



THE COMMUNICATOR

DECEMBER 7, 2022

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

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.

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

It's week two in December and it does feel like December. We even have a little white for the Christmas season, but it has melted substantially this past few days. I know how quickly this month passes and just how many things you all have going on in your lives. There are concerts and programs and all the many things that happen this time of the year. Church is busy too, with programs and Christmas things going on. Enjoy the season!

A big thank you to the choir members this past Sunday morning on a job well done. It was a very nice performance and just a very seasonal thing to do. Church choirs are more difficult to find these days. We have tried very hard to maintain that tradition as best as we can. We do some very seasonal music in the concert, as well, as songs that are more challenging, chorally speaking. Our singers have always stepped up their game to do those more difficult numbers. They are very good. Music just works at Christmas. It almost does the message better than the spoken word. The season is certainly influenced greatly by the music we hear, nearly everywhere we go. Those old carols still seem to speak to us. It has a lot to do with memories from the past. There is nothing wrong with a little sentimental this time of year. Choir, congratulations on a job well done. You did a very good job of communicating the heart of what you were singing. Thank you all for being a part of the day for us and for your dedication on all those Sundays. You made a difference for many people as they listened. It matters that you sang to others. That will always work. Well done!

The kids program is also in the books for another year. I want to thank Heather and all her helpers who have also spent some energy putting that together. It is a busy afternoon for those people. Most of the program was done Sunday afternoon before the performance which is challenging. The kids always come dressed up and ready to go. We celebrated the birthday of Jesus you might say. We had cake and everything. Thanks to everyone who spent the time to make that all work. Once again, what we do for those kids matters. It is a way for them to hear the Christmas story each year. The story is the same, but each year a different set of hearts listens. Well done everyone!

Christmas is coming. Christmas Eve services will be 3, 4, and 5pm. I am looking forward to seeing all there. It is a very nice service that we all get to do together. We sing and we do communion together. It is a night set aside to remind us of what all this is about. We hope you can join us that evening. A reminder that we get to do Christmas Day on a Sunday this year as well. I know there will be lots of you traveling out of town and I also know there will be many who gave special Christmas Day things right in your own homes. We will do one service that morning at 10am. Yes, it will be streamed!

Sunday, we are going to continue to speak of Advent's Glory. This week it will be some time to look into the lives of Mary and Joseph. Imagine the story without them? I know, that would be silly. They must be in it. It was rather important that they said yes. They did say yes and once that decision was reached, everything changed. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

COMMUNITY KIDS
NURSERY
Our December theme is:
THE BIRTH OF CHRIST



UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday, December 14 & 21 – NO Mid-Week

Sunday, December 18

No Sunday School

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Communion Services

3:00pm, 4:00pm, and 5:00pm

No nursery for these services.

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Morning Service 10:00am

No nursery for this service.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, December 7

5:30-6:30pm- Midweek Meal-Soup

6:30-7:30pm- Midweek Classes for Children,

M.S. Youth Group & Adults

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

Saturday, December 10

7:00am- Prayer Ministry

10:00am- AA Meeting

Sunday, December 11

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

10:05am- Sunday School

Monday, December 12

7:00-8:00PM- The Wired Word

7:00pm- DMV - Discipleship Men's Version

Tuesday, December 13

9:30-10:30am- Play Group

Wednesday, December 14

NO MIDWEEK

(Christmas break)

6:00pm- Middle/ High School Christmas

Party (@ Thunder Road)

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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, December 12 at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

BOOK CLUBS

BOOK CLUBS WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER.

FOR JANUARY: Morning book club will meet on Wed. January 18, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing *Bear Town*.

Evening book club will meet on Tuesday, January 17 at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing *Anne of Green Gables*. Talk to the librarians about Hoopla.

HOPE CIRCLE

The Hope Circle will meet on December 20th at 6:00pm. Helen is hostess for our Christmas party.



THE GIVE

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



Glory House:

Towels

Teddy Bear Den:

Baby blankets

Ronald McDonald House:

Canned fruit, boxes of mac'n cheese, spaghetti sauce, ground coffee or k-cups

Lexi's Christmas Closet (Sanford Children's Hospital):

Board books, stuffed animals, dolls, toy cars, legos, coloring/ crafting kits, sports water bottles, etc.



**THANK
YOU!**

KID'S MINISTRY

HEATHER'S UPDATE

Hello,

I need to jump right into this newsletter article with some big, overdue "thank you" messages from the Christmas Program!

Emily V. sings with the preschool kids each week and she led the program for the youngest children. They love singing with her each Sunday and their program was adorable.

Cheryl W plays keyboard for the preschool kids when they sing each Sunday and she played for the whole program this year. That is a lot of work and we're sure thankful for her!

There were some awesome parents who signed up to be our Christmas program volunteers this year and some additional parents who jumped in in big ways when they saw we needed some more help. Evita A and Brooke G were able to help all day and I sure asked a lot of them! Some Middle and High School students volunteered as well. That means so much to the kids, and to me!

My husband, Jaron, volunteered to help with the technology needed to make the program happen. That was a big job this year. Pastor Clyde came to help with anything we might need as well.

We truly couldn't do a Christmas Program without volunteers who love on the kids while keeping the chaos under control. To all of you who helped this year, THANK YOU and I hope you realize what an impact you make!

I want to remind you that in December, we have some Sundays and Wednesdays that we won't be together. We'll take a break beginning 12/14/22 (no Midweek that day) and won't meet again for Children's Ministry activities until after 1/1/2023 (no Sunday School on 1/1/23). I hope this gives you some extra time to enjoy a little down time.

As you start filling in your 2023 calendar, you can jot down Vacation Bible School July 24-27, 2023.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit
Community Kids
Heather.DeWit@Communityrc.org
605-336-1475



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



DOYLES' UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



Christmas season is here and that means that we are approaching the break that comes along with it on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. This is our final week together for regular Wednesday and Sunday, then we are off until January for youth group and Sunday School. There is one exception to that as we do end the year with a Christmas party.

This year, our middle and high school party is going to be held at Thunder Road on Wednesday, December 14th. We will meet at Thunder Road for two hours of fun as we celebrate the end of the year together. If students have not let me know either on Sunday morning or Wednesday night, please have them do so these last two times we are together so I can have an idea on who to expect come next Wednesday. We will start the night in one of their party rooms as we have some Christmas fun. Then, each student will get a band that is good for games throughout the night. We will meet from 6:00 and be done at 8:00. The games and some credits to the arcade are included so students won't need any money. However, if they would like additional credits for games or would like to get a drink or snack they can bring some extra money for themselves. I'm looking forward to celebrating together next week!

That's it for this week. If you have any questions regarding the youth ministry here at Community, feel free to send them my way anytime.

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

Merry
Christmas

Middle School/High School
Christmas Party
DECEMBER 14
6:00PM

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Chris Fedders (hospice)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Leah Reuwsaat's mom, Marie
- Lexi Valentine
- Marcia Groenweg's brother-in-law (leukemia)
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Steve Lee (lung transplant postponed)
- Gracia Harmsen (unexplained pain)
- Marv Sturing (scans for cancer)
- Barb Klein
- Elaine Deelstra
- Joe Johnson
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (transplant recovery)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris (cancer)
- Tami Boyle's dad (pancreatic/liver cancer)
- Melanie Oden's uncle, Bruce (cancer)
- Marcia Groeneweg's daughter, Rhonda (chemo)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Brian Frisbee (long-term stroke rehab)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Randi Van Der Sloot (cancer treatments)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Darla Anderson's friend, Vonnie (cancer)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad (skin & muscle graft)
- Ellen Nelson (chronic airway disease)
- Harvey & Karen Odens' great niece, Lydia (cancer)

THANK YOU

Thank you Community for your thoughts, prayers, cards and caring words for my surgery and radiation treatments after.

They were very much appreciated!

God is good!

Thank you,

Pat Koll



Check out The Link in the lobby to pick a child to sponsor!

LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

I must begin my article this week by saying, "WELL DONE, CHOIR!!" I was totally blown away by both of their performances on Sunday morning. As a director, one always hopes that the choir will perform as well as they are able to perform. Well, my goodness, the choir performed at the TOP of their game at BOTH concerts on Sunday morning! I had too many compliments to count. I love that we had such a great congregational turnout at both services. And clearly, the Spirit was at work all through the building. Thanks to everyone who came and invited friends to listen. Thanks to Rhonda Van Roekel for playing the organ. Thanks to Jacob Hein for his solo snare drum work. And thank you to the choir for all of your hard work in rehearsals. Clyde and I know we push pretty hard, but you absolutely rose to the occasion. It was a joy to make meaningful music with you!

The WD <40> group had our Christmas party on Monday night, and we sure had a great time! There was bright lipstick galore and 2 tables full of delicious Christmas goodies. We also enjoyed a gift exchange and a short devotional thought before heading our separate ways. Thanks to Robyn Niewenhuis and Robin Jacobs for all your beautiful decorating. And thank you to the women who came! We decided to skip our January 2 meeting since we will just be coming off busy holiday schedules and because it's usually bitterly cold. ☺ So, our next meeting will be February 6, 2023. All women are welcome!

This coming Monday, December 12, the men will have their monthly DMV meeting here at the church from 7:00-8:00pm. All men are welcome!

Remember that our Mid-Week, Sunday School, and special service schedules change a bit during the holiday season, so be sure to check out the schedule below.

Holiday Schedule

Wednesday, December 14 – NO Mid-Week

Sunday, December 18

NO Sunday School

Wednesday, December 21 – NO Mid-Week

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Communion Services 3:00pm, 4:00pm, and 5:00pm

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Morning Service 10:00am

No Sunday School

Wednesday, December 28 – NO Mid-Week

Sunday, January 1

Regular Services 8:00am, 9:00 am, 10:45am

NO Sunday School

Wednesday, January 4

Regular Mid-Week activities resume 5:30-7:30pm

And of course, we can't forget our upcoming ministries for this week!

Upcoming Ministries

Wednesday, December 7, 5:30-7:30pm

Regular Mid-Week

Sunday, December 11, 10:05am

Sunday School

Have a great week, everyone!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org



Community-
Thank you for your generosity
toward Angel Tree in November.
We sponsored 48 kids
and 10 caregivers!