PASTOR’S UPDATE

July is now half finished. Summer is just marching right along. I have been seeing lots of pictures of vacations and fun things that many of our folks are doing. I am so glad you are finding way to enjoy some quality time together. I know things are different, but it appears as though you can find ways of doing things that maintain a degree of good caution. It is sure not how we like doing things, is it? I hope you will all continue to enjoy these nice days. Summer is getting away from us as it always does. I know there are even some school things that have started already. All of that is going to be interesting as well. I can hear the tension already. This crazy virus will continue to put us in that position. I am still praying for the “fix”. Opinions are everywhere and of course throw in an election and you have the makings of such wonderful moments to wade through. My job? Bring you a word about Jesus who knows your pain and struggle. He is your source of peace. That’s what I can bring to the table. That’s what I will continue to do!

A word about Sunday. We had plenty of room for the most part. However, 8am is in a room is pretty small, and it doesn’t take much to change the balance in there. 9 and 11 both had lots of room for more. You could easily find a space in that room this past week. I know you are all making careful choices and you are going to continue to do that based on your own comfort level. As we plan ahead, we are going to keep that in mind. We are all in one of those seasons and the only way out is through. As a staff, we are not going to get all frustrated with things. We know what is out there and how people are reacting. We see it on Sunday morning. So...that makes it easier for us to work through things. We know what to expect from our folks. I hope that makes sense. We are getting a good “feel” for things right now. I know that can all change quickly, but I believe we will know that when it happens just like all of you will know. On we go! Jesus go with us!

VBS is in a bag this year. There are packets to pick up with lessons and on-line videos that go with those. Heather has it all put together. If you have questions call the office and we will give you all the info. People are doing things in their homes or having a couple of neighbors over. It isn’t the same. We know that as well. The lessons are pretty cool. Give it a try and let’s see how this goes. We are getting request from other places as well. Who would have thought? Opportunity is always there if we will only stop and listen. I love that!

A word of thanks again this week to everyone for your amazing patience and flexibility through this. We have never done anything like this before. I hope we never have to do it again. Your willingness to try new things and your amazing generosity is taking so much pressure off of things around here. We have been able to help a number of families as well. God is still on the throne!!

It is Hebrews chapter 7 now. On we go! You are going to see that the “priest thing” is going to come up again. If you think about it, that makes sense because these new Jewish Christians are still remembering their past. They are a bit uncomfortable with all this new stuff coming their way. Letting the old go is not easy. I know it isn’t for me. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
Retreat
JULY 24/25

OUR RETREAT THIS YEAR WILL BE A COMBINED EVENT FOR BOTH MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AT THE CHURCH. WE WILL HAVE MOMENTS WHERE WE WILL BE SEPARATED AND OTHER TIMES WILL BE JOINED. BELOW IS A ROUGH IDEA OF HOW OUR TIME TOGETHER WILL BE BORKEN UP.

FRIDAY
START AT 4:00 P.M. WITH A CHECK IN/OVERVIEW OF THE WEEKEND.
4:30 - INTRODUCTIONS AND GET TO KNOW YOU ACTIVITY (COMBINED).
5:30 - SUPPER
7:00 - MIDDLE SCHOOL SESSION 1
7:00 - HIGH SCHOOL "FREE TIME"
8:00 - HIGH SCHOOL SESSION 1
8:00 - MIDDLE SCHOOL "FREE TIME"
9:00 - COMBINED GROUP ACTIVITY 1
0:00-10:30 - PICK UP (SLEEP AT HOME)

SATURDAY
8:00 A.M. - BREAKFAST
9:00 A.M. - GROUP SESSION (COMBINED)
9:30 - BREAK OUT GROUPS (SEPARATE MS AND HS)
10:00 - SMALL GROUP CHALLENGES (MINUTE TO WIN IT STYLE)
11:30 - LUNCH
1:00 - SOLITUDE TIME (10 - 15 MINUTES OF PERSONAL BIBLE READING/PRAYER TIME)
1:30 - "FREE TIME"
3:00 - "SWIM TIME" - WATER BALLOON/SPRAY ACTIVITIES
5:30 - SUPPER
7:00 - MIDDLE SCHOOL SESSION 2
7:00 - HIGH SCHOOL FREE TIME
8:00 - HIGH SCHOOL SESSION 2
8:00 - MIDDLE SCHOOL FREE TIME
9:00 - CAMPFIRE
10:00 -10:30 PICK UP/WRAP UP

*FREE TIME - WE WILL HAVE BOARD GAMES, 9 SQUARE, CRAFTS, AND OTHER SIMILAR THINGS AVAILABLE. WE WILL ALSO HAVE SOME EXTRA TIME BETWEEN EACH LISTED ITEM THAT WILL ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL FREE TIME.

HIGH SCHOOL

OUR HIGH SCHOOL GROUP IS CONTINUING TO MEET WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 7:30 AT CHURCH THROUGHOUT JULY. WE WILL BE TAKING A BREAK IN AUGUST AS PLANNING FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR GETS GOING

WE WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO MEET SUNDAY EVENINGS AT 8:00 FOR OUR SPIRITUAL PRACTICES CLASS. WE WILL MEET THROUGH SUNDAY AUGUST 9TH

MIDDLE SCHOOL

OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL GROUP WILL CONTINUE TO MEET EACH WEDNESDAY NIGHT THROUGHOUT JULY AT CHURCH FROM 6:30 - 7:30. OUR INCOMING 6TH GRADERS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO JOIN THE GROUP AS WELL AS THEY BEGAN THEIR TRANSITION INTO MIDDLE SCHOOL. AGAIN, WE WILL BE TAKING A BREAK IN AUGUST FOR BEFORE STARTING UP AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Sunday, July 19: 8, 9, 11:00am– In-Person and Online services
Monday, July 20: 9:30am– Joy Circle
Tuesday, July 21: 7:00pm– AA Meeting
7:00pm– Book Club

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

BAPTISM DATE (NEW)
The Aug. 23rd baptism is postponed. There will be a baptism service this fall but that date is to be determined. If that is too long to wait, please contact the church office to determine a date for a private service for you and your family.

AA BIG BOOK MEETING
Every Tues. at 7pm at Community– Open meeting. Use east door.
AA meeting via Zoom or in person at the church on Saturday mornings at 10am. Please contact Tom Jacobs (tjstonegate@gmail.com) for meeting access.

MISSION OF THE MONTH– JULY
Hope Haven International

BOOK CLUBS
The evening book club will meet Tuesday, July 21, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing The Book Thief by Zusak.

The morning book club will meet Wednesday, July 29 (note date change), at 9 am at the church. We will be discussing Brain on Fire by Cahalan. Books are available at the church library or you may contact Trudi at 360-1367 to find a pathway to get the book.

JOY CIRCLE
Please join us for a planning meeting on July 20, 9:30 A.M.at Community to discuss plans for 2020. We will discuss possible Bible Studies and events for the remainder of the year. We look forward to seeing everyone if you feel comfortable in a small group setting with social distancing.

https://www.communityrc.org/vbs/

FINANCES
Sunday, July 5, 2020
General: .......................$37,014
Vision: ......................$25,850
Missions: ...................$240

General YTD: $402,236
Vision YTD: $79,945
Vision Account Balance: $124,791

FINANCES
Sunday, July 12, 2020
General: .......................$10,497
Vision: ......................$1,865
Missions: ...................$205
Faith Ave: ....................$200
VBS: ..........................$100

General YTD: $412,733
Vision YTD: $81,810
Vision Account Balance: $126,656

https://www.communityrc.org/vbs/

STAYcation Bible School
get the details and request your kits at:
www.communityrc.org/vbs
Hello Everyone,

Many of you have requested your STAYcation Bible School kits and I can’t wait for you all to start the fun! There is still time to request kits if you haven’t done that yet. The bags are ready to be picked up for the first 300 kids so put in your request and I’ll put your name on a pack. I want to thank Liz for helping me pack ALL of those bags. There are a lot of little items in there and Liz and I were able to get all of the bags packed up and ready for kids in just a couple of days. It would have taken me much longer on my own and been much lonelier too!

For more information and to sign up, click: https://www.communityrc.org/vbs/ The videos for STAYcation Bible School are right there too!

We’re going to use the same theme for VBS next year that we use for our STAYcation VBS this year but all of the activities and other fun will be NEW and different next year.

Parents, grandparents, friends, aunts and uncles, babysitters and EVERYONE else, we want you to decide which kids you feel comfortable spending time with (if any) and do Vacation Bible School with them! We’re ALL VBS volunteers this year! I envision neighborhoods gathering in backyards, grandparents with families, groups of friends and individual families doing VBS in whatever way is comfortable and fits in your schedule. Maybe you can find some people to invite. We’re hoping you’ll all share photos and videos with us and we’ll do a compilation video to share with everyone. WE NEED YOU TO SIGN UP so we can set out bags for you!

You can request as many kits as you need for your SBS (Staycation Bible School.) So far we’ve seen totals between 1 and 20 kits per person! You’ll want one kit for EACH child in your SBS. You’ll just need one leader/instruction packet for your whole group. If you think you might need an extra for a drop in guest, please request those too. The more, the merrier! We’ll have them ready for you at church starting Sunday, July 19 and will have a few different times you can stop by church to grab your packets. They are free. If you need them mailed, we’ll just ask you to pay shipping (though a family donated to cover shipping for many bags so don’t worry if you can’t send a check. We still want you to get the bags!) If you have family and friends that aren’t in the area, you can certainly do SBS with them too, you’ll just need to get the kits and videos sent their direction and you can do it “together, apart” using your own technology or a phone call!

Here’s what comes with each SBS Kit:

- 5 Bible stories
- 5 crafts for each child
- supplies for games for each child
- discussion questions
- links for the videos of Worship songs with actions and words, Bible Buddy Characters and real kid stories that apply to each Bible point
- links to videos that illustrate the Bible story (can be used instead of reading the story or in addition to reading the story.)
- instructions for each activity
- recipes for snack ideas (but not the ingredients so each family can decide what they want)
- coloring pages for each child

SIGN UP for free at https://www.communityrc.org/vbs/

On another topic, we also need some volunteers to help us to pick up some decorations that we’ll use for VBS NEXT YEAR so we can tuck them away to be stored until we can use them. Another church is gifting us with their big train for FREE! It isn’t heavy but it is very bulky so we’ll need a few people to help carry it. A family from church is going to bring their trailer so we just need many hands. We will go after their VBS ends at 8:30pm on July 16. I’ll be there with both of my daughters. Please email or text me at 605-212-2793 if you can help so I know that I can send you the address and details.

See you soon!
Heather DeWit
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org

605-336-1475
If you are interested in joining the Wednesday evening Bible study, prayer, and discussion group, which meets via Zoom at 7:30 pm, please email John Thornton prayerline@communityrc.org.

You will get weekly emails with the lesson and instructions on how to access the meetings.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Jim Baumen on the death of his close friend, Chris. Please keep Chris’ wife and son in your prayers, as well as the rest of his family and friends.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Hope Haven International collects, restores, ships and distributes wheelchairs. They help create a custom fit wheelchair for each recipient.

New Prayer Requests This Week:

- Jan McDowell (CT scan 7/14)
- Cal Klein (stent recovery)
- Galen Schoffelman (knee replacement)
- Bob Hein (injured knee)

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

- Marcia Thornton (sinus surgery recovery)
- Mike Boyenga’s mom, Anita (surgery recovery)
- Susan Bierwagen (broken leg)
- Clayton Bierwagen (heart)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer)
- Chelle McMurray’s dad (Parkinson’s)
- Ellen Nelson (chronic airway disease)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Laura Maloney’s brother-in-law, Bruce (lymphoma)
- Gary Jensen (cancer)
- Jamelee Van Donge’s dad, DeLyle (cancer)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (liver)
- Wade Persson’s mom (cancer)
- Clazina Van Wyhe (brain bleed)
- Tami Harm’s cousin (colon cancer)
- Melanie Oden’s dad, David
- Joe Johnson
- Audrey Landegents’ son, David (cancer)
- Matt Marcus’ dad (prostate cancer)
- Holli Jans’ dad, Milt (prostate cancer)
- Dree & Hawk Mayer’s sister-in-law, Beth (stroke)
- Marv Sturing (cancer)
- Vi Slecta (surgery recovery)
- Al Price (prostate cancer)
- Tami Boyle’s dad (prostate cancer)
- Jean Nollmann’s sister, Joyce

Congratulations to Dylan & Jessica Wheeler on the birth of their son, Arthur Charles, on June 29th!
INFO YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW...

NEED GROCERIES? OR GAS?
Gift cards for HyVee, Fareway & Sunshine can be purchased every Sunday morning at the coffee bar. 5% of that purchase will go toward our Vision Fund at church.

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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.)

Next Baptism Service: TBD

Pastor Clyde Teel  
pastor@communityrc.org
Liz Teel  
Director of Discipleship & Worship  
liz.teel@communityrc.org
John Thornton  
Part-time Visitation Pastor  
prayerline@communityrc.org
Holli Jans  
Communications Coordinator  
connect@communityrc.org
Heather DeWit  
Director of Children’s Ministries  
heather.dewit@communityrc.org
Doyle Burnside  
Senior High & Middle School Youth Director  
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org
Sheri Brouwer  
Part-Time Nursery Coordinator  
sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org
Lisa Blankers  
Part-Time Financial Administrator  
accounting@communityrc.org
Josiah Dunlap  
Part-Time IT Coordinator  

Temporarily Suspended