

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

As we celebrate our Freedoms and Independence this 4th of July let us never forget all those who fought for those freedoms. We thank you for your service. May God bless each and everyone of you.

The Noble and the Brave: A Veteran's Tribute



When America had an urgent need,
 These brave ones raised a hand;
 No hesitation held them back;
 They were proud to take a stand.



They left their friends and family;
 They gave up normal life;
 To serve their country and their God,
 They plowed into the strife.



They fought for freedom and for peace
 On strange and foreign shores;
 Some lost new friends; some lost their lives
 In long and brutal wars.



Other veterans answered a call
 To support the ones who fought;
 Their country had requirements for
 The essential skills they brought.



We salute every one of them,
 The noble and the brave,
 The ones still with us here today,
 And those who rest in a grave.

So here's to our country's heroes;
 They're a cut above the rest;
 Let's give the honor that is due
 To our country's very best.



July at a Glance

- 1: Communion Sunday
- 4: **HAPPY 4TH OF JULY**
Church Offices Closed Today
No Coffee with the Pastor
- 9-14: Houston Mission Trip
- 16: 9:00 am Faith Bible Study
 - 4:00 pm Patience Bible Study
 - 6:00 pm Elder / Deacon Meeting
 - 7:00 pm Full Consistory
- 18: 2:00 pm: FRC is in charge of
Nursing Home Services
- 24: FRC Serves at the Banquet
- 27-29: Power Connection in Kansas City

***Sunday Mornings:**
 9:00 am Cornerstone Service
 10:10 am Coffee Fellowship
 Sunday School is on break until Fall
 11:00 am Open Door Service

***Monday Evenings:**
 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

***Tuesday mornings:**
 8:30 am Chickadee Quilters

***Wednesday Evening Activities:**
 Bible Classes and Youth Groups are on break until Fall
 *Keep your eyes open for Youth Group activities being planned for the Summer!!!

CONTACT INFORMATION:
 712-754-2783
 sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com



View our NEW Website at: sibleyfrc.org

Words from Pastor Luke

I sit looking out my window at the clouds and the rains that have fallen the previous night. I am reminded how big and awesome our God is. As we plant our crops it is God who brings the rains and of late, has he brought some big rains. It got me thinking about the magnitude of water that has fallen on the ground around us. I googled this statistic. One inch of rain falling on 1 acre of ground is equal to about 27,154 gallons and weighs about 113 tons. Last night we got about 3 inches. That equates to 81,462 gallons of water weighting about 339 tons on a single acre!

If you have ever tried to water your lawn after planting new grass you know it takes a lot of work and it takes a lot of water to keep it growing. In a matter of hours God opens up the skies with rain that covers more ground than we could ever imagine. It is done in an instant and in His perfect timing. The amount of rain water is unbelievable. Isn't God great!

This is the God who loves us and desires to be in a relationship with us. This is a God who was willing to sacrifice His one and only Son for us. Have you taken the time this day, this week, this month to reflect on the beauty and joy of your relationship with Him. Why would we ever want to think that we can live our lives without Him. There is no one like our God.

Over the last several weeks I have truly enjoyed our sermon series on the 10 commandments. It has been a great reminder to me of how valuable they continue to be within our lives. Our Heidelberg Catechism is divided into three parts. They are Sin, Salvation and Gratitude. If I were to ask you where you would find the 10 commandments in the catechism what would you say? For some it might be the sin section, others maybe the salvation section. The truth is that the 10 commandments are in the gratitude section.

As God has given us the commandments we are also reminded of the grace he gave to each of us. Because of that grace it should be our desire to live our life as best we can to please God. The commandments were a gift from God for us to be able to enjoy the fulness of life. They strengthen our relationship with God and they strengthen our relationship with others. Thus, the summary Jesus gave when he was among us.

Mark 12:30-31. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

This summary is also found in Matthew and Luke. We see great value in the commandments God has given us. I encourage you to continue to join us as we discover how we can grow our relationships with others. My prayer is that the commandments will continue to be embedded into your lives.

On a side note, I want to encourage and lift up in prayer our summer activities. Pray for those attending summer camps, the High School Mission Trip to Texas, Power Connection for the Middle Schoolers and our College Trip to Louisiana in August. These are great opportunities to grow our young adults into individuals who passionately love the Lord and will go out into the world and serve.

Enjoy your summer and keep God close!

Pastor Luke



*It's Coffee Time...
With the Pastor!!*

There will NOT be Coffee
with the Pastor this month.
See you all next month!



Kids Away at Camp This Month

July 2-4th

Eden Willems (Discovery)

Pauline Van Engen (Grand Camp)

Norah Strouth (Grand Camp)

Brysen Loerts (Discovery)

July 23rd-27th

Taylor Langstraat (Saddle Up Level 2)

Kennedy Hoekstra (Saddle Up Level 2)

July 25th-27th

Elijah Sayler (Discovery)

Levi Sayler (Discovery)

July 30-Aug 3rd

Dawson Kreykes (Lodge Adventure)

Delaney deBoom (Saddle Up Level 4)

Danika deBoom (Wilderness Camp)



July Faith In Action:

School Supplies! The
Osceola County Minis-
terial Association

(O.C.M.A.) buys school supplies in bulk to be
distributed during school registration
(August) to low income or needy families.

This year, instead of having individuals buy
school supplies, the O.C.M.A. is asking for
monetary donations. If you would like to con-
tribute to the School Supply program, you can
do so through your offerings with School Sup-
ply designations on your check. You can also
give directly to the O.C.M.A. by dropping off
any money to any of the pastors in town.

Thank you for your continued support of the
O.C.M.A. projects!

Trivia Time!!!

- Which of these books is NOT found in the Old Testament (OT)?
A) 2 Chronicles B) 2 Samuel
C) Psalms D) 3 Kings
- Which of these women is mentioned in the OT?
A) Martha B) Elisabeth
C) Rachel D) Anna
- Which of these books come first in order in the OT?
A) Ruth B) Lamentations
C) Exodus D) Exxlesiastes
- What does "Eve" mean?
A) "mother of all living"
B) "new beginnings"
C) "daughter of God"
D) "matron of the earth"

Cornerstone Service Greeters, 9 am



1: West– Roger and Carol Iedema
Middle-Jason and Gina Jacobsma/family
East-Dan and Annette Janssen

22: West-Clint and Jamie Klaassen
Middle-Travis and Joanne Klaassen
East-Dave and Donna Kleinwolterink

8: West–John and Jan Juffer
Middle-Alan and Lacey Julius/family
East-Matt and Missy Julius/family

29: West-Dr. Greg and Deb Kusters
Middle-Mitch and Abby Kreykes/family
East-Charles and Katha Kruger

15: West-Dennis and Dar Jurgens
Middle-Ethel Jurgens and Karen Jurgens
East-Kevin and Laurel Klaassen/family



9:00 am Nursery

1: Pam Vande Hoef and Jill Boeke
8: Lesa Stofferan and Kathy Verdoorn
15: Marcia Van Ruler and Jodene Kruse
22: Jennifer and Ella Bruxvoort
29: Brenda and Alyssa Wassman



11:00 am Nursery

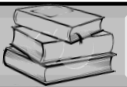
1: Marvella Harberts and Kira Christensen
8: Kelsey Martinez and Maureen Heilman
15: Darcy Martinez and Lacey Julius
22: Tiffany and Liz Wynia
29: Tami and Lindy Tracy



Sunday School Nursery

Sunday School is on Summer Break until Fall.
Have a great Summer!!

Library Volunteers



1: Jan Henrichs
8: Jamie Hulstein
15: Beth Hulstein
22: Mary Hustoft
29: Jan Juffer



Men's Bible Study, is on break for the Summer. Check back for future opportunities in September.

Fellowship Time Coffee Servers

- 1: Stan and Gert Gaalswyk
- 8: Ed and Jan Harskamp
- 15: Bill and LaDonn Hartzell
- 22: Burdell and Jan Henrichs
- 29: Scott and Jamie Hulstein



Children and Worship Leaders/Helpers



Children and Worship is on
Summer Break until Fall.
Have a great Summer!!



Stewardship & Giving

Special offering for July is Mission Share Support.

Offering Summary:

General Fund: 139,816; Budget: 311,308; 44% of budget
Benevolent Fund: 24,255; Budget: 108,215; 22% of budget
Building Fund: 765; Budget: 54,210; 1% of budget

Want to contribute?
Scan here with your
smart phone to link to
our online donation page!



To get caught up
on everything FRC,
scan our handy QR
code to get quick
access to our web



page (Sibleyfrc.org). Here you
can watch sermons, check out
our calendar of events and even
submit prayer request. Check it
out today!!



Women's Bible Study

Faith Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, July 16 at 9:00 am** in the Library. Leader: Anita Ernst; Hostess: Jane Buysman. Come join us as we discuss, Lesson 10, "The Fire Next Time" from the book *1&2 Peter And Jude*. Scripture for the morning is 2 Peter 3. The final chapter of Peter's final letter speaks of an end, but an end with hope. We will be starting a new study in a couple of months, if you are looking for a Bible study, consider joining the Faith study.

Patience Bible Study, who also meets every third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, July 16 at 4:00 pm** in the church Library. We will be studying Lesson 11, "Making Forever Friends," from the book *End Times* by R. Paul Stevens. Barb will lead and Kathy will be hostess. If you are interested in joining this study, please let Barb Van Diepen know and she will get you a book.

Monday Evening Bible Study meets weekly on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm.

After Church Greeters



1: SE: Pastor Luke

C: Josh Lucas

SW: Dale Honken

BE: Dan Janssen

BW: Dr. Greg Kusters

8: SE: Arnie Langstraat

C: Pastor Luke

SW: Josh Lucas

BE: Ken Loerts

BW: Ed Meendering

15: SE: Dick Oldenkamp

C: Lyle Peelen

SW: Pastor Luke

BE: Josh Lucas

BW: Larry Riebeling

22: SE: Cal Runia

C: Bob Tiedeman

SW: Duane Vande Hoef

BE: Pastor Luke

BW: Josh Lucas

29: SE: Josh Lucas

C: Paul Vander Linden

SW: John Van Diepen

BE: Curt Van Kley

BW: Pastor Luke

Prayer With the Elders



10:00

1: Dale Honken

8: Bill Hartzell

15: Heath DeJong

22: Lennis Harberts

29: Duane Vande Hoef

12:00

1: Duane Vande Hoef

8: Dick Oldenkamp

15: Marcus De Boer

22: Lawrence Wiersma

29: Dale Honken



First Reformed is scheduled to help serve at The Banquet in Sioux Falls on **Tuesday, July 24.** We need 6-8 volunteers to prepare the meal (you need to be there by 2 pm) and 40 volunteers to serve the meal (you would need to be

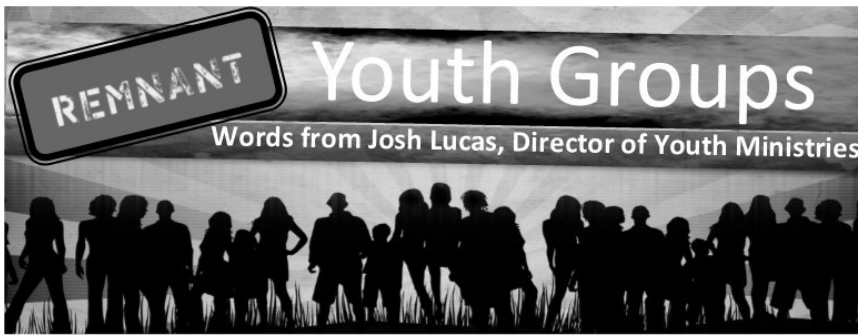
there by 5:15 pm, leave the church at 4 pm). We need you! *Sign-up at the Information Center.* Please make a commitment to help out with this Outreach project! The average meal cost is \$700-\$900 plus the cost of milk. **REMEMBER:** open toed shoes/flip-flops, tank tops, low cut or midriff baring tops and short shorts are not acceptable attire.

July Willing Hands Group

Willing Hands Group #1 will be responsible for services during the month of **July.**



Co-chairpersons are:
Marvella and Lennis Harberts
Diane and Arnie Langstraat



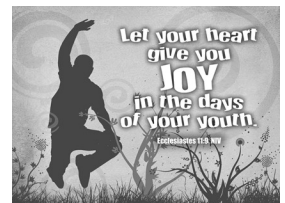
Hello First Reformed Church,

Your wacky Youth Pastor is here giving you a big update on the Youth Groups! There's some sweet things that are happening! WINTER IS FINALLY OVER!!!! PRAISE GOD FOR TAKING AWAY THE SNOW! I'm a little excited about that. I just cannot believe how much snow there was, and the length that it lasted. I know what you're going to say, "It is not normal." I have heard that about one hundred times, so I think I understand that this is not normal weather. Now that I got all of that out of my system let's get to the Youth Group! Do you have your seat belts on? HERE WE GO!

We have started our Summer Bible Studies! This is not a formal youth group meeting. We are just wanting to give students the opportunity to come and enjoy some snacks, fellowship, and Bible Study. The names that I have for the groups don't rename the youth group, instead they are just our summer small groups. We first have "Zeal" which is our Junior High group. Here we learn how to become passionate and excited about our relationship with Jesus and our faith. Second, we have "One SixTeens" which is our high school group. Here we live out Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek." Third, we have "Uprising" this is our Senior Bible Study. This study is for oncoming Seniors and just graduated seniors. Here we learn how to rise up against the world, and raise up the Kingdom of God. These are the Bible Studies for the Summer! There are plenty of opportunities for students to get connected. I encourage all students to bring along a friend to study group.

Our mission trip to Texas is ready to go! We are all set with signed-up students and adults! Thank you again for your continued support! We would still love prayer and encouragement as we travel to the other side of the country to spread Christ's love and serve others! We have six students and four adults signed up for a total of ten participants!

Finally, Power Connection is also ready to go! We have twenty-one students signed up! That is so cool! This summer is going to be a busy one! So if I look like I'm full of energy and am on caffeine, chances are I probably am! (Just kidding... or am I. Muhahahaha!) Thank you for supporting the youth groups and all who are attending and leading it! We can't do these ministry things without you and your support! As always if you need a hug, this big ole' teddy bear has got one for you!



Lots of Love,
Josh Lucas

Jokes with Josh:

Q: Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?

A: Because Noah was standing on the deck.



Please remember the following: Weather Cancellations Procedure:
If there is NO school, or school is released early due to inclement weather, there will be NO WEDNESDAY Night activities. If the Cancellation is on Sunday, all services and activities will also be cancelled for the day.

Education Dates To Remember:

- **Sunday School and Wednesday Night Bible Classes** are on Summer Break until Fall. Thanks for the great year!! Have a fun Summer!!!
- **Sundays from 6-8 pm** High School Senior Bible Study in the Youth Room
- **Wednesdays from 3-4:30 pm** 4th-6th Grade Girls Bible Study at the Lantern
- **Wednesdays from 6-8pm** Middle School Bible Study in Youth Room
- **Fridays from 6-8pm** High School Bible Study in the Youth Room

College Addresses

Since we have had a few requests for our College Students' Addresses, we thought we would publish them. Being away at college can be a fun time. However, it can be a time filled with uncertainty and loneliness. If you get a chance, go ahead and drop a note in the mail to these students. You never know, it just may be exactly what they needed at that very moment. Parents, if you do not see your child's address listed here please let the church office know so it can also be published next month.

Sarah Honken
1513 So. Grand Ave.
Apt. 203
Ames, IA 50010-6649

Britta Harberts
Mathews Hall #0259
Brookings, SD 57007

Garrett Saylor
208 8th St SW
Unit 846
Orange City, IA 51041

Andrea Meyer
1249 Eaton Lawther
Ames IA 50012-1064

Jena Van Marel
Kailey Bruxvoort
416 N Pine Street
Burgess #214
Vermillion, SD 57069

MaKayla Tangeman
2800 Hudson Road
HAG 155
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Colby Wagenaar
Binnewies 211-A2
Brookings, SD 57007

Peyton Creighton
2001 S. Summit Ave.
Mailbox #4
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

Collin Van Diepen
Lake Area Sweets
Apt. #16
312 11th Street NE.
Watertown, SD 57201

Lars Ackerman
519 8th St.
Sibley, IA 51249

If your student will have a different address for the 2018-2019 school year please let the office know so we can update our information. Thanks so much!!



READ
— THROUGH —
THE BIBLE IN
365 Days
CHALLENGE

The July edition of the 365 day challenge is here. During 2018, we will be printing a list of scriptures that will take you from beginning to end — Chronologically. Maybe reading the Bible this way is new for you, or maybe you have used this style before. Either way, it is a fun way to work your way through the best book ever written. We hope you enjoy your 365 Day Challenge!

July 1
Obadiah;
Psalms 82-83

July 8
2 Kings 15;
2 Chronicles 26

July 2
2 Kings 1-4

July 9
Isaiah 1-4

July 3
2 Kings 5-8

July 10
Isaiah 5-8

July 4
2 Kings 9-11

July 11
Amos 1-5

July 5
2 Kings 12-13;
2 Chronicles 24

July 12
Amos 6-9

July 6
2 Kings 14;
2 Chronicles 25

July 13
2 Chronicles 27;
Isaiah 9-12

July 7
Jonah 1-4

July 14
Micah 1-7

July 15
2 Chronicles 28;
2 Kings 16-17

July 16
Isaiah 13-17

July 17
Isaiah 18-22

July 18
Isaiah 23-27

July 19
2 Kings 18:1-8;
2 Chronicles 29-31;
Psalms 48

July 20
Hosea 1-7

July 21
Hosea 8-14

July 22
Isaiah 28-30

July 23
Isaiah 31-34

July 24
Isaiah 35-36

July 25
Isaiah 37-39;
Psalms 76

July 26
Isaiah 40-43

July 27
Isaiah 44-48

July 28
2 Kings 18:9-19:37;
Psalms 46; 80; 135

July 29
Isaiah 49-53

July 30
Isaiah 54-58

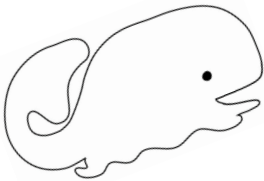
July 31
Isaiah 59-63

SUMMER FUN For KIDS

For the Months of June,
July and August...A Special
Section of the Newsletter
just for the kids.
Hope everyone is having a
great Summer so far!!!

JONAH AND THE WHALE

The Lord provided a great fish to swallow Jonah; and Jonah remained in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Jonah 1:17



K	A	E	T	D	A	U	N	I	N	E	V	E	H	Q
U	V	R	Y	U	L	W	B	A	D	F	N	Y	P	E
R	N	P	Q	P	Y	H	H	X	Z	I	Z	W	I	E
M	Y	E	R	Y	C	A	B	K	S	S	E	H	K	V
I	Q	Q	E	O	N	L	Z	D	J	H	W	C	Q	T
K	X	I	V	O	P	E	O	S	E	S	E	A	S	Q
L	Z	Z	J	S	T	H	I	L	U	A	T	O	J	Y
N	A	D	Y	H	D	D	E	K	S	H	P	P	I	J
G	T	T	Z	I	N	G	W	T	W	P	A	K	C	G
U	M	W	N	P	S	H	A	A	O	R	R	W	Y	D
H	A	J	P	R	I	L	V	C	J	S	X	O	C	C
N	X	I	Z	E	Q	W	E	B	O	D	O	N	B	P
I	S	T	O	R	M	T	S	E	D	R	F	M	J	S
J	Y	T	U	R	I	I	S	X	P	Z	N	H	S	V
J	T	R	M	M	R	F	W	R	E	R	A	N	I	T

JONAH
WHALE
WAVES
FISH
STORM
SLEEP
NINEVEH
SHIP
PROPHET
SEA

Riddle Me This...

1. What can run but can't walk?
2. If there are 3 apples and you take away 2, how many do you have?
3. Beth's mother has three daughters. One is called Lara, the other one is Sara. What is the name of the third daughter?
4. What's full of holes but still holds water?
5. What do the numbers 11, 69, and 88 all have in common?

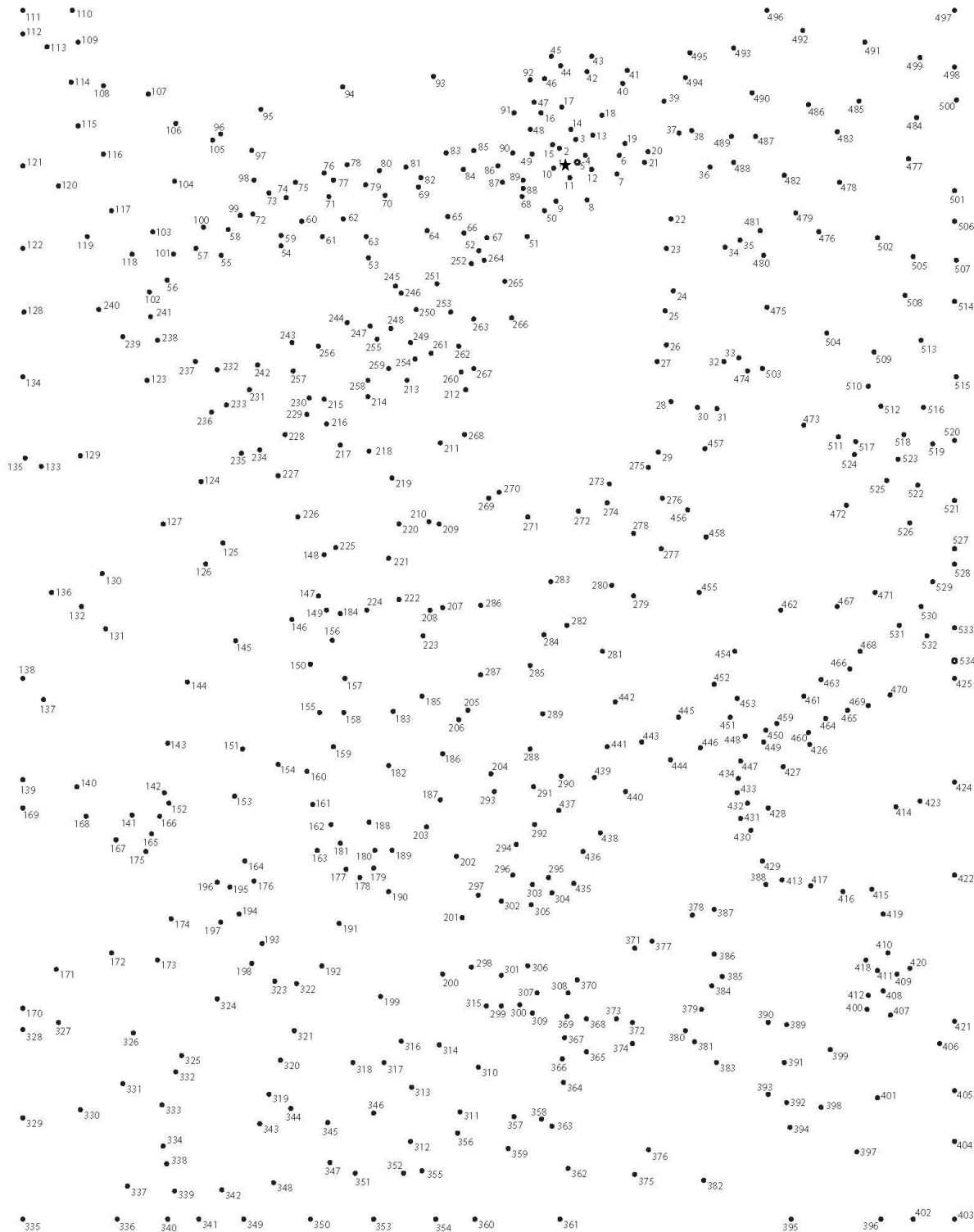
1. A drop of water. 2. If you take 2 apples, then you have of course 2. 3. Beth 4. A Sponge 5. They read the same right side up and upside down.

A kindergarten teacher was walking around observing her classroom of children while they were drawing pictures. As she got to one girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."



PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- 1: Pray for our Church
- 2: Richard Kruger
- 3: Robert Kruger
- 4: Tim and Jodie Kruger; Jared, Katie
- 5: Jodene Kruse
- 6: Charlie and Brenda Kuhl; Maranda
- 7: Pray for our College Students
- 8: Pray for our Church
- 9: Dave and Sandy Lamfers
- 10: Arnie and Diane Langstraat
- 11: Mark and Melissa Langstraat; Emma, Addysen, Taylor
- 12: Cindy Larson
- 13: Gary and Wilma Leusink
- 14: Pray for our College Students
- 15: Pray for our Church
- 16: Roger Lindberg
- 17: Brad and Sarah Loerts; Parker, Blake, Brynna
- 18: Ken and Wilma Loerts
- 19: Josh and Hannah Lucas
- 20: Frank and Darcy Martinez
- 21: Pray for our College Students
- 22: Pray for our Church
- 23: Cory and Anne Maxwell; Kaden, Kaylee, Kyler
- 24: John and Kim Mc Dougall; Alex, Matthew
- 25: Dave and Jessica Mc Dyer; Lincoln, Addison
- 26: Ed and Leona Meendering
- 27: Regina Meyer; Peter, Clara, Andrea
- 28: Pray for our College Students
- 29: Pray for our Church
- 30: Keith and Brenda Michelson; Kevin, Shannon
- 31: Steve and Lynn Mulder; Alex, Kaitlyn

College Students:

Lars Ackerman
Meggan Block
Peyton Crichton
Britta Harberts
Andrea Meyer
Garrett Saylor
Makayla Tangeman
Colby Wagenaar
Collin Van Diepen

Adam Ackerman
Kailey Bruxvoort
Lexi Ackerman

Sarah Honken
Jena Van Marel

Ignacio Romero
Devan Vander Veen
Owen Wiese
Hannah Lucas

Be joyful in hope, patient in
affliction, faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12

PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Assisted Living

Ethel Jurgens
Geneva Wissink

The Nursing Homes

Larry Buysman
Minnie De Jong
Tracy Den Beste
Dutch Kruger
Lois May
Harold Schram

Our Missionaries

Dr. Bernadeth Kelly &
Adrian Bobb
Jeff & Chelsea Lampen
Sayuri Kist—Okazaki
Brian & Donna Renes
J.J. & Tim Ten Cley
Rowland & Jan Van Es

PRAYER JOURNAL

Lined area for writing the prayer journal.



July Celebrations



1 Hannah Lucas
Ryan Soat
Caleb Wagenaar

3 Hudson Town

4 Roger Verdoorn

5 Leah Ackerman

6 Gary Leusink
Aiden Ver Steeg

7 Cole Van Tilburg

8 Ted Schutte

9 Jan Juffer

10 Megan Ackerman
Andrea Meyer

11 Lesa Stofferan

12 Joel Verdoorn
Mackenzie Wynia

13 Jared Kruger
Breann Ross
Josh Tangeman

14 Mark Hulstein
Ryan Wiersma

16 Shelia Van Der Sloom

7 Elliot Daiker

18 Scott Dykstra
Clark Haken
Austin Wassman
Shannon Michelson

19 Olivia Daiker
Karen Stevenson

20 Sarah Honken
Troy Soat

21 Rhonda Henrichs

26 Bob Tiedeman

27 Ashley Johnson
Delaney de Boom
Brent Town

28 Jamie Klaassen

29 Keith Van Drunen
Wilma Loerts

30 Keisha Bean
Chelsey Town

31 Paisley Kreykes
Angie Ackerman
Carson Van Westen

I have found
THE ONE
Whom my soul loves
SONG OF SOLOMON 3:4

~~Anniversaries~~

5 Heath and Wendy De Jong 19 years

9 Robert and Janice Groen 41 years

11 Harold and Luella Eggink 53 years

12 Duane and Pam Vande Hoef 44 years

13 Kevin and Twila Heemstra 33 years

16 Ray and Ellen Schram 62 years

19 Brent and Chelsey Town 10 years

20 Larry and Alfreda Verdoorn 53 years

21 Le Roy and Karen Stevenson 46 years

22 Dave and Jessica Mc Dyer 12 years

23 Derek and Megan Ackerman 2 years

23 Dr. Greg and Deb Kusters 38 years

24 Harvey and Marcia Van Ruler 48 years

24 Pastor Luke and Chris Schouten 36 years

24 Tim and Jodie Kruger 19 years

25 Jon and Amy Elser 20 years

27 Mark and Melissa Langstraat 16 years

29 Kevin and Laurel Klaassen 24 years



Sportsmen's Devotional

Bible Study Verses

Revelation 20:2

He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. (NKJV)



Thoughts

Yesterday, a friend played a joke on me with a rubber rattlesnake, bringing back a flood of memories from years past . . .

My son, 13 at the time, was with me on a quail hunting trip. We were camped out in a remote area with friends. It was my son's first time out carrying a shotgun, my old HR 20-gauge single-shot.

We had walked out of camp to hunt a nearby wash where we had heard quail calling. We hadn't gone far when I heard "SNAKE"! As I looked over toward my son, I saw him bringing his rifle up from the hip, and at the same time saw a huge rattler raise its head like a cobra ready to strike.

The 20-gauge sounded its report and the snake's head was gone. That night, we ate snake for dinner; and today, the snake's skin adorns a rifle sling. After this experience was over, I am not sure who was more relieved, my son or myself. What I am glad for is the snake's demise and the protection my son received.

Action Point

That snake experience was scary for my son and me. We both cried when it was all over. There is a snake (serpent) that stalks each of us today. He knows our weak, unprotected selves, and works to strike when our guard is down.

By reading the whole story in our Bible, we find that Jesus has already defeated this "serpent" on the Cross, will soon have that serpent thrown into the pit for a thousand years, and later thrown into the lake of fire.

Our 20-gauge is our ability to call on Jesus for protection and help when we find ourselves under attack. If we ask, He has promised us that **HE** will help us overcome Satan and change our lives. How awesome it is to know that He is there for us 24/7 with strength beyond our wildest dreams.

Don't rely on your own strength. Read the whole story and see for yourself how it ends; then, claim **HIS PROMISES**.

Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

When hunting in snake habitat, high-top boots or snake guards can be a good protection against getting bitten. Study up on your first aid for snake bite treatment; know the proper care for a bite. Rattlesnake bites can not only be severe, they can be deadly.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1.D 2.C 3.C 4.A



Meeting Minutes

Consistory Meeting

June 19, 2018

Elders Meeting 6:00 pm

7 present, a quorum

103. Minutes of the May elders' meeting were presented for information.

104. Pastor Luke opened the meeting with prayer.

105. The Constitutional Question was asked of all elders in attendance: "Are there any members who need spiritual care this month?"

106. Motion made, seconded, carried to permit Wanda Nelson, daughter of Tracy Den Beste, to use the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Sept. 2, 2018, from 2 to 4 pm for a gathering of 30-40 people to celebrate Tracy's 100th birthday.

107. Motion made, seconded and carried to permit Rev. Doug Noonkester to assist Rev. Schouten with the wedding service and ceremony for Megan Block and Chad Travaille August 4, 2018, at our church.

108. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve minutes as read.

109. Motion made, seconded and carried, to adjourn following prayer by Marcus De Boer.

Respectfully submitted, Dale Honken, Asst. Clerk of Consistory

Full Consistory Meeting 6:00 pm

9 present, a quorum

110. Pastor Luke presented devotions from Exodus 4:1-12 and opened with prayer.

111. Pastor Luke reported on his discussions with Chris Godfredson, Classis Leader, regarding having a Core Value retreat in the fall, in lieu of participating in the Ridder Group's program at this time.

112. The minutes of the May Consistory meeting were presented for information.

113. Education committee reported on success of Bible School and fact that the Living Bible Stories event was well received, such that it may be held more frequently (e.g., on months that have 5 Sundays).

114. Josh Lucas shared reports from youth groups, summer Bible Studies with the youth, and fundraising activities for youth trips.

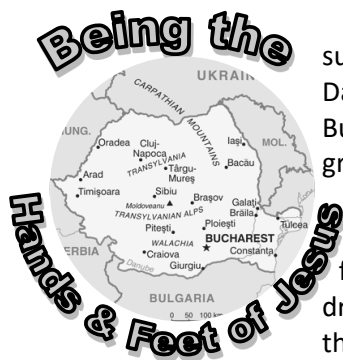
Communications:

1. Pastor Luke presented a letter from the Reformed Church in America thanking us for being one of only 54 churches in the denomination that are classified a Missional Impact Partner.
2. A thank you letter was received regarding the quarterly support of a Haitian pastor.
3. Treasurer Charlie Kuhl advised in May it was necessary to use money from a savings account to fund a portion of the internal expenses and staff salaries. Reports of shortage of offerings to meet expenses and have been in the bulletin each week. Those reports will be made at the beginning of each month in the church newsletter and periodically in the bulletin if deemed effective.

115. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve minutes as read.

116. Motion made, seconded and carried to adjourn following prayer by Bill Hartzell.

Respectfully submitted, Dale Honken, Asst. Clerk of Consistory



Hello everyone! Jurnea Harberts here! Just wanted to give you a brief summary of what my dad and I did while we were in Romania and Hungary. Dad and I flew out on Thursday May 10th, in the afternoon, and arrived in Budapest, Hungary on Friday May 11 later in the day. From there we were greeted with amazing smiles and great big bear hugs! We got our luggage and headed out to find something to eat and then headed to our hotel.

The first "official day", May 12th, we spent mostly driving. The drive from Budapest to Lupeni where the Lampens live is about 6 hours. On our drive we stopped to see an ancient Romanian ruin location that was from the first century. After that we finally made it to Lupeni. We got to Jeff and Chelsea's apartment where we had to climb five flights of stairs. Let's just say I really didn't ever want to leave because I wasn't looking forward to going up the stairs when we got back! Once we got to the Lampen's apartment the first night we sat around catching up and basically having some needed family time.

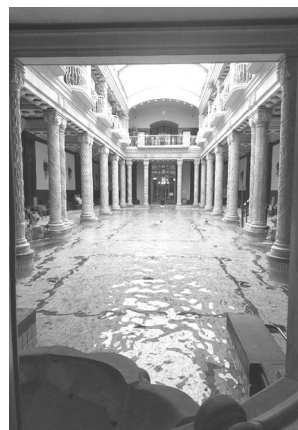
The second day, May 13th, we were in Lupeni was a Sunday, so dad and I got to see where the Lampens attend church every Sunday. This church has an orphanage connected to it. Even though I had no idea what the pastor was saying, the songs and sermon were amazing to listen to. It was a beautiful service in a Baptist church where we also found out that Chelsea partakes in singing in their church choir! Later that day, Jeff and Chelsea had to have a meeting on their computer for work, so dad and I took the kids and went exploring. I got to taste actual mountain spring water which was awesome! Then dad took me to see the spots where they are putting up cabins and where the ropes course is that our church has been working on. When we got back, it was time for supper and then bed.

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The third day, May 14th, we went to visit the Corvin Castle, or the Hunedoara Castle. This castle is actually one of the seven wonders of Romania. Also this castle is in the movie Ghost Rider 3, right where you have to walk in at. Dad had already been there and had toured it, but it was my first and it was amazing. We spent awhile at the castle, ate lunch, and then headed to an indoor pool where the Lampens go to cool off, or in our case, warm up because that pool was very warm. After we went swimming, we were quite tired so it was time to go home and off to bed.

The fourth day, May 15th, was a rainy day. It was also a day that we spent with Jeff and Chelsea's friends. Dad, Chelsea, Lorelei and I went to a book reading at the library. After that we went out for dinner at a beautiful restaurant named Casa De Vis which means "House of Dreams". For supper that night we went to a couple's house to hang out, and I was able to cut their children's and the mom's hair! It was so much fun!

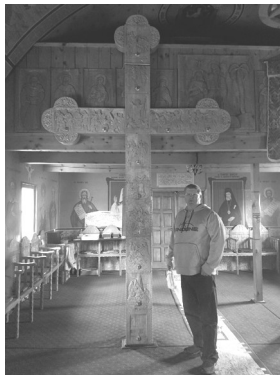
The fifth day, May 16th, we all drove up the mountain to Straja. There we got to see whispering hall, a beautiful cross at the top of the hill, a little Catholic church, and a bear that they have semi-tamed, named Baloo! I even kissed the bear! After we got down the mountain, we drove to the area where the cabins are being built for the camp. We found the rocks for the layout. I was overwhelmed with how beautiful the sight was all around us. When we were done taking many pictures, we hiked back down the hill and drove a little down the road and hiked up to the spot where the ropes course is. Dad, Jeff, and I hiked up the mountain to Camp Viata. Dad showed us where all of the different courses were. Everything was still intact, and they added a few things. After Jeff and I tried out a few of the ropes courses, we hiked back down the mountain. When we were back down, we went out for supper and then back to the apartment to pack up and get ready to head to Budapest.



The sixth day, May 17th, was another long day of driving. We drove back to Budapest to spend the last two days of our trip there. But before we went to Budapest I was able to see where Jeff and Chelsea spend most of their days working. It was a small little office but still nice. I met some of their coworkers and they were very nice as well! Instead of getting a hotel room in Budapest, it was cheaper to rent an entire apartment so we did that instead, which was beautiful. This day was spent site seeing. Budapest is AMAZING! We saw the Parliament building, the President's house, the bridge that goes over the Danube River, and we walked around a castle looking building. That night Jeff, Chelsea, Lorelei and I rode on a huge Ferris wheel called "The Eye of Budapest". It was definitely the best Ferris wheel ride, and the most beautiful one I have ever ridden on. After we rode on the Ferris wheel, we decided it was time to go home. We all knew it was going to be a long day the next day because we were going to shove a lot of site seeing into one last day.

The seventh day, May 18th, Dad, Chelsea and I woke up very early and went to one of the Budapest Bathes. This specific bathe was built about 4,000 years ago. There were seven different pools in the building. One of them was like a giant hot tub. The temperature was 40 degrees C. After swimming, we went to pick up the kids and Jeff and headed out to start seeing the rest of what we could in Budapest. First we went to St. Stephen's Cathedral a huge Cathedral that we could take an elevator to the top of and walk out to see some of Budapest. When we were done there, we went to the biggest market I have ever seen. The first floor was all food, but the second floor was all souvenirs or anything you wanted to buy. We spent about two hours walking around there. When we were done trying to find everything we wanted, we left to go eat, and we decided we wanted to go back out that night. Chelsea stayed with the kids, and Jeff, dad, and I went to see the city at night. The main building I loved most was the Parliament building. When I saw that building at night, it brought tears to my eyes. God really does do amazing things in this world. This building took my breath away!

The next morning we had to leave early to head to the airport. It was a hard day saying goodbye, but we know that God is watching over Jeff, Chelsea, Lorelei, and Caspian. Even though we were only allowed a short time overseas with them, I am so thankful I still was blessed to be able to see them and be with them again. Please pray for their health and safety as they are in Romania. Thank you!!!



Just For Fun...

VBS Revisited!! Thanks to everyone for making it an awesome week!!! Have a great Summer!!

