

The Newsletter

March 2021

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

Make a Prayer

I don't need to find a penny,
A horseshoe, or a clover.
I have Jesus in my heart,
He's all I need and more.

I don't need a lucky hat,
A wishing well, or anything.
The Lord, He has a plan for me.
A rabbit's foot won't change a thing.

I don't need to blow out candles.
I don't need a shooting star.
I don't wish because I pray
To God, Who made them all.

Lucinda Berry Hill
Author of "Coffee with Jesus"



March at a Glance

- 1: Communion Sunday
 - 10:30 am Property Team meets
 - 4:00 pm Outreach Team meets
 - 6:00 pm Education Team meets
- 3: 9:00 am Mothers Together Meets
 - 6:30 pm Congregational Care meets
 - Remnant Youth serve at the Banquet
- 5: 2:00 pm World Day of Prayer at Trinity Lutheran Church
- 15: 6:00 pm Elder/Deacon Meetings
 - 7:00 pm Full Consistory will meet
- 15: 9:30 am: Faith Bible Study
 - 3:00 pm: Patience Bible Study
- 17: 9:00 am: Mothers Together Meets
- 28: Palm Sunday
 - 4:00 pm: Worship Team meets

***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:
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sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com

View our Website at: sibleyfrc.org





Stewardship & Giving

Offering Summary through February 22:

- General Fund: \$53,979.99
Budget: \$299,173.35; 18% of budget
- Benevolent Fund: \$6382.20
Budget: \$71,025.61; 8% of budget
- Building Fund offerings to date: \$610

Special offering for March: Bible League



Please see Newsletter Back cover
for more info about Bible League

Faith In Action for March: Nursing Home Items



This month, we are encouraging everyone - children through 90 year olds - to bring at least one item for the residents of our two local nursing homes. Sibley Rehab needs items for bingo prizes: Little Debbie or other individually wrapped snacks and candy bars. Country View needs items for their general store: jewelry, small knick-knacks, shaving cream, shampoo, lotion, toothpaste & brushes, hard candies, etc.



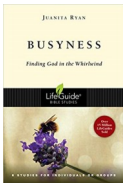
Trivia Time!!!

1. Who was hung on gallows fifty cubits (about 75 feet) high?
2. What were the names of the first and last judges of Israel?
3. Who was the individual who watched over Baby Moses while he floated in the bulrushes?
4. What was the name of the mother who made a little coat for her son every year?
5. What Bible prophet spoke of the killing of the children?
6. What type of bird did Noah first send forth from the Ark?
7. The name of David's first wife was _____?
8. The title written above Jesus' cross said, "JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS." Name the three languages that the title was written in.

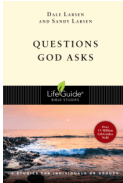
Bible Study Opportunities

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.

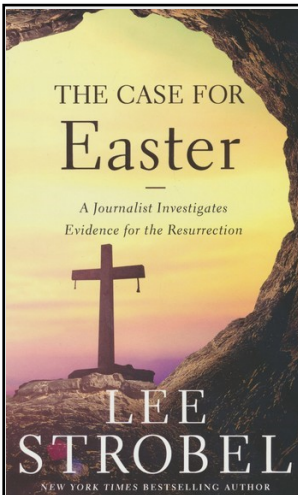
Romans 15:4



Faith Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, March 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, March 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 Invites all Women of the church to join them as they begin the study of "The Case for Easter" will meet in the classroom on the west end of the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour. This "investigation" into Christ's death answers three crucial questions seekers ask: Was Jesus' death a sham? Was his tomb really empty? Was he seen alive after his death on the cross? Strobel's award-winning skills as a legal journalist will persuade even the most hard-boiled skeptics to reconsider Jesus' death and resurrection. If you have questions please contact Dan Heilman.



Cornerstone Service Greeters

7: E: Dave and Sandy Lamfers
C: Jamie and Jennifer Bruxvoort/family
W: Ed and Jan Harskamp

14: E: Dan and Maureen Heilman
C: Cole and Kayla Hoekstra
W: Mitch and Abby Kreykes

21: E: Ryan Wiersma
C: Henry and Barb Fisher
W: Ken and Sandy Heronimus

28: E: Ken and Wilma Loerts
C: Arnie and Diane Langstraat
W: Curt and Peg Van Kley

Children & Worship Schedule



9:00am	11:00am
7: Deb Kosters	7: Deb Kosters
14: Deb Kosters	14: Deb Kosters
21: Deb Kosters	21: Deb Kosters
28: Deb Kosters	28: Deb Kosters

Willing Hands Group



Willing Hands Group #3

will be responsible for services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

- Jamie/Scott Hulstein
- Sandy/Dave Lamfers



Will Meet at 9:00am on:
March 3 and 17.

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 _____



Library Volunteers



7: Jamie Hulstein
14: Jamie Hulstein
21: Jan Juffer
28: Jeannette Juffer

Fellowship Coffee Servers



No Coffee Fellowship at this time.

Nursery

The Nursery will be open for use,
but unstaffed.



Names of Jesus

Puzzle #2

1. B ↑ ↑ ← = ____
2. F → → ↑ = ____
3. Q ↓ → → = ____
4. L → ↑ ↑ = ____
5. A → → → → = ____
6. N ↓ ← ↓ ← = ____
7. J ← ↑ ← ← = ____
8. Y ↓ ← ← = ____
9. W ← ← ↓ = ____
10. M ↓ ← ← = ____
11. T ↑ ↑ ← = ____
12. C ← ← ← = ____

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

Write the letters from each numbered answer on the left into the blank with the matching number here.

" I am the 10 4 8 1

12 6 2 11 3 7 9 5"

Do you know one place where this verse is located?



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**
- **March 31: If the Passion Play goes on as scheduled, then there will be no Youth Group or Bible Classes due to Passion Play week; HOWEVER if the Passion Play is unable to be held this year then Classes will be held as usual. Please keep watching the bulletin for up to date information.**

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

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Unit 202K
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

Hunter DeJong

109 Wilder Place
Ames, IA 50014

Peyton Crichton

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Sioux Falls, SD 57197

Paige Hurlburt

Brookman-222
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Vermillion, SD 57069

Kalie DeBoer

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Maple Friant
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Ryan Van Marel

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Brookings, SD 57007

Ashilyn Hulstein

Ben Reifel-132-A2
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Brookings, SD 57007

Hudson Feldkamp

230 Dakota Trail
Brookings, SD 57007

Lane Tangeman

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Sibley, Iowa 51249

Dalton Bremer

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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 Verse

John 11:3-6

Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. (NKJV)



Thoughts

Have you ever had a big outdoor adventure all planned out and just about the time you were ready to get it started, something happened that caused the trip to be delayed?

Sometimes, God causes delays in our lives for a purpose. Maybe, you've been too selfish with your outdoor time and God knows that you need to spend more time with your wife and kids or maybe God is protecting you from an unseen danger.

Whatever the reason, know that God has a purpose and a plan for your delay.

Action Point

Jesus delayed not out of a lack of concern, but because He was about to do something extraordinary in the lives of those He loved.

Christ knows all things. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. He even said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it."

Jesus delayed because it was time to get the wheels in motion for why He was put here on Earth. Yes, He raised Lazarus from the dead which was an exciting miracle. This wonderful act did something greater; it set the stage for His own painful death and glorious resurrection. After He raised Lazarus, people either believed that He was God or they began to plot His demise. Read all of John 11 and carefully see how this entire great story played out.

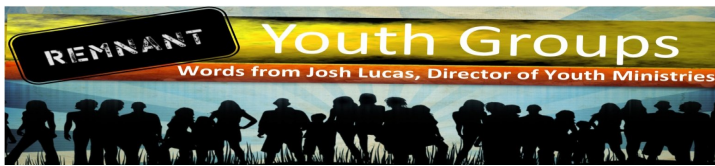
When God delays you, get ready for something greater!!!

Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

The next time rain or a delay interferes with your great adventure, pull out some games or your Bible that you purposefully brought along. Enjoy the time given to you to get to know the people in your group.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1. Haman -- Esther 7:9,10
2. Othniel -Judges 1:13 & Samuel -1 Samuel 7:8
3. His Sister - Exodus 2:4
4. Hannah for Samuel - 1 Samuel 1:20, 2:18,19
5. Jeremiah 31:15
6. A Raven - Genesis 8:6,7
7. Michal - 1 Samuel 18:27
8. Greek, Latin and Hebrew - John 19:19,20



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 have been very encouraged and challenged over the last month. The James series was a very challenging but rewarding sermon series for me, I hope that it was the same for you as well. I really appreciate this opportunity that you, as FRC, have given me. In my master's program currently, it is required of me that I put in a certain amount of time doing either a job in ministry, internship, volunteer, etc. I have just been using the youth group as my experience but taking on the role of preaching on Sunday has been a great help with my studies. It is very interesting over the last couple of months I have really felt a lot of pressure. Not from anyone in the congregation but from myself. I have felt that I am not good enough to be standing at the pulpit to preach to you because of my age and experience. This is something that a lot of people my age, mid-late twenties, deal with when stepping into a new role. We tend to think, "Are people going to listen to me because I am so much younger than them? Will I be good enough for this new role?" This was something that I was troubling myself with all throughout the month of January. It actually got so bad that I was even considering stepping down and not fill the pulpit anymore. That was until I was reminded of a man named Timothy.

If you do not anything about Timothy, he was a teacher of the word, or in our context a minister. He was a young man around late twenties to early thirties. He was given the position of authority over a congregation that was much older than he was. He suffered from shyness and being very timid. He was taught by none other than "the hardest working apostle." This seems like a guy that should not have suffered from any of these things, right? If you have not guessed yet I am speaking about Timothy from the New Testament. He was instructed by the Apostle Paul. Timothy was very shy and timid, and he was very nervous about the fact that his congregation was much older than he was. What does Paul encourage him with? 1 Timothy 4:12, "Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." This is the greatest encouragement I could ever receive in that moment of self-doubt. I now know where God has called me and as long as He continues to give me opportunities I will continue to preach faithfully, boldly, and biblically. If you are like me and doubt yourself because of your age or your personal "flaws" just remember who God used to accomplish His work here on earth.

He used a man with a speech impediment to free the Israelites (Moses), a man who was an adulterer and a murderer (David), a tax collector (Matthew/Levi), and a murderer of Christians (Saul/Paul). He used countless others, but I hope you get the point. Do not look down on yourself because of your age, height, weight, race, or your past. If you are repentant and have made a change then do not beat yourself up and keep yourself from doing ministry. If you feel the call go and do, but just make sure that this call does not contradict scripture in any way. Youth group is going great right now! We have been given approval to start planning for our annual mission trip and junior high trip so we will hopefully have more details next month! Be on the lookout for that! As always if you need a hug this big ole teddy bear has one just for you!

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. Le Roy and Karen Stevenson | 17. Mark Van Der Sloot;
Damian, Jackson, Keegan |
| 2. Dave and Lesa Stofferan | 18. Helen Vander Veen |
| 3. Bob and Gladys Tiedeman | 19. Collin and Alexis Van Diepen |
| 4. Jared and Jenny Tiedemann;
Andrew, Avery, Alex | 20. Pray for our College Students |
| 5. Ken and Sharalyn Tjaden | 21. Pray for our Church |
| 6. Pray for our College Students | 22. Ger and Barb Van Diepen |
| 7. Pray for our Church | 23. John and Lois Van Diepen |
| 8. Greg and Tami Tracy; Lindy | 24. Keith and Janelle Van Drunen |
| 9. Chad and Megan Travaille; Lawrynn | 25. James and Pauline Van Engen |
| 10. Randy and Kelli Van De Berg | 26. Joel and Angie Van Gelder; Teddy |
| 11. Duane and Pam Vande Hoef | 27. Pray for our College Students |
| 12. Paul and Phyllis Vander Linden | 28. Pray for our Church |
| 13. Pray for our College Students | 29. Barb Van Hattem |
| 14. Pray for our Church | 30. Curt and Peg Van Kley |
| 15. Harold and Shelia Van Der Sloot | 31. Steve and Leanne Van Kley |
| 16. Kim Van Der Sloot | |

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



REFORMED THEOLOGY

REFORMED THEOLOGY has what is called a ‘high’ view of God. This is an old fashioned way of saying that reformed people base their theology on the view that God is sovereign over all. Most people who say they believe in God say that they believe that God is ‘sovereign’ and may talk about a ‘purpose’ behind everything that happens. However, five minutes into a conversation about the subject it people reveal their doubt and confusion about this very doctrine. In our time it has become even less clear to us what we believe about God.

Let’s start with a definition. **Theology** is the “study of God”, and is based on two Greek words. “Theos” means God and “legein” to speak. *We all have a theology—or view of God.* The real challenge for us is to make sure our theology is focused on the God revealed to us in Scripture. Think about the kinds of things that you hear everyday from friends and neighbors, or in media. When was the last time you heard someone say?

- *It doesn’t matter what you believe, as long as you’re sincere.*
- *All religions are basically the same.*
- *God is god no matter what you call him.*
- *I believe in the god of the New Testament, not the Old.*

Everyone believes that they are entitled to their own view of God, and that it is ok when our views disagree with one another. It isn’t logical but consider this conversation.

Person One: There is no god.

Person Two: I believe that there is a god.

Person Three: You are both right!

This is a not unfamiliar conversation to have with people of differing viewpoints. It comes from the assumption that *all views (personal beliefs) are equally valid*. What is also clear is that we are not only contending with different religions, but with illogical thought and contradictory ideas. Increasingly there is no clear, or universal, concept of who God is. In America it is not only possible to accept all view of God as equal, but it is nearly forbidden to hold to an exclusive definition. Believers in Christianity are told to avoid discussing anything close to truth. America’s increasingly secular culture often gives the impression that studying the truth of God is no longer relevant and should be confined to the ivory towers of academia.

But we believe in the God revealed to us in the Bible—the infallible, inerrant, revealed words of God to his people. The Bible tells us that God is absolutely in control of all of creation. There is not one maverick molecule outside His control and he does not accept all views as equal.

The Kingdom of Heaven is not a democracy, and God cares about what we believe about himself. If in doubt, remember the first three of the 10 Commandments!



GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER SALVATION

Among Christians there are many points that we debate, and the nature of human participation in salvation is a big debate. Reformed theology teaches that *“at the heart of the Christian gospel is the declaration that God saves sinners from judgment through His Son Jesus Christ. Moreover, He saves people according to His sovereign purpose and design. The Bible teaches that God decided who would be saved before He even created the world (Rom. 9:23; Eph. 1:4; Titus 1:2). But this view, which tends to humble man and exalt God, is widely rejected by many”* in the church.

<https://thestateoftheology.com>

Research done by many reputable scholars reveals that only a minority of evangelicals agree with the biblical doctrine of the sovereignty of God in salvation. The influence of Arminian theology remains strong in American churches. <https://thestateoftheology.com>

Arminianism is based on the work of Jacobus Arminius, a Dutch theologian from the 16th century. Arminius taught that humans are not in bondage to sin and that they have the ability in themselves to choose to believe. In our language it is mostly like to be the question of 'free will' or a will that does not need God to sovereignly intervene before a person comes to faith.

His beliefs were considered heretical by Luther, Zwingli and John Calvin because it put man's will above God's. His ideas are closely linked to an earlier heresy known as Pelagianism. In 1610 a document entitled the *Remonstrance* was signed by 45 ministers and submitted to the Dutch church for consideration. The result was the Synod of Dort (1618-1619) which met to consider these differences. The result—**The Canons of Dort**—which is one of the RCA statements of faith.

The document is a masterful response to the Remonstrants and in our time has been reduced to the acronym **TULIP**. The five points of the Remonstrants were answered with what has come to be known as the Five Points of Calvinism. Reformed theology teaches that salvation is in God's hands alone and that we can do nothing to save ourselves.

TOTAL DEPRAVITY: Perhaps better defined as *Radical Depravity* states that every part of our lives is touched by sin. Not all that we do is as sinful as it could be, but nothing that we do is completely without sin. We are slaves to sin and unable to do anything to save ourselves.

UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION: This is the doctrine that God has chosen from eternity who he will bring to faith.

LIMITED ATONEMENT: Also better described as particular atonement, says that the substitutionary atonement of Jesus Christ is limited to the Elect. He accomplished salvation for those he chose from the beginning. No one that He died for will be lost.

IRRESISTIBLE GRACE: God's grace, given to the Elect, is so lovely that sinners cooperate, believe and come to faith.

PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS: Again, we might want to change the word saints to believers, but the doctrine teaches that those who are truly saved cannot be lost. Jesus will accomplish not only justification, but also sanctification and glorification for his redeemed.

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
Luke 21:36

PRAYER JOURNAL



Celebrations

~~Birthday's~~

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1 Arnie Langstraat
Heidi Saylor | 15 Brianna Jacobsma | 24 Glenda De Boer
Brian Loerts |
| 2 Lydia Buysman | 17 Abby Kreykes | 25 Nick Buysman
Mitch Kreykes |
| 4 Luella Eggink
Pierce Julius | 18 Josie Herrboldt
Addison Hulstein
Darlene Jurgens | 28 David Calsbeek |
| 5 Faye Carda
Clint Klaassen | 19 Annette Janssen
Cory Maxwell | 29 Norah Fox
Nash Loerts
Kim McDougall |
| 6 Blake Loerts | 20 Kayla Ackerman | 30 Logan Bruxvoort |
| 7 Sandy Heronimus
Darcy Martinez | 22 MacKenzie Beyer | 31 Lynn Mulder |
| 8 Dee Baker | 23 Chelsey Alexander
Cole Hoekstra | |
| 9 Marissa Heibult | | |
| 10 Sofia Hisek
Mark Van Der Sloot
Bryan Verdoorn | | |

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

~~Anniversaries~~

- | | |
|---|--|
| 11 John Mc Dougall | 6 Justin and Angie Van Tilburg-7 years |
| 12 Tim Kruger
Jared Tiedeman
John Van Diepen, SR. | 8 Bobby and Dee Baker-46 years |
| 13 Elia Altoff
Hunter De Jong
Greg Tracy | 8 Joel and Angie Van Gelder-3 years |
| 14 Kevin Klaassen | 16 Mark and Rosie Hulstein-2 year |
| | 18 Ken and Sandy Heronimus-38 years |
| | 19 Ted and Eileen Schutte-8 years |
| | 20 Jason and Gina Jacobsma-17 years |
| | 21 Greg and Tami Tracy-12 years |
| | 30 Bob and Gladys Tiedeman-50 years |



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

From the library--

A new series “Danger Never Sleeps” by Lynette Eason has been put in the library. We have the first two books and I will highlight them this month.



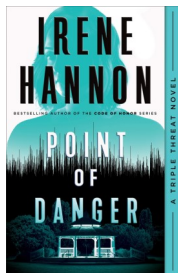
COLLATERAL DAMAGE is book #1. Honorably discharged from the Army after an explosion nearly killed her, former military psychiatrist Brooke Adams has set up shop to help others, but her days of helping military personnel are over. She's got her own battles to fight from her time overseas, and she's not equipped to take on more.

Former Army Special Ops Sergeant First Class Asher James could handle anything that war sent his way. The only thing that scares him now is sleep. As the shadows close in, the nightmares begin. Finally convinced that he needs help, Asher makes an appointment with a counselor. When he arrives at her office, she isn't there—but a dead body is. When it becomes clear that Brooke was the real target of the attack—and that her secrets go even deeper than his own—Asher vows to protect her no matter what.



Book number two is ACCEPTABLE RISK. Sarah Denning is a military journalist with the Army in the Middle East when she is taken hostage. When former Army Ranger Gavin Black is asked by his old unit commander—Sarah's imposing father—to plan an extremely risky rescue, he reluctantly agrees and successfully executes it.

Back in the US, Sarah is livid when she is discharged on a false psychiatric evaluation and vows to return to the Army, until she hears of her brother's suicide. Unable to believe her brother would do such a thing, she puts her plans on hold and enlists Gavin to help her discover the truth. What they uncover may be the biggest story of Sarah's career—if she can survive long enough to write it.



Irene Hannon has written POINT OF DANGER, the first book is the “Triple Threat” series. Radio talk show host Eve Reilly is used to backlash from her pot-stirring on-air commentary and interviews. But now it seems a disgruntled listener is resorting to more than angry words to express their displeasure. When a suspicious package arrives on her doorstep, Eve turns to law enforcement for help. Police detective Brent Lange can't find any evidence to link the string of unsettling incidents that follows but he's convinced they're connected. As the harassment grows more menacing, it becomes clear someone wants Eve's voice silenced—permanently. But unless he can track down her elusive foe, the gutsy woman who is willing to take risks for what she believes—and who is swiftly winning his heart—may not survive.

Be sure to visit the church library there are many goods books to grab your attention.

Jeannette Juffer

Bible Wordsearch

Parables of the Wedding and the Tower

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

Puzzle #163

Luke 14:15-30

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

ALLEYS	GREAT
ANGRY	GUESTS
BANQUET	HATE
BLESSED	HEARD
BLIND	HOUSE
BRING	INVITED
BROTHERS	JESUS
CERTAIN	JUST
CHILDREN	KINGDOM
COST	LAME
COUNTRY	LANES
CRIPPLED	MASTER
CROSS	MONEY
CROWDS	ORDERED
DISCIPLE	OWNER
EAT	OXEN
ESTIMATE	POOR
EXCUSES	READY
FATHER	ROADS
FEAST	SISTERS
FIELD	STREETS
FINISH	TABLE
FOLLOW	TASTE
GOD	TOWER

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Psalm 30

MORE PUZZLES AT:
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Adrian and Bernardeth Bobb-Kelly

As soon as this pandemic ends, we would love to have you join us with your mission teams! We've learned so much this year through our local community and ministry partners. We've learned we should not close our hands to the needy, that we should help and encourage those who are trying to do good to others, and that we need to continue showing our love for others with our actions. Thank you for your partnership in this ministry work.

Blessings of 2020: Despite all the problems during 2020, it was a great joy for us to see two of the girls from Tabitha's Home (Shayann and Arleen) graduate from high school. They were under our care from when they were four and two years old. Seeing them grow up has been a great blessing, and now we also celebrated with them this special day and pray they may continue to always seek God's guidance. We can recall seeing Shayann in 2009 at her promotion in preschool when the teacher called on Adrian to give her the pre-school certificate. Now eleven years later, they call on Adrian to give her the high school diploma. Another highlight in this graduation was to see that, from a class of 28 students, 12 of them were part of the ministry. Some were in the Comedor (feeding center), others in the scholarship program, and of course Shayann and Arleen from Tabitha's Home. Another exciting outcome is that we were able to create more space in the old feeding place neighborhood in July so the children can come back to their original kitchen and continue to praise the Lord and have their normal meal Monday to Friday.

Challenges of 2020: The ongoing challenges we faced this past year were the COVID-19, hurricanes ETA and IOTA, and lack of funding for the healthy child program.

COVID-19 forced us to seek new mechanisms to continue to feed the children. To follow up with the new measurements of the World Health Organization and thus avoid getting infected with the coronavirus, we had to put the food in bags or buy rations and take it to the children's homes. Then, we had to borrow a place with a big space to fit all the children to give them their food to-go. While we did this, kids were always coming to the center to ask when we were going to start to serve food in the kitchen again. As soon as we thought it would be safe to serve the food in the kitchen, we sought for alternatives to bring back the children to their normal feeding center. Bernardeth came up with the idea of expanding the old feeding center by just removing some walls to make spaces. After doing this, we had a wider space to fit more kids at a time. So, presently we have all the children getting their meals at the original feeding center.

Regarding hurricanes Eta and Iota, they both made landfall on the North Caribbean coast in Nicaragua. They also affected some areas of the Rio Grande (Big River) communities. Both hurricanes destroyed houses and plantations of the people we serve in the communities along the river. Iota caused more damages because it made landfall closer to the south part of the Caribbean coast in Nicaragua. Even our village clinic roof in Makantakita was destroyed. Unfortunately, the government relief was focused on the larger areas of the North Caribbean coast where the hurricane hit the hardest. Given this situation and witnessing the pressing need of our people affected by the hurricanes in these villages, we felt the need to find a way to provide drinking water and food for our people on this side at least until the government could bring help. Getting the freight up the river was a great challenge

because they do not have a freight boat to take anything up there. We had to charter a second outboard engine to help us carry the things. On our way back, we ran out of fuel because the weight of the freight burned out almost 90 percent of the fuel. But, thank God that there was a gentleman along the river who loaned us some fuel to make it down to Bluefields.

We acknowledge that during 2020 we had more challenges that came along with the pandemic because the unemployment rate increased even in the informal areas. It was hard for us to continue feeding the children. Our funding was limited and we had more and more children coming to the feeding center asking for food. It was very hard to turn them down. There were times when we used to run out of food and sometimes kids would go home without a meal. This was very sad because before we were always able to get something for the kids as long as they made it for lunchtime, and even when they were late sometimes.

Hopes for 2021: Put back the roof and do repairing wherever is needed on our village clinic.

Paint both the feeding centers and Tabitha homes and repair some areas that are damaged.

Help more children with their education

Have two spiritual retreats with the staff.

How We Can Pray: Pray for the feeding centers to have an abundance of food for the children

Pray for the protection, both physical and spiritual, of the children

Pray for the healthy child program to have funds for this new year of 2021

Pray for the children at the two Tabitha Homes.

Pray for the safety of the medical brigades

Pray for the midwives and pastors in training

Pray for the health, strength, wisdom, and more zeal for the Lord of the staff of the Tabitha's Home ministry.

Pray for us: Adrian, Bernardeth, Abebja, and Abayomi. Pray for health, strength, wisdom, courage, studies, and more love for God and neighbor

Pray we would receive the financial support needed to give maintenance to the boat, outboard engine, and the vehicle of the ministry.



Thank you: Your prayer cards, your prayers, your emails and phone calls, your words of encouragement, and your continued financial support have been the nourishment of this ministry.

It is so good to know that you are praying for us, as you send words of encouragement and your continual support. They make us feel the love you have towards us and help us realize that we are just an instrument to convey God's love to others. Thank you for your continual support and prayers. We surely need it. Blessings!

Serving together,

Adrian and Bernardeth Bobb-Kelly

THE STATE OF THEOLOGY 2020

LIGONIER MINISTRIES

We are going to take another look at some of the data collected by Ligonier Ministries. If we want to understand the world of theology today it can be very helpful to know what others are thinking. It should also help each of us to clarify our own thinking.

So for fun, you could go to Ligonier and take the entire survey . But here are five of the questions relevant to our thinking this month. Take a few minutes and answer the following questions. Consider your answers and circle your choice. Then turn this page upside down and you will see the

results the posted. The Biblical answer is in the final column.

1. God chose the people he would save before he created the world. True False
2. Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature. True False
3. God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism and Islam. True False
4. Religious belief is a matter of personal opinion, it is not about objective truth. True False
5. Even the smallest sin deserves eternal damnation. True False

To read the entire report go to: <https://thestateoftheology.com/>

Question	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Not Sure	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Biblical Answer
God chose the people he would save before he created the world	35	15	23	14	13	Agree/ True
Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature	14	14	7	43	22	Disagree/ False
God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity	16	8	13	21	42	Disagree/ False
Religious belief is a matter of personal opinion, it is not about	20	14	12	28	26	Disagree/ False
Even the smallest sin deserves eternal damnation	54	12	9	11	14	Agree/ True



Consistory Meeting Highlights

January 12, 2021

- MMSA to transfer the membership of Chris Schouten to Emmanuel Reformed Church in Morrison, IL.
- MMSA to allow Josh Lucas time off to travel to AZ to complete a residency requirement for his Masters Degree from May 1-8, 2021. No vacation will be used.
- MMSA for the recommendation to purchase the relay for the TV in the Fellowship Hall if an alternate method does not work.
- MMSA to purchase updated mics.
- MMSA to approve the change in membership in the Education Ministry Team
- MMSA to allow our Remnant Youth (6th-12th) to serve at the Banquet West in Sioux Falls on March 3
- MMSA to allow MS Remnant an alternate option to Power Connection in case it would be cancelled or restricted due to COVID. The alternate option would be a trip to the Ark Encounter in Kentucky on June 25-June 27.
- MMSA for a HS Remnant work trip to the Lake Charles, LA rebuild from June 5th-June 12th.
- MMSA to delay indefinitely Hope Haven returning to the church building for the Day Hab Program.
- For information: The parsonage will not be rented out at this time.

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 19. What is the misery of that estate whereinto man fell?

A. All mankind, by their fall, lost communion with God, are under his wrath and curse, and so made liable to all miseries in this life, to death itself, and to the pains of hell for ever.

Scriptural proofs: Gen. 3:8, 10, 24; Eph. 2:2-3; Gal. 3:10; Lam. 3:39; Rom. 6:23; Matt. 25:41,46.

Q. 20. Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

A. God having, out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace, to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.

Scriptural proofs: Eph. 1:4; Rom. 3:20-22; Gal. 3:21-22.

About Bible League International

History: These were the words of our founder, William Chapman. “In 1936 I became seriously ill and landed in a hospital in Chicago. An elder from my church came to visit me and prayed that my life might be spared and that I would be led into the service of Christ. At the time, it seemed a strange prayer. Why should God be asked to give me health and strength for this purpose? What could I possibly do for Christ?”

I concluded that this was a ridiculous prayer. But as the night wore on toward morning, it became increasingly apparent that my elder’s prayer could not be easily forgotten. That’s when I made my commitment to God. If God would restore my health, I would give all my strength in any avenue of service God would lead.”

In 1938, Bill and Betty Chapman purchased 1000 Bibles and went door-to-door in Walkerton, Indiana. They asked, ‘Do you have a Bible?’ and if the home didn’t, ‘Will you promise to read this Bible?’

Today, Bible League International offers the hope of God’s Word, sharing bibles, and Bible-based study and training tools with those in need of salvation. Beginning with the Chapmans’ simple act of faith, Bible League International has faithfully provided God’s Word around the world for more than 80 years. That ridiculous prayer is being answered today.

God’s Promise: Bible League International measures the success of its ministry in the lives of men, women, and children transformed through God’s Word. The effectiveness of the ministry is in equipping under resourced local churches through training in evangelism, discipleship, and church planter training. And the strength of this ministry is seen in the blessing God promises through His Word. We gratefully confess God has blessed Bible League International through your prayerful and generous support—your gifts provide God’s Word to the world.

Mission of Bible League: Serving the under-resourced Church with bibles and training to transform lives worldwide through God’s Word.

Vision for the Future: We desire to see thriving local churches around the world offering salvation, life change, and hope through biblically-based training and resources that meet the spiritual, moral, and social needs of their communities.

To read stories of Bible League International’s impact please go to:
<https://www.bibleleague.org/stories/>

