



# The Newsletter

August 2022

2022 Annual Men & Boys FRC Fishing Trip  
(see back page for more pictures)



*glorify God in all we do,  
grow with Him daily &  
go with Him to share His love.*

## August at a Glance

- 2: 10:00am-7pm OCMA Backpack distribution in the Fireside Room
- 10: 8am-2pm OCMA Backpack distribution in Fireside Room
- 15: 9:30 am Faith Bible Study  
3:00 pm Patience Bible Study
- 16: 6:00 pm Elder/Deacon meetings
  - 7:00pm Full Consistory will meet
- 17: 8am-2pm OCMA Backpack distribution in Fireside Room
- 18: Secretary's Office will be closed
- 21: Communion Sunday
- 23: School starts for S-O

### \*Sundays:

- 9:30 am Praise & Worship Service
- 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship Time
- Sunday School is on Summer Break

### \*Tuesdays:

- 8:30 am Quilting Chicks will meet

### \*Wednesday Evening Bible Classes and Youth Groups:

- On Summer Break!
- See you next month!

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com



View our Website at: [sibleyfrc.org](http://sibleyfrc.org)





## Stewardship & Giving

Offering Summary through July 30:

- **General Fund:** \$197,091.58  
Budget: \$315,827.88; 62% of budget

- **Benevolent Fund:** \$19,628.26  
Budget: \$70,626.12; 27% of budget

- **Building Fund offerings to date:** \$640

# Faith In Action for August

## Upper Des Moines

Let's help fill up the pantry! Any non-perishable food is welcome. Thank you for sharing!



## Special Offering for August



## The Bountiful Blessings Table Is Back!!



A great way to share your abundance of garden produce, flowers, baked goods, home canned items, crafts... (all items are appreciated)



All items donated to the table are available to take home for a free-will monetary donation.

All money collected by the end of the season will once again be donated to a local food pantry.



### How You Can Access These Resources:

**Church Website:** [www.sibleyfrfc.org](http://www.sibleyfrfc.org)

click on Right Now Media to be taken directly to their site.

**Website Link to set up your account :**

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/>

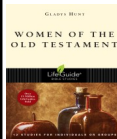
[FirstReformedSibley](https://www.rightnowmedia.org/FirstReformedSibley)

**Google Play Store App:**

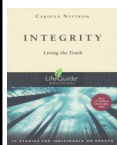
Right Now Media

QR Code:





**Faith Bible Study**, will meet on **Monday, August 15 at 9:30 am**. We will be studying Lesson #4, "Rahab," based on Joshua 2; 6:15-25, in our book *Women of the Old Testament* by Gladys Hunt. Janelle Van Drunen will be leader and Julie Janssen will serve as hostess. Hope to see you there!



**Patience Bible Study**, will meet on **Monday, August 15 at 3:00 pm**. We will be studying the lesson #9 "Offer Forgiveness" based on John 21 in our book *Integrity*. Barb will lead and Kathy Verdoorn will serve as hostess. You are invited to join us as we learn more about living with integrity as Christians.



**Online Bible Study Opportunity!** Eyewitness Bible Studies have made their new 15 lesson Bible Study, "One Hit Wonders" available for free to us for the summer months. "One Hit Wonders" is a story about obscure Bible Characters that we just don't know much about. Each lesson is a video lesson with a an available study guide These lessons are available on our website under "Media, Online Bible Studies" or by scanning this QR Code.



**August 1-5**

Joselyn De Zeeuw (Wilderness Camp)

**August 8-12**

Addison De Zeeuw (Wilderness Camp)

Students always love receiving mail from home.

If you would like to write to students who are attending camp please send letters to:  
Inspiration Hills Camp, % (Student Name/Camp attending), 1242 280th Street, Inwood, IA 51240.

## Praise and Worship Greeters

- 7: E: Cody and Kristen Hurlburt/family  
C: Michael and Mary Hustoft  
W: Pam Kruger
- 14: E: Merlyn and Julie Janssen  
C: Papito and Kelsey Joseph/family  
W: Jeannette Juffer
- 21: E: John and Jan Juffer  
C: Alan and Lacey Julius/family  
W: Dennis and Dar Jurgens
- 28: E: Joanne Klaassen  
C: Kevin and Laurel Klaassen  
W: David and Donna Kleinwolterink

## Nursery

The Nursery will be open for use,  
but unstaffed.

## Children & Worship during the service



**Children and Worship is on  
Summer Break.  
See you in next month!!**

## Willing Hands Group



**Willing Hands  
Group #2**  
will be responsible for  
services during the month.

**Co-chairpersons are:**

- Luella Eggink
- Darcy Martinez

## Fellowship Coffee Servers



- 7: John and Lois Van Diepen  
14: Janelle Van Drunen  
21: Lawrence and Ruth Wiersma  
28: Curt and Peg Van Kley

## Library Volunteers



- 7: Jen Schram  
14: Alfreda Verdoorn  
21: Kathy/Joel Verdoorn  
28: Ruth Ann Wiersma

Hello First Reformed Church,

Is summer nearly over already? It seems like we just got over winter and now we are about to welcome in Fall. Time sure does fly by wouldn't you say. Hannah had recently purchased a book by Karen Kingsbury titled, "Let Me Hold You Longer." It is a very heartwarming book about the speed of growing up and how it is important to not waste time in the stages that our children are growing up in. It was a book I told Hannah not to purchase because she would get emotional every time she would read it. She told me, "No I won't. Watch I'll prove it to you." She begins reading the book and about two pages into the book she started crying. By the end she was a very tearful mother. Have you parents noticed just how fast time goes? When we're kids, we can't wait to grow up, and then when we are adults, we wish that time would slow down. I believe that when we have kids the thought of time is, we want it to slow down. It's obviously not for everyone, and this is not to say that if you do not feel this way you are a bad parent or anything, but I think we can all agree that time flies by very fast.

Are there moments in your life you wish that you would have lived in the moment a little bit longer? Do you feel like you are too old or too young to do certain things? Obviously, there are certain situations where that is true, but I want to pose this challenge and this thought. When we look back at the Bible who did God use? Big, strong, young, men? In some cases, yes, but in most cases, He used the most "ineligible" people for His glory. It didn't matter whether they were tall, thin, buff, weak, male, or female, He used His people for His purpose. Don't ever forget to live joyfully in the Lord. Not to just sit around angry at the world or bitter about things that should have happened but didn't. If we truly believe in a sovereign God, then we believe that He is in control of all things and that includes our paths. It wasn't in God's plan for you to do those things. Parents even if you have older children, teenager, college, young adult, adult, whatever age, you are still their parent. Don't think that you cannot enjoy time with your children. Make time to go be with them, go on trips, share stories, laugh together, cry together, worship together, study together, do things with your families, especially with your spouse.

Some of you are widows and my heart go out to all of you. You may think to yourself, "Well my husband is gone what do I do?" Think about this for a moment. Did Jesus have an earthly father? No, but who does He call His father? Joseph. Joseph is Jesus' adoptive father and Joseph raised Him like He was His own flesh and blood. There are ladies in our church currently who serve in day cares, in our church with Mother's Together, and other areas where they love on children who are not their own. Don't think that since your children are out of the house that you can't have that feeling of a grandma or a mother or a grandpa or father. There are plenty of children in our world today who need love and more importantly who need Jesus. Don't waste your time on earth with foolish things. You don't know when your last day on earth is. Live your life for Christ, but it does not have to be boring. The Bible says to "Rejoice always" (1 Thessalonians 5:16). Those two simple words have a lot of meaning. Rejoice, meaning to be joyful, always, meaning in all of life's moments. Don't take each day for granted love God, love your families, and rejoice in the fact that you are alive and are still being used by God today.

Blessings,  
Josh Lucas



### Dad Jokes With Josh:

Q: What do lawyers wear to court?

A: Lawsuits

# CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
15				13				1						9							22				

O \_ \_ E \_ \_ E \_ \_ \_ A \_ \_ A \_ \_ A \_ \_  
 9 10 14 13 18 16 13 5 23 14 15 10 10 15 12 11 14 15 6 7

\_ A \_ E \_ E \_ E \_ E \_ O \_ \_  
 11 15 16 13 18 13 16 13 18 13 6 24 13 19 9 18 5 23

\_ A \_ \_ U A \_ \_ I A \_ \_ E \_ O \_ \_  
 14 15 6 24 12 22 15 18 23 1 15 5 12 11 13 3 9 18 7

## Directions:

This puzzle is called a Cryptogram. I've always loved doing them! At the top there is a KEY that lists all the letters from A thru Z with a box below. Each of the letters has a corresponding number.

The bottom part contains a secret phrase. Each of the blanks has a number underneath it. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase.

## Trivia Time!!

- King Eglon was killed with a dagger that was \_\_\_\_\_ inches long, and the dagger could not be pulled out because\_\_\_\_\_?
- What two books in the Bible were written to Theophilus?
- What Bible character had his lips touched with a live coal?
- Who was the person who dreamed about a tree which reached to heaven?
- What woman in the Bible had five husbands?
- When the magi came to seek Baby Jesus, where did they find him?
- Who caused bricklayers to go on strike?
- What Bible character changed dust into lice?
- Who was the man to first organize an orchestra in the Bible?
- Of all the books in the Bible, which one does not contain the name of God?





# Celebrations

## ~~Birthday's~~

1 Ellie Loerts	20 Charlie Kuhl
3 Vanessa Odens	21 Jessa Wolter
4 Garrett Sayler	22 Paul Feldkamp
7 Cory Dykstra	Jena Meyer
Dawson Beyer	Lindy Tracy
Aidan Beyer	24 Sharon Bartels
8 Chris Wynia	Amy Elser
Landon Odens	25 Wilma Hatting
9 Natalie Klaassen	Lars Ackerman
10 Barb Van Diepen	26 John Bartels
Regan Crichton	Brenda Kuhl
Anita Ernst	Brad Loerts
11 Leanne Van Kley	27 Madison Brouwer
13 Tayler Bremer	28 Larry Riebeling
15 Megan Loerts	29 David Van Ruler
16 Deb Kusters	30 Renae Groen
Dawson Kreykes	Lisa Nissen
17 Alyssa Wassman	Linda Mehls
Cody Dykstra	31 Tessa Feldkamp
Andrea Block	Grace Sayler
18 Peyton Crichton	Jackson Van Der Sloot
19 Alexis Gaalswyk	
Maureen Heilman	

## ~~Anniversaries~~

2	Jim & Pauline Van Engen	48 years
4	Merlin & Karen Doorenbos	32 years
	Chad & Megan Travaille	4 years
6	Ger and Barb Van Diepen	56 years
	Ken and Wilma Loerts	46 years
7	Charlie and Brenda Kuhl	41 years
	John and Kim Mc Dougall	23 years
11	Eugene and Renae Groen	50 years
13	Steve and Lynn Mulder	34 years
	Clayton and Jodi Wagenaar	34 years
	Michael and Chelsea Hulstein	11 years
15	Mike and Mary Hustoft	59 years
18	Dave & Donna Kleinwolterink	46 years
22	Arnie & Diane Langstraat	53 years
23	Scott and Jamie Hulstein	25 years
	Brent and Brenda Wassman	25 years
24	John and Lois Van Diepen	60 years
	Randy and Kelli Vande Berg	32 years
28	Leroy & Glenda De Boer	41 years
30	Steve & Leanne Van Kley	48 years
	Brian and Megan Loerts	14 years

# THE LAST HORSEMAN

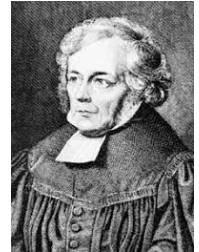
## ~ FRIEDREICH SCHLEIERMACHER ~



We come to the end of our summer series on thought leaders that have influenced our world and have done so much harm to our culture—and to the church. Our last horseman is Friedrich Schleiermacher. You may not have heard of him, but his impact on the church has been devastating. How important is he? If we stay or leave the RCA will depend on the debate that this man's ideas helped cause. We are going to look at Schleiermacher and the roots and causes of Christian Liberalism, and the modern debates concerning worship.

Historically, the church has looked to the Bible as the starting point for our understanding of God and His salvation. Consider this verse: *"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes...and heard we proclaim also to you" (1 John 1:1–3)*. Unfortunately, many in the church today do not start with the Bible. They start somewhere else, usually with a human centered view of scripture.

Let me introduce you to this man and the theological movement he helped found—**German Higher Criticism, and Christian Liberalism**. He was born in Prussian in 1768 and he died in Germany in 1834. He lived during the same age as Darwin, Marx and Nietzsche—a time of major cultural change that was influenced by the rise of modern science. During his academic career he developed new ways of interpreting scripture (*hermeneutics*), and new ways of knowing God. As an academic he tried to reconcile the modern scientific world with the Bible.



**Two key points** that Schleiermacher made were:

1. The **Bible is not the historical, infallible, inerrant word of God**. It is a book informed by the history of believers, but it is full of human thoughts and errors. We don't need to interpret it literally, we must try to understand it in light of our own human needs.  
Miracles are not real—science has demonstrated otherwise—therefore there was no virgin birth, Jesus didn't really rise from the dead, and life after death is questionable.  
However, when you start with the assumption that the Bible is not inerrant and infallible, then it is possible to take out what you don't like. It is the lie of Satan to Eve in the garden, *"did god really say?"*
2. But Schleiermacher believed in God. So he said if we don't know God with our minds, or in scripture, we must only know Him through **personal experience**. It is our feelings that matter, not our minds or hearts. Our entire experience with God is personal—it is subjective, not objective. From him would come the idea that doctrine divides and experience unites.  
As a result, the modern evangelical church tends to emphasize experience instead of knowing the Word of God or any theology. It is important that we have a 'personal relationship' with Jesus, but worship must meet 'my personal preferences'. We don't need to study scripture, just have religious experiences.

We are living in a day when liberal theology has made deep inroads in the church. Many professing Christians and even ordained ministers no longer believe in the authority of Scripture or the resurrection of Jesus Christ. How can people deny these essential doctrines and still call themselves Christians?



# CHRISTIANITY AND LIBERALISM

Now for our last theological history lecture before we come to the end of this series. One thing I find very interesting in subtle ways is that the 'old' isn't important, only the 'new' has value. Some of you are probably wondering about why I am bringing up all these old *dead guys and their ideas*. Let's start with an idea that many of us are familiar with—if ***we don't learn from history we are doomed to repeat it***.

I don't know about you, but there is a lot of the last century that I do not want to repeat. The 20th century was the bloodiest in all human history. More people died at the hands of their own governments than have died in all the wars in recorded history. However, it was also a century of great accomplishment and discovery. We went from wagons to supersonic air travel, from snail mail to the internet, from leeches to antibiotics, and so much more. The church had to navigate all of these changes—and it has not been easy. So, our last two major historical movements to consider because they have changed the church.

First: German Higher Criticism led to **Liberal theology**. In the early part of the 20th century seminaries, denominations, and theologians began to embrace this view of Christianity. Liberals said that the Bible was not inerrant and infallible, and we could take what we wanted and leave the rest behind. Miracles didn't happen, Jesus wasn't born of a virgin, and He didn't rise from the death in real time and history.

Seminaries, *who train preachers*, taught these ideas. Pastors started teaching these ideas from the pulpit. Sermons changed. Instead of teaching what the Bible has to say, they became focused on the needs of people and society rather than the purposes of God for his people. Sermons moved away from Biblical exposition towards themes from psychology, social justice, politics, or how to be better at something. Sermons may mention scripture, but they don't explain it.

The debates between the liberals and the conservative theologians in the 1920s and 30s led to a number of denominational splits, the establishment of new seminaries and to an ever widening divide among protestant theologians. The liberal churches and denominations are generally referred to as *mainstream*. Many of these denominations have drifted so far from historical Christianity until they are not recognizable as Christian. The RCA is considered a mainline denomination and the split that is underway is between those who embrace liberal theology and those who remain faithful to the God of the Bible.

Our decision to stay or to go needs to be based on our view of Scripture—not on the views of our culture. Serious cultural issues are before us—primarily homosexuality. But the division is deeper and more far-reaching than one social issue.

Secondly, **secularization** is having a major impact on the church. Secularization is *process of converting something from religious to secular possession or use*. Our society was once 'one nation under God' now we are a nation that denies free speech and demands that anything religious be removed from society. We have to deal with this new *cancel culture*.

It is deeply distressing when churches become more a place of community self-help meetings, places to teach yoga, places of social change instead of places where God is worshiped and studied, and where the body of Christ is equipped and nurtured.

# HOW NOW SHOULD WE LIVE?



Let us come to an end of the series, and try to see our way forward. Since 500 ad, Christianity has been the dominant influence on the cultures of the western world. In less than 50 years we have lost that position. It may be the end of the former Christian era, but a new one is beginning. Like Christians in the first 500 years of the church, we are living a time of intense cultural conflict. These early Christians managed to change the world. They laid the foundation for our world.

We must learn to live, and worship Biblically if we are going to honor God. I don't know the answer to all of the questions we are facing, but I have hope. God has promised to preserve his people, to preserve the church. His kingdom is here, and he rules as Lord of Lords, and the King of Kings.

Perhaps the most important idea that we have to embrace fully on our way forward is this—**TRUTH EXISTS**. We live in a time of relativism, truth isn't universal it is only a matter of our own choice. Think about the way that people talk. *Sex before/outside marriage*—a matter of personal choice among consenting adults; *Sexual identity*—a matter of personal choice, not biology; or *Abortion*—a matter of a woman's choice about what to do with her own body. Right and wrong are just a matter of personal choice. Thank you Nietzsche!

Think about the words of Jesus from John 14:6 *"I am the way and the **truth** and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* The truth is that there is a solution to the problem of sin—it is Jesus Christ and his salvation. There is no other solution, not evolution and science (Darwin), power/politics (Marx) or sexual revolution (Freud). God will judge people who do not believe, those who do not worship him in justice and truth. All false ideas and teachings are lies, and they come from Satan himself. Lying is his native language. Consider *John 8:44: "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the **truth**, for there is no **truth** in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."*

Why would any follower of Jesus follow the lies of Satan? 2 Corinthians 11:14 describes Satan as *"an angel of light."* Sin is tempting! It sounds like a good idea, more fun than not sinning, and above all reasonable and right. But all of the false ideas we have talked about shift the focus away from the truth of God and towards the desires and ideas of men apart from God. It is the lie that Satan used in the garden—*"you will be like God."*

Living a lie is not an option for believers, 1 John 1:6 says, *"If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the **truth**."* Jesus said, in John 14:15, *"If you love me, keep my commands."*

In order to know God, we need to know his thinking, and we know that in his Word. When we quit diving deeply into the Bible, and try to live on few remembered stories or ideas from sermons or classes when we were children, we will not be able to grow into the people we need to be. We must stop compromising, stop going along with the ways of the world when those ways are not God's ways.

It is time to stand with Paul who wrote in Romans 1:16 *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."* We too must not be ashamed, we must not remain silent, and yet we must be loving.

We must rediscover and affirm that the Bible is our only rule for faith and practice. Luther knew the risks when he stood before the Diet of Worms in 1521. He could not deny his writings unless he was convinced

# CREATION ~ FALL ~ REDEMPTION ~ RESTORATION

by **Scripture** that they were incorrect. He said it knowing it would likely lead to his death. Can we do less, especially when we still have a constitutional right to freedom of religion, press and speech? Therefore, as the psalmist said, in Psalm 119:105 *“Your word is a **lamp** for **my feet**, a light on **my path**.”* We must put our feet on the path, and follow the light of the gospel revealed in the inerrant, authoritative word of God.

How do we begin? It is hard to say, and I admit that it is very confusing right now. Things are changing so fast, and it seems as if there is a new challenge everyday. Be comforted. God lives in Eternity, He is with us and His timing is perfect. *Here are a few ideas to consider as a starting point for our struggle to find how now to live.*

1. **Speak the Truth** in love (Ephesians 4:15). We must speak up, we cannot be silent and let the lies go unchallenged. Why wouldn't we want others to know the truth. I find that many believers are remaining silent when ideas that we reject are being proclaimed. We know the truth, so why wouldn't we proclaim the wonderful, saving Gospel at all times and in all places?  
It seems like we live new time in which anyone who disagrees is guilty of hate speech. We must not hate, we must be patient, polite, kind and yet truthful. Differing with someone is not hateful, so we may have to find new words, new ways of interacting with people, and we must show the love of Christ at all times.
2. **Worship in Truth.** Worship isn't for us, it is for God. We need to turn from the American worship of self and seek to obey the first three commandments. We must seek to hear the Word from the pulpit, participate in the sacraments correctly, pray continually, praise him with psalms and spiritual songs. John 4:24 reminds us that, *“God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in **truth**.”*  
I think it saddens the Spirit when we ignore scripture in worship, and spend time fighting over secondary issues. We must worship in truth.  
*We also need to become people of prayer—deep, ongoing, lasting prayer.*
3. **Live in Truth**—we must practice the truth we say we believe. It isn't uncommon to hear people complain about the *‘hypocrites’* in the church. Sometimes those charges are false, but I think they may be more and more true. For example, we must live sexually pure, honoring marriage and families if we are to demand our culture listen to us about homosexuality and transgenderism. All the data reveals that people who claim to be Christians live lives as sexually impure as those who don't believe in God. We can do better! Another thing we need to do is practice being the loving neighbors that the Bible describes. I think that demonstrating love may be our greatest tool in solving the problems we are facing.
4. **Teach the Truth**—we must study and teach God's word. Bible study, Sunday school, small groups, home bible study....we can't live what we do not know. There are more Bibles in the world today than at any time in history, yet the people of God know less about what it says than before the invention of the printing press. Let's ALL attend a Sunday School class this fall—and make sure our kids attend too!

*All of these suggestions are from my heart and they are a beginning, not an end. I need to make sure that I practice what I write. We have a glorious challenge, may we be as faithful as Christians in the first five centuries of the church. They changed everything!*



PRAY FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

1. Ellie Klaassen

2. Kevin and Laurel Klaassen; Natalie

3. David and Donna Kleinwolterink

4. Dr. Greg and Deb Kusters

5. Laurie Kraayenbrink

6. Pray for our College Students

7. Pray for our Church

8. Mitch and Abby Kreykes; Dawson, Paisley

9. Martha Krikke

10. Charles and Katha Kruger

11. Pam Kruger

12. Richard Kruger

13. Pray for our College Students

14. Pray for our Church

15. Tim and Jodie Kruger; Jared, Katie

16. Pray for our College Students
17. Pray for our Church

18. Jodene Kruse

19. Charlie and Brenda Kuhl

20. David and Sandy Lamfers

21. Arnie and Diane Langstraat

22. Mark and Melissa Langstraat;  
Emma, Addysen, Taylor

23. Pray for our College Students

24. Pray for our Church

25. Cindy Larson

26. Wilma Leusink

27. Brad and Sarah Loerts;  
Parker, Blake, Brynna

28. Ken and Wilma Loerts

29. Josh and Hannah Lucas; Joanna, Allegra

30. Pray for our College Students

31. Pray for our Church

College Students:

Mackenzie Beyer  
Logan Bruxvoort  
Kaden Maxwell  
Teddy Van Gelder

Carter Brouwer  
Andrea Leusink  
Austin Wassman  
Tyler Feldkamp

Dalten Bremer  
Ashilyn Hulstein  
Natalie Klaassen

Leah Ackerman  
Grant Brouwer  
Tanner Dykstra  
Jaeger Johnson  
Alex Mc Dougall

Ryan Van Marel



BE A  
*Prayer*  
WARRIOR

# PRAYER JOURNAL

# Sportsmen's Devotional

## Bible study Verses

Matthew 6:14-15

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (ESV)



## Thoughts

It was opening day of bow season, October 1, 1993. I was 24 years old and excited about having time off to hunt whitetail deer. The leaves were still in their place providing excellent cover for both the hunter and his prey. A light, but cool breeze combined with a mixture of sun and clouds made for a perfect Michigan day.

I climbed into an old wooden and abandoned tree-stand, built more than twenty years ago, and not more than 10 feet off of the ground. I wouldn't complain though, as I was just happy to be in the air and glad that it held my weight.

The first hour went by quickly and without any action it was time to stand and stretch. Looking to the east, I saw what I came for, an 8 pointer striding in my direction. He wasn't a monster, but he was still a shooter. I readied myself and as if on cue, the young buck trotted into bow range and stopped approximately thirty yards away. I had only a small opening to shoot through, as the fall foliage was thick.

The bow vibrated, as I released the bow string pushing the arrow with deadly force towards my unsuspecting target. A direct hit caused the buck to hunch over, as he bolted through the brush and ground cover. I would find him fifty yards away, breathing his last, as I cautiously approached.

## Action Point

The story doesn't end there. I only had time to hunt in the morning, as a playoff softball game awaited me in the evening and we had a long drive ahead of us. If I left right away and if I hurried, I would have just enough time to get ready for the game. However, as life goes, we ran out of gas, causing us to arrive, just as the game was starting. I was the head coach, so I quickly had to set the line-up, pay the ump, and run on to the field. And then all of a sudden one of my players began yelling and shouting at me about playing time. He totally caught me off guard. The situation quickly escalated into a yelling match between the two of us, as my adrenaline was already running high from an awesome hunt, the stress of running out of gas, and the pressure and excitement of trying to get to the game on time. We would later work things out, but I will never forget this opening day hunt, as it was filled with such raw emotion from the beginning to the end. Nonetheless, it serves as a reminder that as Christians we need to control our emotions and realize that the earthly things we believe to be so important are really just fleeting events.

Nothing should ever overcome the responsibility that we have to love each other, forgive others, and ultimately serve our King. Not even a great opening day.

## Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

After hearing about many hunters getting seriously hurt falling from tree-stands, I do not recommend climbing into old abandoned homemade hunting structures. It's not worth it. Always wear a safety harness and spend the money needed to get the latest and greatest tree-stand and safety harness. Your family will love you for it.

### **Trivia Time Answers!!!**

1. 18" long, Eglon was so fat that the fat closed upon the blade so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly.
2. Luke (Luke 1:3, Acts 1:1)
3. Isaiah (Isaiah 6:6-7)
4. Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:4,5,10,11)
5. Woman of Samaria/woman at the well (John 4:7, 17, 18)
6. In a house (Matt. 2:1,2,11)
7. Moses (Exodus 1:13,14)
8. Aaron (Exodus 8:17)
9. David (2 Sam. 6:5)
10. Esther

# The Signs Were There

A good little bit before we moved in, we saw a tiny little mouse in the attic. We never saw any signs of it anywhere else in the house. Even after we moved in, we looked for signs, but nothing.

A couple of weeks after we moved in we started smelling the weirdest, most off-putting smell and it was always near plumbing (bathroom, water heater, etc). We tried everything. Cleaned thoroughly, and flushed the lines thinking it might have been stagnant water because the water was on way before we moved in so we thought that could be it. Even thought it might be the treatment plant. To no avail.....

Yesterday morning I walked through the kitchen, right past the dishwasher barefoot. I was headed to the laundry room to start laundry and was DISTRACTED. Derek walked RIGHT BEHIND ME, following my steps. He saw faint movement and looked down. And there it was, the small rat snake. He picked it up and took it outside.

He came back in and said, "there was your smell". Rat snakes put off an awful odor as part of a defense mechanism. He had been in our house for at least 2-3 weeks. Since he's been out....no smell.

He came in looking for a mouse. That mouse was valuable to him. He wanted it and he came looking for it. (We now have poison out in case there is still a mouse here bc ewwww).

I asked Derek how he thought it got in. And his response got me thinking this morning. He said, "he could have slipped in when any of us left the door cracked just a bit". As we were moving, or kids going in and out, maybe walking out to the grill. It was small and sneaky and very well could have slipped right past us and us not even know he got in.

So this morning the Holy Spirit said to me, "do you see what can happen when you're distracted? How quickly the enemy can sneak in your door, and sliver right past you? If he thinks there is something valuable there, he is going to try to sneak in and take it".

And that's how it happens. We miss one church service that turns into 6 months, we have one drink that leads back into an old lifestyle, we send one text that leads to an affair, we tell one fib that turns into a trail of lies and deceit.

The signs were there. I smelled the smell. (anyone that knows me understands this). I knew there was an enemy in the camp. But I was too "busy" to continue to look. So I just cleaned around it to try to make it "better".

If satan can't have you, he'll distract you. Once you are safe in the Father's arms and your name is written down, he can't have you, so he tries to distract you. He tries to interrupt your holy living, he tries to break up your family, he tries to corrupt your mind, and he tries to fill you full of bitterness and unforgiveness.

LISTEN TO ME: He tries to stop you from getting any other names in that book!!!!!! He tries to stop you from witnessing. He tells you you can't, he ruins your witness through lies.

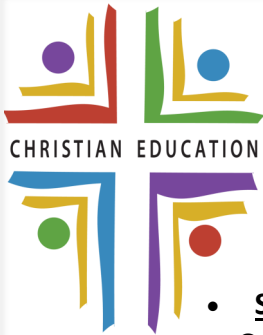
Don't leave the door cracked. Lock it down. Be on guard. Put that armor on first thing. Stay prayed up. "The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10 NIV

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." Ephesians 6:10-11

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12 NKJV

"I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:19-20 NIV

~~~Author Unknown



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Education Schedule:

- **Sunday School:**  
On Summer Break
- **Wednesday Bible Classes:**  
On Summer Break
- **MS and HS Remnant Youth Group:**  
On Summer Break

HEBREWS 10:24-25

# Youth Kickoff

6-12 GRADERS ARE INVITED TO THE  
ANNUAL YOUTH KICKOFF FOR FOOD,  
GAMES, AND FELLOWSHIP!

*Osceola County  
Ministerial Association*

AUG. 10, 2022  
6:00-8:30  
Sibley  
Central Park

Make sure to  
bring comfy  
shoes to move  
around in.



# College Addresses

### **Hudson Feldkamp**

230 Dakota Trail  
Brookings, SD 57007

### **Ryan Van Marel**

804 Medary Ave. South  
Brookings, SD 57006

### **Alex Mc Dougall**

2040 Hawthorn Ct. Drive  
#7122  
Ames, IA 50010-9169

### **Jagger Johnson**

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Apt 11  
Ames, IA 50014

### **Tanner Dykstra**

3029 N. 47th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68504

### **Grant Brouwer**

DU 2335  
700 7th Street NE  
Sioux Center, IA 51250

### **Leah Ackerman**

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### **Ashilyn Hulstein**

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### **Dalton Bremer**

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Iowa City, IA 52245

### **Tyler Feldkamp**

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Binneweis #115  
Brookings, SD 57007

### **Austin Wassman**

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Ocheyedan, IA 51354

### **Andrea Leusink**

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610 W. Fourth Street  
Storm Lake, IA 50588

### **Carter Brouwer**

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Room 421  
Binnewies Hall  
Box 2805  
Brookings, SD 57007

### **Ted Van Gelder**

SDSU  
Room #324-A1  
Young Hall  
Box 2807  
Brookings, SD 57007

### **Kaden Maxwell**

104 S. Harmon Drive  
Mitchell, SD 57301

### **Logan Bruxvoort**

230 10th Ave.  
Worthington, MN 56187

### **Mackenzie Beyer**

610 W. 4th Street  
Storm Lake, IA 50588

If your student will have a different address for the 2022-2023 school year please let the office know.





## Center of Hope

As a faith-based organization, we teach our guests that God is not distant but rather is actively seeking us out. We are fortunate to have a God who leaves the ninety-nine to seek out the one who is lost (Luke 15:3-7). As followers of Jesus, we must also seek out the lost ones among us. A couple of days ago, Jesus' parable of the lost sheep echoed in my ears as I sought out a man whom I spoke with the day before. Let's call him "Don." The sun had not risen yet and there was a

cold breeze in the air, but God laid it on my heart to seek him out on the streets. The day before, Don came into the Center of Hope with a group of known street beggars. I did not recognize him, but he recognized me. When he approached me, I realized that I had spent quite a bit of time with him four years ago when I worked at the St. Francis House. Back then, he had full-time employment and was handling his addiction to alcohol in a healthy manner. However, it was obvious that he turned back to his old ways. Out of concern, I asked to speak with him in my office. In our conversation, I learned that COVID-19 had claimed the lives of his brother and uncle several months ago. His grief led him back to the bottle and his addiction led him to homelessness. He now spends his days begging for money so he has enough money for more alcohol. He told me that he drank hand sanitizer as a substitute for alcohol one day. He is truly lost. He is scared to seek help because he knows the withdrawal would be brutal, and he would feel the full grief of the loss of his loved ones. I learned as we spoke further that he had no self-worth. He told me all he wanted to do was find a tree to sleep under to freeze to death so he could be with his brother and uncle again. I told him he had immense value to God, so much that God took on flesh to die on the cross for him. We spoke of this for a while. After we spoke, he asked if I could bless him with a pair of gloves, so I did along with a trench coat. He had been sleeping outside every night without proper winter gear. I arranged for him to go to detox that night by contacting the police and made sure a bed was available at the St. Francis House for him for the next day. However, I learned later that day that Don never made it to detox. I sought him out early the next morning with a warm blanket in hand to lay over him, but sadly, he was never found. As the days go by, Don has been active in my thoughts and prayers. I will continue to seek him out on the streets and help others like him draw closer to Christ. There are so many lost ones, like Don, on the streets who need a loving word and guidance. As the Church, we must be ambassadors of Christ, seek out the lost, and show them the overwhelming love of Christ. In those encounters, we stand on holy ground. Our mission is to love God and love people. What that looks like now is different than what it was. However, the need for mission has not changed and the Church is called to respond to that need. We must seek out the lost ones as Jesus did for us. If you are looking for opportunities to get involved in ministry, please contact me, and I will connect you to service opportunities that will match your giftedness. Go and seek out the lost!



## From the library--

Following are abbreviated synopsizes from new books that have been added to the library:



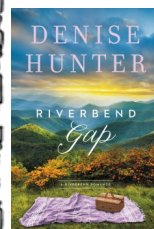
THE BOOK OF SIGNS by David Jeremiah, drawing from decades of experience as one of the world's most respected Bible teachers, Dr. Jeremiah once again brings his signature wisdom, depth, and compassion to the discussion of biblical prophecy – a discussion that becomes more and more critical with each passing day.



New to our fiction inventory is author Jennifer Delamere. She has written LINE BY LINE, book # 1 of “Love Along the Wires” series. “Since she was young, Alice McNeil has seen a career as a telegrapher as the best use for her keen and curious mind. Years later, she doesn’t regret her freedom in foregoing marriage, especially when she acquires a coveted position at an important trading firm. But when the company’s ambitious junior director returns to London, things begin to change in ways Alice could never have imagined.”



If you have been reading the “Hanger’s Horsemen” series by Karen Witmeyer, book #3 IN HONOR’S DEFENSE has arrived. “Luke Davenport has been fighting all his life—for respect, for country and for those unable to fight for themselves. But now that his Horsemen brothers are domesticated, he’s left alone to battle the wildness within. Damaris Baxter has mastered the art of invisibility. Plain and quiet, she hides in books and needlework, content to be overlooked, until her brother dies suddenly leaving her custody of her nephew. She moves to Texas to care for Nathaniel determined to create the family for herself that she never thought she’d have.”



RIVERBEND GAP is book #1 of another series by Denise Hunter, “A Riverbend Romance.” When Katelyn Loveland’s car veered off a winding Appalachian Mountain road she thought she was done for. That is until Cooper Robinson, local sheriff’s deputy, came to her rescue. As a relationship between Katelyn and Cooper begins and grows, Katie shares secrets from her past and the real reason she moved to their small North Carolina town.

Plan to visit the church library soon.

Jeannette Juffer

# Book Lovers Word Search Puzzle

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

poetry  
 mystery  
 fantasy  
 biography  
 fairy tale  
 graphic novel  
 non fiction  
 diary  
 cookbook  
 picture book  
 fable  
 myth  
 memoir  
 adventure  
 comics  
 history  
 travel  
 science  
 self help  
 art



## School Word Search Puzzle

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

ACHIEVEMENT  
 BAND  
 BELL  
 BUDDIES  
 CHALKBOARD  
 CLASSES  
 DANCES  
 DETENTION  
 DRILL  
 ENGLISH  
 ESSAY  
 GAMES  
 HOMEROOM  
 HOMEWORK  
 LEARNING  
 MATH  
 PRINCIPAL  
 PROM  
 QUIZ  
 READING  
 SCIENCE  
 SPELLING  
 STUDENT  
 TEACHER  
 TEST



# 2022 Annual Men & Boys FRC Fishing Trip



Did you hear any good fishing stories lately? Well maybe you weren't involved with the Father (Grand)...Son fishing trip. Boy is there a lot of good fishing stories related to this year's trip, just as someone that was there. The biggest fish, my first walleye, the big one that didn't make it in the boat, the singing zebco, talking kids, and on and on the stories go.

A total of 19 Men and boys were a part of this year's trip with room for more. Once again held at the Hidden Hill Lodge with all of its great views and spacious living quarters memories were made. A usual day of fishing followed by an evening meal around the big table and devotions led by one of the participants. As you can tell from the pictures fish were caught and many got away.

I want to challenge those of you still skeptics about this mission trip. I know this is a blessing for our family and yet we fish all the time. I know there are kids, grandkids, and adults that are never going to forget things about this trip. I'm one to talk... life is more than work.

Devotions one evening challenged us to give. Give of your gifts, give of your talents, give of...fish. Yes fish. Codie came up to me and asked if we have extra fish can we drop some off at an elderly couple we know because fishing has become very hard for them to do. Yes I said. Upon arriving home we went over to the couple's house and after a long visit presented the bags of fish. As the wife held back tears of joy and explained how appreciative they were for the fish, I knew this was my big memory of this trip.

Evening campfires draw many past memories of fishing trips past. Why not join us next year and continue making memories with your family. Maybe you know of someone who should be involved with this mission, let me know so I can reach out to them. Until next year as Dakota Angler says "FISH ON".

