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Bible Passage of the Month

Matthew 16:29-33

Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech."³⁰ Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God."

³¹ "Do you now believe?" Jesus replied. ³² "A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

³³ "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

A New Year's Plan

I tried to think of a clever new phrase—
A slogan to inspire the next 365 days,
A motto to live by this coming New Year,
But the catchy words fell flat to my ear.

And then I heard His still small voice
Saying, "Consider this simple, daily choice:
With each new dawn and close of day
Make new your resolve to trust and obey."

"Don't look back, caught in regret
Or dwell on the sorrow of dreams unmet;
Don't stare forward anchored by fear,
No, live in this moment, for I Am here."

"I am all you need. Everything. I Am.
You are held secure by my strong hand.
Give me this one thing—your all in all;
Into my grace, let yourself fall."

So, at last, I'm ready; I see the way.
It's to daily follow, trust, and obey.
I enter the New Year armed with a plan,
To give Him my everything—all that I am.

--Mary Fairchild

24 Hours of Prayer

Please join us in prayer by signing up for a one-hour time slot starting this Saturday, January 6, at 7:00 a.m. until Sunday, January 7, at 7:00 a.m. You can sign up on the church website under events.

Family Mailboxes

These will be updated soon. Call the church office (616-837-8949) if you would like a mailbox and do not currently have one. Also, please check your family mailboxes periodically. Mailboxes have items waiting to be picked up.

Campers

The church will pay half of the summer camp fee for kids who regularly attend and are actively involved. Call the office (616-837-8949) for the required Camp Geneva voucher code.

Women's Quilting Group

We meet the second Friday of the month from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. Come and go as your schedule permits to sew, knit, and crochet for missions.

S.A.L.T. Events

Join us for the movie *Sound of Freedom* and dessert on Wednesday, January 10, at 1:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. Sign up on the sheet in the library. On Wednesday, February 14, we will have a soup lunch, dessert and games in the Activity Center.

ChristAid International

If you sponsor a grandma or student through ChristAid International and would like them to receive a picture of you, give a 4x6 size or smaller photograph (unframed) to Carol Riemersma or put in her family mailbox in the lobby. Be sure to print your name and the name of your sponsored person on the back of the photo. Deadline: Sunday, January 14. These will be delivered in February to the mission in Uganda.

W.O.W.

Our Worship on Wednesday (W.O.W.) continues from 6:00-8:00 p.m. All kids ages 4-5th grade are welcome to join us for a time of worship, fun, and most importantly, learning about Jesus.

Sisters By the Sea is a collection of four stories each featuring one of the resilient Lambright sisters, Leora, Violet, Francine and Alana. Set in the village of Pinecraft in southwest Florida, each sister has their own reason for moving to Florida from their more familiar and traditional Amish communities in Indiana. This book was written by Wanda Brunstetter, Jean Brunstetter, Richelle Brunstetter and Loring Brunstetter Van Corbach, with each one writing about one of the Lambright sisters.

Facing the Enemy by Diann Mills is a super suspenseful novel and difficult to put down once you start reading. When the long-awaited reunion between Risa and her brother, Trenton, ends in tragedy, Risa is riddled with guilt, unable to cope with the responsibility she feels over his death. On leave from the FBI, Risa returns to her former career as an English teacher at a local college, only to see her past and present collide when one of her students, Carson Mercury, turns in an assignment that reads like an eyewitness account of her brother's murder, with details never revealed publicly. Alarmed by Carson's inside knowledge of Trenton's death, Risa reaches out to her former partner at the FBI. Special Agent Gage Patterson has been working on a string of baby kidnappings, but he agrees to help look into Carson's background. Risa and Gage soon discover their cases might be connected as a string of high-value thefts have occurred at properties where security systems were installed by Carson's stepfather and children have gone missing. There's a far more sinister plot at play than they ever imagined and innocent lives are in danger.

Trace of Doubt by DiAnn Mills will keep you guessing and read this one with the lights on! Did Shelby Pearce go to prison for a crime she didn't commit? Does she know the whereabouts of the \$500,000 that is missing from her brother-in-law's account? Is FBI agent Denton McClure a friend or foe? Fifteen years ago, Shelby Pearce confessed to murdering her brother-in-law and was sent to prison. Now she's out on parole and looking for a fresh start in the small town of Valleysburg, Texas. But starting over won't be easy for an ex-con. FBI Special Agent Denton McClure was a rookie fresh out of Quantico when he was first assigned the Pearce case. He's always believed Shelby embezzled five hundred thousand dollars from her brother-in-law's account. So, he's going undercover to befriend Shelby, track down the missing money, and finally crack this case. But as Denton gets closer to Shelby, he begins to have a trace of doubt about her guilt. Someone has Shelby in their crosshairs. It's up to Denton to stop them before they silence Shelby—and the truth—forever. You will encounter some surprising twists as you try to figure everything out in this suspenseful novel. Diann Mills is an edge of your seat writer. Her stories have a good message of how God works in all situations, but these books aren't for those who are bothered by high suspense.

Directory: A new printed church directory will be prepared this month. If you have any changes in address, phone number, or family member listing, please call the church office (616-837-8949) by Friday, January 5. We would like to include all regular attenders; please let us know if you are not currently listed and would like to be. Note: Please let us know if you want cell phone numbers and/or email addresses included in your listing.

Offering Envelopes: The boxes of 2024 offering envelopes are in family mailboxes in the church's main lobby. This is also a good time to look into online giving if you would like to save a step. Thank you for your continued financial support this year and please see a deacon if you have any questions. If you no longer use the offering envelopes, please return them to the church office so they may be reassigned. If you currently do not have envelopes but would like to use them, call the church office (616-837-8949) or email tami@coopersvillereformed.com.

Love Link: If you would like to be added to the email list to receive this monthly newsletter, please call the church office or email heather@coopersvillereformed.com.

Family Celebration Update

Elders Affirmed: Pete Mast, Wade Wiltenburg, Tim Wurm. (three-year terms)

Deacons Affirmed: Mark Baker, Paul Bialas, Craig Busman. (three-year terms)

The proposed budget for 2024 was approved as presented.

The Ordination and Installation of new Elders and Deacons will be on January 7, 2024, at both morning services.

A very heartfelt *thank you* goes out to the past Consistory members and to the incoming new members. Your sacrifice and service to God is a blessing.

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- 4 Ezra Langeland, Jenna Van Klompenberg**
6 Tresa Sparkles
9 Diane Rozema
11 Lisa Rosel, Ethan Saigeon
**12 Tara Bosch, Michelle Budai, Judith Bouwman, Jacob Hill,
Mark Mol, David Vander Ark**
14 Norma Busman
16 Peter Bassette, Samuel Bassette, Ava DeVries
17 Staci Lamsma, Julie Neumann, Kathy Van Klompenberg
18 Kylee Bennink, Tom Harsay
19 Casey Van Antwerpen, Curt Visser
22 Peterson Keller, Laureen Mayeaux, Kaitlyn Tibbe
23 Robert McEachen, Kevin Wieringa
24 Naomi Smoes
25 Jody Baker, Zoe Cheadle
27 Mary Bialas, Sidney Kooistra
30 Connie Clauson, Lynda Johnson, Owen Schoolcraft, Steve Sunde
31 Grace Lorenz, Kalene Sietsema

Servant's Page

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Nursery

		9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
January 7	Infant Toddler	Danielle Poliski Mary Baird	Amber Vander Tuin April DeMull, Hannah Vander Tuin
January 14	Infant Toddler	Casey Van Antwerpen Mary Baird	Amber Vander Tuin LeighAnn DeVries, Onna DeVries
January 21	Infant Toddler	Shelly Visser Mary Baird	Amber Vander Tuin Pete Mast, Olivia Vander Tuin
January 28	Infant Toddler	Tami Schoolcraft, Owen Schoolcraft Mary Baird	Amber Vander Tuin Trisha Schippers, Jo Van Dop

Little Tykes

		9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
January 7	Leader Helpers	Doug Casler Samantha Ulven	Amanda Casler Michaela Courson, Kyren DeVries
January 14	Leader Helpers	Doug Casler Samantha Ulven	Amanda Casler Addy Keller, Reagan Schippers
January 21	Leader Helpers	Doug Casler Samantha Ulven	Amanda Casler Anya Dyk, Addie Dyk
January 28	Leader Helpers	Doug Casler Samantha Ulven	Amanda Casler Isaac DeVries, Michaela Courson

Greeters

		Back of Sanctuary	Lobby
January 7	9:00 a.m.	Jim Hanenburg	Scott & Tami Schoolcraft
January 14	9:00 a.m.	Rodney & LeaAnn Tibbe	Jon & Shelly Visser
January 21	9:00 a.m.	Janet Kuperus & Sharon Ozinga	Janet Buist
January 28	9:00 a.m.	Ellen Rozema & Ruth Hendricks	Staci Mihalek

Coffee Fellowship

January 7	Lynda Johnson, Deb Mauk, Marcia Draft, JoAnn Maki
January 14	Beth Baron, Evonne Erhorn, Mary Bialas, Tonya Lemmen, Karen Stewart
January 21	Jody Baker, Judy McPherson, Staci Mihalek, Lisa Wiltenburg, Tracy Kooistra
January 28	Amanda Casler, LeaAnn Tibbe, Carol Riemersma, Julie Palma, Karen Lemmen

Calendar of Events

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January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
	<i>Office Closed</i>	<i>Office Closed</i>	<i>Office Closed</i>			
<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship 6:00-8:00 pm Women's Bible Study 6:00-8:00 pm One Way	10:00 am S.A.L.T Bible Study	6:00-7:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir of Praise Practice	1:00 pm S.A.L.T. Event 6:00 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time 6:45 pm The	6:30-8:00 pm Crossroads	9:00 a.m.-2:00 pm Women's Work Bee	
<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship 6:00-8:00 pm One Way	10:00 am S.A.L.T Bible Study	6:00-7:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir of Praise Practice	6:00 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time 6:45 pm The Vineyard	6:30-8:00 pm Crossroads		
<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship 6:00-8:00 pm Women's Bible Study 6:00-8:00 pm One Way	10:00 am S.A.L.T Bible Study	6:00-7:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir of Praise Practice	6:00 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time 6:45 pm The Vineyard	6:30-8:00 pm Crossroads		
<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>			
9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship 6:00-8:00 pm One Way	10:00 am S.A.L.T Bible Study	6:00-7:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir of Praise Practice	6:00 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time 6:45 pm The Vineyard			

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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