

May 2018

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Class of 2018



*Sibley-Ocheyedan
High School
Commencement
May 20 at 2:00pm*



*Sheldon
High School
Commencement
May 27 at 2:00pm*



May at a Glance

- 2: Coffee with the Pastor

- 9: FRC is in charge of Nursing Home Services
 - 6:00-8:00 pm HS Remnant Flower Sales

- 13: Communion Sunday
 - Mother's Day

- 20: S-O Graduation Day
- 21: 9:00 am Faith Bible Study
 - 4:00 pm Patience Bible Study
 - 6:00 pm Elder / Deacon Meeting
 - 7:00 pm Full Consistory

- 27: Sheldon Graduation Day

- 28: Memorial Day

*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:

- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

*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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com



View our NEW Website at: sibleyfrc.org

Words from Pastor Luke

Today as sit at my desk I am thinking about the recent snows we had and when is change going to take place. We keep waiting for the cold to end, for our days to become warmer and when the snow will finally melt. We look forward to the trees starting to bud, then producing leaves, the grass becoming green once again, the flowers to begin their blooming and the farmers will once again getting into the field. We get excited about what is to come. We look forward to what the spring and summer will bring.

I am reminded that even when maybe we are not so patient and we maybe even worry about what hopefully is to come, God is incredibly faithful. In Psalm 57:10 we read,

For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

God has been faithful for generations and will be faithful even tomorrow. The warm weather will come, the trees will bud and leaves will be produced. The grass will turn green. The flowers will bloom and the farmers will soon be back out in the field.

But as I think about that change I am also thinking how that relates to us as a church. There are seasons of cold we go through. There are times when I imagine that change is just around the corner and God's faithfulness reaches to the skies. Sometimes I am impatient and worry about what is to come. I desire a church passionate about serving Christ, generously giving, leading people to Jesus, and filled with joy and love as we join together each week.

I have to be reminded that God is faithful and has been faithful to this church for over 100 years! I know we will grow to be more passionate about serving, we will give generously, you will bring someone to know Jesus, that we look forward to seeing friends and family and being loved on each week.

I want to encourage you to lift up this church for a season of change. For the cold to be gone and new life to begin. Currently there is a group of individuals who are praying for something great to happen within this church. They are praying for revival and a spirit led fire. They are praying for vision and purpose. I encourage you to join them in faithfully committing to pray for this church and this congregation. The power for change and renewal begins with prayer.

As I look forward to the spring and summer I get really excited. I look forward to softball games, working on my car, going on a mission trip, a sister's wedding, and simply having fun enjoying the warmth and sunshine. As I look forward to what will be happening in the church I can get really excited. The potential of children laughing and hearing about Jesus. Passionate worship and praise lifted up. People loving on people who are hurting or struggling. Building new friendships and relationships. Growing to love Jesus and so much more.

Join me in committing to pray for this church, our community and ourselves.

Pastor Luke

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

Come join Pastor Luke
(and Brenda) for coffee
at 9 am on May 2nd.


We would love to see you all!




Mothers Together
With God in the Middle

Mothers Together is on
Summer break.
We welcome you to join
us again in the Fall.
Have a great Summer!!!

1 Thessalonians 5:11(NLT)
So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.



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!!!

May Faith In Action:



Faith in action for this month is
Daily Vacation Bible School.
Sign up to help teach, be a helper, bring food, work in the nursery etc.
It takes many people to help make DVBS a success !

Trivia Time!!!

- How many people came to know Christ on the day of Pentecost?
A) 5,000 B) 3,000 C) 2,000 D) 200
- How many apostles were there?
A) 24 B) 6 C) 7 D) 12
- What was Jesus's first miracle?
A) Walked on water
B) Turned water to wine in Cana
C) Multiplied the fish and bread
D) Haled a leper
- Who was the oldest person in the Bible?
A) Methuselah B) Moses C) Nimrod D) Adam
- How tall was Goliath?
A) 10'tall B) 8' tall C) 6'5" tall D) 6' tall

"THAT 'S NOT MY JOB"

This is the story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done in the church and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody 's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have. Author Unknown

Cornerstone Service Greeters, 9 am



6: West-Jacob and Sami Fox/family
Middle-Michelle Fox and Rhonda Henrichs
East-Stan and Gert Gaalswyk

20: West-Ed and Jan Harskamp
Middle-Bill and LaDonn Hartzell
East-Dwayne and Janice Heikes

13: West-Eugene and Renae Groen
Middle-Robert and Janice Groen
East-Amanda Harms/family

27: West-Dan and Maureen Heilman/family
Middle-Burt and Jan Henrichs
East-Derek and Ashley Heronimus/family



9:00 am Nursery

6: Gina and Jaden Jacobsma
13: Brenda Michelson and Linda Mehls
20: Jenna Ver Steeg and Chelsey Town
27: Chelsey Alexander and Sami Fox



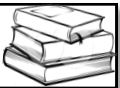
11:00 am Nursery

6: Missy Julius and Kim Van Der Sloom
13: Karen Honken and Amy Dykstra
20: Chrissy Ackerman and Heather Tangeman
27: Melissa and Kalie De Boer



Sunday School Nursery

Sunday School is on Summer Break until Fall.
Have a great Summer!!



Library Volunteers

6: Marcia Van Ruler **20:** Alfreda Verdoorn
13: Phyllis Vander Linden **27:** Kathy/Joel Verdoorn



Men's Bible Study, who meets every Sunday morning in the west end of the Fellowship Hall, is continuing with their new book entitled *24 Hours That Changed the World*, by Adam Hamilton. "The aim of this book is to help you better understand the events that occurred during the last twenty-four hours of Jesus' life, see more clearly the theological significance of Christ's suffering and death, and reflect upon the meaning of these events for your life." Hope to see you there on Sunday!

Fellowship Time Coffee Servers



6: Jim and Pauline Van Engen
13: Curt and Peg Van Kley

20: Duane and Pam Vande Hoef
27: Lawrence and Ruth Ann Wiersma

Children and Worship Leaders/ Helpers



Children and Worship is on
Summer Break until Fall.
Have a great Summer!!

BINGO Helpers

FRC is in charge of BINGO at Sibley Specialty
Care for Fridays in May at 2:00 pm.



New Logo...New Website!!

We are in the process of revamping our website to make it more user friendly. It is still a work in progress but go ahead and check it out. If you would like something featured on the website please let the office know. Picture submissions are always welcome as well.



Women's
Bible Study

Faith Bible Study, who meets the third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, May 21 at 9:00 am** in the Library. Leader: Janelle Van Drunen ; Hostess: Imogene Rasmussen. Come join us as we discuss, Lesson 9, "If I Should Die..." from the book 1&2 Peter And Jude. Scripture for the morning is 2 Peter 1:12-21. Peter's second letter was one of his final works. Peter knew that this letter might be his last words to those who read it. So he reminded them of the source of their faith. You are welcome to join us as we discuss these verses.

Patience Bible Study, who also meets every third Monday of most months, will meet on **Monday, May 21 at 4:00 pm** in the church Library. We will be studying Lesson 9, "Waiting With Hope," from the book End Times by R. Paul Stevens. Barb will lead and Margaret will be hostess. If you are interested in joining this study, please let Barb Van Diepen know and she will get you a book.

Monday Evening Bible Study meets weekly on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. The group will be starting a new video based 6 week Bible Study, "Befriend" on May 7. We live in a world where real friendship is hard to find. This study invites Christians to see the breadth of Christ's love toward people. Go to Right Now Media for more information or contact Annette Janssen.

After Church Greeters



6: SE: Arnie Langstraat

C: Ken Loerts

SW: Pastor Luke

BE: Josh Lucas

BW: Ed Meendering

13: SE: Dick Oldenkamp

C: Lyle Peelen

SW: Larry Riebeling

BE: Pastor Luke

BW: Josh Lucas

20: SE: Josh Lucas

C: Cal Runia

SW: Bob Tiedeman

BE: Duane Vande Hoef

BW: Pastor Luke

27: SE: Pastor Luke

C: Josh Lucas

SW: Paul Vander Linden

BE: John Van Diepen

BW: Harvey Van Ruler

Elders in the Prayer Room



10:00

6: Dale Honken

13: Bill Hartzell

20: Heath DeJong

27: Lennis Harberts

12:00

6: Duane Vande Hoef

13: Dick Oldenkamp

20: Marcus DeBoer

27: Lawrence Wiersma

Sanctuary Lighting Update:



The lighting has been ordered (in fact it is back ordered right now) and should be installed by the end of May!

May Willing Hands Group

Willing Hands Group #5

will be responsible for services during the month of May.

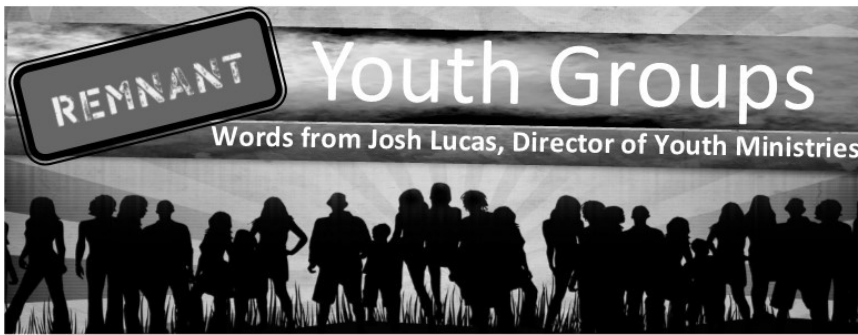
Co-chairpersons are:

Dar/Dennis Jurgens

Deb/Greg Kusters

Shelia/Harold Van Der Sloot





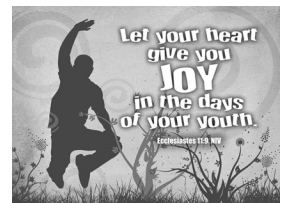
Hello First Reformed Church,

I hope you are all enjoying our six-month winter season! I sure am! Not really. I have never seen a snow storm let alone actually live in one. I have experienced the worst type of weather I have ever seen in my whole life. I have driven in rain storms where lightning is hitting the ground, I have been in tornados, I have even experienced hail, but I have never seen weather this crazy ever! I have been hearing that it is my fault since I am from California! If it is my fault I'm sorry for making the weather bad! With that said let's change the subject. Here is what's happening in the world of Remnant Ministries!

Things have started calming down for the youth group since it is getting to be the end of the year. However, that doesn't mean that we do not have things happening. We definitely do! The High School group has official dates set for the Texas Mission Trip! We are going to be traveling to Rockport, TX, where we will be helping with hurricane relief. The dates for that trip are July 8th -13th (we will be leaving the 7th and then returning the 14th). The thirteenth we will be going to Six Flags Fiesta in San Antonio for a day of fun! We are opening this event up to everyone in the congregation! If you would like to come with us please let me know! The Junior High will be attending Power Connection from July 27th-29th. Both groups will also be doing some fundraisers in the upcoming months...more details as those get closer.

I am so excited about this upcoming summer! I know people are saying that it is going to be hot, but I experienced an Arizona summer where it was record weeks with 125 degree days. I'm ready for Iowa's summer! Plus, with all of the trips that we are going to be going on it is going to be so busy that I won't be able to concentrate on the heat! I hope that everyone that reads this newsletter is blessed, and remember if you ever need a hug this big ole' teddy bear has one for you! Be safe and make good choices!

Blessings,
Josh Lucas



Jokes with Josh:

Q: Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?

A: Because he knew that there was something fishy about it.

3	2	4	1
2	4	1	3
1	3	2	4
4	1	3	2

KenKen Puzzle Solution



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:

- Sunday School and Wednesday Night Bible Classes are on Summer Break until Fall. Thanks for the great year!! Have a fun Summer!!!
- Don't forget to sign up for Daily Vacation Bible School! VBS will be happening June 4-8th.



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

Britta Harberts
Mathews Hall #0259
Brookings, SD 57007

Garrett Saylor
208 8th St SW
Unit 846
Orange City, IA 51041

Andrea Meyer
1249 Eaton Lawther
Ames IA 50012-1064

Jena Van Marel
121 N 15th Street
LaCrosse, WI 54601

Kailey Bruxvoort
416 N Pine Street
Burgess #214
Vermillion, SD 57069

MaKayla Tangeman
2800 Hudson Road
HAG 155
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Josh Wagenaar
1230 1st Street
Brookings, SD 57006

Colby Wagenaar
Binnewies 211-A2
Brookings, SD 57007

Peyton Creighton
2001 S. Summit Ave.
Mailbox #4
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

Collin Van Diepen
Lake Area Sweets
Apt. #16
312 11th Street NE.
Watertown, SD 57201

Lars Ackerman
519 8th St.
Sibley, IA 51249



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

The April edition of the 365 day challenge is here. During 2018, we will be printing a list of scriptures that will take you from beginning to end — Chronologically. Maybe reading the Bible this way is new for you, or maybe you have used this style before. Either way, it is a fun way to work your way through the best book ever written. We hope you enjoy your 365 Day Challenge!

May 1
2 Samuel 5:1-10; 1
Chronicles 11-12

May 2
Psalm 133

May 3
Psalms 106-107

May 4
2 Samuel 5:11-6:23;1
Chronicles 13-16

May 5
Psalms 1-2; 15; 22-24;
47; 68

May 6
Psalms 89; 96; 100;
101; 105; 132

May 7
2 Samuel 7;
1 Chronicles 17

May 8
Psalms 25; 29; 33; 36;
39

May 9
2 Samuel 8-9;
1 Chronicles 18

May 10
Psalms 50; 53; 60; 75

May 11
2 Samuel 10; 1 Chroni-
cles 19; Psalm 20

May 12
Psalms 65-67; 69-70

May 13
2 Samuel 11-12; 1
Chronicles 20

May 14
Psalms 32; 51; 86;
122

May 15
2 Samuel 13-15

May 16
Psalms 3-4; 12-13; 28;
55

May 17
2 Samuel 16-18

May 18
Psalms 26; 40; 58; 61-
62; 64

May 19
2 Samuel 19-21

May 20
Psalms 5; 38; 41-42

May 21
2 Samuel 22-23;
Psalm 57

May 22
Psalms 95; 97-99

May 23
2 Samuel 24;
1 Chronicles 21-22;
Psalm 30

May 24
Psalms 108-110

May 25
1 Chronicles 23-25

May 26
Psalms 131; 138-139;
143-145

May 27
1 Chronicles 26-29;
Psalm 127

May 28
Psalms 111-118

May 29
1 Kings 1-2;
Psalms 37; 71; 94

May 30
Psalms 119:1-88

May 31
1 Kings 3-4;
2 Chronicles 1;
Psalm 72

Class of 2018



Jaden Abels

Jaden will be attending the University of Sioux Falls where she will be studying Nursing. Jaden's favorite Church memory was going to Rocky Mountain High.



Kaitlyn Bechler

Kaitlyn will be heading to Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon where she will be attaining her degree in Nursing. Kaitlyn's favorite church memory is attending Rocky Mountain High last Summer.



Kalie De Boer

Kalie will be attending Northwestern College in Orange City where she will be majoring in English. Kalie's favorite Church memory is the High School Remnant Mission Trip to Niagara Falls.



Keyana Gust

Keyana is a full time CNA at Sibley Specialty Care. She plans to attend NCC this fall while continuing to work. She has not set a major yet but plans on working on getting her generals done and hopes to know what her future holds for her from there! Keyana's favorite memory is the mission trip to New York City and interacting with the children. Being able to bring a smile to a child's face was priceless!



Paige Hurlburt

Paige will be attending the University of South Dakota in the fall to major in Dental Hygiene. Her favorite church memory would be working in the carry-out room at Soup and Pie Suppers.



Madison Norman

Madison plans to attend NCC this fall to complete her generals. After which, she will be heading to SDSU to major in Agronomy. Madison's favorite church memory was going to Rocky Mountain High.



Brayden Bruxvoort

Brayden will be working full-time for Kent Douma and will be taking online Ag classes through Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon.

Brayden's favorite Church memory was attending Rocky Mountain High in Estes Park Colorado.

Seniors



Nick Buysman

Nick will be attending Bethel University in St. Paul, MN where he will be majoring in Missional Ministries and will be playing football. Nick's favorite church memory was helping students' develop their faith.



Hunter DeJong

Hunter plans to attend Iowa State for Pre-Veterinary Science. While at Iowa State he also plans to wrestle.

Hunter's favorite church memories are going to Rocky Mountain High and also on the mission trip to Niagara Falls.



Hudson Feldkamp

Hudson will be joining the Marine Corps upon Graduation.

His favorite church memory was climbing mounts with Garret Saylor at Rocky Mountain High.



Hunter Rockman

Hunter will be attending Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon for Powerline Technology.

His favorite memory was going white water rafting while at Rocky Mountain High.



Ryan Van Marel

Ryan will be attending South Dakota State University where he will study either business or engineering. Ryan will also be playing football for SDSU.

Ryan's favorite church memory was going white water rafting during the week they were at Rocky Mountain High.

PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
1 John 2:1, 26

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- 1: Burt and Jan Henrichs
- 2: Rhonda Henrichs; Clint
- 3: Derek and Ashley Heronimus; Kalen
- 4: Ken and Sandy Heronimus
- 5: Pray for our College Students
- 6: Pray for our Church
- 7: Dale and Josie Herrboldt
- 8: Lana Hibma; Elizabeth
- 9: Johanna Hielkema
10. Melissa Hisek; Sofia, Georgia
11. Cole and Kayla Hoekstra; Amelia, Grace
12. Pray for our College Students
13. Pray for our Church
14. Dale and Karen Honken; Sara
15. Ken Huls
- 16: Mark Hulstein
- 17: Michael and Chelsea Hulstein;
Addison, Aubrey
- 17: Rod and Beth Hulstein
- 18: Pray for our College Students
- 19: Pray for our Church
- 20: Scott and Jamie Hulstein;
Ashilyn, Karissa, Alexis
- 21: Chris and Teresa Hurlburt; Paige
- 22: Cody Hurlburt and Kristen Witt; Braelyn
- 23: Mike and Mary Hustoft
- 24: Roger and Carol Iedema
- 25: Pray for our College Students
- 26: Pray for our Church
- 27: Jason and Gina Jacobsma;
Jaden, Alyssa, Breanna
- 29: Kelly Jacobsma
- 30: Kay Jansen
- 31: Dan and Annette Janssen

College Students:

Lars Ackerman

Meggan Block

Peyton Chrichton

Britta Harberts

Andrea Meyer

Garrett Saylor

Makayla Tangeman

Colby Wagenaar

Collin Van Diepen

Adam Ackerman

Kailey Bruxvoort

Josh Wagenaar

Evan Mehls

Lexi Ackerman

Sarah Honken

Jena Van Marel

Alecia Martinez

Ignacio Romero

Devan Vander Veen

Owen Wiese

Brooke Block

Hannah Lucas

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

Romans 12:12

May Celebrations

~~Birthday's~~

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 Melissa Julius
Kenzie Wills | 10 Charlie Ackerman
Jamie Bruxvoort | 24 Teresa Hurlburt
Nate De Jong
Clayton Wagenaar |
| 2 Brenda Ackerman
Andrea Leusink
Kristen Witt | 11 Rod Vander Veen
Josh Lucas | 25 Imogene Rasmussen |
| 4 Rachel Wills
Tyler Fox | 12 Matt Julius | 26 Brysen Loerts
Lane Tangeman |
| 5 Harold Schram
Amy Carda | 13 Fay Vos
Kacee Van Ruler
Kelsey Van Ruler
Chris Schouten
Dale Carda | 27 Cody Hurlburt |
| 6 Dutch Kruger | 14 Ryan Sederquist | 29 Brooke Ten Napel
Laurie Kraayenbrink
Ethan Post
Daren Rockman
Justin Wagenaar |
| 7 Robert Kruger | 16 Larry Verdoorn
Josh Wagenaar | 30 Ed Harskamp
Gladys Tiedeman
Travis Runia
Nicole Ten Napel |
| 8 Brenda Post
Tami Tracy
Codie Wynia | 17 Katha Kruger | 31 Helen Vander Veen |
| 9 Ray Schram
Ruth Ann Wiersma | 19 Brian Alexander | |
| | 20 Verlyn Smidt | |
| | 21 Larry De Boer
Emily Van Westen | |



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

~~Anniversaries~~

- 7 Marcus and Angela De Boer — 47 years
- 9 Travis and Jill Boeke — 9 years
- 10 Dave and Sandy Lamfers — 38 years
- 14 Keith and Janelle Van Drunen — 47 years
- 27 Dale and Karen Honken — 35 years
- 28 Troy and Meggan Block — 13 years

Sportsmen's Devotional



Bible Study Verses

I Corinthians 3:5-8

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but

only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. (NIV)

Thoughts

It was a new stand. We had just stood it up on the pipeline the previous day; yet, there I sat, wondering if it would be a good spot. An hour later, I was admiring a small buck that I had just taken.

On the way back to get the four-wheeler, I saw a huge scrape that I had not seen before then. It was fresh, and its size told me that a good-sized buck had been tending it. I was leaving for the weekend, so I told my Dad about the scrape and urged him to go sit in that stand.

In the rain the next morning, he shot a huge nine-point. Sometimes you just have to set someone else up to succeed in order to accomplish a common goal. In our case, it was fresh deer tenderloin and a mount to go in the game room.

His reward was a filled tag. My reward was having helped him to succeed.

Action Point

Our society puts too much emphasis on having the spotlight firmly on ourselves. But, God's ways are not like our ways.

In the passage above, Paul and Apollos were working hand-in-hand for a common goal - to see people come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Sometimes Paul would preach and then Apollos would go talk to the people one-on-one, and they would be saved. Basically, Paul says, "I don't care who gets to lead them to the Lord as long as they get saved!"

Sometimes we're called to plant a seed. Sometimes we're called to water it. Other times, we get to harvest. But don't forget that we do exactly what God calls us to do. Nobody harvests unless God makes our efforts grow. The spotlight is not on us. We're in the shadows. The spotlight is right where it belongs - on our great and glorious God!



God will carry you through every storm in your life. And give you strength to make it. Our God is an awesome God.

Amen.

Sportsman's Tip of the Day

Keep your eyes open for unusual forage no matter what you're hunting. Sometimes you might think that game would be hitting one food source hard only to find that they're interested in something else. Scout hard and don't overlook lesser food sources.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

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

To the childless on Mother's Day

By [Chelsea Sobolik](#)

Mother's Day can be one of the most joyful days of the year. Americans will buy flowers, cards, fancy meals, and gifts in an attempt to physically show our mothers how much we care about them. But for many, it's one of the most painful days of the year, too. Perhaps we've lost our mother, or our mother wasn't what we needed her to be. Perhaps she was physically present, but emotionally absent. Or most painful of all, maybe we long for motherhood, but it's elusive. We're the often forgotten group—we're the childless.

As a childless woman, Mother's Day can be a painful reminder of what I don't have, and what I long for. Whether your season of childlessness is temporary or permanent, whether you've walked through miscarriages, infertility or barrenness, remember that you're not alone. One in 10 couples struggle with infertility, and even more have lost precious little ones—either in the womb or outside of it. It can be easy to feel alienated and forgotten on Mother's Day, because everyone is busy celebrating, and your heart is busy breaking.

There are a few thoughts I'd like to whisper into your weary soul this Mother's Day:

- **Cry out to the Lord:** The Bible is filled with raw and emotional cries to the Lord.

"O Lord, all my longing is before you; my sighing is not hidden from you." Psa. 38:9

"How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day?" Psa. 13:1-2

The Lord knows the pain of your heart. Cry out to him. Don't hold back in your sorrow or your suffering. Prayer is one of the greatest gifts, because it allows us to pour our weary souls into the hands of our Savior. You don't have to clean yourself up before you pray; you can come to him upset, crying, frustrated and sad. Tears give emotion a way out, and the Scripture informs our emotions of truth. These two go hand-in-hand as we journey through life's difficult paths.

- **Surround yourself with people who love you:** Don't walk through this day alone. Let close friends and family know that Mother's Day is difficult. It's okay to ask for help and tell others that you're hurting. People don't often know you're hurting unless you tell them. Allow the church to wrap around you and care for your soul. Invite tender and gentle people to share in your sufferings, to love you, listen to you, sit with you while you cry and to be present. Sometimes what we need most is a hug, a listening ear, and a shoulder to cry on. It might feel difficult or uncomfortable to allow people into your grief, but the Lord gave us community for a reason. We were designed to live life together, as a band of believers, all working for the same goal—to glorify the Lord as we walk toward heaven. It's easy to feel like your lack of children defines you.
- **Stay off social media:** Social media has a way of stirring up discontentment and dissatisfaction. This is especially true on a day that vividly reminds you of what you lack. Your soul will benefit greatly from a break and a breath of fresh air. You might think it's no big deal, and hopping on Facebook for 15 minutes to relax might seem like a good idea, but scrolling through post after post of mothers and children probably won't do your soul any good. It's better to err on the side of caution than to find yourself in the midst of a breakdown because you've seen one too many posts about babies.
- **Childlessness does not define you:** It's easy to feel like your lack of children defines you. Childlessness can be all-consuming. But if you're a Christian, the core of your identity is rooted in Christ, not in your ability to bear babies. Fix your eyes on him, and allow your soul to be saturated in your true identity. Being God's child should be the primary thing that defines the childless. It's okay to grieve over the unfulfilled desire, but do so in a way that shows that your ultimate hope, joy and satisfaction is found in being God's child, not having your own child.

Please remember...You are loved and even though you are not a mother yet you are still special.

Administrative Team Meeting

April 2, 2018; 6:30 pm

5 present, a quorum



**Meeting
Minutes**

65. Pastor Luke opened with prayer.
66. MMSC to approve new additions to various Ministry teams.
67. MMSC to approve the hiring of a part-time sound technician.
68. MMSC to approve the new job description for the part-time sound technician job.
69. MMSC to approve changes made to the Youth Scholarship Fund.
70. MMSC to approve the reading of the minutes.
71. Pastor Luke closed with prayer.

Consistory Meeting, April 16, 2018

Elders Meeting, 6:00 pm

7 present, a quorum

72. Pastor Luke opened the meeting with prayer.
73. MMSC to approve the Profession of Hunter De Jong and Sofia Hisek.
74. MMSC to approve the Baptism and Profession of Faith of Kaitlyn Bechler.
75. MMSC to allow immersion to be used at Profession of Faith, if requested by a baptized individual.
76. MMSC to approve serving communion at the Profession of Faith Celebration for Hunter De Jong and Jahlyn De Jong on June 1, 2018.
77. MMSC to approve the reading of the minutes.
78. MMSC to adjourn following prayer by Bill Hartzell.

Full Consistory, 7:40 pm

11 present, a quorum

79. Pastor Luke opened with scripture from 1 Chronicles 28:1-9 and had prayer.
80. Various Ministry Team reports were given.
81. Homework was given to all Consistory members to help us discern the core values of FRC.
82. Josh Lucas presented his vision for the future of the Remnant groups.
83. MMSC to approve a college Youth Mission Trip to Baton Rouge, Louisiana on August 4-12, 2018. Those attending are Hunter Rockman, Lars Ackerman, Kaitlyn Bechler, Jayden Abels, Peyton Crichton, Jada Carlson, MaKayla Tangeman, Pastor Luke and a to-be-determined female chaperone.
84. MMSC to approve the reading of the minutes.
85. MMSC to adjourn following prayer by Pastor Luke.

Meet Our



Missionaries

BRIAN AND DONNA RENES

Isn't the Bible for everyone? There are 7 billion people in the world and in a recent report I read that 1.2 billion don't have access to the whole Bible. Why not?

Travel often takes me to Africa where we are supporting several hundred active Bible translation projects. Civil wars, disease, poverty and other problems burden the people of this vast continent. With over 2,000 languages spoken in Africa, estimates are that 1,000 have no scripture in their language. (see: <https://www.wycliffe.net/en/statistics>)

How can we reach the unreached? There is so much work just to start and support one project. How can all be reached? In Cameroon alone there are over 250 languages. This past week I heard that a new project would be starting this year in the Fefe language, spoken by 200,000 people in western Cameroon. A few portions were translated, but those were done 60 years ago. They still don't have the Bible, let alone the New Testament in their language.

How will they hear unless someone goes? Jean Nicolas responded and the Fefe people will hear the Gospel... in their own language.

Jean Nicolas is from Cameroon and works at the Bible Society. I met Jean less than two years ago and we have worked together a number of times since. It is hard to fully describe a person in words, but he is perfect for the job of reaching the unreached. He has high level skills, but is certainly humble. Even though he has a young family, they support his going to train and work with translators in remote and dangerous parts of the country. Last week, with excitement, Jean Nicolas shared that they will be starting the Fefe Bible project in Cameroon this year.

Pray for Jean Nicolas and his family as he not only helps the Fefe project but many others in Central Africa. Jean Nicolas is gifted and passionate. ***Will you commit to praying for Jean Nicolas?***

Thankful for faithful partners,
Brian and Donna

Let your
Light So Shine
before men, that
they may see your **GOOD WORKS,**
AND *Glorify* your **FATHER**
which is in Heaven.



Participants in a workshop in the Ivory Coast

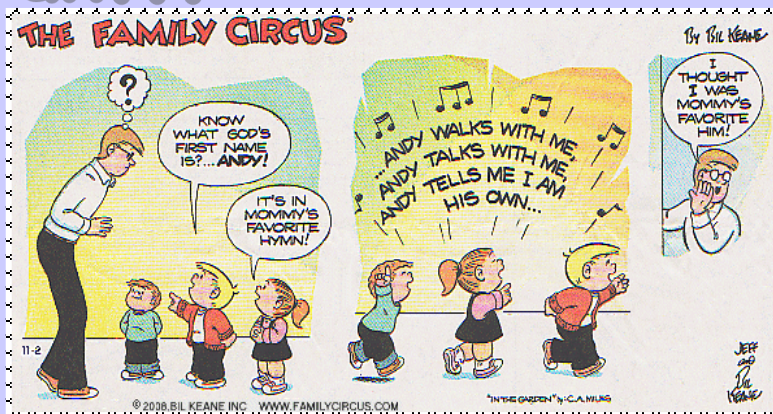


Jean Nicolas (left) with two translators

Brian's ministry

Brian serves as a computer consultant for Bible translation projects. He teaches national workers how to effectively use the computer in their work of translating the Bible into languages such as Quechua, which is spoken in Peru, and the Kuna language of Panama. Donna ministers to Hispanic children in the Sioux Center, Iowa, area through the teaching of English as a Second Language. Learn more at www.rca.org/renes.

Just For Fun...



KenKen Puzzle...

example

12x	4	2÷	2÷
3	4	1	2
4+	1	3	2
4	1-	2	3
2	5+	1	4
		4	3

Each row must contain numbers 1-4 down and across. Each number can only be used once per line.

24x	2÷		2-
		3+	
4+			9+
3-			

Shipwrecked Vacation Bible School

June 4-8 from 5:30-8:30pm

At Shipwrecked VBS, kids discover how Jesus rescues us through life's storms. Parents and Volunteers: Be sure to also complete the online registration forms for both participants and volunteers at <https://vbspro.events/p/sibleyfrc>.

You can also reach this link through our updated website at www.sibleyfrc.org under the children tab or via our Facebook page.



Get signed up to help...VBS needs you!!

