



THE COMMUNICATOR

MAY 31, 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

Hope Haven International

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

The calendar is going to turn to June this week. Lots of summer things are getting into full swing and most of the schools in the area have gone on summer breaks except for those whose schedules were rocked with that long winter we all experienced. Summer is here folks! We could use a little rain for sure. I know the farmers are hoping for a little rain as most of the seeds are in the ground and now it's time for the sky to work. I hope you have some great/fun things planned for your summer months. I know life gets busy. Make time for yourself and God...just sayin!

We drove back to Burke on Monday to spend some time with my mom and go out to the cemetery. The flags were all up and that view is always very special. Lots of memories! They had a nice rain there Sunday night and you could tell. The river hills are a vibrant green and things look so fresh and new. It was a good to be there. I hope you all could do something like that on Monday as well. It is good to remember!

I will be starting a new series of messages for the summer this week. I have been doing these long summer series now for the last few years and I think they work well. If you are gone, you don't feel like you have lost touch. It is a way to keep some continuity going through the summer. I am going to work my way verse by verse through the twelfth chapter of Romans. You all know by now that many parts of Romans are some of my favorite teachings in the Bible. Romans 12 is one of those great chapters that we can all work through together. Some of those verses will be most familiar and others will be less so, but when you take them one at a time, we will begin to see a bigger perspective of what Paul was trying to communicate to that church. I am looking forward to it!

Sunday, I put out Becky's book on the table and ran out of copies, but I will do it again this week. If you didn't get one or would like another for a book club or a friend, they will be there one more week. That was nice to see people taking them. I think it is a good read. It isn't enjoyable, but it is a great word on God in the middle of a mess. God does work in those places friends. We have been talking about some over these last several weeks.

Sunday we will start with verse one of Romans 12. We will start a little before that with some thoughts on the end of chapter 11. That will give us a good foundation from which to begin our study time. The first verse is a familiar one and a deep set of words to navigate. It will be a verse that we will go back to several times throughout the summer. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

NOTE: We will livestream the 9:00am service only throughout the summer.

You can watch LIVE at 9am or anytime after that service has ended at www.communityrc.org/watch-live

YOU
BELONG
HERE

Summer Dates to Save

Mark Your Calendar!

▶ **Canaries Faith & Family Night Wednesday, June 14**

Community has 60 free tickets for the Canaries baseball game on June 14th. Please email Holli (connect@communityrc.org) to reserve yours!

▶ **Picnic In The Park Wednesday, June 21 Upper Tuthill Park**

Join us for "Picnic in the Park" on Wednesday, June 21st @ 6:30pm at Upper Tuthill Park!
Just bring a lawn chair and we'll provide a hot dog meal.

▶ **VBS Monday, July 24- Thurs., July 27**

We're celebrating Christmas in July!
See Details Below!



Register Now!
Vacation Bible School

VBS Christmas

**JULY 24-27
6-7:45PM**

Free- bring friends!
communityrc.org/vbs

Sign up by
6/1/23
for a chance to
WIN
\$100 gift card!

IN JULY

SCAN ME

THIS WEEK

Saturday, June 3

7:00am- Prayer Ministry
10:00AM- AA

Sunday, June 4

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45AM- Worship Service
10:10am- Adult Sunday School

Monday, June 5

8:20pm & 9:15pm- Church Softball
(Sherman Park- Field B & D)

Tuesday, June 6

9:30-11am- Play 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, June 12 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, June 20, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing The Nature of Fragile Things by Susan Meissner.

The morning book club will meet on Wednesday, June 21, at 9 am at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave. We will be discussing And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie.

HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet on June 20th at 7:00pm. Jerralynne is hostess and Carol has the lesson.

MISSIONS UPDATE

Please pray for Diana Langerock with CRU International as she travels to Accra, Ghana for the TraNet 2023 conference May 31-June 3. She asked for prayers for safe travels, good health, that God would speak to the participants for encouragement, spiritual growth, understanding, and long-term impact.

Abigail Blok, John and Kelly Blok's daughter, is participating in the Northwestern College's Summer of Service (SOS) program at City Church of Compton (CA). She requested prayers for the diverse community and the ministry opportunities. If you'd like to support her in this mission opportunity you can live online at www.nwciowa.edu/give2sos or to the Office of Campus Ministry, 101 7th Street SW, Orange City, Iowa 51041-1996.

Jeff McKee with Navigators requests prayer as he is heading up his team for the summer. This is a new adventure for him this year. He will be leading a 14-18 program coaches/counselors as they lead week long camps in various locations throughout Colorado and Missouri. He asked for safe travels throughout the summer, guidance in his leadership this summer, for God's presence and Spirit at each camp, that the gospel will be spread to kids involved and their families, and especially the military families at Fort Carson when they spend a week with them. The camps run from June 5-August 13.

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THE GIVE

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

Ben Reifel Middle School:
games & puzzles

The Banquet:
coffee

Lunch Is Served:
Granola bars & applesauce/ encouraging notes

Children's Home Society:
Swimming towels
outdoor sports/rec equipment

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PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

• Barb Klein

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Kathy Klein (tests)
- Todd Bittner (tests)
- Kyle Wigg (liver transplant recovery)
- Marv Sturing (cancer/ hospice)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Leah Reuwsaat's mom, Marie
- Joe Johnson (traveling to China)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Aaralyn Van Der Sloot
- Angie Bonnema's dad (whipple surgery)
- Rick Norris (cancer)
- Cherri Price (ongoing chemo)
- Glenda Van Den Hoek
- Nicole Ryan (deployed for 6 months)
- Karen Johnson (heart issues)
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris
- Randi Van Der Sloot (cancer treatments)
- Irwin Van Leeuwen (cancer treatment)
- Steve Lee (awaiting lung transplant)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (transplant recovery)
- 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, Vonnice (cancer)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad (skin & muscle graft)


CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Joel Blankers and his family for the recent passing of his mother, LaVonne. Please keep them in your prayers.

Thank You

**COMMUNITY,
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN
THE GIFTS FROM THE CHURCH AS WELL AS
THE DOUGHNUT HOLES! IT HAS BEEN A
BLESSING TO WORK AT COMMUNITY THE
LAST 12 YEARS IN THE NURSERY. I WILL
MISS SEEING ALL THE KIDS, AS WELL AS
THE FAMILIES AND ALL THE VOLUNTEERS.
THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE
SERVED IN THE NURSERY!
THANKS AGAIN!**

SHERI BROUWER



HEATHER'S UPDATE

KID'S MINISTRY

Hello Everyone!

I'm writing this note to you right after switching the VBS countdown calendar to 50 days! We still need quite a few volunteers and of course we're ready for more kids! Tell some friends.

Check it all out at: communityrc.org/vbs

I'd especially love to get people plugged in for some of the following roles: Preschool Bible Story Leader, Preschool Craft Leader, Preschool Games Leader, 3-5 Grade Bible Leader, 3-5 Grade Craft Leader. Remember, all of the supplies and instructions are already done. We just need you!

I owe a couple of my co-workers enormous gratitude this week (and honestly, all of my co-workers all of the weeks.) Liz offered to help me with the overwhelming task of organizing the Sunday School supply closet. We've been given many donations of supplies and craft materials over the years, and I've been so busy working on lessons and learning with kids, that the closet became quite a mess! After VBS or at the end of a school year, I'm usually so worn out that it becomes easier to just tuck things away to clean up later. Well, NOW it is all clean! Liz is a master of organization and offered her hard work, time and patience to help me sort and organize every single tote, bin, box, and bag to make that space easy to use. It is easy for me to reach every single tote and shelf and will be easy to put supplies away after VBS and other Children's Ministry adventures. It is already making my job easier and will for a long time. Holli has also spent time helping me re-set the Sunday School rooms for VBS and next fall, removing old supplies, preparing the new supplies for the 2023-2024 curriculum, and just making things look tidy. We work really hard to make it easy for everyone to volunteer, teach, and serve in Children's Ministry and part of that is making it easy to find the supplies for each lesson. This takes extra work and can be a little bit of a lonely job for me and Holli offered to help me with that this year. We all typically pitch in to help each other in this office when possible, but these last two weeks I've been on the receiving end of enormous amounts of help and I'm so thankful.

This week you get a little bit of a personal note from me. My oldest daughter graduated from high school last week and I want to use this privilege of getting to write in the newsletter to thank the whole church. Many of you know the blessing of raising your children here, but as I look back, I can't help but note what a gift it has been to have Community be our church family. People say that it takes a village to raise a child and Community has been a big part of our village. Mickila is officially an adult with a high school diploma, and you all kept the promise that you made at her baptism. She was prayed over, snuggled in the nursery, loved in Sunday School, inspired at VBS, noticed on a Sunday morning, and nurtured in Middle School and High School youth group. Community, and especially the Youth Group here are her safe space to grow. She doesn't like to miss a Sunday morning. Some of you took time to ask about her interests on a Sunday morning. Some of you gave her an extra smile when she came to church looking tired. Some of you dedicated your time volunteering in many different ways. Some gave me parenting advice when I was worn out. Some led worship. Some of you raised the children who are now her faith-filled friends. Some gave the funds that made an awesome youth group possible. Some prayed while she was at camp. I could probably continue this list for 10 pages and never note all of the ways that Community has been Mickila's community from before she was born to this new adventure. I'd humbly ask you to continue to pray for her through the summer and as she heads to SDSU next year, but some of you have already started that too! Community, you are a blessing. Thank you.

See you soon!

-Heather

Heather.DeWit@CommunityRC.org

605-336-1475





LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

I hope you were able to spend some time remembering and reflecting over Memorial Day weekend. We drove home to Burke on Monday to spend the day with my grandma and to walk around the cemetery. Burke does a fantastic job of decorating for the holiday; flags everywhere and so many flowers and decorations on the gravestones. Plus, having a gorgeous day didn't hurt! It was a good day to be with family and to remember.

Don't forget that the "Your Story...And God..." guideline sheets will be available all summer. You can pick up hard copies on Sundays in the sanctuary or you can download it from the church website and app. If you've been feeling the nudge from God to follow through on Pastor Clyde's suggestion to write your story, these guideline sheets will break it down into easier bits to work through. I strongly encourage you to go through this process. If you do it right, it will take several days to weeks to work through it, but the blessings and benefits will be immeasurable.

If you were in church on Sunday, you heard the announcement about Pastor Clyde's books being available for free in the lobby. This book, "The Story of One Word" is about my mom's cancer journey, its impact, and God's faithfulness in it. As I mentioned on Sunday, this is a hard read in the respect that it's full of the truth of what suffering feels like. However, it's also a powerful read in the respect that God's Presence and grace is everywhere and always with us, especially in the hardest times. All of the books we had at church were taken on Sunday (YAY!!!), so Pastor Clyde is going to put more out this week. We'll put them out until they are gone. And please feel free to take more than one to give away if you have friends who might benefit from the book.

And lastly this week, I've had someone ask me recently about the little worship devotionals I do every Sunday and if they are available to read elsewhere during the week. Although this isn't the first time someone has mentioned those devotionals to me, it is the first time I was asked if they are available somewhere. So, if you'd be willing to share your input with me, I have a couple of questions for you:

1. Would you also like to be able to access those devotionals during the week?
2. If so, what would be your preferred format for those devotionals? I could write them out and put them in the Communicator and/or on the website. Or I could do a short video of them and have those available in different places online. I'm also open to suggestions for other ways to make these available to people. So, if you have any great ideas, feel free to share!

I'm not making any guarantees about this!☺ It's possible that the majority only wants them to be shared during worship on Sunday, and I would be ok with that! But if there are more of you who would like to be able to revisit those devotionals or share them with others, I'd like to make that happen if I can. Please feel free to share your thoughts, either in person on a Sunday or by emailing me at Liz.Teel@communityrc.org.

Have a great week, friends!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

CONSISTORY NOTES

MAY 11, 2023

Attendance: Pastor Clyde Teel, Doug Harms, Tom Van Roekel, Mary Burggraaf, Tom Bosch, Harvey Odens, Russ Hoogendoorn, Ross Larson, Darren Ellwein, Corey Feenstra, Grant Boltjes, Mark Theisen, Tyler Wolf, Sean Fantroy, Tanner Corbin, Lyle Pudwill, Eric Van Donge

Opening Devotion – Proverbs 16 from “Walking with Grace” and opening prayer - Joel Blankers

MSA to approve the April 13, 2023 consistory meeting minutes. Reviewed the April 23, 2023 congregational meeting minutes for the selection of elders and deacons.

MSA to approve the financial report.

The handbook has been revised and ready for consistory review.

Reports by Liz and Heather were reviewed.

Election of officers – Vice President-Russ Hoogendoorn, Treasurer-Lyle Pudwill, Assistance Treasurer-Eric Van Donge, and Clerk-Mary Burggraaf.

MSA for the following individuals have check signing and church payroll approval: treasurer advisor, Corey Feenstra; treasurer, Lyle Pudwill; assistant treasurer, Eric Van Donge; vice president-Russ Hoogendoorn; and secretary-Mary Burggraaf. The following individuals have termed out of service and are to be removed from all accounts as authorized individuals for check signing and payroll approval: Joel Blankers and Logan Veurink.

MSA to approve the hiring of Teresa Lipp as the nursery director.

MSA to hire Claire Kingsbury as the 8 a.m. pianist at \$75.00 per service.

MSA for Heather to have access to the continuing education budgeted moneys for master's degree course work. Doyle has completed his master's degree.

The Kingdom Network hub meeting May 17, 2023, Pastor Clyde and Mary will attend.

Discussed potential property concerns.

Closing prayer – Pastor Clyde
Respectfully submitted,
Mary Burggraaf

DOYLES' UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



Summer officially gets kicked off for the youth group this week as we have a grill out here at church tonight (the 31st). Our middle school group will go from 6:00-8:00 and high school will go from 6:00-9:00. Students, come on out for some hotdogs, burgers, chips and ice cream as we celebrate the end of the school year!

With this celebration, we also welcome the incoming 6th grade class into the middle school and 9th grade class into the high school! Moving forward, each new class is officially invited to everything we do as a youth group. Our soon to be freshman are still able to attend the middle school events this summer as well if they would like. I have sent out the calendars to parents for both groups! If you have not received that email and would like to please let me know!

I am looking forward to all that comes along with summer. As we get going, if you have any questions please feel free to reach out anytime!

Doyle
Doyle.burnside@communityrc.org
605-310-2561

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SUMMER ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The adult Sunday School class will continue to meet throughout the summer months.
Everyone welcome!
Sundays @ 10:10am
in the Chapel



NURSERY COORDINATORS

HIRING NURSERY COORDINATORS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS AND WEDNESDAY NIGHTS.

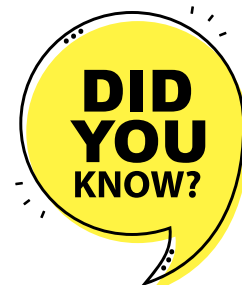
THIS POSITION HAS FLEXIBLE HOURS AND IS PAID HOURLY.

**IF THIS JOB INTERESTS YOU, PLEASE LET US KNOW BY EMAILING:
HEATHER.DEWIT@COMMUNITYRC.ORG**

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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



WE COLLECT USED GREETING CARDS AND DONATE THEM TO NURSING HOMES & DAYCARES. PLEASE BRING THOSE CARDS TO THE LINK AND WE'LL BE SURE THEY ARE DONATED.