



**First Reformed Church**  
 Glorify  
 Grow  
 Go  
 Sibley, Iowa


# The Newsletter

December 2018

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



Over 100 children were blessed by the generous outpouring of your love.  
 Thank you to everyone who participated!!



## December at a Glance

**2:** Communion at both services  
**5:** 9:00 am Coffee With the Pastor  
**12:** 9:00 am Mothers Together  
**16:** 9:00 am Combined Worship  
 • 11:00 am Christmas Program  
 • 2:00 pm Atlas Christmas Cantata Fundraiser at the Sibley-Ocheyedan High School  
**17:** 10:30 am Faith Bible Study  
 • Patience Bible Study  
 • 6:00 pm Elder/Deacons meeting  
 • 7:00 pm Full Consistory  
**23:** No Sunday School  
**24:** 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service  
**25: Merry Christmas!!**  
**26:** No Mothers Together  
 • No Wednesday Night Activities  
**30:** No Sunday School

**\*Sunday Mornings:**  
 9:00 am Cornerstone Service  
 10:10 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School  
 11:00 am Open Door Service

**\*Monday Evenings:**  
 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

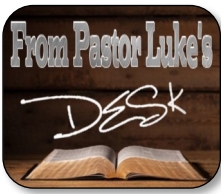
**\*Tuesday Mornings:**  
 8:30 am Chickadee Quilters

**\*Wednesday Evening Activities:**  
 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Classes G. 1-5  
 6:30-7:30 pm MS Remnant  
 7:30-8:30 pm HS Remnant

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



View our Website at: [sibleyfrc.org](http://sibleyfrc.org)



The cold has come, the snow has already fallen, and we enter into a new season once again. The farmers have now harvested their crop and we prepare for winter. As we move through life we are constantly experiencing the changing of the seasons. Even within our own life we have season changes. For some it is new relationships. Others marriage. We see parents experiencing a new child. Children are now moving into school, then middle school then high school and then college. Some have become grandparents for the first time, others for the twentieth! Still others have experienced the loss of a loved one and they are sorely missed. We experience issues in our health, relationships and maybe even jobs. Nothing today is the same as it was a year ago.

Some of those changes have been wonderful and are full of blessing. Other have been painful and we would like to quickly forget. We even have experienced a season of change here at church. We have experienced blessing and we have experienced challenge. We have seen new life and experienced death. We have seen people grow in their relationship with Christ and others struggling. The list can go on.

The challenge we face is how can we continue to remind people that one thing never changes. That one thing is God himself. No matter what happens within our own lives or within the life of the church, God will be constant and consistent. His mercy and grace will abound, His love will always be unconditional, and forgiveness will be given.

We live in world of change, but it is God who brings stability, peace and hope. His love is everlasting and never ending. Throughout the end of the year and into 2019 we have the greatest opportunity to make Jesus Christ come alive to those around us. We are surrounded with people who don't know Jesus, are maybe resistant to change, or simply don't know how to draw him closer.

Over the past several months I have been prayerfully seeking God with direction for this church. What is our purpose? Who are we to be? What vision or goal do we have in mind? I feel like God is shedding some light but am not quite there yet. Here is where I need your help. I want to challenge you to intentionally pray that our leadership will be able to see a vision for this church and that God than would lead us to cast that vision, and then work towards fulfilling it.

Pray for an openness of heart to what that might look like and if change needs to take place that we are willing to break from the past to make it happen. I think all of you would agree that the church today is not about meeting our needs. The church we are a part of has the goal to continue to be effective in doing ministry, changing lives and bringing people to Christ for generations to come.

So, dream a little. What would you like to see from this church in 5, 10, 20, 50 or 100 years from now? What impact would you like it to have on you, your children, your neighbors, this community and the world we are now living in? How can you be an instrumental part in growing the kingdom of God and creating people who are truly disciples of Christ.

My prayer is that as we enter into 2019 we will begin to establish a clear vision and then do what is necessary to reach for that vision. Every season comes and goes. Some of you are looking forward to the snow. Me personally, am not. But what I do know is that there will eventually be a new season and with that the change that I know will be good. Why? Because God is in control!!

God is faithful, he is never changing, and he is good. Commit to pray for this church, our leadership and our people and let's get excited in what God will do with us as we move into a new season!!

Christmas Blessings and Love!!!!

Pastor Luke

***But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory. Hebrews 3:6***



**December  
Faith In Action:  
Sharing Christmas  
Families**



**Gifts need to be brought  
to church by:  
December 16**

 **Stewardship & Giving**

**Special offering for November: Talking Bibles**  
Offering Summary through November 25  
General Fund: 324,857.01;  
Budget: 311,308; 104% of budget  
Benevolent Fund: 71,537.14;  
Budget: 108,215; 66% of budget  
Building Fund: 2035.00;  
Budget: 54,210; 3% of budget

Want to contribute?  
Scan here with your  
smart phone to link to  
our online donation page!



**Trivia Time!!! Christmas Quiz**

1. What does Jesus' other name, "Emmanuel", mean? (Matthew 1:23)  
**A) God with us B) He who is God C) Son of God D) Anointed One**
2. The wisemen traveled \_\_\_\_\_ to Jerusalem. (Matthew 2:1)  
**A) Northward B) Southward C) Westward D) Eastward**
3. How many wise men brought gifts to Jesus?  
**A) 2 B) The Bible never says C) None D) 3**
4. What gift did the wise men NOT give Jesus? (Matthew 2:11)  
**A) Gold B) Silver C) Frankincense D) Myrrh**
5. What was Jesus' approximate age when the wise men presented Him with gifts?  
**A) 6 years B) 10 years C) 12 years D) less than 2 years** (Matthew 2:16)
6. To where did Jesus' family flee from Bethlehem? (Matthew 2:12-15)  
**A) Samaria B) Greece C) Egypt D) Nazareth**

## Cornerstone Service Greeters, 9 am



- 2:** West—Derek and Megan Ackerman  
Middle—Mitch and Angie Ackerman/family  
East—Brian and Chelsey Alexander/family
- 9:** West—Justin and Angela Van Tilburg/family  
Middle—Bobby and Dee Baker  
East—John and Sharon Bartels
- 16:** West—Gretchen Bartelson and Marlys Brink  
Middle—Troy and Meggan Block/family  
East—Travis and Jill Boeke/family

- 23:** West— Daphne Bremer/family  
Middle—Jerrad and Tracee Brouwer/family  
East—Jamie and Jennifer Bruxvoort/family

### *Christmas Eve Service (6:00pm)*

- 24:** West—*Jo Ann and Margaret Calsbeek*  
Middle—*Nate Buysman/family*  
East—*Dale and Marilynn De Boer*

- 30:** West—LeRoy and Glenda De Boer  
Middle—Marcus and Angie De Boer  
East—Joe and Nisa de Boom/family



### 9:00 am Nursery

- 2:** Tanya and Makya Dykstra  
**9:** Amy Van Marel and Mary Hustoft  
**16:** Daphne Bremer and Dalten or Tayler  
**23:** Brenda and Leah Ackerman  
**24: Christmas Eve (6:00 pm)**  
**Wilma Leusink and Andrea Leusink**  
**30:** Laurel and Natalie Klaassen

### Sunday School Nursery



- 2:** Jan Henrichs  
**9:** Sandy Lamfers  
**16:** **No Sunday School due to Program**  
**23:** **No Sunday School (Christmas Break)**  
**30:** **No Sunday School (Christmas Break)**



### 11:00 am Nursery

- 2:** Chrissy Ackerman and Heather Tangeman  
**9:** Melissa De Boer and Sami Fox  
**16:** No Open Door Service (Christmas Program)  
**23:** Kathy Runia and Abby Kreykes  
**30:** Wendy and Jahlyn De Jong

### Library Volunteers



- 2:** Beth Hulstein  
**9:** Jamie Hulstein  
**16:** Mary Hustoft  
**23:** Jan Juffer  
**30:** Jeannette Juffer

### Prayer With the Elders



#### 10:00

- 2:** Marcus De Boer  
**9:** Lawrence Wiersma  
**16:** Dale Honken  
**23:** Bill Hartzell  
**30:** Heath De Jong

#### 12:00

- 2:** Heath De Jong  
**9:** Lennis Harberts  
**16:** Duane Vande Hoef  
**23:** Dick Oldenkamp  
**30:** Marcus De Boer

## December Willing Hands Group



**Willing Hands  
Group #6**  
will be responsible for  
services during the month.

### Co-chairpersons are:

- ◆ Peg and Curt Van Kley
- ◆ John and Lois Van Diepen

## Fellowship Coffee Servers



- 2:** Scott and Marlys Dykstra  
**9:** Duane and Pam Vande Hoef  
**16:** Lawrence and Ruth Ann Wiersma  
**23:** Glenn and Paul Doorenbos  
**30:** John and Sharon Bartels

## Children and Worship Leaders/Helpers



### Cornerstone Service 9:00 am

- 2:** Leader: **Deb Kosters**  
Helper: Ashilyn Hulstein  
**9:** Leader: **Jamie Hulstein**  
Helper: Family of Olivia Daiker  
**16:** Leader: **Deb Kosters**  
Helper:  
**23:** Leader: **Deb Kosters**  
Helper: Karissa Hulstein  
**30:** **No Children and Worship**

### Open Door Service 11:00 am

- 2:** Leader: **Deb Kosters**  
Helper: The Family of Grace Hoekstra  
**9:** Leader: **Deb Kosters**  
Helper: Jahlyn De Jong  
**16:** **No C&W due to Christmas Program**  
**23:** Leader: **Deb Kosters**  
Helper: The Family of Kalen Heronimus  
**30:** **No Children and Worship**

## After Church Greeters



- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>2:</b> SE: Josh Lucas<br>C: Larry Verdoorn<br>SW: Lawrence Wiersma<br>BE: John Bartels<br>BW: Pastor Luke | <b>16:</b> SE: Harold Ernst<br>C: Pastor Luke<br>SW: Josh Lucas<br>BE: Henry Fisher<br>BW: Stan Gaalswyk   | <b>24:</b> SE: Dale Honken<br>C: Dan Janssen<br>SW: Dr. Greg Kosters<br>BE: Pastor Luke<br>BW: Josh Lucas  |
| <b>9:</b> SE: Pastor Luke<br>C: Josh Lucas<br>SW: Marcus De Boer<br>BE: Heath De Jong<br>BW: Ron Dykstra     | <b>23:</b> SE: Lennis Harberts<br>C: Ed Harskamp<br>SW: Pastor Luke<br>BE: Josh Lucas<br>BW: Bill Hartzell | <b>30:</b> SE: Josh Lucas<br>C: Arnie Langstraat<br>SW: Ken Loerts<br>BE: Ed Meendering<br>BW: Pastor Luke |

# 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

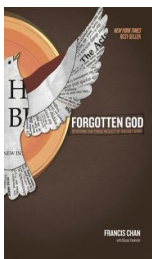


**Faith Bible Study**, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, December 17 at 10:30 am** in the Library. Hostesses are Jeannette Juffer and Anita Ernst. We will watch the DVD “ANGELS Their Power, Purpose and Presence” by Pat Roberson. Following the video we will have a Potluck Salad Luncheon. There is always room for more so join us!!

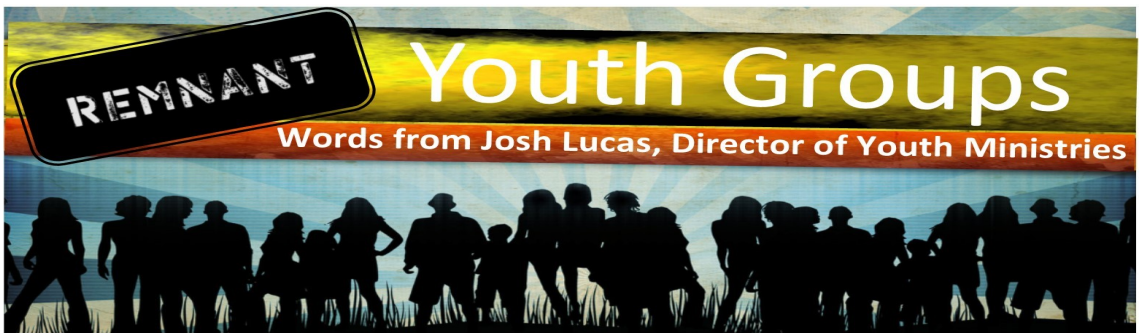
**Patience Bible Study**, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, December 17. at 11:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall for a Christmas salad luncheon.

**Monday Evening Women's Bible Study** in the Fireside Room. Christmas is approaching and it is a time to prepare our hearts for this holiday. We will be doing a video series on “The Christmas Experience” by Kyle Idleman. This study will involve a video and discussion weekly for 6 weeks as we look to find ourselves in the Christmas story. Please join us.

**Sunday Morning Women's Sunday School Class**, who meet on the north side of the west end of the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 10:10 am, will continue their six-session video-based study, **Let. It. Go.**, from author and popular speaker Karen Ehman. Women are wired to control life's details. This video series aims to give women practical, biblically based steps for letting go of the need to control, dictate, and even manipulate the people and situations around them, and instead, trust that God has their best interests in mind. All women are welcome!



**The Men's Bible Study**, who meets on the south side of the west end of the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 10:10 am, are doing a video study by Francis Chan entitled, *Forgotten God*. This video series will help remind us of the true source of the church's power—the Holy Spirit. Chan contends that we've ignored the Spirit for far too long, and that without Him, we operate in our own strength, only accomplishing human-sized results. This video offers a compelling invitation to understand, embrace, and follow the Holy Spirit's direction in our lives. Hope to see you there!



Hello First Reformed Church,

Your wacky Devil Crushing Ninja Trainer (Youth Director for short) here to give you all an update on what is going on in youth group, and to hopefully give you some encouragement! First, before we get things rolling I just would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and I hope your Thanksgiving was full of turkey, stuffing, mashed taters, and of course pumpkin pie! I also hope and pray that you all were blessed by the family time! Hopefully you enjoy this newsletter and get tons of information from it! Buckle your seat belts cause here we go!

The youth groups are doing very well right now. We have recently started a new Bible Study. I am titling it, "Defending the Faith." This is where we talk about the issues of the culture and really see if the Bible talks about the issues and what we can do as Christians to defend them. Hannah and I are also teaching a class on Sunday evenings from 4-5 for youth group students the more practical ways of defending the faith. So essentially Wednesday night we study the Bible aspect of the issue and then on Sunday we discuss the practical ways of refuting the claims. If you would like more information on this please come and see me in the office.

We are also doing fundraisers right now for Power Connection and our upcoming mission trip both happening next Summer. Thank you all so much for the amazing support each of you show the youth group. We are not able to do the things we do without the help of our congregation and of course the awesome power of God!

I would like to close this letter out with some encouragement. I was watching a movie the other day. It was called, "Rocky II." It is the sequel to the award-winning film, "Rocky." In this film, there is a part where Rocky who is getting ready for a big rematch against the champion of the world, and Rocky is not training very hard. His trainer Mick tries to encourage Rocky by saying, "For a forty-five-minute fight you have to train hard for forty-five thousand minutes. Forty-five thousand. And you haven't trained one." When I heard that I was reminded of my life as a Christian. We are in a battle every day. What are we doing to prepare for this battle? Are we training really hard to get ready for this battle? Are we reading our Bibles? Are we attending Bible studies? Are we attending church to learn, worship the Lord, and to fellowship with other believers? If we are not willing to put in the work and train for this battle we will lose. Train hard and always be on your guard! If any one of you need a hug this big ole' teddy bear has got one for you! Remember they're free!

With Lots of Love,  
Josh Lucas

**Jokes with Josh:**

**Q-** Why can't you give Elsa a balloon?

**A-** Because she will let it go.



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.**

### Education Dates To Remember:

- **Dec. 26: No Classes or Remnant** due to Christmas Break
- **Dec. 16:** 3 year old - 5th grade Sunday School Christmas Program at 11:00am
- **Dec. 23 and 30: No Sunday School Classes** due to Christmas Break  
*Teachers are still needed for the year!! You can access the signups via our website by clicking on the Children tab or by checking the Information Center in the Fellowship Hall.*

# College Addresses

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

**Jena Van Marel**  
 8181 Fannin Street  
 Apt. 2531  
 Houston, TX 77054

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

**Kalie DeBoer**  
 815 8th Street  
 Sibley, IA 51249

**Britta Harberts**  
 Mathews Hall #270  
 SDSU  
 Brookings, SD 57007

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

**Collin Van Diepen**  
 1306 11th Ave. SW  
 Watertown, SD 57201

**Nick Buysman**  
 MSC 331  
 3900 Bethel Drive  
 Saint Paul, MN 55112

**Garrett Saylor**  
 516 Arizona Ave NE  
 Orange City, IA 51041

**MaKayla Tangeman**  
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**Paige Hurlburt**  
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 1101 W 22nd Street  
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 Sioux Falls, SD 57105

**Andrea Meyer**  
 1249 Eaton Lawther  
 Ames IA 50012-1064

**Hunter DeJong**  
 2026 Hawthorne Drive  
 Fredrickson Court Apt 7223  
 Ames, IA 50011

**Colby Wagenaar**  
 1230 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
 Brookings, SD 57006

**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!!**





# READ — THROUGH — THE BIBLE IN *365 Days* CHALLENGE

Well you have made it to the last month of the 365 day challenge. So how did you do? If you fell behind that is ok, just pick up where you left off. Starting in January I would like to do something different to help us dig into the Word more. If you have any suggestions for this page, please let the office know. We hope you have enjoyed your 365 Day Challenge!

December 1  
1 Corinthians 9-11

December 10  
Romans 11-13

December 19  
Titus 1-3

December 28  
Revelation 1-5

December 2  
1 Corinthians 12-14

December 11  
Romans 14-16

December 20  
1 Peter 1-5

December 29  
Revelation 6-11

December 3  
1 Corinthians 15-16

December 12  
Acts 20:4-23:35

December 21  
Hebrews 1-6

December 30  
Revelation 12-18

December 4  
2 Corinthians 1-4

December 13  
Acts 24-26

December 22  
Hebrews 7-10

December 31  
Revelation 19-22

December 5  
2 Corinthians 5-9

December 14  
Acts 27-28

December 23  
Hebrews 11-13

December 6  
2 Corinthians 10-13

December 15  
Colossians 1-4;  
Philemon

December 24  
2 Timothy 1-4

December 7  
Acts 20:1-3;  
Romans 1-3

December 16  
Ephesians 1-6

December 25  
2 Peter 1-3; Jude

December 8  
Romans 4-7

December 17  
Philippians 1-4

December 26  
1 John 1-5

December 9  
Romans 8-10

December 18  
1 Timothy 1-6

December 27  
2 John; 3 John

# PRAYER LIST

BE A  
*Prayer*  
WARRIOR

## PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- 1: Pray for our College Students
- 2: Pray for our Church
- 3: Tom and Jennifer Braun; Rylan, Tate, Kohen
- 4: Tammy Breitweiser; Andrea Leusink
- 5: Daphne Bremer; Dalten, Tayler
- 6: Randy Bremer
- 7: Marlys Brink
- 8: Pray for our College Students
- 9: Pray for our Church
- 10: Jerrad and Tracee Brouwer;  
Grant, Carter, Madison
- 11: Jamie and Jennifer Bruxvoort; Kailey,  
Brayden, Logan, Ella
- 12: Jane Buysman
- 13: Nathan Buysman; Nick, Lydia
- 14: David and JoAnn Calsbeek
- 15: Pray for our College Students
- 16: Pray for our Church
- 17: Margaret Calsbeek
- 18: Dale and Amy Carda; Faye
- 19: Levi and Kira Christensen; Connor
- 20: Tom and Ruth Dagal; Parker
- 21: Jamiey Daiker; Elliot, Olivia
- 22: Pray for our College Students
- 23: Pray for our Church
- 24: Dale and Marilyn De Boer
- 25: Larry and Melissa De Boer;  
Kalie, Jayden, Kendra
- 26: Le Roy and Glenda De Boer
- 27: Marcus and Angie De Boer
- 28: Joe and Nisa deBoom; Delaney, Danika
- 29: Pray for our College Students
- 30: Pray for our Church
- 31: Heath and Wendy De Jong; Hunter, Dahson,  
Jahlyn

### 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

Meggan Block

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

Ignacio Romero

Devan Vander Veen

Owen Wiese

Hannah Lucas



*Be joyful in hope, patient in  
affliction, faithful in prayer.*

*Romans 12:12*







# Mothers Together

With God in the Middle

Do you ever wish you had a place where you could connect with others who have experienced the same parenting issues that you have? Want some time to relax, recharge and make new friends? Then Mothers Together is just the place for you.

Mothers Together meets at First Reformed Church of Sibley from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Mothers Together provides excellent child care while moms get the break they deserve. Mothers Together is a non-denominational group. We hope you will make plans to join us!!

## Meetings this Month

- **December 12: A Christmas Celebration**
- **December 26: MT will not meet**



***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!!!

## *Advent: Between Already and Not Yet*

### *December Sermon Series*



- December 2: Between Already and Not Yet -- Hope**
- December 9: Between Earth and Heaven -- Peace**
- December 16: Between Darkness and Light -- Joy**
- December 23: Living in Between -- Love**
- December 24: Christmas Eve Service (6:00 pm)**



## *From the library--*

Library Book GIVE-A-WAY. Be watching for tables in the Narthex containing books for the taking. Some of the books were taken from the library shelves, some were donated and we already had a copy or felt it wouldn't be checked out, some were obtained through miscellaneous sources. There may be devotional books that we do not find wise to put in our library for checkout because they are for a whole year or over a certain period of time. In any event the books are there for the taking so help yourself to a free book and let a fiction take you to another world or an educational book widen your horizons. The books will only be there December 2, 9, and 16 so make your selections early!



## **Christmas Program Practice Schedule**

**Please practice your parts and the music.**

### **4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade:**

**Sun. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Wed. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, Sun. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Wed. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>**

### **1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade:**

**Sun. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Wed. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, Sun. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Wed. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>**

The songs they will be singing are: While Shepherds Watch Their flocks by Night, Angels We have Heard on High and Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.

### **3 yr old - Kindergarten:**

**Sun. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sun. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>**

The songs they will sing are: Away In A Manger, Jesus Loves Me and This Little Light of Mine.



# December Celebrations

## ~~Birthday's~~

- |                    |                     |                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Marlys Dykstra   | 10 Maggie Dykstra   | 19 Curt Van Kley   |
| 2 Trudy Dykstra    | 11 Clint Henrichs   | Sarah Loerts       |
| Barb Fisher        | Zoe Ackerman        | 20 JoAnn Calsbeek  |
| Brent Wassman      | 12 Wendy De Jong    | Kay Jansen         |
| Roger Lindberg     | Ruth Dagal          | Jodene Kruse       |
| Michael Block Jr.  | 13 Jesse Kruger     | 21 Mike Hustoft    |
| 3 Jamiey Daiker    | Meggan Block        | Dave Stofferan     |
| Witten Julius      | 14 Gracie Odens     | Alfreda Verdoorn   |
| 4 Beth Hulstein    | 15 Marlys Pietz     | Tom Dagal          |
| MaKayla Tangeman   | Richard Kruger      | 22 Gert Gaalswyk   |
| Kaden Maxwell      | Ella Bruxvoort      | Michelle Fox       |
| 6 Marcia Van Ruler | 17 Merlin Doorenbos | Melissa Hisek      |
| Harold Eggink      | Chrissy Ackerman    | 23 Jessica Mehls   |
| Reka Post          | Brynna Loerts       | 24 Glenn Doorenbos |
| 8 Amelia Hoekstra  |                     | 29 Ryan Van Marel  |
| 9 Jessica Ackerman |                     | 31 Deb Hulstein    |
| Laurel Klassen     |                     |                    |



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

## ~~Anniversaries~~

- |                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| 15 Tom and Ruth Dagal         | 34 years |
| 18 Rod and Beth Hulstein      | 46 years |
| 18 Mike and Andrea Block      | 26 years |
| 19 Elesson and Kelsey Joseph  | 3 years  |
| 22 Dean and Michelle Ackerman | 34 years |
| 28 John and Faye Vos          | 54 years |

# Sportsmen's Devotional

## Bible Study Verse

Luke 2:8-12

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be



afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." (NKJV)

## Thoughts

Guys this is my personal thoughts on how this event happened. I'm going to tell this amazing story and take the liberty to place you in it . You'll be a shepherd, walk back to the campfire, and sit on your log again. It's a pretty fire tonight. The other guys are talking about where to look for that lost sheep tomorrow. All of a sudden out of nowhere walks up this huge 18 foot glowing muscle man as if he was welcome at your fire. He's huge like an alien you hear stories about.

You look at the other guys cause you think you're seeing things and going crazy. The conversation has stopped and everyone is staring at this mighty man. A couple of the guys start to run as this guy looks each of you over. You know your time has come to die as a flick of his finger will crush your skull. You do the only thing you can do and quickly utter a prayer, "God Almighty, we need Your help now!"

One of your fleeing coworkers hits the wood pile, falls, and says some words not repeatable. Suddenly the monster begins to speaks, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people," Luke 2:10b (NKJV). Boy are you afraid and still clutching your knife and staff just in case. But you know it won't do much good.

## Action Point

We have seen this event portrayed in kids plays many times and this amazing event has lost its impact. Why did GOD choose shepherds? They were the lowlifes of that day. The Talmud rejects shepherds and GOD chose them. The message here I believe is that GOD uses regular guys to accomplish HIS will. Guys whose hearts are addicted to HIM. Not the guys that have it all together or at least pretend they do!

## Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

Automobile flares make great fire starters in wet weather.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1.A 2.C 3.B 4.B 5. D 6.C



## Consistory Meeting November 12, 2018

### Elders Meeting, 6:00 pm

7 present, a quorum

190. Pastor Luke opened with prayer.
191. MMSC to accept the profession of faith of Elia Althoff.
192. MMSC to accept the membership transfer of Brian Althoff from Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Waubay, South Dakota.
193. The Constitutional question was asked about those needing spiritual care within FRC.
194. MMSC to approve the minutes as read.
195. MMSC to adjourn following prayer by Duane Vande Hoef

### Full Consistory Meeting, 7:30 pm

13 Members Present, a quorum

196. Pastor Luke opened by reading Acts 1:8 and offered a story by Chuck Swindoll.
197. MMSC to accept the proposal of the Worship Ministry Team for decorating for Christmas
198. Various ministry team reports were given
199. MMSC to accept the recommendations of the Administrative Team:
  1. Eliminate the salary of the Administrative Assistant of \$21,840
  2. Add back into the budget:
    - A. \$2,500 for deep cleaning of the church annually
    - B. \$3,500 for Accounting services
    - C. \$6,700 for 1 PIM Share for a total of 5 Shares for 2019
    - D. \$3,100 for additional wages for the Communications Director
200. MMSC to accept the recommendation from the Administrative Team to accept the proposal from Cain Ellsworth and Company for accounting and payroll services effective January 1, 2019 for \$3500 per year.
201. Thank-you letters were read from Atlas and Words of Hope thanking the congregation for their support both prayerfully and financially.
202. MMSC to approve the reading of the minutes.
203. MMSC to adjourn the meeting following prayer by Duane Vande Hoef.



Friends,

Thank you for your gift!

With this gift you are sharing the hope of Jesus Christ in the heart languages of hard-to-reach people. You are living out the Great Commission in 13 ministry fields and over 50 languages so that people can hear the hope of Jesus for the first time.

You are equipping and encouraging local leaders to articulate the gospel in ways their own people will understand. Your prayers and gifts are fostering a global movement of gospel proclamation. Someday in heaven, you may worship around the throne of the Lamb with people who first heard the name of Jesus because of your prayers and gifts.

Thank you, and thanks be to God!

Jon Opgenorth  
President



10/29/18

Dear Pastor Luke and Gentlemen of the Consistory:

God can afford His work!

What a blessing to again receive such beautiful financial gifts from FRC! We're so thankful you recognize Osceola County and surrounding communities as our local mission-field. 2018 was our busiest year to date and we're fully expecting to be utilized to an even greater extent in 2019. Please know the gifts from FRC provide much needed affirmation for our staff of 8 and enables us to keep "doing-life" with people—being His hands and feet right here in our community.

Additionally, all of us at ATLAS covet your prayer support; without prayer our efforts would fall-flat. When you pray for ATLAS, pray that our board and staff will keep Jesus front and center at all times. And pray for wisdom, discernment and patience for those of us (our mentors included) who meet with the people coming through the door. Often our job is not easy and we can forget the aforementioned. But an umbrella of prayer-support changes everything and helps our staff stay focused and steadfast—even when things get crazy and seem hopeless.

On behalf of our board, staff and the many we serve, please except our humble thanks for partnering with us. Thank-you for believing in our mission. When people, churches and organizations come together and share their gifts, God works to accomplish great things.

Cordially,

Clark Haken – Director



Being the

## Adrian and Bernardeth Bobb-Kelly

Dear Friends,

We are so thankful to God for your prayers and financial support. They are so important for the continuation of our ministry. We ways acknowledge that without your help many people would suffer more.

al-



In spite of the social and political situation in our country, we have been able to continue with the ministry. Because of this situation, we have seen more kids coming to both feeding centers.

Moreover, more parents are becoming unemployed and they cannot meet the expenses of their family so we are doing our very best to take care of every child that reaches to the center.

Thanks to each of you who visited us in the early part of this year. You contributed in so many ways to this ministry—Bible schools for the kids, painting Tabitha Home II, fixing fences, helping to serve meals at the feeding centers, placing tiles on the floor of the first feeding center, playing with kids at both feeding centers and Tabitha Homes and we can just go on and on. THANK YOU! We surely appreciate all that you did. On the other hand, we are working on the land in Beholden neighborhood where we will build a second kitchen. The children from the Beholden feeding center found out about this new kitchen for them and they are rejoicing over it.

The girls and the boys at the two Tabitha Homes are doing well. They are back in class again. Joiner finished his first semester and now he is enrolled in his civil engineer career here at the university. The private university where Abebja our oldest girl is studying resumed their classes on August 15. So she has begun her second semester in medical school in Managua. Due to the political unrest we are so concerned about her wellbeing. Abayomi our youngest girl studies at a State University and she is still in Bluefields waiting for her university to resume classes. Her classes were suspended in April and they have not been able to start as yet. We are not sure if they will continue classes this year. We trust in God that whatever the resolution that it will be the best for the students. Please lift them up in your prayers for safety, good health, wisdom and whatever you think is necessary to pray for.

Due to the political situations, the river trips were on hold for a while, but it seems like transportation has normalized so finally we were able to get our medications. Consequently our river trips have resumed this month. The people have been waiting on us, so now we are happy to be able to reach out to them again.

Please continue to pray for this ministry and may the Lord bless you now and forevermore.

In Christ's love,  
Adrian and Bernardeth



*Painting Tabitha Home II*



*Cleaning the new land in Beholden*

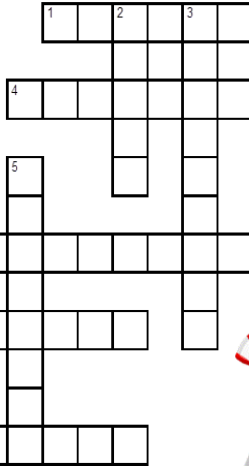


Due to a slight hearing problem, history does not remember Doug and Gary, chicken herders of Bethlehem.

## Christmas Decorating

### ACROSS

1. Used to wrap a present
4. Decoration for a banister
7. Striped and sweet
9. Used to open a walnut
10. Door decoration
11. Many times these are strung together
13. Glitter for the tree



### DOWN

2. Decorative spheres
3. Another word for decorations
5. Christmas tree fruit
6. Might light the dinner table
7. Place where greetings are found
8. Hung by the chimney
12. Might be cedar, fir or pine

## Christmas Scrambles Puzzle Sheet

Unscramble the letters on top of each set of boxes to form a new Christmas-related word. Then, unscramble the bonus letters (those in circles) to discover the bonus solution.

bonus letters

G I C T K O N S	
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C A R P I F L E E	
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N A R S T O M E N	
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H I G L E S	
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N E S T S P E R	
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L I N T K E W	
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The Bonus Solution is:



courtesy of <http://www.merrygames.com>

May your **Home** be warm,  
 your **Holidays** grand,  
 & may your **Heart** be  
 held gently in the Lord's hands.

# Harvest Festival Flash Back...

Thanks for all the fun everyone!! See you next year!!!

