



The Newsletter

April 2025

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

*NOT ALL HEROES
WEAR CAPES,
MINE WORE A
CROWN OF THORNS.*



April at a Glance

- 2: 6:30 am Men's Lenten Breakfast at Trinity Lutheran
- 7-11: FRC is in charge of Meals on Wheels
- 12: 6:00 pm S-O Prom Grand March (doors open at 5:30)
- 13: Communion Prep Sunday
- 14-18: FRC in charge of Meals on Wheels
- 14: 6:00 pm Elder & Deacon Meetings
7:00 pm Full Consistory will meet
- 16: 6:30 am Men's Lenten Breakfast at Trinity Lutheran
- 17: 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service
- 18: 5,7,9pm Passion Play at S-O High School
- 20: 9:00 am Easter Service
- 21: 9:30am Faith Bible Study
3:00pm Patience Bible Study
- 23: 6:30pm Last Bible Class for 23-24 yr
- 27: 10:10 am Last Sunday School Class for 23-24 year
- Outreach Serving at Freedom's Gate

****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

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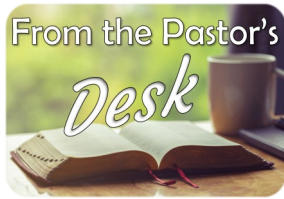
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[YouTube @sibleyfirstreformedchurch566](#)



A Target To Aim At

"First of all, my child, think magnificently of God. Magnify His providence; adore His power, pray to Him frequently and incessantly. Bear Him always in your mind. Teach your thoughts to reverence Him in every place for there is no place where He is not. Therefore, my child, fear and worship and love God; first and last, think magnificently of Him! —PATERNUS, ADVICE TO A SON"

I've started a series that aims to use this opportunity to communicate with you as a means of casting a vision for the future of First Reformed. I started (mistakenly, I believe) by talking about proposed planned programs. But what needs to happen first is that you and I need to be on a journey of progress in Christlikeness first. If we do that reasonably well and in reasonable numbers, FRC will be fine. If we don't, then we might be able to create a program-generated crowd in our building, but it will mean very little and accomplish nothing of any real lasting spiritual value. A healthy church, which is creating spiritually healthy people on an ongoing basis, will not need to worry about survival. It will naturally flourish as people discover the beauty and goodness of the With-God Life which is being freely imparted and taught within her. As I mentioned last month, it would be good to lay out what the transformed human life looks like, so we can have a target to aim at. What changes happen in a person as they learn to live the With-God Life?

The first thing we must hasten to say is that a transform(ing) person is not a perfect person. Nor do they live in a perfect world- yet. But they are remarkably different. And this difference isn't a pose they strike or an attitude they assume from time to time, like one would put on a costume. Nor does it consist at its most basic level in things that they do or don't do- though their behavior will be very different also. Where to disciple of Jesus is different is primarily on the inside of their life, in their hearts, their minds, and the feelings they experience and what they do with them. Remember, Jesus teaches us that it is out of the heart which all human behaviors, both good and bad, arise. (Matt 12:35)

One key difference in a child of light is their thought life. And if we are going to be changed into Christlikeness, the Bible says that the place we have to start is with the mind. (Rom 12:1-2) Whoever we are and wherever we live, our life is primarily run by what we habitually think about and what we believe to be true (or don't believe to be true!) The mind of the apprentice of Christ is primarily fixed on God. He or she loves to think about God and upon his greatness and loveliness as he is revealed in Jesus Christ. They see him everywhere and are constantly and joyously experiencing his presence and power all around them, whether that would be in nature, or history, or in the scriptures, or in other people, especially the people of God. The person who practices the with God life is "God intoxicated." Thinking on God and interacting with God makes them happy and fills them with peace and strength.

Their minds are filled with biblical information about God's nature, his actions, and his plans for them in this world. Therefore they do not dwell upon or fear evil. (Psalm 23:4) It doesn't loom large in their thoughts. They know it will be defeated in the end, and even here we can "overcome evil with good." (Rom 12:21) That doesn't mean they ignore evil, but they deal with it appropriately in each individual situation that arises. Then they go back to setting their minds on God and "things above." (Col 3:1-2)

Because their mind is focused upon God and everything else in life is re-oriented with reference to God, all other good things are welcome too. This is why Paul commanded us that "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, think on these things." (Phil 4:8)

The child of light can exult in an excellent athletic performance by a non-Christian athlete and thank God for gifting that athlete. Or she can be enraptured by a well-crafted piece of music, even if the music isn't specifically Christian. A well-told story can bring pleasure even if it isn't a Christian story. The apprentice of Christ recognizes that a slice of well-baked bread is something to thank God for, even if the loaf was baked by an atheist or a pious Hindu. Therefore we can be realistically positive and trustingly open to the experiences God brings to us each moment. After all, all of life is a gift from him. As the psalmist says, "I have set the Lord continually before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken." (Ps 16:8)

Next month we will examine how the child of light deals with their feelings and perhaps, if space permits, their relationships also, are dealt with in a healthy and God-honoring way.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

"If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it." I Cor 12:26 (NIV) or as The Message puts it, "If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance." "If anyone has material

possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth." I John 3:17-18.

Most Africans are Christians, and today our brothers and sisters in Africa and other parts of the developing world are suffering and hurting because of two recent decisions made to withdraw the U.S. from the WHO and to freeze \$40 billion foreign aid that was being run through USAID.

To quote a Christian aid worker, "This is how missionaries that you support do their jobs every day... The church needs to know what is happening. Pray for what is happening. People are dying every day because of this." (in Christianity Today, Feb 4, 2025). The health and safety of millions of Africans and many millions living elsewhere is at stake, even in the USA!

30 years ago, when we worked in Malawi with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, we got some money from USAID to monitor the distribution of 30,000 tons of food relief during the drought there. The food and the money to monitor and target the food aid saved thousands.

In February, USAID projects in 130 countries were stopped, including those that fight famine, and diseases like TB, malaria, HIV/AIDS, Ebola, Polio etc. Much of this money is often given to Christian organizations and Christian hospitals like the one where our two daughters were born in Malawi, that use this money for food, medicine, research, fuel, and paying additional staff.

In one Presbyterian hospital in Kenya, with over 3,000 HIV patients, 42 staff had to stop work and they have no idea how they will get more medicine for these patients. The PEPFAR program started by President George W. Bush in 2003 pays for HIV prevention and testing and has saved 25 million lives and allowed 5.5 million babies to be born without HIV. Now millions are at risk.

While no doubt there is need for some reform and probably room for more efficiency in any big organization, the freezing of funding and the firing of staff and the way it was done so abruptly has left many programs hanging in uncertainty and caused much additional pain and suffering.

Americans give almost as much money privately, but such giving would have to double to make up for this shortfall and many areas like research, monitoring, and collaboration would probably suffer. Our world has become less safe and the U.S. is in more danger from another pandemic.

Christians are called to love our neighbors unselfishly and even to love our enemies. This year and the next few years will test how much the church is able to live out its calling to be salt and light and yeast in the world.



Praise and Worship Greeters

- 6: E: Nick and Maria Mans/family
C: Cory and Anne Maxwell/family
W: John and Kim McDougall
- 13: E: Dave and Jessica McDyer/family
C: Leona Meendering
W: Vanessa Odens/family

Maundy Thursday Service

- 17: E: Dick and Marcia Oldenkamp
C: Lyle Peelen
W: Jr and Imogene Rasmussen
- 20: E: Larry and Rhonda Riebeling
C: Daren Rockman
W: Marlin Roelfs
- 27: E: Marlin and Kathy Runia
C: Brian and Heidi Sayler/family

Willing Hands Group



Group #4

will be responsible for services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

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

Children & Worship during the service



Leader

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 6: Deb Kusters | 20: Deb Kusters |
| 13: Deb Kusters | 27: Deb Kusters |

Worship Service Nursery

- 6: Chelsey Alexander & Alexis Van Diepen
13: Megan Ackerman & Chelsea Hulstein
20: Peg & Curt Van Kley
27: Heidi & Grace Sayler

Fellowship Coffee Servers

- 6: Bert and Jan Henrichs
13: Jim and Pauline Van Engen
20: Dave and Dandy Lamfers
27: Ken and Wilma Loerts

Library Volunteers



- 6: Jeannette Juffer
13: Pauline Van Engen
20: Marcia Van Ruler
27: Alfreda Verdoorn



April 7-11 & April 14-18

If you can help with this ministry, please sign up on the Information Center



Stewardship & Giving

Offering Summary through March 29:

- **General Fund: \$90,610.40**
Budget: \$363,794.52; 24% of budget
- **Benevolent Fund: \$4344.64**
Budget: \$62,125; 6% of budget
- **Building Fund offerings to date: \$500**

Average Monthly Offering Needed:
\$35,493.29

Total Ben./Gen. Offerings through March 29:
\$32,323.24

*Total Ben/Gen offering does not include
"Special Monthly Offering" donations as they
are technically not part of the estimated budget.*

Special Offering for April



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: Coffee Creamer Cups, Napkins, Paper Towels.

We **do not need**, Dish Soap or Clorox Wipes. Maybe you have worked in the

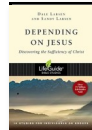


kitchen and know of something that would be useful that you would like to donate. All items are appreciated!

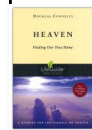


Leviticus Trivia Time!!

1. The son of an Egyptian father and an Israelite mother got into a fight; then he was stoned to death for blasphemy. What was his mother's name? (*Shelomith, Deborah, Dibri, or Hannah*)
2. The Biblical term shekel was a measurement of weight. What would 20 shekels be in ounces today?
3. Although I am not a human or animal, God said he would punish me for my sin. What am I? (*The waters at Meri bah, The sky, The ocean, The land*)
4. Abihu and his brother offered unauthorized fire in their censers, and they were destroyed. Who was their father?
5. Who carried the bodies of Nadab and Abihu out of the camp? (*Mishael and Elzaphan, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron and Moses, Joshua and Caleb*)
6. When a woman became pregnant and gave birth, what was she required to bring to the priest for her offerings? (*A year-old bull and a young lamb, two doves and one young pigeon, a year-old lamb and a young pigeon or a dove, a year-old lamb and an ephah of grain*)
7. Molek was a false god known for which characteristic? (*Child sacrifice, worship of gold, nature worship, majestic architecture*)
8. The people of Israel cannot permanently sell their land because they are not the true owners of it. I am. Who am I? (*the high priests, the Levites, Aaron's sons, God*)



Faith Bible Study, will meet on **Monday, April 21 at 9:30 am**. We will be studying lesson #8, "Belonging Within Loneliness" in our study book *Depending on Jesus*. Scripture will be 2 Timothy 4:9-22. Leader will be Janelle and Imogene will serve as hostess. All are invited! If you would like to join, please let us know! Hope to see you there!



Patience Bible Study, will meet on **Monday, April 21 at 3:00 pm**. We will be studying lesson #8 "Looking for the City," in our book *Heaven: Finding Our True Home*. Scripture for the lesson is Revelation 21-22. Barb will lead and serve as hostess. Come for a time of fellowship and learning.

6:30 pm Sunday Evening Fellowship Bible Study Opportunities!

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

*FRC Fellowship Hall

****Digging into God's Word****

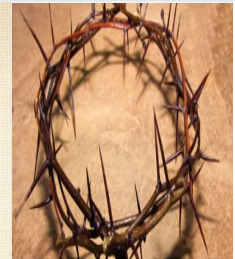
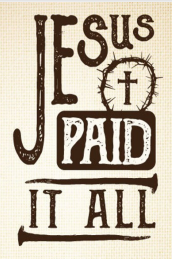
This group is currently studying the book of **John**.

FRC Fireside Room



Consistory Meeting Highlights March 10, 2025

- WiFi Water Sensors have been installed
- It was agreed to suspend Sunrise Service and Easter Brunch this year and review for the future.
- Josh will complete his residency May 4-10 in Arizona
- Updates were made to the By-Laws
- A new email system will soon be installed in the office. Details to come.





Celebrations

~~*Birthday's*~~

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 Marilynn 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

21 Pastor Brian

22 Twila Heemstra

23 LeRoy De Boer

24 Randy Vande Berg

26 Melissa Langstraat
Grant Brouwer

27 Dennis Jurgens

28 Janice Heikes

30 Loryl Mans

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

~~*Anniversaries*~~

6 Chris & Teresa Hurlburt 29 years

7 Dave & Lesa Stofferan 47 years

19 John & Jan Juffer 57 years

22 Josh & Hannah Lucas 8 years

27 Roger & Carol Iedema 52 years

28 Dean & Amy Van Marel 35 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

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR

Our Missionaries

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

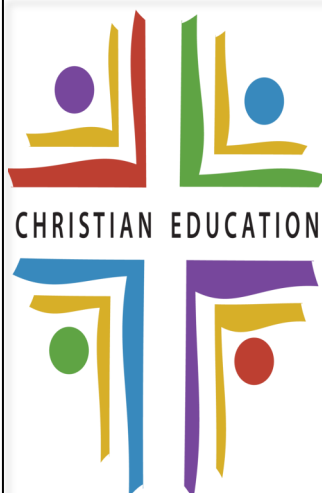
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PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Brayden and Alyssa Bruxvoort; Baker | 17. Jaden DeBoer |
| 2. Jamie and Jennifer Bruxvoort; Ella | 18. Larry and Melissa DeBoer; Kendra |
| 3. Kailey Bruxvoort | 19. Pray for our College Students |
| 4. Logan Bruxvoort | 20. Pray for our Church |
| 5. Pray for our College Students | 21. Le Roy and Glenda DeBoer |
| 6. Pray for our Church | 22. Mark and Angie DeBoer |
| 7. Jane Buysman | 23. Gary and Sandy De Vries |
| 8. Nathan and Angie Buysman | 24. Stan and Abby De Zeeuw;
Keegan, Aiden, Joselyn, Addison |
| 9. Dave and JoAnn Calsbeek | 25. Kelsey Doorenbos |
| 10. Margaret Calsbeek | 26. Pray for our College Students |
| 11. Pastor Brian and Laura; Evelyn, Jordan | 27. Pray for our Church |
| 12. Pray for our College Students | 28. Merlin and Karen Doorenbos |
| 13. Pray for our Church | 29. Paul Doorenbos |
| 14. Levi and Kira Christensen; Connor, Riley | 30. Cory and Amy Dykstra; Wyatt, Cole |
| 15. Karla Crichton; Regan, Hadley | |
| 16. Dale and Marilynn DeBoer | |

<u>College Students:</u>			
Grace Beavers	Marissa Ackerman	MacKenzie Beyer	Carter Brouwer
Michael Block Jr.	Halle Block	Teddy Van Gelder	Andrea Leusink
Ella Bruxvoort	Tayler Bremer		
Aiden De Zeeuw	Madison Brouwer		
	Regan Crichton		Grant Brouwer
	Keegan De Zeeuw		Ryan Van Marel
	Makya Dykstra		
	Maverick Elser		
	Jared Kruger		
	Emma Langstraat		
	Matthew McDougall		
	Gannon Rockman		



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:**
 - April 20 - No Sunday School due to Easter
 - April 27 - Last Sunday School Class for 24-25 year
- ◇ **Wednesday Bible Classes (1st-5th grades):**
 - April 23 - Last Bible Class for 24-25 year
- ◇ **MS and HS Remnant Youth Group:**
 - Meeting times as normal

College Addresses

Andrea Leusink
BVU Box 2461
610 W. Fourth Street
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Carter Brouwer
2013 Fox Run Trail
Brookings, SD 57006

MacKenzie Beyer
610 W 4th Street
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Ted Van Gelder
617 Jackrabbit Ave
Brookings, SD 57007

Grant Brouwer
1235 SE University Ave
Apt. #205
Waukeg, IA 50263

Marissa Ackerman
#313 Caldwell Hall
Box 2805
Brookings, SD 57007

Halle Block
1343 SW Prairie Trail Pkway
Apt. #302
Ankeny, IA 50023

Madison Brouwer
901 Rose Street
Apt. #244
Vermillion, SD 57069

Keegan De Zeeuw
812 University Street
Box #173
Pella, IA 50219

Makya Dykstra
1631 4th St NE
Apt 115
Watertown, SD 57201-8797

Maverick Elser
612 S. 16th Street
Ames, IA 50010

Jared Kruger
410 Campus Drive
Apt. 4
Calmar, IA 52132

Emma Langstraat
Meadows South
#120C
Brookings, SD 57007

Matthew McDougall
Room #701
IA Lakes Comm. College
3200 College Drive
Emmetsburg, IA 50536

Gannon Rockman
3099c Nest Ave.
Sheldon, IA 51201

Ella Bruxvoort
405 5th Street
Sibley, IA 51249

Aiden DeZeeuw
Stalnaker Hall
2875 University Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50311

Michael Block Jr.
208 8th St. SW
Unit 103
Orange City, IA 51041

Grace Bevers
Beede Hall
Room 227-2
702 E. Cherry Street
Vermillion, SD 57069

If your student will have a different address for the 2024-2025 school year please let the office know.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER DESSERT CAKES

Pineapple Sunshine Cake

Cake:

- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup oil (I used vegetable oil)
- 1 (8 oz) can crushed pineapple with juice

Frosting:

- 1 (8 oz) container whipped topping, thawed
- 1 small box instant vanilla pudding
- 1 (8 oz) can crushed pineapple with juice

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 9x13 pan with cooking spray. In a large bowl, combine cake mix, eggs, oil, and 1 can of crushed pineapple with the juice. Mix well. Pour into prepared baking pan and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Allow to cool completely on a wire rack. In a medium sized bowl, fold together whipped topping, box of vanilla pudding, and 1 can crushed pineapple with the juice. Spread over the top of cooled cake. Enjoy!

Pina Colada Cake (Pineapple Coconut Cake)

Cake

- 15.25 ounce cake mix white, vanilla or yellow cake mix will work (1 box needed)
- 1 cup crushed pineapple do not drain, spoon from the can into the measuring cup
- ½ cup vegetable oil or canola oil
- 3 large eggs room temperature

Pina Colada Filling

15 ounces [cream of coconut](#) not coconut cream and not coconut milk, sweetened condensed milk can be substituted

½ cup pineapple juice

Frosting

3.4 ounces [instant coconut cream pudding mix](#) vanilla or french vanilla instant pudding can be substituted

- 1 cup whole milk
- 8 ounces whipped topping
- ½ cup crushed pineapple well drained
- ⅔ cup toasted coconut for garnish (optional)

Prepare the Cake

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 9×13 baking dish with square edges with baking spray and set aside. In a large bowl or the bowl of a stand mixer, combine the cake mix, crushed pineapple, vegetable oil and eggs. Beat with a hand mixer or stand mixer on low speed for about 30 seconds and then increase the speed to medium and continue mixing for another 2 minutes. Pour into the prepared baking dish and smooth out the top so the cake bakes up evenly. Bake for 28 to 33 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean. Let the cake cool on a wire rack for 30 minutes. Using a fork, gently poke holes all over the cake. Try not to crumble the top of the cake the best you can.

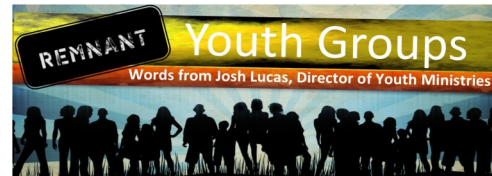
Prepare the Pina Colada Filling

Whisk together the cream of coconut and pineapple juice in a medium size bowl. Slowly and carefully pour over the top of the cake allowing it to fill in the holes and absorb into the cake. Let the cake rest until the liquid is fully absorbed and the cake has completely cooled.

Pina Colada Frosting

Combine pudding mix and milk in a large bowl and whisk until it thickens, about 2 minutes. Add the whipped topping and fold in until no streaks remain. Add the pineapple (making sure it has been well drained) and fold into the mixture until evenly combined. Gently smooth the frosting over the top of the cooled cake with an offset spatula keeping it as even as possible. If you like, top the cake with toasted coconut. Cut into squares and serve.

Hello, First Reformed Church,



One of the best things that I have come to realize is the importance of community. When I first moved here seven years ago with Hannah I felt all alone. I moved over 1,000 miles away from my family, my friends, and essentially everything I ever knew. Specifically, I would stay home, and Hannah would go off and be with her family and invite me to come too, but I was so wrapped up in my hatred of Sibley that I did not go, I had no idea what I was missing. This went on for a few weeks, nearly a few months, and finally it hit me, “Josh you need community.” I didn’t really know what that meant until I finally decided to go over with Hannah to have dinner with the in-laws. After I went and had a great time I started going again, and again, and again. From there I started to get more plugged into the community and developed relationships.

We never really understand the impact that community makes on us until it is gone. We may say to ourselves, “I don’t need community I am fine on my own.” Well, that is not the case because God said in Genesis 2 that it is not good for man to be alone, the context here is about Adam and his need for Eve, but the overall principle here is that we were not created to be left alone. We need each other, we need the church, and most importantly we need Christ. I want to encourage you to find your community of people that you get together with regularly. Not only do you share meals together or have coffee together, but you do life together. I will always remember when Hannah and I lived in Sioux Falls we attended a church there that had a phenomenal hospitality ministry. This ministry trained people in the church to be welcoming, hospitable, and caring for visitors and members of the church. Our first Sunday we attended we were invited to go to dinner at about four different family’s homes. Every week it was like that. That is what community looks like.

Go out and do life with your community because it is what God is providing for you, and you need them just as much as they need you. It can be with people your own age or even people who are much older than you. At the end of the day in the Christian worldview, age is just a number. I hope that you enjoyed this short and easy newsletter article. Be safe and make good choices!

Blessings,
Josh

Dad Jokes with Josh:

Q: If a king sleeps on a king size mattress, a queen sleeps on a queen size, then what does a prince sleep on?

A: An heir mattress!

Sportsmen's Devotional

Today's Photograph

**Let Us Not Trample Underfoot The Precious Blood
That He Shed For Us**



Bible Study Verse

I John 1:7 "But if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin." (NASB)

Thoughts

Awhile back, I was blessed to draw a bull elk tag for Arizona's coveted Unit 9. On the evening of the first day, a large bull entered a clearing about 200 yards from me. Once I had closed the distance, my shot rang true and the majestic bull lay 75 yards from where he was hit.

As I cleaned and quartered the elk, I was amazed at how powerful the blood was. Blood that normally carries life can be disrupted by one well-placed shot; and suddenly, 75 yards later, life ceases to exist.

Blood is the key ingredient that gives us all life.

Action Point

If blood is so powerful that it keeps that majestic animal alive, just think about how powerful the blood of the Creator of the universe was and is!!! When Christ died on Calvary, He shed His blood to "purify us from all sin."

While blood brings life, whether we are people, elk, or quail, the blood of Christ gives us eternal life. Now, that is powerful blood!!!

As Christians, we can become complacent about God's sacrifice, knowing that He loves us and will forgive us. Let us not trample underfoot the precious blood that He shed for us. Always strive to be obedient to His Word and His will!!!

Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

Although blood and bodily fluids bring life, they can, also, carry infectious diseases. Make sure that you always carry several pairs of surgical/latex gloves for cleaning your harvest.

Leviticus Trivia Time Answers:

1. Shelomith (24:11) 2. 8 oz (5:15) 3. The Land (18:25) 4. Aaron (10:1-2) 5. Misheel & Elzaphan (10:4-5) 6. A year-old lamb and a young pigeon or a dove (12:1-7) 7. Child Sacrifice (18:21; 20:2-5) 8. God (25:23)

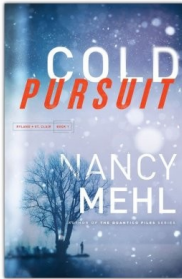
From the library--



New books in the library are the start of two series the first is **"Alaska Air One Rescue" written by Susan May Warren titled: ONE LAST SHOT:** "When country music star Oaken Fox joins survivalist Mike Grizz's new adventure show in the Alaskan wilderness, he just wants to boost his fan base. But when tragedy strikes and Air One Rescue must save them, Oaken wants to quit. Too bad his producer has other plans—signing him on with Air One Rescue as a recruit and making a reality show.

EMT Boo Kingston did not join Air One Rescue to train a celebrity. But she's a rookie to the team, so yes, she'll train Oaken and keep him alive and not for a minute pay attention to his charm.

And then five women go missing from a resort during a bachelorette weekend gone wrong. Now, Air One and the rescue team will have to use all their skills and manpower—including Oaken—to find them before a blizzard settles in. But can they work together before tragedy strikes a second time??"



The second new series is **"Ryland & St. Clair" by Nancy Mehl and the book is COLD PURSUIT.** "Ex-FBI profiler River Ryland still suffers from PTSD after a case went horribly wrong. Needing a fresh start, she moves to St. Louis to be near her ailing mother and opens a private investigation firm with her friend and former FBI partner, Tony St. Clair. They're soon approached by a grieving mother who wants them to find out what happened to her teenaged son, who disappeared four years ago. River knows there's almost no hope the boy is still alive, but his mother needs closure, and River and Tony need a case, no matter how cold it might be.

But as they follow the boy's trail, which gets more complicated at every turn, they find themselves in the path of a murderer determined to punish anyone who gets in his way. As River and Tony race to stop him before he kills again, an even more dangerous threat emerges, stirring up the past that haunts River and plotting an end to her future.

There are a lot of books just waiting for you check them out—stop in soon.

Jeannette Juffer



Random Musings Devotional

By Brenda Sandbulte

This morning I was up with the best of intentions. Craig and I had purchased a treadmill as a joint Christmas gift, and I was going to get up early and get some steps in. With praise music sounding in my ears, I put in a good fifteen minutes - don't judge, I'm old and I need to ease my way into it. I was sweating and according to the monitor, my heart beat was up.

Then it was devotion time. I am making my way through *Embraced* by Lysa TerKeurst (highly highly recommend). Recently she's been discussing awkwardness, the dangers of comparison, and self-labeling.

Today she shared the story of Michelangelo's David. With a replica right in Sioux Falls, I paid closer attention. She said that Michelangelo actually slept at the foot of the sculpture for over two years. Michelangelo once said that he saw an angel in the marble and he carved until he (the angel) was set free. When asked how he managed to sculpt such beauty, Michelangelo simply said, "It is easy. You just chip away the stone that doesn't look like David."

She went on to explain that in the museum where David is located several other unfinished sculptures were on display. One was called Prisoners, and then Ms. TerKeurst wrote, "Some prisons don't require bars to keep people locked inside. All it takes is their perception that they belong there."

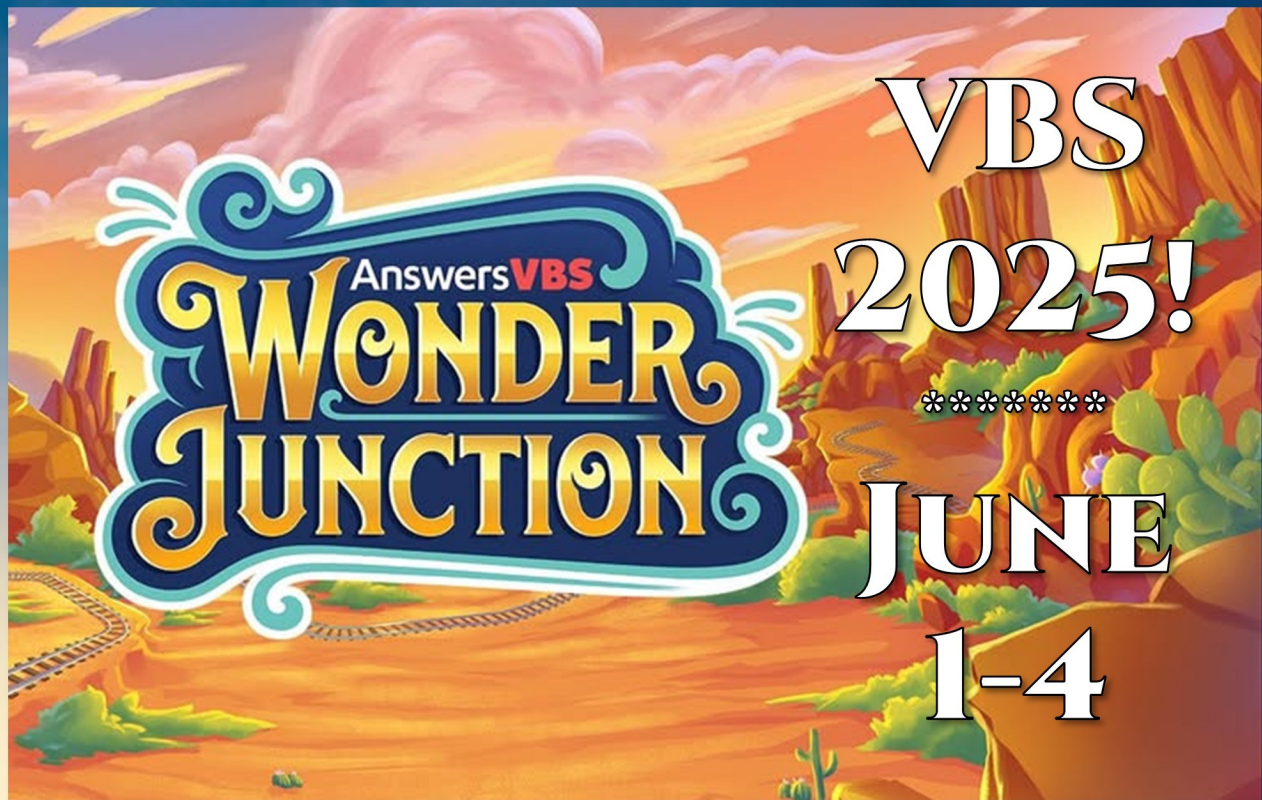
That hit a little too close to home. Those labels - prisons - we all put ourselves in. I do that so often with negative thoughts and labels. I'm an expert in self-loathing; I rarely feel like I'm good enough, so I constantly ask others for affirmation. So I decided to journal all the prisons I put myself in...

Brenda is horribly out of shape. Brenda talks too much. Man I was on a roll.... Brenda...

and my pen ran out. Literally. I'm not kidding - no ink. It was like God was telling me that He wasn't going to give those thoughts permanence by putting them to paper.

It was a wonderfully freeing moment, because in that ink-deprived space in my journal, God told me that He doesn't see me that way. He sees me as His masterpiece - He's just chiseling away those things that don't look like Brenda.

So there I sat, sweaty from my pathetic 15 minutes on a treadmill, crying softly and feeling like an absolute treasure - a wonder of the world if you will - knowing the Master Artist is just chiseling away, stone by stone, until the Brenda He sees emerges.



The Osceola County Ministerial Association

Good Friday Passion Play April 18

39th Season!

There will be three
performances

5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. &
9:00 p.m.

at the Sibley-
Ocheyedan High School
Auditorium, Sibley, IA

FREE TICKETS

are available and may be
reserved by calling
(712)754-2945
or by emailing
ocmapassionplay@gmail.com

Church groups and
organizations may request
enough tickets for their entire
group. Please do not reserve
more than you need.



Passion Play 2025 Schedule:

- **Saturday, April 12 @ 8:00 AM**
Transfer equipment to School (Meet at the Sibley CRC to load sets--Set up will happen on Sunday)
- **Sunday, April 13 from 12:30-3:30 PM**
Set the Stage and put out costumes
2:00 pm: Music Rehearsal
3:00-5:00 pm Rehearsal (including children)
- **Monday, April 14 from 7:00-9:00 PM**
Rehearsal (no children)
- **Tues, April 15 from 7:00-9:00 PM**
Rehearsal (no children)
- **Wednesday, April 16 from 7:00-10:00 PM**
Full dress rehearsal with children; Children will be dismissed at 8pm
- **Fri, April 18: 3:00 PM** Make-up for the entire cast
- **Sat, April 19 @ 8:00 AM** Take down the sets

If you would like to participate, please call Peg or Curt Van Kley @ 754-2945, Josh Lucas @ 461-1520 or Becky Krogman @ 461-1010 so that your name can be included in the program. We must know if you will be able to take part in or help with the Passion Play.