

**Glorify God in all we do,
Grow with Him daily &
Go with Him to share
His love.**

April at a Glance

- 1-5: FRC is in charge of Meals on Wheels
- 9: 7 pm Special Congregational Meeting
- 11: 6:00pm Elder & Deacon Meetings
7:00pm Full Consistory will meet
- 15: 9:30am Faith Bible Study
3:00pm Patience Bible Study
- 21: 9:00 am Youth Sunday
- 24: 6:30pm Last Bible Class for 23-24 yr
- 28: 10:10 am Last Sunday School Class for 23-24 year

love it live it talk it
Walk It
Faith
own it loan it grow it
Show It

**Sundays:*

- 9:00 am Praise and Worship Service
- 10:10 am Sunday School 4yrs - Adult
Coffee Fellowship Time
- 6:30 pm Fellowship Bible Studies

**Tuesdays:*

- 8:30 am Quilting Chicks will meet

**Wednesday Evenings:*

- 6:30 pm Bible Classes 1st-5th grades
- 6:30 pm MS Remnant Youth Group
- 7:30 pm HS Remnant Youth Group

CONTACT INFORMATION: 712-754-2783
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www.facebook.com/firstreformedsibley



[@sibleyfirstreformedchurch566](https://www.youtube.com/@sibleyfirstreformedchurch566)



Stewardship & Giving

Offering Summary through March 29:

- **General Fund: \$83,689.14**
Budget: 443,532.29; 18% of budget
- **Benevolent Fund: \$7572.52**
Budget: \$68,275.23; 11% of budget
- **Building Fund offerings to date: \$560**

Special Offering for April FRC VBS Expenses!!



Faith In Action for April



Church Kitchen Items



We will be collecting items that will be put to use in our church kitchen. Items needed are: Pledge, Lemon Scented Pine-sol cleaner, Clorox Wipes, scouring pads, rubber scrapers, smaller knives for cutting pies, etc. Maybe you have worked in the kitchen and know of something that would

be useful that you would like to donate. All items are appreciated!



Special Consistory Meeting Highlights February 27, 2024

- MMSA to invite Pastor Brian Carpenter, as the candidate for our Senior Pastor position, to come to Sibley FRC to preach and meet the congregation.

Consistory Meeting Highlights March 11, 2024

- MMSA to approve the baptism of Sydney Elaine Ackerman, daughter of Derek and Megan Ackerman. Baptism to be held on March 31st.
- MMSA the use of the church by Dar Jurgens on Monday, August 5 from 5pm-8:30pm for a PEO meeting
- MMSA the use of the Fellowship Hall/Kitchen by Derek and Megan Ackerman following baptism on March 31, 2024.
- Josh will be taking time off from April 28-May 2 to attend Hannah's Graduation in Arizona
- Approved to send to full consistory: Paying of two full PIM shares of \$6900 each in support of Jeff and Chelsea Lampen.
- MMSA to have Tri State Gutters replace parsonage gutters with gutter guards.
- MMSA to begin the process of leaving the RCA and to further investigate other possible denominations.
- MMSA to extend Troy's contract through the end of May 2024.

GROWING IN THE WORD



Faith Bible Study will meet on **Monday, April 15 at 9:30 am**. We will be studying lesson #10 "Jesus the Prophet" in our book *Meeting Jesus*. Scripture will be Matthew 24:1-31. Janelle will be leader and Imogene will serve as hostess. All are invited! Hope to see you there!

Patience Bible Study will meet on **Monday, April 15 at 3:00 pm**. We will be studying lesson #8 "Praising God's Faithfulness," in our book *Esther*. Scripture for the lesson is Esther 8. Barb will lead and Lois will serve as hostess. Come for a time of fellowship and learning.



6:30pm Sunday Evening Fellowship Bible Study Opportunities!

****Message Discussion and Application Bible Study****

*Clayton and Jodi Wagenaar's home, *FRC Fellowship Hall

****Digging into God's Word -- Romans****

*Fireside Room

All ages, singles and couples are invited to attend.

Childcare can be arranged. Come, join a group and let's grow together!

The Tie that Binds

Each group of names shares something in common. Find the match below.

1. Saul, David, Solomon
2. Peter, John, James
3. Deborah, Huldah, Anna
4. Shem, Ham, Japheth
5. Aaron, Miriam, Moses
6. Eli, Ahimelech, Melchizedek
7. Naomi, Ruth, Orpah
8. Andrew, Simon Peter, John
9. Paul, Silas, Barnabas

Disciples Noah's Sons Siblings Fishermen Priests Family
Kings Prophets Members Missionaries



Celebrations

~~*Birthdays*~~

2 Kailey Bruxvoort

3 Angela De Boer
Gary De Vries

4 Kyler Maxwell
Ger Van Diepen

5 Wilma Leusink

8 Pam Vande Hoef
Mary Hustoft
Randy Bremer

9 Lyle Peelen
Burt Henrichs

10 Marilyn De Boer
John Juffer

12 Ellen Schram

13 Steve Mulder

14 Dave Lamfers
Bill Hartzell

15 Sylvia Bosma

16 Martha Krikke
Troy Block

17 Margaret Calsbeek
LaDonn Hartzell

18 Sharalyn Tjaden

19 Grace Hoekstra

22 Twila Heemstra

23 LeRoy De Boer

24 Randy Vande Berg
Apiyo Harberts
Uchan Harberts

26 Melissa Langstraat
Grant Brouwer

27 Dennis Jurgens

28 Janice Heikes
Madeline Saylor

30 Loryl Mans

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

~~*Anniversaries*~~

6 Chris & Teresa Hurlburt 28 years

7 Dave & Lesa Stofferan 46 years

19 John & Jan Juffer 56 years

22 Josh & Hannah Lucas 7 years

27 Roger & Carol Iedema 51 years

28 Dean & Amy Van Marel 34 years



If you would like to be included in our Birthday and Anniversary Calendar and do not see your name, please contact the office (sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com or 754-2783) and let us know your dates!
We would love to recognize YOU on your special day! Thanks

Praise and Worship Greeters

- 7: E: Derek and Megan Ackerman/family
C: Brian and Chelsey Alexander/family
W: Kim Alsip/family
- 14: E: Bobby and Dee Baker
C: Gretchen Bartelson
W: Tony and Jamiey Bevers/family
- 21: E: Mike and Andrea Block/family
C: Troy and Meggan Block/family
W: Jerrad and Tracee Brouwer
- 28: E: Jamie and Jennifer Bruxvoort/family
C: Nate and Angie Buysman
W: JoAnn Calsbeek

Children & Worship during the service



- 7: Leader: Deb Kosters
Helper:
- 14: Leader: Deb Kosters
Helper:
- 21: Leader: Deb Kosters
Helper:
- 28: Leader: Deb Kosters
Helper:

Worship Service Nursery



- 7: Abby & Joselyn DeZeeuw
14: Pam Vande Hoef & Jenny Weg
21: Maria Mans & Jodi Wagenaar
28: Hannah Lucas & Natalie Klaassen

Sunday School Nursery



- 7: Megan Travaille & Megan Ackerman
14: Sandy Heronimus & Chelsey Alexander
21: Sandy Lamfers & Alexis Van Diepen
28: Anne Maxwell & Ruth Ann Wiersma

Fellowship Coffee Servers



- 7: Dave and Lesa Stofferan
14: Ger and Barb Van Diepen
21: John and Lois Van Diepen
28: Jim and Pauline Van Engen

Willing Hands Group

Willing Hands Group #4

will be responsible for services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

- Karen/Dale Honken
- Marcia/Dick Oldenkamp
- Pam/Duane Vande Hoef

Library Volunteers



- 7: Janice Runia
14: Pauline Van Engen
21: Leanne Van Kley
28: Marcia Van Ruler

Sportsmen's Devotional

Today's Photograph Today's Photograph . . . We May Also Need To Warn Others Of The Consequences Of Denying What He Offers To Us



Bible Study Verse

Ezekial 3:17

"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me."

Thoughts

While I was sitting at a watering hole a while back, I heard rustling in the bushes on the other side of the water. Moments later, a very nice buck poked his head out from the trees and looked around. Slowly, he emerged from the trees, extremely cautious about every move. Eventually, he came down to the water to drink and ended up a mere fifteen yards from me. (Of course I was hunting elk).

The entire time I watched him from my blind, he appeared very alert and on edge. After several minutes, a much older buck stepped out from the same area in the trees and came down to water.

The first buck then seemed somewhat more relaxed, but very submissive to the older buck and still kept watch while they drank.

Action Point

A watchman in Ezekiel's time would stand guard on the wall of the city and warn of impending danger. God called Ezekiel to be a watchman for God's people and to warn them of God's coming judgment.

As Ezekiel was a watchman for the Jews and this younger buck was a watchman for the older buck, so should we be watchmen for God's children. Sometimes I find myself witnessing to others, spreading the great news about God's salvation, but omitting the ugly side of sin and death.

This verse helps to serve as a reminder that, in addition to sharing the greatness of God's salvation, we may also need to warn others of the consequences of denying what He offers to us

Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

While sitting in a blind, be prepared for a visit from animals other than those you are hunting. Take along a camera. You might find that these experiences are just as memorable as your harvest.

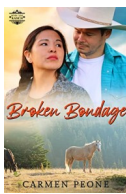
The Tie that Binds

- 1. Kings**
- 2. Disciples**
- 3. Prophets**
- 4. Noah's Sons**
- 5. Siblings**
- 6. Priests**
- 7. Family Members**
- 8. Fishermen**
- 9. Missionaries**

From the library--



Our first book this month is from a new series, “Doors of the Past.” The books are not about the same people or family but each story takes you to two different centuries and the history of a house or in this case, a steamboat, UNDERCURRENT OF SECRETS by Rachel Scott McDaniel. “As wedding coordinator for the 100-year-old steamboat *The Belle of Louisville*, Devyn Asbury takes pride in seeing others' dreams come true, even though her engagement sank like a diamond ring to the bottom of the Ohio River. When *The Belle* becomes a finalist in the Timeless Wedding Venue contest, Devyn endeavors to reclaim some of her professional dreams. What she hadn't planned on was Chase Jones showing up with a mysterious photo from the 1920s. A century earlier, Hattie Louise is as untamable as the rivers that raised her. As the adopted daughter of a steamboat captain, her duties range from entertainment to cooking. When strange incidents occur aboard the boat, Hattie's determined to discover the truth. Even if that means getting under First Mate Jack Marshall's handsome skin.”



Next we have BROKEN BONDAGE by Carmen Peone. “Rita Runninghorse is about to marry the wrong guy. She has to get away from him. NOW. She flees to a guest ranch in Eastern Washington State that offers a safe haven for women in need only to find the owner on a month-long speaking tour. Robert Elliot has one thing on his mind: bronc riding. The Indian National Finals Rodeo is within reach, and he's not about to let anything ruin his chances of going pro. Not even the woman he finds asleep in the stall of their rankest horse. When Rita's fiance discovered where she's hiding out, she takes Robert's offer to go with him on the road and prays her fiance gives up the hunt. Saddled together, Rita and Robert must rely on each other as they go on the road to keep her alive. “



THE HEART'S CHOICE by Tracie Peterson and Kimberley Woodhouse is book number one of “The Jewels of Kalispell” series. “After witnessing a wrongful conviction as a young girl, Rebecca Whitman—the first female court reporter in Montana—is now determined to defend the innocent. During a murder trial, something doesn't sit well with her about the case, but no one except the handsome new Carnegie librarian will listen to her. Librarian Mark Andrew's father sent him to college hoping he would take over the business side of the family ranch, but Mark would rather wrangle books than cows. When a patron seeks his help with research in hopes of proving a man's innocence, Mark is immediately drawn to her and her cause. In a race against time, will Rebecca and Mark find the evidence they need—and open their hearts to love—before it's too late??

There are many good books waiting for you to check them out.

Jeannette Juffer

PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
Luke 21:36

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

1. Lisa Nissen
2. Vanessa Odens; Gracie, Landon
3. Dick and Marcia Oldenkamp
4. Lyle Peelen
5. Reka Post
6. Pray for our College Students
7. Pray for our Church
8. Lavonne Prins
9. Jr and Imogene Rasmussen
10. Larry and Rhonda Riebeling
11. Daren Rockman; Hunter, Gannon
12. Marlin Roelfs
13. Pray for our College Students
14. Pray for our Church
15. Janice Runia
16. Marlin and Kathy Runia
17. Brian and Heidi Saylor;
Grace, Levi, Elijah
18. Eric Schiphoff
19. Hugh Schiphoff
20. Pray for our College Students
21. Pray for our Church
22. Ellen Schram
23. Lynn Schram
24. Jennie Schram
25. Ted and Eileen Schutte
26. Verlyn and Donna Smidt
27. Pray for our College Students
28. Pray for our Church
29. Kevin and Nancy Soat
30. Donna Sterler

College Students:

Marissa Ackerman
Halle Block
Tayler Bremer
Madison Brouwer
Regan Crichton
Keegan De Zeeuw
Makya Dykstra
Maverick Elser
Jared Kruger
Emma Langstraat
Matthew McDougal
Gannon Rockman

MacKenzie Beyer
Kaden Maxwell
Teddy Van Gelder

Carter Brouwer
Andrea Leusink

Dalten Bremer
Ashilyn Hulstein
Natalie Klaassen

Grant Brouwer
Ryan Van Marel



PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Assisted Living

Trudy Dykstra
Ethel Jurgens
Larry & Alfreda Verdoorn
Margaret Calsbeek
Anita Ernst
Ellen Schram

The Nursing Homes

Marlys Brink
Donna Sterler
Jane Buysman
Gert Gaalswyk
Martha Krikke

Christian Retirement Home

Helen Vander Veen

Our Missionaries

Dr. Bernadeth Kelly &
Adrian Bobb
Sayuri Kist—Okazaki
Brian & Donna Renes
J.J. & Tim TenClay
Rowland & Jan Van Es
Grace Covenant Ministries

PRAYER JOURNAL

Lined area for writing prayer journal entries.



With the hope of Spring, what better time than now to reflect on those in the Bible who experienced a new beginning or a fresh start in their lives?

Noah after the flood

What might be the most monumental “new beginning” in the Bible, life must have looked VERY different for Noah and his family once they departed the ark after the great flood. Read what happened in Genesis 6-9.

Rahab

After protecting the Israelite spies, Rahab and her family were spared when the walls of Jericho fell and they were adopted into the Israelite camp. Read more in Joshua 6.

Jacob flees Esau’s wrath

A man of multiple “fresh starts”—after Jacob deceived his way into receiving his brother’s birthright, he fled to the household of their uncle Laban. Life was different for him there, as he worked hard for 20 years to gain wives and a flock of his own, eventually packing up his household and moving back to his home. Read Genesis 27-31 for the full story.

Moses becomes a prince of Egypt

Throughout his life Moses had several “fresh starts”: from fugitive newborn to prince of Egypt, then fugitive from Egypt to a worker/husband in Jethro’s house, then to a leader of the Israelites in their escape from Egypt. Read Moses’ journey in Exodus.

Joseph goes from imprisoned slave to ruler of Egypt

After Joseph interpreted Pharaoh’s dream about the coming famine, he is promoted to second in charge of Egypt. Pretty good considering he had just been an imprisoned slave! Find the story in Genesis 41.

The Lord blesses Job

We are familiar with the trials of Job and how he lost everything, but God blessed Job in the second half of his life even more than in the beginning. Check out the happy ending in Job 42:7-17.

When Ruth meets Boaz

Widowed and poor, things really turned around when Ruth encountered Boaz, the wealthy relative of her late husband. Read the story in Ruth 2-4.

Joseph goes from imprisoned slave to ruler of Egypt

After Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dream about the coming famine, he is promoted to second in charge of Egypt. Pretty good considering he had just been an imprisoned slave! Find the story in Genesis 41.

Saul encounters Jesus Christ

After Saul encounters Jesus on the road to Damascus he undergoes a radical transformation from persecutor of Christians to baptised preacher of the Christian faith. Check out Acts 9 for Saul's encounter.

Jesus heals the man born blind

Many people who encountered Jesus had their lives changed, lifelong conditions healed and fresh new starts. One blind beggar demonstrates his changed life after he encounters Jesus, is healed and then stands up to the Jewish leaders, admonishing them that they did not believe in Jesus as the Messiah. You'll find the story in John 9.

The Samaritan Woman encounters Jesus

While drawing water from the well, a Samaritan woman is approached by Jesus, who leaves such an impression on her that she runs back to her village proclaiming she has just met the Messiah. Because of this woman's faith "many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus". You'll find the story in John 4:1-42.

WORRY is a conversation you have with yourself about things you cannot change. **PRAYER** is a conversation you have with **God** about things He can change.

THE DAY THE LORD CREATED HOPE WAS
PROBABLY THE SAME DAY HE CREATED SPRING.
- BERN WILLIAMS



SPRING

WORD SEARCH

WORD LIST

- APRIL
- BASEBALL
- BIRDS
- BLOSSOMS
- BUMBLEBEE
- BUTTERFLIES
- CHICK
- CLEANING
- CLOVER
- CROCUS
- DAFFODIL
- DAYLIGHT
- EQUINOX
- FLOWERS
- FORSYTHIA
- GARDEN
- JACKET
- LADYBUG
- MARCH
- MAY
- PICNIC
- PUDDLES
- RAINBOW
- ROBIN
- SEEDS
- SHOWERS
- SPRING
- UMBRELLA

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





Education Schedule:

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.

Sunday School 3 yr - Adult:

- Classes as scheduled March 7, 14, 21, 28 (Last SS class)
No Class on March 31st due to Easter

Wednesday Bible Classes (1st-5th grades):

- Classes as Scheduled March 3, 10, 17, 24 (Last Wed pm class)
- ### MS and HS Remnant Youth Group:
- Groups as scheduled: March 3, 10, 17, 24

College Addresses

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Iowa Lakes CC
Estherville, IA

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Makya Dykstra

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Maverick Elser

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Jared Kruger

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Matthew McDougall

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IA Lakes Comm. College
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Gannon Rockman

3099c Nest Ave.
Sheldon, IA 51201

If your student will have a different address for the 2023-2024 school year please let the office know.

Hello First Reformed Church,

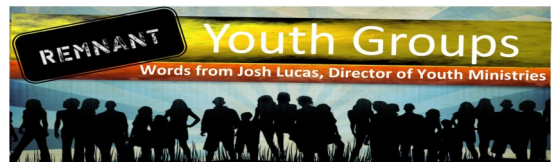
Have you ever thought about making a profession of faith during worship? What questions do you have about it? Why haven't you done it yet? These are questions I hope to answer in this article about profession of faith. We recently, at the time of printing this

article, had a profession of faith retreat that involved helping students with making their public profession of faith and becoming a member of First Reformed Church. I have had many discussions with different people about this topic and everyone has a different opinion on the matter. However, right now I want to pose some things for us to think about when it comes to profession of faith. I want to first be brutally honest. When I first moved here and became involved in the Reformed church, I did not like the profession of faith aspect of our beliefs. I think we have resolved some of the minor issues that I have had in the past, however one of the main reasons I did not like it was that I did not understand it. Is it membership? Are they professing their faith? What in the world makes a profession of faith special? This is what I have discovered from my own personal study and discovery of profession of faith. To the first two questions the answer is obviously, yes! Profession of faith comes with becoming an official member of this specific body of Christ. Yes, they are publicly professing their faith in Christ. The last question is one that I could not answer, what makes profession of faith special? I do not know. Is it even special anymore? Has it become just something we do when we are older? What makes profession of faith special? I could not answer this, until I did a lesson with the middle school youth group about a month ago.

The lesson revolved around our relationship with the church. I taught the different things that we teach in this church, baptism, salvation, and then we go to membership. I explained that we practice in the RCA profession of faith. A student then asked, "So what is a profession of faith?" I explained that it is where you profess your faith publicly to the church and then become a member of church. This student then asked, "So, it's only about membership?" I said, "No, of course not. It's about professing your faith to the congregation who has loved you and has supported you." It then just hit me like a ton of bricks. Has God ever done that to you? Where you say one thing and God just flips a switch and then you finally understand! I finally understood what it means to make a profession of faith. When a child is baptized in our church what happens? We make vows and so do the parents. Parents vow to raise that child in the Lord and the church vows to help the parents and teach the children as well. Why do we do that? Because one day we hope that this child will grow up and come to believe in Jesus and become a follower of Him. Profession of faith is that moment. The moment where that child shows the fruit of the vow that the church made at their baptism. They are not just making profession of faith publicly to a bunch of people, they are doing it in front of the ones who have loved and cared for them since they were babies.

I do believe we need to view profession of faith this way. We need to teach our children how to be faithful members of the church and what that looks like. We need to celebrate with them. Not only are they professing their faith, but now they are becoming a member of the church that baptized them and cared for them, and now they can do the same thing to a new baby that is baptized in our church. I have a newfound passion and excitement for profession of faith, and I hope that you do as well. If you would like to discuss this with me further, I am more than happy to sit down and talk about it. Thank you for reading my article and if you ever need a hug, this big ole teddy bear has one for you!

Blessings,
Josh



**Dad Jokes with Josh:
I always keep a picture of my wife and kids in my wallet.....
That way it reminds me of why I have no money in it.**



Dear Friends,

I've never been one to choose a single word to focus on for the New Year, or as a star word for Epiphany. It's just not a practice that I've adopted. In the past I've sometimes chosen a hymn or a Bible verse, but never a single word.

This year, however, in the time between January 1 and January 6, I had one word that stood out to me on three separate occasions: connection. I decided not to ignore it, and have spent some time reflecting on the word connection and its significance in my life and my work as a missionary.

And I've decided to write a series of Dear Friends letters in 2024 focused on the word connection. Today, I'd like to share a story of my connection with the Sale Family from West Michigan. In May 2022, Dee Dee Piers from Hope Church in Holland, MI, reached out to me with an urgent request to connect with a woman named Alison Sale. Alison's husband, Scott, served on active duty with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan, and Scott and Alison have been working hard since the fall of Kabul to the Taliban in August 2021 to protect the lives of Scott's Afghan interpreter and his family (I'll call him M* in this letter to protect his identity). My name came up as someone who was working to evacuate vulnerable Afghans, and I connected with Alison immediately to assess the situation and see if I could offer any assistance.

Here we are almost two years later (and almost three years since the Taliban regained control of Afghanistan), and we are still working together to find safety and refuge for M* and his family. I can't begin to estimate the amount of time I've spent the past two years consulting on this case, exploring options for resettlement in six different countries, and praying for the safety of M* and his family and for God's guidance amid so much pain and suffering. These past 10 years of working in refugee care have taught me that we don't also get the happy ending we would like to see, or in a timeframe that fits our desires. **But the faithful response has been—and continues to be—to honor this connection to Alison, Scott, and M*, and to continue walking beside them, praying for them, listening to their hopes and worries and frustrations, and letting them know that they are not alone. This is an important part of what it means to faithfully engage this calling of refugee care.**

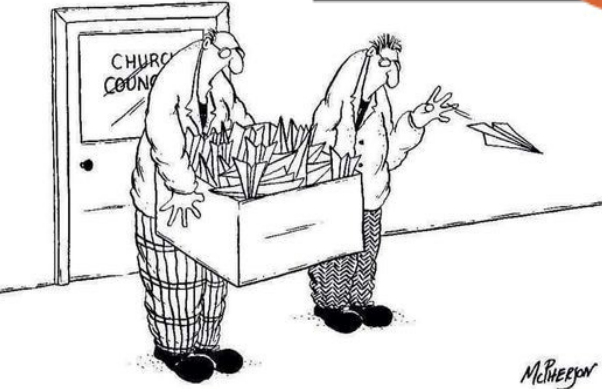
For over two years, we have been tirelessly working to find a new home country for our Afghan friends whose world was ripped out from under them when the Taliban took control of Afghanistan. They were forced to quickly leave their home and live in hiding for fear they would be killed due to their family's multi-generational history of fighting the Taliban and their beliefs. Throughout this painful and devastatingly long process, we have been so blessed by others who have used their time, skills, and resources to guide us. We are incredibly grateful that one of those special people was JJ TenClay. When it felt like doors were closing at every turn, JJ made us feel like we weren't alone. She has never given up advocating for this Afghan family we care for so deeply. It has given us so much hope and confidence knowing that we have her in our corner, praying for this family, and advocating for their journey to safety with her colleagues around the world. The connections we've made with people like JJ over the past two years that simply cannot be explained other than by God bringing people into our lives to help us on our mission to get this Afghan family to safety. It is because of the generosity of our global community that we've made it this far. From financial support to prayers to people taking the time to educate us about secure communications and filing legal documents, or connecting us to someone they know who might be able to help—one thing we have learned is that humanitarian work can't be done in a bubble—or by a single person. It takes all of us working together, sharing what we know, and making the time to connect with others that will make a positive impact in this world. While this family still has not reached their destination, we remain determined and continue to pray for God's guidance. We are hopeful 2024 will be a great year for this family.

Faithfully,
Scott and Alison Sale

Sincerely,
JJ TenClay



JUST 4 FUN



"Remind me never to ask the Youth Group to help fold the church bulletins again."

McHenry



I'm getting so old that all my friends in heaven will think I didn't make it

Chowberg

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VBS 2024!

JUNE 2-5