

# The Newsletter

## February 2021

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



**It's Camp Registration Time!! Check out the full brochure located by the Sanctuary Doors!!**

## SUMMER CAMP 2021



**Inspiration Hills**  
Camp and Retreat Center

**Free Online Registration at [inspirationhills.org](http://inspirationhills.org)**



## February at a Glance

- 3:** 9:00 am: Mothers Together
- 7:** Communion Sunday
- 9:** 6:00 pm: Elder/Deacon Meetings
  - 7:00 pm: Full Consistory
- 11:** FRC is serving at the Banquet
- 15:** 9:30 am: Faith Bible Study
  - 3:00 pm: Patience Bible Study
- 17:** 9:00 am: Mothers Together

### \*Sundays:

- 9:00am Cornerstone Service
- 10:10am Sunday School for 4yr-Adults
- No Coffee Fellowship at this time
- 11:00am Open Door Service

### \*Monday Evenings:

- Ladies Monday Night Bible Study is on hold for this month

### \*Tuesday mornings:

- Chickadee Quilters is on hold for now

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

- 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Classes Gr.1-5
- 6:30-7:30 pm MS Remnant
- 7:30-8:30 pm HS Remnant

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
712-754-2783

[sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com)



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

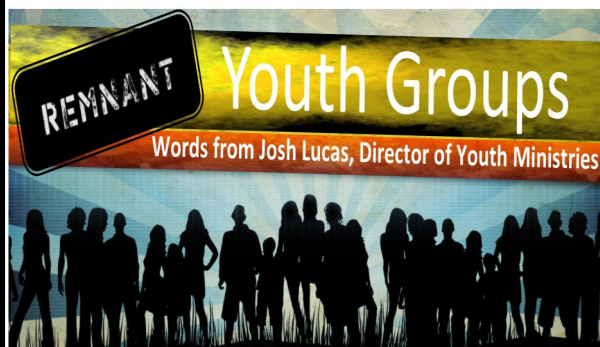


## Stewardship & Giving

### Offering Summary through January 18:

- General Fund: \$26,981.02;  
Budget: \$299,173.35; 9% of budget
- Benevolent Fund: \$1770.00  
Budget: \$71,025.61; 2% of budget
- Building Fund offerings to date: \$90

## Special offering for January: HS & MS Remnant



## Faith In Action for February Random Acts of Kindness

1. LEAVE A GENEROUS TIP.
2. BUY SOMEONE'S LUNCH
3. LEAVE CHANGE AT THE LAUNDROMAT
4. POPCORN, CANDY, & VIDEO RENTAL TO A FAMILY
5. LEAVE A TREAT IN THE MAILBOX FOR THE MAILMAN
6. GIVE HOT CHOCOLATE FOR PEOPLE WAITING AT THE BUS STOP
7. LEAVE NICE NOTES ON PEOPLE'S CARS
8. WRITE A THANK YOU NOTE 'JUST BECAUSE'

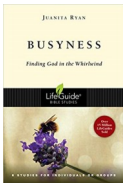
## Trivia Time!!!

1. Paul the Apostle was born in what city?
2. What was the name of the prophet who foretold that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem?
3. What relationship was Lois to Timothy?
4. "As it is written, \_\_\_\_\_ have I love, but \_\_\_\_\_ have I hated."
5. What is the name of the Old testament prophet who foretold the virgin birth?
6. To whom was the following spoken? "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."
7. What is the name of the woman who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house?
8. What Bible character saw a city coming down out of heaven?

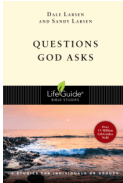
# Bible Study Opportunities

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, February 15 at 9:30 am** in the Fireside Room. The lesson leader will be Lynn with Jeannette serving as hostess. Please bring your own beverage. We will be studying lesson 7, "Labor in Love" in our study book, *Busyness*. Scripture for the morning comes from Colossians 2:6, 20-23; 3:1-17. Please come ready to make a decision on what to study next.



**Patience Bible Study**, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, February 15 at 3:00 pm** in the Fireside Room. We will continue our new book, *Questions God Asks*, by David and Sandy Larsen. Barb will lead lesson #4, "Stand up! What are you doing down on your face?" Please bring your own beverage, if you want one. Barb will bring a snack. Come and join us!



**The Men's Sunday Morning Bible Study** will meet in the classroom on the west end of the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour. They will be studying the book "Play the Man" by Mark Batterson. "In this inspiring call to something greater, Mark helps men understand what it means to be a man of God by unveiling seven virtues of manhood. This is more than a book; it's a movement of men who will settle for nothing less than fulfilling their highest calling to be the man and the father God has destined them to be." Men of all ages are welcome to join this group for a time of sharing, learning and growing. If you have questions please contact Dan Heilman.





## Cornerstone Service Greeters

- 7: E: Dick and Marcia Oldenkamp  
C: LaVonne Dykstra  
W: Duane and Pam Vande Hoef
- 14: E: Ron and Nancy Dykstra  
C: Jim and Pauline Van Engen  
W: Bill and LaDonn Hartzell
- 21: E: Clint and Jamie Klaassen  
C: Greg and Deb Kusters  
W: Marlin Roelfs
- 28: E: Bob and Janice Groen  
C: Lawrence and Ruth Ann Wiersma  
W: Dave and Lesa Stofferan

## Children & Worship Schedule



### 9:00am

7: Deb Kusters  
14: Deb Kusters  
21: Deb Kusters  
28: Deb Kusters

### 11:00am

7: Deb Kusters  
14: Deb Kusters  
21: Deb Kusters  
28: Deb Kusters



**THE BANQUET**

### FRC is serving at the BANQUET!!! February 11, 2021

Signup on the sheet on the information table. Limited preparing and serving spots are available.

Food Prep Team needs to be at the Banquet by 2:00pm. Food Serving Team needs to be at the Banquet by 5:00pm.

We will be serving the meal as well as financially covering the costs that evening. If you feel lead to financially contribute to this outreach opportunity your support would be appreciated.



Will Meet at 9:00am on:  
February 3rd and 17th.

Please join us as we continue our Right Now Media Video Study, "No More Perfect Moms" by Jill Savage.

A great place to take that much needed "Mom" time while your kiddos are watched by our expert caregivers!!

Our Outreach Team has purchased some Community Express Bus passes to be given to church family/individuals in need. If you would like a round-trip ticket or know of someone who could use one, please stop at the office.

### Community Express

Voucher for Transportation  
Provided to you by your local church  
Thank you for riding!

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_





## Willing Hands Group



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

### Co-chairpersons are:

- Luella/Harold Eggink
- Darcy/Frank Martinez

## Library Volunteers



7: Jane Buysman  
14: Marilyn De Boer  
21: Gert Gaalswyk  
28: Jan Henrichs

## Fellowship Coffee Servers



No Coffee Fellowship at this time.

## Nursery

The Nursery will be open for use, but unstaffed.



Lagossette Haiti, 12-15-2020

It is always a pleasure to write FRC. I want to share deeply from my heart the joy I have in Christ Jesus. This letter is to thank you again for the gift you sent for me and my church back in December. I heard that Pastor Luke has moved and I'm praying for you and him so God can continue to shine His grace upon him and you all at FRC, and also I Pray God sends another pastor to continue doing the work of the good Lord,

Jesus Christ, Our Savior. May God bless the church.

Thanks,

# Radiate Haiti Ministries Update



Thanks to your generous outpouring of donations, our team in Haiti was able to feed over 50 families a Christmas meal which consisted of rice, beans, chicken and oil. Each family was also given a 5gal bucket to store leftover supplies or what ever use they may have had for it.

Future plans for any remaining monetary donations will be used to fund a much needed medical clinic for

the residents of the area in the near future.

May God bless you all! You have truly been God's Hands and Feet!

Mési anpil! (Thank you so much!)





## February 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.**

- **All Sunday Classes as usual**
- **All Wednesday Night Bible Classes as usual**

## College Addresses

**Garrett Sayler**

208 8th Street SW  
Unit 846  
Orange City, IA 51041

**Jena Van Marel**

IMT at the Medical Center  
8181 Fannin Street  
Apt. 2531  
Houston, TX 77054

**MaKayla Tangeman**

9614 University Ave  
Unit 202K  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

**Hunter DeJong**

109 Wilder Place  
Ames, IA 50014

**Peyton Crichton**

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

**Paige Hurlburt**

Brookman-222  
317 N. Dakota Street  
Vermillion, SD 57069

**Kalie DeBoer**

815 8th Street  
Sibley, IA 51249

**Nick and Sara Buysman**

4101 Lovell Rd.  
Apt. 1-319  
Circle Pines, MN 55014

**Jaden Abels**

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

**Troy Soat**

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

**Tanner Dykstra**

Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln  
1055 N 16th Street  
S519  
Lincoln, NE 68508

**Alyssa Wassman**

Foundation Residence  
Apartments 103  
1410 Birch Street  
Marshall, MN 56258

**Alex Mc Dougall**

106 Barton Anders  
285 Richardson Ct Rm 106  
Ames, IA 50013-0023

**Jagger Johnson****Grant Brouwer**

DU 2335  
651 6th St. NE  
Sioux Center, IA 51250

**Leah Ackerman**

503 10th Ave.  
Sibley, IA 51249

**Madeline Sayler**

920 22nd St  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

**Cody Dykstra**

1359 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy  
Apt. #307  
Ankeny, IA 50023

**Carson Van Westen**

204 Beach Road Room 321  
Maple Friant  
Ames, IA 50013-0039

**Ryan Van Marel**

SDSU Box 2807  
Room #0416 Young Hall  
Brookings, SD 57007

**Ashilyn Hulstein**

Ben Reifel-132-A2  
1351 8th Street  
Brookings, SD 57007

**Hudson Feldkamp**

230 Dakota Trail  
Brookings, SD 57007

**Lane Tangeman**

502 5th Ave  
Sibley, Iowa 51249

**Dalton Bremer**

100 Daum Hall  
Room #5407  
Iowa City, IA 52242

**Mariah Elser**

University Suites - 128A  
1780 R Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508

If your student will have a different address for the 2020-2021 school year please let the office know.

# Sportsmen's Devotional

## Bible Study Verses

John 3:17

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. (NIV)



## Thoughts

I don't know about you, but I hate being left behind from a good hunting or fishing trip. I left my son today at my sister's so that he could continue on his quest of the elusive white tail. We've hunted the last few days together. But, my work schedule dictates that I have to be back to work tomorrow. His schedule is more flexible than mine.

The fact that he is out hunting tonight without me leaves my mind wandering and thinking about the woods. Although I want him to be successful, I really don't want to miss him getting a buck.

This next Spring, he is also going on a fishing trip up into Canada that I won't be able to go on. I have already thought several times about next Spring and how I know that the week he is going to be gone with me still here is going to just kill me. I love fishing in Canada, and I love all the good times we have together while we're there.

There's a longing that I have to be on these trips. I obviously love being in the outdoors. I love even more spending time with my kids outside making memories for a lifetime. I hate missing these moments!

## Action Point

From a spiritual standpoint, there are many folks who know the gospel and have heard it a thousand times, but have made no decision to follow Christ. Maybe that's you today . . .

Can I tell you that my longing to be with my son on these trips will not even hold a candle to what your longing will be if you don't make a decision to follow Christ before your time is up. Imagine never making a decision to follow Christ when all of your family members have. What a shame it would be to not be able to spend eternity with them in Heaven.

We all have to make a choice about Christ. Don't assume you have time to make this decision. Your eternal life depends on the decision you make - don't put it off!!!

If you have made a decision to follow Christ, step up to the plate today and share your faith with someone God has laid on your heart. Be a true friend and share God's story of salvation with them!!!

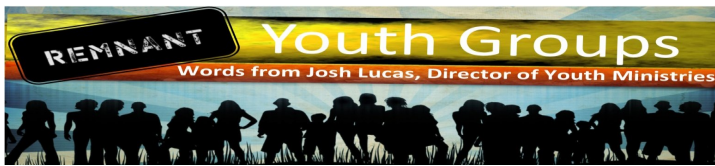
## Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

The Lord has worked mightily through His amazing creation. Romans 1:20 talks of how everyone will know God through the nature He has created. Start the hunting adventure and the love of creation with your children early. Give attention, instruction, and time with your children as they learn to carry and master a BB gun as their first in the wild.

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

1. Tarsus - Acts 9:11
2. Micah - Micah 5:2
3. His grandmother - 2 Timothy 1:5
4. Jacob, Esau - Romans 9:13
5. Isaiah - Isaiah 7:14
6. Peter was speaking to the lame beggar at the temple - Acts 3:1-6
7. Rahab - Joshua 2:1-6
8. John - Revelation 21:2.





Hello First Reformed Church,

Your Devil Crushing Ninja Trainer (Youth Director for short) here to give you an update on what is happening and hopefully to encourage you! I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year. I think it is funny how we have branded the new year celebration as a way of setting goals that we want to accomplish through this next year, and then approximately 80% of people break those new year resolutions. This is not to come down on anyone or to discourage anyone from wanting to set goals or to try and achieve excellence in some way. However, this is where I think we go wrong. We tend to focus on the wrong things, and we try to accomplish these things by our own power and will. For example, let's say for example your goal for the new year is to lose a certain amount of weight, one of the most popular new year's resolutions. What is the first thing that you do? Do you go to the gym to get a membership? Do you write out a plan to set time aside to work out? Do you study to find healthy food options? What is your first step? Your first step needs to be prayer.

As scripture says we are to "Pray without ceasing" 1 Thessalonians 5:17. Now in this context Paul was trying to encourage the church of the Thessalonians to remain steadfast in their persecutions and their issues that they were facing as a church. However, if we look at other scripture passages about prayer, we know that God wants us to be in prayer about everything, but most importantly He wants us in prayer about His will be done. As we talked about in James last week Sunday, we as Christians are not able to do things on our own strength. That is because we are fallen humans who are sinful. We are selfish, easily angered, emotional creatures that need the strength, wisdom, discernment, and grace of God to continue to live in a way that is honoring and glorifying to Him. Which is why we need to go to God and ask for strength and wisdom in all things.

In closing, I want to encourage you with this. If you have a goal set in mind, that is amazing and I am happy to hear that, but are leaning on your own understanding in this goal or are you leaning on the understanding of God? Are you doing this on your own or are you praying to God and asking Him for strength in this? It is vitally important that we understand that we cannot do ALL things on our own. God has gifted us with the Holy Spirit to be with us and to give us strength in our time of need. He has gifted us with the church to stand alongside us and to guide us and build us up in Him. Do not think that you have to go through any goal or any battle on your own. The church is here and more importantly God is with you.

Here are some things that are happening with youth group. We are in the process of planning youth activities for the summer, mission trip and junior high conference/retreat. We are continuing to meet every Wednesday night 6:30-7:30 for Middle School (MS) and 7:30-8:30 for High School (HS). Please make sure that you are getting your kids here for youth group and Wednesday night classes and Sunday school as well. If you ever have any questions about youth group, Sunday School, or Wednesday night classes please feel free to contact Deb Kusters, Diane Langstraat or me. We would love to speak with you! As always if you need a hug this big ole teddy bear has one just for you!

Blessings,  
Josh Lucas

### **Dad Jokes with Josh:**

**Q: How come you never see elephants hiding in trees?**

**A: Because they are so good at it!**



## PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Marlys Pietz   | 16. Eric Schiphoff                |
| 2. Brenda Post  | 17. Hugh Schiphoff                |
| 3. Reka Post  | 18. Harold and Lynn Schram        |
| 4. Junior and Imogene Rasmussen                                       | 19. Jennie Schram                 |
| 5. Larry and Rhonda Riebeling   | 20. Pray for our College Students |
| 6. Pray for our College Students                                      | 21. Pray for our Church           |
| 7. Pray for our Church  | 22. Ellen Schram                  |
| 8. Daren Rockman; Hunter, Gannon                                      | 23. Ted and Eileen Schutte        |
| 9. Marlin Roelfs  | 24. Verlyn and Donna Smidt        |
| 10. Cal and Kathy Runia   | 25. Kevin and Nancy Soat; Troy    |
| 11. Marlin and Kathy Runia  | 26. Donna Sterler                 |
| 12. Janice Runia  | 27. Pray for our College Students |
| 13. Pray for our College Students                                     | 28. Pray for our Church           |
| 14. Pray for our Church   |                                   |
| 15. Brian and Heidi Sayler; Garrett, Madeline,<br>Grace, Levi, Elijah |                                   |

### College Students:

Dalten Bremer  
Faye Carda  
Jennifer Cuadros  
Clint Henrichs  
Ashilyn Hulstein  
Natalie Klaassen

Leah Ackerman  
Michaela Block  
Grant Brouwer  
Cody Dykstra  
Tanner Dykstra  
Jagger Johnson  
Alex Mc Dougall  
Madeline Sayler  
Lane Tangeman  
Carson Van Westen  
Alyssa Wassman

Paige Hurlburt  
Kaitlyn Bechler  
Kalie De Boer  
Keyana Gust  
Jaden Abels  
Nick Buysman  
Hunter DeJong  
Hunter Rockman  
Ryan Van Marel  
Mariah Elser

Peyton Crichton  
Andrea Meyer  
Garrett Sayler  
Makayla Tangeman  
  
Jena Van Marel  
Troy Soat  
  
Hannah Lucas



# THE DISTINCTIVES OF REFORMED THEOLOGY?

Last month we looked at how we are alike the Fundamentalists and the Evangelicals. But what is it about our Theology that makes us Reformed and distinctive from other Christian traditions? There are many ways that theologians have approached this question, and most of them are more well educated than I am. However, this is my task and so I am borrowing from several excellent teachers!

You may have noticed that over the past few months we have looked a bit at the history of the Reformed Church (December) and our relationship to other protestants (January). From here on through the rest of the spring newsletters we will look at our confessions but also the confessions of the Presbyterians. Why? Because the Westminster Standards are excellent and because they sometimes asked and answered questions a bit differently than the Dutch confessions. All of these confessions are Reformed, they just came from two different branches of the Calvinistic tradition. Orthodox, bible believing Presbyterians are among our closest theological kindred. *Joel Beeke and Sinclair Ferguson published "Reformed Confessions Harmonized" in 1999 and the book is an excellent way to compare the confessions and catechisms. I use it all the time!*

So what would be our choices for tackling this subject? We could organize around the Five Points of Calvinism—but they only answer a set of challenges and do not cover some very important points. We could go with the Five Solas of the Reformation and yet might not cover material in a way that would make clear our Reformed distinctives. When I am asked what it means to be Reformed I have a few concepts that come to mind and this is the way we will frame our next few newsletters.

**FIRST.** The word Reformed came from the movement known as the Reformation of the 16th century. The early reformers were interested in returning the church to the teachings of the Bible. They were not revolutionaries—they were reformers. The Five Solas and the Five Points of Calvinism were statements that outlined this return to Biblical teaching. Reformers are also interested in reforming ourselves and our culture. *The last in this series in May.*

**SECOND.** Reformers insisted on scripture alone as the special revelation of God. We used to be fierce about this, however our denomination has become more lax on this point. *More on the next page!*

**THIRD.** Reformers have what is called a 'high' view of God which means that they base their theology on the view that God is sovereign over all. *This topic next month.*

**FOURTH:** Reformed people look at the Bible through the lens of the Covenants. We see the world as one story of salvation—a story of creation, fall and redemption. *Wait until April for this topic!*

By the time we get through the spring newsletters—in time for our next General Assembly—we at Sibley FRC should have a better understanding about the decisions before us as a congregation.





# DISTINCTIVE #1—SOLA SCRIPTURA

During the Reformation one of the major points of contention between the Roman Catholic church and the Protestant movement was the question of authority. Luther and Calvin held that the scripture, and scripture alone, was sufficient. Meanwhile the Roman Catholic church said that scripture was important, but not more important than the traditions of the church, the opinions of previous church councils, and the voice of the pope. How did the Reformers come to this conclusion? Let's look.

The most familiar verse for most of us is 2 Timothy 3:16. *"All **Scripture** is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness;"* But this is the Bible simply claiming something for itself—it could be seen as a form of bragging unless there is more for us to consider.

The Greek word that we write as scripture is used 51 times in the New Testament. The transliteration of the word is **graphe** and it means writing. Jesus himself used the word nearly 20 times and regularly quoted the Old Testament and declared it authoritative.

One of the best examples of this is when Jesus was walking on the road to Emmaus. Read Luke 24:27, *"Then beginning with Moses and with all the Prophets, He explained to them the things written about Himself in all the **Scriptures**."* In this passage we see that Jesus considered all of the Old Testament true. And then in [Luke 24:32](#) the men he was walking with said, *"They said to one another, 'Were our hearts not burning within us when He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the **Scriptures** to us?'"*

***We believe because He believed the scriptures to be true and authoritative.***

Paul and the apostles considered each other's writings as scripture and inspired in the same way that the Old Testament was inspired. The reading of the apostles letters in worship was a regular practice. In Jewish tradition only scripture could be read in worship. No one would have encouraged them to read anything that wasn't inspired by God. Like them, we wouldn't read a textbook in worship—we would only read scripture.

However, in our day the church has turned away from thinking that the Bible is inerrant. We no longer trust the Bible as our source of all special revelation about God or salvation. Even in our own denomination we have listened to the theological critics who don't accept the inerrancy of scripture. Add to that the push for us to trust science, or the government, or other experts instead of the Bible.

The Bible is an amazing book. Last February we had a handout that outlined some of the astonishing facts about the Bible. *Copies will once again be on the table in the narthex.* As we move forward as disciples of Jesus Christ we need to rediscover the Bible. We need to learn it, study it and meditate on God's words to us, making it the foundation for all our thinking!

BE A  
*Prayer*  
WARRIOR  
*Luke 21:36*

# PRAYER JOURNAL

## Update from JJ TenClay



Dear Friends,

In some ways, 2020 has felt like an extremely long year, and in some ways, I can't believe it is already December. I wonder if some of you feel the same. Many of us have experienced deep pain, suffering, grief, and loss this year. Some have experienced isolation—physical, social, emotional, and/or spiritual. For most of us, it has been a trying year.

*He knows our need, to our weaknesses no stranger.*

It has also been an incredibly difficult year for refugees and displaced people. We know that by the end of 2019 over 79.5 million people were forcibly displaced by war and violent conflict, persecution, disasters, terrorism, economic and political instability or collapse, and climate change. The same data will be collected after December 31 of this year and will be studied and released in a report by the UNHCR in June 2021, but we already know that the number will, again, show us that the number of people who are forced to leave their homes to seek refuge continues to grow at an alarming rate.

2020 has also reminded us that those who are displaced from their homes continue to be vulnerable on their migration journeys and as they plead for global humanitarian assistance and welcome—the type of welcome that allows them legal protection and the means necessary to meet, at minimum, their basic needs and live in peace. The August 4 Beirut explosion immediately displaced 300,000 people in just one day; many of those affected by the explosion are refugees (mostly from Syria and Palestine), and at least 43 refugees were killed in the explosion. The September 9 Moria Refugee Camp fire on the island of Lesbos, Greece left up to 13,000 refugees and displaced people without food, water, shelter, and other needed services. Many are still without shelter three months later, as winter sets in for the season.

In November, a violent conflict began in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, which has, so far, led to the displacement of one million people. Over 96,000 Eritrean refugees live in camps in the region near the Ethiopia/Eritrea border and are at great risk of starvation, death due to lack of medical care, and violence/abduction. These are only three of the many ongoing events that continue to threaten the life and liberty of refugees and displaced people worldwide.

*Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother; And in His name all oppression shall cease.*

This is the good news of the gospel! 2020 has been a stark reminder that we live in a broken and hurting world, but it is a broken and hurting world loved by God. So loved by God that God sent Jesus Christ to us as a baby, who lived and ministered on this earth for 33 years. Therefore, we will continue to work as ambassadors of Christ to love one another, to be purveyors of Christ's law of love and gospel of peace, and to break the chains of slavery and oppression. **With your support, we will continue to share this good news with refugees and displaced people—those who live in our communities or have come to our countries seeking refuge, as well as those who live far, far away.**

With Love and Gratitude,

JJ TenClay (On behalf of Tim, Sophia, and Petra)

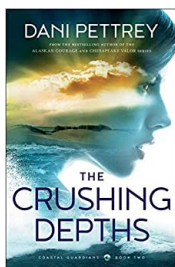


## *From the library--*

It is still winter and the evenings are long. True the days are getting longer but there is still plenty of time to read in the evening. Here are excerpts from a few of the new books that have been added to the library:



We have started a new series by Dani Pettrey, “Coastal Guardians” Book number 1 is **THE KILLING TIDE**. When one Coast Guard officer is found dead and another goes missing, Coast Guard Investigative Service special agent Finn Walker faces his most dangerous crime yet. His only clues are what little evidence remains aboard the dead officer’s boat, and the direction the clues point to will test Finn and the Guard to their limits. The already volatile situation is complicated even further by the arrival of Gabby Rowley-Finn’s boss’s sister, an investigative reporter with unrelenting questions about the crime. Now that she’s returned, the tug on Finn’s heart is strong, but with the risks she’s taking for her next big story, he fears she might not live through it. Thrown together by the heinous crime, Finn and Gabby can’t ignore the sparks of judgments flying between them. But will they be able to see past their preconceptions long enough to track down an elusive killer, or will they become his next mark?



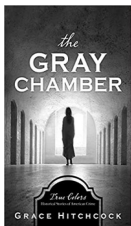
Book #2 of “Coastal Guardians” is **THE CRUSHING DEPTHS**. When an accident claims the life of an oilrig worker, Coast Guard Investigators Rissi Dawson and Mason Rogers are flown to the scene thirty-eight miles from shore. Tensions aboard the rig are high, and the death has everyone on edge. Environmental activists just off the rig’s starboard side are threatening to do whatever it takes to stop the “Plague on the environment” from continuing its work. Meanwhile, rumors are circulating on board about an ancient curse lurking in the depths below. Mounting evidence shows the death might not have been an accident.

Was the man killed by one of the activists or more frighteningly, a member of his own crew? Rissi and Mason have to sort through not only numerous suspects, but also their own haunted past their attraction to each other. Just as the case seems about to break open, worse news arrives; a tropical storm has turned their way. Now they’re cut off from any rescue—right where the killer wants them.

## February 22-March 5

## Sign up to help at the Information Table





Did you read THE GREEN DRESS? It was a “Historical Story of American Crime”. Three more books have been added to this series called “True Colors.” Look for THE BLACK MIDNIGHT—Two killers, two detectives, and a menace called ‘the Black Midnight’ may be the death of both of them. THE GRAY CHAMBER—Will Edyth prove her sanity before it is too late? THE WHITE CITY—Mysterious disappearances taint the Chicago World’s Fair.

Visit the library—there are many good books on the shelves. Remember to take the card from the book, WRITE YOUR NAME and DATE DUE -- two weeks from the current day. (There is a calendar on the bulletin board for your convenience.) And file the card in the yellow card box. Thank you for being diligent!

~~Jeannette Juffer

# Book Giveaway

Do you have some books that you no longer read and would like to find another home for? If so, why not donate them to the church library. Beginning the middle of February, we will have a book exchange on tables in the narthex. Someone else might want to read some of your cast-offs or books weeded from the church library. Bring your give-away books to the church library. Watch for the table of FREE BOOKS in the narthex after February 14.





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

ADORE  
AFFECTION  
ARROW  
BE MINE  
BELOVED  
BOYFRIEND  
CANDY  
CHAMPAGNE  
CHERUB  
CHOCOLATE  
CUPID  
DARLING  
DEAREST  
FLOWERS  
GIFTS

GIRLFRIEND  
HEARTS  
HUG  
I LOVE YOU  
KISS  
LOVE  
PINK  
POEM  
RED  
ROMANCE  
ROSES  
SWEETHEART  
VALENTINE

Scramble Answer Key: Chocolate, Flowers, Love, Candy, February, Valentine, Hearts, Cupid, Friend, Cuddle, Kiss, Roses, Sweethearts, Hug, Arrow, and Jewelry.

## VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SCRAMBLE

LOAHCCETO

LWRSEFO

OELV

YNACD

URFYREAB

TVIAELENN

TSHAER

DCIPU

DRFEIN

ELDUCD

SISK

SREOS

EWESRTSEHA

GHU

WROAR

WLEYJRE

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For God  
SO LOVED THE WORLD  
THAT HE GAVE HIS  
ONLY  
BEGOTTEN  
SON SO  
THAT WHOEVER  
BELIEVES  
IN HIM SHALL  
HAVE EVERLASTING

Life

John 3:16



# February Celebrations

## ~~Birthday's~~

1 Dale Honken  
Aiden De Zeeuw

2 Mark Dykstra  
Hunter Rockman  
Jim Ver Steeg

3 Jenny Weg

4 Dick Oldenkamp

5 Karen Jurgens

7 Ashilyn Hulstein

10 Keegan Van Der Sloot  
Terry Ackerman  
Haiden Wielenga

11 Ellie Klaassen

12 Loren Hulstein

13 Michael Hulstein  
Nancy Soat  
Emma Boeke

14 Elesson (Papito)  
Joseph

16 Dianne Kass  
Harold Van Der Sloot  
Jan Henrichs

17 Jacob Runia  
Kendra De Boer

19 Danika de Boom

20 Eric Schiphoff  
Joanna Lucas  
Elyssa Houtsma

21 Amy Van Marel  
Jeannette Juffer  
Riley Alexander

23 Daphne Bremer

24 Ron Dykstra  
Mariah Elser

26 Joe de Boom  
Justin Van Tilburg

27 Dave McDyer

28 (29) Connor Christensen



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

## ~~Anniversaries~~

6 Harold and Lynn Schram -56 years  
14 Burt and Jan Henrichs - 45 years  
15 Gary and Jessa Wolter - 57 years

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

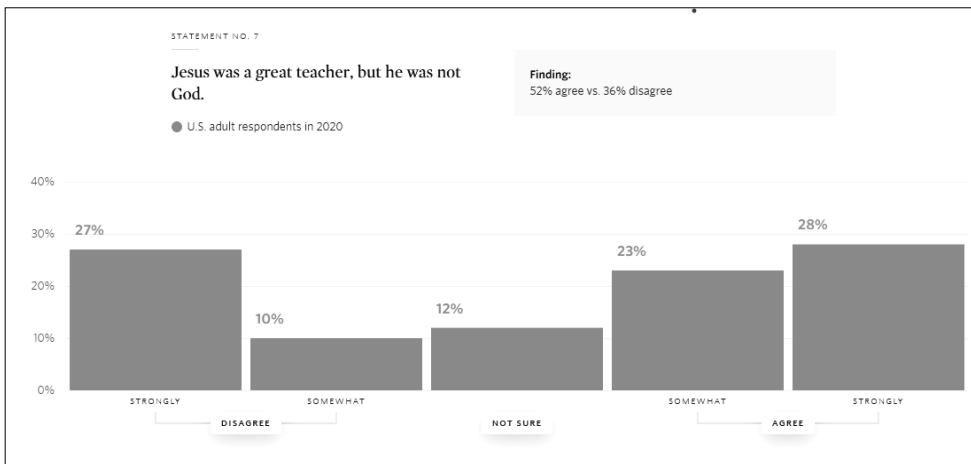
# THE STATE OF THEOLOGY 2020 LIGONIER MINISTRIES

Ligonier Ministries conducts a bi-annual survey called ***The State of Theology***. This survey questions Americans (*and in a separate survey people of the United Kingdom*) about what they believe about salvation, ethics, the Bible and other essential theological questions. The researchers then compare the answers to this year's questions with the answers to previous surveys. The goal is to track the "theological temperature" of the nation to help us understand the overall health of the church in America.

The picture is not good—either for our society, or for the Church. While those who identify themselves as Evangelicals generally answer questions better than the rest of society, there are some truly alarming trends. To read the entire report go to:

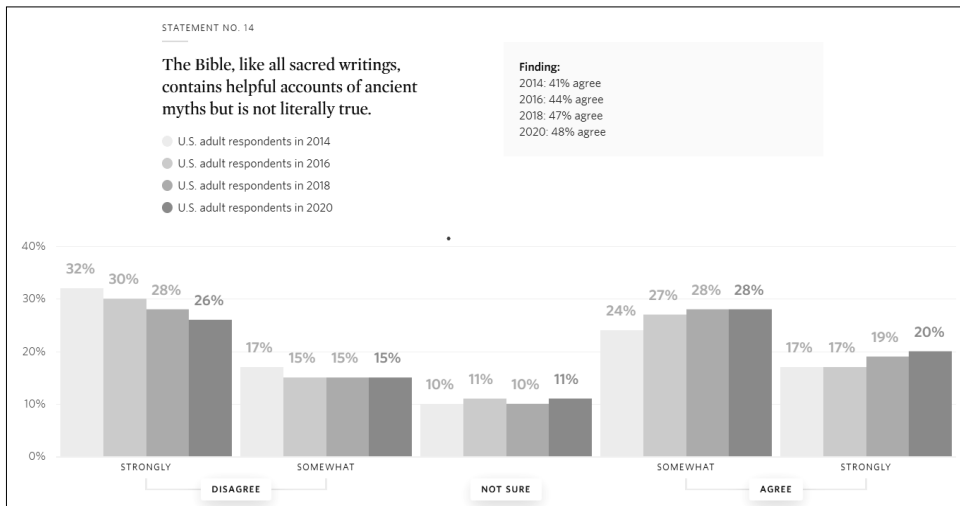
<https://thestateoftheology.com/>

Here are two samples from the 2020 report.



The general view of Jesus is not Biblical. Most people in America do not believe that Jesus was God.

When you filter for just **Evangelical** answers, 30% of our own do not believe that Jesus was God!



The general view of scripture in our country is almost as dismal, and going in the wrong direction. Those who think the Bible is true are fewer in number than six years ago.

Evangelicals are a bit stronger than the general population but we are going in the wrong direction.



## Consistory Meeting Highlights

- Communion date will be moved to Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from Jan 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to match with our Classis assigned ordained minister rotation.
- MMSA: As elders, we consider someone participating virtually with a livestream communion service to be with us participating in the service.
- MMSA to cancel the Remnant Soup and Pie Supper which was slated for March 3 due to Covid concerns.
- MMSA to not host the Women's Lenten Breakfast in 2021 due to Covid concerns.
- MMSA to have Elder Greg Kusters and Deacon Ryan Wiersma look into the pastoral search team process.
- MMSA to approve a recommendation from the Administrative team to limit the Director of Youth Ministry to preaching two Sundays per month at First Reformed Sibley, with exceptions for emergencies. This will not count Sundays already lined up prior to decision.
- MMSA to have MINISTRY TEAM LISTS to the church office by Thursday, Jan 21, and consistory members vote by email to approve by Jan 24<sup>th</sup>.
- MMSA to offer to rent the parsonage to the newly hired Christian Reformed Church pastor, with details to be worked out by property ministry and deacons.

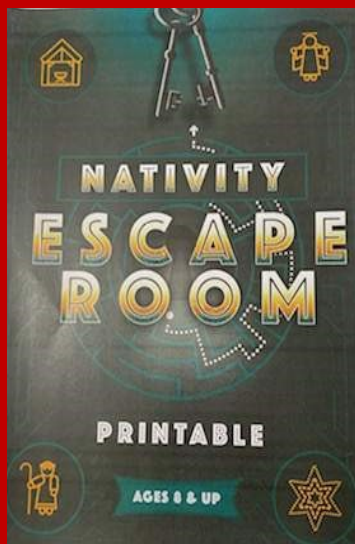
## From the Westminster Shorter Catechism

### Question 1: What is the chief end of man?

**Answer:** Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

### Question 2: What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

**Answer:** The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us  
how we may glorify and enjoy him.



Sunday School Students participated in a fun Christmas Activity before classes dismissed for Christmas Break!



## BIBLE SWEETHEARTS Match Game

Connect the men on the left to their sweethearts on the right.

1. ADAM
2. JOSEPH
3. SAMPSON
4. ABRAHAM
5. ZACHARIAS
6. BOAZ
7. URIAH
8. NABAL
9. JACOB
10. AHAB
11. FELIX
12. HEBER
13. ISAAC
14. ANANIAS
15. ELIMELECH

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- A. SARAH
- B. NAOMI
- C. REBEKAH
- D. RACHEL
- E. JEZEBEL
- F. SAPPHIRA
- G. DRUSILLA
- H. EVE
- I. MARY
- J. DELILAH
- K. ABIGAIL
- L. BATHSHEBA
- M. RAHAB
- N. RUTH
- O. Jael
- P. ELISABETH