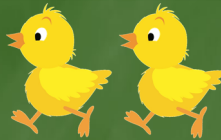


In the Spotlight

QUILTING



“Homeless Quilts”

We began making “ugly” Quilts in September of 1997. Jan Rowenhorst, a former secretary, is the first person to mention that this was a need. A few of us made the journey to In-Weave in Hawarden to get some of our first fabric.

We had a connection through Betty Vander Slood. Betty worked at AalFs overall factory in Sheldon and was able to give us a lot of denim leftovers to start with. An announcement was put into the church bulletin asking for donations of blankets and sheets.

(Continued on inside)



A Few of the Quilt Chicks

August at a Glance

- 1-3: Annual Father/Son Fishing Trip
- 5: 7:00 pm Admin Team Meeting
- 7: 2:00 FRC is in charge of Nursing Home Services
- 18: Communion Sunday
- 19: 9:00am Faith Bible Study
 - No Patience Bible Study
 - 6:00 pm Elder/Deacon Meetings
 - 7:00 pm Full Consistory
- 23: First Day of School for S-O

*Sunday Mornings:

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

*Monday Evenings:

- Women's Bible Study is on Summer break

*Tuesday mornings:

- 8:30 am Chickadee Quilters

*Wednesday Evening Bible Classes and Youth Groups:

- Bible Classes are on break until Fall
- 6:30-7:15 pm MS Remnant
- 7:15-8:30 pm HS Remnant

CONTACT INFORMATION:
712-754-2783



View our Website at: sibleyfrc.org



The Friday before my vacation was over I had a flat tire on my front passenger side of the car. It was late in the morning, we had just left where we were staying and were heading back to where my daughter lived. I had to empty the trunk, get out the jack and spare tire. I jacked up the car, took the wheel off and discovered that way on the inside of the tire it had worn to a point that a hole immersed thus letting all the air out of the tire.

I proceeded to put my spare tire on only to discover that the spare tire was also flat. I called my daughter who lived about 5 miles away and she came down and picked me up. We put air in the spare tire and then proceeded to put the spare tire back on the car. We then had to drive it to the closest tire shop and get a replacement tire put on the car. In all, it took about 2 hours out of my last day in Florida.

For many and even for myself, I could look at it as a real inconvenience. But in the process of dealing with the tire, I started to think about what I had done the day before and what was going to be happening about 16 hours later. You see, the day before we had driven 500 miles across alligator alley all the way down to the Florida Keys and then back home. At any time on that trip we could have had that flat tire and it would have been much more inconvenient.

It would have been especially inconvenient if it had happened driving through alligator alley where there's like one gas station in a 90 mile distance. Then to have a flat tire on the spare besides would have made it even worse. But it didn't happen then. Sixteen hours after we had that flat tire we were going to be leaving at 2 o'clock in the morning to head back to the airport in Tampa for a flight home.

We could very easily had a flat tire on the interstate at anywhere between 2 and 5 o'clock in the morning only to discover our spare was flat. At that time we would have been really panicked about missing our flight. But it was then, as I was putting on the now inflated spare tire that I recognized how fortunate I was.

I feel like often we forget God's presence within our lives and how he provides and watches over us. Of all the times that I could have had that flat tire, God's perfect timing was the most convenient for me. It was in that time I realized I needed to be very thankful that the timing of that flat tire was not the day before or in the early morning to proceed. It got me thinking about how often in our lives there are things which we think are inconvenient or just maybe not the right timing. However, when we really take the time to sit back and look and discover how much God really does care for us and how much He looks out for us we realize how much He ultimately provides for us.

It is in those times that we realize and recognize what a wonderful blessing it is to walk in a relationship with Jesus Christ and have a God who loves us and is there alongside of us no matter what we might encounter. Now I know for some, a flat tire is something minor and at some point, it was. But there are going to be times within each one of our lives where we're going to encounter obstacles which will inconvenience us. It's in those times that we hopefully recognize that God was protecting us. He was watching over us and keeping us from ultimately a greater harm that could have happened.

Psalms 121 reminds us of God's presence within our lives and it reads: "I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."

May you see God even in the inconveniences of life!

Blessings and Love,
Pastor Luke



Stewardship & Giving

Special offering for July: The Banquet

Offering Summary through July 24th

- General Fund: \$177,405.14;
Budget: \$279,866; 63% of budget
- Benevolent Fund: \$31,951.00;
Budget: 86,813.00; 36% of budget
- Building Fund offerings to date: \$1120.00

Faith In Action for August: Upper Des Moines Food Pantry

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



Trivia Time!!!

1. How many times did Noah send the dove from the Ark?
2. Who had shoes that lasted for forty years and did not wear out?
3. What is the name of the father who had two daughters married to the same man?
4. How many years were the Israelites in bondage as slaves?
5. King Solomon had how many wives?
6. Name the two men who entertained angels unaware?
7. What was the name of the prophet who was swept away by a whirlwind?
8. The Sabeans took his oxen and his donkeys, the lightning killed his sheep, the Chaldeans stole his camels, and his servants were killed. To whom did all these things happen?

Cornerstone Service Greeters, 9 am



4: West— Gary and Jessa Wolter
Middle— Charlie and Brenda Ackerman/fam
East— Derek and Megan Ackerman

11: West— Brian and Chelsey Alexander/fam
Middle— Brian and Elia Altoff/family
East— Bobby and Dee Baker

18: West— John and Sharon Bartels
Middle— Gretchen Bartelson and
Marlys Brink
East— Troy and Meggan Block/family

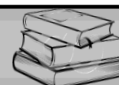
25: West— Travis and Jill Boeke/family
Middle— Daphne Bremer/family
East— Jerrad and Tracee Brouwer/family



9:00 am Nursery

4: Wilma Leusink and Andrea Leusink
11: Laurel and Natalie Klaassen
18: Gina Jacobsma and Brenda Michelson
25: Jenna Ver Steeg and Chelsey Alexander

Library Volunteers



4: Kathy/Joel Verdoorn
11: Ruth Ann Wiersma
18: Jane Buysman
25: Marilyn DeBoer

Sunday School Nursery



Sunday School is on break until Fall



Prayer With the Elders

10:00

4: Dick Oldenkamp
11: Harold Ernst
18: Lawrence Wiersma
25: Dale Honken



11:00 am Nursery

4: Anne and Kaylee Maxwell
11: Kira Christensen and Melissa De Boer
18: Kelsey Joseph and Sami Fox
25: Darcy Martinez and Lacey Julius

12:00

4: Bill Hartzell
11: Dr. Greg Kosters
18: Marlin Roelfs
25: Duane Vande Hoef

August Willing Hands Group



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

Co-chairpersons are:

- Luella/Harold Eggink
- Darcy/Frank Martinez

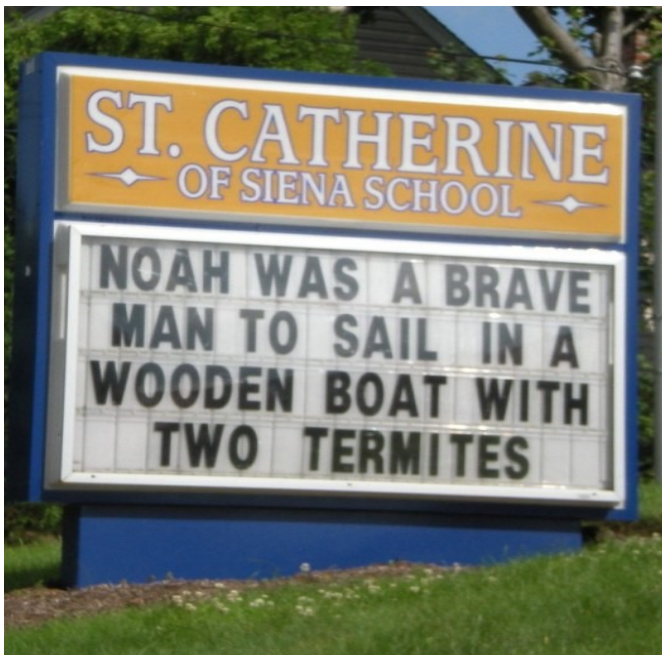


Children and Worship Leaders/Helpers

Children and Worship is on Summer
Break and will return next Fall.
Have a Great Summer!!

Fellowship Coffee Servers

- 4:** Bill and LaDonn Hartzell
- 11:** Burdell and Jan Henrichs
- 18:** Scott and Jamie Hulstein
- 25:** Mike and Mary Hustoft



After Church Greeters



- 4:** SE: Pastor Luke
- C: Josh Lucas
- SW: Lawrence Wiersma
- BE: John Bartles
- BW: Marcus De Boer

- 18:** SE: Lennis Harbers
- C: Ed Harskamp
- SW: Pastor Luke
- BE: Josh Lucas
- BW: Bill Hartzell

- 11:** SE: Ron Dykstra
- C: Pastor Luke
- SW: Josh Lucas
- BE: Harold Ernst
- BW: Henry Fisher

- 25:** SE: Dale Honken
- C: Dr. Greg Kosters
- SW: Arnie Langstraat
- BE: Pastor Luke
- BW: Josh Lucas

Bible Study Opportunities

Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled.

Romans 15:4



Faith Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, August 19 at 9:00 am** in the Library. Lesson leader will be Anita and Jane will serve as hostess. We will study lesson 1 in the book "Busyness" by Juanita Ryan. You are welcome to join us as the discussions help us understand the word of our Lord.

Patience Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will NOT in August but will resume meeting in September at a new time, 3:00 pm instead of 4:00 pm.

Monday Evening Women's Bible Study, will be on Summer Break until Fall.



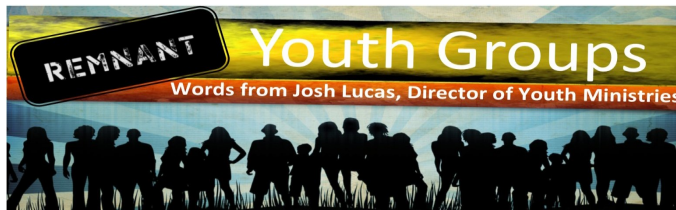
The Men's Bible Study, is on break until Fall.



THE BANQUET

First Reformed is scheduled to help serve at The Banquet in Sioux Falls on **Tuesday, August 13**. We need 6-8 volunteers to prepare the meal (you need to be there by 2 pm) and 40 volunteers to serve the meal (you would need to be there by 5:15 pm, leave the church at 4 pm). We need you! *Sign-up at the Information Center*. The average meal cost is \$700-\$900 plus the cost of milk. REMEMBER: open toed shoes/flip-flops, tank tops, low cut or midriff baring tops and short shorts are not acceptable attire.

Please sign up by August 4 if you are able to help.



Hello First Reformed Church,

Your Devil Crushing Ninja Trainer (Youth Director for short) here to give you another news-letter article! All I can say about this summer is wow! I am so beyond amazed by what God has been doing in the youth group over this summer! Before we get started I would like to remind you all that the youth group is always looking for passionate adults to join our team of leaders. If you are at all interested in joining our team please let me know, you won't regret it! Also just to be aware it has been a good thing for us to have youth group at someone's house over the summer, therefore it is something we are looking at doing every summer. If you are wanting to host a youth group night over the summer let me know and I will put your name down. Okay here we go!

This summer has been so amazing! As I stated before we have been meeting almost every Wednesday for summer youth group and it has been a really good time! The people who have hosted have told me how fun it was for them to host, and how they enjoyed the Bible study that we do! The high school and I went to Texas for our annual mission trip to help rebuild homes who were affected by Hurricane Harvey two years ago. While we were there we did devotions every night as a group and every night that we did devotions God made sure that what we were studying had to deal with what we were going through that night. It was awesome to see and to lead at the same time!

Joanna is now five months old! I am reminded just how fast time really does go. I want to encourage you with this. Time flies by so don't waste your time by staying mad at that person, or waiting to take that step of faith when all of the doors have been open. You never know what can happen and in a blink of an eye years have flown by! Remember to not be anxious about anything, forgive frequently, and to always trust in Jesus in everything that you do! If you ever need a big hug this big ole teddy bear has got one for you!

Lots of Love,

Josh Lucas

Jokes with Josh:

Q: What do you call a dinosaur that has an extensive vocabulary?

A: A thesaurus!



So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11(NLT)

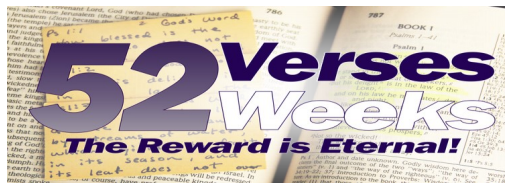
We hope you are remembering your Secret Sister in your prayers as well as with acts of kindness. Secret Sisters is a great way to encourage someone and lift them up.

Thanks for participating Sisters!!!

The **A B C 'S** of
praying for students



Attitude – Psalm 19:14
Boldness – Psalm 27:1
Courage – John 1:9
Discernment – Philippians 1:9-10
Enthusiasm – Colossians 3:23
Friendliness – Proverbs 18:24
Generosity – 2 Corinthians 9:7
Humility – Philippians 2:3-5
Initiative – 1 John 3:18
Joyfulness – Philippians 4:4
Knowledge – Proverbs 18:15
Listening – Proverbs 12:15
Maturity – 1 Corinthians 14:20
Neighbors – Mark 12:31
Overflow – Romans 15:13
Perseverance – Galatians 6:9
Quiet – Proverbs 29:11
Respect – Romans 12:10
Self-control – 2 Peter 1:5-7
Thankfulness – 1 Chronicles 16:34
Understanding – Psalm 119:130
Victory – Psalm 18:29
Wisdom – James 3:17
eXcellence – Proverbs 3:9
Youthfulness – 1 Timothy 4:12
Zeal – Romans 12:11



August 4 – “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”- 1 Corinthians 10:31, NIV

August 11 – “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”- Genesis 1:1, ESV

August 18 – “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”- Psalm 19:1, NIV

August 25 – “The LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.”- Psalm 1:6, ESV

REMNANT Youth Groups



Summer Youth Group Time.

- ◆ **Middle School will meet: 6:30-7:30 pm**
- ◆ **High School will meet: 7:30-8:30 pm**



Mothers Together
With God in the Middle

We are on Summer Break until Fall. Have a great Summer!!



The education ministry is seeking willing members to fill positions in our fall education programs. Teachers are needed for our Sunday school program and Wednesday night education program beginning in September. Worship leaders and helpers are needed for our Children and Worship ministry. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and efforts to lead and teach our church family's youth. Questions may be directed to any member of the education ministry team.

A link will be published soon to sign up via google doc as well as a signup sheet posted on the Information Center.

College Addresses

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

Sarah Honken

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

Jena Van Marel

8181 Fannin Street
Apt. 2531
Houston, TX 77054

Peyton Crichton

2001 S. Summit Ave
Mail Box 407
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

Nick Buysman

MSC 351
3900 Bethel Drive
Saint Paul, MN 55112

Britta Harberts

Mathews Hall #270
SDSU
Brookings, SD 57007

Kailey Bruxvoort

416 N Pine Street
Burgess #114
Vermillion, SD 57069

Lars Ackerman

519 8th St.
Sibley, IA 51249

Jaden Abels

University of Sioux Falls
1101 W 22nd Street
Box 452
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Garrett Sayler

516 Arizona Ave NE
Orange City, IA 51041

MaKayla Tangeman

Hagemann Hall
2800 Hudson Road
Room #439
Cedar Falls, IA 50613-6702

Paige Hurlburt

702 E Cherry Street
Beede #328
Vermillion, SD 57069

Troy Soat

1101 W. 22nd Street
USF Box 451
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Andrea Meyer

1249 Eaton Lawther
Ames IA 50012-1064

Hunter DeJong

2026 Hawthorne Drive
Fredrickson Court Apt 7223
Ames, IA 50011

Kalie DeBoer

815 8th Street
Sibley, IA 51249

Colby Wagenaar

1230 1st Street
Brookings, SD 57006

If your student will have a different address for the 2019-2020 school year please let the office know so we can update our information. Thanks so much!!

PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

1. Curt and Peg Van Kley
2. Steve and Leanne Van Kley
3. Pray for our College Students
4. Pray for our Church
5. Dean and Amy Van Marel; Jena, Ryan
6. David Van Ruler; Kacee , Kelsey
7. Harvey and Marcia Van Ruler
8. Justin and Angela Van Tilburg; Jackson, Cole, Trace
9. Cavell and Emily Van Westen; Carson, Keegan, Kennedy
10. Pray for our College Students
11. Pray for our Church
12. Bryan Verdoorn
13. Joel and Kathy Verdoorn
14. Larry and Alfreda Verdoorn
15. Roger Verdoorn
16. Jim and Jena Ver Steeg; Aiden, Logan
17. Pray for our College Students
18. Pray for our Church
19. Faye Vos
20. Caleb Wagenaar
21. Clayton and Jodi Wagenaar; Josh. Colby
22. Justin Wagenaar
23. Brent and Brenda Wassman; Alyssa, Austin
24. Pray for our College Students
25. Pray for our Church
26. A.J. and Jenny Weg; Addison
27. Michael and Amber Wielenga; Haiden, Berkley, Maddie, Dane
28. Lawrence and Ruth Wiersma
29. Ryan Wiersma
30. Kody and Rachel Wills; Kenzie, Jada
31. Geneva Wissink

College Students:

Leah Ackerman

Michaela Block

Grant Brouwer

Cody Dykstra

Tanner Dykstra

Jagger Johnson

Alex Mc Dougall

Madeline Saylor

Lane Tangeman

Carson Van Westen

Alyssa Wassman

Paige Hurlburt

Kaitlyn Bechler

Kalie De Boer

Keyana Gust

Jaden Abels

Madison Norman

Nick Buysman

Hunter DeJong

Hunter Rockman

Ryan Van Marel

Lars Ackerman

Megan Travaille

Peyton Crichton

Britta Harberts

Andrea Meyer

Garrett Saylor

Makayla Tangeman

Colby Wagenaar

Collin Van Diepen

Adam Ackerman

Kailey Bruxvoort

Lexi Ackerman

Sarah Honken

Jena Van Marel

Troy Soat

Devan Vander Veen

Hannah Lucas

PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
— Luke 22:32

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Assisted Living

Ethel Jurgens
Geneva Wissink

The Nursing Homes

Dutch Kruger
Lois May
Harold Schram
Margaret Calsbeek
Wally Scholten

Our Missionaries

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

PRAYER JOURNAL

You can speak with
spiritual eloquence, pray
in public, and maintain
a holy appearance...
but it is your behavior
that will reveal your
true character.

- Steve Maraboli

www.stevemaraboli.com



Celebrations

~~Birthday's~~

1 Ellie Loerts	19 Alexis Gaalswyk
3 Vanessa Odens	Maureen Heilman
4 Garrett Saylor	20 Charlie Kuhl
5 Barbara Van Hatten	Damon Tangeman
6 Dale Herrboldt	21 Jessa Wolter
7 Cory Dykstra	22 Paul Feldkamp
Kade Julius	Jena Van Marel
8 Chris Wynia	Lindy Tracy
Landon Odens	23 Kyle Soat
9 Natalie Klaassen	24 Sharon Bartels
10 Barb Van Diepen	Amy Elser
Regan Crichton	25 Wilma Hatting
Anita Ernst	Dan Janssen
11 Leanne Van Kley	Lars Ackerman
13 Tayler Bremer	26 John Bartels
15 Megan Loerts	Brenda Kuhl
Madison Norman	Brad Loerts
16 Deb Kosters	27 Madison Brouwer
Dawson	28 Larry Riebeling
Kreykes	29 David Van Ruler
17 Alyssa Wassman	Parker Dagel
Cody Dykstra	30 Renae Groen
Andrea Block	Lisa Heibult
18 Peyton Crichton	Linda Mehls
	31 Tessa Feldkamp
	Grace Saylor
	Jackson Van Der Sloot

~~Anniversaries~~

2 Jim & Pauline Van Engen	45 years
Keith and Brenda Michelson	34 years
4 Merlin & Karen Doorenbos	29 years
Chad & Megan Travaille	1 year
6 Dale and Roberta Aeikens	53 years
Ger and Barb Van Diepen	53 years
Ken and Wilma Loerts	43 years
7 Charlie and Brenda Kuhl	38 years
John and Kim Mc Dougall	20 years
10 Henry and Barb Fisher	46 years
11 Eugene and Renae Groen	47 years
13 Steve and Lynn Mulder	31 years
Clayton and Jodi Wagenaar	31 years
Michael and Chelsea Hulstein	8 years
15 Mike and Mary Hustoft	56 years
18 Dave & Donna Kleinwolterink	43 years
21 Dan and Annette Janssen	43 years
Cavell and Emily Van Westen	20 years
22 Arnie & Diane Langstraat	50 years
23 Scott and Jamie Hulstein	22 years
Brent and Brenda Wassman	22 years
24 John and Lois Van Diepen	57 years
Randy and Kelli Vande Berg	29 years
28 Leroy & Glenda De Boer	38 years
30 Steve & Leanne Van Kley	45 years
Brian and Megan Loerts	11 years

Sportsmen's Devotional



Bible Study Verse

Luke 15:7

I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. (NIV)

Thoughts

One of my true outdoor passions is surf fishing. Oddly enough, I live in Kentucky, so I only get to fish the surf twice a year during my family vacation.

A few years ago, I experienced a horrible week of fishing at the beach. For the first couple of days, I only caught small fish or "junk" fish. Then bad weather moved in for four days. We had horrible wind and rain. So, I could not fish at all. It was a terribly disappointing week.

Then, at last, the weather broke on our last day of vacation. I fished the entire day, but still there was no action. I finally gave up and started throwing my leftover bait to the birds. Suddenly, I saw my large cut-bait rig give a jerk and begin to rock forward in its tube. I grabbed the rod and pulled - a fish was on! I slowly started to work the fish. It was a big one and I was excited.

A few minutes later, I landed a beautiful 32-inch, 12-pound redfish. It was the first redfish I'd ever caught. I was dancing and celebrating on the beach as I held that incredible fish! My daughter took pictures and shot video as I carefully weighed and measured the fish, then resuscitated and released it back into the sea. A replica mount of that fish now hangs on my study wall. It serves as a vivid reminder that it only takes one "catch" to change a really bad fishing trip into the fishing trip of a lifetime.

(George B)

Action Point

Often, we can become very discouraged as we witness and share our faith - so few seem to be interested, and fewer still seem to respond. But it only takes one "catch", one soul who turns from death to life in Christ, to begin a heavenly celebration! So, keep fishing!

Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

Surf fishing is a fun, easy, inexpensive way for the outdoorsman to enjoy a trip to the beach. Before you fish, be sure to stop by the local bait and tackle shop to pick up a guide for fish identification and a copy of the saltwater regulations for that state. Most states have very detailed harvest regulations for each species. Follow them to the letter. If you have trouble identifying a fish, take a picture and release your catch.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1. Three (Genesis, 8:8-12)
2. The children of Israel in the wilderness (Deuteronomy 29:5)
3. Laban (Genesis 29:16-28)
4. 400 (Genesis 15:13)
5. 700 Wives (1Kings 11:1,3)
6. Abraham & Lot (Genesis 18:1-22, 19:1-12)
7. Elijah (2 Kings 2:11)
8. Job (Job 1:14-19)

(Quilting Chicks Continued...)

As usual when a need is expressed, the donations started rolling in. In all the years we have met, we have never run out of supplies.

Over the years we have put together many quilts and sleeping bags. For the first few years we didn't keep track of our quilt numbers. However, in 2018 we made 63 children's sleeping bags and 15 children's quilts and 26 adult sleeping bags and 23 adult quilts. So far this year we have made 10 children's quilts and 5 children's bags and 4 adult quilts and 13 adult bags.

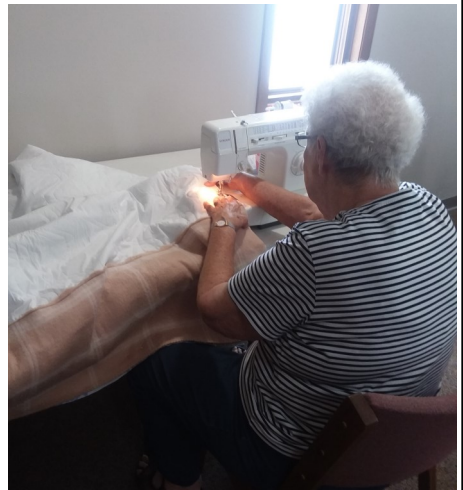
The first few years we only met from September to May. However, later we decided to meet year around. We also started out at "Quilts for the Homeless." In recent years Brenda Post began calling us her "chicks" so we are now known at the "chickadee quilters."

Here is a list of all those who have helped make quilts over the years: (we apologize in advance if we happened to leave anyone off): Diana Verdoorn, Rosie Roos, Ethel Jurgens, Dorothy Van Diepen, Joy Langstraat, Wilma Van Kley, Arleeta Molendorp, Helen Vander Veen, Pat Mulenburg, Margaret Calsbeek, Leona Eben, Marlys Brink, Marlys Pietz, Geneva Wissink, Jane Buysman, Trudy Dykstra, Jen Schram, Donna Sterler, Wilma Hatting, and Jo Heilkema.

Our Sewing Machines have been donated by: Wilma Van Kley. Dale and Josie Herrboldt are our faithful deliverers of the quilts to the Sioux Falls Furniture Mission. We couldn't do it with out everyone who helps!

Inside each of our sleeping bags we include a sweater and Christian literature.

Right now we are looking for more ladies to join us! We keep it simple and fun. No quilting experience is necessary. If you like to sew we could use you too. Right now we are down to just one sewer. If you would like to see what all the fun is about feel free to stop by on any Tuesday morning between 8:45-10am. We would love to share a cup of coffee with you and tell you more about what we do.



Being the

Sayuri and Abraham Kist-Okazaki in Japan



Hands & Feet of Jesus

Dear Friends in Christ, I, Sayuri, am very excited to report that I was part of a big celebration. The National Federation of Kyodan Women's Societies, our Japanese partner's denominational women's guild, celebrated its 50th anniversary June 7-8, 2019. This organization was formed by the local church women's guilds being united locally and globally to work together for the Lord. Their mission is to support the denomination in its evangelical work.

I have been serving as one of the seven executive members since 2013. I have also been part of the preparation committee for the last two years. I asked my RCA mission supervisor Rev. En Young Kim to join us for this celebration and she came all the way to Japan to be there!

At the closing worship, I preached to about 800 women and encouraged them to remember God's grace to them in the last 50 years. I also encouraged them to remember that people from the other side of the world have been praying for them all these years. from Sayuri and Abraham Kist-Okazaki in Japan July 2019

The RCA sent the first Protestant missionary to Japan exactly 160 years ago. They were three men and their wives, and later more joined them. One of them was a female lay missionary, Mary Kidder, who started the first school for girls in Japan. Back then, there were no opportunities for girls to receive an education. So, Mary and many other female missionaries opened up the doors for girls. Even now there are many girls' mission schools in Japan, and they have a high reputation.

Although the Japanese Christian population is less than one percent, there are tangible witnesses of Christ all over the country. The prayers of the churches who sent those missionaries are well heard.

As I saw the women at this celebration, I know there are less of them than there were 10 or 20 years ago due to low birthrate and aging. That is somewhat discouraging. But when we think of Christ's battle to the world, we remember he said, "But take courage; I have conquered the world!" (John 16:33) Sayuri and Abraham's ministry Sayuri and Abraham, ordained RCA ministers, work as associate pastors at Kagahara Church in Tokyo for local mission and visit many churches and regional gatherings to preach nationwide for evangelism and leadership training. Together they train and teach churches so they can more effectively reach non-Christians who make up 99 percent of Japan's population. Sayuri also works with the National Church Women's Guild as one of the executive members to empower women who serve churches faithfully, while Abraham teaches introduction to Christianity at Meiji Gakuin University. Learn more at www.rca.org/kist-okazaki. Being one percent is very difficult sometimes because we feel powerless. However, in Christ who already won the battle, all things are possible. As long as we abide in Jesus, we bear much fruit.

In that service, I conducted communion for 800 women with 10 other clergywomen. When we partook from the bread and the cup, we remembered you who have been praying for us and we all confessed together to Christ, "You are the vine, and we are the branches."

In Christ, Sayuri Kist-Okazaki





Remember Operation Christmas Child School Supplies!

There are back to school sales going on for all of the basic school supplies in many stores. These items are great to put in your shoebox gift for Operation Christmas Child. There are children who are not able to go to school because their parents cannot afford the required school supplies. The pencils, pens, and crayons in a shoebox gift may give the child the gift of an education plus the gift of Jesus' love.

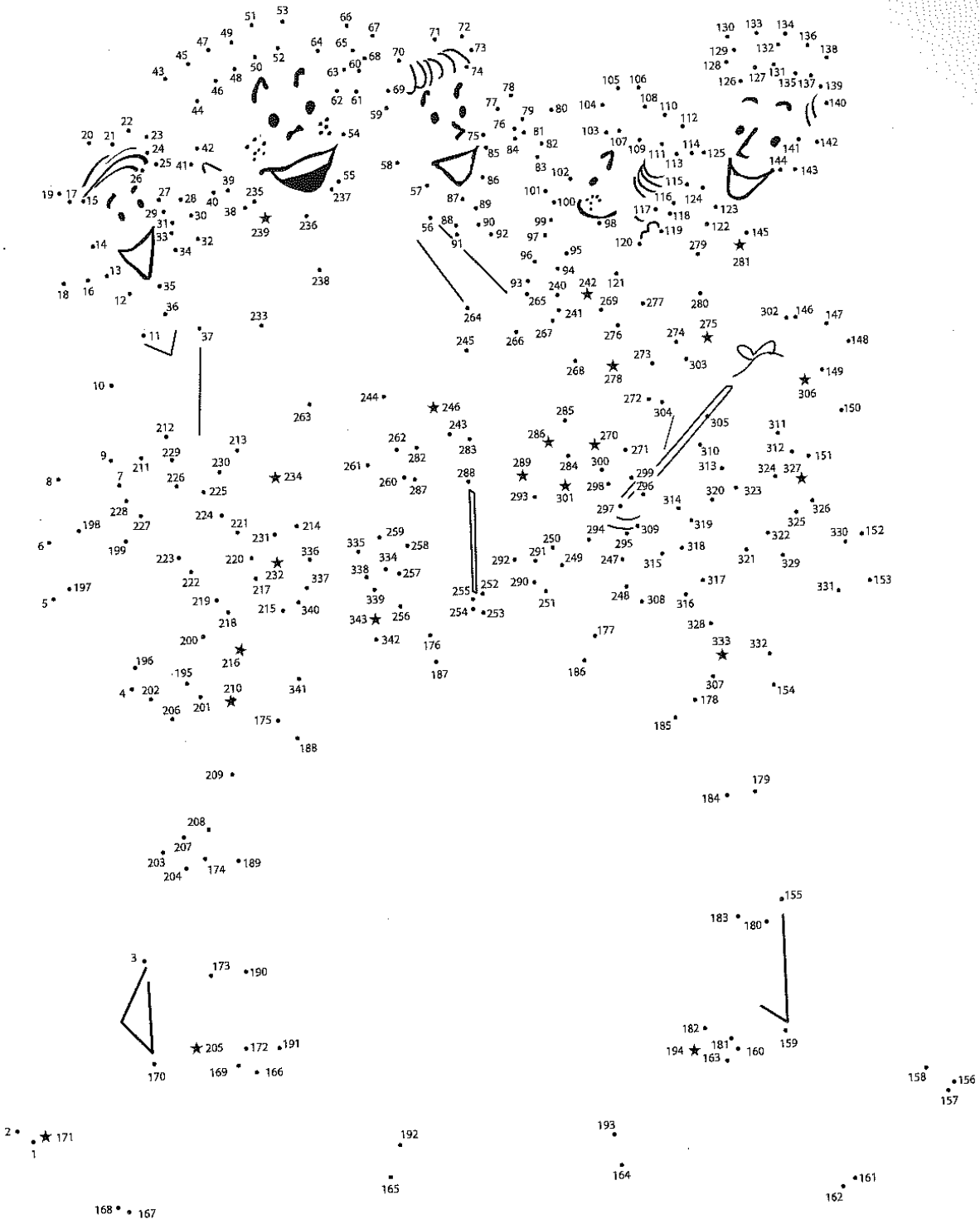
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 R F R I E K I N G S S O N E J
 I Q D S S L Z I B I A H T A S
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| AHAZIAH | JEHOSHEBA | PRIESTS |
| BAAL TEMPLE | KING JOASH | QUEEN ATHALIAH |
| BABY HIDDEN | KING'S SON | TRUMPETERS |
| BODYGUARDS | LEVITES | ZECHARIAH |
| JEHOIADA | NURSE | ZIBIAH |

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		5		3		9		

loving
 creative
 genuine
 kind
 honest
ALIVE
 encouraging
PASSIONATE
 hopeful



168 • • 167

162 • • 161

158 • • 156
• 157

193 •
• 164

165

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From the library--

A number of new books have been processed and will be available in the library. Here are synopsis from two of them:



UNDER THE MIDNIGHT SUN is the final book in the Heart of Alaska trilogy and follows IN THE SHADOW OF DENALI and OUT OF THE ASHES. Tayler Hale is ahead of her time as one of the first women naturalists. She has always loved adventure and the great outdoors and her remote job location also helps keep her away from the formidable man to whom she once made a foolish promise. It seems she must keep running, however and she secretly journeys to a new job in Alaska. The popular Curry Hotel continues to thrive in 1929 as more visitors come to Alaska and venture into the massive national park surrounding Denali. Recent graduate Thomas Smith has returned to the hotel and the people he considers family. But when he finds himself having to work alongside a newly arrived female naturalist, everything becomes complicated. The summer brings unexpected guests and trouble to Curry. With his reputation at stake, will Thomas be able to protect Tayler from the danger that follows?



If you have been reading the Lavender Tides Novels, you will want to read the last book in the series: SECRETS AT CEDAR CABIN. The following is from the back of the newest book: Her mother lied about her identity and her husband wasn't who she thought he was—can Bailey even trust herself anymore? Running for her life in the wake of her mother's murder, Bailey Fleming escapes to the only place she can think of—a remote, dilapidated cabin in Lavender Tides. Intended to finally get to the truth behind the lies of her past. Bailey only finds more questions when bodies are discovered near her cabin hideout along with traces of a dangerous human trafficking ring. In an unlikely partnership with FBI agent Lance Phoenix, Bailey races to understand the mystery surrounding her life and circumstances before the murderer tracks her down. Meanwhile, Lance is determined to rescue his sister, Ava, who was abducted after running away from home as a teenager. An unexpected lead brings him to the remote cabin, and he wonders if Bailey—with her suspicious past and strange connections to his sister's case—is really who she claims to be and if she can somehow lead him to Ava.

Remember when taking a book from the library to please put your name and due date (two weeks from the day you took it) and leave the card in the box on the desk.

Jeannette Juffer





Consistory Meeting Highlights

July 15, 2019

Elder Meeting, 6:00 pm

- MMS&C to approve request of Chad and Megan Travaille for sacrament of baptism for their infant daughter, Lawrynn Marie Travaille, at a Cornerstone Service on a date yet to be determined.

Full Consistory, 7:00 pm

- A Report was received regarding possible revision of consistory nomination and selection processes. More details to come next month.
- A mission trip report guideline will be given to each mission group prior to leaving on a mission trip. This will help those presenting know what topics should be covered.
- Deacons have approved to repair/replace brick on the sign in front of church.

ÉGLISE DU CHRIST DE LAGOSSETTE

3^e Section Genipaillé, Lagossette, Commune de Milot, Haïti (w.I.)
Colas Montrema: ministre en charge. Tel: (509) 46123901



Lagoset, 16 jan 2019

Pastor Luke Schouten
and the Consistory (the board) of first
Reformed Church 1010 6th Street
Sibley, Iowa 51249
First Reformed Church, Sibley, Iowa

Chèpastè Luke,

Mwen ekri w pou m salye ak tout legliz ou nan non Dye Sove' a.

Bi lèt sa a sepou m remèsye w pou kado w voye pou m epi ki soutni mwen ekonomikman ak tout legliz mwen fe' pati li a.

Konsa map pwofite okazyon sa a pou mande ed priye' w ak tout legliz ou, tout fès viv nan legliz ou. Paske mwen konnen sèl BONDYE ki ka bay solisyon.

Sepandan mwen te nan yon konba espirityel, li pran yon lòt faz li vin fizik: "yon tonton madanm mwen jifle l pou konfli te mwa pase, malerezman madanm mwen remèt li kalòt la."

Mwente sou priye' w ak fanmi Joseph Elesson. Pase bon ete! Me'si!

Colas Montrema: minis an chaj

Translated Letter:

Dear pastor Luke,

I write you to greet you in the name of the Lord our Savior, and to thank you for the gift you sent for me. That helps me economically with my church I lead. At the same time I am asking you and your church for continued prayers. God is powerful. I was in a spiritual battle and it wasn't good but God is bigger than all things. So, continue praying for us and thank you for the continued financial gift as well. I count on prayers from people like you and brother Elesson Joseph.

Colas Montrema: Lead Pastor.

(translated by Elesson Joseph)

High School Remnant Mission Trip to Rockport, TX



Young Adult Mission Trip to Rockport, TX

