sepsis)
Dean Kruen (cancer)
Joe Johnson (cancer)
Harriett Valentine (hip replacement)
Tracee Ellwein (knee surgery recovery)

Our condolences go out to Tom & Amy Bosch on the recent passing of Jeff, Tom’s brother. Please keep their family in your prayers.
Heather’s Children’s Ministry Update

Vacation Bible School

August 5-8, 2018

Sign up your children or to volunteer at:
https://vbspro.events/p/community

Venture onto an uncharted island where kids survive and thrive. Anchor kids in the truth that Jesus carries them through life’s storms.
- Children entering grades 1 to 6: 6-8pm
- Children age 3- entering Kindergarten: 6-7:30pm
- Sing N’ Sprout from 6:30 to 7:30 for parents and their little ones (younger than 3) in the nursery following the opening in the sanctuary each night. You'll sing and play instruments with your little one while they learn about God’s love with you! :)
- Children under 3 or those that aren’t ready to use the restroom independently yet are welcome to join the nursery while parents are busy doing VBS activities as well.

I’d really like to offer

Sing n’ Sprout
Growing with God through music & movement

Next Fall but I need two to six people to make it happen!
(2-3 volunteers for Sunday 10:10am-10:50am and 2-3 for Wednesday 7 to 7:45pm)
Outreach and Ministry for the children under age 3 (or not quite ready for Sunday School) & their parents.
Sing n’ Sprout curriculum has everything we need and will help train our teachers.

Can you help with an exciting NEW MINISTRY opportunity starting next September for TODDLERS and their PARENTS? I want to order this curriculum but I want to be sure we have the volunteers first! Our first 8 week class would be GOD IS LOVE. If we find 6 people, then each volunteer would serve 1-2 times per month.

Email Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org

Qualifications:
Love God, Love People, Love to Learn (You don’t have to be a good singer!)
Liz’s Update

My time back home last week was very good. Abbie decided to come along with me, and we had a really nice visit with our Grandma. It’s always healthy to get out of town for a bit and soak up the wide-open spaces of west river South Dakota. I love it out there!

Graduates, don’t forget about the graduation table set up in the lobby! The table is filled with books that are intended to be a gift for any graduate in honor of his or her graduation. If you are a high school, college, or even graduate school graduate, Community encourages you to pick up a book as a gift of congratulations from Community. The table will remain in the lobby through the first weekend of June. We are proud of all our graduates!

Attention parents of high school graduates: if you are interested in sharing your son or daughter’s graduation information, you can email me a picture of the graduate and include the school, his or her name, and what his or her plans are after graduation. Then, starting May 20, we will run a PowerPoint presentation on the screens before church starts so church people can see who the high school graduates are this year. It is not required to participate in this, but if you’d like to share about your son or daughter, please send me an email! My email address at church is youthpastor@communityrc.org.

The Sully Peaks Retreat is coming up June 7-9. Postcards will go out at the end of this week to all those who RSVP’d for this event. As always, if you have any questions, please let me know. And I did place the order for the Youth Group t-shirts and sweatshirts last week. As soon as they come in, I’ll be contacting those of you who placed orders.

As I mentioned in last week’s newsletter, I’ll be speaking at Baccalaureate for Harrisburg High School on Wednesday night of this week. I’d appreciate your prayers to bring God’s word to the graduates and their families!

I think that’s it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz
youthpastor@communityrc.org

SAFE FAMILIES @ COMMUNITY

Safe Families for Children is a movement fueled by compassion to keep children safe and families intact. We rely upon host families and a network of support, to open their arms, their hearts, and their homes. Community has recently become a part of this movement. Jamelee Van Donge & Robyn Niewenhuis are leading this new serving opportunity. If you have any questions or want to become involved contact them.
Jamelee-360-5830 Robyn- 413-5667

Ways you can get involved:
Be a Host Family—Voluntarily host children in your home on a temporary basis
Be a Family Friend—Provide support to host families and families in need
Be a Resource Friend—Provide goods & services to families in need
Be a Family Coach—Help families in need reach their goals and provide encouragement to host families
Donate—Your financial support keeps children safe and families intact
Pray—pray for families in crisis, our volunteers, our staff and the movement.

There is also a Safe Families informational meeting on Monday, June 4th @7pm at Bethany Christian Services if you’re interested in learning more.

Thanks Community for getting behind this great cause! We’ve had 13 individuals step up in numerous roles already. Go Community Go!
Thursday, May 17
See Softball Schedule

Saturday, May 19
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
5:30-7:30pm—William’s Graduation Celebration

Sunday, May 20
10:10am– Adult Sunday School (chapel)
10:00am– Liz’s Shindig

Monday, May 21
11:30am– Faith Circle (E. Panera)

Wednesday, May 23
5:15am– Crack of Dawn Connection (running group @ church)

JOIN OUR NURSERY TEAM...

Nursery Coordinator
Nursery Coordinator works 2-3 Sundays a month, some special services and Wednesday nights during midweek. Coordinator needs to be 18 years old. If you are interested please contact Sheri at 605 261 2153.

FINANCES AT A GLANCE:
Sunday, May 13

General: $12,436
Vision: $5,071
Missions: $355

General YTD: $262,232
Vision YTD: $78,014
Vision Account Balance: $90,286

DON’T FORGET.
The adult Sunday school class that meets in the chapel will continue to meet all summer long.

JOIN US!

Shindig for Liz!
Let’s get together to celebrate 16 years of Youth Ministry.
MAY 20
10:00am

Parents of GraduatingSeniors
Please read Liz’s article if you’d like to submit a photo of your graduate for a Powerpoint at church. ALSO, if you are a graduate of any type, please visit the table in the lobby to get a small gift from Community.

WINNER ANNOUNCED
This summer, John Thornton will be leading a Wednesday evening Bible study called, “What in the world is Peter talking about?” The class will begin on June 13th and run for 9 weeks. It will be an in-depth study of both 1 Peter and 2 Peter, and maybe even a week on June.

Class will begin at 7:15 pm and last for an hour each Wednesday until late August. Discussion and participation is expected and encouraged.

William’s Graduation
Celebrate with William VamBram on graduating from Seminary! Join us on Saturday, May 19th from 5-7:30pm at church!

Join us this Sunday to celebrate all that God has done in 16 years of Youth Ministry and to tell Liz Thank you!

If you can’t join us but want to send your greeting, cards or notes can be sent to Community Reformed Church or you can email connect@communityrc.org and we’ll pass the greeting on to Liz.

Kid’s Fishing Day
Saturday June 9th
At the Outdoor Campus

Join us this Sunday to celebrate all that God has done in 16 years of Youth Ministry and to tell Liz Thank you!

If you can’t join us but want to send your greeting, cards or notes can be sent to Community Reformed Church or you can email connect@communityrc.org and we’ll pass the greeting on to Liz.

KID’S FISHING DAY
Sign Waivers & Hotdog lunch at Sertoma Park @ Noon; Fishing from 1:00-2:30pm. Sign ups at The Link or email connect@communityrc.org to reserve a spot. Limited to the first 40 kids.

JUNIOR HIGH MUSICAL PROJECT

Church Softball Schedule
All games played at Sherman Park

D League
May 17
6:30pm– Field F
7:30pm– Field F

May 24
8:30pm– Field I
9:30pm– Field I

C League
May 17
8:30pm– Field I
9:30pm– Field I

May 24
6:30pm– Field G
7:30pm– Field E
Community Reformed Church
6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

May 16, 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.

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!