



THE COMMUNICATOR

FEBRUARY 21, 2024

Weekly Calendar

FEB. 14 - FEB. 21

Wednesday, Feb. 21

5:30-6:30pm- Meal (Ravioli Lasagna)
6:30-7:30pm-
Midweek Classes for Children,
Middle School Youth Group & Adults
(Nursery also provided)
7:30-8:30pm-
High School Youth Group

Saturday, Feb. 24

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

10:00AM- AA (via Zoom)
See page 2 for details

Sunday, Feb. 25

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

Monday, Feb. 26

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, Feb. 27

9:30-11am- Play Group

Wednesday, Feb. 28

5:30-6:30pm- Meal (Tacos)
6:30-7:30pm-
Midweek Classes for Children,
Middle School Youth Group & Adults
(Nursery also provided)
7:30-8:30pm-
High School Youth Group

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

February is turning out to be a pretty nice month. I am not sure what to make of all this, but I know it will make the winter much shorter. I can remember when the month of March was a little more spring-like and we haven't seen that in a long long time. Maybe this will be that year. I can remember when people had outdoor Easter services. We wouldn't even think about that anymore with how chilly the springs have been...so maybe this year will be different. I know, I best not get too far ahead of myself. I know how quickly these things can change, but for now, I do like this.

My mom's birthday is this week. I may try to get back home and see her. We share a birthday month and so it is good to have a special day back there when I can spend the day with her. I know there will be a little extra food or sorts when I go, so there is that as well. Happy Birthday, mom!

We are doing the selection process for Elders and Deacons once again. There are nomination forms at The Link. I know you don't know everyone on that list, but you know who you know. If everyone just does that, we can continue to make this work. We did discuss at the last board meeting changing this process, but we didn't hear much from our folks. As a matter of fact, what did hear was two different sides to that question. One side saying change it, and another side saying don't. The numbers of change it, and don't change it were exactly the same. So...it appears that we will move very slowly on that. We will do our best to keep reminding you to turn in a nomination form for us. Vote for who you know. That's my advice. Thanks everyone!

Because Easter is so early this year, our last MidWeek is going to come very early. We did look at maybe going longer, but as I said in an earlier newsletter, we tried that once and it did not work. Once we get past Easter, things just seem to change. I'm not sure what that is, but it is a real thing. What I do like about an early Easter is that I am going to get a little more time with you all before we hit all the summer things. I'm working on a new series for those Sunday's that follow Easter. I am looking forward to that.

Lent is a time to reflect on the journey of Jesus as He moves toward Jerusalem and the cross of calvary. This new series is going to be looking at the many facets of that journey and how those stories might affect how we think about our lives and certainly the ideas we have about God. We are loved in a most amazing way demonstrated by the life Jesus gave for each one of us. It may sound crazy to some, but for those who have placed their faith in the finished work of the cross it is a power by which we live our lives each day. This week our focus will be on the "crowd". Those people who one day were so excited that their king was coming and then in a few hours would turn around and began shouting insults. The crowd is a powerful mover in our lives. Peer pressure with our kids and friends of influence as adults, we are prone to follow for the sake of approval and some kind of meaning in our lives. It will be a day for each of us to see ourselves as a part of the "crowd" at times. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

DOYLE'S UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



Our winter retreat for the middle and high school group is this weekend. We are in partnership with two other churches in town and have a total of 72 people going for the weekend. The retreat is hosted at Inspiration Hills and our theme for the weekend is Unlocked. As we prepare to leave for the weekend, I encourage you to join me in prayer for the speakers, the adult leaders and the students. I am so excited for the weekend and am praying for open ears and minds as we join others in large group and small group sessions, activities and some free time throughout the weekend.

We have two more weeks in our midweek series for February. The middle school group will be exploring Philippians and an encouragement from Paul to press on toward the goal and rejoice always - not always our natural response to things! The high school group will be in Luke as we explore Jesus' Messiahship and mission that Luke brings to light throughout his gospel.

It's hard to believe there is only about a month left for midweek this year! As we finish things up in March with our relationship series, feel free to reach out anytime with questions about the youth ministry here at Community.

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

FINANCES

Sunday, February 18, 2024

General: \$11,417

Vision: \$730

Missions: \$225

General YTD: \$102,614

Vision YTD: \$9,366

Vision Account Balance: \$39,080

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Dree Mayer (knee replacement 2/26)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Glenda Van Den Hoek (back surgery 2/8)
- Russ Hoogendoorn's friend, Duane
- Melanie Oden's sister, Amber (breast cancer)
- Evita Attema's sister, Lillika (cancer)
- Randi Van Der Sloot (hospice)
- Darren Ellwein (leg surgery)
- Jodi Ackerman (knee surgery recovery)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease- recovery from procedure)
- Jeris VanZee (Mantle Cell Lymphoma)
- Henry Collins (continued healing)
- Jan Mellema (fall recovery)
- Mike Graanstra's dad (GI bleed)
- Justin & Sandy Heimdal and family (house fire)
- Dalton Coffey (shoulder surgery recovery)
- Darla Moulton's son-in-law, Neil (cancer)
- Joanne Avery (broken arm)
- Ann Munce (shoulder surgery)
- Rick Hoogendoorn (pancreatic cancer)
- Carrie Valentine (ankle surgery)
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Junella Wesselink's sister (cancer)
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Kyle Wigg (liver transplant recovery)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloot
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Steve Lee (awaiting lung transplant)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (transplant recovery)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Jill Pudwill and her family on the passing of her grandmother, Clara Dewald. Please keep them in your prayers.

Congratulations to Daniel & Jessica Burlingame on the birth of their son, Luke.



training at Community

Thursday, March 7 | 6:00pm

Registration is required as space is limited.

There is no registration fee.

Child, Infant, Adult CPR/AED/1st Aid

(We expect training to be complete before 9pm.)

Register by email or phone:

Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org

605-336-1475

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**WE NEED YOUR HELP IN NOMINATING NEW
CONSISTORY MEMBERS.
YOU'LL NOMINATE 3 PEOPLE FOR ELDERS
& 3 PEOPLE FOR DEACONS.**

**THE LIST OF ELIGIBLE PEOPLE IS AT
THE LINK IN THE LOBBY.
NOMINATION FORMS CAN BE PLACED
IN THE DESIGNATED BOX ALSO LOCATED AT
THE LINK.**

**EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE
(CONNECT@COMMUNITYRC.ORG) IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.**

DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 17

ONGOING MINISTRIES

..... FRESH ENCOUNTER

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.

..... MISSION OF THE MONTH

Call To Freedom

..... AA BIG BOOK MEETING

AA meeting are held in-person or via Zoom on Saturdays at 10:00am.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467618339?
pwd=N1Niems0MG5vdk0reVZUTHlWkgx
Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467618339?pwd=N1Niems0MG5vdk0reVZUTHlWkgxZz09)

Please contact Tom Jacobs (tjstonegate@gmail.com) for meeting access.

..... SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, **March 11** 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 on Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing *Hidden Valley Road*.

The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing *Sold on a Monday*.

..... HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet on Feb. 20th at 1:30 (please note the time change!).

Jerralynne is hostess and Carol has the lesson. The new books are in and will be \$12.36.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



I'm writing this article on February 19, which is my Grandma Lucy's 91st birthday! Since Grandma gets the newsletter in the mail, I can say, "Happy Birthday, Grandma! I hope you feel especially celebrated and loved today! Also, I'm out of pickles, so I'll be needing those the next time I'm home for a visit." 😊 (She makes the BEST homemade pickles! Many former youth group kids can attest to this!)

This week, I'd like to write about an interesting phenomenon I have noticed over the last few months. As we headed into the month of November, everyone talked about how fast the time was going and how many activities we had going on and how Christmas would be here before we knew it. And then in January, everyone talked about how slow the month of January was and how every day felt long, and that winter felt like it would never end. But friends, December and January are the same number of days during the same time of the year. How can two basically identical months feel so drastically different? One flies by while the other feels like it will last forever??

I think this is a spot-on example of how susceptible we are to the power and false allure of a busy schedule.

When we are busy, time flies, and life can feel exciting or especially productive. But the downside of that is that time flies! And we are not able to slow down and truly appreciate each moment for what it is. All of those special holiday moments come and go, quick as a wink, and we are immediately on to the next thing. Then, when we get to January, where our schedules slow down and we return to a more ordinary stage of life, we get bored and tired of the ordinary days. Winter depression can set in, and all we want is for the weather to warm up so our schedules can fill up and time can fly again...but is that really what we want?

I do believe a happy medium can be found, but to find it and actually incorporate it into our lives will take some intentional planning. If we don't take time to slow down and create space to savor the good things in life, they'll fly by with no chance to deeply engage with the richest blessings of life. But that doesn't mean that we have to slow down so much that we don't plan anything fun and life-giving. Ordinary times are a blessing too, but if we always compare them to the outrageous pace of a frantic schedule, we'll never see the value in the ordinary.

To make a change, we will have to think ahead to spring, summer, fall, and even to the next holiday season. How might you plan time to deeply treasure the exciting and special moments that come with each season? What activities can you say "no" to while still cultivating an attitude of learning and growth? Where are the places in your lives where God might be inviting you to slow down? What are the things you say "yes" to that have no eternal value. (I think that's an especially hard question right there, especially if we are honest with ourselves!) If we don't learn how to moderate our schedules, we essentially are teaching our kids that our lives don't have any value unless they are crammed full of activities every moment of every day. And that's a straight up lie.

I know I'm asking some hard questions, but as I said, I really noticed that this year. I think the entire scope of our lives would improve if we could learn how to moderate our schedules all year long. Anyway, I just wanted to share a little food for thought during this Lenten season.

Have a good week, friends!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

HEATHER'S UPDATE

KID'S MINISTRY

Hello Everyone!

It was another good week in the Children's Wing. Sunday School has been going well. We've been doing a little extra organizing and cleaning as things get a little messy by this time of the year after we've been having fun and learning together for so many weeks. The Midweek kids started a new "Friends" theme, learning about the disciples, about being a friend of Jesus, and about how much Jesus loves each one of us. We're going to have a prayer lesson coming soon, so if you want to be in prayer about that, we'd sure appreciate it.

I'm looking for a volunteer (or a few) to assemble VBS cardboard standup decorations that we purchased from Oriental Trading Company for this summer. The instructions are included in the box with each stand up and this project can be done at home and brought to church or at church at any time it works for you. Send me an email if this sounds fun to you and I can set them out in the supply closet for you to look at. They are all light weight but some of them are pretty tall.

See you soon!

These pictures of the Midweek Nursery bunch are too adorable to keep to myself.

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



**COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH
6800 E. 41 STREET
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57110**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Permit No. 7119

FEBRUARY 21, 2024

REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP & BAPTISM...
**If you would like to request membership or baptism, please
e-mail the church office at connect@communityrc.org.**
**We are doing individual family baptism after the 10:45am
service until further notice.**

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.**

Pastor Clyde Teel
pastor@communityrc.org

Liz Teel
Director of Discipleship & Worship
liz.teel@communityrc.org

John Thornton
Part-time Visitation Pastor
prayerline@communityrc.org

Holli Jans
Communications Coordinator
connect@communityrc.org

Heather DeWit
Director of Children's Ministries
heather.dewit@communityrc.org

Doyle Burnside
Senior High & Middle School Youth Director
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

Teresa Lipp
Part-Time Nursery Director
nursery@communityrc.org

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

Josiah Dunlap
Part-Time IT Coordinator