

THE COMMUNICATOR

NOVEMBER 27, 2024

THIS WEEK NOV 27 - DEC 4

Wednesday, Nov. 27

7:00pm- Thanksgiving Eve Service

Saturday, Nov. 30

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

Sunday, Dec. 1

**8:00, 9:00 & 10:45AM- Worship Services
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Monday, Dec. 2

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, Dec. 3

9:30-11am- Play Group

Wednesday, Dec. 4

5:30-6:30pm-

Chicken Salad/Taco Salad

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

Middle school youth group

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

Clyde's Update

It is the end of November. Sunday will mark the beginning of December and advent. Christmas time is coming! It is my favorite season of the year in church. The decorating of the trees is going to happen. Kids will be doing their program; the choir will sing. There are carols to sing and all the lights...so many lights. We make a big deal of the coming of the Christ child and we need to do that. I don't mind the overdoing. At least it's some kind of "doing". There are so many things these days where those stories get minimized and sometimes hidden away so well that we hardly notice. I know, it is easy to get distracted by all the extra and one might even argue that all the tinsel takes away from what the season should be about. That's a fair opinion, but for me...let the season ring a little louder than usual. As a church we can remind people what this is all about. God will send the gift of grace in the package of a tiny innocent child, who will one day chose to lay down his life for the sins of the world. His love displayed on a cross like no other could do. I don't mind a little extra noise and glitter for such a message as that. Make a joyful noise! Jesus has arrived!

Our choir is working so hard. It is not easy this year and they are such great workers for us. We have only a couple of rehearsals left, and we have much to get done, but we always make it. I hope you recognize when this all happens, the extra they have put in. I believe it will be a very nice program and one that we all pray will exhibit the joy of the season, as well as, the message behind it all. What was God up to? Why do it like this? We want to bring that message to you in song. We have some extra surprises being worked on as well. I hope everyone can keep their singing voices in good order. Thank you choir for what you are all doing. It matters so much more than you may fully understand. God will use this like he uses so many things.

I mentioned the fundraiser that we are going to be announcing in last week's newsletter. We are still putting the finishing touches on just how we want to roll that out. As I have stated before, the building and grounds are 15+ years old now and we can see some things that need our attention. We are still looking into some possible fix options for some of those at this point, so we don't have perfect figures to work with, but that is being worked on as we speak here. We know the overlay of the parking lot is first on the list. We have a good number to work with on that. We'll stay in touch.

Heather's Christmas program is moving along as well. I have seen some of the video things she has been working on with the kids. It is very clever and very entertaining, and the message is clear. These programs are not easy to put together in a relatively short time and with so many of our kids involved in so many other activities in school and around the community as well. That program is coming up in a couple of weeks. The time is drawing near. Go God Go!

Sunday is the first Sunday of advent and the series continues now into this third section. We have done Jacob; we have done Paul and now it is the coming of Jesus. God's amazing plan is about to be unveiled to a world that will barely notice anything changed. Why would God even bother? Why make this much effort? What is He up to? We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

THE GIVE

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



Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety

Lotion & hair products

Furniture Mission

Dish Towels, towels, king/queen bedding sets

The Banquet

Coffee

Sanford Children's Christmas Closet

Toys for all aged children



JON & GRACIA HARMSSEN

The past few weeks have been quite crazy for the Harmsen family. Gracia's health has been in a tough spot the past 6 months. She's had countless surgeries and they are still looking for answers.

Please surround this family in your prayers.

If you'd like to give financially to help cover some of their medical costs, please make checks out to Jon & Gracia Harmsen. Checks or cash can be dropped off in the church office.

.....

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Anne Munce (who does signing at the 9 am service) and her family. Anne's brother passed away.

Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

.....

"The power of prayer is truly transformational."
(Daniel Henderson)

SAVE THE DATE: SEEK

Transformational Worship-based Prayer Adventure
For the whole family!

April 12, 2025

(More information to come in January 2025)

**In need of prayer or want to
share your prayer request?**
Email Pastor John at prayerline@communityrc.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Jan Sturing's son, Matt (surgery)
- Matt Meyer's fiancé Lynnette's dad (brain tumor)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Gracia Harmsen
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Terry & Dree Mayer's son-in-law, Tony
- Cory Carlson-Himes (shoulder surgery)
- Karen Odens (broken femur)
- Steve Lee (lung transplant recovery)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Harlan Van Meeteren (infection)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (cancer)
- Merlin Klein
- JoAnn Hanssen
- Anna Halverson (seizures)
- Caleb Ellwein (knee stress fracture)
- Melanie Oden's sister, Amber (breast cancer)
- Kim Becker (high risk pregnancy)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Ryan Kortemeyer (lymphoma)
- Susan Vanden Berg's mom, Marlene (testing)
- Daniel Burlingame's mom, Esther
- Dennis VerHey (accident recovery)
- Tony & Spring (healthy pregnancy)
- Susan Bierwagen's sister, Marlene
- Evita Attema's sister, Lilli (cancer)
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Junella Wesselink's sister (cancer)
- Aaralyn Van Der Slood
- 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



Happy Thanksgiving, everyone! I hope you're all able to spend time with friends and family this week and take time to thank God for His abundant gifts to us. This time of year, I always think of James 1:17, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." EVERY good and perfect gift comes from God, who is never changing! I love that because it reminds me that even the simplest good things are from the Father's hand. I invite you to look for the little things this week and give thanks for them!

We have several holiday events coming up in the next weeks.

The women's WD40 group will be having our annual Christmas gathering on December 2 at 7:00pm. This is open to women of all ages. If you'd like to join us, here are the details for the event:

- If you want, you are welcome to bring a plate of goodies to share that evening.
- We will also be doing a small gift exchange. We are asking that the gifts be "consumable," meaning they can be used up. Bring the gift wrapped for the exchange and be as creative as you want with what you give! Consumables include things like toilet paper, soap, lotion, dinner napkins, hairspray, apples, candy, etc. Just anything that can be used up!
- We are also collecting donations for the St. Frances House. Some of the things they are desperately in need of are shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste (but not toothbrushes), men's and women's deodorant, Tampax (but not pads), and hairbrushes.
- We'll be doing a fun game for the gift exchange, and I'll have a short devotional as well. Join us!

The choir concerts are scheduled for December 15 at the 9:00 and 10:45 services. As I have said in the past, this is a great Sunday to invite a friend to church. We'll be singing lots of Christmas carols, and it's a truly festive day of celebration. I hope you can join us!

We just solidified the Christmas Eve service times too. This year, we'll be doing our Christmas Eve Communion services at 2:00 and 4:00pm, with nursery care available at the 2:00 service. We do need just a few volunteers for that 2:00 service in the nursery. If you're willing to help out (no diaper changes either! 😊), please let me know!

And lastly, I do want to mention that we only have 2 Mid-Week gatherings during the month of December. We meet December 4 and 11, but we take off December 18, 25, and January 1 for the holidays. Please plan accordingly. 😊

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

ONGOING MINISTRIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, **Dec. 9** 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

JOY CIRCLE LUNCHEON

Wednesday, Dec. 18th
Noon
All Day Cafe
Meet in the private room
RSVP to Char: 605-366-1341

.....

WD40 CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Monday, Dec. 2nd
7:00-8:00pm**

Open to women of all ages. You are welcome to bring a plate of goodies to share. We will also be doing a small gift exchange. We are asking that the gifts be "consumable," meaning they can be used up. Bring the gift wrapped for the exchange. Consumables include things like toilet paper, soap, lotion, dinner napkins, hairspray, apples, candy, etc.

We are also collecting donations for the St. Francis House. Some of the things they are desperately in need of are shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste (but not toothbrushes), men's and women's deodorant, Tampax, and hairbrushes.



HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY

Hi Everyone!

Reminder: We don't have Sunday School on December 1. We take that Sunday off to allow volunteers to have the weekend off to travel for Thanksgiving if they so desire. On November 27 we won't have Midweek classes for kids because we have the Thanksgiving Eve service.

The kids Christmas Program is just a few weeks away. Parents, please help your kids practice their songs and group speaking parts. All of the practice parts and songs are at: <https://communityrc.org/christmas>
The program is on December 8 at 3:30pm.
K-5 kids should arrive at 2:30pm in the Sanctuary.
Preschool kids should come at 3pm in the Kids Wing.

We've had some great time together in Sunday School and Midweek recently. The third-grade class (picture below) learned about Daniel and how Daniel and his friends experienced some very unexpected things in their lives. They were even called by different names. The kids used a map and some yarn to understand more about the real-life events that happened. For kids, it is important to have frequent reminders that what we read in the Bible is more than just stories. It is true and real. Using all 5 of our senses helps with that so we try to incorporate lessons that give chances to touch, smell, see, feel, and/or taste parts of the story.

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



JOIN OUR TEAM
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
TO HELP WITH THE K-5 KIDS
WORK 5:45PM-7:45PM

Our current staffing team is doing great and everyone is learning and having fun, but with more kids this year, we need more help.

Community hires paid staff for this position to allow parents to attend classes, rather than volunteering in the Kids Wing. It is good for kids to see their parents committed to learning and growing in their relationship with Jesus!

Make a difference and make some cash.
Teach fun, engaging, hands on Bible lessons to K-5 kids at church.

Email: Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org to apply or with questions.

MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER

LUNCH IS SERVED

Lunch Is Served is a nonprofit organization with the unique mission of delivering simple sack lunches for working men and women who are attempting to break the chains of poverty and hunger.

Thanksgiving Service will also be live-streamed.

THANKSGIVING EVE

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27 | 7:00PM

SERVICE

early childhood weekday

Play Free Group

All are welcome

TUESDAYS
9:30-11:00AM

Parents/ Grandparents/ Caregivers and Kids younger than Kindergarten age will join together for open play time in the Community Nursery as they enjoy time together.
Questions? Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org or 605-336-1475

.....

FINANCES

Sunday, November 24, 2024

General: \$12,023
Vision: \$4,050
Missions: \$200
Wednesday Night: \$316

General YTD: \$825,915
Vision YTD: \$60,493
Vision Account Balance: \$25,933

.....

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICES

DECEMBER 24TH
2:00 & 4:00PM

Join us as we celebrate our Savior's birth!

Nursery for infant-5 years olds provided for the 2:00pm service.

2:00pm service will also be live-streamed.

Community Kids

Christmas Program

December 8, 2024
3:30pm

SAVE!
THE DATES



**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

NOVEMBER 27, 2024

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

John Thornton

Part-time Visitation Pastor
prayerline@communityrc.org

Holli Jans

Communications Coordinator
connect@communityrc.org

Heather DeWit

Director of Children's Ministries
heather.dewit@communityrc.org

Doyle Burnside

Senior High & Middle School Youth Director
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

Teresa Lipp

Part-Time Nursery Director
nursery@communityrc.org

Lisa Blankers

Part-Time Financial Administrator
accounting@communityrc.org

Josiah Dunlap

Part-Time IT Coordinator