

# THE COMMUNICATOR

MAY 21, 2025

## THIS WEEK

**MAY 21- MAY 28**

### Saturday, May 24

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

### Sunday, May 25

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

10:15am-Adult Sunday School  
(chapel overflow)

7:00pm- Refresh (College student/  
young adults)

### Monday, May 26

Memorial Day- Office Closed

### Tuesday, May 27

9:30am- Play Group

**HAVE YOU  
SIGNED UP YET?**



**VBS**

**JULY 21-24**

**WWW.605.CHURCH/VBS**

## Clyde's Update

And just like that...we get rain. Hasn't all of that been a wonderful gift? I know, it isn't always what we like seeing, and if you have activities that are outdoors this can be a little frustrating, but it is a gift for sure. It was getting very dry. It feels a little more like early April, but we'll take it. Things are going to get very green once the sun shines again. Get those lawn mowers ready.

I had lots of comments after church on Sunday about all things that I talked about on Sunday and my on-going plan for the summer to bring some very practical things to our attention in the area of personal discipleship. I want to dig deep and focus my attention on that challenge. I want to be able to bring a word of teaching, but also bring a word on what should we do next. What are those tools that might help you out? Are there outlines to follow? Are there suggestions of things to try? I would love to put those out for your taking and put those on the church web page for you to use. I am also going to do a brief video each week that I will post that I am going to call "How's Your Week Going?" It will be posted each Friday, and the subject will be a brief thought on the week and a word of encouragement in our faith journeys. It is not something I have ever done before, but one that may be helpful to you. That is certainly my intent!

It has been graduation time around the church and that means lots of receptions. I feel bad that I can't make all of them, but I do the best I can. We have several great graduates this year and I do enjoy getting to touch base with their families and of course get in on some good food. I have to be careful with some of that. Too much of a good thing is not always a good thing. Congratulations to all of you!

Memorial Day is just around the corner now. I know that many of you will be traveling this weekend. Be safe on the highways. It is a weekend that commemorates those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. There will be flags on the graves of the soldiers and taps will be played around the area. I remember all of that so very well each year. We have also made it a time to visit the graves of loved ones as well. A time to remember and reflect. It is good for us to remember all of them. It is a good thing to remember those who gave their all for us. Young men and women who make the choice to go and defend. It is the ultimate of sacrifice. Pause for a moment. Remember.

This Sunday's message is going to be a weekend to talk about how God will redeem the difficult things in our lives. The loss of loved ones. The moments in our days when things seemed to fall apart. Where is He in those moments and how does He bring something of value to those sad times. It is not an easy subject, but one that we must try to find some deep sense of maturity. God is in those moments and works in our aching hearts. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to the family of Alida VerBurg. Please keep their family in your prayers.

## THANK YOU

Community Friends:  
Thank you for your prayers, support, cards and kind expressions of sympathy as our daughter Andrea dealt with cancer the last few years. We are so grateful for Christian friends.

Roger and Cleone Leistra

**"Prayer is intimacy with God that leads to the fulfillment of His purposes."**

**Alvin Reid**

## MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR MAY

### ARISE UKRAINE

Arise! Ukraine is a 501(c)3 non-profit ministry established in 1997 by missionary, Paul Logan. Its purpose is to see Ukraine saturated with living communities of believers where the transforming power of the gospel is reaching every area of society—giving every man, woman and child in the country the opportunity to be reconciled to the Father and to each other.

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

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

## NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Joann Bos (carotid artery surgery)

## ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Bill Klein
- Judy Van Meeteren (knee replacement)
- Sharen Harms (brain surgery recovery)
- Shanda Hays (spinal surgery recovery)
- Daniel Burlingame (infection)
- Ron Hup (total knee replacement surgery 4/16)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn's grandma
- Gracia Harmsen (surgery recovery)
- Caleb Ellwein (knee surgery recovery)
- Gary Van Den Hoek
- Mike Hay's father, Duane
- Joselyn Cleveringa (seizures/testing)
- Daisy Johnston (seizures)
- Gracia Harmsen's dad (esophageal cancer)
- Steve Zimmerman
- Matt Meyer's fiancé Lynnette's dad (tumor)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (cancer)
- Anna Halverson (seizures)
- Melanie Oden's sister, Amber (breast cancer)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Susan Vanden Berg's mom, Marlene (testing)
- Susan Bierwagen's sister, Marlene
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloot
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)

## 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.





## HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY



Hi Everyone!

Vacation Bible School is only about 10 weeks away! Please be sure to mark those evenings on your calendar and invite friends to join the fun. Our theme this year is "Created" and we'll have some exciting zoo-themed adventures together. You won't want to miss the fun. In addition to our usual activities, we'll also have a special visit from the Zoo-mobile from the Great Plains Zoo. They are bringing some unique critters to meet us. Liz has some great music in store for our worship time. The lessons, games, and crafts are all written and I can't wait to see the kids enjoy them.

Now, we need your help! Vacation Bible School is only possible with a big team of volunteers. We need people to lead classes from station to station, people to teach lessons, people to lead the crafts, people to guide the games, and people to make everyone feel welcome. If you are willing to help but not sure what the best place for you might be, send me an email and I'd love to chat about options. We also have some volunteers who have said they are willing to help wherever they are needed most and that is always nice as well. There is a list of volunteer opportunities at the VBS table in the lobby as well as a list online at <https://communityrc.org/vbs>.

Many of the grades still need an adult leader and the game leaders are open as well. The Preschool/ Kindergarten games are a little different because the kids get to do chalk, bubbles, parachute, and a kid-sized obstacle course. It is more of a time to play together than a time for a structured game like the older kids have.

I'd love to have a volunteer or two who are interested in welcoming people at the door, pointing them in the right direction, and filling water cups throughout the night. It is more of a hospitality role than a "kid related" role.

If you want to help set up some of the decorations, please keep an eye out for that as well. We're setting up different "zoo exhibits" around the church with animals so it will be a fun one.

Please pray about how you want to connect with VBS this year, as well as for the kids and families who will be joining us.

Together We'll Learn:

Monday's Big Idea: We are created by God.

Tuesday's Big Idea: We are created for a purpose.

Wednesday's Big Idea: We are created for community.

Thursday's Big Idea: We are created to worship.

See you soon!

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





NEW THIS SUMMER! REFRESH: Weekly gathering of college students and young adults every Sunday at 7pm starting on May 25. Join us for snacks, games, and fellowship.

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## CHURCH SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

Come cheer on the Community co-ed softball team Monday nights at Sherman Park by the Zoo

### Monday, June 2

6:30pm- Diamond B  
8:20pm- Diamond D

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## LOOKING FOR NURSERY VOLUNTEERS!

Come play with the kids at Community! You'll serve only 4 times throughout the year! Email Teresa at [nursery@communityrc.org](mailto:nursery@communityrc.org) or go to 605.church and fill out a form to volunteer.

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## ONGOING MINISTRIES

### SENIOR CITIZENS

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

### FINANCES

Sunday, May 18, 2025

General: \$13,137  
Vision: \$600  
Mission: \$515

General YTD: \$290,767  
Vision YTD: \$15,106  
Vision Account Balance: \$12,610



Congratulations to these 2025 graduates!

These are the people who submitted a picture for the slideshow in church but if you have someone who is graduating and what them on this list, please email [connect@communityrc.org](mailto:connect@communityrc.org).

**Tara Ackerman**

**Tessa Blom**

**Caleb Ellwein**

**JoJo Hanson**

**Lukas Hubbard**

**Holland Kortemeyer**

**Lydia Niessink**

**Ivy Pudwill**

**Kennedy Reindal**

**Zariah Sittig**

**Mya Van Donge**

# ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



Memorial Day weekend is upon us! As I've often said, Memorial Day is one of my favorite holidays all year. I am so thankful we have set aside an entire day to remember those who are no longer with us who dedicated a part (and sometimes the whole) of their lives to defend America. Taking time to remember is a valuable practice. On Memorial Day, I also personally take time to remember my non-military family members who are no longer with us. My mom passed away on May 28. Memorial Day is always very close to that day, and consequently, close to my heart because of her. On Monday, we'll drive back to Burke and walk through the cemetery where we will see Mom's headstone and many others. And we will remember...

This year, I encourage you to take time to remember and thereby be thankful. Here are a few prompts and activities to try if you're struggling to know where to begin. These would also be great do with children or grandchildren.

Take time to remember any stories you may have heard or read from soldiers who fought in wars or who have been deployed overseas. Thank God for their willingness to serve our country in that way. I am always in awe of those who have served so willingly, especially when so many of us have limitations that have prevented us from serving.

Take a trip to a local cemetery. Look for old dates on the gravestones. Think about what life would have been like during those years. How is it different from your life now? What did those people deal with that you don't have to deal with? Thank God for His gracious care of your life and the life of our country. Many countries around the world do not share the same liberties and quality of life that we experience. A quick international trip reveals this truth with ease. We are fortunate to call America home.

Think about how different your life would be if you had been born in another country. You don't even have to think about a 3<sup>rd</sup> world country for this to be an eye-opening experience. How would your life be different if you had been born in Ukraine? France? England? South Africa? Japan? What might your life look like? What would be valuable to you there? Thank God for the life you've been given in America. I recently heard a historian talk about the fact that in today's world, we live even better than kings of the past. Our present-day conveniences would be mind-blowing to a king from even the 1800s. We have MUCH for which to be thankful, especially in America.

And lastly, we also acknowledge that our beautiful, amazing, country is far from perfect, but we each have a role that we can play to bring God's Kingdom to America. Is there something God is asking you to do to help reveal His Kingdom to others? Is there a passion you have that requires action and the help of the Spirit? Will it bring honor and glory to God while also improving the state of things in this exceptional country of ours? Ask God to reveal that work to you, and then to help you do it. I truly believe we all play a part in making this nation great. And we do that to the glory of God, not to the glory of any one person.

No matter how you choose to celebrate Memorial Day, I pray it is a blessed day of remembering.

Have a wonderful week!

Liz

[Liz.Teel@communityrc.org](mailto:Liz.Teel@communityrc.org)

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

**MAY 21, 2025**

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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