

The Newsletter

October 2021

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

For flowers that bloom about
our feet, Father, we thank Thee.

For tender grass so fresh,
so sweet, Father, we thank Thee.

For the song of bird and hum of bee,
for all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For blue of stream and blue
of sky, Father, we thank Thee.

For pleasant shade of branches
high, Father, we thank Thee.

For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
for beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this new morning with
its light, Father, we thank Thee.

For rest and shelter of the
night, Father, we thank Thee.

For health and food, for love
and friends, for everything
Thy goodness sends, Father in
heaven, we thank Thee."

October at a Glance

3. Communion Sunday
12. 6:00 pm Elder/Deacon Meetings
7:00 pm Full Consistory
17. Josh's Last Sunday at FRC
18. 9:30 am Faith Bible Study
3:00 pm Patience Bible Study
- 18-22: FRC is responsible for
Meals on Wheels
- 25-29: FRC is responsible for
Meals on Wheels
20. 9am Mothers Together will meet
27. Harvest Festival

Sundays:

9:00 am Sunday School 4yrs - Adult &
Coffee Fellowship Time

10:00 am Praise and Worship Service

***Tuesdays:**

8:30 am Quilting Chicks will meet

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

6:30 pm Bible Classes 1st-5th grades

6:30 pm MS Remnant Youth Group

7:30 pm HS Remnant Youth Group



CONTACT INFORMATION:
712-754-2783

sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com

View our Website at: sibleyfrc.org





Stewardship & Giving

Offering Summary through September 20:

- **General Fund:** \$244,964.51
Budget: \$299,173.35; 81% of budget
- **Benevolent Fund:** \$30,466
Budget: \$71,025.61; 42% of budget
- **Building Fund offerings to date:** \$2265.70

Faith In Action for October: Center of Hope



Special offering for October:



Clean your closets and bring any winter coats, scarves, mittens and caps, that are in good shape, to church. They will be put to good use.

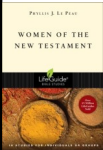
Trivia Time

1. What was the name of the prophet who was very hairy and wore a leather belt?
2. What is the name of the man who King David arranged to have killed because he wanted his wife?
3. The earth, seas, grass, herb yielding seed, and the tree yielding fruit were created on which day of creation?
4. What was the name of the man who inherited Elijah's mantle?
5. What was the name of the man who owned a seamless coat?
6. What was the name of a man who worked seven years to earn a wife?
7. What Bible prophet said, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel"?
8. How old was Joseph when he was given his coat of many colors?
9. What was the name of the high priest's servant who had his ear cut off by the Apostle Peter?
10. What was the name of the Bible character who was blind and killed 3000 people?

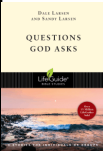
Bible Study Opportunities

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, October 18 at 9:30 am** in the Library. We will study chapter 5 "**The Canaanite Woman**" in the book Women of the New Testament. Scripture for the morning will be Matthew 15:21-28. Jan Henrichs will lead the lesson and Imogene Rasmussen will serve as hostess.



Patience Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, October 18 at 3:00 pm** in the Fireside Room. We will continue our book, Questions God Asks. Barb will lead lesson #9, "Is It a Time for You Yourselfs to be Living in Your Paneled Houses, While This House Remains a Ruin?" Gert will serve as hostess. Come and join us!



The Congregational Care Team is creating a new pictorial directory for our church. We are not planning to use a professional photographer this year. We

are asking each family to submit a good photo of your family. If you do not have a good photo or do not have the ability to get a photo taken, please contact LaDonn Hartzell and she will find a time that works for your family and take one for you. Photos will be submitted via email to LaDonn: lhartz124@gmail.com. If you do not have access to email, please drop off your photo at the church office and we can scan it in for you. Along with your photo, please include all family names, phone numbers and address that you would like published in the directory. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PHOTOS IS OCTOBER 15, 2021.** The church office will be printing the directory and hopes to have them ready for distribution by January 2022.





Praise and Worship Greeters

- 3: E: Lennis and Marvella Harberts/family
C: Kevin and Twila Heemstra
W: Dwayne and Janice Heikes
- 10: E: Derek and Ashley Heronimus/family
C: Dale and Karen Honken
W: Loren and Deb Hulstein
- 17: E: Papito and Kelsey Joseph/family
C: John and Jan Juffer
W: Dennis and Dar Jurgens
- 24: E: Kevin and Laurel Klaassen
C: Dave and Donna Kleinwolterink
W: Mark and Melissa Langstraat/family
- 31: E: Brad and Sarah Loerts/family
C: Cory and Anne Maxwell/family
W: John and Kim McDougall/family

Nursery

The Nursery will be open for use,
but unstaffed.

Fellowship Coffee Servers



- 3: Ron and Nancy Dykstra
10: Ed and Jan Harskamp
17: Bill and LaDonn Hartzell
24: Dwayne and Janice Heikes
31: Bert and Jan Henrichs

Children & Worship



10:00 am during the service

Leaders:

- 3: Karen Honken
10: Deb Kusters
17: Deb Kusters
24: Karen Honken
31: Deb Kusters

Willing Hands Group



Willing Hands Group #4

will be responsible for
services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

- Karen/Dale Honken
- Marcia/Dick Oldenkamp

Library Volunteers



- 3: Ruth Ann Wiersma
10: Jane Buysman
17: Marilynn De Boer
24: Gert Gaalswyk
31: Jan Henrichs



The Pastoral Search Team is making progress, and have started the interview process. Each candidate will first be interviewed by the team, and then if recommended, will move on to a second interview with Consistory members. If both the team and the Consistory agree that a candidate is worth considering they will be asked to preach at a morning worship service. The Team is committed to a careful and thoughtful search. If all

goes well it is hoped that Sibley FRC will have a new pastor by the end of the year, but there are many obstacles yet to overcome. Interviews are interesting. The team is looking for a candidate, but the candidate is also looking for the right place to serve. The team truly appreciates your support and



Consistory Meeting Highlights

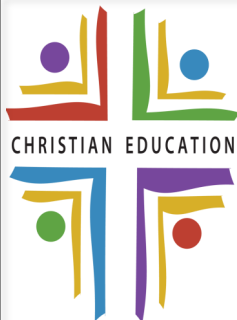
September 7, 2021

- MMSA to put a notice in the bulletin and newsletter reminding people to check their mailboxes.
- Congregational Meeting: Wed. Nov. 10th, 2021 at 7pm. Youth to serve meal before the meeting.
- MMSA to change paid time off from weeks to “days paid off” at 6 days per week, with up to one day per every 6 days being Sundays.
- MMSA to accept Josh’s resignation.

*God heard your prayers. God can feel your pain.
He knows that you are overwhelmed, exhausted, and
worried about how everything is going to work out.*

God is saying to you today.

*“Trust Me. I will get you through this season.
I will fix what is broke. Rest in Me.”*



October 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.

- Wednesday Evening Bible Classes and Youth Groups: to run as scheduled
 - Sunday School: to run as scheduled. Start time is currently 9:00am

MS/HS/Adult Sunday School Opportunities:

- 7th-8th/Adult: Demolishing Strongholds sets out to strengthen the foundations of our Christian faith, including why the Bible is the authoritative Word of God, understanding the “Culture War” and exposing the untruths of evolution. This class is for 7th & 8th grade students and is open to adults. It will be taught by Diane Langstraat in Room B-1.
- 9th-10th/Adult: “The Bible and What We Believe It Says” is being taught by Dr. Greg Kusters in the youth room. This class is a biblical overview with doctrinal standards.
- 11th-12th/Adult: Jesus among the other gods--learning who God truly is while taking a look at the false beliefs of other religions. This class will be taught by Gretchen Bartelson in the Fireside Room.

College Addresses

Hunter DeJong

109 Wilder Place
Ames, IA 50014

Peyton Crichton

2820 S. Duluth Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Kalie DeBoer

815 8th Street
Sibley, IA 51249

Jaden Abels

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

Tanner Dykstra

3029 N. 47th Street
Lincoln, NE 68504

Alyssa Wassman

Foundation Residence
Apartments 103
1410 Birch Street
Marshall, MN 56258

Alex Mc Dougall

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

Grant Brouwer

DU 2335
707 7th Street NE
Sioux Center, IA 51250

Leah Ackerman

503 10th Ave.
Sibley, IA 51249

Cody Dykstra

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

Ryan Van Marel

804 Medary Ave. South
Brookings, SD 57006

Ashilyn Hulstein

Hyde-139B-A1
1451 8th Street
Brookings, SD 57007

Hudson Feldkamp

230 Dakota Trail
Brookings, SD 57007

Dalton Bremer

100 Daum Hall
Room #5407
Iowa City, IA 52242

Mariah Elser

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

Austin Wassman

1434 Tyler Ave
Ocheyedan, IA 51354

Carter Brouwer

208 8th St SW
Unit 122
Orange City, IA 51041

Wyatt Dykstra

4647 Stone Ave
Box #364 Prairie Place
Sioux City, IA 51106

If your student will have a different address for the 2021-2022 school year please let the office know.



Celebrations

~~Birthday's~~

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Russell Gaalswyk
Katie Kruger | 10. Ethel Jurgens
Carol Iedema
Ken Heronimus
Gina Jacobsma | 18 Jason Jacobsma |
| 2. Leona Meendering
Joanne Klaassen
Peg Van Kley
Hezekiah Joseph | 11. Britta Harberts
Marlin Runia
Marissa Ackerman | 19 Addison Weg |
| 3. Jada Wills | 12 Dr. Greg Kosters | 21 Kolby Block
Cavell Van Westen |
| 4. Eugene Groen
Gretchen Bartelson | 13 Jerry Bosma | 22 Elizabeth Hibma |
| 5. Pam Kruger | 14 Cliff Mehls
Derek Ackerman | 23 Halle Block
Kira Christensen |
| 6. Karen Doorenbos
Will Altoff | 15 Nathan Kraayenbrink | 27 Pauline Van Engen
Kaylee Maxwell |
| 7. Marcus De Boer | 16 Elijah Sayler
Levi Sayler | 29 Janice Runia
LeRoy Stevenson
Jodie Kruger |
| 8. Jane Buysman
Harvey Van Ruler
Alecia Juelfs
Megan Travaille | 17 Marlys Brink | 30 Duane Vande Hoef |
| 9. Renae Wolter
Addison Mc Dyer
Logan Ver Steeg | | 31 Cole Dykstra
Collin Van Diepen |

~~Anniversaries~~

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 2 Cory & Amy Dykstra | 22 years |
| 4 Alan & Lacey Julius | 7 years |
| 5 Gary & Sandy De Vries..... | 48 years |
| 6 Jerry & Sylvia Bosma | 60 years |
| 8 Clint & Jamie Klaassen..... | 5 years |
| 10 Dale & Marilynn De Boer | 59 years |
| 11 Joe & Nisa de Boom | 18 years |
| 12 Levi & Kira Christensen..... | 8 years |
| 13 Cory & Anne Maxwell | 20 years |
| 17 Ben & Rachel Waits | 12 years |
| 20 Terry & Chrissy Ackerman | 14 years |
| 20 Dwayne & Janice Heikes | 42 years |
| 21 Dan and Maureen Heilman | 15 years |
| 31 Cal & Kathy Runia | 6 years |





Olesea and The Markers

God used a shoebox to reassure me of His love.

I was born and raised in a small village in Moldova. Our country was in severe financial instability after the fall of the Soviet Union. Everyone in our family needed to work to make ends meet. Besides his daily job, my dad and the rest of the family also worked long hours gathering and selling walnuts and working on government agricultural fields. We tended a garden and kept domestic animals in order to have food on the table. Most of our food came from the garden. During the winter, we didn't buy extra food; we ate whatever we had stored. My six siblings and I had to wake up early before school to help feed the animals. When we weren't working, we played outside with other kids. We made up our own games because we didn't have toys.

One day, when I was 5 years old, I was told that something exciting would happen at church the next day. I remember going to bed extra early, hoping that would make the day come sooner. When I woke up the next morning, I felt it was the most glorious day ever. I was so excited to receive my shoebox and couldn't wait to open it.

We opened our shoeboxes once we got home. We sat on the living room floor and took turns opening our shoeboxes. I dumped my whole box on the floor so I could see everything at once. The gifts were wonderful—we had items such as coloring books and soap.

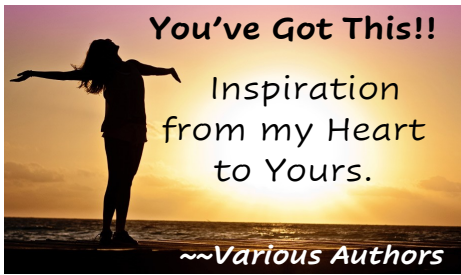
The thing that stood out to me the most was a pack of colorful markers. I couldn't take my eyes off them. There were so many in the pack! I didn't know some of the colors existed. I was so excited I jumped up and started running around the room. The markers my family had at home were dried out. We would dip them in water just to make them last a little longer. I always wished I could color and draw—the markers were exactly what I wanted. I could hardly wait to show my friends at school the new markers.

The day I received my shoebox I went from knowing about Jesus to actually knowing Him. I began a personal relationship with Jesus—one where He is my Best Friend—instead of just a powerful Man I'd heard about during Sunday School.

God used my shoebox to reassure me that He really loved me. It showed me that God does answer prayer. God became real and personal to me.

My family and I moved to the United States in 2003 and I now work as a nurse. I pack shoeboxes so I can bless other children. I want to help bring the same joy and happiness to other children that I experienced. I want children across the world to know Jesus.





Let me tell you something about HER. You know the one. The mom behind you in school drop off. Boss babe goals, mother of three who looks like Christie Brinkley in the flesh. Did she get a new car? I mean, of course she did. A Lexus – no big deal. Anndd... my check engine light just came on. Awesome. Wait, what is that smell? Is that milk??? Why can't I be more like her?

They say comparison is the thief of joy, but what exactly is joy?

Because quite frankly I feel as if the lines have become quite blurred. Is it HERS or mine? Does it look like what SHE has or what I have? Far too often I feel as if joy looks more like her life, her job, her body, her marriage and her health. And yet, we know nothing about HER.

Somewhere along the way, we started treating joy as an ideal state. This place of unmarked perfection. Phrases like I'll be happy when ... (fill in the blank HERE) roll off our tongue.

We chase objects and titles, homes and possessions and call it the quest for joy. Sis, that's not chasing joy, that's chasing comparison. Joy isn't found in a perfectly filtered Instagram square or in what SHE is doing – it's a state of mind.

For years I would walk across the street once a week to the local homeless shelter and serve lunch to the men there. Always sure to engage in friendly small talk I would ask, "How are you today?" flashing a smile.

"I'm blessed. How are you?"

BLESSED.

Sis, these men had nothing to their name other than the clothes on their back, but they had enough joy and perspective to realize they were alive. They were living. They had a warm meal and a place to stay and keep warm. They were thankful. You want to talk about perspective.

But still we look for it don't we? We chase it down and cling to it with everything we have. We accumulate things, quick beauty tips get pinned to our boards, we finance cars and homes and wonder why we are still left feeling empty. We objectify and idolize it. We hang our very worth and legacy on THINGS. Sister hear me.

Joy isn't a trophy you can hang on a shelf or a car parked in your garage. You're not going to find it in designer clothes, the latest fad diets or title you carry – it's how you LIVE. It's what you value and how you feel. It's going through hard times and choosing to keep your chin up. It's the impact you make on others. It's giving love even when it's hard.

That joy you're searching so hard for? You're just looking in all the wrong places. It's not found in HER life. It's right in front of you.

It's the mess you've cleaned for the fiftieth time.

It's the kids laughing in the living room.

It's building a life together no matter how messy and chaotic.

It's fighting for your marriage through the not so great times only to emerge on the other side stronger than ever.

It's getting up through tired eyes knowing that today you get one more day on this earth.

Joy isn't a destination, it's a state of being. A conscious mindset of being grateful every single day. Is it always easy? No. Choose it anyway. Every single day.

~~Jennifer Thompson

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
Luke 21:36

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

PRAYER JOURNAL



PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Diane Kass | 18. Rich Kruger |
| 2. Pray for our College Students | 19. Tim and Jodie Kruger; Jaren, Katie |
| 3. Pray for our Church | 20. Jodene Kruse |
| 4. Clint and Jamie Klaassen; Haley, Colt | 21. Charlie and Brenda Kuhl |
| 5. Joanne Klaassen | 22. Dave and Sandy Lamfers |
| 6. Kevin and Laurel Klaassen; Natalie | 23. Pray for our College Students |
| 7. Dave and Donna Kleinwolterink | 24. Pray for our Church |
| 8. Dr. Greg and Deb Kusters | 25. Mark and Melissa Langstraat;
Emma, Addysen, Taylor |
| 9. Pray for our College Students | 26. Brad and Sarah Loerts;
Parker, Blake, Brynna |
| 10. Pray for our Church | 27. Brian and Megan Loerts;
Brysen, Jaxton, Nash, Ellie |
| 11. Laurie Kraayenbrink | 28. Ken and Wilma Loerts |
| 12. Mitch and Abby Kreykes; Dawson, Paisley | 29. Josh and Hannah Lucas;
Joanna, Allegra |
| 13. Martha Krikke | 30. Pray for our College Students |
| 14. Charles and Katha Kruger | 31. Pray for our Church |
| 15. Pam Kruger | |
| 16. Pray for Our College Students | |
| 17. Pray for Our Church | |

College Students:

Carter Brouwer
Jayden De Boer
Dahson De Jong
Wyatt Dykstra
Andrea Leusink
Austin Wassman

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

Leah Ackerman
Grant Brouwer
Cody Dykstra
Tanner Dykstra
Jagger Johnson

Alex Mc Dougall
Lane Tangeman
Alyssa Wassman

Kaitlyn Bechler
Kalie De Boer
Jaden Abels
Hunter DeJong
Hunter Rockman
Ryan Van Marel
Mariah Elser
Peyton Crichton
Garrett Sayler

Makayla Tangeman

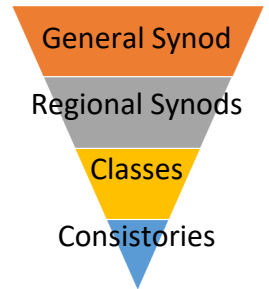
Hannah Lucas

RCA GENERAL SYNOD—FINALLY!

Covid-19 has had a major impact on the ability of people to travel and gather in large groups. This has been true for the RCA and the annual General Synod meeting. The decision to cancel the meeting in June 2020 was disappointing because it was the meeting that would take on the controversial Vision 2020 Final Report. Restrictions surrounding the pandemic put pressure on the denomination again and the traditional June meeting was postponed until October 14-19. So now the meeting is upon us, as is the decisions to be made surrounding the report.

If you have not been raised in the RCA you may be wondering what the General Synod is, and why decisions made by this body affect our congregation.

John Calvin taught that the church is a *body* that both serves and is accountable to one another. He proposed a form of church government that would help individual churches to find strength and guidance from one another.



Like other Calvinistic denominations, the RCA follows the **presbyterian** form of church government. The term comes from the Greek word **presbuterous** or elder. Our government is structured around groups of elders. Each congregation has a *consistory* that answers to the **classis**, and the classis to the **regional synod**, and finally the **general synod**. Our congregation is part of the East Sioux Classis and the Synod of the Heartland. Together the four groups manage doctrinal controversies, mission boards, colleges, seminaries and other ministries.

In 2019 the RCA reported a membership of 194,064 members, 877 congregations, 52 classes, 9 regional synods and one general synod. *Sibley FRC is a member of the East Sioux Classis of the Synod of the Heartland.*

General Synod membership is made up of minister and elder representatives from each classis and regional synod. In its annual meeting, the General Synod sets the direction and tone for denominational ministry. It has authority in all matters relating to denominational program and policy. ***It also has general responsibility over all lower assemblies (regional synods, classes, and consistories).***

The meeting is after all a meeting with the responsibilities of hearing reports, acting on budgets and considering the challenges of ministry in the denomination. The annual meeting considers reports from ministry areas, councils, agencies, boards and commissions. Any requested actions of the General Synod by these agencies and reports are not acted on in that year, and subsequent reports must be submitted. *It takes time to make careful and Biblically based decisions.*

Besides the special Vision 2020 report, there will be reports from racial and ethnic councils, denominational ministry work, agencies, commissions, theological education, and colleges — approximately 36 annual reports to consider and evaluate.

VISION 2020—THE BIG DECISION

History Theological divisions are not uncommon in this history of the Christian church, and since 1974 the RCA has struggled with the question of human sexuality, particularly in relationship to homosexuality. For 46 years there have been papers, overtures, study teams and dialogs seeking to find common understanding in God's will for those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning.

While the denomination has continued to uphold the definition of marriage in the confessions—between a man and a woman only—the debate continues. No consensus has been achieved, nor is it likely to. Therefore, in 2018 the General Synod commissioned a team to write the report now known as Vision 2020 to explore three options (staying together, radical reconstituting and reorganizing, separation). The language in the final report did not select one option, but decided that all three had merit and might be considered by individual congregations.

Recommendation 1—Restructuring

This option suggests that Classes be reorganized as *affinity-based* rather than *geographically-based*. This means that churches would select a Classis to join, one that had like minded churches. Churches who embrace sexual diversity would join together in classis and churches the embrace traditional marriage would join together in another—but all would be members of the RCA.

Recommendation 2—A New Mission Agency

This option would attempt to preserve our shared history by providing a home for shared work in missions, education, etc. that would allow for churches to be separate from the denomination.

Recommendation 3—Mutually Generous Separation

Understanding that many churches will be leaving the denomination, the BCO needs to be modified to handle all the questions of separation. These include questions of property, insurance, and denominational dues, etc.

WHAT ABOUT SIBLEY FRC?

Our Consistory has been considering this issue, both as individual members and as a group. The East and West Sioux Classes have also been actively engaged in this debate. For now, the consensus in our consistory is to wait to see what happens with the General Synod meeting in October. You may have heard of congregations that are already planning on leaving the RCA, but many are taking the same position as our consistory. It is not clear what the RCA will decide, what they will uphold or cast aside, or what options will be presented to the Classes or congregations.

This is why it is so important to pray for the upcoming General Synod meeting.

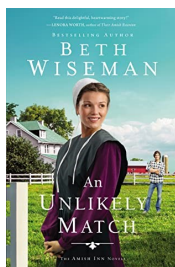
From the library--

Some new Amish books have been added to the library.

Two of them are written by Beth Wiseman and are volumes 1 and 2 in the "Amish Inn Series."



Book #1 is **A PICTURE OF LOVE**. Following is a synopsis: "Sweet Naomi Byler cooks meals for the guests at the Peony Inn, where Amish sisters and owners of the inn, Esther and Lizzie, love her like a granddaughter. She's as happy there as a young woman can be, considering that her fiancé, Thomas, has left her to court someone else. She knows she'll get over the love of her life in due time, but she assumes marriage will never be a part of her future. Amos Lantz and his mother are guests at the inn, visiting town for a cousin's wedding. Attending a wedding is the last thing Amos wants to do since his own fiancé, Sarah, died tragically just a year ago. Naomi and Amos understand each other's grief and become quick friends when they discover their mutual love of painting. As the two begin to paint through their sadness together, Esther and Lizzie play matchmaker—a risky move with the potential to backfire. And when Thomas makes an unexpected return intending to win back Naomi, she realizes she no longer knows her own heart."



Book number 2 of the "Amish Inn Series" is **AN UNLIKELY MATCH**. Evelyn Schrock has dismissed all the young men in her small Amish community who have tried to court her. She's willing to wait for a suitor who shares her curiosities about life and faith. The only reason Jayce Clarkson is in Amish country hefting equipment for his famous father's movie production company is for the paycheck. The home-style cooking at the Peony Inn is a perk, though, as is his friendship with Evelyn. If Jayce can endure his dad's put-downs for a month, he'll finally be in a position to make a fresh start—somewhere away from the hustle and bustle of Los Angeles and the shadow of his checkered past. To matchmakers, Esther and Lizzie, the widowed sisters, who operate the inn, Jayce seems like a good man stuck in a life he doesn't want. But the boy isn't Amish and that leaves far too much room for broken hearts. Despite that, Jayce and Evelyn start to realize that they can't deny their growing attraction. Any path forward seems impossible, and they will have to learn what the future will look like when they leave their fate in *Gott's* hands.

From the Library Continued...



Another new book is by Lynette Eason, **HOSTILE INTENT**, book 3 of “Danger Never Sleeps” series. It is a nail biting, “can’t put it down” book!! Be

prepared for a lot of twists and turns. “Ava Jackson entered the military shortly after high school, but her mother’s illness has forced her to request an early discharge. She already lost her father while deployed, and there’s no way she’s going to let her mother die alone.

But after a visit to the nursing facility where her mother lives, Ave is attached walking back to her car. Fortunately, FBI Agent Caden Denning arrives in time to help fight off her attacker. Caden reveals to Ava that she may hold the key to the murders of three families, and he needs her help before anyone else is harmed. The ‘hits’ show a pattern and clearly the killer has an agenda. But if Caden and Ava can’t discover what it is, Ava may be next on the list.”

Make sure you visit the church library. There is such a variety of books, surely you will be able to find one or more that interests you.

Jeannette Juffer



Mothers Together

With God in the Middle

Are you a mom of young children? Do you wish there was somewhere you could meet other moms who are facing the same daily challenges that you are? Then Mothers Together is the place for you. Mothers Together is a non-denominational group that meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month during the school year.

Quality child care is available so you can get that much needed “mom time”.

Mothers Together will begin meeting on October 20th at 9am.

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 _____



Being the

Adrian and Bernardeth Bobb-Kelly



Thank you so much for your love, care, prayers, and financial support. COVID-19 is still in Bluefields, yet we continue to pray for each other as we renew our strength with the help of God for **"those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."** Isaiah 40:31.

With the new outbreak of the coronavirus, we are getting more and more kids coming to get their meals. The kids who go to school in the afternoon would pass by, picking up their meal on their way to school, and the ones who go in the morning grab their meal on their way home. We have been implementing various strategies to deliver meals as safely as possible. More and more new faces are coming to the kitchen to look for a meal and we have been making all necessary efforts to provide meals to as many kids as possible. Recently, we have started serving over 240 meals daily and at times we still have kids that may reach out and not get a meal. We are doing our very best to avoid these kinds of situations, but sometimes we just can't help. However, it is not all sad news because we have been able to give these kids avocados. The property near the feeding center in Beholden bears over one hundred avocados. The kids are so happy to eat them. You can see that they surely enjoyed having avocado as part of their meal for that day; yes, this was a special treat for them.



Regarding the villages, thanks to your help, we were able to repair 91 percent of the roof of our home base and clinic in Makantakita village. We

will need to repair the step as soon as possible and replace nine sheets of zinc shortly. We also donated Cassava sticks and Malanga roots to each family to be planted. We donated these because hurricanes Eta and Iota caused a lot of floods and most of their cassava and Malanga plantations were lost. The people were so happy to get some Malanga roots and Cassava sticks to start again with their new plantation. In our recent medical brigade, Adrian asked some families about the cassava plantation and they said that they were more than a foot high above the ground already. The good news is that we were able to get some pictures! Thank you so much for making this possible with your financial support. Therefore, we can say that God is good all the time, and all the time God is good.



Medical teams have been visiting villages and we continue to provide pastoral and medical care along the river. We see approximately 200 patients each time we visit the area. Most of the sicknesses are: diarrhea, headaches, cough, and skin disease, but thank God that we have never seen patients infected with the COVID-19.

Please pray for the safety of the ministry, the safety of our medical brigades, and the safety of our girls as they attend university in Managua, the capital city. We also pray for more financial support to help us face the increasing number of hungry children that is the result of the pandemic and unemployment.



Sportsmen's Devotional

Bible Study Verse

1 Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (NIV)



Thoughts

While I was hunting deer recently, a large black bear approached me. When he was still about 40 yds away, I leaned my muzzleloader against a tree and dug my camera out of my pack.

When about 12 ft. from me, he began to circle, getting inside of 8 ft. At that point, I realized that I had moved several steps away from my gun. If he had wanted to attack, I would have been in trouble. I tried to scare him off, but he wasn't about to leave. Throwing sticks at him, shouting, suddenly raising my arms and trying to look as large and as intimidating as possible seemed to make him more interested.

He studied me for almost five minutes. He had no fear; and I'm sure I could have moved closer--even close enough to touch him. Bear experts say that when a black bear attacks, it will approach very methodically, as if to size you up. In this case, he finally turned and walked slowly away.

Action Point

When Satan approaches a believer, he is more dangerous than a black bear. He is looking for an opportunity to attack. He may circle or hang around for as long as he can. Keep your weapon handy; it's your best defense! The Word of God is more powerful than a two-edged sword. "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart," Hebrews 4:12 (NIV).

Interacting with evil is foolish and risky. Nothing good can come of it. Keep from evil by continually staying in touch with the Lord. Keep Him daily in your mind and heart; and keep His Word on your lips. The prayer that He taught His disciples says, "Deliver us from evil." So ask for His power to help you live in a way that pleases Him. It's your best protection against sin.

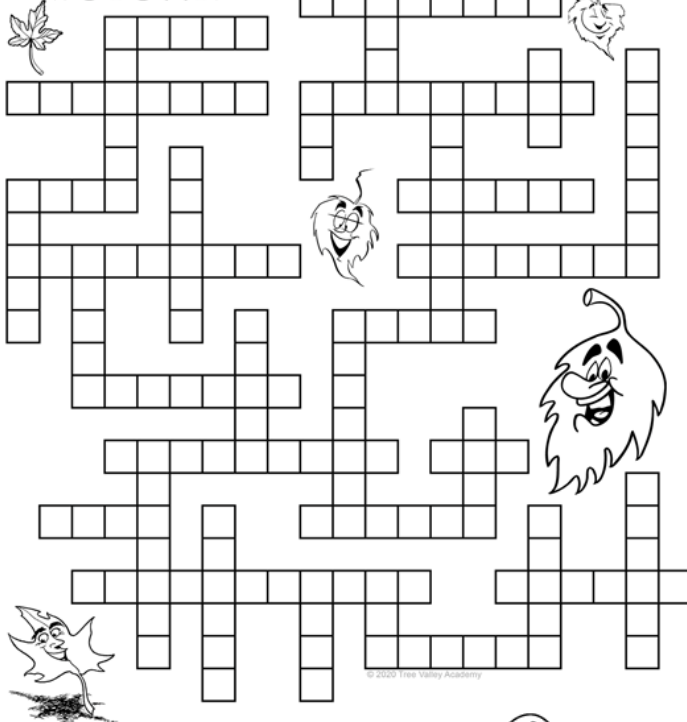
Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

Always assume a black bear is dangerous. In fact, any bear that is habituated to people is an especially dangerous bear. Don't feed a bear. Don't try to touch one. Back away slowly and place an obstacle--perhaps a tree or a vehicle--between you and the bear. If there are children present, stay between them and the bear. Never come between a mother bear and her cubs.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1. Elijah (2 Kings 1:8) **2. Uriah** (2 Samuel 11:2-17) **3. Third Day** (Genesis 1:10-13) **4. Elisha** (2 Kings 2:12-13) **5. Jesus** (John 19:23) **6. Jacob** (Genesis 29:20) **7. Isaiah** (Isaiah 7:14) **8. 17** (Genesis 37:2-3) **9. Malchus** (John 18:10) **10. Samson** (Judges 16:23,27-30)

AUTUMN



3 letters

hay
owl
pie
red

4 letters

cool
corn
maze
pear
rake

5 letters

cider
crisp
quilt
socks
spice
trees

6 letters

apples
autumn
colors
leaves
orange
school
season
yellow

7 letters

falling
harvest
pumpkin
sweater

8 letters

chipmunk
mushroom
orchards
rustling

9 letters

chestnuts
deciduous
pinecones

11 letters

wheelbarrow

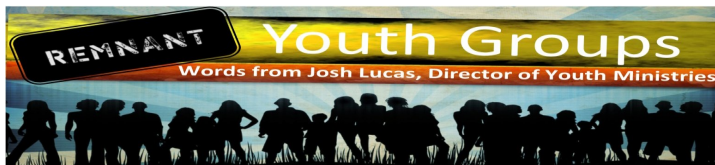
FALL



acorn
apples
autumn
birds
bonfire
changing
leaves
mushrooms
orange
pumpkins
raking
red

colors
fall
football
frost
harvest
jacket
scarecrow
spiders
squirrels
trees
vegetables
yellow

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



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! This will serve as my second to last newsletter article, I will be sure that I have one final article for the next month. Youth group has been off to a great start and we are seeing a good number of students coming out every week, so praise God for that! This year the youth group is doing something a little bit different. They are going to be doing a yearly t-shirt. Instead of them constantly trying to find a t-shirt for each event that they attend one t-shirt overall for the whole year was the easiest decision. With that being said I mailed out a few forms home before youth group started, please make sure to fill those forms out and get them turned in so your child does not miss out on getting a t-shirt. The forms also help the leaders to get to know the students as well. It is very important that those forms get turned in ASAP.

The theme for this year's youth group is called, "Be ready!" This simply means that we as Christians need to make sure that we are always ready for the time when our faith is either going to be challenged or tested. There are always going to be some form of test or challenge that comes in our path, so we always need to be ready for those moments. This year the youth group is going to focus on how to become ready. They will be equipped on how to do so and how to challenge and to engage the culture around them from a biblical perspective.

We're all in a season of change currently. As you have probably heard already, I have decided that my time here at First Reformed Church has reached its end. I will be leaving October 18th, 2021 and I will start working for Minnehaha Corrections October 25th, 2021. I will save my explanation behind this decision and why my new position is not going to be in a formal church setting for next month's article, but for now I just would like to say thank you again. Thank you for showing all of the love and support that you have shown me and my family, and the youth group as well. I love this church, the community, and the people in this community, and we will truly miss all of you greatly. Just remember that if you ever need a hug this big ole teddy bear has one for you!

Blessings,

Josh Lucas

Dad Jokes with Josh:
I thought the dryer was shrinking my clothes.
Turns out it was the refrigerator all along.

Hello! Today is a pleasure to write this letter, and at same time I thank you and the church for your generosity, also thanks for thinking of us, the church of Christ in Lagossette, Haiti.



From Pastor Colas

Sorry about the last time I haven't wrote to thank you guys, I was sick and then my phone broke so I had no way to write this note. Praying for all of you and especially the church as I know you are still looking for the senior pastor for your church. God is good and He will send the right person to lead His church. Thanks for everything. Colas Montrema-Lead pastor, Church of Christ!



Trusting in God's plan doesn't mean you won't cry.
It means the tears won't last forever.
Trusting in God's plan doesn't mean you won't shout why.
It means the Prince of Peace hears you.
Trusting in God's plan doesn't mean you won't carry burdens.
It means He will give you rest when you're weary.
Trusting in God's plan doesn't mean you'll have all the answers.
It means the One who does will walk beside you.
Trusting in God's plan doesn't mean you won't be in darkness.
It means the Light of the World will shine into it.
Trusting in God's plan doesn't mean life will be smooth waters.
It means His gaze will find you in the waves.

IG@kelsey.scism

*"For I know the plans I have
for you declares the Lord."*

Jeremiah 29:11

Loving Our Lord
with Kelsey Scism



Your mailbox may contain multiple items that you need to know about. Be sure to check and empty your church mailboxes so you don't miss out on anything.