



THE COMMUNICATOR

JANUARY 17, 2024

Weekly Calendar

JAN. 10 - JAN. 17

Wednesday, Jan. 17

5:30-6:30pm- Meal (Ravioli Lasagna)

6:30-7:30pm-

**Midweek Classes for Children,
Middle School Youth Group & Adults
(Nursery also provided)**

7:30-8:30pm-

High School Youth Group

Saturday, Jan 20

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

10:00AM- AA (via Zoom)

See page 2 for details

Sunday, Jan. 21

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

10:10am- SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:10am- Congregational Meeting

Monday, Jan. 22

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, Jan. 23

9:30-11am- Play Group

Wednesday, Jan. 24

5:30-6:30pm- Meal (Tacos)

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 ARTICLE

I started last week's newsletter with the statement, "And just like that, it's winter", not knowing just how true that statement was going to be. Wow! It did get winter and it got right with it indeed! I think we would all agree the wind is what really makes things difficult at any time of the year, but especially in the winter. We didn't have church on Sunday mainly because of the wind chills and just the unknowns of what the wind would do with the snow out here in the tundra. I will say though after experiencing that firsthand this past weekend, we don't get near the snow around the parking lot as we used to, and the wind is less of a factor. There was still a lot of snow and so much on that nursery sidewalk...wow it was deep over there. It appears lots of churches cancelled. We weren't the only ones. I know the livestream works, but it sure isn't the same. Thanks everyone for being patient with all of that. The girls and I had a good time in church on Sunday. Steve Attema was there doing all the sound and livestream things as well. Thanks Steve!

We are hoping to get back to regular here for a few days. Weather is always a factor this time of the year, but hopefully we get a little break. MidWeek is going so well, and we need for a little weather shift to get that back to what it was before. I like it when things are buzzing because there is a momentum to that which can so easily get bumped around. One must be flexible.

Liz had to postpone her birthday party on Saturday. That really wasn't a nice day. I know her and Abbie were making some new plans because people said we need to do it. I don't know when the next date is going to be, but I know it's coming. It's always good to have a little food and people visiting together. We'll see what we can come up with! She said it wasn't the coldest birthday, but it was close.

Our annual budget meeting is this Sunday during the Sunday school hour. The deacons have their presentation already to go. Those guys do an amazing job folks, they really do. The attention to detail matters and they have that down these days. You'll see when they do the numbers for you this Sunday morning. We all know that inflation is a real deal, but as you will see in the work, they have kept things at an amazing place for us. I won't get into the specifics, but I will say it is a good job of working on the numbers. We had a good year this year and that had some challenges to it. You are all so generous. That is so humbling for me to watch. We are blessed. You will see that as well. Wonderful Community! God is good!

Sunday, we continue the series. I had several people message me after Sunday morning and say I should just do that one again because it was so on-point to how things are right now in world around us. I won't, but it is tempting. Anxiety and fear are so real around us. Set us free Jesus, we are so trapped at times. This week we are going to talk about being chained to our past. I don't think it needs much of an introduction. You can understand how that one works. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JAN. 21**

TO APPROVE THE 2024 BUDGET

DOYLES' UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



We are getting closer to our Radix Retreat coming up in February. I am so excited for this weekend out at Inspiration Hills and highly encourage all our middle and high school students who are free that weekend to join us! This is one of the best things we do as a combined group in partner with some other churches in the area. We just had a leaders meeting this week and it is coming together well. One big change for this year is that the middle school and high school group will have some more separation in small groups and in dorms as we have reserved the upstairs dorms as well this year. So while there will be time together, there will also be time where students are separated to give both of them time and space.

Our weekend will be February 23rd-25th at Inspiration Hills. It is \$55 per student and friends are welcome to join us as well. Registrations can be picked up at church or requested via email and I will get those to you. The deadline to register is January 31st so you still have some time to get registered and invite friends. We will be leaving from Community at 7:00 p.m. Friday night and be getting home Sunday around 3:45 p.m. If your student needs to come late or leave early you can talk with me and we will get that worked out as well. Again, I hope you can join us for another year at Inspiration Hills.

Along with the retreat, we are in our series "Focused on Christ" Wednesday nights. We are exploring Jesus' teachings, miracles and prayer life through the Gospels and Paul's letters. It has been so fun for me as I put this together and I look forward going through this as a group the next four to five weeks.

As the new year gets going, if you have any questions about the student ministry here at Community, feel free to reach out anytime.

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Darren Ellwein (leg injury)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease- recovery from procedure)
- Jeris VanZee (Mantle Cell Lymphoma)
- Henry Collins (continued healing)
- Randi Van Der Sloot (cancer treatments)
- Jan Mellema (fall recovery)
- Mike Graanstra's dad (GI bleed)
- Justin & Sandy Heimdal and family (house fire)
- Dalton Coffey (shoulder surgery recovery)
- Darla Moulton's son-in-law, Neil (cancer)
- Joanne Avery (broken arm)
- Ann Munce (shoulder surgery)
- Rick Hoogendoorn (pancreatic cancer)
- Carrie Valentine (ankle surgery)
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Junella Wesselink's sister (cancer)
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Kyle Wigg (liver transplant recovery)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloot
- Angie Bonnema's dad
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Steve Lee (awaiting lung transplant)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (transplant recovery)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad



Suppers 6

Note Changes

Thank you to all who participated in Suppers 6. We had a good response and a fun night making new friends.

However, due to a lack of hosts for January gatherings, we are postponing the January event and asking you to consider being a host in February. Sign up is at The Link.

Hosting would include organizing a time for a group of 6 to meet at your home, church or a restaurant. As the host, you can provide a meal, eat out, or bring in take out.

Those who have already signed up for the event, will remain on the list and will be informed as to the status of the even and future plans. Thank you.

For additional info call:
Elaine D. 605-351-4202
Deb. T. 605-359-6375
Cheryl W. 605-941-8413

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Livestream Volunteers

There are many people who watch online on Sunday mornings! We're looking for people to help run our Livestream during the 10:45am service. Interested? Contact Josiah (josiah.dunlap@communityrc.org)

Sound Volunteers

We are looking for a few people who might be interested in learning how to monitor the soundboard for the 10:45am worship service. Interested? Contact Liz (liz.teel@communityrc.org)

Nursery Volunteers

Come play with the kids at Community!
You'll serve only 4 times throughout the year!
Sign up at The Link or go to 605.church and fill out a form to volunteer.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

FRESH ENCOUNTER

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

Church on the Street

AA BIG BOOK MEETING

AA meeting are held in-person or via Zoom on Saturdays at 10:00am.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467618339?pwd=N1Niems0MG5vdk0reVZUTHlIWkxgZz09>

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

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, Feb. 12 at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley.
605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!



LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

Remember that Mid-Week is in full swing once again, and everyone is welcome to attend! We start our Wednesday evenings with the meal served from 5:30-6:20pm followed by classes for everyone from 6:30-7:30pm. If you are looking for an effective way to meet and connect with others from Community, Mid-Week is an excellent option. Keep in mind that we have nursery care for infant-Pre-K, Heather works with K-5th, and Doyle leads Middle School Youth Group 6th-8th followed by High School Youth Group starting at 7:30pm. I've listed the adult classes below.


- Pastor Clyde – Book study of “The Reason for God” by Tim Keller. This class meets in the chapel.
- Pastor John – The Wired Word, which is a weekly study on current issues from Biblical perspectives. This class meets in the office area.
- Pastor Liz (Me!) – Old Testament Apologetics. This class focuses on basic apologetics (you'll learn what that is) and how we can share the truth about God's word in our current culture with our friends and neighbors who do not know Jesus personally. We meet in the fellowship hall
- Grace Collins – Women's group focusing on growing their personal “Gardens of Faith” through daily events, life's challenges and celebrations, and their spiritual walks with Jesus. This group meets in The Corner.
- Susan Bierwagen – Cooperating with Grief. This group is working through a series of discussions about grief and how to cooperate with it to heal through it. They meet in Pastor Clyde's office.

And lastly this week I want to say thank you for the birthday wishes! I had so many wonderful words in my email and on social media on Saturday. Even though I was stuck at home all day, my heart truly felt warm as I read so many greetings. I have been graciously blessed in my 50 years of life, and I'm looking forward to all God has in store in the coming years! As many of you know, we ended up cancelling my birthday open house on Saturday because the weather was being uncooperative. At this point, we've rescheduled that open house for January 27 from 1:00-3:00pm here at church. We'll be sure to include more details in next week's article. 😊

Stay warm out there!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org



HEATHER'S UPDATE

KID'S MINISTRY

Hello Everyone!

I'll take a break from updates and reminders to talk about something that's been on my mind and heart this week. You may not know that I am currently a student! I'm taking courses with the Kairos Seminary (with Sioux Falls Seminary.) I've enjoyed course work on a wide range of topics since I began in August, and currently I'm enrolled in a course on Christian Theology. The assignment I was working on while I was cozied up in my house on Saturday was about the "theology" that the world implies and how it relates to Christian Theology. In other words, what are the messages implied by the trends, books, movies, music, television, and other impactors in our lives, whether intended by the author or not and how are those messages similar to or different from what the Bible says. I was asked to explore some aspects of the culture we live in and what we may be learning or believing as a result of our exposure and experience. Topics I considered crossed a variety of segments including popular tv, movies, and music and even the idea of pet ownership. I thought about social media. I even pondered the messages implied during a trip to Target. I considered specific genres like Christian Fiction books or Classical Music of Beethoven. Then, the assignment I enjoyed was comparing those parts of culture to what the Bible says about truth. I picked social media as my deeper dive. Certainly, this assignment had a subjective component, as what I notice about each part of culture comes out of my personal experience and worldview. However, the takeaway for me was that not all things are simply "all good" or "all bad." Most of the parts of culture I explored had some good, some bad, some beauty, and even some ugliness, and plenty in between. We can't do this life on our own. Discerning what is meant for our eyes, ears, hands, and heart is too hard for our brains without help. We must seek God and the wisdom only He can give. We don't have all of the answers, but we are loved and always with the One who is always the Answer. The verse that kept coming to my heart over, and over was:

PSALMS 139

1You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.
2You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.
3You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.
4Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.
5You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.
6Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.
7Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?
8If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
9If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,
10even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.
11If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,"
12even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.
13For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
14I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
15My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
16Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.
17How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!
18Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand— when I awake, I am still with you.
19If only you, God, would slay the wicked! Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty!
20They speak of you with evil intent; your adversaries misuse your name.
21Do I not hate those who hate you, Lord, and abhor those who are in rebellion against you?
22I have nothing but hatred for them; I count them my enemies.
23Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
24See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

That's a GOOD WORD! See you soon!

Heather DeWit

heather.dewit@communityrc.org

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH
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SIOUX FALLS, SD 57110

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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
Director of Discipleship & Worship
liz.teel@communityrc.org

John Thornton
Part-time Visitation Pastor
prayerline@communityrc.org

Holli Jans
Communications Coordinator
connect@communityrc.org

Heather DeWit
Director of Children's Ministries
heather.dewit@communityrc.org

Doyle Burnside
Senior High & Middle School Youth Director
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

Teresa Lipp
Part-Time Nursery Director
nursery@communityrc.org

Lisa Blankers
Part-Time Financial Administrator
accounting@communityrc.org

Josiah Dunlap
Part-Time IT Coordinator