

THE COMMUNICATOR

DECEMBER 3, 2025

THIS WEEK DEC 3- DEC 10

Wednesday, Dec. 3

5:30-6:20pm- Meal-
Baked Ravioli

6:30-7:30pm- Midweek Classes
for Children, Middle School
Youth Group & Adults
(Nursery also provided)

7:30-8:30pm-
High School Youth Group

Thursday, Dec. 4

7:30-8:00pm

Join us for the filming of the
Christmas Eve service
(see Liz's article for details)

Sunday, Dec. 7

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45am-
Worship Services

10:10am- Sunday School

4:30-6:00pm- Choir

6:30pm- Refresh
(Young Adult group)

Monday, Dec. 8

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, Dec. 9

9:30am- Play Group

7:00pm- AA meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 10

5:30-6:20pm- Meal-
Chili/ Chicken Noodle Soup

6:30-7:30pm- Midweek Classes
for Children, Middle School
Youth Group & Adults
(Nursery also provided)

7:30-8:30pm-
High School Youth Group

Clyde's Update

December is here, and we have already moved past the first Sunday of Advent. There are lights on trees, and with the snow that we have seen falling, Christmas is in the air. I'm not sure I am ready for all this snow and for sure I know I am not ready for this cold, but it is here. Christmas seemed so far away, a few days ago, but now it is like it will be tomorrow already. For many of you, there is a lot of extra things to get done for this season. There will be concerts and programs and of course, all the shopping you get to do for all the special people in your life. It is my favorite season of the year, so I can get excited about all that. As I mentioned on Sunday, I love it all. I want the world to make a big deal out of all of this. We, as a church, can fill in the blanks for what the real reason for the season is. I don't mind that one bit. I hope you are all getting in the mood because that season is upon us. Enjoy. For unto us a son is given. That has a nice ring to it.

Our choir is making their last finishing touches on their music for their performance coming in a little over a week now. The music this year has been a challenge for us, and they have worked so hard. The music is demanding, and I know how much they want to do their very best. The songs demand a lot of concentration and effort not only to sing, but also to convey the ideas musically that are in the arrangements. They are beautiful and trying to keep that level going through those long pieces has made all of us dig in. I am very proud of their talent and effort, and we are all praying for good health and a good day to share this program with all of you. It is a fun Sunday with all the music and the carols of the season. It is a gift that we have these people who give of their time on these Sundays in the fall to bring this all together. Very few churches these days have choirs. Most of them have turned to contemporary worship, which we also do, but the choir days for most have gone away. I feel bad about that as a former music teacher. I wish that wasn't so. People still sing, but it gets difficult for folks to commit to rehearsals and the time it takes. It is easy to fill in those spaces with all kinds of other things. I am humbled at those in our church who give that time for this program. We want that blessing to be passed on to each of you this Christmas season. It is more than just music for us, it is way for us to give something to you and do the very best we can. That's really what all this about.

We are doing three Christmas Eve services this year. We were sure we could hold everyone in two, but we never know who is coming to which service, and if everyone chooses the same time then one of them gets so full. We are adding the extra one to make it comfortable for everyone to know there is plenty of room for your families and finding a seat should be very easy. It will be another nice evening of music. We hope you'll make plans to be with your church family and share in an evening of music and communing with our God who sent his very best for us. Bring a friend with you. That's a great night to invite others.

Our theme for Advent is "Relentless Grace". I love that title. God who never gives up and has a passion to share his heart with all of us. It is all wrapped up in this season we call Christmas. This week, we look at the way in which this all comes together. There wasn't much fanfare. It was a quiet event for most. Most will never know that a baby was born in a manger in Bethlehem. God had come to earth in the stillness of the night. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

HAPPY
birthday

Happy 90th birthday to
Bob & Jennie Van Roekel!

But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in
you; may those who long for your saving help
always say, "The Lord is great!"
Psalm 70:4

FROM THE LIBRARY:

It's a great time to check out the Christmas items in
the library. Look for the cart of all-Christmas.

For family time, look at our variety of games
and puzzles. Check it all out at your church library!

The current Keys for Kids devotionals have been
delayed in the shipment process. You can access the
devotional through keysforkids.org.
Trudi, Lois, Lorena, and Merry

MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER

LSS- BETTER TOGETHER

Better Together is an independent adult service with
the purpose of providing aging adults who live on
their own with long-term relationships and
neighborly activities. In the Better Together program,
an older adult Neighbor and their assigned volunteer
will spend four hours per month participating in
social activities, such as playing cards, going for walks,
seeing a movie or play, going shopping, or simply
drinking coffee and talking.

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Jodi Ackerman (knee surgery recovery)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Rachel Theisen's sister, Rebekah
- Steve Lee's mom, Arlene (hospice)
- Leroy Thill (infant son of Katie & Trevor Thill)
- Jean Nollmann (hematoma)
- Claradith Kingsbury (stroke recovery)
- Gracia Harmsen (surgery recovery)
- Al Price
- Donna Holmgren's brother, Tim
- Jan Sturing
- Ken Stellinga (Pancreatic cancer)
- Tim DeLoof (ALS)
- Steve Lee
- Denny Spitler (chronic foot pain)
- Mike Hay's father, Duane
- Gracia Harmsen's dad (esophageal cancer)
- Matt Meyer's fiancé Lynnette's dad (tumor)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (cancer)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Randy & Karen
Hindbjorgen for the passing of Randy's mom, Marlys.
Please keep their family in your prayers.

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.

[https://bradymartz.zoom.us/j/87440575632?](https://bradymartz.zoom.us/j/87440575632?pwd=RwtTfrMNRbOXcg9KlhabfrdoMWC2Cb.1)
[pwd=RwtTfrMNRbOXcg9KlhabfrdoMWC2Cb.1](https://bradymartz.zoom.us/j/87440575632?pwd=RwtTfrMNRbOXcg9KlhabfrdoMWC2Cb.1)
Meeting ID: 874 4057 5632

Passcode: 052482

One tap mobile

+12532050468,87440575632# US

+12532158782,87440575632# US

+1 346 248 7799 US

Questions?

Call Shawn Blom

605-940-6702



DOYLE'S UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



Winter is here and it held off long enough for the high school retreat to have some amazing weather! Our group of 17 was at Lost Timber Bible Camp before Thanksgiving and they have a beautiful place out near Chandler, MN. Getting away for a retreat as a group makes for a great weekend of rest, fun, and time with God. It also helps that we have some amazing sponsors who are willing to give up their weekend to be present and be for students here at Community!

With only two more weeks of midweek left before Christmas break, we will be having a short series on the Christmas message - "God With Us". It is the same story every year but never gets old as we talk about God coming into the world - our Savior has been born!

As a middle school and high school group, we will be having our Christmas party the following Wednesday night, the 17th. We will be having a meal, some Christmas games and time together as we celebrate the season! The holiday season is here. We get to celebrate that hope has come to us. In the joy, sorrow, excitement, stress, love and grief, we can cling to the message of Jesus. Our King has come. God is with us.

That is it for this week. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out anytime.

Doyle
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

ONGOING MINISTRIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

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

AA MEETING (OPEN)

Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm in the youth room. Use east doors.

REFRESH

Weekly gathering of college students and young adults every Sunday at 6:30pm. (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet on Dec. 16th at 11:00. Donna is hostess.

BOOK CLUBS

No book clubs in December.

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Copies are available to borrow in the church library.

The morning book club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave near 33rd St. We will be discussing *Yellowface*. This book will be available to pick up in the church library sometime mid-December.



SPECIAL

Christmas Eve

COMMUNION SERVICES

3:00PM | 4:30PM | 6:00PM

NURSERY PROVIDED AT 4:30PM SERVICE.
3:00PM SERVICE WILL BE LIVE-STREAMED.

FINANCES

Sunday, November 30, 2025

General: \$4,855
Vision: \$235
Mission: \$375

General YTD: \$852,186
Vision YTD: \$45,279
Vision Account Balance: \$7,855

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



Once again, here's the updated calendar for Holiday events at Community!

December 3	Regular Mid-Week 5:30-7:30pm
December 10	Regular Mid-Week 5:30-7:30pm
December 13	Choir Dress Rehearsal 4:00-5:00pm
December 14	Sunday morning Christmas Choir Concerts at 9:00 and 10:45
December 17	NO Mid-Week
December 24	Christmas Eve Services 3:00pm, 4:30pm, 6:00pm
December 31	NO Mid-Week
January 7	Regular Mid-Week Resumes

We have an exciting opportunity this year (as I mentioned on Sunday)! This year, we were contacted by KELO TV to film our Christmas Eve service so they can air it on Christmas Eve. Pretty cool, huh! Of course, that means that we must do a filming of that service prior to Christmas Eve.

We have a filming date set for this Thursday, December 4th. Here's where you come in:

Community, we need people to make up the congregation for the filming of that service. We plan to film you singing 3 Christmas carols, greeting one another, etc. We are going to film the congregation on December 4th from 7:30pm-8:00pm. If you are free that evening, we'd love to have you come and be a part of the filming!!!

A few things to note: We will not open the main doors that night until 7:30pm. So, if you arrive early, just stay in your warm cars. If you do need to come in, the east doors by the high school youth room will be open. And you can wait in that area of the church until we are ready for you to come into the sanctuary.

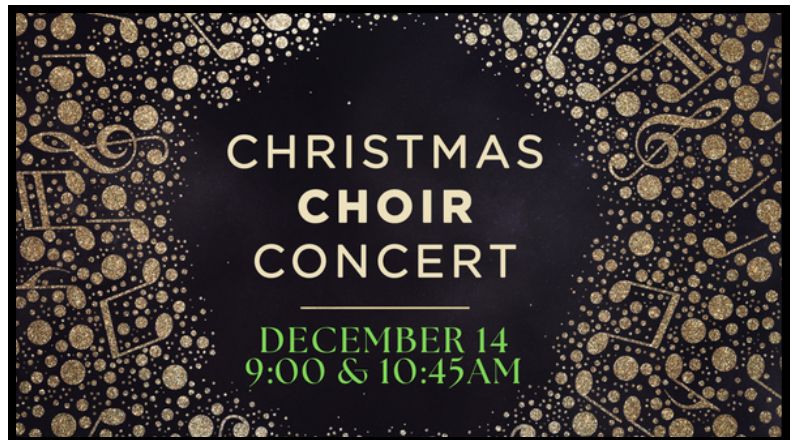
At 7:30pm, we'll open the main doors, and if you've been waiting, you can come on in! We'll film you singing and doing "congregational" type things. 😊 And you should be done by 8:00pm.

Christmas Eve services are always well attended, so we'd love to have a full church for our filming on December 4. And as soon as I know the exact timing of the airing on KELO, we'll be sure to share that with you all as well. If you have any questions about that, please let me know! Otherwise, I hope to see a full church this Thursday evening at 7:30pm!

Stay warm, friends!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org





HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY

Hi Community!

December has arrived and I'm not sure I was ready for it. This week, instead of Christmas program reminders and notes (<https://communityrc.org/christmas>) I'm going to share a song with you that has been touching my heart this season.

Every year at Christmas time I find myself longing for Heaven a little more and wishing the calendar had a little less on it in December. I'm not good at being busy. I'm not sure anyone is particularly good at being busy, but I know with confidence that I'm better when I have ample time to think, breath, and listen. The month of December always reminds me that JOY runs deeper than the commercial version of happiness that sometimes feels easier in this time of year. Joy is not dependent on circumstances. It is dependent on Jesus. More than anything, if you are feeling a little more introspective and wishing for a quiet Christmas this year, I wanted you to know you are not alone. I'm going to set aside some time to listen to some good music, enjoy a latte, and chat with Jesus. It is His birthday we're celebrating after all.

Vacancy
by Carolyn Arends
<https://youtu.be/4ZdYzeygHt8?si=WJGE1a6LcLIGTjI>

Seems like my Christmas cheer
Is hard to find this year
I think it vanished in the fall
Strange how a loss or two
Can eat away at you
Until there's not much left at all
But they say Advent is for waiting
And so I guess that's what I'll do ...

Chorus:

There is a vacancy
Right here inside of me
It's been that way for quite a while
But there's a blessedness
In this great emptiness
If it makes room here for the child

Though my midwinter's bleak
I am resolved to keep
A candle burning in the dark
And when the night is still
I will not rush to fill
The silence growing in my heart
Cause they say Advent is for longing
So tell me what else can I do?

Come Lord Jesus, won't you come?

See you soon!

Heather DeWit
Community Kids
605-336-1475



COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH
6800 E. 41 STREET
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57110
DECEMBER 3, 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.
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
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