

Growing Closer to God While Social Distancing from each other



**Our First Steps Back
to Worshiping together as
a Body of Believers!**
9:00 am Cornerstone Service
11:00 am Open Door Service
**Both Services will also air Live on
our Facebook page and be
available later on our website.**

July at a Glance

4: Happy 4th of July!!

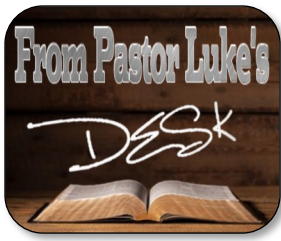
29: Serve at the Banquet in Sioux Falls!!

-
- ***Sunday Mornings:**
9:00 am Cornerstone Service
No Coffee Fellowship at this time
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:**
Chickadee Quilters is on break
 - ***Wednesday Evening Bible Classes and Youth Groups:**
Bible Classes and youth groups are on break until Fall

CONTACT INFORMATION:
712-754-2783
sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com



View our Website at: sibleyfrc.org



We are slowly making a transition! It has been great seeing your faces in church but also, we greatly appreciate those who continue to watch online. As we move forward into the month of July we continue to assess our next phase of ministry within the church. About every two weeks the administrative team has been meeting and discussing how Covid is affecting our community and then seeking God's direction for our next steps as a church.

On Monday, our Administrative Team met once again and decided that we will continue in Phase 1a which means keeping things like they are when it comes to worship. We however are going to move to Phase 2b for other church activities. This means, beginning Sunday, June 28th, we will allow small groups (10 people or less) to meet in the church. We ask that groups who meet in church abide by the social distancing guidelines of a 6-foot distance. If you would like to meet in the church you need to contact Jamie in the office so we are aware when you are here. That will allow us to make sure we disinfect and clean the area you use after you are done.

We are asking all meetings to be held in the Fireside Room only. You can arrange the room according to your needs. Again, please inform Jamie if you will be needing the use of that room. The youth group will also be able to begin meeting. Josh will inform all students and parents of the guidelines he will have as they meet together.

When a church activity or meeting is not in the church, groups of more than 10 can meet if they are outdoors and again are social distancing. Our community has done a great job of keeping COVID numbers down. As we began to meet face to face with more people we want to continue to keep those numbers low.

As we continue to worship together each week, we thank those who have been attending for their discipline in following the Phase 1 guidelines we have put into place. Toward the beginning of July the administrative team will meet to again assess our next possible move. We encourage you to be patient as we work towards a new normal.

We are also very grateful for all those who continue to watch us online. Thanks for your commitment to joining us each week. We want to make sure everyone is moving at a pace, to getting back to normal, that is comfortable to you. It might be in the next couple of weeks or it might be in the next couple of months. That's ok. We encourage you to stay in touch and stay informed on what is happening.

If you ever have any questions please let us know. We are here to help. Also just a reminder that the weekly bulletin can be found online or you can pick up a printed copy during office hours in the hallway during the week. We also want to thank you for your continued faithful giving. You have been such a blessing to this church during this trying time.

One other item just to make you aware of. Every day right about noon, I do a short talk with some sort of encouragement for the day. You can find this on my personal Facebook page. If you would like to get them make sure you friend request me. I have enjoyed helping make someone else's day just a little brighter. I am also grateful for those who have been watching and sharing the messages.

As we continue to move forward I ask that you keep our leadership in your prayers with each decision we need to make. Keep the many members of our congregation in your prayers as well. Together, with God's guidance we will get through this interesting time with confidence and come out of it stronger. God is always faithful!

Love you and bless you,
Pastor Luke



Faith In Action for July:

Bright Beginnings Supplies

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| *Buttons | *Crayola Washable Markers |
| *Stickers (Esp. Holliday ones) | *Crayola Crayons |
| *Q-tips | *Pony Beads |
| *Cotton Balls | *Foam Shape Stickers |
| *Sequins | *Card Stock (Colored and White) |
| *Coffee Filters | *Feathers |
| *Tissue paper of all colors | *Ribbon |
| *Popsicle sticks (regular and jumbo) | *Yarn |
| *Playdough Tools | *Sidewalk chalk |



Stewardship & Giving

Special offering for July: OCMA Backpack Program

Offering Summary through June 22:

- General Fund: \$155371.97;
Budget: \$291,112; 53% of budget
- Benevolent Fund: \$14353.67
Budget: \$73,913; 19% of budget
- Building Fund offerings to date: \$738



Trivia Time!!!

1. There was a certain group of men who could not wear garments that would cause them to sweat. Who were these men?
2. Abraham asked God so spare the city of Sodom if a certain number of righteous people lived there. What was the final figure that God said he would spare the city for?
3. In whose tomb was Jesus buried?
4. What was the name of the woman who cast her young son in the bushes to die?
5. What was the name of the mother who hid her son in the bulrushes?
6. Jesus cured three cities. What were their names?
7. What was the name of the country in which Jesus healed two demon possessed individuals?



Cornerstone Service Greeters, 9 am

No Greeters at this time



9:00 am Nursery

No Nursery at this time

Library Volunteers



No Library at this time

Sunday School Nursery



Sunday School is on Break until Fall



Prayer With the Elders following the service

No Schedule at this time



11:00 am Nursery

No Nursery at this time

After Church Greeters



No Greeters at this time

Willing Hands Group



Willing Hands Group #1

will be responsible for services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

- Marvella/Lennis Harberts
- Diane/Arnie Langstraat

Fellowship Coffee Servers

No Schedule at this time



Children and Worship Leaders/Helpers

Children and Worship is on Break until Fall



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.

In this time of uncertainty a word of encouragement will mean a lot.

Thanks for participating Sisters!!!



Pick up a copy of our
Veteran's Tribute
on the Information
Table by the offices

(Monday-Thursday 7am-2pm)

First Reformed Church VBS

AUGUST 3-7

5:30-8:30pm

Go to the following Link for
Student and Volunteer Registration!!

[https://vbspro.events/p/
events/2d5e04](https://vbspro.events/p/events/2d5e04)



Consistory Meeting Highlights

Meeting Minutes

- No Meeting in June

- The Administrative Team met two times in the month of June to discuss our return to church options and guidelines.
- Ministry Teams continue to meet and make future plans

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 _____

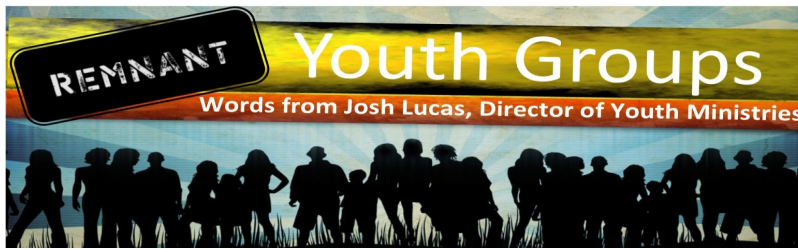


First Reformed Church will be volunteering at the Banquet on July 29th. Please keep watching the bulletin and emails for more information and sign up opportunities.



Mothers Together
With God in the Middle

Mothers Together is on break for Summer. We hope to begin meeting once again this fall! Have a great summer everyone!



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 encourage you! I hope that you are all staying safe and healthy! I just have to say that praise God that we are finally back at Sunday morning worship! I am so excited and happy that our doors are open and we are meeting together to fellowship, worship, and learning together. It is truly an amazing thing. I was deeply encouraged when I saw that the Sanctuary was nearly filled to the max on our first Sunday back. I do not really know what to talk about here today, since we are still only in phase one meaning that youth group and other activities have been suspended until the later phases of reopening. With that being said the youth leaders and I have had some conversation about coming back to youth group and what we would study and what that would look like. At this point we have some plans, but we cannot execute or even announce those plans until we see where COVID takes us.

I have been doing this book study with some of my friends and brothers in Christ back in Arizona on Zoom, and we have been reading through the book, "Why children matter" by Douglas Wilson. During this reading, I have really taken a step back and have gone to God to assess my 16 months of being a father. I have to say that I have been succeeding in some areas and others I have been failing. For instance, I feel I am succeeding in my building Joanna up to hopefully be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ and showing her the love that is within me. I have been failing at making my house "a garden of grace and a tree of law." This is from the book. It is so easy for us as fathers and even as parents to want to quickly punish our children out of annoyance, consideration, or just even embarrassment. With that mindset, we have turned our house into a garden of law with a tree of grace. Meaning that we do not show our children grace we just immediately punish and we do not give reasons for the punishment. We need to discipline our children to mold them into a faithful disciple. Just as our heavenly father does with us. Please come and see me for more information and clarity I would love to sit with you and explain this further! Thank you for reading and if you ever need a distanced hug this big ole teddy bear has got one for you!

Blessings,
Josh Lucas

Dad Jokes with Josh:

Q: Why are barns so noisy?

A: The cows have horns.

PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
— Luke 21:36

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

1. Jim and Jena Ver Steeg; Aiden, Logan
2. Faye Vos
3. Caleb Wagenaar
4. Pray for our College Students
5. Pray for our Church
6. Clayton and Jodi Wagenaar
7. Colby Wagenaar
8. Josh Wagenaar
9. Justin Wagenaar
10. Brent and Brenda Wassman; Alyssa, Austin
11. Pray for our College Students
12. Pray for our Church
13. A.J and Jenny Weg; Addison
14. Michael Wielenga; Haiden, Berkley
15. Lawrence and Ruth Ann Wiersma
16. Ryan Wiersma
17. Kody and Rachel Wills; Kenzie, Jada; Brody
18. Pray for our College Students
19. Pray for our Church
20. Geneva Wissink
21. Gary and Jessa Wolter
22. Renae Wolter
23. Chris and Tiffany Wynia; Elizabeth, Codie, Mackenzie
24. Charlie and Brenda Ackerman; Leah, Marissa
25. Pray for our College Students
26. Pray for our Church
27. Dean and Michelle Ackerman
28. Derek and Megan Ackerman; Quinnley
29. Mitch and Angie Ackerman
30. Lars Ackerman
31. Terry and Chrissy Ackerman; Jaeger, Zoe

College Students:

Leah Ackerman	Paige Hurlburt	Megan Travaille
Michaela Block	Kaitlyn Bechler	Peyton Crichton
Grant Brouwer	Kalie De Boer	Andrea Meyer
Cody Dykstra	Keyana Gust	Garrett Sayler
Tanner Dykstra	Jaden Abels	Makayla Tangeman
Jagger Johnson	Nick Buysman	
Alex Mc Dougall	Hunter DeJong	Sarah Hoppe
Madeline Sayler	Hunter Rockman	Jena Van Marel
Lane Tangeman	Ryan Van Marel	Troy Soat
Carson Van Westen	Mariah Elser	
Alyssa Wassman		Hannah Lucas

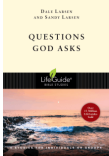
Bible Study Opportunities

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

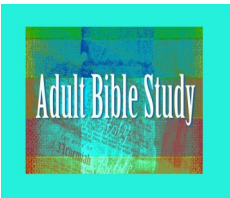


Faith Bible Study, meets the third Monday of most months. Please watch your bulletins or listen to the church announcements for details for the month of July.



Patience Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will not meet in July.

The Monday Night Ladies Bible Study is on break until Fall.

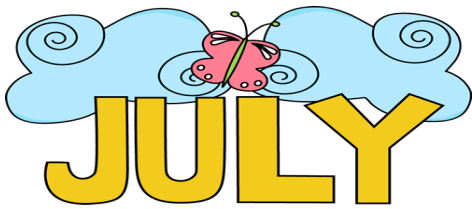


Each week we are offering Zoom Bible Studies. To participate all you need to do is download the zoom app on your phone, tablet, or computer. Then at the time of your Bible Study simply join a meeting to join the study.

Zoom has implemented some changes to increase online safety. You will be asked for Meeting ID which is 661-753-1162. You then will be asked for the Password for the meeting. Due to safety issues, you will need to contact Pastor Luke at lukefrc@gmail.com for that specific code.

Each Bible Study that we are offering originates from RightNow Media. If you do not currently have an account, please visit our website to get your login account. Once you have your account Login you can log into www.rightnowmedia.org. **To get the most out of your Bible Study each week we encourage you to please watch that week's video prior to meeting time.**

Please keep watching the online/printed bulletin for more information on new studies!!



Celebrations

~~Birthday's~~

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Hannah Lucas
Ryan Soat
Caleb Wagenaar | 19 Olivia Daiker
Karen Stevenson | 27 Ashley Johnson
Delaney de Boom |
| 4 Roger Verdoorn | 20 Sarah Hoppe
Troy Soat | 28 Jamie Klaassen |
| 5 Leah Ackerman | 21 Rhonda Henrichs | 29 Keith Van Drunen
Wilma Loerts |
| 6 Gary Leusink
Aiden Ver Steeg | 22 Brooks Heronimus | 31 Paisley Kreykes
Angie Ackerman
Carson Van Westen |
| 7 Cole Van Tilburg | 26 Bob Tiedeman | |

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

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 10 Megan Ackerman
Andrea Meyer | 1 Nate and Angie Buysman | 1 year |
| 11 Lesa Stofferan
Luke Schouten | 5 Heath and Wendy De Jong | 21 years |
| 12 Joel Verdoorn
Mackenzie Wynia | 9 Robert and Janice Groen | 43 years |
| 13 Jared Kruger
Josh Tangeman | 11 Harold and Luella Eggink | 55 years |
| 14 Mark Hulstein
Ryan Wiersma | 12 Duane and Pam Vande Hoef | 46 years |
| 16 Shelia Van Der Sloot | 13 Kevin and Twila Heemstra | 35 years |
| 17 Elliot Daiker | 14 Davis and Kristen Beyer | 19 years |
| 18 Scott Dykstra
Clark Haken
Austin Wassman | 16 Ray and Ellen Schram | 64 years |
| | 20 Larry and Alfreda Verdoorn | 55 years |
| | 21 Le Roy and Karen Stevenson | 48 years |
| | 22 Dave and Jessica Mc Dyer | 14 years |
| | 23 Derek and Megan Ackerman | 4 years |
| | 23 Dr. Greg and Deb Kosters | 40 years |
| | 24 Harvey and Marcia Van Ruler | 50 years |
| | 24 Tim and Jodi Kruger | 21 years |
| | 24 Pastor Luke and Chris Schouten | 38 years |
| | 24 Tim and Jodie Kruger | 20 years |
| | 25 Jon and Amy Elser | 22 years |
| | 27 Mark and Melissa Langstraat | 18 years |
| | 29 Kevin and Laurel Klaassen | 26 years |



Sayuri & Abraham Kist-Okazaki

Dear Friends in Christ, Let us begin by giving thanks to all who have expressed concerns about our wellbeing since the outbreak of the coronavirus. To this point, the number of infected in Japan has remained relatively low. However, since last week's announcement that the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics will be postponed, the number of newly infected has begun to spike and there are various rumors about the possibility that the numbers are being suppressed. Two weeks ago when Abraham had a fever for four days along with a sore throat, congestion, and cough, we were told by the health department that he would not be tested because he hadn't had contact with any known carrier of the disease or anyone who had recently returned from China, Iran, or Italy. Currently Abraham, the rest of our family, and the members of the congregation are all in good health. Schools have been closed since the beginning of March, sporting events and other large gatherings have been canceled or postponed, and employers are urged to have employees work from home, although most continue to commute in Japan's overcrowded trains. Throughout the past few weeks, things have changed dramatically in the United States and Canada and our prayers are with all of you.

In February, Kugahara Church in Tokyo, where we have been serving as Associate Pastors, celebrated the 80th anniversary of its founding. Before our installation, the congregation had gone through a very painful chapter with a previous pastor and the number of members left the church. It was truly a joy to see how, over the course of the past, there has been healing, reconciliation, and growth at Kugahara. It is a congregation with not only a past to remember but more importantly a future. From Sayuri and Abraham Kist-Okazaki in Japan April 2020 Sayuri and Abraham's ministry Sayuri and Abraham, ordained RCA ministers, work as associate pastors at Kugahara 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.

For the worship service, Abraham wrote a hymn based on Psalm 67: "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations." The Psalmist makes a clear message that blessings we receive from God are to be used so that salvation might be known by all peoples of the world. We are truly grateful that for the past quarter of a century our supporting congregations have been sharing their blessings so we can do ministry here in Japan.



~~Yours in Christ, Sayuri and Abraham

Sportsmen's Devotional

Bible Study Verses

II Corinthians 3:18

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, Who is the Spirit. (NIV)



Thoughts

Have you ever watched the same deer or elk for a few years? Each year, he takes on more and more of the likeness of his father, the old buck or bull.

The same is true with our kids. Has anybody looked at you and your children and stated that it's easy to see that they're your son or daughter? How do they know? Because the kids look and act like you!

If someone tells my son, "You're just like your father," I hope my son takes it as a compliment, stands a little taller and says, "Thanks." Likewise, I hope the people around me will look at me and say, "You're a lot like your Father (God)." If they do, it means that God has been at work in my life doing His transformation thing--making me more like Him, a reflection of Himself. I can't do it on my own; it has to come from His Spirit working within me. He has to do the work. I simply have to let Him.

Action Point

If you look in a mirror, do you like what you see? If not, you can change your hairstyle, maybe some facial features, or maybe the style of your clothes. If you look in the mirror of God's Word, do you like what you see? If not, ask God to change you to be more like Him. He'll do it if you ask.

Sportsmens Tip of the Day

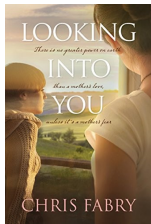
When you're getting camouflaged up for a hunt, don't forget the gloves and facemask. Have someone take a photo of you in the brush in camouflage without them; then you'll want to add them to the list to finish the job of "disappearing" into the woods.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

- 1) The priests of Israel--Ezekiel 44:15-18
- 2) Ten righteous People--Genesis 18:32
- 3) Joseph of Arimathea--Matthew 27:57-60
- 4) Hagar--Genesis 21:14,15
- 5) Jochebed, the mother of Moses--Exodus 2:3; 6:20
- 6) Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum--Matthew 11:21-23
- 7) Gadarenes or Gergesenes--Matthew 8:28

From the library--

Have you ever read a book and at the end had lots of questions of what had taken place before the story you just read? That is what happened to me when I read **LOOKING INTO YOU** by Chris Fabry. I finished it and thought “There has to be a book that came before this one.” So I did a little digging on line and found out that **EVERY WAKING MOMENT** was the prelude to **LOOKING INTO YOU**. The book was available at a second hand book distribution center and now we have it in our library.



The book I read first was **LOOKING INTO YOU** and the cover synopsis is as follows: “Every day Paige Redwine is haunted by a choice she made when she was only seventeen. Now, just past forty, still single, she lives a tidy, controlled life as a well-respected English professor at a college in Nashville. Nothing could prepare her for the day Treha Langsam—the daughter she secretly placed for adoption—walks into her classroom as a student, unknowingly confronting Paige with both her greatest longing and her greatest fear. As Treha sets aside the search for her birth mother to concentrate on her education, Paige summons the courage to reach out to her daughter never dreaming her actions will transform them both as she faces a past she thought she’d laid to rest.”

I closed the book at the end and wondered Treha had a strange disability, what caused it! At different times circumstances alluded to Treha’s unhappy childhood. What happened? Was her adoption not a happy one?



You will find the answers in **EVERY WAKING MOMENT** **so read it first!!!** Here is what the book cover discloses about Treha’s story. “Treha Langsam is a mysterious young woman who has fallen through the cracks, just like many of the elderly people she works with at Desert Gardens. But Miriam Howard, director of the assisted-living facility sees her extraordinary gift and untapped potential. Treha is a whisperer of sorts, calling those who have slipped into dementia back to a life of vibrant, if only temporary, clarity. When a documentary team stumbles onto Treha’s story, her gift is discovered and the search for answers about her past begins. As the truth slowly unravels, Treha and those around her must each tackle a difficult question: if this is as good as life gets, is that enough?”

To check out a book go the “mini-library” in the hallway west of the office. It is good to see that you have taking advantage of the books that have been out. Sorry that the selection could not have been larger. We hope to be able to get them all back into the library soon.

~~Jeannette Juffer



July Fourth Word Search



ADAMS
 AMERICA
 BARBECUE
 COLONIES
 CONGRESS
 DECLARATION
 EQUALITY
 FIREWORKS
 FOURTH
 FREEDOM
 HOTDOGS
 INDEPENDENCE
 JEFFERSON
 JULY
 LIBERTY
 NATION
 PARADE
 REVOLUTION
 RIGHTS
 STATES
 THIRTEEN
 UNITED



Independence Day

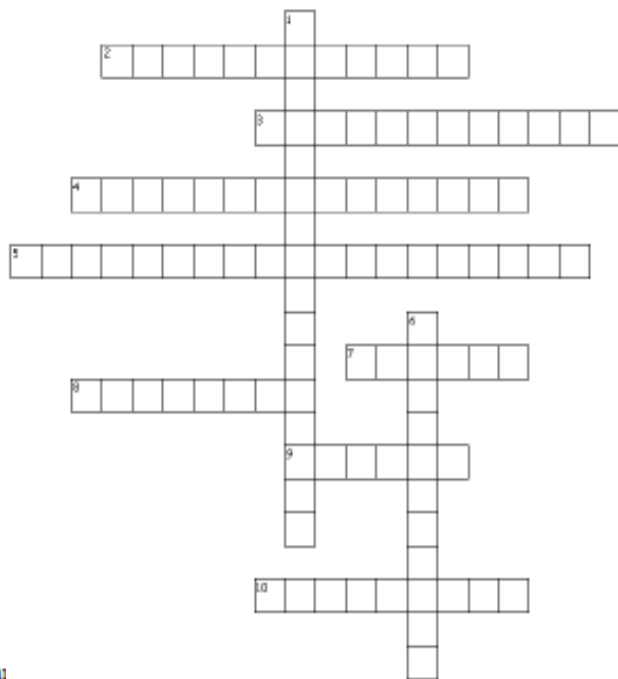
Crossword Puzzle

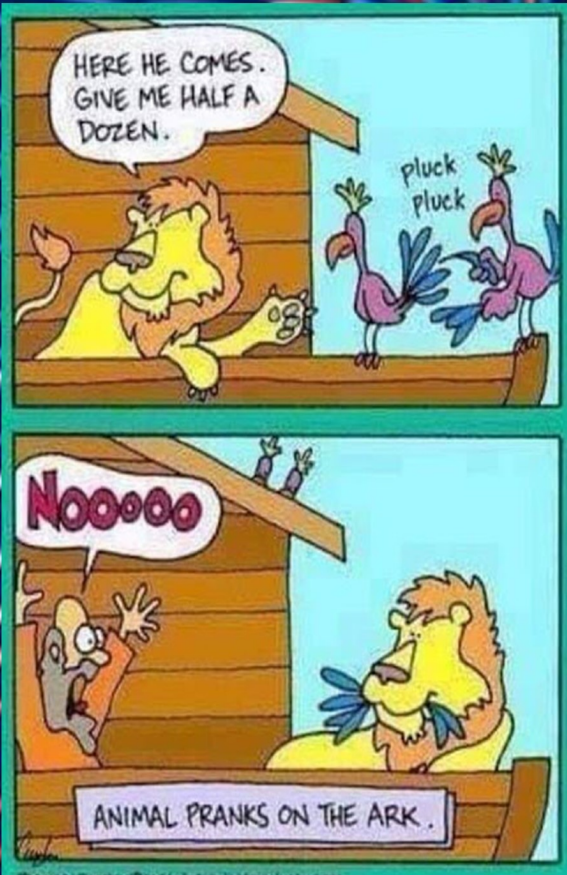
Across

- The Continental Congress met in ____.
- The American colonists sought independence from ____.
- The Declaration of Independence was primarily written by ____.
- The Declaration of Independence was signed by members of the ____.
- The British king at this time was ____ III.
- There were ____ original colonies.
- "We hold these ____ to be self-evident..."
- Crowds gather to watch ____.

Down

- ____ led American troops in the fight for independence.
- ____ was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence.





2020 Annual FRC Fishing Trip



When: August 6-8 (Thursday-Saturday)

Where: Hidden Hill Lodge, Roslyn, SD
(HiddenHillLodge.com)

Who: Father/Sons, Grandpa/Grandsons, "adopted" Sons

Cost: Approximately \$150/per person
(includes Lodging and Food)

Enjoy fishing in beautiful NE South Dakota with many lakes, nearby. We seek to build relationships as we travel, fish, share meals, and enjoy great discussions on God's goodness to us. Signup is posted on the Information Center.



Questions? Contact:
Dan Heilman, Chris Wynia
or the church office:
712-754-2783



OUR CHURCH'S BIBLE STUDY LIBRARY
**IS NOW DIGITAL...
AND GIGANTIC.**

OVER 10,000 DISCIPLESHIP VIDEOS
FOR KIDS, YOUTH AND ADULTS

rightnowMEDIA

How You Can Access These Resources:

QR Code:

Church Website: www.sibleyfrc.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>

