PASTOR’S UPDATE

It’s good to be back in Sioux Falls and in church on Sunday. It was a long week with so many different things on the table. From weddings to funerals to long drives in the middle of the night... I’m happy to have that all behind me. I am hoping that summer gives us all a good break and that we can all have some slow down time. It is vacation and lakes time. I know that many of you have been taking advantage of all of that and I highly encourage you to do so. I know that changes your pace and that’s always a good thing. Family time and slow down time is always a good choice if you can make that happen. It is starting to feel a little bit like summer these last few days, but it has been difficult for the season to get here and get going. The longest day of the year is coming this week and then we already start back the other way. Can you believe that? The 4th of July is not really all that far away...I won’t say any more about that right now. Enjoy the summer!

We are busy around here for things coming throughout the summer. The church picnic is coming in July along with VBS that won’t be that far away. We would love to see a good turnout for those things. If you have questions, call us! VBS will need lots of helpers for sure. Last year, we got overrun with little kids and we have learned to get extra ready for that one. Let’s do it right again Community!

Consistory we are meeting this week! We are a little out of sequence, but this week is our week. Summers get pretty full, but I am hoping this all works out.

I know there are lots of our kids doing camps this summer. The senior high have already had a mission camp this summer and they are off again this week. Doyle is a busy guy and he seems to love getting those kids out and doing things. It is a great way to connect and make long lasting relationships. Go God Go!

I am happy to be home from Synod. It was a busy few days and for the most part it was all done very professional and not much anxiety. There are things that are tense there for sure, but this year I thought everyone did a good job of doing the work we were asked to do and move this all on to the next step. Sunday night we had a great turnout for the informational meeting and I have decided to do another one next Monday evening at 7. I know that wasn’t the best time with Father’s Day and all, so if you weren’t able to be there come next Monday night. Also, if you just can’t find the time...get in touch with me and I will give you as much info as I can.

We started our summer series of messages and now we are off on this quest to gain understanding of this amazing gift of the Holy Spirit. This week we are going to spend our time in the text of the moment this gift arrived in the church. I believe it is important to note that they disciples were “ready”, but they weren’t “filled”. There is a difference. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
SUMMER BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAYS
7:30PM
This class is covering Johnan Christoph Arnold’s book, “Be Not Afraid: Overcoming the Fear of Death” and will run every Wednesday through August.

RCA UPDATE
MONDAY, JUNE 24
7:00PM
Pastor Clyde will be sharing updates from his trip to the General Senate convention.

PRAYER NIGHT
SUNDAY, JUNE 23
7:00PM
Need to refuel for the week? Join us for a night in prayer.

PICNIC IN THE PARK
WEDNESDAY, JULY 24
6:30PM
UPPER TUTHILL PARK
Please bring food to share and your own chair. We’ll be grilling hotdogs! Water also provided.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Wednesday, June 19**
5:15am– Crack of Dawn
7:30pm– Summer Bible Study

**Thursday, June 20**
7:00pm– Elders/ 8:00pm– Consistory
6:30pm– Church Softball (Field I)

**Saturday, June 22**
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
10:00am– Closed AA meeting

**Sunday, June 23**
10:10am– Adult Sunday School
7:00pm– Night of Prayer

**Tuesday, June 25**
7:00pm– AA Meeting

**Wednesday, June 26**
5:15am– Crack of Dawn
7:30pm– Summer Bible Study

FINANCES
Sunday, June 16, 2019

- General: .................$12,006
- Vision: .....................$2,645
- Missions:.....................$795

- General YTD: $372,032
- Vision YTD: $104,518
- Vision Account Balance: $108,440

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUBS
The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, July 10, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing True to You by Becky Wade.

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

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
- Union Gospel Mission– pasta
- Mission Haiti– backpacks and shoes
- Caring Cards– used cards

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Samaritan’s Feet

Mission Trip to Haiti!
MARCH 1 - 7, 2020
FOR MORE INFO OR TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF INTERESTED PEOPLE, EMAIL: JARONDEWIT@GMAIL.COM
This week, June 18 falls on Tuesday, and June 18 is my mom’s birthday. She would have been 66 years old this year. As these years go by, I find myself participating in a strange type of adventure every time a significant holiday or event rolls around. What thoughts will come to my mind? What questions will I think of that I wish she was around to answer? What things would I like to tell her?

I don’t think you can ever prepare for life without someone you love. It’s just too hard to accurately picture what things will be like without that person around. And that got me to thinking about the disciples and Jesus.

Jesus kept telling them that He was going to be leaving, but those poor disciples just couldn’t wrap their brains around it. (Who could blame them?) And then, when He was crucified and died, the disciples were rather dumbfounded. They had a million questions, and they were also terrified that they were going to be next. I’m sure a level of shock set in, and they never would have thought that they were going to see Him again.

Then to top it off, they only had about 3 days to process all that had happened before He showed up alive and well! No wonder they weren’t sure what they were seeing! First Jesus was dead, and now He’s alive? How do you even formulate questions about that? If you had been in their place, what questions would you have asked?

What things would you have wanted to tell Jesus? It’s crazy what comes to my mind regarding my mom, but when I think of putting myself in that position with Jesus, I think I would have reacted a lot like the disciples did; I would have been confused and incredibly skeptical. I might have even felt dumb for not thinking of better things to say.

I guess what I’m driving at is how important it is to show ourselves a bit of grace when we find ourselves in situations that cause anxiety, worry, fear, and doubt. It can be tempting to criticize ourselves for not reacting more positively or for thinking we should be better at dealing with challenging things. But the truth is, we are all in the process of becoming what God wants us to be. It’s a process, which means it takes time. And God’s processes always, always require grace.

I wonder if the disciples felt stupid after Jesus went to Heaven. Did they have questions they wished they would have asked Him before He left? Were there things they wanted to tell Him? I’m guessing there were. 😊 But the good news is that a day came when they were able to ask Him and tell Him, face to face, all that was on their minds. And this week, I’m living in that promise too. Have a great week!

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

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**PRAYER REQUEST**

- **Natalie Baker** (seizure disorder)
- **Clayton Bierwagen** (heart)
- **Jodie Jensen** (cancer)
- **Chelle McMurray’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
- **Diane Johnson** (liver disease)
- **Gary Jensen** (cancer)
- **Sara Van Ruler’s dad** (throat cancer)
- **Wade Persson’s mom** (cancer)
- **Randy Grotenhuis** (inflammation of the inner ear)
- **Al Hoogendoorn** (multiple health issues)
- **Randy** (Al & Dolly Hoogendoorn’s son)
- **Trentlin Kooima’s infant son**
- **Jerry Ackerman** (Lonny Ackerman’s dad) open heart surgery
- **Chris Wielenga** (healing from burns)
- **Grace Vanden Heuval** (cracked rib)
- **Jackie Holleman**
Hi Everyone!

We had an awesome time at Camp Babylon! We had just over 40 kids join us and some amazing volunteers. There were some awesome adults who took time from their week to make Babylon a success as well as some High School students who dedicated their time and some Middle School students! Asking folks to help over the summer is a big request yet these people jumped right in! It’s a good thing they did because we had some serious fun and learning happening and we needed the extra hands, brains and hearts to make it great. God certainly gifted those who came with patience as the flute making activity was SO LOUD!

We learned:
When things change, God is with you.
When you need help, God is with you.
When you’re afraid, God is with you.
When you’re lonely, God is with you.
When you’re thankful, God is with you.

Our tour of Babylon stopped in the Babylonian gardens, met a man named Daniel and his three friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah (and heard about how Nebuchadnezzar called them Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego), checked out the lion’s den, and even stopped by the fiery furnace. We prayed, learned and made big connections. We painted lions, made our own hanging gardens, played with clay, used solar paper to explore change, made our own flutes, played, laughed, and explored our hearts.

On another note, please pray for kids at camp! The High School Youth group is off at camp this week! Pray for Doyle and the kids and all of the camp staff. There are also many kids of all ages at other camps including Inspiration Hills this summer. I know some of the kids that were at camp the last few weeks have had great experiences so God has already been good and kept our kids safe and growing while they are off at camp.

As I said last week, our Middle School program will have a little change coming as our wonderful coordinator, Sarah Powell is moving to Arizona. We’ll share more in the next few weeks about the exciting adventure God has called her to as well as what God is doing next with our Middle School Youth Group. On June 30 there is a get together for all of the Middle School Youth here at church at noon. It should be a fun time!

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

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**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP SUMMER FUN DAY**
Sunday, June 30
Noon-4pm

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**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**INFANTS- GRADE 5:**
JULY 28-31
6-8PM

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**INVITE FRIENDS! FREE**

SIGN UP AT: [https://vbspro.events/p/events/2019](https://vbspro.events/p/events/2019)

QUESTIONS?
HEATHER.DEWIT@COMMUNITYRC.ORG
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, June 30 @ 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
JUNE 30

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