It's Monday morning and the sky was blue. The dust has settled, and the air was very fresh. It was a nice change from all the wind and dust. I don't know how long we get to have this around, but I do like it very much. The leaves have been so vivid this year. I know we lost a bunch of them this weekend, but I hope we can get a few more days of enjoyment before they find their way to the ground.

I have several things to go through this week so let's get started. First, a word about elections for deacons and elders. If you can remember back in March, we were right in the middle of putting together a slate and then everything changed. We put elections on hold thinking that we might get a window to complete the process, but that didn't happen. So, what now? We did not have near enough ballots to get a good representation, so we are just going to start over. Even if you voted before, we are asking to do it again. Why? Because it is possible that you have thought of a new person that would like to put on that ballot after this much time has elapsed. We just think it is better to just start over. There will be several ways to get this done. We will do an email, we will have ballots in the church, you can call in your votes...lots of options. Check this newsletter out for more details.

About our mask only service - I did not do a very good job of being clear on Sunday. I apologize for that. I knew if I made that announcement before the sermon, that is all you might have been thinking about and I didn't want that. Putting it at the end was a little awkward as well. So, let me see if I can clear it up a bit in the newsletter. The Consistory made a decision last week to make the 11am service a "mask only" service. The reason is that we know there are folks would like to come back but are just not comfortable without a "mask only" setting. We want to accommodate that group the best we can. This is a "try". We will see how this goes. If we need to make some changes, we will try to do that as well. Flexible is the key here. I just don't want to see a battle. I think you can all understand that.

We are doing some special things in place of MidWeek classes. I know that Pastor John has a class on-line that he is doing every Wednesday evening on Zoom. If you would like to join that class, call the office and we will get you that "connection" information. Liz is doing a short video devotional class that will be posted each week as well. She is doing those sessions around some of the songs she has written. Check those out! I am going to do a weekly video as well. I am going to do a devotional idea based on a scripture lesson and then tell one of my "Clyde Stories" at the end. These are our attempts to give you something extra/inspirational during this time. We don't know how it will go. I hope it fills a need for you. It is not the same as MidWeek around tables and all that. We are so aware of that, but right now we are trying this.

Sunday, we go to Apostle number 7. He is a zealous believer of the Jewish way. He would have been so excited to become a member of this little band of believers. We don't know a great deal about him, but so far that has not prevented us from discovering a good word from God. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!
October is Pastor Appreciation Month! Let's celebrate, bless, encourage, and thank our pastors throughout this entire month.

It's Shoebox Time! Check out the table in the lobby at church to grab your box or it's easy to go online and pack a box too! Check it out! 
https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18TH:** 8, 9, 11:00AM– IN-PERSON AND ONLINE SERVICES

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20:**
7:00PM– AA MEETING
7:00PM– BOOK CLUB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21:**
9:00AM– BOOK CLUB
7:00PM– M.S YOUTH GROUP
8:00PM– 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.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH– OCTOBER**
The Gideons

**BOOK CLUB**
The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 9am at the church. We will be discussing *I Will Always Write Back* by Ganda- each member finds own copy.

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 7pm. We will be discussing *No One Ever Asked* by Ganshert.
I have just a couple of things to note in my article this week. Let's start with Mid-Week.

Of course, Mid-Week is looking a little different from the norm. We have been trying to come up with creative ways to keep you connected to Community while at the same time offering a word that might give you a little learning and encouragement for the week. Pastor Clyde and I have been working on short videos to share each week, and we hope we'll be able to share our first videos this week! You'll be able to find them on our web page (www.communityrc.org) as well as our church App and church Facebook account.

My weekly videos will consist of a short devotional thought regarding one of the worship songs I’ve written that we sing at church, and then I’ll close by singing the song. Pastor Clyde will be sharing a devotional thought and personal story in his videos. We hope you find them encouraging, and maybe even a little entertaining! (And we also hope we only have to do this for a couple of months!)

And secondly this week, I want the choir people to know that I’ve been doing some research on music that we might sing for Easter choir. We haven’t set any of the dates yet, and I’m thinking this probably won’t be a full-fledged choir concert on a Sunday morning. But there is so much fabulous choral literature out there to celebrate Easter that I’m really excited that we might get a chance to work up a few of these pieces after the first of the year. I'll be sure to keep you posted as we know more about what that might look like.

It’s looking to be a gorgeous fall-weather week. Get out there and enjoy it!

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org
Hello Everyone!

Sunday School “to go” bags are ready for you to pick up. If you want me to drop them off to you or set them outside here at church for you to pick up when it is convenient for you, just let me know. The kits are filled with craft supplies and games that are ready for you to pick up at your convenience! You can grab them at any service or between services in the lobby. The church will also be open during Youth Group from 6:45pm to 8:30pm on Wednesday nights (see Doyle's article if you are interested in youth group and knowing what time each group meets.) Those kits will go along with the lessons beginning on October 18 so come grab one or put in your requests today! https://forms.gle/JEUrGFKKVtmABWjX9 These kits have supplies to take us all the way into December!
Feel free to request extra kits to share with kids you know too. You can “invite them to Sunday School” without ever leaving home. If you’d like a kit mailed, we can do that too.

https://www.communityrc.org/kids2020/

Reminders:
- We’ll have a video each week that you can have your kids watch as well as some activity ideas and printable sheets that kids can do.
- I’ll be giving you a lot of ideas and activities you can choose from but I want you to know that it is okay (I’d even say probably wise) to not try to do every single thing each week. Do a little on Sunday, a little on Wednesday if you want and skip the things that don’t work for you. You can choose what fits for your family.

For the Oct 11 lesson, the kids learned that God’s word is a light for us! Psalm 119:105 is an easy verse to learn and even memorize. If you missed that lesson, don’t worry. You can always go back and catch all of the lessons at https://www.communityrc.org/kids2020/

See you soon!
Heather DeWit
Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org
605-336-1475
Our middle school and high school youth groups are continuing to press on this fall. When we first started up in September, my hope was to be able to meet in person while also hosting a zoom meeting during youth group so that we could go as long as possible. Each week, we have had students represented in both and I am thankful for the way students have been respectful and thoughtful of the group as we move forward with youth group in both formats. I know that we have made improvements for those attending zoom with both visual and sound, and I hope we can continue to improve as I learn and grow in this new format we are working through.

This month, our middle school group will be going through a series on Acts as we look at the early church. As the book continues on from Luke, it is so encouraging to see God’s presence and movement after Jesus was brought up to heaven while also getting some encouragement into our journey as the body of Christ. Our high school group will be going through the book of Philippians as we hold a focus on encouraging others on in faith. In a time with a lot of division, we turn to building one another.

Finally, we will also be having an outing next week – October 21st – in place of our normal Wednesday night gathering. Both middle school and high school will be meeting out at the Heartland Country Corn Maze. If students are able to join us in person, we will meet out there at 7:00 with pick up between 8:00-8:30. Like Wednesday nights, I will also be opening up a zoom meeting for anyone who may want to join in on the maze but is not able to make it in person. I am looking forward to a night in a maze, followed by a devotion!

If you have any questions regarding the youth ministry here at Community, feel free to send them my way!

Doyle Burnside
Doyle.burnside@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.)
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.

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