



THE COMMUNICATOR

APRIL 26, 2023

PRAYER MINISTRY

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.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Bishop Dudley House
The Bishop Dudley Hospitality House offers a warm, safe and secure place to start the road back to a more stable, long-term way of living.

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

We are into the last few days of April and although we saw some warm days this month, it is not feeling much like spring yet. We are all waiting on that. One of these days, it will be more like spring, but I'm not sure when that is going to happen. It has been one of those winters that doesn't seem to want to let go. We will all make it! I'm ready for some more green to show and just a little more spring like temps. I know we all are.

Sunday morning, we did our selection of the new Elders and Deacons. The slate of candidates was great, so no matter how the selection process went, we were going to get six great people. Our new Elders are Harvey Odens, Doug Harms, and Darren Ellwein. Our new Deacons are Tyler Wolf, Sean Fantroy, and Eric Van Donge. I want to thank all the candidates for saying yes to the process. It sure makes things go so much better when people are willing to give of their time. I have all the confidence in the world that these gentlemen will do their absolute best for us. They are joining a great team. Those leaving Consistory this year are Robin Niewenhuis, Joel Blankers, Shawn Blom, Logan Veurink, Steve Bonnema, Duane Niewenhuis. Thanks to all of them for a job well done.

Joyce Tarrell has decided to retire from playing piano at the 8am service. Joyce has been a major part of that service for a long time and now her health things are putting a strain on her playing. She said it was time to step down from that. We will all miss her. We are very blessed to have lots of great players around here that spoil us with their talents. Those players give a lot for us and it doesn't go unnoticed by this pastor. It's usually 50 weekends every year that they get things ready and bring their talents to us. It's a big commitment. I, for one, will miss Joyce's playing because she had a way of playing those old hymns that kept the songs moving and always having a good feel to them. Her style is her own and I certainly am going to miss that. She was a big part of that service! Thanks, Joyce, for your many years of playing! With that said, we are looking for someone to fill that position. If you know of someone who might be looking to do that, let me know. I am on the search.

Next week, May 4th, is National Day of Prayer. We will have the church open all day for those who want to stop in and pray in the chapel, if you wish. I am going to plan a prayer time that evening at 7pm. It will not be long and there isn't much of an agenda attached, but I feel like it would be good to gather a few of us together and pray together. If you would like to join me, stop out and spend some time giving thanks, offering praise, and seeking God's direction for the coming year.

In this week's message I am going to take the time to talk about other treasures in our lives. It will be a little detour from the series in some ways, but I feel it is a good time to talk about the many treasures we have in our lives that really do matter. With graduation coming up and Mother's Day not too far away, it seems right to remember the many valuable things we have in our lives that help to shape us. It will be a day to celebrate those treasures. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!



National Day of Prayer- Thursday, May 4th

CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FROM 7AM-7PM FOR ANYONE WANTING TO COME PRAY IN THE CHAPEL
7:00PM- COMMUNITY PRAYER TIME



GRADUATION PICTURES

We'll celebrate our graduates on Sunday, May 21st!
Parents- if you have a grad that you'd like to highlight,
please send a photo to doyle
(doyle.burnside@communityrc.org) by May 17th.

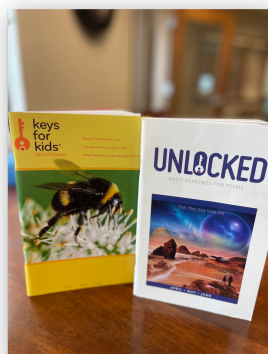
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**THANK
YOU!**

We are so thankful to Sheri Brouwer
for serving as our Nursery Director
for the last 12 years.

She is resigning at the end
of May and we'd like to celebrate her.
Join us on Sunday, May 7th to thank
her for all she has done in the nursery.
And what's a celebration without
donut holes!

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Pick up your free devotional booklets in the library anytime.
We carry three devotions (Today, Words of Hope, Upper Room)
in both regular and LARGE print. We also have devotions for
both kids (Keys for Kids) and teens (Unlocked).

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, April 26

6:00-7:00pm- Meal for High School
Youth Group
7:00-8:30- High School Youth Group

Saturday, April 29

7:00am- Prayer Ministry
10:00AM- AA

Sunday, April 30

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45AM- Worship Service
10:05am- Sunday School
5:00pm- Game & Pie Night

Monday, May 1

6:30pm & 7:25pm- Church Softball @
Sherman Park (Diamond D)
7:00pm- Wired Word
7:00pm- WD40

Tuesday, May 2

9:30-11am- Play Group

Wednesday, May 3

6:00-7:00pm- Meal for High School Youth
Group
7:00-8:30- High School Youth Group

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AA BIG BOOK MEETING

AA meeting via Zoom or in person at the
church on Saturday mornings at 10am.
Please contact Tom Jacobs
(tjstonegate@gmail.com) for meeting
access.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday,
May 8 at noon at the East 10th
Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie
Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

BOOK CLUBS

The morning book club will meet on
Wednesday, May 17, at 9 am at the Bagel
Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing
The Silent Patient.

The evening book club will meet on
Tuesday, May 16, at 7 pm at the church. We
will be discussing And Then There Were
None.

DOYLES'S UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



We are heading into May next week which is so hard to believe. It also means that summer schedules are filling up and most students are so ready for the end of the school year to be here. The summer events/schedule for Youth group is also getting set up. I want to highlight a few things coming up here in May.

First, is our middle school event in May. I had entered the wrong date on the calendar that was sent out to parents as I overlooked Mother's Day! So on Sunday, May 21st, we will be have a night of lawn games here at church from 6:30-8:00. 9 square in the air, bean bags, ladder golf and others will be set up as we enjoy a night together as a middle school group.

Also on the 21st, we will be recognizing our senior class with a slide show during church services. If you have a current senior and would like to be included, please send in a photo along with plans for next year to my email by Wednesday, May 17th.

Finally, on Wednesday, May 31st, we will be have a "School's Out Grill Out" at church for both middle and high school students. We will be hanging out at church from 6:00-8:00 to celebrate the start of summer. Come for some fun large group games, small group challenges and great food as we kick the summer off together.

That's it for this week. If you have any questions about the youth ministry here at Community feel free to reach out anytime.

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

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FINANCES

Sunday, April 23, 2023

General: \$11,271
Vision: \$1,190
Missions: \$255
Library: \$100
Sunday School: \$15

General YTD: \$253,823
Vision YTD: \$21,132
Vision Account Balance: \$27,843

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Kyle Wigg (liver transplant recovery)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Leah Reuwsaat's mom, Marie
- Rick Hansen (neck pain)
- Jeff Veltkamp (shoulder surgery)
- Joe Johnson (traveling to China)
- Verle Valentine (hip surgery recovery)
- Marv Sturing (new chemo for cancer)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloom
- Carrie Valentine (fractured ankle/foot)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Angie Bonnema's dad (whipple surgery)
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Cherri Price (ongoing chemo)
- Glenda Van Den Hoek
- Nicole Ryan (deployed for 6 months)
- Gina Jean Baptiste- teacher from Frederique school in Haiti (amputated leg & lost pregnancy after accident)
- Karen Johnson (heart issues)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris (surgery recovery)
- Randi Van Der Sloom (cancer treatments)
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Steve Lee (lung transplant postponed)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (transplant recovery)
- Marcia Groeneweg's daughter, Rhonda (chemo)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Darla Anderson's friend, Vonnie (cancer)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad (skin & muscle graft)
- Harvey & Karen Odens' great niece, Lydia (cancer)

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Dane & Becky Olsen on the birth of their son, Barrett, on April 23rd!

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Marcia Groeneweg and her family in the passing of her brother-in-law who had Leukemia. He was Mark's uncle. Please keep the family in your prayers.



KID'S MINISTRY

HEATHER'S UPDATE

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are having a great week. I'm having fun working on Vacation Bible School and getting things prepared for Sunday School next year. I know that all sounds early, but it is helpful for me to get a jump on planning because then I can have extra time to watch for bargains on supplies and do some of the prep work so that volunteers have a little less to do when they come. I'm so excited to see how the kids respond to VBS this year. It is shaping up to be a fun one. I am hoping we all make some new discoveries, new friends, and meet Jesus in a new way this summer. Please join us if you can and bring friends. I'll let you in on the inside info that there will be a bit of an entertaining "perk" if we bring friends to VBS this year. July 24-27 is sneaking up quickly and I want to be sure everyone can include VBS in summer planning. Christmas in July is going to be 4 days of fun memory making Jesus party excitement!

We have decided that our offering this year for VBS will be for furnishing homes for displaced people in Ukraine. I'm excited about this because I think the kids will really be able to connect with the idea of a bed for someone to sleep in, or a chair to sit in. It will also make an enormous impact for the people impacted by the war in Ukraine.

Please sign up to volunteer. We have many volunteer slots left. We would also like a good estimate of how many kids will be attending this year, so please enroll your kids. We shortened the sign-up process this year to make it even easier, so please take 2-3 minutes and let us know you are IN! <https://communityrc.org/vbs>

Please continue to pray for our Sunday School teachers and children as we finish the year well. There is a lot of important learning to be done before we wrap up on May 7, 2023.

Speaking of prayer, the National Day of Prayer is on May 4. This is a great opportunity to establish some new traditions in your family or simply to focus on prayer. I love to hear kids talk about how important it is to talk with God all throughout their day and a special day can sometimes kick start that mindset for a child. If you can make time, maybe a new annual tradition of prayer and donuts (or a healthy breakfast) before school could be fun and meaningful.

See you soon!

-Heather

Heather DeWit

Director of Children's Ministry

(605)336-1475

Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org



**APPLY
NOW**

NURSERY COORDINATORS

**HIRING NURSERY COORDINATORS FOR SUNDAY
MORNINGS AND WEDNESDAY NIGHTS.**

**THIS POSITION HAS FLEXIBLE HOURS
AND IS PAID HOURLY.**

**IF THIS JOB INTERESTS YOU, PLEASE LET US KNOW BY
EMAILING: HEATHER.DEWIT@COMMUNITYRC.ORG**



LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

As we move into our late spring schedules at Community, there are just a few things I'd like to make sure I mention.

The women's discipleship group, WD <40>, will have our last spring meeting on May 1 at 7:00pm after which point, we'll take a break during the summer months and resume in the fall. Please remember this group is open to women of all ages. We meet in the fellowship hall at church, and I honor your time by making sure our meetings are finished by 8:00pm. There's no need to RSVP. If you'd like to join us, just come!

On a similar note, the men's discipleship group will be meeting on May 8 at 7:00pm. I'm still in conversation with John Blok, the leader of this men's group, as to whether or not they'll be meeting over the summer months. I'll be sure to keep everyone posted as those decisions are made.

Heather and I have started to put the hammer to the heavy work of VBS! Please keep in mind that it helps us when you register early for VBS. That way we can know how many supplies to order as well as how to best divide the groups of kids and how many teachers and helpers we'll need. You can register a number of different ways; QR code, online, at the table in the church lobby, or by emailing Heather at Heather.DeWitt@communityrc.org. We're excited to do Christmas in July with the kids this summer! It's going to be a powerful week! VBS dates are July 24-27. We'll also need many adults to volunteer during the week. If you'd like to help out, please check in with Heather! She is well organized and makes volunteering as easy as possible. I promise you'll have a great time!

And lastly, I'd like to offer a gentle reminder to everyone to try to avoid the temptation to fill every summer minute with activities. Right now, you're probably being inundated with opportunities for your kids. Don't forget that often the best memories and experiences are spontaneous. And if you over-plan, you won't have time to be spontaneous. For the sake of your kids' and your own personal mental health, try to back off on the heavy scheduling this year. OK? I know it's a challenge, but it's not impossible. And I'm a firm believer that slowing down leads to blessing. Give it a try this summer!

Have a wonderful week, friends.

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org



WANTED: CAMP COUNSELORS!

Inspiration Hills is asking for your help in praying for and finding individuals 18 years or older to serve as summer camp counselors! With over 1,000 campers already registered and ever-growing waitlist, more counselors are needed to lead them. If someone you know might be interested in a summer of service and adventure at camp, please encourage them to check out inspirationhills.org, call the main office, or directly email the program director at lucas@inspirationhills.org for more information.