

# THE COMMUNICATOR

JANUARY 15, 2025

## THIS WEEK

JAN. 15- JAN. 22

### Wednesday, January 15

5:30-6:30pm-

Soup Night

6:30-7:30pm- Classes for all ages;

Middle school youth group

7:30-8:30pm- H.S. Youth Group

### Saturday, January 18

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

### Sunday, January 19

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

10:00am- Sunday School

10:10am- Congregational Meeting

### Monday, January 20

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

### Tuesday, January 21

9:00am- Play Group

### Wednesday, January 22

5:30-6:30pm-

Chili/Chicken Noodle Soup

6:30-7:30pm- Classes for all ages;

Middle school youth group

7:30-8:30pm- H.S. Youth Group

## IMPORTANT

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO  
APPROVE THE 2025 BUDGET:  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 19TH  
@ 10:10AM

## Clyde's Update

One more week in January past and we continue to work our way into this new year. It has been an up and down temperature kind of winter, but it hasn't been all that bad thus far. As long as we get a few nice days in there, we can do this. I do keep wondering when that first big snow is going to hit. I think we all believe it's coming, but who knows when. We'll be ready! I hope! 😊

This week's meeting at 10:10am for our annual review of last year's finances and the new budget, is all set in place. As I have mentioned before, a lot of hard work has gone into all this each year. We check and double check everything. Each line item has been gone over more than once folks. We don't just throw this together. I hope to see many of you on Sunday!

I want to take some time this week and share some extra thoughts from this past Sunday. When we are talking about "born again" ideas or when we are talking about "asking Jesus into your heart", what are we really saying? What I would like for us to consider is making sure, in your own hearts, that you have made that commitment to trust Jesus with your life. It is a decision we all must make in our lives. We don't take on the faith of our parents or our church, we must discover that for ourselves. There are steps to becoming disciples of Jesus, and that first step is a big one. When Jesus chose the first disciples, he would go to them and ask them to drop what they were doing, and follow him. He asked them to trust that he was worth that kind of decision. "Follow me" meant believing that Jesus could do for them what they could never do on their own. It meant that whatever plans they had would be nothing in comparison to what he had in store for them. He was asking them to join him in this new Kingdom. If this is something you struggle with, let me share with you this thought. Find a place and time this week that you can be alone with God. If it doesn't work this week, then do it next week, but make a commitment to have this time with God. Consider your life and where it has gone. Consider the things that get you down and yes, even the things that fill you. For the things that fill you, give God a word of thanks for those. For all of us there will be things we know we should not have done. For those things, ask God to forgive you. Tell him you are sorry. Believe in your heart that Jesus died for those. Do you believe that? Ask God to bring his presence into your life. Ask Jesus to take your life and began to work a "way" into your days. Commit at a new level to seek his face. You must mean it with all your heart...then...tell someone you are doing this new thing. Tell me if you want, but tell someone. Remember friends, this is journey. It isn't over at that point; it is just starting. You may notice a change in somethings right away, or you may not notice much at all, but if you keep searching, trust me, things will begin to change in your hearts. God will keep his word to you. Jesus didn't go to the cross for nothing; God didn't raise him from the dead for nothing: that was for you. Take a hold of that promise and live in the power of that promise. It is so worth the journey. Be honest with yourself and be honest with God. Tell him you are going to trust him for your salvation! Amen!

The new series is so exciting to work on. This week it's about more things of the Kingdom of God. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ryan Van Ruler (open heart surgery 1/15)
- Tony (shunt placement 1/16)
- Duane Beiswanger's nephew, Derick (brain tumor)

## ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Denny & Sue Brunsting's daughter-in-law, Amy (surgery recovery)
- Gary Van Den Hoek
- Gracia Harmsen's dad (esophageal cancer)
- Lori Blom's dad, Kevin (cancer)
- Joan Schouten (shoulder surgery recovery)
- Steve Zimmerman
- Jan Sturing's son, Matt (surgery)
- Matt Meyer's fiancé Lynnette's dad (tumor)
- Gracia Harmsen
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Karen Odens (broken femur recovery)
- Steve Lee (lung transplant recovery)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (cancer)
- JoAnn Hanssen
- Anna Halverson (seizures)
- Melanie Oden's sister, Amber (breast cancer)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Ryan Kortemeyer (lymphoma)
- Susan Vanden Berg's mom, Marlene (testing)
- Dennis VerHey (accident recovery)
- Susan Bierwagen's sister, Marlene
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Junella Wesselink's sister (cancer)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloot
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad

## 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)
- Health & Healing events- soon to be held on Feb. 1st from 1-3pm at the Multi-Cultural Center. It provides a day of pampering.
- Worship and Communion services at various locations to be announced.

For more information or volunteer opportunities, contact Church on the Street on MWF 10:00am-1:00pm.

.....

In need of prayer or want to share your prayer request?  
Email Pastor John at [prayerline@communityrc.org](mailto:prayerline@communityrc.org)

.....

## 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.



# CONSISTORY NOTES

JANUARY 9, 2024

In Attendance: Susan Bierwagen, Harvey Odens, Stan Deelstra, Clyde Teel, Jordan Lipp, Darrin Ellwein, Ross Larson, Mike Boyenga, Sean Fantroy, Tanner Corbin, Lyle Pudwill, Eric Van Donge, Justin Hinks, Tyler Wolf, Tom Weerheim, Mark Theisen, Curt Zwart, Mary Burggraaf

Opening Devotional, Angels you have met – Luke 2:9-12 and Hebrews 13:2, and Prayer – Curt Zwart

MSA the December 12, 2024 consistory meeting minutes. MSA the December financial report.

The congregational meeting is set for January 19, 2025 to approve the budget.

Reports from Liz and Heather were reviewed.

Parking lot, concrete, and maintenance fundraiser was discussed. Thus far, \$180,000 has been received.

Staff/Program work was discussed.

Prayer Event is set for April 11 & 12; committee has been meeting.

February 25 is the winter Great Plains hub event at Alton, Iowa.

Next meeting will be February 13, 2025.

Closing Prayer – Pastor Clyde

Respectfully submitted, Mary Burggraaf, Clerk



## WAYS TO GIVE

TO THE PARKING LOT CAMPAIGN



### IN SERVICE

Cash or check in offering baskets in the back (please use marked envelopes)



### ONLINE

One time or recurring at  
605.church/give-to-community  
(Select "Parking Lot")



### MAIL

You can mail a check to:  
Community Reformed Church  
6800 E. 41st St.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57110



## ONGOING MINISTRIES

### SENIOR CITIZENS

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

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Monday Evening Bible Study at 7 pm. If you have any questions, please call or email John Thornton

### BOOK CLUB

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 7 pm at the church.

We will be discussing Don't Look Back.

Copies of both books are available to borrow in the church library.

### HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet at 1:30 on January 21st. Donna is hostess and Jeanie will have the lesson.

## FINANCES

Sunday, January 12, 2025

General: \$10,822

Vision: \$245

Missions: \$185

Parking Lot: \$1,875

General YTD: \$16,602

Vision YTD: \$470

Vision Account Balance: \$28,219

OFFERING ENVELOPES  
NOW AVAILABLE AT  
TABLE IN THE LOBBY

# CURT'S MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA

LEAVING ON MARCH 15

In 1981, Steve Miller was an ordinary guy with an ordinary name. He didn't have a burning desire to do mission work and he certainly didn't have a burning desire to go to Guatemala at the height of a civil war, but he accepted an invitation to tour the war torn country.

What Steve didn't know was that God had already put many the pieces of the puzzle in place that would one day be Helps International. A missionary named Paul Townsend was his tour guide in Guatemala and what he showed Steve changed the course of his life. Steve knew he had to do something, but where does one even start? Clothes? Housing? Medical care? Dental care? The needs were overwhelming.

At some point, Steve asked his dentist if he'd be interested in going to Guatemala. His dentist said yes!...another piece of the puzzle. His college buddy was a successful plastic surgeon in St. Cloud, MN...and he had a business partner...and he knew some people...and so on and so on...the puzzle began to take shape.

In 2000, the medical team was seeing a lot of burn victims, many were children, and lung ailments from cooking over open fires and leaky wood burning stoves. Steve's brother in law happened to be an engineer who designed the ONIL stove...another piece of the puzzle.

On March 15, I'll be leaving for Guatemala on my 3rd trip as a member of the stoves team. We will install 150 stoves over the course of our 10 day stay. Over 300,000 ONIL stoves have been installed in Guatemala and burn victims are a rarity now.

What do we need from you? This puzzle wasn't put together without a lot of prayer.

Pray for our safety. The work is hard and trekking up and down the mountainsides carrying tools, Bibles, water, etc. doesn't come without the risk of injury. We have an armed military escort with us wherever we go. There's a reason for that.

Pray for our health. We take every precaution not to ingest the things that will send our unconditioned digestive systems into a tailspin, but, as I found out last year, it still happens...and it's not fun!

A final word of thanks to the support from Community Reformed and a reminder that we are all pieces of God's magnificent puzzle.

Curt Van Oort

# RESGEN MEN'S SUMMIT 2025



February 1

SATURDAY 8AM-1PM

Central Church  
Sioux Falls, SD

\$40 | tickets at [resgen.org](https://resgen.org)  
In-Person or Online

## RESGEN MEN'S SUMMIT

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 | 8AM-1PM

### LOCATION:

Central Church  
3102 W. Ralph Rogers Rd.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

### COST:

\$40 / Person  
TICKETS AT [RESGEN.ORG](https://RESGEN.ORG)

### DETAILS:

RESGEN Men's Summit 2025 is a half-day conference that equips and encourages men, ages 17 and up, to grow and fulfill their purpose as leaders, husbands, fathers, and Christ-followers. The theme for this year's event is 'Being a Man who is All HEART' and features five dynamic sessions, resources, and snacks throughout the day.



**VACATION BIBLE  
SCHOOL  
7/21-24/2025  
[www.605.church/vbs](http://www.605.church/vbs)**

# MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



# HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY

Summer seems so far away and as I write this, the weather is getting as close to opposite of that as well! However, we are looking ahead some right now as our registration for the summer mission trip is open for the high school youth group. Our group is heading to Waco, Texas for a week of serving the community there. While Waco has a few fun things it is known for, it also has a high poverty rate, and there are a lot of children in that as well. Some of what we do will be serving alongside those in that setting. If you need help with registration or have questions, send them my way.

This semester our Sunday School time will be a little different. We will be going through the book of John and his writing. In chapter 20, he talks about how he wrote these things down so that we would believe Jesus is who he says he is and that through belief, we would have life. As we explore John's gospel, we focus on the identity of Jesus, his teaching and signs, and his death and resurrection. We do so with John's desire in mind – that we might have life in Him.

For Wednesday nights, we are sticking with the theme of life as we do a three part series on "New Life in Christ". We explore our new identity, our new purpose and our new hope. This week we explore 2 Corinthians 5 and how the old has gone and the new has come. Jesus changes things. We start this year off in a series looking into those changes.

That's it for this week. If you have any questions about the youth ministry here at Community, feel free to reach out anytime.

Doyle  
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

Hi Everyone!

I hope you are all doing well and staying warm.

I have a couple of volunteer opportunities for your consideration:

- 1. Community's School Team will have a table at an event on February 6. It is a chili cookoff and community fair where different organizations share information with students and families as they walk around tasting chili. Our theme for the table that our church is hosting will be "Community and Ben Reifel- we go together like chili and cinnamon rolls." The Oostras are making chili again this year, so we are looking for someone to bake some cinnamon rolls. Each person will only get a bite sized taste, so a few dozen will be plenty. We'll serve the bites on little toothpicks with our chili. For the event, we will also have some smiling faces at our table handing out some little prizes and candy so if you love middle schoolers and want to help, let me know.
- 2. I am starting to think about VBS and have some craft prep that needs to be done. The preschool kids will get to decorate a rain stick craft, but those rain sticks need to be assembled in advance as they are a little too complicated for tiny fingers. (The older kids will assemble their own before decorating.) I'm wondering if anyone wants to take a box or two of rain stick craft kits home and assemble them. You'll leave off the stickers so the little kids can add that themselves. If you are interested, send me an email or chat with me. The rain sticks come in boxes of 12 and I'm hoping we can pre-assemble at least 10 boxes.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit  
Community Kids  
605-336-1475  
[Heather.DeWit@Communityrc.org](mailto: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

**JANUARY 15, 2025**

**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**  
[pastor@communityrc.org](mailto:pastor@communityrc.org)

**Liz Teel**  
Director of Discipleship & Worship  
[liz.teel@communityrc.org](mailto:liz.teel@communityrc.org)

**John Thornton**  
Part-time Visitation Pastor  
[prayerline@communityrc.org](mailto:prayerline@communityrc.org)

**Holli Jans**  
Communications Coordinator  
[connect@communityrc.org](mailto:connect@communityrc.org)

**Heather DeWit**  
Director of Children's Ministries  
[heather.dewit@communityrc.org](mailto:heather.dewit@communityrc.org)

**Doyle Burnside**  
Senior High & Middle School Youth Director  
[doyle.burnside@communityrc.org](mailto:doyle.burnside@communityrc.org)

**Teresa Lipp**  
Part-Time Nursery Director  
[nursery@communityrc.org](mailto:nursery@communityrc.org)

**Lisa Blankers**  
Part-Time Financial Administrator  
[accounting@communityrc.org](mailto:accounting@communityrc.org)

**Josiah Dunlap**  
Part-Time IT Coordinator