



# THE COMMUNICATOR

JANUARY 3, 2024

## Weekly Calendar

JAN. 3 - JAN. 10

### Wednesday, Jan. 3

5:30-6:30pm- Meal (Shepherd's Pie)

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 6

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

10:00AM- AA (via Zoom)

See page 2 for details

### Sunday, Jan. 7

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

10:10am- SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Monday, Jan. 8

Noon- Senior Citizens (E. Pizza Ranch)

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

### Tuesday, Jan. 9

9:30-11am- Play Group

### Wednesday, Jan. 10

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

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

2024! It is amazing how quickly the holiday events come and go. We are now into the new year and all the Christmas things are being put away. I am ready for the change and at the same time I do hate to see it all come to an end. I did get back to see my mom on New Year's Day as we did a family gathering in Mitchell. It was a good day there and now it's time to move on to the next thing. I hope you all had a good time with family and friends through all those fun days of Christmas. I did hear from some of you that there are still some Christmas things still ahead. So, I guess it's not over for everyone!

I do want to thank so many of you for the nice cards and yes, even some gifts given as well. I will make the most of all of that. You are very generous! I love the cards that have something handwritten on the inside and take the time to read each one. I'm not a very good card sender, but for me, if I mail out one card, it would probably mean that I would have to mail out hundreds of them. That seems a bit overwhelming...so, I guess I'll pass on that. One of these years I should just push the go button and do it! I'll have to give that some thought.

January will be a busy month around the church as I have several meetings in the plans and of course all the general things that one must do in this job, but I am looking forward to all of that. It's a new year, and I am setting out to make it the best it can be. I will give all my effort to making it as good as I can for those around me. I am not alone in this journey, and the One who walks beside me can bring change any day and any time. I want to live out each day in that kind of light and promise! Join me! It's a good way to walk around!

All of our activities start already this week, so we are back at it full strength. I do hope the weather this winter is not as bad as last year's. That really put a damper on things after the first of the year. MidWeek will start right away this week and I am hoping we can continue to have good the same good numbers we had during the fall. It is a good program folks and we would love to have you join us.

I know we have all be captured by the story of Henry Collins. He continues to do well, and they will be doing some follow up kind of things as the weeks go by. It is one of those stories that we will not forget. A real, right in front of your face miracle for sure. I believe there are many of those around us each and every day, but we don't always notice them. Then, one like this comes along and we are just overwhelmed by the immense presence of the power of God in the midst of a potential tragedy. It is a wonderful story. As I stated Sunday, there is always light at work in the darkness. We don't always notice it, but it is a truth that I live out in my life every day. God is always at work and the light is always there for us.

Sunday, we start a new series based on the story of Moses and the journey out of Egypt, but we won't focus so much on that story. Our focus will be on the way God enters our lives and sets us free from the things that hold us down. He can break every chain. He can free us from all the things that destroy us. Set Us Free! 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



The new year is here and we are ready to be back together after a long break! I'm not sure if it's just me but it is pretty hard to believe that Christmas has already come and gone. My mind finds itself back in the fall sometimes still!! Regardless, I am so excited to be starting up tonight and am looking forward to a few things we have coming up this winter.

First, our registration for the Radix retreat is open and I really hope we can get a good group together for that. We are partnering with a few additional churches this year so I do know the numbers are going to be up a little. We are heading back to Inspiration Hills this year and our theme is Unlocked. We have a lot of things planned for the retreat and I can't wait for it! Radix Retreat will be February 23rd-25th. It is an event for both middle and high school students and goes from Friday night to Sunday afternoon.

Youth group and Sunday School start back up this week. As we get together, we start a new series for each. On Wednesday nights we are turning to the gospels in middle school. We will be focusing on the life of Jesus and will be exploring some of his teachings, miracles and times of prayer. The high school group will be starting a new series in Paul's writings as we explore some amazing truths and promises we can hold onto.

That's it for this week! As we get going in the new year, please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Doyle  
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Jeris VanZee (Mantle Cell Lymphoma)
- Henry Collins (continued healing)
- Randi Van Der Sloom (cancer treatments)
- Jan Mellema (fall recovery)
- Mike Graanstra's dad (GI bleed)

### ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Justin & Sandy Heimdal and family (house fire)
- Dalton Coffey (shoulder surgery recovery)
- Darla Moulton's son-in-law, Neil (cancer)
- Jerry Ackerman (carotid surgery recovery)
- Joanne Avery (broken arm)
- Ann Munce (shoulder surgery)
- Rick Hoogendoorn (pancreatic cancer)
- Joyce Tarrell (recovery from car accident)
- Carrie Valentine (ankle surgery)
- Holli Jans' dad, Milt (cancer)
- Junella Wesselink's sister (cancer)
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Kyle Wigg (liver transplant recovery)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- 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)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad

## FINANCES

Sunday, December 31, 2023

General: \$28,927  
Vision: \$1,240  
Missions: \$505

General YTD: \$967,835  
Vision YTD: \$97,001  
Vision Account Balance: \$44,480

## NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

### Nursery Volunteers Needed in 2024

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.

## GRIEF GROUP

### Cooperating with Grief

continues on January 3  
Pastor Clyde's office  
6:30 pm, Wednesdays  
Everyone welcome to join.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**SUNDAY, JAN. 21**  
**10:10AM**

Meeting will be held to approve the 2024 budget.

## early childhood weekday PLAY GROUP free, all are welcome TUESDAYS 9:30-11:00AM

Parents/ Grandparents/ Caregivers and Kids  
younger than Kindergarten age will join together  
for open play time in the  
Community Nursery as they enjoy time together.  
Questions? Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org  
or 605-336-1475

## 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 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,  
January 8 at noon at the East 10th Pizza  
Ranch. Questions, please call Connie  
Parmley,  
605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

### ..... BOOK CLUBS

**The evening book club** will meet on  
Tuesday, January 16, at 7 pm at the  
church.  
We will be discussing *Mind of Her Own*.

**The morning book club** will meet on  
Wednesday, January 17, at 9 am at the  
Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave.  
We will be discussing *Being Mortal*.

### ..... HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet on January 16th at  
7:00. Carol is hostess and Jeanie has the  
lesson.





LIZ'S UPDATE

# ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

It's the start of a new year for our Community activities! Let's take a look at what's coming up on the ministry schedule.

Mid-Week restarts this week, January 3, with supper served from 5:30 until about 6:20 and classes for all ages (nursery through adults) running from 6:30-7:30. As I've said many times, Mid-Week is one of the best ways to meet and connect with others from Community. It's the perfect time to share a meal with new friends and grow our relationships with God at the same time. Here's a quick rundown of what's offered at Mid-Week for our adult classes starting January 3, and remember, it's not too late to join any of these groups. If you are interested in any of them, just go!

- Pastor Clyde – meeting in the chapel and still working through Tim Keller's book, "The Reason for God."
- Pastor John – meeting in the office area and doing "The Wired Word."
- Pastor Liz (Me!) – meeting in the fellowship hall and doing a new study of Old Testament stories. (I'll give more details about the specifics of this study at our first class on January 3.)
- Susan is meeting with her grief group in Pastor Clyde's office.

Sunday School gets started again this coming Sunday, January 7.

And for any women who are wondering about the WD40 group, we are taking the month of January off and will resume February 5, 2024 at 7:00pm. All women are welcome!

As we head into a new year, my prayer for you is that you find time every day to meet with God. Even if it's only 5 minutes, when you make a commitment to meet with God regularly, God will meet you there. Spending time in the Presence of God changes our lives, and if we're honest about it, it's one of the easiest spiritual exercises we can do. We just have to do it. 😊

A Blessed 2024 to you all!

Liz  
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

A photograph of three children (two girls and one boy) jumping and playing with many large, colorful bubbles in a grassy outdoor area. The bubbles are in various sizes and colors, including blue, green, and yellow.

## HEATHER'S UPDATE

# KID'S MINISTRY

Hello Everyone!

Happy 2024! I'm excited for what 2024 has in store for Children's Ministry.

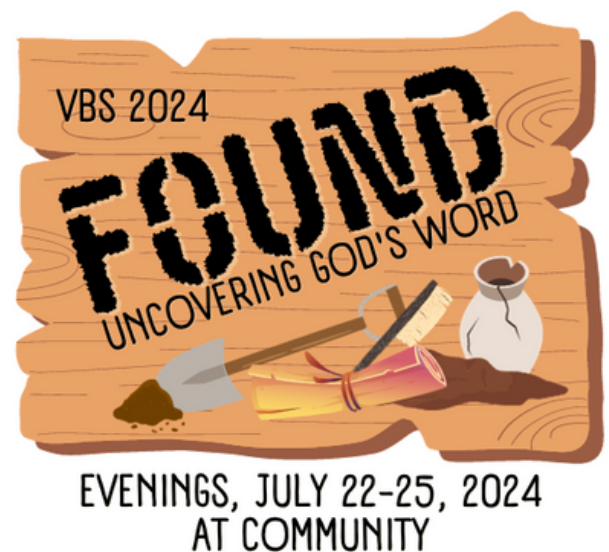
We start Midweek again on 1/3/24. If you haven't been to Midweek yet, come check it out. Come for the meal at 5:30. Kids come play in the Kids wing to have a little fellowship time together without structured activities from 6 to 6:30pm. Lessons for kids are from 6:30-7:30. There is nursery for anyone younger than Kindergarten. K-5 does a variety of activities in the Kids wing. We're doing a snow theme this month! Middle School youth group is from 6:30-7:30 and high school is from 7:30-8:30 (but many of the high school students hang out and do homework/ chat between supper and youth group.) Classes for adults are from 6:30-7:30 and there are some great options. Coming as a family is a great way to grow in faith together and build up your kids. This is also one of the very best ways to get plugged in and meet people at Community whether you have one person in your family, or a bunch.

As you flip your calendars to 2024, I encourage you to add Vacation Bible School from July 22-25, 2024. Our VBS is in the evenings and this year our theme is "Found!" I've got most of the crafts planned, some of the lessons, a bunch of decorations, and about half of the games, so what we need to make VBS awesome this year is YOU!!!

If you have thoughts on what you'd like to see in Kids Ministry in 2024 and what you liked best in 2023 or thought we should adjust for next time, I'd love to hear from you. Just send me an email. Ask your kids if they have thoughts about what would help them get closer to Jesus in 2024 at home and at church, and if you have any thoughts for me, my ears are open! If nothing else, it should make for a valuable conversation for your family. Volunteers, I'd love to hear from you as well. What worked? What didn't? You always have helpful ideas for me.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit  
Children's Ministry  
605-336-1475  
[heather.dewit@communityrc.org](mailto:heather.dewit@communityrc.org)



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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
Permit No. 7119

**JANUARY 3, 2024**

**REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP & BAPTISM...**

**If you would like to request membership or baptism, please  
e-mail the church office at [connect@communityrc.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@communityrc.org)

**Liz Teel**  
Director of Discipleship & Worship  
[liz.teel@communityrc.org](mailto:liz.teel@communityrc.org)

**John Thornton**  
Part-time Visitation Pastor  
[prayerline@communityrc.org](mailto:prayerline@communityrc.org)

**Holli Jans**  
Communications Coordinator  
[connect@communityrc.org](mailto:connect@communityrc.org)

**Heather DeWit**  
Director of Children's Ministries  
[heather.dewit@communityrc.org](mailto:heather.dewit@communityrc.org)

**Doyle Burnside**  
Senior High & Middle School Youth Director  
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**Teresa Lipp**  
Part-Time Nursery Director  
[nursery@communityrc.org](mailto:nursery@communityrc.org)

**Lisa Blankers**  
Part-Time Financial Administrator  
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**Josiah Dunlap**  
Part-Time IT Coordinator