What a change a week can make in the weather! I loved that! I know many of you did as well. I know there are probably some cooler days ahead, but that was a nice few days of relief and it sure makes a difference in the way church goes. We had a very nice crowd in attendance on Sunday which I am sure was because of the weather. It matters! I know things are changing with all the COVID things. I don’t know how long that will all take… I don’t think any person knows that. There are lots of opinions out there… I’m sure all of them are right. (That was sarcasm.). Anyway, there is a new hope out there that you can see and feel. Things are going to continue to improve. That changes church for sure. Enjoy the sun and enjoy this new sense of hope on our horizon. Spring is coming. It’s a new day!

I got another taste of this summer’s vacation bible school this week. The ideas are just great! The gals have written the entire thing. All the music. All the lessons. All the décor. It’s all in-house! We all can’t wait! It’s going to be a wonderful experience for the adults! I hope the kids like it!

Let me take time to explain again how and why we are doing the schedule the way we are on Sunday morning. We had to divide that 9 am service into two groups because we couldn’t put all of you in a room and keep our distance. We made two things. Is it going to stay that way? NO! As soon as we feel we can put it all back together again we are going to do that, and just so you are aware, that decision is not easy because there are different ideas about how that should go. I never know who to listen to. I think you can see the challenge there. 9am is going to return, but not for a while. The good thing is that we can do a lot more people and keep everything somewhat on track. I know it’s not perfect, but we are trying our best. Also, when we went to that format our 8am people gave up their time so we could make that work. What about them? 8am will return as well. I hope this explanation helps. Right now, we are getting through this pretty well. We can do this together!

I am still not sure how many services to do for Maundy Thursday. I know for sure there will be 2, but I am really thinking hard about doing 3. I know that gives everyone plenty of choices and helps us do this in a most professional and meaningful way. No one would have to worry about distance or those things... we just come and do a lovely evening together of remembering what all of this is really for. I hope you can see my wisdom in that. I don’t want anything to cloud the evening.

Sunday, we move forward through “fifty-three”. The writer will continue to share words about this Savior. This week it will be a little more “sheep” talk. This time though, we are going to talk about his silence. The silence of the innocent lamb. These days it is hard to find quiet innocent lamb- a quiet anything for that matter. How could Jesus just stand there and say nothing? What does that say about our Lord? Our God? We’ll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10:
7:30PM - ZOOM BIBLE STUDY
7:00-8:00PM - M.S. YOUTH GROUP
8:00-9:00PM - H.S. YOUTH GROUP

THURSDAY, MARCH 11:
7:00-8:00PM - ELDERS MEETING
8:00-9:00PM - CONSISTORY MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 13:
7:00AM - PRAYER MINISTRY

SUNDAY, MARCH 14:
8:45AM, 9:45AM & 11:00AM - IN-PERSON & ONLINE SUNDAY SERVICES

TUESDAY, MARCH 16:
7:00PM - AA MEETING
7:00PM - BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17:
9:00AM - BOOK CLUB
7:00-8:00PM - M.S. YOUTH GROUP
8:00-9:00PM - H.S. YOUTH GROUP

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

BAPTISM DATE
There will be a baptism service coming up 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.

BOOK CLUBS
The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, March 17, at 9 am at the church and will be discussing Silver Sparrow.

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, March 16, at 7 pm at the church. They will be discussing Charm Bracelet.
EVEN THE ROCKS CRY OUT
LUKE 19:40

PAINT OR WRITE ON A SMALL ROCK. BRING IT TO CHURCH BETWEEN NOW AND EASTER AND PLACE IT AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS ON THE HILL.

Pray

JOIN US IN PERSON OR ONLINE AS WE CELEBRATE THE RISEN SAVIOR!

EASTER
8:45AM; 9:45AM; 11:00AM

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays @ 7:30pm
Join this Bible Study by emailing John Thornton prayerline@communityrc.org
Hello Everyone!

I usually listen to 96.5 on the radio on my way to work each morning. One day last week, the DJ said something that made me giggle. She said something along the lines of, “do you ever feel like your body’s check engine light has been on and you’re still driving it like… ‘nah, it’ll be fine’?” The short answer is, yep! Sometimes, my body just feels a little older than it is but I just keep truckin’ along. I’m sure some of you can relate. However, as often happens on my drive to work, my brain kicked in and I wondered, could I ask the same question about my heart? How often do I just drive through life ignoring the cues that God is giving me that He’d like to give me some TLC or repairs? I’m notorious for ignoring that little nudge from God to spend some quiet time in His presence in rest. I like to be doing, accomplishing, trying, and sometimes I’ll admit I’m more comfortable under a little stress and a little too busy. I think God offers us many things, including routine maintenance and tune ups. When I skip those, I start to be more irritable. I notice God less in the little things that happen each day and I worry a little more about things that probably don’t even deserve my attention. I’m not myself or perhaps it would be better to say, I’m not my best self. Metaphorically, my check engine light turns on. My old pattern was to just keep driving. I suppose I figured I’d drive until the problem fixed itself or the light bulb burned out. 😊 I think sometimes the light burning out was exactly what I accomplished. That isn’t much of a way to open myself to what God is doing in my life. It also doesn’t make me very fun for others to be with. I am trying to listen to that check engine light that God gives us. When He asks me to slow down, pull over and park for a bit until I’m all fixed up, I’m trying to listen. He has me all figured out. I am also trying to notice that check engine light in children.

As a society, we’ve started to allow our children and teens to have a schedule so packed with activities and action that they don’t get much time to settle in and rest in the love of God. Just like adults, kids need quiet time with God. They need peace and rest. It might not look the same. For many kids it means time to play, create, imagine and invent with no particular agenda or schedule. For some, it means gazing at the clouds or stars with no one reminding them of the things they need to get done before they head off to practice or get ready for school. For some, it is sitting in the bathtub until the water gets cold. I am good evidence that old patterns are hard to break but I think we can set an example for our kids and help them to set boundaries that leave space for time with the Lord.

Talk to you soon!
Heather DeWit

https://www.communityrc.org/kids2021/
Heather.DeWit@communityRC.org
605-336-1475
PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW THIS WEEK

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- John & Marcia Thornton's son-in-law, Tony (sledding accident)
- Cal Klein (heart stent)
- Kara Schouten (hip pain)
- Jenny Getting (stroke recovery)
- Jan Kruen
- Randi Van Der Sloot (cancer treatments)
- Brian Frisbee (stroke recovery/long-term rehab)
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (radiation treatments)
- Troy Payne's brother (kidney transplant)
- Jenny VanRoekel
- Mitch Jensen
- Jodie Jensen (new cancer treatments)
- Carrie Valentine (surgery recovery)
- Jan Kreun's dad (surgery recovery)
- Abby Brost (breast cancer)
- Connie Tiggelaar (hospice)
- Marvin Sturing (cancer)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad (skin & muscle graft)
- Kim Becker's mother-in-law, Amy (colorectal cancer)
- Joe Johnson (severe headaches)
- Ellen Nelson (chronic airway disease)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Jessica Vander Weide (heart)
- Lindsey Vander Weide (heart)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (liver)
- Tami Boyle's dad (prostate cancer)
- Laura Maloney's brother-in-law, Bruce (lymphoma)
- Gary Jensen (cancer)
- Wade Persson's mom (cancer)
- Tami Harm's cousin (colon cancer)
- Melanie Oden's dad, David

Pastor Clyde's new book is available for purchase on Amazon! Pick up your very own copy of *The Story of One Word: When Life Doesn't Go the Way You Prayed* on Amazon or by calling the church office to reserve your copy! (605-336-1475)

https://www.amazon.com/Story-One-Word-doesnt-prayed/product-reviews/1098341104/ref=cm_cr_user_rev_0?ie=UTF8&reviewerType=all_reviews&filterByStar=five_star&pageNumber=1

PASTOR CLYDE'S BOOK AVAILABLE

DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

Updated church directories are available at The Link.
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

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.