PASTOR’S UPDATE

August is here! The last official month of summer. It is humid this morning (Monday), but last week was just spectacular. I loved those cool mornings and less humidity. However, I know those farmers would love some heat and humidity. I think that means we could be having conflicting prayers. One praying for cool evenings and someone else praying for warm ones. I wonder how God deals with that? There’s a little deep thinking for all of you this week. In the meantime, enjoy each day no matter how much rain, or heat, or cold, or anything else in all creation. God is Good!

VBS is now in the books for another year. We had a great turnout and a fantastic time with kids and adults last week. I enjoy the time with the kids singing, but I also enjoy the visit time I get with many of the adults who help out or just come to watch. It’s all so good! Thanks again everyone, you did a marvelous job! A big thank you to Heather for all the planning because this is more work than you can imagine. For things to go smoothly means someone has worked a lot of time before to insure such an outcome takes place. Thanks to Karen Roetman on the putting together the décor and team for that. What a difference those details make for the kids. A big thank you to Liz for being the upfront face of the week. She has gifts with those little ones and anyone who has ever watched them all work together can clearly see that. It was a great week! God is Good!

The driveway is going to change. It’s not that big of a deal, but it’s a change and change always has a little “bump” to it. I am hoping we use this as a way to re-focus and we drive into church. Our path has changed, but the destination is the same. A little wondering time in the desert to prepare us for the next thing. A reminder than change is never always a bad thing, but one that leads to a better place. See, we can do this!

I am already getting ready to get wet. It seems as though one of those containers in the lobby is filling with coins. Mine! I have been dunked before and I’m sure it won’t be the last time. I hope you are all planning on coming the fund-raiser for Haiti on Sunday afternoon. I think it is going to be a fun day. Lots of good activities and of course for a wonderful cause. Check out the announcement to see all of what is going on. It will be a good day...cause...God is Good!

Sunday’s message is going to be about the spirit’s work in making our hearts see Jesus for who he really is. He was a very different leader/teacher than anyone those people had ever seen. He wasn’t really a warrior. He wasn’t a dominating figure head of the day. He didn’t seem to care much about Rome’s occupation of the nation. He was different. We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Wednesday, Aug. 7**
- 5:15am– Crack of Dawn
- 9:00am– Book Club (Bagel Boy on MN)
- 7:30pm– Summer Bible Study

**Saturday, Aug. 10**
- 7:00 am—Prayer ministry (Chapel)
- 10:00am– Closed AA meeting

**Sunday, Aug. 11**
- 4:00-7:00pm– BBB 4 Classrooms

**Monday, Aug. 12**
- Noon– Seniors (E. Pizza Ranch)

**Tuesday, Aug. 13**
- 7:00pm– AA

**Wednesday, Aug. 14**
- 5:15am– Crack of Dawn
- 7:30pm– Summer Bible Study

**FINANCES**

Sunday, Aug 4, 2019

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**UPCOMING MINISTRIES**

**BOOK CLUBS**

The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, August 14, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. They will be discussing *Everything I Never Told You* by Ng.

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, August 20, at 7 pm at the Panera on Foss Ave. They will be discussing *Kitchens of the Great Midwest* by Stradal (a One Book South Dakota).

**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:** Feeding SD Backpack program

**HOPE CIRCLE**

The Hope Circle is taking a vacation until September. There will be no monthly meetings until then.

**JOY CIRCLE**

Bible study; August 19 study the word FAITHFULNESS

Meet at 9:30 A.M. at Community

Join us on **Tuesday, August 27** at Noon at Sioux Falls Ministry Center—225 E. 11th St. (former Stewart Building). Please meet at the church at 11:30am to car pool to the Ministry Center. Sign up at The Link. Any questions, please call 351-4202.

Sioux Falls Ministry Center is a non-profit organization providing a facility for Christian Outreach Ministries including; Center of Hope, Community Outreach, Compassion Child Care, CruCity, Destiny Clinic, New Haven, New Roots, Tapestry and Call to Freedom.

**FAITH CIRCLE**

will meet on Monday, August 19, 1:00pm at church. Liz will lead our discussion on the Bible. Hostess: Dar Keizer
Only a few more weeks of summer before the routine of school kicks back in. Some of your student are already back at with practice, band camp and reading for classes already. But, before school starts back up, we do have a few things going on.

First, this week our high school group is heading to Thunder Road for a fun night together. From 4-6 we will have wrist bands to enjoy the park and then from 6-7 we will eat and spend some time in a devotion and prayer. I’m asking students to bring $10 to help cover the cost of the night.

Then August 11th there is a fundraiser for Mission Haiti. A few students have agreed to take some time in the dunk tank, so come out and enjoy all the festivities. There are a few students who are really great at bean bags as well if you are looking for a partner for the tournament!

On August 18th, there will be a high school parent meeting as we get ready for the upcoming year. This year I will be adding the middle school ministries to my role here at Community, and with that will come some change on Wednesday nights. We have been talking and working on things as a staff to help make this transition as smooth as possible, knowing there will be some challenges along the way.

Finally, the high school group will start back up in September, with the 4th being our first night back together on Wednesdays. Like years past, we are looking for a few people who would be willing/available to make supper for the group. If you would be interested in providing a meal for the students this September, please email, call, or text me and we can talk details and timing. Thank you so much for considering this!

There is a lot happening as summer wraps up. If you have any questions, please feel free to send them my way!

Doyle Burnside
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org
605-310-2561

### Prayer Request

- Clayton Bierwagen (heart)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer)
- Cheille 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)
- Vi Slecta

- Sara Van Ruler’s dad (throat cancer)
- Wade Persson’s mom (cancer)
- Randy Grotenhuis (inner ear nerve damage)
- Al Hoogendoorn (multiple health issues)
- Randy (Al & Dolly Hoogendoorn’s son)
- Grace Vanden Heuval (cracked rib)
- Jackie Holleman
- Dave Sells (surgery recovery)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (liver)
- Cleone Groen (difficulty walking)
- Melanie Oden’s dad, David (motorcycle accident)
Hi Everyone,

**VBS** week was incredible! I really don’t think I can quite put into words what it feels like to watch God at work in the lives of kids and volunteers. We ended up with over 190 kids and well over 50 volunteers. I am so thankful for all of you that invest so much into VBS whether it is prayer, time, energy, financial resources or other gifts. There are many, many people that you may have noticed and that I’ve mentioned specifically over the last few years who do so many great things at VBS but one “unsung” volunteer that I really appreciated, especially this year, is Abbie Coffey. She has volunteered again this year to coordinate the kids who are Kindergarten and Younger and there are so many of them! If you didn’t get to see her in action as she made sure everyone made it from station to station with so many little ones, you missed seeing some magic in action! She is just one great volunteer and there are so many of you that it would take me pages and pages to say thank you adequately. God is good!

As Liz said in church, the kids kicked off our fundraising to build classrooms for a school in Haiti called Frederique by bringing in over $2100. We’re hoping will finish off that fundraising effort on **August 11 with a BBQ fundraiser** with food, a dunk tank, car show, bean bag tournament and tons of fun. Please help us spread the word on that. We have a Facebook event and I can email you posters as well if you’d like. We’re hoping to make quite a splash for a good cause.

I’m already starting the process of looking for **Sunday School teachers**. If God is nudging you in that direction, please email me. If you aren’t sure, we can chat about what that might look like. One great thing is that you can teach with a partner if you’d like so that you only teach every other week. Some people do every other month as well. It is a great experience and one that was life changing for me when Liz asked me to teach Sunday School for the first time a long, long time ago (those third grade kids have now graduated.)

**Parents of 3rd graders (and older):** Community believes kids need access to God’s word, so we give **Bibles to each 3rd grader**. If your child is in grade 3 or older, please let us know how you’d like his or her name printed on the Bible by clicking “register” and adding the needed information by October 6, 2019. If you miss the deadline, don’t worry. We can still get a Bible and add their names. It just may take a little longer. Feel free to forward this email to help spread the word if I missed anyone. Click this link to help enter the information or just email me with how you’d like the name printed on your child’s Bible: [https://vbspro.events/p/events/bibles](https://vbspro.events/p/events/bibles) We are giving out the Bibles during the 9AM AND 11AM services on 10/27/19 but you can get the Bible after that too.

We’ve got some **schedule updates** for this Fall. I thought it might be good to give you a heads up as the days start to get shorter and the school supply lists get longer. We’ll talk about it more as we get closer to Midweek time.

For Sunday mornings, the younger kids WILL still sing as part of Sunday School but the 1-4 grade won’t have singing time anymore on Sundays. They’ll have a singing option on Wednesdays instead.

We’re going to try a new schedule for Midweek for the K-5 kids.

· **Eating 6-6:30** (or 6:45 if not singing)
· **Singing with Liz: 6:30-6:45PM (OPTIONAL)**
· **Class Time 6:45-7:15**
· **Large Group and/or Shepherd Only Time: 7:15-7:30**
· **Fun Zone: 7:30-8:00 (OPTIONAL)**

Middle School Youth Group will be 6:45-7:45pm and High School Youth Group 8-9pm

See you soon!

Heather DeWit
(605)336-1475
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org
Bibles for 3rd Graders!

Community believes kids need access to God’s word, so we give Bibles to each 3rd grader.

If your child is in grade 3 or older, please let us know how you’d like his or her name printed on the Bible.

https://vbspro.events/p/events/bibles or grab a form at the link in the church lobby.

SHOE DISTRIBUTION THROUGH SAMARITANS FEET
SATURDAY, AUG. 17
9:00AM– NOON
VOLUNTEERS REPORT @ 8AM

It’s back to school for many kids in August and to get families ready for this time of year, Samaritan’s Feet will distribute over 2,000 pairs of shoes at 3 locations. (Wesley UMC (east side), First UMC (central), Hayward (west side).)

We could use your help, Community! Please consider volunteering at one of these 3 locations. It’s only a few hours and it makes a huge difference in the lives of these kids!

SIGN UP BY GOING TO THIS WEBPAGE:
www.samaritansfeet.org/siouxfalls

Thank you to Pastor John for the calls of encouragement during my recovery and thank you to Community for all the cards, prayers & flowers.

Grace Van Den Heuvel

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

Thank you!
When life is unfair, scary, sad, or good, GOD is GOOD! (Gooooo-oooood)
SUMMER BLOCK PARTY
8.25.19
Noon-2:00pm
FREE FOOD, INFLATABLES & DAKOTA SNOW SHAVED ICE
#THISISCOMMUNITY

DUNK TANK PENNY WAR
BRING YOUR CHANGE TO CHURCH. STAFF WITH THE HIGHEST DOLLAR AMOUNT GET DUNKED

JOIN US FOR A FUNDRAISING BBQ EVENT TO BUILD 4 CLASSROOMS AT THE FREDERIQUE SCHOOL IN HAITI.

AUGUST 11, 2019
4-7PM
FOOD SERVED 5-7PM
• BBQ PORK SANDWICH MEAL
• SILENT AUCTION
• BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT
• INFLATABLE & OTHER FUN ACTIVITIES
• CAR SHOW
• DUNK TANK

CONTACT COMMUNITYHAITI@GMAIL.COM
Community Reformed Church
6800 E 41 Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57110

Aug 7, 2019

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, Oct 6 @ 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
OCT 6

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**CONTACT**

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pastor@communityrc.org

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John Thornton
Part-time Visitation Pastor
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Holli Jans
Communications Coordinator
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Heather DeWit
Director of Children & Youth Ministries
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Doyle Burnside
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Sheri Brouwer
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Sheri.brouwer@communityrc.org

Lisa Blankers
Part-Time Financial Administrator
accounting@communityrc.org

Josiah Dunlap
Part-Time IT Coordinator