This doesn’t feel so much like August, but I can look at the calendar and know that it is. There has been some welcomed rain around the area, but also some rather strong storms as well. We certainly don’t need that! I have so enjoyed the cooler weather and we have had some beautiful mornings and evenings. It is sure a refreshing change from earlier this summer. I know the days are marching right along and before we know it summer will be behind us. We are already working ahead to get ready for the fall season. We have some great things planned!

I want to start this week with a word of thanks to Heather for a job well done with VBS. We set a new record for the number of kids and helpers this year. As a matter of fact, we blew the old number away completely. If you ever wonder if this place is growing you need only to look at the number of children going through the programs. It is very evident there. However, to me the most impressive part of VBS was the depth of the spiritual presence during the week. The kids were just terrific. No matter what was asked, they seemed to just get right into it. I love that! Everything went so well. I know that much of that is because of the great volunteers who do such a great job, and for the many parents out there who are raising some amazing young people. It was another great year of VBS.

We have been planning and talking and promoting the Voice of the Martyrs conference for several weeks now. It’s now history. I was very pleased with the number of folks who came and were a part of the day with us. I know that many of you were busy with so many other summer things, and I so wished that more of you could have been there for even just an hour of that conference. It was powerful!

Those were just very wonderful people. I mentioned on Sunday that I was a little concerned that some of you were uneasy about what that was going to be. I told you Sunday, I’m not every going to do anything “crazy” here. I am very careful about that. I did hope this would stir the fire of the gospel in us and it sure did that for those of us who went. I will just say that I hope if we ever get a chance to get them back here that more of you will take that opportunity. It will be well worth a couple of hours out of your busy lives.

Sunday night the family went over to Little Rock, IA and played for some wonderful people in the Salem Reformed church there. We had a very nice crowd of folks and had some good visit time with them afterwards. We found out that many of them know lots of “us” at Community. Imagine that! We might find that everywhere we go. It was a good night of bluegrass music in the little reformed church there. We had a good time, but when it was done, I was tired. That’s a long week for the aging old pastor.

Sunday we move on to the next few verses in Philippians chapter one. Paul is not finished! There is more to share! What we are going to see is how much he has personally invested in the place and how he desires them to grow deep in their faith and become united in the cause of the life-changing message of Jesus. That’ll preach! We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
GREETER SCHEDULE

Aug 20:
9:00am— Monte & Marlene Van Meeteren, Wade & Diane Friese, Ron & Juanita Palasma
10:45am— Donna Humme, Myron & Kathy Garrels, Chad & Diane McKee

Aug 27:
9:00am— Jean Nollmann, Willard & Dar Keizer, Jerralynne Tjeerdsma
10:45am— Jean Nollmann, Wilmer & Marilyn Rensink

COFFEE SCHEDULE
Aug 20: Steve & Becky Lee
Aug 27: Dick & Jeanette Jennings
Sept 3: Jim & Kathleen Ludens

THE LINK SCHEDULE
Aug 20
9:00am— Wilmer & Marilyn Renink
10:45am— Arlan Burggraaf

Aug 27
9:00am— Chad & Diane McKee
10:45am— Grant & Leslie Boltjes

Union Gospel Mission love gift this month is canned fruit. Please place your donations in the designated bin by the main lobby doors.

August Mission of the month is
Lunch Is Served

Lunch Is Served, Inc. is a nonprofit with the unique mission of delivering simple sack lunches for working men and women who are attempting to break the chains of poverty and hunger. In 2014, Lunch is Served, Inc. provided more than 28,000 lunches to the working poor in our community!

Community Book Clubs
Morning Book Club will meet Wednesday, Sept. 13th @ 9:00am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. They will be discussing Sarah’s Key.

Evening Book Club will meet Tuesday, Aug. 15th, at 7pm at the eastside Panera. They will be discussing The Illusion of Separateness by VanBooy. Copies of both books are available in the church library.

Both book clubs welcome new participants. Contact Trudi Nelson at 371-3512 for more information.

Faith Circle will meet at the Pettigrew House and Museum on Monday, Aug 21, 1:00pm. Reservations are needed by Aug 15 so please RSVP to Connie, 275,0030 or connie.parmley@yahoo.com
The tour will take an hour. There is an elevator available. Dessert and coffee at Falls Park afterwards. If you would like to invite a friend, we would love to have them join us.

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

- Rhonda Sells (recovering from surgery)
- Juanita Palasma (recovering from back surgery)
- Connie Evenson, daughter of Rika VanDenTop (brain cancer)
- Marilyn Bosch’s dad (hospice)
- Carolyn Odens’ sister, Colleen (recovering from car accident)
- Kids attending summer camps
- Voice of the Martyrs Conference
- Natallie Baker (seizure disorder)
- Clayton Bierwagen (heart)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer)
- Terry Mayer’s mom, Rose (stroke)
- 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)
- Marlys Van Bruggen (breast cancer)
- Randi Van Der Sloot (surgery)
- Annetta Wiese
I have to begin my article this week by saying that VBS was an absolutely incredible experience! We had over 200 students in attendance all during the week, and God’s name was glorified in everything we did. The singing blew me away, the power of the Spirit was evident, and I know that lives have been changed for eternity. Thank you to Heather for all of her hard work to make the week a phenomenal success. She’s already thinking about ways to tweak a few things to make next year even better. 😊 And thank you to all of the adults (and even kids) who volunteered to help with everything. It could not have gone better, and I was blessed to be a part of it!

I also need to mention the Voice of the Martyrs conference. What an incredible day we had listening to the men and women who are in every part of the world sharing the Gospel with people of all backgrounds. I learned so much about what God is doing in nations where I didn’t even know a viable Christian presence existed! I was deeply encouraged by the work of the Spirit, and I plan to use all I learned to teach a couple of lessons on this topic for my high school youth group this fall. I’m so thankful for that conference and for all God is doing!

Our next high school activity will be August 30. We’ll be meeting at the church for an evening of lawn games and ice cream sundaes. I have sent out a postcard to the kids with details concerning this activity. If you have a student who will be in high school this fall, please let me know so I can add him or her to my mailing list! The first night of Senior High Youth Group will be September 6. I am looking for people who might be willing to cook supper for our group during the month of September. If you are willing to make a meal, please contact me!

I think that’s it for me this week.

Until next time,

Liz
youthpastor@communityrc.org

Great Books for a Great Cause!

Our nursery is ready for some new books! You can buy some great books for yourself AND the nursery will get free books too! Follow this link: https://l6816.myubam.com/758263

There are educational books, engaging books for many age groups, Bible stories, book collections, and more. They make great gifts!

Sharon Schuster was kind enough to plan this Usborne Book fair to help us get some new books for the nursery. Thanks Sharon!
Hi Everyone,

I want to take one more opportunity to thank everyone for all they did for Vacation Bible School. It takes so many of you to make that experience happen for the kids. I hope you experienced God while you were spending time with the kids. I sure did. I’m also so thankful for the kids who attended and were connected and passionate about learning.

We’ve got a little video of the week. It doesn’t begin to capture the experience but I hope it makes you smile. Just check out the Community Kids Facebook Page. Also, thank you to everyone that made the Voice of the Martyrs event happen (Ellen and the crew!) It was a life changing experience for those in attendance. One more thing! Congratulations to the Community Softball team! It sounds like you had a fabulous season. Great work everyone.

It seems strange to switch gears to Sunday School but here we are! **Sunday School starts on September 17.** We need teachers. Our teachers work as a team so that no one has to commit to every single week. It is a fun experience and a great way to get a front row seat to what God is doing in the lives of our kids. **Which of the slots below should have your name in it?** Pray about it then send me a quick email please. :)

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3 Year Old Class- Becky & Dane Olson and Shaun Hubbard
3 year old Helpers- Cheryl W and ____________
Preschool Class- ____________ and ____________
Preschool Class Helpers- ____________ and ____________
Kindergarten- ____________ and ____________
1st Grade- Angi C, Barb N, Helpers Katie K and ____________
2nd Grade- Jen B and ____________
3rd Grade- Jill P & Karen R & helper Marcia T
4th Grade- Karen V and Laura M

5th/6th Grade- Abbie Coffey
Substitutes: ____________ and ____________
William V is going to help in the class we need him most too!
Doug, Eric and Cheryl will do music for the preschool age kids again!
Midweek: Laurel Shepherd K/1, Mary B Shepherd4/5 grade, Karen R teaching for 2nd/3rd, still need one more K/1 & both 2/3 Shepherd and many teachers :)
What’s Happening @ Community

Wednesday, Aug 16
6:30pm—Picnic in the Park (Cherry Rock Park)
7:30pm—Summer Bible Study

Saturday, Aug 19
7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
9:00am—Samaritan’s Feet Shoe Distribution (Wesley UMC)

Sunday, Aug 20
10:10 am—Adult Sunday School (Chapel)

Monday, Aug 21
1:00pm—Faith Circle (Pettigrew Museum)

Wednesday, Aug 23
7:30pm—Summer Bible Study

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What’s Happening @ Community

General:
$14,180
2017 Weekly Goal: $15,033
Ahead/(Behind): $(852)
Vision: $2,280
Missions: $480
VBS: $2,759

Finances at a Glance:
Aug 13, 2017

YEAR-TO-DATE STATUS 8/13/17

Year-To-Date Offering: $478,197
Year-To-Date Goal: $496,092
Ahead (Behind): $(17,893)
Year-To-Date Vision: $192,486
Vision Account Balance: $96,509

Saturday, Aug. 19
9am-12pm
Community Shoe Distribution
Students grades K-5th can receive one new pair of shoes at one of the three locations. Volunteers will spend time with each shoe recipient by washing his or her feet, placing a new pair of athletic shoes and socks on them, and encouraging them. Sign up online or call the church office 336-1475.
www.SamaritansFeet.org/WesleyUMC

Thank you for your prayers & cards for Connie’s treatments. They are going well. Continue to pray for her & may God bless you all.
Rika VanDenTop

Sunday, August 27
11:45-2:00pm
Free food, inflatables, balloon artists & the SDSU ice cream truck!

Congratulations to the Community Softball Team!
GREAT JOB ON YOUR 2017 SEASON AND PLACING 4TH OF THE 15 TEAMS IN THE TOURNAMENT THIS WEEKEND!
#THISISCOMMUNITY
Community Reformed Church
6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

August 16, 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.

Aug 20— Cleone Leistra
Aug 27— Laura Maloney

Join us for worship at 8am, 9am or 10:45am.
Deaf Interpreting available at 9am service. Check us out on the web: www.communityrc.org or like our Facebook page!