

st The Church Newsletter JULY 2019

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







July at a Glance

4-13: Pastor Luke gone on Vacation 6-14: HS Mission Trip to Texas 8-19: Secretary's office closed **15:** 9:00 am Faith Bible Study

- 4:00 pm Patience Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Elder/Deacon Meetings
- 7:00 pm Full Consistory will meet

20-27: College Mission Trip to Texas

26-28: Power Connection in Minneapolis, MN

21: Communion Sunday

*Sunday Mornings:

9:00 am Cornerstone Service 10:10 am Coffee Fellowship Sunday School is on break until Fall 11:00 am Open Door Service

*Monday Evenings: Women's Bible Study is on Summer break *Tuesday mornings: 8:30 am Chickadee Quilters

*Wednesday Evening Bible **Classes and Youth Groups:** Bible Classes are on break until Fall 6:30-7:15 pm MS Remnant 7:15-8:30 pm HS Remnant

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View our Website at: sibleyfrc.org



Twenty years ago, we were getting closer to moving from 1999 to the year 2000. I recall all the concern and talk of what was possibly going to happen when we moved into the new millennium. There was this great concern that computers were going to crash, we would possibly be without power for a period of time and it would affect the banking system and so much more.

Some people panicked and became what they called "preppers" and went out and stockpiled food, some built underground shelters, bought guns and ammo, and others, moved off the grid. When the year 2000 came, nothing happened. January 1 of 2000 was not much different than December 31 of 1999.

Right now, there is anticipation and uncertainty as to what's going to happen in the RCA. Many of you are aware that the big issue is same sex marriage. Currently the RCA continues to take the stand that marriage is between a man and a woman. As of now we also know there has been conversation about our stance in the future.

As a consistory we have had some discussions about what is currently happening in our denomination. The RCA has asked churches to be patient and let the process play out. It will be at that point that churches can decided what they want to do. We have decided to stay that path for now. What we are seeing are churches that seem to be panicking and have already left the denomination. I know several who have done that including the one my parents go to. That change hasn't currently turned out to be overly beneficial. I know of another church who has moved that direction and is now second guessing if they moved to auick.

We also have churches that are making statements about their stance without knowing the final decision. They also, are showing a lack of trust and patience. All these movements forward are being done based on what they think might happen but with no certainty that they will. Just like the millennium.

Our new General Secretary as well as our new President both take the stance that marriage is between a man and a woman. That would indicate that we will prayerfully come to a decision to not change what has already been established. There is a team of individuals from many of the different classis working on a possible outcome. They are called the "Vision 20/20" team. Twenty individuals discerning a possible direction by the year 2020. Next year at General Synod we will see what happens.

What we do know is that no matter the outcome there will be pain as a denomination and we will see churches leave. People's lives will be affected and I'm sure God will mourn the pain we as Christians will go through. This decision is not about one side winning and then celebrating a victory. It is for us to mourn how it will affect God's people and our witness to the world. Our prayer should be for understanding, compassion and love for any of God's children no matter their sexual preference. Our call is to love our neighbor as God has loved us.

We are committed as a church to work hard to do ministry in a changing world. We want to stay true to the Word of God. We will continue to recognize sin, no matter what it looks like, and call for repentance. However, we need to be compassionate, merciful, caring and loving to those whom God puts into our lives.

I want to encourage you to intentionally pray for our denomination in this coming year. Pray for wisdom, guidance and a decision that will stay true to God's holy and inspired Word and brings honor to Him. Pray for our church as we wait patiently and without panic for what God will do. If you have more questions about what is happening, you can go to the RCA website for more information. www.rca.org or you can talk to me.

Love you all! Pastor Luke





Kids away at camp this month

July 1-3

Tate Hartzell (Grand Camp) McKenna Hesse (Grand Camp) Norah Strouth (Grand Camp) Pauline Van Engen (Grand Camp)

July 8-12

Hadley Crichton (Saddle Up) Danika deBoom (Wilderness) Keegan De Zeeuw (Lodge) Grace Sayler (Saddle Up) Aiden De Zeeuw (Lodge) July 15-19 Addysen Langstraat (Wilderness) Sophia Hisek (Wilderness)

July 22-26

Elijiah Sayler (Wilderness) Levi Sayler (Wilderness) Kendra DeBoer (Discovery 22nd-24th) Gracie Odens (Discovery 22nd-24th) Addison De Zeeuw (Discovery 24th-26th) Joselyn (Discovery 24th-26th)

July 29-Aug 2

Dawson Kreykes (Lodge) Lindy Tracy (Day Camp Explorer)

Cornerstone Service Greeters, 9 am

- 7: West— Keith and Janelle Van Drunen Middle—Jim and Pauline Van Engen East— Joel and Angie Van Gelder/family
- 14:West— Justin and Angela Van Tilburg/family 28: West— Brent and Brenda Wassman/family Middle— David Van Ruler/family East— Harvey and Marcia Van Ruler
- 21: West— Bryan Verdoorn and Roger Verdoorn Middle— Joel and Kathy Verdoorn East— Larry and Alfreda Verdoorn
- Middle— Clayton and Jodi Wagenaar/family East— AJ and Jenny Weg/family

9:00 am Nursery

- 7: Brenda and Alyssa Wassman
- 14: Tanya and Makya Dykstra
- 21: Amy Van Marel and Mary Hustoft
- 28: Brenda and Leah Ackerman

Library Volunteers



- 7: Leanne Van Kely
- 14: Marcia Van Ruler
- 21: Phyllis Vander Linden
- 28: Alfreda Verdoorn

Sunday School Nursery

Sunday School is on break until Fall



Prayer With the Elders

10:00

- 7: Bill Hartzell
- 14: Greg Kosters
- 21: Marlin Roelfs
- 28: Duane Vande Hoef

12:00

- 7: Dick Oldenkamp
- 14: Harold Ernst
- 21: Lawrence Wiersma
- 28: Dale Honken

11:00 am Nursery

- 7: Kathy Runia and Abby Kreykes
- 14: Wendy and Jahlyn De Jong
- 21: Sarah Loerts and Megan Loerts
- 28: Marvella Harberts and Missy Julius

July Willing Hands Group



Willing Hands Group #1 will be responsible for

services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

- Marvella/Lennis Harberts
- Diane/Arnie Langstraat

Fellowship Coffee Servers

- 7: Glenn and Paul Doorenbos
- 14: Ed and Jan Harskamp
- 21: Harold and Mim Ernst
- 28: Harold and Luella Eggink





<u>Children and Worship is on Summer</u> <u>Break and will return next Fall.</u> <u>Have a Great Summer!!</u>



Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD.

Psalm 33:12

After Church Greeters



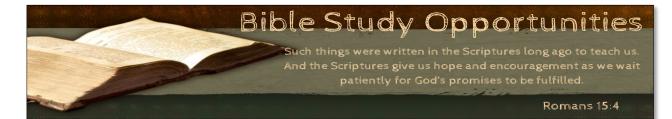
7: SE: Dick Oldenkamp C: Pastor Luke

- SW: Josh Lucas
- BE: Lyle Peelen
- BW: Larry Riebeling

14:SE: Marlin RoelfsC: Cal RuniaSW: Pastor LukeBE: Josh Lucas

BW: Bob Tiedeman

- 21:SE: Duane Vande Hoef
 - C: Paul Vander Linden
 - SW: John Van Diepen
 - BE: Pastor Luke
 - BW: Josh Lucas
- 28: SE: Josh Lucas
 - C: Curt Van Kley
 - SW: Harvey Van Ruler
 - BE: Larry Verdoorn
 - **BW: Pastor Luke**



Women's Bible Study

Faith Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, July 15 at 9:00 am** in the Library. Lesson leader will be Anita Ernst and Jeannette Juffer will serve as hostess. We will begin our new study called "Busyness" by Juanita Ryan. You are welcome to join us as the discussions help us understand the word of our Lord. Here is a quick synopsis of the book: "Much of our busyness is necessary to our survival or to the wellbeing of others and ourselves. In the whirlwind of our lives, however, it may seem impossible to focus beyond the noise of daily demands. We long for a greater awareness of God with us. This LifeGuide study explores ways of conversing with God in the midst of things, so we can see our day's work as the joyful service of kneeling before Jesus."

<u>Patience Bible Study</u>, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday**, July 15 at 4:00 pm. We will continue the study, <u>Couples of the Old Testament</u>, with lesson #7, "David and Abigail." Barb will serve as leader and Jan Juffer as hostess.

Monday Evening Women's Bible Study, will be on Summer Break until Fall.



The Men's Bible Study, is on break until Fall.

Trivia Time!!!

- 1. How many of the clean animals did Noah take into the Ark?
- 2. What was the name of the Bible character who told a riddle about a lion?
- 3. There was a very rich man who was a disciple of Jesus. What was his name?
- 4. What was the name of the queen who was thrown out of a window?
- 5. Solomon said that something "biteth like a serpent, stingeth like an adder." What was it?
 - 6. What was the name of the city where King Ahasuerus lived?
 - 7. David is to sling as Samson is to _____?



Hello First Reformed Church,

Your Devil Crushing Ninja Trainer (Youth Director for short) here to give you all an update on what is happening in youth group and just to offer some type of encouragement. We are continuing youth group throughout the summer so check my door for location and times. Also, if you would like to host a youth group night please feel free to sign up on the calendar on the information center in the Fellowship Hall. The High Schoolers and I are leaving for Texas July 6th and will be returning the 14th for our annual work trip! The Junior High group and I will be leaving for Power Connection July 26th and will be returning July 28th! Those are the biggest things happening in the youth group right now!

As we just celebrated Father's Day this last month I have been reminded of the importance of Fathers. Father is one of the highest honors any man could ever receive in their lifetimes. Being a Father isn't just a man who shares the same DNA as you. A father is one who is there to guide you each and every day. Who will protect you when you feel scared, who will raise you to know Jesus, and who shows respect and honors your mother. Just remember Fathers if you feel like you cannot be a "good enough" father to step children, foster children, adoptive children, etc. Joseph was Jesus' adoptive Father. The role of being a Father doesn't require being the biological father. The role of Father requires: love, discipline, respect, and guidance, which is what we are all called to do as Fathers. Being a Father is not easy it is a very hard job that never ends, but it is one that is so rewarding. Thank you for all that you do Fathers!

Just remember if you ever need a hug this big ole teddy bear has got one for you!

Lots of love,

Josh Lucas

Jokes with Josh:

A man is talking to God. "God, how long is a million years?" God answers, "To me, it's about a minute." "God, how much is a million dollars?" "To me, it's a penny." "God, may I have a penny?" "Wait a minute."



PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- 1. Kevin and Nancy Soat
- 2. Donna Sterler
- 3. Le Roy and Karen Stevenson
- 4. Dave and Lesa Stofferan
- 5. Josh and Heather Tangeman; Makayla, Lane, Kyra, Damon
- 6. Pray for our College students
- 7. Pray for our Church
- 8. Bob and Gladys Tiedeman
- 9. Jared and Jenny Tiedemann; Andrew, Avery, Alex
- 10. Bubba and Sharalyn Tjaden
- 11. Jackie Tjaden; Alexa
- 12. Greg and Tami Tracy; Lindy
- 13. Pray for our College students
- 14. Pray for our Church
- 15. Chad and Megan Travaille; Lawrynn

- 16. Randy and Kelli Van De Berg
- 17. Duane and Pam Vande Hoef
- 18. Paul and Phyllis Vander Linden
- 19. Harold and Shelia Van Der Sloot
- 20. Pray for our College students
- 21. Pray for our Church
- 22. Mark and Kim Van Der Sloot; Damian, Jackson, Keegan
- 23. Helen Vander Veen
- 24. Ger and Barb Ban Diepen
- 25. John and Lois Van Diepen
- 26. Keith and Janelle Van Drunen
- 27. Pray for our College students
- 28. Pray for our Church
- 29. Jim and Pauline Van Engen
- 30. Joel and Angie Van Gelder; Teddy
- 31. Barb Van Hattem

College Students:

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

Lars Ackerman Megan Travaille Peyton Crichton Britta Harberts Andrea Meyer Garrett Sayler Makayla Tangeman Colby Wagenaar Collin Van Diepen

Adam Ackerman Kailey Bruxvoort Lexi Ackerman Sarah Honken Jena Van Marel Troy Soat

Devan Vander Veen Hannah Lucas

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12



PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Assisted Living

Ethel Jurgens Geneva Wissink

The Nursing Homes

Tracy Den Beste Dutch Kruger Lois May Harold Schram Margaret Calsbeek

Our Missionaries

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

PRAYER JOURNAL

- Steve Maraboli www.stevemaraboli.com 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. If the Cancellation is on Sunday, all services and activities will also be cancelled for the day.

Sunday School and Wednesday Night Bible Classes are on break until Fall. Have a great Summer!!

Since we have had a few requests for our College Students' Addresses, we thought we would publish them. Being

Since we have had a few requests for our College Students' Addresses, we thought we would publish them. Being away at college can be a fun time. However, it can be a time filled with uncertainty and loneliness. If you get a chance, go ahead and drop a note in the mail to these students. You never know, it just may be exactly what they needed at that very moment. Parents, if you do not see your child's address listed here please let the church office know so it can also be published next month.

Sarah Honken

1513 So. Grand Ave. Apt. 203 Ames, IA 50010-6649

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Britta Harberts Mathews Hall #270 SDSU Brookings, SD 57007

Garrett Sayler 516 Arizona Ave NE Orange City, IA 51041

Andrea Meyer 1249 Eaton Lawther Ames IA 50012-1064

Colby Wagenaar 1230 1st Street Brookings, SD 57006 Jena Van Marel 8181 Fannin Street Apt. 2531 Houston, TX 77054

Kailey Bruxvoort 416 N Pine Street Burgess #114 Vermillion, SD 57069

MaKayla Tangeman Hagemann Hall 2800 Hudson Road Room #439 Cedar Falls, IA 50613-6702

Hunter DeJong 2026 Hawthorne Drive Fredrickson Court Apt 7223 Ames, IA 50011 Peyton Crichton 2001 S. Summit Ave Mail Box 407 Sioux Falls, SD 57197

Lars Ackerman 519 8th St. Sibley, IA 51249

Paige Hurlburt 702 E Cherry Street Beede #328 Vermillion, SD 57069

Kalie DeBoer 815 8th Street Sibley, IA 51249 Nick Buysman MSC 351 3900 Bethel Drive Saint Paul, MN 55112

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

If your student will have a different address for the 2018-2019 school year please let the office know so we can update our information. Thanks so much!!

Sportsmen's Devotional

Bible Study Verse

Romans 12:10-11

As to brotherly love, kindly affectioned towards one another: as to honour, each taking the lead in paying it to the other: as to diligent zealousness, not slothful; in spirit fervent; serving the Lord.



Thoughts

Today is the day we Americans celebrate our costly freedom. Each and every family has lost precious family members who have fought, returned with physical and emotional scars or died for our heritage and our freedom. In honor I say "THANK YOU" to those who gave their lives, those who have served, and those who are serving in the United States armed forces. What an honor it is to be an American and to be blessed with our freedoms that are in jeopardy.

The privilege of hunting is one freedom that we never thought might be taken from us without our consent. It is a current threat here in America. In my family, we eat what we hunt. In these slim times, we thank God for the food and the health to seek it. The money we spend for a hunting license and the tag goes to wildlife conservation. Before this was in place, many a deer died from starvation from a severe winter and a lack of food. This is a cruel death.

Action Point

Many have given their lives to protect and to preserve our freedom. One life is so precious and the highest price to pay. Our military serve with the right spirit. Today take the lead by sincerely voicing appreciation, shaking hands, and saying "THANK YOU" to anyone who has served or are serving in the military.

Gather with friends and family and watch NRA's Life of Duty *Defending Our America*. There are 9 short episodes. We are not being told by the liberal media what is going on and why the amount of crime that is increasing here in America. This should wake up those who are sleeping.

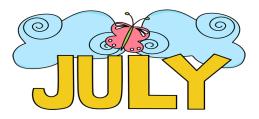
Remember, Jesus Christ paid the price for our eternal freedom with His life. Then in His infinite wisdom, He lives within our hearts and walks us through this life to Heaven. He will never leave you, forsake you, and has promised to always love you while meeting your every need. What an awesome win, win freedom. You have one requirement. You have to ask Him to forgive you for your sins and accept His free gift of salvation.

Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

As important as the role of the president is, it is not up to the president to make sure that we remain a "good" nation, a "Christian" nation. That task is up to us. We the people will determine what is "good". We are the ones who can call the nation to revival, to turn, and to be saved. We need to be sure that those who represent us represent our values (as well as our position on hunting and fishing). It' going to take everyone of us to pray, to fast, and to change this country's leadership back to those we can trust and follow.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1. 7 pairs of clean and 1 pair of unclean (Genesis 7:2) 2. Samson (Judges 14:12-14) 3. Joseph of Arimathea (Matthew 27:57) 4. Jezebel (2 Kings 9:30-33) 5. Wine (Proverbs 23:31,32) 6. Shushan (Esther 1:2) 7. The jawbone of an ass (1 Samuel 17:40; Judges 15:16)



Celebrations

~~Birthday's~~

- Hannah Lucas 1 Ryan Soat Caleb Wagenaar
- Roger Verdoorn 4
- 5 Leah Ackerman
- 6 Gary Leusink Aiden Ver Steeg
- Cole Van Tilburg 7
- Ted Schutte 8
- Jan Juffer 9
- 10 Megan Ackerman Andrea Meyer
- 11 Lesa Stofferan
- 12 Joel Verdoorn Mackenzie Wynia
- 13 Jared Kruger Breann Ross Josh Tangeman
- 14 Mark Hulstein Ryan Wiersma
- 16 Shelia Van Der Sloot
- 17 Elliot Daiker
- 18 Scott Dykstra Clark Haken Austin Wassman Shannon Michelson

- 19 Olivia Daiker Karen Stevenson
- 20 Sarah Honken Troy Soat
- 21 Rhonda Henrichs
- 26 Bob Tiedeman
- 27 Ashley Johnson Delaney de Boom

- 28 Jamie Klaassen
- 29 Keith Van Drunen Wilma Loerts
- 31 Paisley Kreykes Angie Ackerman Carson Van Westen

have found hom my

- 5 Heath and Wendy De Jong 9 Robert and Janice Groen 11 Harold and Luella Eggink 12 Duane and Pam Vande Hoef 13 Kevin and Twila Heemstra 16 Ray and Ellen Schram 20 Larry and Alfreda Verdoorn 21 Le Roy and Karen Stevenson 22 Dave and Jessica Mc Dyer 23 Derek and Megan Ackerman 23 Dr. Greg and Deb Kosters 24 Harvey and Marcia Van Ruler 24 Pastor Luke and Chris Schouten 24 Tim and Jodie Kruger 25 Jon and Amy Elser 27 Mark and Melissa Langstraat 29 Kevin and Laurel Klaassen
 - 20 years
 - 42 years
 - 54 years
 - 45 years
 - 34 years
 - 63 years
 - 54 years
 - 47 years
 - 13 years
 - 3 years
 - 39 years
 - 49 years
 - 37 years
 - 20 years
 - 21 years

 - 17 years 25 years

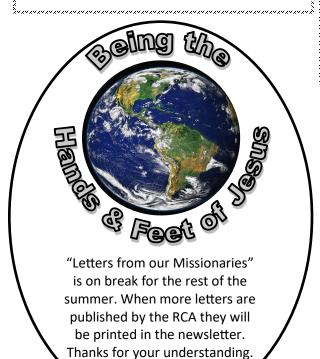


We are on Summer Break until Fall. Have a great Summer!!



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. Secret Sisters is a great way to encourage someone and lift them up. Thanks for participating Sisters!!!



July 7 --- "Love your neighbor as yourself."-Matthew 22:39, NIV

July 14 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."- Philippians 4:6, NIV

July 21 — "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 4:7, NIV

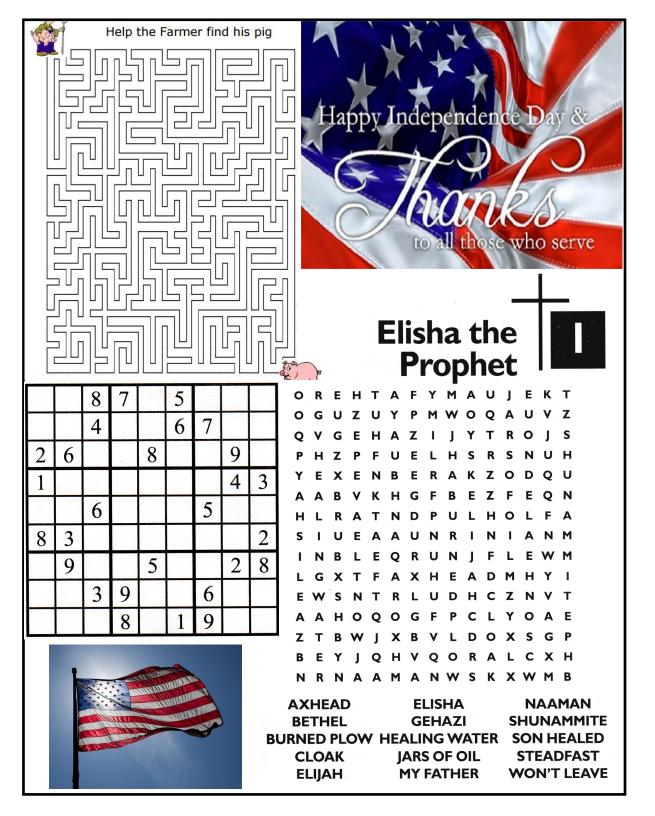
July 28 -- "Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him." -Proverbs 30:5, ESV



Summer Youth Group Time.

- Middle School will meet: 6:30-7:30 pm
- High School will meet: 7:30-8:30 pm
 - No Meeting July 3







Consistory Meeting Highlights June 17, 2019

Elder Meeting 6:00 pm

- MMSC to approve request of Marcia Oldenkamp to reserve the kitchen and fellowship hall Saturday, November 9, 2019, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a bridal shower for her niece, Maggie Dykstra.
- MMSC to approve the request for baptism for the two children of Jeremy and Elyssa (Hayenga)
 Houtsma—Anastasia Houtsma and Reagan Houtsma, of Sioux Falls.

Full Consistory 7:00 pm

- Communications from RCA were discussed, including the request to lift refugees up in prayer on June 23, 2019.
- Greg Tracy reported that the 2nd quarter bills are paid. Thanks was expressed for those members who gave extra to cover camp registrations that exceeded budgeted amounts.
- Brief discussion was had on General Synod held in Holland, Michigan, and the East Sioux Classis' desire to abide with the Synod's recommendation to be patient and withhold action until the work of the Vision 2020 team is done and it makes its recommendation to General Synod next year at the meeting in Orange City.

