

# THE COMMUNICATOR

JANUARY 14, 2026

## THIS WEEK JANUARY 14-21

### Wednesday, Jan. 14

5:30-6:30pm Meal: BBQ

6:30-7:30pm-

Classes for all ages;  
Middle school youth group  
7:30-8:30pm- H.S. Youth Group

### Saturday, Jan. 17

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

### Sunday, Jan. 18

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45am-

Worship Services

10:10am- Sunday School

10:10am- Congregational Meeting

6:30pm- Refresh  
(Young Adult group)

### Monday, Jan. 19

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

### Tuesday, Jan. 20

9:30am- Play Group

7:00pm- AA meeting

7:00pm- Book Club

### Wednesday, Jan. 21

9:00am- Book Club  
(Bagel Boy on MN Ave.)

5:30-6:30pm Meal:  
Chicken salad/taco salad

6:30-7:30pm-

Classes for all ages;  
Middle school youth group  
7:30-8:30pm- H.S. Youth Group

## Congregational Meeting

to approve the 2026 budget

Sunday, January 18

@ 10:10am

## Clyde's Update

I am enjoying this January winter. I know, it can change any day, but this is sure a nice change for us as we begin the new year. We are gaining with the sun. Each week that passes is one week closer to what is coming next. I like all of that. It seems to put people in a better frame of mind as well and that is a good thing too. It is however South Dakota, and we are all very aware of what that means. Winter will show up again one day. I think that is a safe forecast. For now, enjoy!

Someone (Clyde) forgot to make the announcement at 9 and 10:45 about the table and the elder and deacon voting. If you remember from last week's newsletter, we are making it so if you would like to take your name off that list you can stop by and do that. No one is going to give you a bad time for that. I am sure there are some of you who have good reasons not to want to be on Consistory, and there are good reasons. You can have that option now. I'll see if someone (Clyde) can remember to bring that announcement next week.

A reminder that this coming Sunday is our annual budget proposal and vote to approve meeting at 10:10am. This meeting usually goes quickly as our presenters are well prepared and because we have a process now for setting up the budget that is so straightforward and so very well done. It has taken all the anxiety out of the whole thing. We have good people who do the work ahead of time and also, we are all very aware of how the funds need to be applied to the building of the kingdom. We are good stewards of the generosity of our folks and that really matters. Join us this coming Sunday!

I also want to give another big thank you to all the volunteers who are doing the MidWeek meals and all the sponsors and teachers for that evening. I am so pleased with how all of that is going this year. We just have such great people involved in that. It takes a big number of folks and some good planning to make that all work. It is a well-oiled machine. Thanks everyone! If you haven't made that something to do, you might want to think about stopping out on a Wednesday night and see how it goes. We would love to see you there!

On a more personal level, our family is getting to play a little music around the area in the next couple of weeks. We do really enjoy that. We are playing next Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January at noon at the Old Court House Museum downtown. We would love to see you join us if you would like.

Sunday's installment of the "Seek First" series is on "righteousness". Specifically, God's righteousness. What does the command "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness mean? We want to talk about the character of God and what holiness in life looks like and then how do we begin to see those qualities in our lives come to life. We might want to look at what things get in the way. What are things we do almost without thinking that prevent the Spirit from making those changes in our lives. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

# PRAYER REQUESTS

"[they] wanted better food, and soon all the Israelites began complaining. They said, "We want meat!...God said to Moses, Tell the people this: 'Make yourselves holy for tomorrow, and you will eat meat. You cried to the Lord, "We want meat! We were better off in Egypt!" So now the Lord will give you meat to eat."

Num. 11:4, 18

Our attitude in prayer makes a big difference to the answer we receive. Is God leading you to a change of attitude?

## MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY

### CHURCH ON THE STREET

Located at 515 N Main Ave. in Sioux Falls is a ministry that focuses on walking with those experiencing homelessness and poverty. It is a synodically authorized worship community of the ELCA without walls. Some of the services provided are: Pastoral Care at the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House every Thursday from 1-4:00pm. Laundry of Love which assists those in need of laundry services on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 3:00-7:30pm. (located at 701 N. Cliff Ave) Worship and Communion services at various locations to be announced.

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

Email Pastor John at [prayerline@communityrc.org](mailto:prayerline@communityrc.org)

## FINANCES

Sunday, January 11, 2026

General: \$10,161  
Vision: \$695  
Mission: \$95

General YTD: \$22,301  
Vision YTD: \$1,005  
Vision Account Balance: \$6,814

### ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Marv Vos (knee replacement)
- Jodi Ackerman's mother, Karen (aortic aneurysm)
- Jane Newman (knee replacement)
- Joyce Tarrell (surgery recovery)
- Leroy Thill (infant son of Katie & Trevor Thill)
- Jean Nollmann (hematoma)
- Claradith Kingsbury (stroke recovery)
- Gracia Harmsen (surgery recovery)
- Al Price
- Donna Holmgren's brother, Tim
- Jan Sturing
- Ken Stellinga (Pancreatic cancer)
- Tim DeLoof (ALS)
- Steve Lee
- Denny Spitler (chronic foot pain)
- Mike Hay's father, Duane
- Gracia Harmsen's dad (esophageal cancer)
- Matt Meyer's fiancé Lynnette's dad (tumor)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (cancer)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)

### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Bill Keizer and his family for the passing of Dar Keizer. Please keep their family in your prayers.

## 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.

<https://bradymartz.zoom.us/j/87440575632?pwd=RwtTfrMNRbOXcg9KlhabfrdoMWC2Cb.1>  
Meeting ID: 874 4057 5632

Passcode: 052482

One tap mobile

+12532050468,87440575632# US

+12532158782,87440575632# US

+1 346 248 7799 US

Questions?

Call Shawn Blom

605-940-6702



## THE GIVE

Check out THE GIVE wall in the lobby. It's a place to donate to local ministries.

**The Banquet**  
Dawn Dish Soap

**Union Gospel Mission**  
hats, gloves, scarves for all ages

**Children's Home Society**  
sidewalk chalk, bubbles

**Mission Haiti**  
Pick up a packet of a child to sponsor for \$33/month



## ONGOING MINISTRIES

### SENIOR CITIZENS

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

### AA MEETING (OPEN)

Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm in the youth room. Use east doors.

### REFRESH

Weekly gathering of college students and young adults every Sunday at 6:30pm.

### BOOK CLUBS

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Copies are available to borrow in the church library.

The morning book club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave near 33rd St. We will be discussing *Yellowface*. This book will be available to pick up in the church library sometime mid-December.

### HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet on January 20th at 1:30. Mary is hostess and has the lesson

**OFFERING ENVELOPES NOW  
AVAILABLE AT TABLE  
IN THE LOBBY**

BAPTISM SUNDAY

# BAPTISM SUNDAY

**BELIEVER'S BAPTISM SERVICE  
SUNDAY, MARCH 15  
3PM**

IF INTERESTED, EMAIL LIZ (LIZ.TEEL@COMMUNITYRC.ORG)



## DOYLE'S UPDATE

# MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

We are one full week into January and our Sunday mornings are in full swing. This last week, we started in our Spiritual Disciplines with a breath prayer. So often, we can sit down and read our bible only to forget what we read before picking up our bible again. Or we go to prayer, lay out our requests and say amen only to move on to the next thing. A breath prayer slows us down, has us focus on scripture and lets us rest on His truth. This week, the challenge is to find 2 to 5 minutes a day and spend it in a breathing prayer. Use a psalm or favorite scripture that points to God's truth and use your breathing to rest in that. An example from Psalm 46:10 - Breath in "Be Still" Breath out "and know that I am God". It's simple, calls us to slow down, and centers us on God through prayer.

Then, this week for Wednesday nights, we look at the impact of a relational God. We open to 1 John 1 and speak about the fellowship we have with God. Verse 3 - "We declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with his Son Jesus Christ." There is a relational side to God that goes beyond a blind faith. We can connect, know and hear from Him. This week, we begin to look at what that can look like in our life.

Finally, our high school students have an event coming up on January 25th. We will be meeting at church from 7-8 Sunday night for some fun, time together as a group and some traditional winter snacks of hot chocolate and cookies (even though the weather has not fully lined up with that!). If students are free that night, come join us as we continue to build connections with others here at church.

That's it for this week. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out anytime.

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



## HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY

Hi Community!

On these winter days, I get to plan Vacation Bible School! This is your reminder to save the date for VBS at Community.

The web page is ready for you to sign up kids and select your volunteer slots.

[www.communityrc.org/vbs](http://www.communityrc.org/vbs)

If you haven't been to VBS yet, I encourage you to give it a try this year. We do our best to make it a fun and memorable four days for everyone!

See you soon!

Heather DeWit  
Community Kids  
605-336-1475



# ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



Mid-Week got off to a great start last week! If you haven't come yet, I still encourage you to give it a try. We're having BBQ's for supper this week, and every one of the classes is a good choice! Let me know if you have any questions or if you need a bit more info.

I'd also like to mention that we have a new Believer Baptism Service date scheduled on our calendar! The next option to participate in this baptism service is Sunday, March 15 at 3:00pm. This is when we set up a borrowed baptismal, fill it with water, and offer the option to be immersed or "dunked" for your baptism. 😊 This is open to anyone who would like to be baptized in this way. Over the years we've seen adults and kids make this decision. If you're interested in being a part of this service, or if you have further questions about what this involves, please don't hesitate to ask. You can email me or catch me on a Sunday morning. I'm here to help!

Hasn't this weather been something? I must say, I'm always pretty attuned to the weather during this week of January, because January 13 is my birthday. 😊 And when you're a kid planning a birthday party for the second week of January, you have to pay attention to the weather because usually it's cold and snowy. The kicker is that you don't know just how cold and snowy it will be! In fact, just 2 years ago, there was a BLIZZARD WARNING on January 13!! Of course, this year, they are predicting that it will be 54° tomorrow! Although that's not the warmest January 13<sup>th</sup> on record, it is unusually warm, and it reminds me of one of my birthdays when I was in college that was particularly. That year, we had a significant January thaw too, and several of my friends pooled their hard-earned money and rented a limo for my birthday. They knew I had never been in a limo before, and we drove around with all the windows open to celebrate. 😊 It was a fantastic time, and I felt so loved!

As I've been thinking about that day and about those friends who did something out of the ordinary to make my day special, I'm reminded about how important it is to take advantage of opportunities we might have to bring the extraordinary into the ordinary. Interestingly, those friends who pooled their valuable college money to rent the limo are now living all over the country. We only talk to each other once in a blue moon and it's usually on social media. Although we are still friends, we did not continue to build those friendships. Instead, our lives went in different directions. We got jobs in different locations and met new friends. But the reality is, at one time, those were people who knew me best. The fact that we haven't stayed in touch doesn't mean that our time together wasn't important. I would argue that the opposite is true. The time we spent together at that time was actually profound. I'm deeply grateful for those friends, who, at that time, made an ordinary birthday extraordinary.

And that gets me to thinking about where I find myself today. What opportunities might I have to make ordinary events extraordinary for someone else? Who knows how long I'll have those opportunities before life changes, someone moves away, or circumstances shift? If I can do something simple to give someone a lasting, life-impacting memory like my friends did for me, I want to do it! I want to make sure that I'm living intentionally in these moments that God is orchestrating.

My challenge for you is to consider your life now. Are there places or people with whom you could bring a little extraordinariness into life? Are there opportunities where God is inviting you to do a little something special and unexpected? If so, I encourage you to do take advantage of that opportunity. You never know what a difference you might make in someone's life...which will certainly also impact your own.

Enjoy this January thaw!

Liz  
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org



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

**JANUARY 14, 2026**

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

**REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP & BAPTISM...**

**If you would like to request membership or baptism, please  
e-mail the church office at [connect@communityrc.org](mailto: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**

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**Lisa Blankers**

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**Josiah Dunlap**

Part-Time IT Coordinator