

THE COMMUNICATOR

AUGUST 21, 2024

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

We did get our vacation in and our delay was a short one. We got there only a half hour later than what we planned, so we didn't miss a thing. It was a relaxing week in the Black Hills which is exactly what we wanted it to be. The weather there was perfect while we were there and our time there was very nice. We got back in good order and got to do a bluegrass performance at River Fest Downtown Sioux Falls on Saturday afternoon which was a lot of fun. I have certainly enjoyed this cooler weather we are having in August. I have been wondering what that means for the rest of the upcoming fall, but as we always say, one just never knows how any of that is going to go. I have a once in lifetime trip coming up in September which I am pretty excited about so I'll be missing one Sunday coming up in September. For now there is plenty to do and plenty of prep work to do for the upcoming fall season. It's going to be here before you know it!

I want to once again highlight our event coming up next week on Tuesday evening. We have been talking about that at great length on Sunday mornings and trying to get folks to put that on their schedules. As I have said repeatedly that I do believe the content and the presentation we are planning will be so worth a commitment for that evening. I believe the information will be such that you can use that as a resource when you are talking others about life and some of the complexities we see in an ever changing world. We would love to have you join us and it would be such a great time to invite others to come along as well. We will be here with our "hub" friends from Orange City, Alton, and the Maurice churches. We want to be a good host for this event and make everyone feel at home.

In our staff meeting this morning (Monday) we were looking ahead to the fall season and setting some of those plans into motion. There is a lot going on and we want to do the best we can at letting everyone know what they can do to volunteer and also the many things we offer to all ages on that fall calendar. MidWeek is not that far away now, and we are going to need many folks to continue to make that kitchen run smoothly for those meals. Doyle has all his fall lessons for youth done through Christmas, so he's on top of things. Heather has all the Sunday school lessons finished and is still needing a few Sunday School teachers and Liz and I are trying to come up with new ideas to gain a few more friends for our Christmas Choir. It's all coming up this fall. I love it!

This coming Sunday is the final one of the summer series. I have heard so many good things from so many of you about how these series has impacted your life. I so enjoy hearing those stories and those words. We are finished with the picture boards now. Sunday, I want to open the Word and talk about how we redeem the past and bring a word of hope for those who maybe carry a burden about their past lives or maybe feel God is always so distant. It's a big subject and one that I can't completely "fix" in a single message, but I think it's a subject we can tackle together. I did a bit of it this past Sunday, but I want to continue in that direction this coming Sunday. God is a healer! We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

THIS WEEK

AUG 21-AUG 28

Saturday, Aug 24

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

Sunday, Aug 25

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45AM- Worship Services

Tuesday, Aug 27

9:30-11am- Play Group

5:30-8pm- SEEN Workshop

FINANCES

Sunday, Aug 18, 2024

General: \$5,285

Vision: \$530

Missions: \$315

Rock Valley: \$1,200

General YTD: \$491,806

Vision YTD: \$35,812

Vision Account Balance: \$23,433

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Caleb Ellwein (knee stress fracture)
- Teachers, students & parents getting ready for the upcoming school year
- Marcia Thornton (same-day nasal valve surgery)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Melanie Oden's sister, Amber (breast cancer surgery on 8/19)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (blood clots)
- Kim Becker (high risk pregnancy)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Ryan Kortemeyer (lymphoma)
- Susan Vanden Berg's mom, Marlene (testing)
- Krista Groeneweg's dad, Ray (kidney cancer)
- Daniel Burlingame's mom, Esther
- Jeris VanZee (Mantle Cell Lymphoma)
- Dennis VerHey (accident recovery)
- Tony & Spring (healthy pregnancy)
- Evita Attema (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's sister, Marlene
- Melanie Oden's sister, Amber (breast cancer)
- Evita Attema's sister, Lilli (cancer)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Junella Wesselink's sister (cancer)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Aaralyn Van Der Slood
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Steve Lee (awaiting lung transplant)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad

"When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, he gave them a prayer. Not a lecture on prayer. Not the doctrine of prayer. He gave them a quotable, repeatable, portable prayer....Prayer is conversation with God while driving to work or awaiting an appointment or before interacting with a client.' Father, you are good. I need help. Heal me and forgive me. [They] need help. Thank you. In Jesus' name, amen.' A pocket-size prayer."
(From Before Amen by Max Lucado)

In need of prayer or want to
share your prayer request?

Email Pastor John at prayerline@communityrc.org

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Deb Teunissen, and many others, in the loss of her dear friend, Angie. Please keep the family and friends of Angie in your prayers.

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Grandparents Day of Prayer
A day of prayer for our grandchildren.
September 8, 2024
Christiangrandparenting.com
(no event planned just encouraging grandparents to pray)

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MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST

THE BANQUET

- Offers a place to eat for the hungry- 450 meals served daily, 200,000 meals served annually
- Offers a place to serve-100% of meals are prepared by, paid for, served by volunteers
- Offers a place of hope that serves the body and spirit sharing hears at one common table.
- Sponsors Project SOS which provides over 6400 backpacks for school age children.
- Is located at: 1) 900 E. 8th St 2) 710 N Marion Rd.

Interested in donating or volunteering: Call 605-335-7066
thebanquetsf.org
Always in need of plastic bags and clean Tupperware containers

FRESH ENCOUNTER

SATURDAY MORNINGS
@ 7:00AM

Join us for prayer on Saturday mornings at 7am via Zoom or in person in our chapel. People can join via video or using the call-in number if video is not an option.

Join via phone: (346) 248-7799
Meeting website:
<https://zoom.us/j/862139432>
Meeting ID: 862 139 432
Password: 853781

Call Shawn Blom at
605-940-6702 with questions.



EVENTS



Fall Kickoff Sunday

Sunday, Sept. 15

Join us for a morning filled with a few extras to kickoff the fall season!

11:00-1:00pm- Pancake Feed by Chris's Cakes

11:45am-2:00pm Mr. Twister
Balloon Twisting, Face Painting, Inflatables & Lawn Games

ONGOING MINISTRIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, **Sept. 9** at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

BOOK CLUB

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, August 20, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing *Sooley*.

The morning book club will meet Wednesday, August 21, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing *Molokai*.

CHILDCARE PROVIDED

A poster for 'SEEN Workshop Live Event' with a blue background and yellow and white text. It features a yellow brain graphic on the left and two circular portraits of speakers on the right. A QR code is in the bottom right corner.

SEEN Workshop Live Event
Healing Anxiety & Despair in Kids & Teens Through the Power of Connection

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27 @ 5:30-8:00 PM
Community Reformed Church, Sioux Falls
Register at frcoc.org/seenworkshop

Please use this QR code or go to frcoc.org/seenworkshop to RSVP

Join us as we step into conversations on helping kids navigate despair and anxiety. Together, we will learn from Dr. Chinwé Williams and Will Hutcherson how to connect with children in meaningful ways to empower them. This in-person event for everyone will provide valuable insights and strategies to support the children in our lives. If you are a parent, coach, school worker, grandparent, aunt or uncle, or anything in between, don't miss out on this opportunity to make a positive impact!

SCHEDULE

5:30 - 6:00 pm - Appetizers and Fellowship

6:00 - 6:15 pm - Welcome and Worship

6:15 - 7:45 pm - Presentation by Dr. Chinwé Williams and Will Hutcherson

7:45 - 8:00 pm - Book Signing and Cookies

MEET OUR SPEAKERS

Trauma therapist, Best-selling Author, and Speaker, Dr. Chinwé Williams is an expert at simplifying the complexities of our human experience. She is a sought-after speaker trusted by corporate and ministry leaders, educators, and parents to deliver messages that inspire individuals and teams to better connect with the individuals they lead and support. From managing anxiety, despair, and burnout, to highlighting the benefits of equity and empathy-centered leadership, Dr. Chinwé helps individuals, teams, and organizations accomplish their goals through the power of connection.

<https://drchinwewilliams.com/>

Will Hutcherson is an author, speaker, and pastor. Will has been a Next Gen and Student Pastor for over 15 years. Over the past several years he has become increasingly passionate about finding practical ways to bring hope to kids and teens who are facing increasing amounts of anxiety, depression, and despair. This led to him starting Curate Hope, a non-profit that focuses on suicide prevention, mental health awareness, and partnering with schools, churches, and parents to help heal despair in teens. Will seeks to build a bridge between the local church and the schools and families that are navigating this mental health crisis. Through Curate Hope, Will speaks in public schools across the country, letting students know that there is always hope. <https://willhutch.com/>



DOYLE'S UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

The start of the school year is here! Calendars and schedules are changing and the routine of the school year will be setting in. Our schedule here also begins to shift out of school as midweek and Sunday mornings begin to start up.

First, the high school will be starting Wednesday nights the first week of September, the 4th. We will meet from 6:00-8:00, starting with a meal and then our lesson time at 7:00. This year, we go back to the gospel message through the story of Creation, Fall and Redemption as we focus on our own Stories and how they are shaped by the gospel message. Each week, we add to the practical way we can share our story with others. There is power in sharing our life with others and this first month we will be encouraged and equipped to do so.

Then, on September 15th, we have a back to school event from 5:30-7:30 here at church for both middle and high school students. We will have food, inflatables, games and a devotion together as we look forward to the start of Sunday School. Sunday School starts the following week, September 22nd. Our focus is on discipleship this year and we will be using some of the resources Heather created last spring to help lead our conversation. Families, if you have not picked up one of those packets yet, I encourage you to do so as we spend time this fall in that!

Finally, midweek is also approaching. On Wednesday, October 2nd our full midweek is back with a meal from 5:30-6:30, children, middle school and adults from 6:30-7:30 and high school from 7:30-8:30. There is something for everyone and I encourage you to join us as that all begins to start. I am really excited for the year and am looking forward to the discussions and time together.

As everything is beginning to start up, if you have any questions about the youth ministry here at Community, feel free to reach out anytime.

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org



HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY

Hi Everyone!

I'm busy this week recruiting Sunday School teachers and preparing curriculum and supplies. If you can help me with the recruiting, I'd appreciate it greatly!

Sunday School starts on September 22. Please plan to attend, bring your kids, and if you can, volunteer.

Here's what we still need most:

- Pre-K Co-Teacher (we have one of two needed)
- Kindergarten Co-Teachers x2
- Kindergarten Helper (we have one of two needed)
- 3rd Grade Co-Teachers x2
- Substitutes

We try to have at least 2 volunteers in each role, so that each person serves only half of the weeks to maximize flexibility while still creating strong connections with kids. Sunday School ends on 5/4/25 and we have some weeks off for holidays, so each person serves just 15 times or less per year.

Check it out at the clipboard on the Link counter or give me a call/ email and we can talk about which role you'd like best.

Sign up online at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4CACAA2EABFB6-50528950-sunday> OR <https://rb.gy/qhiq2k>

As a reminder, the authors of the book, Seen: Healing Despair and Anxiety in Kids and Teens Through the Power of Connection, are coming to Community on August 27. After reading the book, I encourage everyone to come and bring someone with you. It is a free event, but please sign up so they know how many to expect, since there will be very delicious snacks. 😊 This is a great opportunity. The power of connection is a topic that can help all of us and has potential to be world changing. If you can't make it to the event, take time to read the relatively short book.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit
Children's Ministry
605-336-1475
heather.dewit@communityrc.org



LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

We are barreling through the month of August, and that means our fall ministries and activities at Community are almost upon us! Take a look below at some of the upcoming ministries you might like to consider participating in.

Coming up next Tuesday, August 27, Community will be hosting a gathering for every church person who attends a Kingdom Network church for our region. The evening will start with appetizers from 5:30-6:00. At 6:00 we'll meet in the sanctuary for a time of worship, which I'll be leading along with some of our band members, and that will be followed by our special guest speakers, Dr. Chenwe Williams and Will Hutcherson. These folks are coming to us from Atlanta, and they will be speaking on how to prevent anxiety, depression, and mental angst in children and teens. This event is free and open to anyone who might find this information useful. Childcare will be provided that evening as well. You don't have to be a parent to attend. This information is valuable to teachers, youth workers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and anyone who connects with kids. The evening will wrap up at 8:00pm.

The women's WD40 group will get started again on Monday, September 9 at 7:00pm. This group is open to women of all ages. We meet from 7:00-8:00pm, and I lead discussions a variety of topics during the year. We meet in the fellowship hall here at church, and all women are welcome to attend. Normally, we meet on the first Monday of every month from 7:00-8:00pm, but the first Monday of September is Labor Day. That's why we have that September meeting on the second week. If you're free September 9, I hope you'll join us!

Our Fall Kick-Off Sunday is scheduled for September 15! You'll be able to sign up to serve in many different ministries at Community, and we'll have lots of information available that day concerning Mid-Week classes, small groups, service opportunities, choir, etc. There will be a meal following the late service that day too, so be sure to mark your calendars to join us in person.

Mid-Week preparations are underway as well. We are still looking for a couple of people who might be willing to lead some kitchen groups for the meals. If you have any interests in cooking the mid-week meal, please contact me. I'd love to visit with you about your options and what might work in that ministry area. Mid-Week gets started the first Wednesday of October, October 2!

Lastly this week, I'd like to say a special thank you to Abby Burnside for being willing to cover the keyboard and some vocals for worship this past Sunday while I was on vacation. It was a much-needed break for me, and I'm very thankful for Abby's willingness to help out in that way! Thanks, Abby!

Have a great week, friends!

Liz
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