



THE COMMUNICATOR

AUG 16, 2023

Weekly Calendar

AUG 16 - AUG 23

Saturday, Aug 19

7:00am- Prayer Ministry

10:00AM- AA (via Zoom)

See details page 2 for details

Sunday, Aug 20

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45AM- Worship Service

10:10am- Adult Sunday School

Tuesday, Aug 22

9:30-11am- Play Group

YOU
BELONG
HERE

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

We are moving past the middle of August, and I know there are a number of schools that will be starting this week in the area. I know, it doesn't seem possible that we are at that point in the year, but here we are. Drive with an eye on the little ones in that early morning time. They will be out and about again. With that, also means that many of you are going to find your schedules getting changed and lots of things now involving school functions. I know the feeling! I still remember the beginning of the school year. It was exciting and filled with the questions of how the year will progress. I wish for everyone a good start to the school year! Summer is still here though. It sounds like the weekend might be a little on the warm side. Yes, it is still August out there friends and the heat is not done. The rain has been amazing, and things look so green right now. We have really been blessed this summer with some timely rains. Thankful.

Sunday was a good day with communion and all. That is always a special time. It really goes smoothly with everyone being able to just have it right there and ready to go. Change is not always easy, but sometimes a person finds that there really can be some benefits that we learn along the new path. It was a great day of celebrating who Jesus is to us. He is an extraordinary Savior. We celebrate that.

Fall things are coming. That means Block Party Sunday, first day of Sunday school day, MidWeek, Christmas choir, and so many other things that get going in the next few weeks. We would love to see some new faces in all the activities. Maybe this is your year to teach a class in Sunday school or getting involved in the choir. Think that over a bit. Life gets away pretty fast friends, and we only get so many seasons. They are valuable moments. Take advantage of them. It is a gift!

Our family has been doing a little music playing in the area this month. This coming weekend we are going to be down in Lester, Iowa doing a little music during their celebration. We are going to be providing some music while the folks are having some good BBQ. We enjoy playing and making some good music. It can get a little warm at times and the humidity can make things challenging, but it is a part of our lives that we do. I would say things like that are gifts too. We take advantage of that when we can. I know many of you do things with your families as well. Things that are a tradition. Things that are special to you. Moments that you spend making a difference for each other. There is something to be said for spending that kind of time with each other. I would add once again, these are gifts. Enjoy them!

Sunday's message will come from the 19th verse of Chapter 12 in Romans. It is a simple verse that talks about giving God a chance to work in our lives. There is a little more to it than just that, but at least that is the basic idea. I want to work with that a little on Sunday morning. We often don't consider first what God can do about things. We get impatient and do things for ourselves or sometimes we might just give up thinking it is just too much to handle. Have you considered what God can do? We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

KICKOFF SUNDAY BLOCK PARTY

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 10
11:45-2:00pm

CATERED MEAL & INFLATABLES

SUNDAY
SCHOOL
STARTS
September 24



 **COMMUNITY KIDS**
NURSERY
August Theme:

**Jesus
Loves
Me**

ONGOING MINISTRIES

..... 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

The Banquet

..... AA BIG BOOK MEETING

For the summer months, AA will be meeting via Zoom on Saturdays at 10:00am.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467618339?pwd=N1Niems0MG5vdk0reVZUTHlIWkgxZz09>

Please contact Tom Jacobs
(tjstonegate@gmail.com) for meeting access.

..... SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, Sept. 11 at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

Thank You

It's been 2 months since Marv left his home on earth, and entered into God's presence. Marv & I experienced God's peace even before he died.

I want to thank you for holding our family up in prayer. I can still feel the support and love of this congregation. You have been comforting me and my family for a long time - through multiple hospitalizations, good Mayo reports and bad. And then Hospice care. You've been generous in encouragement and physical support by bringing food and attending to tasks that we could not handle anymore.

I am still getting used to the, "new normal". I did not anticipate the whirlwind of activity that follows the death of a spouse. It became a full-time job for many weeks that has slowed to part-time. I find myself wishing to tell him things or ask him things. I want to tell him good jokes that I just read - he'd have loved to tell them at Thursday morning breakfasts. Please continue prayer support for my family and me. And thanks again.

-Jan Sturing

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Carolyn Odens (foot surgery)
- Chuck & Joyce Tarrell (recovery from car accident)
- Clarideth Kingsbury (cellulitis)
- Randi Van Der Sloom (cancer treatments)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Carrie Valentine (ankle surgery)
- Stuart Schouten (Parkinson's disease)
- Brad and Janelle Ellis' grandson, Bear (open heart surgery recovery)
- Betty Kelley (heart stents)
- Jon & Jane Klemme's son, Josh (heart valve replacement 7/11)
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Junella Wesselink's sister (cancer)
- Kathy Klein
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Kyle Wigg (liver transplant recovery)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Leah Reuwsaat's mom, Marie
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloom
- Angie Bonnema's dad
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Steve Lee (awaiting lung transplant)
- 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)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad



THE GIVE

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

St. Francis House
New Flip Flops

The Banquet:
New Food Storage Containers

Ronald McDonald House
To-go snacks, hamburger helper, spaghetti

McCrossan Boy's Ranch:
leather work gloves, twin XL sheets

NEW

HEATHER'S UPDATE

KID'S MINISTRY

Hi Everyone!

Plan to join us for Sunday School, beginning on September 24.

We still need many teachers and helpers.

Sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/49t5tkw4>

Here are the themes for Sunday School this year:

Preschool: Jesus Loves Me- John 3:16

Kindergarten: Together- Psalm 34:3

1st Grade: Adventure- Psalm 16:11

2nd Grade: Surprised- Isaiah 55:8-9

3rd Grade: Fearless- Isaiah 41:10

4th Grade: Protected- Armor of God

5th Grade: Grow- Matthew 13

Here are some dates to get your calendar going for fall here at church:

- Community Block Party- September 10 after church
- First day of Sunday School this fall- September 24, 2023
- Start of Midweek- October 4, 2023

Heather DeWit

Children's Ministry

605-336-1475

heather.dewit@communityrc.org

JESUS LOVES ME

TOGETHER

Glorify the LORD with me;
let us exalt his name
together.
Psalms 34:3 NIV

ADVENTURE

YOU ALWAYS SHOW ME THE
PATH OF LIFE. YOU WILL FILL
ME WITH JOY WHEN I AM
WITH YOU.
YOU WILL MAKE ME HAPPY
FOREVER AT
YOUR RIGHT HAND.

PROTECTED

PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD
THE BELT OF TRUTH
THE BREASTPLATE OF
RIGHTEDNESS
THE GOSPEL OF PEACE
THE SHIELD OF FAITH
THE HELMET OF SALVATION
THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT
THE WORD OF GOD
AND PRAY IN THE SPIRIT ON
ALL OCCASIONS WITH ALL
KINDS OF PRAYERS AND
REQUESTS.

SURPRISED

FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR
THOUGHTS, NEITHER ARE YOUR WAYS MY
WAYS, DECLARES THE LORD. FOR AS THE
HEAVENS ARE HIGHER THAN THE EARTH, SO
ARE MY WAYS HIGHER THAN YOUR WAYS AND
MY THOUGHTS THAN YOUR THOUGHTS.
ISAIAH 55:8-9

GROW

BUT THE SEED FALLING ON GOOD SOIL REFERS TO SOMEONE WHO HEARS THE
WORD AND UNDERSTANDS IT. THIS IS THE ONE WHO PRODUCES A CROP,
YIELDING A HUNDRED, SIXTY OR THIRTY TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN.
MATTHEW 13:23

FEARLESS

SO DO NOT FEAR. FOR I AM WITH YOU;
DO NOT BE DISMAYED. FOR I AM YOUR GOD.
I WILL STRENGTHEN YOU AND HELP YOU;
I WILL UPHOLD YOU WITH MY RIGHTEOUS RIGHT HAND.
ISAIAH 41:10 NIV



LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

This week I'd like to share a few more book recommendations for those of you who might be looking for some good fall reading!

My first recommendation is "The Kingdom New Testament – A Contemporary Translation" by N.T. Wright. I'm a big fan of N.T. Wright's books, so when I learned that he had taken time to write and publish his translation of the New Testament, I immediately ordered it. What I love about his translation is that it uses contemporary language, but he translates it sentence for sentence. (The Message translation is also in contemporary language but sometimes Peterson chooses to translate 2 or 3 sentences in a paraphrase that helps to get the point across.) The other thing I appreciate about Wright's translation is the way he translates Jesus as King. N.T. Wright is British, so his personal understanding of monarchy and royalty is much better than an American's understanding. When he translates "King Jesus," you really get a sense of what the Scripture is trying to say. This is a wonderful translation to have in addition to other Biblical translations, and it reads a bit like a book even though it's 100% Scripture.

My second recommendation is for anyone who wants to learn a bit more about the enneagram. "The Journey Toward Wholeness" by Suzanne Stabile is an excellent text for understanding why people do what they do and how to use the enneagram as a tool for personal and even spiritual growth. Suzanne Stabile lives in Texas and has been a pastor's wife for decades. She has studied the enneagram under Father Richard Rohr, and she has taught numerous conferences over the years to help people learn more about the enneagram. Her writing is concise yet bursting with information. I found her knowledge to be extremely useful in application as well as education. So, if you'd like to learn more about the enneagram and how it can be useful in your relationships, I'd recommend this book.

And my last recommendation is "A Grief Observed" by C.S. Lewis. In this book, Lewis essentially takes the reader through his own process of grieving the loss of his beloved wife, Joy. He is honest in his statements about his experiences as well as in his questions about why God would allow this kind of pain in the world. Ultimately, he is drawn into the truth of how God is deeply involved in the suffering of God's people, and what that means for those of us who call ourselves Christian. Although this book isn't very long, it will take some time to get through it simply because Lewis' writing is full of depth and meaning.

Next week, I'll share more about some of the adult classes I hope to be able to offer for Mid-Week as well as the WD40 and DMV discipleship groups.

Have a great week, everyone!

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

DOYLES'S UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



August is going by real quick! As we get closer to the start of the school year I want to highlight a few things.

First, the high school group will be starting up the first Wednesday of September. I am excited to be back together for the year. As we start, we focus on being Known by God as we look at the good news of Jesus. This is my favorite message we get to talk about all year as it influences and impacts everything else we go through. We will meet from 6:00-8:00 Wednesday nights in September with a meal, lesson and small groups. Can't wait!

Second thing is our back to school event for both middle and high school students. We will meet at church September 10th for a fun night together as we kickstart the new year. I'll have food at 5:30 and we meet until 7:30. Come start the year off with food and some fun challenges between the two groups!

I am excited for the new year to start and look forward to being together again! If you have any questions, feel free to send them my way anytime!

Doyle

Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

Fall Dates to Save

Mark Your Calendar!

Tuesday, Sept. 5

WD40 Women's Group Starts

Wednesday, Sept. 6

H.S. Youth Group Starts

Sunday, Sept. 10

Block Party

11:45am-2pm

Middle School & High School Event

5:30-7:30pm

Sunday, Sept. 24

Sunday School Starts

10:05am

Wednesday, Oct. 4

Midweek Starts

WELCOME

We welcome these new members
to Community!

Amy Moss
Dave & Angie Van Den Burg

CONSISTORY NOTES

AUG. 10, 2023

Attendance: Pastor Clyde Teel, Stan Deelstra, Tyler Wolf, Harvey Odens, Russ Hoogendoorn, Ken Hartzell, Mary Burggraaf, Ross Larson, Tom Van Roekel, Doug Harms, Tanner Corbin, Eric VanDonge, Corey Feenstra, Sean Fantroy

Opening Scripture and Devotion – Proverbs 3:5 & 6 and opening prayer - Doug Harms

MSA the June 15, 2023 consistory meeting minutes.

MSA the July financial report.

Task Assignment for 2023 are as follows:

Worship – Harvey Odens

Youth – Tom Bosch and Tyler Wolf

Mission – Stan Deelstra and Mary Burggraaf

Tech – Grant Boltjes

Prayer – Darren Ellwein

Education – Tom Van Roekel and Sean Fantroy

Outreach and Fellowship – Kenny Hartzell and Ross Larson

Nursery – Tanner Corbin

Pastor/Parish – Doug Harms

Administration – Eric VanDonge, Lyle Pudwill, and Corey Feenstra

Property – Russ Hoogendoorn and Mark Theisen

Reports from Liz, Heather and Doyle were reviewed.

Saturday, August 26, 2023 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the Maurice, Iowa Reformed Church the Kingdom Network Great Plains Hub launch gathering will take place. Consistory members, staff and congregation members are invited for worship and fellowship.

Russ covered property issues from the summer – retention pond with the riser pipe has been resolved; we've received a letter from the city regarding a complaint(s) regarding the growth of weeds/grass along fences; and a tree growing at the west end of the back parking lot. Russ called the city regarding the weed/grass growth and they were coming out to check on it but were informed we are responsible for the growth on our side of the fences. The tree will be removed.

The north rooftop HVAC unit is not working correctly. It will cost approximately \$10,000 to repair and a new unit will be approximately \$35,000. It was decided to not repair it and use the south rooftop unit which has very few hours on it and we will replace as needed in the future as one unit is sufficient for the worship center needs.

A new sound system is here; more speakers are needed at a cost of \$30,000-\$40,000.

The church will be sponsoring a marriage seminar tentative in the fall/winter; details are being worked out.

Madonna Graanstra is leaving the head of the gift card program and Teresa Hoogendoorn will take over the responsibilities. MSA to change the gift card account from US Bank to First Interstate Bank with the rest of our accounts.

Mission Haiti has a group going to Haiti to assist with the distribution of school supplies and the start up of school programs. They've asked for prayer support and monetary assistance. MSA to provide \$500 for each person going. They will be gone September 1-8. Those planning to go are Jaron and Craig DeWit, Doug Harms, and Tony Boer.

Next meeting will be September 14.

Closing prayer – Pastor Clyde
Respectfully submitted,
Mary Burggraaf, Clerk