



THE COMMUNICATOR

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH

NOVEMBER 24, 2021

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

Angel Tree reaches out to the children of prisoners and their families, helping to meet their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs through Christ.

CLYDE'S ARTICLE

It is Thanksgiving Week! It is that time of year once again. I do hope that many of you will get to spend some family time together. Last year was such a radical change for so many of us...I am hoping for a change this year for all of you. If you travel, travel safe. Enjoy your time together, whatever that will mean. Be reminded that families will be getting together without some familiar faces. Those times are always a bit more difficult. God will be present...that we do know. That, we can be thankful for!

Thanks to Pastor John who is doing the Thanksgiving Eve service. I gave him a late invitation, but he said yes! I was grateful. I have good folks around here who do nice things. It is a good church.

I did get back home to do some hunting last week. It was good. I didn't see anything that I would want. I'm very picky. Maybe too picky! A couple of the guys got the biggest deer they have ever gotten so they are out there. I have great friends there who treat me so well. I am always so grateful. The Hertz family has been a gift to me. I really do like those folks! I can go this week, but I am trying to decide if I am just done. I miss that place when I can't go. It is always good for me to get back to see mom too. She enjoys the company and the time we get to spend together. Those times are so valuable.

The choir has been practicing hard. They are giving their time and talents so that all of us may enjoy a Christmas gift on the 5th of December at the 9 and 10:45 services. It is a big day. We will be doing a number of carols that day with all of you. It will be a Christmas celebration. I am hoping the message of the season will come through and we will bring a few smiles into the room. That is our goal. We missed all of that last year. I didn't like that so much. Christmas is my favorite time of the year...my favorite holiday. You all know that. I love going the extra mile for everyone! Let's pray for a lovely season! Emmanuel!

You might want to look at the "wall display" in the lobby. We have photos there of pictures folks of Community sent to us. They show a moment in time when God was present. Take a look at those if you get a chance. We also would love to add photos to the wall. If you have an extra copy, clip it right on. If you want us to scan them, Holli can do that. You also can send her your photos by email. (connect@communityrc.org) We are hoping to fill those walls. We all know a time when Jesus was near...do you have a photo? Fill the wall! Go God!

We're doing a new series now for Advent. The Scenes of Christmas! The title might have read "The Seens of Christmas". We look at those paintings or those images and we see most always the beauty of the moment, but we all know there was more going on. God is always up to something more. Bethlehem, the manger, Mary, Joseph, the wisemen, and the angels...but there is more to the story. We'll talk more on Sunday, have a great week!



UPCOMING DATES

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, November 28

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Sunday, Dec. 5
9:00 & 10:45am service

KID'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, Dec. 5
5:00pm
(kids practice from 2-5pm)

MIDWEEK BREAK

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 22, 29

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICES

Friday, Dec. 24
3, 4, 5, & 6:00pm

**JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS
EVE SERVICE AS WE CELEBRATE
AND REFLECT ON THE MEANING
OF CHRISTMAS. WE'LL HAVE
INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED
COMMUNION CUPS AND A
GLUTEN FREE OPTION.**



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 9AM OR 10:45AM SERVICES

605.church/nurseryvolunteers

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, NOV 24:

7:00pm- Thanksgiving Eve Service

SATURDAY, NOV 27 :

7:00AM-Prayer Ministry (chapel)
10:00AM- AA meeting

SUNDAY, NOV 28:

8:00am, 9:00am & 10:45am-
In-person Sunday Services
NO Sunday School
4:00-5:30-Choir

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1:

5:30-6:30pm- meal- Chicken/Taco Salad
6:30-7:30pm- Midweek Classes for Children,
Middle School Youth Group & Adults
(Nursery also provided)
7:30-8:30pm- High School Youth Group

OTHER MINISTRIES

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.

BOOK CLUB

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00pm at church. We will be discussing *Beartown*.

The morning book club will meet Wed. December 15 at 9:00am at church. We will be discussing *Educated*.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens meet every 2nd Monday of the month at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. **Next date: Dec. 14.** Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

JOY CIRCLE

Our Christmas luncheon (for members of Joy Circle) will be held on Tuesday, **Dec. 7** at noon in the church lobby. Liz Teel will be presenting our program. There will be a catered meal. The cost will be \$15. Sign up at The Link if able to attend. Payment will be appreciated at the time of sign up.



COMMUNITY KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

DECEMBER 5, 2021
5:00PM

KID'S MINISTRY

HEATHER'S UPDATE

Hi Everyone!

I don't have much for you in terms of big updates. We continue with Sunday School, Midweek and Christmas Program prep. As always, let me know if you have questions or if there is anything I can help you with.

This time of year can be a tricky one for many kids and adults. It is a season that includes memories, family gatherings, planning and activities which can bring smiles, bring tears, bring excitement, or overwhelm. However, on a more simple logistical level, the time change and weather often play a role in our moods. The change in weather can take a bit of getting used to. Even if you like the cold (I do not!), it is still a change. For kids, this might mean a little less time outside and at very least a change in activities and scenery.

If you happen to be spending quality time with a cranky kid (kids can be age 1 to 101), here are a few things that might help:


1. Take a moment to breathe and pray before you try to connect or correct. God made you, made your kid, and put the two of you together. He's got this covered.
2. Try to listen for what the real issue is. For one year old kids, it might be pretty clear. For teenagers, you may need to do some detective work. The rest of us fall somewhere in between.
3. Do your best to be the calm in their storm. The ironic thing that often happens when a kid is in a funk, is that the grown-ups are often in a funk too. Kid brains are still developing. They can be irrational, illogical and emotional. Our job is to be the grown-up and calmly set expectations that are age-appropriate, even when we feel like joining the drama. This probably isn't about you. Even if you do struggle, be ready to apologize....first.
4. Just add water. For some kids, a big drink of water is enough. For others, a bath or a shower may be the relaxing change up they need.
5. Try a little music. Bonus: dance along. It is hard to be mad and dance.
6. Change the scenery and/or add fresh air. Even a teenager can bundle up and walk around the block to shake off a bad mood. Little ones can bundle pretty tight in a stroller. Spending 5 minutes walking is far more productive than 10 minutes yelling or crying.
7. Drop the to-do list for a few minutes and just be together. Again, invest the time in good moments rather than wasting time dealing with bad moments when things get worse.
8. If you've got things that must be done, try shaking it up. Do your kids usually read 20 minutes for homework? Try reading with a flashlight under the covers. Need to vacuum? Race the clock for a silly prize like making dad wear a paper hat during supper. Is the drama around eating supper? Try ditching the silverware or eating with big, huge serving utensils. Silly is good, sometimes. If you have to grab groceries, give your kid the list or let them decide between a few acceptable items when possible. Big kids? Divide that list and conquer it as a team.
9. Speaking of choices, sometimes, when I'm in a funk, too many choices is overwhelming BUT too few is annoying. Walking that line with a kid can be tricky, but if you watch for cues from them. You know your people.
10. Ask some good questions like, "what is one thing that made you laugh today?" "If you could travel back in time, what's one thing you'd change this week?" "Is there anything you'd like some help with?"
11. When in doubt, try a snack and/or a nap (for them and you.)
12. Remember, this is just one moment. It'll change. Even if it is a longer phase, it'll still change eventually. Again, handle with prayer.

See you soon!

-Heather

Heather.DeWit@Communityrc.org

605-336-1475



LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Gracious God,
We desperately need time this week to say thanks.

Our pace and our schedules make thankfulness especially challenging,
but today, we ask You to give us the space we need to give thanks.

Thank You for the way creation is constantly moving and changing
and for its revelation of You
visible to those who will stop long enough
to see You in it.

Thank You for the people we especially love,
who are near to our hearts and who fill our lives with meaning.
In the days to come, help us to see others
who bring meaning to our lives
when we least expect it.

Thank You for the people who challenge us;
those who cause us pain and grief,
because they remind us to turn to You
for our every need.

Thank you for celebrations and heartaches,
for laughter and tears,
for strength and weakness,
for fullness and emptiness,
because we can't fully appreciate the good gifts You give us
without experiencing the lack of those gifts.

Thank You for Your patience with us as we grow and change.
Remind us to be patient with ourselves
as You do the hard work of transforming us from the inside out.

Thank You, Jesus the Son, for always interceding for us.

Thank You, Father, for always working on our behalf.

Thank You, Holy Spirit, for always being present to us and with us.

Thank You, God!
Amen!

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org



THE GIVE

CHECK OUT THE GIVE WALL IN THE LOBBY.
IT'S A PLACE TO DONATE TO LOCAL MINISTRIES.

Lexi's Christmas Closet

Lego sets (all ages), Pop Its, books, board games, water bottles, toys, etc.
Complete list can be found on The Give wall or find an Amazon Wish list at 605.church/christmas-closet

Inspiration Elementary School (our neighbor)

New Sweatpants & underwear
(sizes 4, 5,6)

Union Gospel Mission

Men's and Women's undergarment items (NEW ONLY - underwear, bras, socks)

Ben Reifel Middle School (our neighbor)

Teen Size gloves, hats, scarves, socks, gently used coats

PRAYER REQUESTS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

- Cleon Groen
- Glenda Van Den Hoek (arm surgery)
- Tom & Amy Bosch's mom (stroke)

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Jan Kreun's dad
- Helen Robinson's sister & brother-in-law
- Jan McDowell's daughter-in-law
- Jane Newman (gallbladder surgery recovery)
- Elaine Deelstra
- Mike Hays (cancer/surgery recovery)
- Jim Halling (cancer)
- Alida VerBerg's son-in-law, Jim (intensive rehab- recovering from COVID)
- Bert Roetman's son, Loren (accident recovery)
- Lux (3-month old had open heart surgery)
- Jenny Getting
- Lexi Valentine (auto-immune disease)
- Randi Van Der Sloot (cancer treatments)
- Spring & Tony
- Jodie Jensen (cancer treatments/heart)
- Robyn Jacobs' dad, Rick (Leukemia)
- Darla Anderson's friend, Vonnie (cancer)
- Connie Saathoff's brother, Russ (cancer)
- Ann DeYoung (dialysis)
- Brian Frisbee (long-term stroke rehab)
- Marv Sturing (cancer)
- Tracee Ellwein's dad (skin & muscle graft)
- Kim Becker's mother-in-law, Amy (colorectal cancer)
- Ellen Nelson (chronic airway disease)
- Jenna Hoogendoorn (liver)
- Tami Boyle's dad (prostate cancer)
- Gary Jensen (cancer)
- Tami Harm's cousin (colon cancer)

CONSISTORY NOTES

NOVEMBER 11, 2021

Attendance: Pastor Clyde, Dustin, Grant, Mike H., Joel, Robyn, Tom J., Rick, Tom V., Logan, Duane, Matt M., Steve, Corey, and Kenny

Opening Devotional and prayer – Corey Feenstra

MSA the minutes from October.

MSA of the financial reports for October given by Logan.

Old Business

Budget meeting on Nov. 17th

New Business

Reports – Liz and Heather were reviewed.

- Heather
 - 3rd Grade Bibles were given out.
 - Preschool Kids made their own colorful coat to look like Joseph. Overall, the number of kids keeps fluctuating each week but is generally increasing.
 - Operation Christmas Child is underway by filling shoe boxes. Heather has had several groups of people helping fill these boxes.
 - Christmas Kids Program will be one day practice and then program.
 - School Action Team
 - Donations Needed- Socks, Gloves, Hats, Sweatpants Size 4-6
 - Mentors Needed- There is a waiting list of students at Ben Reifel and Inspiration Elementary.

· Liz-Adult Discipleship

- Meeting with adults of all ages continue
- Corner continues to be excellent place to meet new folks.
- Midweek is going very well, and numbers are well over 200. The new time change is working well for everyone.
- Lot of adults attending the Midweek classes

Worship Leadership

- Choir has met 3 times and is going well. The date of the concert is Dec. 5th.
- Liz may cover 8:00 service when the weather is bad, and Joyce can't get out.

Care Teams – Members of the Consistory met with several of the staff to see how they are doing. Doyle, Sheri, and Pastor Clyde and were reviewed with the Consistory.

Backyard – They completed the work to fix up the backyard of the church. It looks really good.

Street Inspections – Some issues that need to be done to the street found during inspections. Therefore, we still have not received a bill.

Hard Flooring for the Children's room – Rick has some flooring he is going to donate.
oMSA Rick installing the new flooring.

Other

- Tom J brought to the floor a Pastoral retreat Liz asked to have considered for the 2022 budget. This will be discussed in more detail during next week's budget meeting.

Clyde closed in time of prayer

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Jacobs, clerk

Next Meeting December 9th.

Tom Van Roekel devotion and serving treats



Share a photo that shows a moment in your life when God was present. You may not have realized it then, but you see it now.

Print that photo and hang it on the "God in the Moments" wall in the lobby or email your photo to connect@communityrc.org.



Q: How many Operation Christmas Child boxes does it take to fill a minivan? 🤔

A: 271 🎉

Thank you, Community, for filling 271 boxes for children around the world!

CONNECT WITH US



SCAN THIS CODE ON YOUR PHONE IN ORDER TO COMPLETE A CONTACT CARD