

THE COMMUNICATOR

JANUARY 8, 2025

THIS WEEK

JAN. 8- JAN. 15

Wednesday, January 8

5:30-6:30pm-

Meal: Baked Ravioli, Salad & bread
6:30-7:30pm- Classes for all ages;

Middle school youth group

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

Saturday, January 11

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

Sunday, January 12

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

Monday, January 13

Noon- Senior Citizens (E. Pizza Ranch)
7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, January 14

9:00am- Play Group

Wednesday, January 15

9:00am- Book Club (Bagel Boy)

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

IMPORTANT

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

Clyde's Update

January is moving along and of course as one would expect, it did get a bit colder. I thought it was supposed to be this way for a couple of weeks, but now I have been hearing a little milder conditions may be in store for us. I'll wait and see how that all goes. I don't like to get too far ahead of things as I know what the winter around can bring. Once again, I do hope you all had a great holiday season. Oh, how quickly that time can get away from us. It is just the theme of life, I think. One day we start a new month and then what seems only a brief moment and we are at the end. Cherish the time friends. It goes by so quickly.

A reminder this week that on Sunday morning January 19, we are having our annual report on finances and voting on the 2025 budget. The deacons have it all put together for us. Actually, Lisa does a lot of the work for us on that, but the deacons do put the report together and make the presentation. I think everyone did a great job on all of that for us and working together we made some good decisions, and maintained some good financial responsibility as well as moving to make improvements. Put it on the calendar.

Now that the holidays are behind us, I would like to again call our attention the fund-raiser we announced before Christmas. Right now, the response to that has been very good. I'll wait to put the numbers out as it seems to be changing every week, but we are doing very well. I want you all to consider what you can offer on this project. Every gift counts and we are encouraging each of you to pray about all of this and decide what you would like to do. So far, our direction is great! Thanks everyone!

We start all the MidWeek things again this week. I am looking forward at getting back into that. We had a great fall, and I hope you can continue that momentum through the rest of the year. There will be lots of good classes to be involved in and we would love to see more of you take advantage of those opportunities. I am going to be finishing my class on end times which should take only a couple of weeks, and then I am going to do a study on the parables of Jesus. I am not going to do all of them, but a couple that have been highlighted in a book I have been reading by Dallas Willard. It is some great material on Spiritual growth and gaining a deeper understanding of God's purpose in our lives. See you all there!

Sunday, we dig a little deeper in the study on the Kingdom of Heaven. I think the first one went very well, and it really seems to start some good thoughts in the room. It has been a challenging study for me to organize all the material, but that's a good thing for me. I love that kind of study. I hope it brings a good word to all of you as well. This week I want to explain the first step in being able to access this already existing kingdom that is available. There are steps we need to learn and this week we will do step one. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

"Biblical balanced prayer...rekindles our prayer life from a foundation of worship to more fully enjoy and experience confession, requests, intercession, and warfare prayers." (Daniel Henderson)

Thank You

Thank you to everyone at Community who sent us cards, letters, and gifts.
You made our Christmas special.
You are appreciated.
Thanks, again and God bless you all.
-- John and Marcia Thornton

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CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Kim & Cole Becker, on the birth of their daughter, MaKaylee Jayne Becker, on December 28! Grandparents are Jayne & Scott Knochenmus.

Congratulations to Spring & Tony Wright on the birth of their daughter, Georgia Grace Wright on December 22! Grandparents are Dree & Terry Mayer.

OUR CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Daniel Burlingame and his family for the passing of his mom, Esther.

Our condolences go out to Duane Nieuwenhuis and his family for the passing of his father, Ken.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

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

Email Pastor John at prayerline@communityrc.org

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PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

• Denny & Sue Brunsting's daughter-in-law, Amy (surgery recovery)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ryan Van Ruler (open heart surgery 1/15)
- Gary Van Den Hoek
- Gracia Harmsen's dad (esophageal cancer)
- Lori Blom's dad, Kevin (cancer)
- Joan Schouten (shoulder surgery recovery)
- Tony (shunt placement 1/16)
- 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)
- Steve Lee (lung transplant recovery)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (cancer)
- JoAnn Hanssen
- Anna Halverson (seizures)
- Caleb Ellwein (knee stress fracture)
- 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

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.



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



We are fully back into our regular schedules for our church activities. And I don't know about you, but I'm ready to be on a regular schedule again. 😊

Mid-Week starts back up again on Wednesday, January 8. We'll have a meal served from 5:30-6:20, and classes for all ages run from 6:30-7:30. Remember, it's never too late to give Mid-Week a try. You can jump into any class that appeals to you, and you can switch classes week to week. Below is a list of the adult classes available on Wednesday nights:

Pastor Clyde – The Scandal of the Kingdom by Dallas Willard. Clyde will teach 2 more weeks of his class on Revelation and End Times study, and then he will be transitioning to the "Scandal of the Kingdom" book. This book will discuss the parables of Jesus and how we can learn to enter into the Kingdom of God now.

I (Pastor Liz) will be starting my new study on the book "Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth" by Richard Foster. We will be learning about 12 different spiritual practices (including prayer, fasting, study, solitude, service, worship, etc.) and how to practice them in ways that put us in a prime position to be transformed by the Holy Spirit. These practices have been around since before Jesus walked the earth, and they continue to be places where God consistently meets His people. If you'd like to take your practical faith to the next level, I think this class and book will help you on that path.

Pastor John Thornton will continue his Wired Word study which focuses on current events from a Biblical perspective.

Susan Bierwagen will continue her Max Lucado video study on The God of Those Who Struggle.

John Blok will continue to meet with his Men's Life Group where they tackle a variety of men's life issues.

Grace Collins will continue to meet with her Flower Patch group, which focuses on women and how their stories impact their lives.

Dan Goeller will continue his class, "Living in Babylon," which looks at the similarities of our present culture alongside ancient Biblical cultures and discusses how we can rely on God to lead us through these challenging times.

Remember that it's completely acceptable to try several different classes during Mid-Week. So, if you're ready for a change or if one of these classes looks interesting to you, please join us on Wednesday evening!

Stay warm this week!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

ONGOING MINISTRIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, January 13 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 morning book club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on 33rd and Minnesota Ave.

We will be discussing Transcendent Kingdom.

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.

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FINANCES

Sunday, January 5, 2024

General: \$5,780

Vision: \$225

Missions: \$145

Parking Lot: \$400

General YTD: \$5,780

Vision YTD: \$225

Vision Account Balance: \$27,974

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

Thank You

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.



At first I would like to wish you a happy and blessed year. Just today, I checked my bank account and I saw a blessed offering that your church sent. I have no words for this love's act for God's Kingdom.

I would like noticed that I postponed my trip to the USA for another date .

Praise God for your love and dedication for Jesus!

Pastor Djard

"Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain"
i Corinthians 15:58



**FOR MORE INFO
ABOUT PARKING LOT,
SCAN CODE**

 **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

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



KID'S MINISTRY

Hi Everyone!

Our summer mission trip registration is officially open for high school students and their parents. This year, we will be heading down to Waco, Texas for a mission trip partnered with Youth Works. This is an organization that has been around for a long time and does a great job making connections in different communities around the US and partnering with other ministries to create a mission trip experience for students. Students and parents, if you are interested in more information, have not received my email that was sent out this week, or are having trouble with the registration side of things, please reach out anytime.

At the end of last year, I was reading a study that had been taken on reading scripture. In their research, they found a huge significance from people who read 0-3 days a week to those who read at least 4 days a week. As we start this year, we will be challenging students in both middle and high school to dig into their bibles on a consistent basis. Not because they "should" but because we can experience God's kingdom here through His word – we can experience life.

In Sunday School, we will be going through the book of John this semester. I'm excited to change things up a little and really focus in on one book of the bible together. For Wednesday nights, we will be starting with a phrase Clyde used the last Sunday of 2024 – Alive in 25. That phrase will find its way into our monthly series throughout this semester as we dive into the word and experiences students are going through together.

It was great to see those here on Sunday this last week and I am excited to be back together again Wednesday nights! If you have any questions, feel free to send them my way.

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

As Pastor Clyde mentioned on Sunday, I've been reading a book called, *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness* by Jonathan Haidt. I'm only a couple of chapters in, so I can't say that I recommend or don't recommend the book yet, but I am fascinated with the premise. As

- someone who has been working with kids for over 30 years, I have noticed many changes in children and childhood.
- Some make me smile and some hurt my heart a little. I wish kids could have more opportunities for free play and exploration. My daughters are 17 and 19 now, so I can look back a little to their earlier years as well and see opportunities missed and opportunities enjoyed. Parenting looks different now that they are older, but it is still a gift and I'm still learning. It is easy to compare the upbringing of different generations and think about "simpler times" with fondness. However, I think it might be more useful for us to look at the opportunities we have to love, nurture, support, and develop the children we are blessed to spend time with right now. The book I'm reading focuses on technology, but I would propose that there are opportunities for all of us that exist in addition to less screen time and awareness of the impact of technology.
- For now, I'm focused on how to show kids at Community the one thing that will help them, regardless of what happens in their life and development and that's Jesus! We'll be plugging in to the One with all of the answers. If your child hasn't been able to attend Sunday School or Midweek yet, feel free to join any time. We make sure lessons and activities are engaging for kids whether they come every week or just once.

- Last year, I shared a resource with parents. It is intended to be read monthly. If you are curious, check it out at: <https://communityrc.org/parenting-tools> The topic this month was a good reminder for me. It has now been long enough since I put together the tool that I find fresh inspiration in the Bible verses. Luke 6:45 says, "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." I'm spending some time and energy this month thinking about what my heart is full of and seeking Jesus.

See you soon!
Heather DeWit
Community Kids
605-336-1475
Heather.DeWit@Communityrc.org

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

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Permit No. 7119

JANUARY 8, 2025

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

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Director of Discipleship & Worship
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John Thornton
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Holli Jans
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Josiah Dunlap
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