

THE COMMUNICATOR

THIS WEEK JANUARY 21-28

Wednesday, Jan. 21
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

Saturday, Jan. 24
7:00am- Fresh Encounter

Sunday, Jan. 25
8:00, 9:00 & 10:45am- Worship Services

10:10am- Sunday School

6:30pm- Refresh (Young Adult group)

7:00pm- H.S. Youth Group (indoor broom ball)

Monday, Jan. 26
7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, Jan. 27
9:30am- Play Group
7:00pm- AA meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 28
5:30-6:30pm Meal: Joel's Lasagna
6:30-7:30pm- Classes for all ages; Middle school youth group
7:30-8:30pm- H.S. Youth Group

JANUARY 21, 2026

Clyde's Update

If you will recall from last week's newsletter how very pleased with the January weather we had been enjoying. I also stated that we are all aware of just how quickly that can all change. Well, I am not saying I am a prophet, but it sure did change! The cold is upon us now. We always have that 10-day period of cold in the winter and we are going to be working through a little of that this week. We knew it was coming. Put on an extra layer and walk right through it. There is probably a sermon on that last line...I might have to work on that. Stay warm everyone!

I want to thank everyone for attending the Congregational meeting on Sunday morning. I think our deacons, with the help of Lisa Blankers, did a very good job of explaining the coming year's budget. We all work hard on that to be good stewards of the generosity of our people to do the most we can for the work of the Kingdom. We take that very seriously and I hope that shows in the numbers we bring to you. Great job everyone and thanks again to our amazing people who continue to bless us in so many ways. Keep the main thing the main thing and God will do what God does.

A story from Sunday: I mentioned on Sunday morning that lots of little things in the tech area were being fussy with me on Sunday morning which in practice meant it took much longer to get things all going. Obviously, that could be frustrating and could be a distraction for me as I prepare to bring a message, but I have learned over the years that it most probably means the Spirit is going to be working. Therefore, I might expect some extra Spiritual battles to be evident. There were a couple of other distractions on Sunday as well. Just small things, but more than most weeks. So...I got excited. What was God going to be doing, or more accurately who is God going to speaking to on this day? Sometimes I get to see that; many times, I don't, but I just knew something good was going to happen. Sunday, I got to see it. Some of you in the room witnessed it as well. (So, it's not just my story.) I can't share the story because that's not the pastoral thing to do, but it was an awesome work of God in that room. Why do I bring this up in the newsletter? I think there is a good lesson I can share with you this week. When the Spirit is working overtime, those journeys don't always come with glitter and smooth paths. They are often rocky places and uncomfortable. One might even use the word, difficult. When you are trying to bring a spirit-filled work or word and the road around you seems to be getting rough...be of good courage. God's work will shine through. Don't get discouraged! Get excited! Don't get angry...get ready! The Spirit is moving! As Christians, we are going to find ourselves in situations that overwhelm us especially when we are doing Christ's work. It is a truth that I have learned over and over as a pastor! The struggle is real, but God will not give up. The Spirit will do what the Spirit does. Smile and look up! Jesus is about to move. The world cannot win. Evil will not be the victor! The tomb is empty. That'll preach!

Sunday's message this week is going to be about seeking the face of God. There are numbers of scriptures that speak of this idea. The Psalms are full of references of about this subject. It doesn't take much research to see that this kind of "seeking" is an important discipline in our Christian lives. That's what I am studying this week! I hope to bring a good word to you on Sunday about it. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

"They said to Samuel, "Don't stop praying to the Lord our God for us! Ask him to save us..." Then Samuel took a baby lamb and offered it to the Lord as a whole burnt offering. He called to the Lord for Israel's sake, and the Lord answered him. While Samuel was burning the offering, the Philistines came near to attack Israel. But the Lord thundered against them with loud thunder. They were so frightened they became confused. So the Israelites defeated the Philistines in battle." 1 Sam. 7:8-10.

**Do you have a prayer partner who never stops
praying for you?
Whom do you never stop praying for?**

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

FINANCES

Sunday, January 18, 2026

General: \$8,630
Vision: \$790
Mission: \$510
Wednesday night: \$285

General YTD: \$30,931
Vision YTD: \$1,795
Vision Account Balance: \$3,212

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Lloyd Van Essen (bladder cancer)
- Ken Stellinga (Whipple surgery-1/27)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Edna VanDeVendel (knee replacement)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Rick Beckstrom (radiation treatments)
- Marv Vos (knee replacement)
- Jodi Ackerman's mother, Karen (aortic aneurysm)
- Joyce Tarrell (surgery recovery)
- Leroy Thill (infant son of Katie & Trevor Thill)
- Claradith Kingsbury (stroke recovery)
- Gracia Harmsen (surgery recovery)
- Al Price
- Donna Holmgren's brother, Tim
- Jan Sturing
- 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)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to William and Leah Herrick on the passing of William's mother, Petronila "Wilma" Herrick. Leah is Arlan and Mary Burggraaf's daughter.

Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Garry Van Zee who passed away yesterday. He was Janae Marcus' father. Please keep these families 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=RwtTfrMNrb0Xcg9KhabfrdoMWC2Cb.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



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.

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**

Join us for the 2026 Sioux Empire Cru annual Fellowship Dinner!

Join the Sioux Empire staff team and student leaders for an evening dedicated to celebrating the incredible work God has accomplished through hundreds of college students this year. You will have the chance to hear inspiring stories and testimonies of God at work on campus and around the world. Enjoy a complimentary dinner while connecting with others.

Friday, March 6th | 2026

5:30 Reception, 6:00 Welcome & Dinner

**Community Reformed Church
6800 E. 41st St. Sioux Falls, SD 57110**

RSVP REQUIRED | Due to limited seating, reservations are required. Kindly RSVP by February 27th by reaching out to Joey Slieter at joey.slieter@cru.org or visit our website at siouxempirecru.org and click on the "events" tab.

Free childcare will be available on-site for children from infancy to 5th grade.



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



This month on Wednesdays, we are in a series "Walking With God". As we spend time together, we are looking at how our God is a relational God who draws us to Him. We can experience Him, His guidance, and His word. Each week is building off one another as we dive into ways our relationship grows and how God finds ways to speak to us. This week, we talk about two ways of guidance we are familiar with and look at stories in scripture on how God guided His people in both the old and New Testament.

Then, on Sunday mornings we are walking through different spiritual disciplines. It is a great way to partner with our teach on Wednesday, but also has standalone value for those who can only make it on Sunday mornings. All of it is to seek God and find ways we can slow down for a minute and be intentional in our relationship with God. This week, we spent 10 minutes journaling and students were encouraged to find time throughout the week to continue on in that practice. Whether they are reflecting on scripture they are reading, writing down prayers, or searching through events in their week were God is working or they are in need of Him. Journaling can slow us down and help us focus on the work God is revealing or doing in our life. My prayer is that going through different practices can help us find ways to connect and experience our relational God.

Our high school group has an event this **Sunday (Jan. 25) starting at 7:00**. We will be playing some **indoor broom ball**, having hot chocolate and cookies and enjoying the community being built in that group. For students who are free, come join us!

Doyle
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY

Hi Community!

I have a bit of an odd Vacation Bible School request for you all to ponder. I would love to have a few "giant" props for VBS this year and I'm curious if anyone would be willing to make something.

Some ideas:

1. An enormous paper airplane that is light enough to suspend from the ceiling and looks real.
2. A huge pencil or crayon made from a carpet roll
3. An enormous Bible with pages that turn
4. A giant keyboard and mouse or tablet.

Email me or call the church office if you are willing to create something fun for VBS decorations.

Now you know you won't want to miss VBS this year! The web page is ready for you to sign up kids and select your volunteer slots.

www.communityrc.org/vbs

If VBS this year is even half as fun as planning it has been, we're all in for a real treat. If history repeats itself, it will be amazing.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit
Community Kids
605-336-1475



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

Well, so much for the January thaw. ☺ But as we said around the office on Monday, we'd rather have the cold this time of year than in the spring!

Mid-Week continues to chug along with great motion! We've had excellent numbers for our meals, and this has been the most well attended year for adult classes that we've ever had. It has been a massive blessing to me to watch everyone come together for that kind of "church" on Wednesday nights. I've seen God challenge and transform lives, I've seen Him bless and grow new friendships, I've seen Him grow families and call new people into ministry, I've watched Him feed those who are hungry for uplifting conversations with encouraging words from new friends around the dinner table, and I've watched His peace and joy wash over groups of people in ways that impact them for days afterward. There was one other time in my life when I remember seeing God at work in that way in a church setting. Maybe some time I'll share that story with you, but for now, I just want you to encourage you to keep doing what you're doing. Keep lifting up one another and seeking God and His Kingdom FIRST. We are the recipients of an indescribable gift at Mid-Week! I thank God for it every Wednesday!

On the heels of that, I'd like to remind you that it's really never too late to come to Mid-Week. If you've been wanting to try it out, just come. Supper is served from 5:30-6:15, and classes are from 6:30-7:30. I hope to see you there!



Please remember we have a Believer Baptism Service scheduled! The next option to participate in this baptism service is Sunday, March 15 at 3:00pm. This is when we set up a baptismal in the sanctuary, fill it with water, and offer the option to be immersed or "dunked" for your baptism. ☺ (Of course, if you'd rather not be immersed but would still like to be baptized, we can work with that too. Just find me on a Sunday morning, and we'll chat about it.) This service is open to anyone who would like to be baptized. Over the years we've seen both 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!

Have a good week, friends!

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

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



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

JANUARY 21, 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.**
**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

Doyle Burnside
Senior High & Middle School Youth Director
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Holli Jans
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John Thornton
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nursery@communityrc.org

Lisa Blankers
Part-Time Financial Administrator
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Josiah Dunlap
Part-Time IT Coordinator