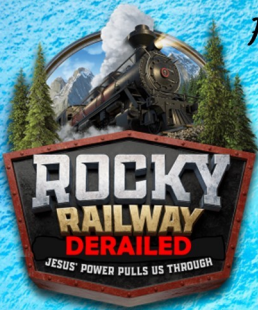


In the Spotlight



Highlights from VBS at Home



September at a Glance

- 13: Bibles distributed to 1st, 5th, 9-12 grade
 - 10:10 am Sunday School resumes
- 14: 6:00 pm Elder/Deacon Meetings
7:00 pm Full Consistory will meet
- 21: Faith Bible Study will not meet
 - Patience Bible Study will not meet
- 23: 5-7pm Drive Up Soup and Pie Supper

*Sunday Mornings:

9:00 am Cornerstone Service
Beginning September 13, 2020
10:10 am Sunday School
11:00 am Open Door Service

*Monday Evenings:

7:00pm Women's Bible Study will meet to study "The Story"

*Tuesday mornings:

Chickadee Quilters are on break

*Wednesday Evening Bible Classes

Beginning September 9, 2020
**Bible Classes will be held at home for the month of September
6:30 1st-5th Grade Bible Class
6:30 MS Remnant in Youth Room
7:30 HS Remnant in Youth Room

CONTACT INFORMATION:
712-754-2783

sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com



View our Website at: sibleyfrc.org



We are moving forward!!! Like me, I am sure all of you are getting tired of how Covid has affected each of our lives. We are all anxious to get back to what would be our new normal. We want to be able to sit in our restaurants, not have to wear mask to go into stores, and get rid of all the other changes we have made.

Some have also been anxious about church getting back to normal. As I share today, I am excited to inform you that we are now moving to Phase Two which will put us closer to normal, with some minor precautions still in place. We are not completely back to what we were doing in March, but we are making progress.

As the consistory voted on August 31 to move to Phase Two we also did a little revision. I would like to share with you what church will now look like.

In Phase 2 we will move to moderate safe distancing. We are still encouraging anyone who feels sick to please stay home. Masks will continue to be optional and we will continue to do deep cleaning between services as well as in our education areas. Greeters at the door will not be shaking hands, but instead, will greet you with a smile and hand you a bulletin, if you wish, when you arrive. Offering will still be placed in the plates at the back of church. We will continue to celebrate communion with pre-packaged wafer/juice combinations.

You will notice some of the pews will be sectioned off for those who still want to social distance themselves. However, many of the pews will be open for you to sit in as you choose. We will place the hymnbooks and Bibles back in the pews as well. The nursery will be opened but will not be staffed so parents, if you choose, you will be able to take your child to the nursery. We are going to limit the number of toys available and after they are used, they will be disinfected. After church, coffee and juice will be offered for anyone who would like to stay and socialize. At this point we will not serve food items. If you feel comfortable shaking hands you are welcomed to do so but please make sure you ask someone before doing so and make sure they are comfortable with it. We will also continue to have our online live services you can find on Facebook.

Children and Worship will be available for first service only. If you want your child to attend you need to go to the first service. We are also opening up all our education opportunities. We will social distance in the classrooms and there will be a staggered time dismissal at the end of their meeting time. We are working to keep our classroom size to under 10. We are also offering up some new curriculum for your child to take home and as parents you will be able to have discussions on real life issues they are dealing with. Please take the time to grow your child to know Christ through these conversations. After each class meets there will be a deep cleaning done in the rooms. When weather permitting, many of the classes will meet outside. High school and Jr. High Youth Group activities will move forward as normal. Josh will be getting information out to all the students and parents about their upcoming year.

As we take this next step and move to Phase Two I want to encourage you to be reminded we are all at a different point as we continue to deal with Covid. Your decision is the right decision. If you wish to continue to watch our services live from your home please do so. We understand and are supportive of your decision. We want you to stay safe. Do that as long as you feel you need to. For those coming to church be mindful that there might be those who are attending that are not as comfortable as you are with social distancing or even a handshake. Please respect where they are at. We are grateful that you are attending. Be careful in the words you choose to speak when you talk to others. None of us should be forcing, intimidating or pressuring someone else to be where you are at.

Our concern for each other and our call by God is to love and respect each person's choices during this pandemic.

I am grateful for you as a congregation and the way we have moved forward. Your financial giving has been an amazing blessing and I hope that God has been challenging you during this trying time. God works all things for the good. We are one step closer to normal. Be patient but celebrate our moving to Phase Two!

I have two other items I would like to bring to your attention as well. The first is our nomination process for Elders and Deacons this year. By the time you receive this newsletter a nomination ballot will be mailed to you for the office of Elder. Please read the instructions on how many to vote for. It will indicate who is eligible and who is not. You will also receive instructions on returning your ballots. You will need to return your ballot either by September 20 when you come to church or drop it off at church the week prior or send it by mail, so we get it before Sunday the 20th. Once we have the Elder slate established we will then send out another mailing for Deacon nominations with instructions and timelines as well.

Because of Covid and knowing not everyone is yet attending church, we felt this was a way in which we could get the entire congregation to be involved in our process. In the meantime, please pray for God's guidance in who to elect for this upcoming year.

Secondly, on October 4, which is World Wide Communion Sunday, we will be having communion once again. We are also going to take a special offering for the Osceola County Ministerial Association. A plate will be set in the back of church specifically for this offering. Due to canceling the Passion Play this spring, and most of the money received is used for the ministry opportunities we do, funds are low. We could use your help.

The Ministerial Association use their proceeds in the following ways:

1. Expenses that we have to make the Passion Play happen. This includes activities for the children involved as well as a financial gift to the school for allowing us to use their facility.
2. In cooperation with the Sheriff's Department we help people who are in need. This might be with groceries, a tank of gas or overnight lodging. Everyone we distribute funds to goes through a background check with the sheriff's department before we help.
3. Along with the giving of churches and individuals we help finance the beginning of the school year backpack programs. This past year we handed out materials, supplies and backpacks to just over 120 students.
4. We help fund special speakers coming into the community and the school. Many of these speakers bring encouragement to our students and information to our parents in the many issues they deal with.

Many great things are happening. God is good! As we move into the fall, lift up our church and our community in prayer. May we find God at work in each of our own lives but also God at work in our church!


Blessings and love!

Pastor Luke

*It's Coffee Time!
With the Pastor!!*



Please join us for a "sit and chat" with Pastor Luke on September 2 at 9:00am.



Stewardship & Giving

**Special offering for September:
Talking Bibles**

Offering Summary through July 26:

- General Fund: \$210,084.95;
Budget: \$291,112; 72% of budget
- Benevolent Fund: \$19,278.67
Budget: \$73,913; 26% of budget
- Building Fund offerings to date: \$1198



Cornerstone Service Greeters

If you are willing to help out with Greeting at the 9am Service, please Text, Call, Message, or email Jamie or call the office. Thanks!!

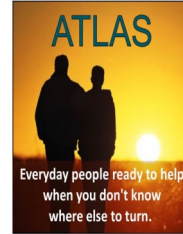
9:00 am Nursery

Sunday School

11:00 am Nursery

The Nursery will be open for use, but will not be manned by the church. Parents please feel free to use the nursery.

Faith In Action for September:



- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Stamps | Individual Sweet-N-Low packets |
| 24 lb Copy paper | Canon ink #240 and #241 |
| 20 lb Copy paper | Hersey's Kisses |
| Single serve chips or snacks | 13 gallon trash bags |
| Bottled Water | 30 gallon trash bags |
| Hand Sanitizer | Grocery or Gas gift cards |
| Pop – all kinds | AA batteries |
| Individual liquid coffee creamer | Disposable masks |
| Individual sugar packets | |

Library Volunteers



- 6 – Ruth Ann Wiersma
- 13 – Jane Buysman
- 20 – Marilyn De Boer
- 27 – Gert Gaalswyk

Fellowship Coffee Servers

- 6: Scott & Jamie Hulstein
- 13: Ger & Barb Van Diepen
- 20: Leona Meendering & Joanne Klaassen
- 27: Larry & Rhonda Riebeling



Willing Hands Group



Willing Hands Group #3

will be responsible for services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

- Jamie/Scott Hulstein
- Sandy/Dave Lamfers



Mothers Together
With God in the Middle

Keep watching your bulletins for update on Mothers Together.

Trivia Time!!!

1. What happened to Jacob when he wrestled with God?
2. How many times did the children of Israel march around the city of Jericho?
3. What was the name of the wilderness in which John the Baptist preached?
4. What caused the large fish to vomit Jonah onto dry land?
5. Who cast down his rod before Pharaoh and the rod became a serpent?
6. Who said, "The dog is turned to his own vomit again"?



Children and Worship Leaders/Helpers

Children and Worship will only be offered during the 9:00am service for right now.



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!!!

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 _____



PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
Like 21:36

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

1. Nick and Sarah Buysman
2. Dave and JoAnn Calsbeek
3. Margaret Calsbeek
4. Dale and Amy Carda
5. Pray for our College Students
6. Pray for our Church
7. Levi and Kira Christensen;
Connor, Riley
8. Ruth and Tom Dagele
9. Parker Dagele
10. Jamiey Daiker; Elliot, Olivia
11. Dale and Marilynn De Boer
12. Pray for our College Students
13. Pray for our Church
14. Larry and Melissa De Boer;
Kalie, Jayden Kendra
15. Le Roy and Glenda De Boer
16. Marcus and Angie De Boer
17. Joe and Nisa deBoom; Delaney, Danika
18. Heath and Wendy De Jong;
Hunter, Dahson, Jahlyn
19. Pray for our College Students
20. Pray for our Church
21. Gary and Sandy De Vries
22. Stan and Abby De Zeeuw;
Keegan, Aiden, Joselyn, Addison
23. Glenn Doorenbos
24. Kelsey Doorenbos
25. Merlin and Karen Doorenbos
26. Pray for our College Students
27. Pray for our Church
28. Paul Doorenbos
29. Cory and Amy Dykstra; Cody, Wyatt, Cole
30. LaVon Dykstra

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 Saylor

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 Saylor

Makayla Tangeman

Jena Van Marel

Troy Soat

Hannah Lucas



Celebrations

~~Birthday's~~

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|--------------------------------------|----|--|
| 1 | Lacey Julius | 19 | Dean Ackerman | 27 | Jo Hielkema
Jim Van Engen
Ross Wiersma |
| 2 | Kayla Hoekstra
Kevin Soat | 21 | Drew Heemstra | | Keyana Gust
Alex McDougall |
| 4 | Michael Wielenga | 22 | Hadley Crichton | 28 | Kathy Verdoorn |
| 5 | Diane Langstraat
Aubrey Hulstein
Dean Van Marel | 23 | Taylor Langstraat | 30 | Gannon Rockman |
| 6 | Hugh Schiphoff
Levi Christensen | 24 | Jodi Wagenaar | | |
| 7 | Makya Dykstra
Brian Altoff | 25 | Alex Zylstra
Emma Langstraat | | |
| 13 | Jackie Tjaden | 26 | Paul Vander Linden
Eileen Schutte | | |
| 14 | Israel Joseph | | | | |
| 15 | Gary Wolter | | | | |
| 16 | Ken Loerts
Luke Heilman | | | | |
| 17 | Donna Sterler | | | | |

~~Anniversaries~~

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|--------|
| 3 | Larry & Rhonda Riebeling----- | 26 yrs |
| 4 | Harold & Shelia Van Der Sloom-- | 56 yrs |
| 5 | Frank & Darcy Martinez----- | 28 yrs |
| 5 | Mitch & Abby Kreykes----- | 15 yrs |
| 8 | Gary & Wilma Leusink----- | 53 yrs |
| 9 | Matt & Missy Julius----- | 14 yrs |
| 13 | Derek & Ashley Heronimus----- | 12 yrs |
| 14 | Jamie & Jennifer Bruxvoort----- | 24 yrs |
| 15 | Dale & Josie Herrboldt----- | 31 yrs |
| 16 | Larry & Melissa De Boer----- | 25 yrs |
| 21 | Dennis & Dar Jurgens----- | 35 yrs |
| 21 | Josh and Heather Tangeman----- | 24 yrs |
| 23 | Bill & LaDonn Hartzell----- | 42 yrs |





For the month of September our education program will be as follows:

- **Wednesday night Bible Class** will begin September 9, for grades 1-5. For the month of September, lessons will be in a take home packet. We are asking parents to do the lessons with your children at home. Packets will be available for **pickup Sunday, September 6 in the Narthex.**
- **Sunday School for Pre-K through High School** will begin September 13. Sunday School will be held outdoors, weather permitting, in Pastor Luke's backyard. We are asking students to bring a towel to sit on and their Bible to class each week. Parents are encouraged to join their students in this new adventure.

College Addresses

Garrett Saylor

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

Jena Van Marel

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

MaKayla Tangeman

9614 University Ave
Unit 202K
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

Hunter DeJong

109 Wilder Place
Ames, IA 50014

Peyton Crichton

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

Paige Hurlburt

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

Kalie DeBoer

815 8th Street
Sibley, IA 51249

Nick and Sara Buysman

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

Jaden Abels

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

Troy Soat

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

Tanner Dykstra

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

Alyssa Wassman

Foundation Residence
Apartments 103
1410 Birch Street
Marshall, MN 56258

Alex Mc Dougall

110 Barton Anders
285 Richardson Ct Rm 110
Ames, IA 50013-0023

Jagger Johnson

535 S 17th Street
Apt. 210
Ames, IA 50010

Grant Brouwer

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

Leah Ackerman

503 10th Ave.
Sibley, IA 51249

Madeline Saylor

920 22nd St
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Cody Dykstra

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

Carson Van Westen

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

Ryan Van Marel

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

Mariah Elser

Ashilyn Hulstein

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

Hudson Feldkamp

230 Dakota Trail
Brookings, SD 57007

Lane Tangeman

502 5th Ave
Sibley, Iowa 51249

Dalton Bremer

100 Daum Hall
Room #5407
Iowa City, IA 52242

If your student will have a different address for the 2019-2020 school year please let the office know.



PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Assisted Living

Ethel Jurgens
Geneva Wissink

Christian Retirement Home

Helen Vander Veen

The Nursing Homes

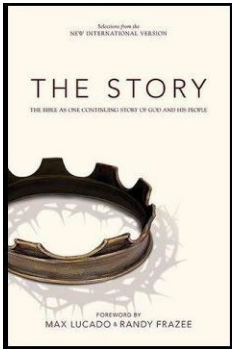
Dutch Kruger
Harold Schram
Margaret Calsbeek
Marlys Brink
Gaylord Kruger

Our Missionaries

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

PRAYER JOURNAL

Lined area for writing prayer journal entries.



Prophets, Priests and Kings

As we continue through the history of the Bible we are leaving the time of the Judges and heading into Israel under the leadership of Kings, Priests, and Prophets. During the time of the Judges, Israel slowly gained control over the land of Canaan—the promised land. The Judges governed the people, working with the priests to ensure that God’s people could flourish. It was a very difficult and troubled time but the people experienced the hand of God leading them.

However, and we should be surprised, Israel was not satisfied with this arrangement. Other nations had kings, and they wanted one and they wanted one now (1 Sam 8:19-20). God gave them the king they wanted, which was Saul. David was God’s choice, and until he came to the throne Israel did not experience all that He planned for their good and His glory. God in his Covenant relationship with his people established a system of governance, a balance of responsibilities and roles. And all three offices pointed the people of God to the future, to the perfect Prophet, Priest and King—Jesus Christ.

Prophets were tasked with speaking God’s Word to the people. They proclaimed God’s truth, occasionally performed miracles, and sometimes revealed God’s plans for the future. They most often called the people to ‘repent’ or be prepared for judgement. Prophets also spent time calling the kings and priests to repentance. Jesus taught the word, he prophesied and performed miracles. **Jesus** not only taught the word of God, he is the WORD of God! (John 1:1)

Priests served as mediators between God and man. The priests offered sacrifices on behalf of the people, offered up prayers to God, and stood between the people and God. **Jesus** is our Mediator and our High Priest: “For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5). Hebrews 4-10 tells us that Jesus is our ultimate High Priest and his priesthood was superior to the Levites.

Kings ruled over the people, providing safety and peace so that the people could worship God. The king would ‘cover’ the people with protection, he would ‘save’ them from their enemies. David was the ultimate Old Testament king—*a man after God’s own heart* (1 Sam 13:14 and Acts 13:22). God also promised that

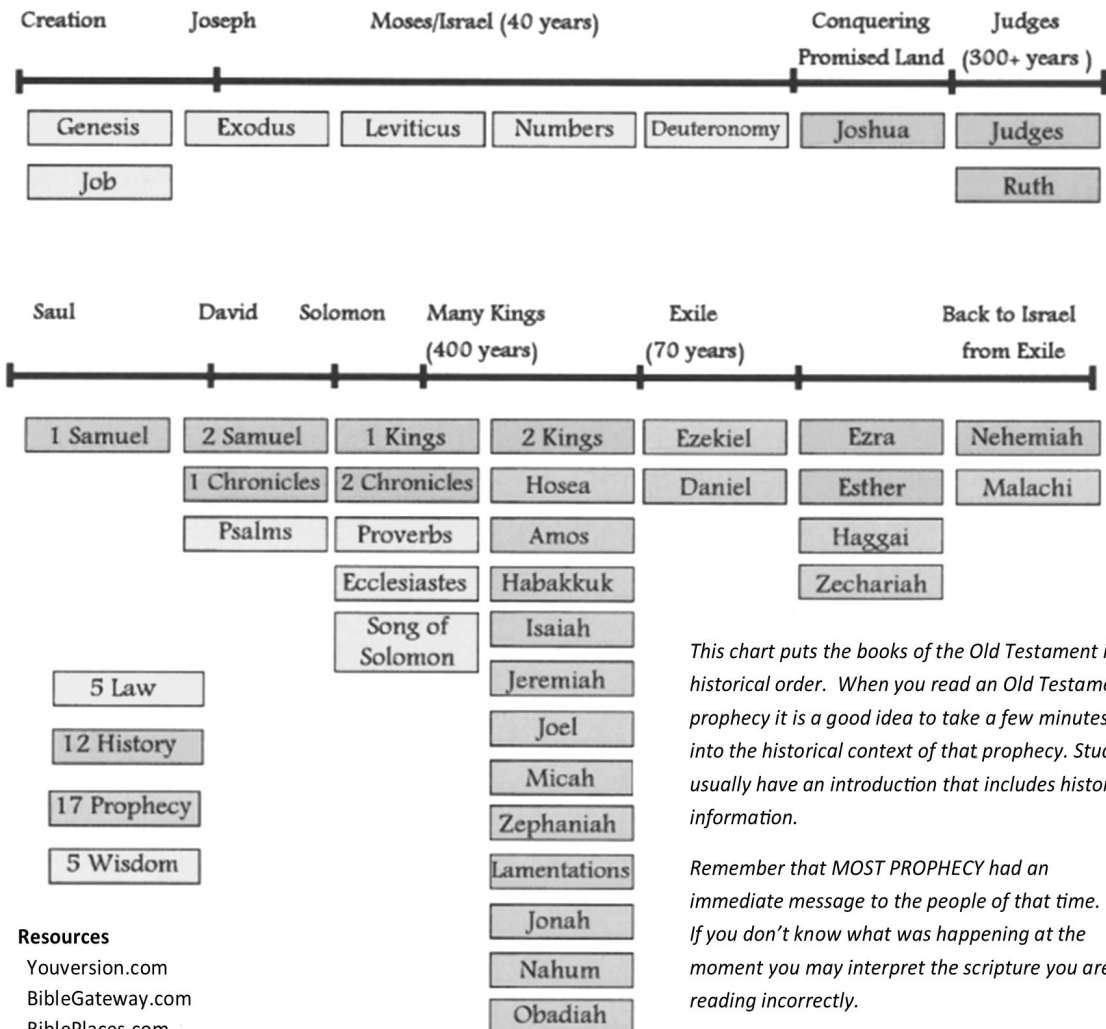
David’s kingdom would last forever (2 Samuel 7:16) and it is in **Jesus** that the promise was fulfilled. He is our king, our redeemer, and he has “all authority in heaven and earth’ (Matthew 28:18).

Normally, the three offices of prophet, priest, and king were distinct from each other, with no overlap. That is, a king was not a priest or a prophet. A priest did not function as a prophet or a king. And a prophet simply did a prophet’s job without trying to be a either king or a priest. They held each other accountable as sinful human beings. But Jesus Christ perfectly fills all three roles simultaneously: He is the Prophet, Priest, and King, to the great blessing of the world.

As you can see on the next page we are going to move through a great deal of history, and many books of the Bible, in a short timeframe.

OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS AND CHRONOLOGY

The Kingdom of Israel did not remain whole. Saul became king in 1050 BC, David became king in 1010 BC and ruled until Solomon became king in 970 BC. The kingdom split in 930 after the death of Solomon. The northern 10 tribes rebelled under the leadership of Jeroboam I, and none of their kings were righteous. This was the Kingdom of Israel. The southern kingdom (Judah) remained faithful to the covenant under the leadership of Rehoboam. The two tribes that remained faithful were Judah and Benjamin. David was of the house of Judah, and Jesus would also come from the tribe of Judah. The covenants, and God's plans of salvation, cannot fail or be thwarted by the desires of men.



This chart puts the books of the Old Testament into historical order. When you read an Old Testament prophecy it is a good idea to take a few minutes to look into the historical context of that prophecy. Study Bibles usually have an introduction that includes historical information.

Remember that MOST PROPHECY had an immediate message to the people of that time. If you don't know what was happening at the moment you may interpret the scripture you are reading incorrectly.

Resources

- Youversion.com
- BibleGateway.com
- BiblePlaces.com

Sportsmen's Devotional

Bible Study Verses

Colossians 1:15-18

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn over all creation. For in Him all things were created: things in Heaven and on Earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the Head of the body, the church; He is the Beginning and the Firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy. (NIV)



Thoughts

Growing up as a teen and a young adult I was heavily influenced by a father who worked hard (still does) and hunted harder.

I came to love the outdoors so much, that the year I made a major career change in 1988, I had taken up to 2 months' vacation time solely to hunt. I lived it and could not be separated from it any more than you could separate my head from my body and I survive.

(Ruben C)

Action Point

Nowadays I still have a passion for the outdoors of course, but I'd have to say that I'm more attached to my family now than hunting. I am a father and there is no separating me from that role any more than you could separate me from my head and I survive (hmmm, I've heard that before!).

As Christians we are also part of a family and we belong to the body of Christ. The head of that body of course, is Him. You are connected to Him. It should be such a tight relationship that nothing should get between you and Him. I am certain that if my body separates from my head, death is imminent. Take the same attitude in your connection with Christ as you take strides to grow in your spiritual walk.

Sportsmens Tip of the Day

Remember when planning your hunts to also prioritize time with your wife and family first. Love them first with your attention and your time and you will have plenty of time for your hunts with what's left. You'll just have to step out in faith with this one!

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1. He became lame (Genesis 32:24-31)
2. Thirteen (Joshua 6:1-4)
3. Judea (Matthew 3:1)
4. God spoke to the fish (Jonah 2:10)
5. Aaron (Exodus 7:10)
6. Peter (2 Peter 2:20-22)

From the library--

New books have been added to the library. Here are synopsis from four of them:

Secrets of My Heart, Willamette Brides #1 Portland, Oregon, 1879. Nancy Pritchard finds herself a widow with a world of problems when her deceased husband's schemes start to come to light. As she searches through the pieces of her loveless marriage, Nancy realizes there is a lot that she didn't know about this man.



Seth Carpenter is a childhood friend of Nancy's who has recently returned to Portland. He's delighted to see her again, and as a lawyer, he is able to help her sort through the legal aspects of her husband's death. But there's more to him than meets the eye, and his job will take him into a darker side of Nancy's life--a side she didn't even know existed. As they search for the truth behind her husband's death, their attraction to each other creates complications, and the threat to Nancy increases. Can Seth be honest with her about who he really is and why he's come to Portland? And can Nancy bear another betrayal?

The Way of Love, Willamette Brides #2 Faith Kenner is pursuing her dream to become a doctor at Willamette University's medical college so she can use her gift for healing to help those in need, especially the native populations forced onto reservations and then neglected. When she meets Andrew Gratton, a handsome riverboat captain who has been injured on his ship, she uses her skills to tend his wound, and a friendship grows between them. Andrew admires her strength and willingness to stand her ground, and Faith appreciates his intelligence and compassion. But Faith holds a secret that means their friendship can never become anything more, so she must bury her feelings for Andrew as best she can.



When her fellow students put together lectures to speak out against Oregon's racist laws and policies, Faith is eager to participate. But some powerful men have other plans for their state, and soon Faith is caught in the middle of a plot to push the local Indian tribes to rebel. As she and Andrew fight for the rights of others, their love for each other grows. Can they trust that God has a way toward love for them, or will her secret stand in the way of their one chance for true happiness?

The Green Dress by Liz Tolsma (Fiction based on strange but true history.) Death plagues the Robinson family. When Harriet Peters came to Boston four years ago, the Robinson family took her in like one of their own, and Harriet became closer to Lizzie Robinson than her own siblings. Now Lizzie is deathly sick, failing quickly just like several others in her family have done over the past few years. How can so many in one family die from the same mysterious illness? Harriet doesn't have answers but she is determined to help the family, bringing in a new-to-the-neighborhood doctor, Michael Wheaton. As Harriet and Michael close in on the answer putting their own lives at risk, can the cause be found before anyone else dies?



One Little Lie, Pelican Harbor #1 by Colleen Coble Jane Hardy is appointed interim sheriff in Pelican Harbor, Alabama, after her father retires, but there's no time for an adjustment period. When her father is arrested for theft and then implicated in a recent murder, Jane quickly realizes she's facing someone out to destroy the only family she has.



After escaping with her father from a cult fifteen years ago, Jane has searched relentlessly for her mother—who refused to leave—ever since. Could someone from that horrible past have found them?

Reid Bechtol is well-known for his documentaries, and his latest project involves covering Jane's career. Jane has little interest in the attention, but the committee who appointed her loves the idea of the publicity. Jane finds herself depending on Reid's calm manner as he follows her around filming, and they begin working together to clear her father. But Reid has his own secrets from the past, and the gulf between them may be impossible to cross—especially once her father's lie catches up with him.



Young Cancer Patient Packs Shoeboxes, Puts Others First



Emma Hemphill, 10, is like a lot of girls her age: her favorite color is blue and she likes to ride her bike, go to the park, and swim. But like only three in a million children her age, she has Ewing's sarcoma—a rare form of bone cancer. Diagnosed on October 3, 2016, Emma was immediately hospitalized and spent all but five days of that first month receiving chemotherapy. When friends from River Oaks Community Church in Clemmons, North Carolina, visited her in the hospital and asked what they could bring her, Emma said she wanted items to put

in [Operation Christmas Child](#) shoeboxes. People brought toys, schools supplies, and hygiene items to her room on the ninth floor of Brenner Children's Hospital in Winston-Salem so she could do just that. "It helped to pass the time," Emma said. But that wasn't the only reason why she did it.

"I love packing them. It's just a lot of fun for me. It makes me feel really good inside. I love helping others," she said. She filled 110 shoebox gifts in the six weeks between her diagnosis and National Collection Week, the third week in November. 'I Just Wanted Them All to Know and Love Jesus.' The shoebox items came from friends, donation boxes set up at her sisters' schools, and a couple trips to the store as a family. When Emma was able to be at home, their living room became shoebox-packing central. "We had stuff for every age and both genders," said Emma's mother, Maegan.

Emma's favorite items included stuffed animals as well as soap and toothbrush holders. But she didn't stop when she had filled the boxes. She prayed over every single one of them, asking God to bless the recipient. "I just wanted them all to know and love Jesus," Emma said. She wanted the boxes to "bring them lots of joy." Maegan added through tears, "Wouldn't it be neat, Emma, when we get to heaven to meet some of the kids who got your shoeboxes?" In the next couple of weeks, Emma's family anticipates hearing where some of their boxes are going because for one-third of them, they opted to [Follow Your Box](#) and discover the destination of their gifts.

Emma's family has packed shoebox gifts for children in need ever since she was little. But they usually packed one for each of the three children (Emma; Grace, 7; and Mary Salem, 4) and sometimes one for her mom and dad, Lee. It wasn't a shock to Maegan that Emma wanted to do more this year. "She's always been a giver," she said. But Emma is not content just to rest on her accomplishments in 2016. "Let's do 150 next year!" When It All Began On Friday, September 30, Maegan returned home from a trip to Raleigh to find Emma hobbling around and complaining that her leg hurt. The next morning, Emma's American Heritage Girls troop had a service project, but she had to sit it out because she said, "I don't feel like I can walk." By Sunday morning, she couldn't walk at all so they brought her to their pediatrician that afternoon. The doctor recommended an X-ray so Maegan brought Emma to the hospital to see an orthopedist. The films showed clear lines on the edge of her tibia, but the edges of the secondary bone, her fibula, were fuzzy.

By 11:00 pm Sunday, Emma was getting an MRI. What was supposed to be a 20-minute test ended up taking an hour and a half. The radiologist kept requesting different views because he discovered a tumor so large that it had fractured her fibula. This was the only symptom of the cancer. All of her bloodwork was normal. By 2:00 a.m. Monday morning, Emma was admitted to the hematology/oncology floor of the hospital. Now Emma rotates between in-patient and out-patient chemotherapy with the goal of getting four to five days off a month. She hasn't managed that ratio so far, however, because she has gotten sick along the way. Any fever can put her in the emergency room. Emma requests prayer that she would remain healthy enough to stay on her current treatment schedule. If she does, she'll be able to be home for Christmas. To receive more regular updates on how to pray for Emma, see her public Facebook group "Prayers for Emma," now nearly 700 members strong. 'What's My Next Project?' With 110 shoebox gifts behind them, Emma and Maegan are now focusing on improving the ninth floor of the hospital where she spends so much time. They're sorting and restocking the DVD library on the floor and looking for other ways to bless the nurses and other patients. "They need a swimming pool in the nurses' station," Emma said in fun. "Or a gumball machine. Or free pizza delivery every Thursday!" These big ideas aside, she is thankful for the time her family spent packing shoeboxes with her this year. With her can-do spirit, she asked, "What's my next project?" Although medical statistics say that Emma's case is among three in a million, Maegan said, "We think she's one in a million!" The children who receive her shoebox gifts will think the same.



DECODER ACTIVITY
Operation Christmas Child Fun Facts

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	.	.	.
										.	.	.



In 2016, nearly _____ million shoebox gifts were collected worldwide.

Over _____ million shoebox gifts have been delivered to children in over 100 countries since 1993.

Every _____, more than 31,000 children hear the Gospel at shoebox outreach events.

Every 20 seconds a child becomes a follower of Jesus during _____



follow-up discipleship program.



Grace Covenant Ministries in Kentucky

2020 has produced a lot of uncertainties. As with the rest of the world, we are wondering what the new normal will be like. COVID-19 continues to be a problem that seems to constantly change our plans. Public schools are scheduled to start August 6, with the Academy on campus starting a week later. We are communicating with parents and local health officials to determine what programs we can sponsor this fall.

Grace Covenant Ministries in Kentucky August 2020 GCM's ministry GCM administers summer Bible camps, after-school programs, thrift stores, marriage seminars, gym ministries, and the Barnabas Home shelter for boys. Tommy Miracle is the executive director of Grace Covenant Ministries. Jake Moss, the former director, has retired but is still involved in fundraising. Learn more at www.rca.org/gcm. During our struggles, we were thankful for the group from Zeeland, Michigan, who worked in the trade store and worked on rehabilitating part of the Hacker Gym into a fitness center. We and our residents are also thankful for donations to the trade stores. We were also blessed with a donation of a used pickup. Thank you for your gifts and your prayers. Please continue to pray that we will be "anxious for nothing."



The "Rock House" was built over 100 years ago. It served as the infirmary for the Institute for many years. For the past 9 years, it has been home to rehabilitation efforts for women facing addiction problems. Presently, the Addiction Recovery Center (KY) has been leasing the building to offer faith-based recovery efforts. Due to various constraints, they had to merge their 12 centers. The center on campus was one of the centers that closed. We do not know if this closure is temporary or permanent. We are thankful for the many who sensed the presence of Christ during their time on our campus. It has been a blessing to continue to hear from women whose lives have been transformed and their family relationships restored. Please pray for wisdom for ministry options for the buildings and for the many who are still struggling with addictions.

Thank you for helping us make a difference one opportunity at a time by sharing the love of God with those we have been called to serve. Jake Moss

GCM's ministry GCM administers summer Bible camps, after-school programs, thrift stores, marriage seminars, gym ministries, and the Barnabas Home shelter for boys. Tommy Miracle is the executive director of Grace Covenant Ministries. Jake Moss, the former director, has retired but is still involved in fundraising. Learn more at www.rca.org/gcm.



Meeting Minutes

Consistory Meeting Highlights

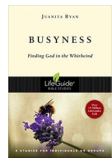
August 31st

- MMSA to approve the use of “48 Sunday School Parent handouts” packs for distribution as well as “Psalms for Kids” for Elementary Sunday school use
- Sermon and Service evaluations were presented for approval. MMSA to approve the sermon and service evaluations, with the implementation plans.
- MMSA to move to Phase 2 in sections A and B with “coffee time” to be beverages only, no food. Non-staffed nursery, Children and Worship during one service (9am). Adding education activities, and increasing seating capacity by method to be determined. Bulletins to be handed out. (Unanimous).
- MMSA to do soup and pie supper in September in a drive up format, taking all recommended food handling precautions.
- MMSA to allow Remnant youth groups to serve pizza for “youth kickoff” food.
- MMSA to have church unlocked Saturday and Sunday mornings, 8 am to noon
- MMSA to approve Nov. 11, 2020 for annual Congregational Meeting
- The Osceola County Ministerial Association requested a special offering to be taken on World Wide Communion Sunday (October 4) to help raise funds for OCMA. MMSA to do this as a special plate set in the back of church for people to contribute to this on that Sunday.
- Alivia Weg, daughter of AJ and Jenny Weg request for baptism Oct 18th, 1st service was approved.
- MMSA the use of church for Britta Harberts and Preston Marco Decorating/Rehearsal/Wedding Thursday, August 26th-Saturday August 28th, 2021. Contingent upon any restrictions placed upon the church building due to public health or other emergencies.
- MMSA to allow the use of Fellowship Hall and Kitchen for Carter Brouwer Grad party on May 15, 2021. Contingent upon any restrictions placed upon the church building due to public health or other emergencies.
- MMSA to mail out ballots to all members, with instructions on how and when to return them, to be announced this coming Sunday (Sept. 6th) with the ballots being mailed out as soon as possible. Ballots should be returned by Sept 20th for elder. Then a 2nd letter with deacon ballots will be sent out to be returned by October 11th.

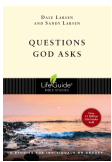
Bible Study Opportunities

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.

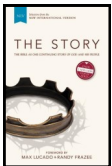
Romans 15:4



Faith Bible Study, who usually meets the third Monday of most months, will not meet in September



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



The Monday Night Ladies Bible Study will be studying "The Story." Grab your book and plan to join us in the Fireside Room Monday nights at 7:00 pm.

Dear Pastor Luke and
First Reformed Church,

Today I am writing to you with great joy and love. I hope God continues to protect you all from COVID.

Thank you for the gift you have sent for me and my church. I hope God will continue to bless you and your church family. I need to apologize for writing this letter so late. I have been sick for a while but thanks to God, I am feeling much better now.

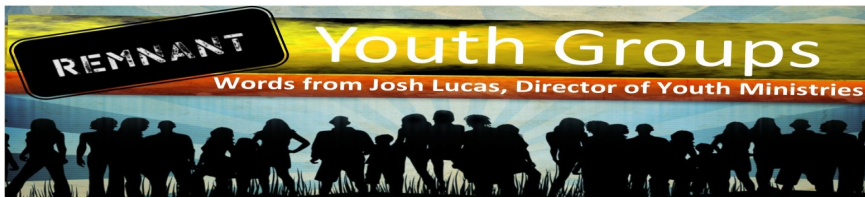
Thank you all for your continued prayers and support, me and my church appreciate it greatly and are very thankful to God for you.

Thank you!



A Note from
Pastor Colas
Montrema

Now
faith
is the substance of
things hoped for, the
evidence
of things not seen
Hebrews 11:1
Spiritual journal



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! It has definitely been an interesting summer. I just want to send out a quick thank you to all of those who helped the youth group this summer to get our summer program going. I could not have done it without you! The youth leaders/sponsors and I are meeting together Saturday the 22nd to discuss our plan for this upcoming school year. By the next newsletter I should have more information about what we are planning on doing for the 2020-21 school year.

I came across something that I wanted to share with all of you this past week! I saw something on social media that I never really knew before. How much we practice “rite of passages” in our culture today. You may have not realized it in your personal life but what do you do for your children when they hit a milestone? Turn 1, start preschool, kindergarten, first grade, sixth grade, ninth grade, and college? We usually have them dressed in their “Sunday best” and take a photo of them that has a sign that says something like, “First day of grade school, middle school, high school, etc.” It is passing them on from one point of life to the next. I remember reading in scripture of the different rites of passage they had. One of the biggest ones that stood out to me was the weaning process at the age of three. This is where mothers would have their children stop breastfeeding and they would eat solely solid foods and no longer be given any breast milk. Not to be mean to the babies, but because it was a time of life where you drank breast milk and now your child is no longer an infant but a toddler. After high school and in some cases after college we give our children to a spouse for the remainder of their lives, and then they have children and the cycle continues.

This was something that brought me almost to tears because of how beautiful our relationship is with our children. We as parents are the ones that are teaching and guiding our children to hopefully know the Lord and to help them understand how beautiful life is. If you are feeling like your children are being too much for you to handle and you are becoming stressed, I just want to encourage you with this: both of you were chosen to be together for a reason. You were chosen to be their parent and they were chosen to be your children for a reason. Take heart and know that God will get you through this stressful time, but do not let this temporary frustration get you down, because you only have limited time with them as infants, toddlers, children, teenagers, and then they are off to college and then getting married. Take advantage of these moments of celebration of your children getting older. In biblical times they had feasts and celebrations for these rites of passage so do not let this time be sad but celebrate and do not waste any time. Thank you all for taking the time to read this and I hope that this was encouraging to you. If you ever need a (distanced) hug, this big ole teddy bear has one for you!

Dad Jokes with Josh:

Mom: Did you take a shower this morning?

Kid: Why? Is one missing?

TWENTY HIDDEN BIBLE BOOKS

Someone showed me this story and re[mark]ed that there are 20 books of the Bible hidden here. He challenged me to find them. Sure enough they're all here. Still this thing's a lulu; kept me looking so hard for the longest time. Some of you will get bogged down with facts, others are hit by them like they were some kind of revelation or something. You may get in a jam, especially since the names are not capitalized and often leap the spaces between the words. This makes it a real job to find them, but it'll provide a most fascinating few minutes for you. Yes, there are some really easy ones to spot, but don't get the big head, cause truthfully, you'll soon figure that it would take most federal judges and preachers numbers of hours to find them all. I will admit that it usually takes a minister to find one of them and that it is not uncommon for there to be loud lamentations when it is pointed out. One lady says that when she is confronted with puzzles like this, she brews a cup of tea to help her concentrate better, but then, this gal's a real pro! Verbs, nouns, and all that stuff are her thing. See how well you can compete. Relax! There really are twenty names of Bible books in this story. If you fail to find me them, there's a penalty. You'll have to fly a kite, sit on a banana, hum "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," or hose a dog (a mean one). Get to it!

Look for:

ACTS HOSEA LAMENTATIONS PETER AMOS JAMES LUKE PROVERBS ESTHER
 JOB MARK REVELATION Gal. – GALATIANS JUDGES NAHUM RUTH HEBREWS
 KINGS NUMBERS TITUS



**HONK IF YOU LOVE
 JESUS TEXT
 WHILE DRIVING IF YOU
 WANT TO MEET HIM**

SUN. SCHOOL 10:00 AM SUN. WORSHIP 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM WED. 7:00 PM