I sitting in my office on May 1st and there is snow on the lawn. I am guessing I will not write those words too many times in my life. I about can’t believe this. I have a Christmas cactus in my house and it appears to be wanting to bloom. Somewhere along the lines I missed a whole batch of months there. It’s Christmas time again. I love Christmas. I guess it’s time to get excited about presents and trees and the Christ child born in the manger. See, there is always a positive side to everything. Enjoy the season. 😊

There are plans being made to expand the parking lot on the east side of the church. The money for that has been set aside for few years to get that done. It will expand the parking 75 new spaces. That will be a great change. Now when people come there shouldn’t be any problem finding a place. That is especially true if you are a new visitor. A guest doesn’t always know there is parking around the back so finding a place for them in not always so easy. The plan is to have it all finished up by this fall.

Holli will be having that new baby here very soon. She has already got a crew of helpers to get things done around here while she is away. I don’t know who they all are, but I am sure appreciative for their willingness to help us out. That front desk is the first person a lot of people see when they stop out. It matters who that is. At least I think so.

Liz is working on all the summer camp things. Heather is working on Vacation Bible School and some one-day fun camps at church. The office is pretty busy right now with all that coming our way. Summers are a bit of a break from the regular routine, but there is always something new to plan for. I hope that lots of the young people will get to participate in some of these activities. I’m sure they will be well with your time.

The summer schedule is nearly upon us as the end of another school year is just around the corner. I know when we get to those summer months lots of our folks are using that time to get away on the weekends. We might try to something a little different this summer with the times of the worship services. It’s all in discussion right now. Consistory will be making that decision in a couple of weeks. Don’t panic…it won’t be that big of a change. 😊

Next Sunday we will be installing our new consistory members during the church services. A new group of leaders will be joining us. We install them as a way to bring the office before God and get His blessing upon these new men and women. We try very hard to get our leaders to understand the power of God upon them during this three-year term.

Sunday’s message is going to come from my favorite book in the bible, Romans. We will be looking at Romans 12. It is a message about the transformational power of the risen Christ in our lives. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
NURSERY SCHEDULE
May 7: 9:00am—
  Grant & Leslie Boltjes
  Jenna Christensen
  Lyndee Kamrath

11:00am—
  Spencer & Rachel Larson
  Jordan Lipp

May 14: 9:00am—
  Darren & Tracee Ellwein
  Linda Zwart
  Sarah Wilkinson

11:00am—
  Mike & Casey Bulis
  Abbie Van Meeteren

COFFEE SCHEDULE
May 7: Daryl & Char DuBois
May 14: Steve & Becky Lee
May 21: Irwin & Helen Van Leeuwen

THE LINK SCHEDULE
May 7
  9:00am— Bruce Wentzel & Bonnie Overweg
  11:00am— Tom & Robin Jacobs

May 14
  9:00am— Harlan & Judy Van Meeteren
  11:00am— Ross & Jolene Larson

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 Children’s Blizzard which includes South Dakota stories.

Both book clubs welcome new participants. Feel free to join either at any time.

Hope Circle will meet on May 16th. Lesson: Jerralynne. Hostess: Carol

Faith Circle will meet Monday, May 15 at 1:00pm. Lesson and devotions by Florene, Dolly and Connie. Hostess: Bert. Any Questions call Dolly 371-1480.

Joy Circle— May Fun Event— No Lesson. Tues, May 23 meet at the Pettigrew Museum at 1:45 for museum and home tour. Refreshments after the tour. Please sign up at The Link. Need more info, call 351-4202.

Union Gospel Mission love gift for May is cash for the Vacation Bible Time & Camp. Please designate your gift and deacons will forward the money on.

GREETER SCHEDULE
May 7:
  9:00am— Jean Nollmann, Irwin & Helen Van Leeuwen, Ron & Juanita Palma
  11:00am— Jean Nollmann, Duane & Rhonda Niewenhuis

May 14:
  9:00am— Gail Babcock, Randy & Gayle Grotenhuis, Lyle & Wilma Drenth
  11:00am— Bert Roetman, Larry & Gloria Smyrak

May Mission of the month:
  Arise Ukraine

The ministry’s purpose is to see Ukraine saturated with living communities of believers where the transforming power of the gospel is reaching every area of society— giving every man, woman and child in the country the opportunity to be reconciled to the Father and to each other. Arise Ukraine is completing God’s work through 6 main ministries and their goal is to have 10,000,000 Ukrainians hear the gospel by 2020 with 1,000,000+ becoming disciples of Christ.

Prayer REQUESTS

- Natallie Baker (seizure disorder)
- Clayton Bierwagen (heart)
- Jaron DeWil’s grandpa
- 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 TeSlaa (hospice– Helen Van Leeuwen’s dad; Sheri Brouwer’s grandpa)
- Mat Timmer (brain tumor)
- Harriett Valentine (shoulder surgery)
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart testing)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Marlys Vander Weide (breast cancer-surgery S/S)
- Annetta Wiese

Our condolences go out to Irwin and Helen Van Leeuwen on the death of Helen’s mom, Therissa Te Slaa. This is also Sheri Brouwer’s grandmother.
The Easter Egg/Scavenger Hunt last week for the high school youth group was a crazy fun time! Several things always surprise me about this event. First of all, I’m pretty impressed at how diligently the kids will look for and ultimately find eggs that I’ve hidden in really difficult places! And on the flip side of that coin, I’m also humorously impressed with how bad the kids are at finding eggs when I’ve told them where they are! 😊 I’m guessing this is a common problem among parents and kids in your own homes! In any case, all of the eggs were found, and all of the scavenger hunt tasks were completed (some were completed exceptionally well!), and the kids had a great time! We’re down to our last event this week before we take a break from weekly Youth Group. **This week, we’ll be meeting from 7:00-8:00 at the church for Elk Pie and SYG Awards.** I’ll be following up this meeting with a summer letter full of information about summer activities and the upcoming school year. If you have a kid in your house who will be in high school next year, please let me know so I can add him or her to my mailing list!

I want to remind the kids to get those Camp Burke registrations in. The early bird deadline is over, but I will continue to take registrations until all of the camp spots are full. Camp Burke is June 18-23. Remember it is not necessary to turn in payment with your registration just yet. But if you know you want to go, please get that registration in ASAP! We can take care of the fee later. **I currently have registrations for:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brady Van Holland</th>
<th>Faith Van Holland</th>
<th>Max Jacobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abbie Van Meeteren</td>
<td>Alex Ludens</td>
<td>Jenna Christensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff McKee</td>
<td>Katie McKee</td>
<td>Brooklyn Petersen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evan Rasmussen</td>
<td>Colton Bultje</td>
<td>Lexi Valentine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And lastly this week, I wanted to let you know that next Monday through Wednesday, **I’ll be away from the office** to spend time at Peace Center in Yankton, SD for a short spiritual retreat. The first time I planned this retreat, I ended up having my gallbladder removed and had to cancel! So I’m especially thankful for a second scheduling. At this retreat, I’ll be entering into some different activities and practices that are intended to grow my relationship with God and challenge me in my spiritual formation. Spiritual Formation was one of my favorite subjects while I was in seminary, and I am deeply excited for this time away and to see how God will use it in my walk. I’ll also be completely unplugging while I’m there, which is something I think everyone desperately needs. This means that I will not be answering phone calls, text messages, emails, and I won’t be on social media at all. I am trying to be very intentional about reserving this time for God and God alone. **Community, I humbly ask that you be praying for me while I’m on this retreat.** I’ve never really done anything like this before, so I’m expecting to find it at least a little bit challenging! But I’m also really excited too. J

Thank you!

That’s it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz

youthpastor@communityrc.org
Hi Everyone!

It is hard to believe that we are coming up on our very last week of Sunday School. It has been a fantastic year. I've loved seeing the kids growing and learning and have really enjoyed watching relationships building between volunteers and kids.

I want to use my article this week to thank our Sunday School teachers. These folks said “yes” to teaching our kids this year and it has certainly made a difference. If you see one of them, please take a moment to thank them.

We also had many, many helpers who came every week to be sure the kids had enough adults to assist them and to make everyone feel welcome and cared for. There are too many of those folks to fit on one page which is an incredible blessing! (There are so many I'm afraid if I list you all I'll forget one!)

I also need to thank Doug and Eric Harms for doing music with the younger kids and Liz Teel for doing music with the Elementary age kids. That is a highlight for many of us each week! I'll probably have “Fisher’s of Men” from the little kids and “Books of the Bible” from the older kids in my head enough to last me until next year! :)

Last, but certainly not least, I need to thank Trudi Nelson for writing curriculum for the Kindergarten, First and Second Grade kids this year and doing the preparation of materials. That has been a great thing for our kids!

Teachers:
3 year olds: Becky & Dane Olsen, Shaun Hubbard
Pre-K: Kate Hansen, Laurel Wolf
Kindergarten: Katie Kennett, Jenny Van Oort
1st Grade: Alissa & Eric Matt, Greg, Angi & Ali Cable
2nd Grade: Mike & Angie Boyenga, Jennifer Bauman, William Vambram
3rd Grade: Karen Van Holland, Karen Roetman
4th Grade: Jill Pudwill, Laura Maloney
5th and 6th Grade: Abbie Coffey
(Abbie also does curriculum planning for her class)

-Heather DeWit
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Wednesday, May 3**
7:00pm– Last night of H.S. Youth Group

**Thursday, May 4**
7:00am– 8pm– National Day of Prayer

**Saturday, May 6**
7:00am—Prayer Ministry
7:00pm—Sound Cascade Concert

**Sunday, May 7**
Installation Sunday
10:10am– Last day of Sunday School

**Monday, May 8**
12:00pm– Seniors @ E. Pizza Ranch
7:00pm- Men’s Bible Study

**Wednesday, May 10**
9:00am– Book Club (Bagel Boy on MN)

**Sound Cascade Chorus**
Spring Show
**Saturday, May 6th**
@ 7:00pm
At Community

Tickets $15 prior to show; $25 for 2 or $20 @ the door. 12 & under Free.

To purchase tickets contact: Jeri 366-4793 jetjeerdsma@gmail.com or Donna 929-6356.

Or purchase tickets at Crossroads Book & Music.

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**Tee it up for Timmer’s**

**Willow Run Golf Course**
**Wednesday, May 24**
Noon Shotgun Start

Contact: Eric Harms–harms@hegg.com 940.8535 or Sharen Harms–sharen@hegg.com 366.2684

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**Newly Selected Consistory**

**Elders**
Jolene Larson
Pete Mellema
Gerald Teunissen

**Deacons**
Jim Fisher
Nick Langerock
Russ Robers

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**General:**
$14,135

**2017 Weekly Goal:**
$15,033

**Ahead/(Behind):**
$(897)

**Vision:**
$2,955

**Missions:**
$285

**Sunday School:**
$323

**YEAR-TO-DATE STATUS 4/30/17**

Year-To-Date Offering:
$275,662

Year-To-Date Goal:
$270,596

Ahead (Behind):
$5,068

Year-To-Date Vision:
$131,348

Vision Account Balance:
$215,019

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John Thornton is considering doing a summer Bible study on the Gospel of Mark. Tentatively, it would be scheduled on Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm to 8:30pm.

This would be a study of the entire book of Mark, and concentrate on the Bible looking at it verse by verse with group discussion. He needs to know if there is enough interest to do this class. Please contact John and let him know if you are interested. John hopes to start in the near future.

So contact John! Thanks!

johnthornton@sio.midco.net

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Come cheer on the Community Softball team @ Sherman Park:

May 4– 6:30pm (Field G)
7:30pm (Field G)
May 11– 8:30pm (Field I)
9:30pm (Field I)

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Come on into church between the hours of 7am-8pm to prayer in the chapel.

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**National DAY OF PRAYER**

Thursday, May 4th

Come on into church between the hours of 7am-8pm to prayer in the chapel.

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**Finances at a Glance:**
**April 30, 2017**

**General:**
$14,135

**2017 Weekly Goal:**
$15,033

**Ahead/(Behind):**
$(897)

**Vision:**
$2,955

**Missions:**
$285

**Sunday School:**
$323

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Community Reformed Church
6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

May 3, 2017

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 (crcprayerline@gmail.com). For emergencies during non-office hours, please call Pastor Clyde or the elder on call.

April 30—Laura Maloney
May 1—Mary Burggraaf
May 14—Doug Harms

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!