



# THE COMMUNICATOR

MARCH 15, 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

MISSION HAITI

Love Jesus.  
Love Others.  
Make Disciples.

Mission-Haiti's purpose is to show the love of God by developing and equipping strong Christian leaders in Haiti for the cause of Christ

## CLYDE'S ARTICLE

It's March! That's enough about that! We are not that far away from Easter as I look at my calendar this morning. It sure doesn't feel much like Easter yet, but I don't really know what Easter is supposed to feel like. It will be here soon. I would like to get back to Burke again before Easter, if I could. It just seems like each week gets away so quickly and there are too many things to get done. I need to schedule a run out there and just do it! We all know how that goes. I hear that all time from many of you as our lives move along. It is most difficult to get it all done.

Let's talk some church things. I was hearing Heather and Liz talk about Bible School this summer. They are making some very fun plans. Christmas in July! I think it is going to be a good one. We already have a fair number of wrapped gift boxes in the church, and I have a feeling it is just the tip of the iceberg on that deal.

I'm going to start putting a scripture passage in each week's newsletter. Something new! It won't necessary be connected to the upcoming sermon directly, but I will offer it as a word we can all pray over, share, connect with, and think on as the week goes by. I am hoping it brings a uniting of thought throughout the week for our church family. We start this week with a word from Ephesians 3:20-21. Paul's words to his friends:

**20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.**

I postponed last week's Consistory meeting early in the day hoping that by doing so, the snow fall would not amount to much, and it seemed to work. (I say that all in good fun.) Anyway, my brilliant plan now seems not so brilliant because now they are talking more snow for this Thursday. (So much for my planning and all my smarts.) I think someone greater than me oversees those kinds of things. Life lessons are good reminders that we can only do so much. Our journeys are not always guided by our best efforts, though planning ahead is a good thing. We are a part of life-plan that is much higher than our wisdom can know. God knows all the steps and He knows all the outcomes. Trusting in His faithfulness is the place to find rest. When I find myself confused or afraid, I need only to give my cares to Him and let His mercy and grace be my guide. Right now, we have several folks in our church who are dealing with some serious life-journeys. Continue to lift them up in prayer. They need the love of Christ and the care that only He can bring.

Sunday, we turn our thoughts to the book of Job. I have done several messages on this book over the years. I believe at one point I did an entire series of messages from this amazing story. It is not the easiest book to understand. There are troubling passages about Job's plight and how that all came to pass. As he walks through those difficult days, he received much advice from friends and family. It wasn't good advice, but they were trying to help as best as they could. He was wandering in his own desert. He was confused and hurting. That is not a good place to be. God will show up in that desert for him. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

YOU  
**BELONG**  
HERE

## UPCOMING DATES

**Wednesday, March 15**

**6:30-7:30pm- Adoption Information Meeting**

presented by the staff at Lifeline Children's Services

This info meeting is open anyone interested in learning more.

Please RSVP by calling Lifeline at 605-626-8588

or emailing [melissa.steltz@lifelinechild.org](mailto:melissa.steltz@lifelinechild.org).



**INTERESTED IN PLAYING  
CHURCH SOFTBALL  
(ON MONDAY NIGHTS)  
THIS SUMMER?**

**Contact Doyle Burnside**

[doyle.burnside@communityrc.org](mailto:doyle.burnside@communityrc.org)  
or sign up at The Link in the lobby.

## FINANCES

Sunday, March 12, 2023

General: \$13,358

Vision: \$750

Missions: \$210

Wednesday Night: \$189

General YTD: \$132,671

Vision YTD: \$12,452

Vision Account Balance: \$33,951

## THIS WEEK

**Wednesday, March 15**

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

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

Middle School Youth Group & Adults

6:30-7:30pm- Adoption Info Meeting

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

**Saturday, March 18**

7:00am- Prayer Ministry

10:00AM- AA

**Sunday, March 19**

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

10:05am- Sunday School

**Monday, March 20**

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

7:00-8:00PM- WD40

**Tuesday, March 21**

9:30-11am- Play Group

7:00pm- Book Club (at church)

7:00pm- Hope Circle

**Wednesday, March 22**

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

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](mailto:tjstonegate@gmail.com)) for meeting access.

### SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, March 13 at noon at the East 10th

Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

### BOOK CLUBS

The evening book club next meets on Tuesday, March 21, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing Gardens of Water.

### HOPE CIRCLE

Due to our "snow day" on Feb. 21, Hope Circle will try again on March 21 at 7:00. Hostess is Carol and Jerralyne has the lesson.

A photograph of four children of diverse backgrounds playing outdoors, reaching for and popping bubbles. The scene is bright and cheerful, with green foliage in the background.

# KID'S MINISTRY

HEATHER'S UPDATE

Hi!

I don't have any big updates for you this week. I have really been struck lately at how God uses kids to impact the lives of other kids and adults! I noticed a few occurrences of that amazing gift, and after my attention was focused on that, I noticed even more! Community, your kids are just great. They do such a good job of taking care of one another and welcoming new people. It is a blessing to get to view their conversations with one another, to see them welcome new friends, and to see them pray for others.

I realize that nearly every newsletter lately, I share the same links, but some of you haven't had a chance to sign up yet, so here they are again!

- Sign kids up for VBS and invite friends to join. <https://communityrc.org/vbs> You can bring empty boxes wrapped in Christmas paper to help us decorate. Also, if you have some awesome Christmas decorations that you want to bring in July, send me a picture or description and we'll see if we've got the perfect spot. I'm working on the decorations map/ layout right now so I've got VBS on the brain. I know we've got a big light up nativity, a tree, a snowy scene, and some other fun stuff in the works but it is a big place with a lot of room for exciting decorations.
- Sign YOURSELF up to volunteer for VBS and recruit someone else to volunteer too. <https://communityrc.org/vbs>
- Inspiration Hills Camp: <https://www.inspirationhills.org/summer-camp/>
- We have a new Nursery theme for March, The Lord is My Shepherd. We would love to have some additional volunteers: <https://communityrc.org/nurseryvolunteers>

I am still seeking one more 4th grade teacher to finish out the year team teaching. Because we have co-teachers who teach every other week, if you decide to volunteer, you'd teach about 4 times between now and Mother's Day. Please let me know if you are interested.

See you soon!

Heather DeWit

Community Kids

[Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org](mailto:Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org)

605-336-1475





LIZ'S UPDATE

# ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

This week, I need to mention what happens during these last weeks of our Mid-Week ministry. Although it's hard to believe, we only have 3 weeks of Mid-Week left, and that includes this week! So, for reference, the upcoming dates are:

March 15 – Normal Mid-Week schedule

March 22 – Normal Mid-Week schedule

March 29 – Final night of Mid-Week celebrated with pizza and worship

It's been a fantastic year for this ministry. We've consistently fed over 200 people every week during the year, we held 4 different adult classes, Heather facilitated lessons and Fun Zone for K-5th grade, Doyle hosted Middle and High School youth groups (be sure to check his article in the upcoming weeks for those extended high school schedules), and the nursery workers took care of the little ones! As always, Mid-Week did not disappoint! If you've never attended, but you find yourself wondering what it's like, please know you are welcome to join us for these last weeks! Come enjoy a meal, stimulating dinner conversations, sit in on a class, and discover all that Mid-Week has to offer!

Don't forget to register your kids for VBS this summer! And please bring in those Christmas wrapped boxes to help us with decorating. Anytime is a good time to bring a wrapped box! Remember VBS is July 24-27.

And lastly this week, I thought I'd mention that my sister and I are going to be heading out to Bonesteel, SD next week (March 24-25) to lead a women's retreat for Overflow Ministries. This retreat is open to any women who are interested in attending! Abbie and I led a worship night for this organization last fall, and they do a fantastic job of planning and hosting these events. I know there is at least one woman from Community who is planning on attending, and she told me she'd be willing to carpool and share what she knows about lodging out there. If you're interested in more information about this event, please let me know. And if God prompts you, we'd love your prayers for a fruitful event!

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.

### East River Foster Parent Network:

Boys joggers/ sweatpants sizes 7-14  
Headlice treatment kits

### Community Youth Group:

Old Cell phones & ink cartridges

### Community Kids Ministry:

Christmas Wrapping paper & wrapped empty boxes



## DOYLES'S UPDATE

# MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



We are drawing near to the end of midweek for the year! With only two weeks of the series left followed by praise and pizza the final night. It is so hard to believe we are already there with Easter coming up fast. Here are a few things to know as we finish March out.

To start, our series this month is on relationships. The middle school group will be talking about family this week and how we can love God through our relationships at home. We will talk about our emotions, thoughts and actions and how the three of them all work together in accomplishing the same thing. Our high school group moves to week two of our dating series, and this week we focus on our mind and the power our thoughts hold.

With our March Madness series, also comes our Red Carpet Night for the high school students. This is something that was started by Liz way before I ever came to Community. It is still possibly one of the most talked about and anticipated events that we do. This year we are dressing up again to go enjoy a nice meal together as a youth group the 25th. A lot of students have already responded and there is still some time left if your student would like to join us this year. Please respond to me by this Sunday so we can work with Minerva's on numbers and menu.

8th graders, this one is for you. With the end of midweek coming to a close, you are invited to join the high school group for two weeks in April – April 12th and 19th. Our high school group will continue to meet and this is a great opportunity to get to know some of the students who will be a part of your youth group next year. We will do a meal starting at 6:30 and then start youth group from 7:00-8:00.

Finally, there is still time to sign up for Rocky Mountain High this year. I know the registration process has been confusing for most, so if you are still looking at getting your high school student signed up this year and need some help with the registration, please feel free to call and I can help with that. We will leave early Saturday, July 22nd and be getting home later on Wednesday July 26th. Looking forward to a great trip this summer!

That's all for this week! If you have any questions regarding the youth ministry here at Community, you can send them my way.

Doyle  
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Verle Valentine (hip surgery recovery)
- Marv Sturing (new chemo for cancer)
- Doug DeWit (pacemaker)

### ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Gracia Harmsen (surgery recovery)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloom
- Gary Newman (heart procedure)
- Carrie Valentine (fractured ankle/foot)
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Marv Vos (double hip replacement)
- Angie Bonnema's dad (whipple surgery)
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Cherri Price (ongoing chemo)
- 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)
- Dan Stephany (heart issues)
- 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)
- 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)
- 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)

### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Elaine and Cleone and their families on the passing away of their niece. Please keep them in your prayers.