



THE COMMUNICATOR

FEBRUARY 8, 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

Call To Freedom

Call to Freedom provides supportive services for victims of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in South Dakota.

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

February is here and we are experiencing a little warm weather. How about that? We are melting a little of the snow which I find to be a very nice change. I can see my street instead of ice. The church parking lot is black again. I know it's only February, but this all is a welcomed sight for many. Spring is a long way off yet, but this helps.

I mentioned on Sunday that in a couple of weeks I am hoping the weather stays good because we all want to get home for my mom's 90th birthday party on the 19th. I don't think we are planning anything major, but we want to do something nice for her. I don't think she wants a lot of attention, but I don't think she is going to get her wishes on that one. If the weather is nice, I think there are going to be a lot of people around. She might as well get ready of that. She reads this newsletter so, now she has been warned. It will be a good day, I am sure.

My birthday comes next this coming week and yes, it is a big number as well. I don't know where all those years have gone. I remember thinking about these kinds of things when I was younger, but you just don't think it is going to happen for a while, and before you know it, awhile is now here. I can't change that! Someone said you are only as old as you feel. I am not sure if that's a good thing or a bad thing, but I do feel fine so maybe it's a good thing. All I know is, I have had a life filled with good things and certainly some that were difficult, but I have never been alone. I am not sure what the next years will bring, but I am certainly looking forward to whatever that journey is going to take me. I want to be about presenting the Kingdom to those who are seeking something beyond what the world can bring. I have learned a few things about that and I will do my best to share what I have learned and share the God who has brought me this far. I find it exciting to think about!

Continue to pray for the many people on the prayer line friends. It is a long list with many different things going on. Also, pray for our church as we work our way to Easter. That's right, Easter! It is not that far away on the calendar. We are hoping to get the word out to the neighborhood out here. We have a message to bring them on that day! It's a good one! Jesus is alive!

Sunday we are going to finish this series on the apostle Peter. I can't believe we are already finished. It was a study that sure went in directions that I didn't see coming. There was so much to learn by looking at his life. There were so many ways that God worked in his heart and so many familiar challenges in his life that we all face. We have all failed at times and we have all probably wondered how God would respond to those failures. I hope you have learned, once again, just how amazing grace can be. We will finish in the book of Acts. We will finish with Peter and other apostles waiting. They are waiting because they were told to wait. They are waiting because they were not ready for this next phase of what God had in store for them. Another surprise is coming. Greater than a miraculous catch of fish! We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

YOU
BELONG
HERE

UPCOMING DATES

Sunday, Feb. 19 @ 8:00am Special Chapel Music Service

All are welcome! This service will focus on special music and singing of hymns.

CONTRIBUTE AND SHARE YOUR TALENT for a church service!
If you have a musical or instrumental talent to share,
please call Joyce Tarrell @ 605. 332. 0014.
All ages welcomed to participate.

**WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE BRENT ELIASON AT THE
9 & 10:45AM SERVICES ON FEB. 19TH!**

Wednesday, Feb. 22 6:30-7:30pm- Adoption Information Meeting presented by the staff at LifeLine Children's Services

Would you like to learn more about adopting a vulnerable child from an international orphanage or from the US foster care system?

This info meeting is open anyone interested in learning more.
Please RSVP by February 21st by calling Lifeline at 605-626-8588
or emailing melissa.steltz@lifelinechild.org.

Nominating new consistory members Deadline: Sunday, March 5

Ballots & the list of eligible people are at The Link in the lobby.
Email the church office (connect@communityrc.org) if you'd like a link to vote online.

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ADOPTION PRAYER REQUEST/ DONATIONS

AFTER MANY YEARS OF INFERTILITY, EMERGENCY SURGERIES, EXPENSIVE TREATMENTS, AND 7 MISCARRIAGES, THE HARMSSEN FAMILY IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THEY ARE ADOPTING.

A FRIEND FROM COMMUNITY HAS CREATED BRACELETS & NECKLACES.
CHECK OUT THE TABLE IN THE LOBBY TO PURCHASE FOR DONATION.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, February 8

5:30-6:30pm- Midweek Meal-
Italian Night

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

Middle School Youth Group & Adults

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

Sunday, February 12

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

10:05am-Sunday School

Monday, February 13

Noon- Senior Citizens (E. Pizza Ranch)

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

7:00pm- DMV Men's Group

Tuesday, February 14

9:30-10:30am- Play Group

Wednesday, February 15

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

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

Middle School Youth Group & Adults

7:30-8:30pm- 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, February 13 at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

BOOK CLUB

Morning book club will meet on Wed. Feb. 15, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing Gardens of Water.

Evening book club will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 7 pm at the church.
We will be discussing Being Mortal.

HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet at 7:00 pm on February 21st at Carol's home. Jerralynne will have the lesson.



KID'S MINISTRY

HEATHER'S UPDATE

Hi!

We are ready for you to register for VBS. Sign up to volunteer or sign up your kids. Invite friends. Put July 24-27 on your calendar and register at: <https://communityrc.org/vbs>

If anyone wants to help plan decorations this year, send me an email or check in with me. It should be a fun one!

Also, if anyone has a REALLY big artificial Christmas tree that they no longer want, we would be happy to use it for decorations.

As Liz said on Sunday, we're asking everyone at Community to wrap some empty boxes of ALL sizes with Christmas wrapping paper and bring them to the kids wing any time between now and July. We'll use them for decorations and activities. Wrap them in any Christmas wrap and use boxes of all sizes...if someone gets new appliances and would be willing to bring us the giant boxes, that would be super cool! If you have a partial roll of Christmas wrapping paper you are tired of, this is the perfect way to use it up. You can bring them in as you wrap them. I don't think it is possible to have too many.

April 15 is the deadline for discounted payment for camp at Inspiration Hills. Registration is open now and many of the camps fill up really early. As a reminder, Community pays for half of that "early bird" rate. Many of our elementary age students attend Inspiration Hills Camp each summer. The Inspiration Hills theme of 2023 is 'Living Water' from John 7:37-38. Inspiration Hills does offer bussing from Sioux Falls neighborhoods and there are often other kids from Community going that you can carpool with as well. www.inspirationhills.org For Middle School and High School students, check with Doyle as there are a many opportunities for summer camp for those ages. If you have questions about camp or want to know more about what the camp experience is like or how it can impact children and youth, I'm always here to help.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit

Community Kids

Heather.DeWit@Communityrc.org

605-336-1475

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NO NEED TO BE A MEMBER TO SUBMIT A PHOTO!
NO FANCY PHOTOGRAPHY NEEDED!
SELFIES ARE WELCOMED!

IF YOU'D LIKE SOMEONE TO TAKE A PHOTO OF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY, JAMELEE WILL BE AT THE LINK ON FEB. 12 TO SNAP YOUR PICTURE!

LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

Recently, I've had a few adults ask me about different Bible translations. We've had conversations about what translations I prefer and recommend, and whether certain translations are better than others, just to name a couple of topics. Since there's been an uptick in interest about translations, I thought it might be helpful if I wrote a short informative article about it.

Most Biblical translations of the Christian Bible that have been published by an actual publishing house are going to be accurate, understandable translations. Here are a few things you can consider when deciding which translation to use.

First of all, I find it extremely helpful to have multiple translations of the Bible at my disposal when I'm studying scripture, whether for the work I do at church or in my own personal study. It's eye-opening to read the same verse from different translations to see which words the translator chose to convey the meaning of the passage. No translation is perfect, but all translations have something to offer. So, if you can swing it, invest in 3 or 4 (or more!) translations and do some comparing!

Secondly, if you're looking for a translation that reads more like our everyday speech, there are a few good ones that tick that box. Of course, The Message translation is one of my favorites of this type. The word choice and structure follow the patterns of how we speak today, so it's an easy read. I also like the English Standard Version (ESV), the New Century Version (NCV), and the New Living Translation (NLT) for easy-to-read translations.

Thirdly, if you're looking for common translations that have stood the test of time, you'll find the New International Version (NIV), which is my personal favorite, and the King James Version (KJV) and New King James Version (NKJV) to be considered standard translations of the Bible. Plus, it's hard to beat the KJV for that beautiful poetic language.

And lastly, if you want to shake it up a bit, you might try Young's Literal Translation (YLT), which is a translation of every word, word for word and concept by concept. It gets a bit wordy and long, but you can see how the Hebrew and Greek languages differ from English in this translation. I also like to read Jewish translations of Scripture. Their understanding of the nature and history of God is matched by no one else. When they choose their words to translate, they are very particular.

Plus, today with the wonder of the internet, you can find almost all of these translations for free online. A favorite go-to resource for me is www.biblegateway.com. They even have an app! You can type in a Scripture reference and then choose from a number of different translations. At my last count, they had 62 different translations to choose from!

I hope this gives you a place to start. God says of His own Word that it will never come back void, which means He'll always do something when His word is read, studied, preached, or shared. Happy reading!

Have a wonderful week, friends!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

THE GIVE

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



Union Gospel Mission:

New Bath & Hand Towels
& washcloths

Union Gospel Mission:

New Children's art supplies & journals

Union Gospel Mission:

New & Gently used toys for all ages

Union Gospel Mission:

New & Gently used extension cords, CD players,
DVD players

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



It's hard to believe that we have to start looking into our summer calendars already, but registrations are opening up and this year Rocky Mountain High is happening! For students who are in 9th-12th grade this year, registration is open and you can get signed up through the Synods new system – brushfire. I sent out an email to the high school parents. If you did not receive that email please let me know as the new system has a few extra steps and codes you will need to get registered. Dates for Rocky are July 22nd-29th.

Our Profession of Faith meeting was a few Sundays ago and students received a packet with some information on that process here at Community. The current set up is a mentorship process and allows students to connect with an adult here at Community as they build relationships and talk about who Jesus is in their lives. If students were unable to be there for the Sunday School hour, please feel free to reach out for that information.

This month, both the middle and high school groups are going through a series titled “A Chip of the Old Block”. While this old phrase is used to describe similar appearance from a parent/child, we stretch it to look at the way the New and Old Testaments work and support one another. Often times, we see teachings and wisdom in the new testaments that was taken straight out of the Old. As we dive into this series, we will explore the message of the messiah that rings throughout both the old and new.

We have our winter retreat coming up in a few weeks! This year we partnered with two other churches here in town and now that registration has closed we have a total of 56 students and leaders headed out to Inspiration Hills! If you would join me in praying for the weekend coming up February 24th-26th I would greatly appreciate it!

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

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

FINANCES

Sunday, February 5, 2023

General: \$16,732
Vision: \$965
Missions: \$585

General YTD: \$72,706
Vision YTD: \$5,807
Vision Account Balance: \$34,702

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Marv Vos (double hip replacement)
- Angie Bonnema's dad (whipple surgery 2-21)
- Steve Bonnema's mom (kidney stones)
- Tom Jacob's mom (heart attack)
- Bill Hinks (pneumonia)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Rick Norris (cancer)
- 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)
- Verle Valentine (heart issues)
- Carrie Valentine (recovery from knee surgery)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease- new treatments)
- Dan Stephany (heart issues)
- Carol Van Voorst (broken hip)
- Kyle Wigg (liver disease)
- Karen Johnson (heart issues)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris (surgery recovery)
- JoAnn Hanssen
- Randi Van Der Sloom (cancer treatments)
- Leah Reuwsaat's mom, Marie
- Marcia Groenweg's brother-in-law (leukemia)
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Steve Lee (lung transplant postponed)
- Gracia Harmsen
- Marv Sturing
- Joe Johnson
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (transplant recovery)
- 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)
- 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)