

THE COMMUNICATOR

MARCH 4, 2026

THIS WEEK
MARCH 4-11

Wednesday, March 4

5:30-6:30pm Meal:

Baked Ravioli

6:30-7:30pm-

Classes for all ages;

Middle school youth group

7:30-8:30pm- H.S. Youth Group

Friday, March 6

5:30pm- CRU Banquet

Saturday, March 7

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

Sunday, March 8

8:00, 9:00 & 10:45am-

Worship Services

10:10am- Sunday School

6:30pm- Refresh

(Young Adult group)

Monday, March 9

7:00pm- Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, March 10

9:30am- Play Group

No AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 11

5:30-6:30pm Meal:

Chicken Salad/ Taco Salad

6:30-7:30pm-

Classes for all ages;

Middle school youth group

7:30-8:30pm- H.S. Youth Group

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**ELDER/ DEACON
NOMINATION LIST CAN BE
FOUND AT THE LINK**

DEADLINE= MARCH 15

Clyde's Update

The month of March is here friends. We are getting a long way through this winter now as we hit this new month. March is always that one that is so difficult to predict. It will be warm, and you think maybe spring is here, and then it can change to winter at the snap of your fingers. We talk about coming in like a lion and going out like a lamb, or vice versa and looking back I don't think that really holds much water. March will do what it does, and we are along for the ride. I hope we can gain some moisture in some form this month. That would be a good thing. I do believe we would all agree with that.

The first reminder of the week is that the clocks all move this weekend! Remember to move those time pieces one hour ahead on Saturday night. If you miss this one, we will probably know on Sunday morning, because you'll be an hour late for everything. I like the extra hour of light at the end of the day, but for those of us who are early risers, it will be dark again. Oh well, that's the price we pay for that extra hour of light in the evenings. I wonder if they will ever leave that alone. I hear that from time to time, but that never seems to change. We shall see.

CRU is hosting their annual fundraiser event this week in our church. We have all kinds of tables set up in the big room for their event with a couple of hundred guest celebrating the work of that group on our college campuses in the area. I am looking forward to hearing from the students on the impact of this ministry on their lives and being a part of this great evening. There will be some good words I am most certain of that!

Our baptism service is coming up in a couple of weeks. So far, we only have a small number of people doing this as it has been difficult to find a time to get everyone's schedules to match. Life is busy for people. If you would still like to be a part of that event, just give us a call or visit with Liz on a Sunday morning, and we can get it all lined up for you. These are pretty special events in people's lives and we encourage folks to consider it.

Our MidWeek numbers continue to stay very consistent this year, and we are also seeing new faces join us nearly every week. We had some flu going around the last couple of weeks, and there are always colds going around this time of year, but we have had a great season. We only have 3 more class nights left, which just seems impossible. Where does the time go? We want to finish well this year and so as we move ahead, I am going to be working extra hard to bring my class to a good conclusion. It has been a great year of discipleship for the church family. I have really enjoyed the journey with them. I love MidWeek!

We are into the season of Lent, and I really enjoyed being with you all on Sunday. This week we are going to focus our hearts on Jesus and the miracles that involved water. I know that may sound a bit odd, but water is an interesting element when it comes to our faith. Baptisms and cleansing rites in the Jewish tradition was a very important pieces of their faith journey. Jesus walked on it. He turned it into wine and then the water element during the crucifixion. Yes, there is water involved there too. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

PRAYER REQUESTS

**"Even our faintest whisper fills the throne room of Heaven. No prayer ever goes unheard. No plea ever goes unanswered."
(@heartprintsofgod)**

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MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH

MISSION HAITI

Love Jesus. Love Others. Make Disciples. Mission-Haiti's purpose is to show the love of God by developing and equipping strong Christian leaders in Haiti for the cause of Christ.

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LIBRARY NEWS

The church library gained a new look. You may be surprised when you walk in to the new format. We have arranged the carts differently. Now fiction is a smoother organization. The kids' videos are close to the kids' books. We hope you check this out and see how you like it. Ask any librarian for a quick guide if you are wondering where anything is. And, as always, we love to help you find your next great read.

The addition of puzzles has been fun. Many families have been enjoying these. If you haven't seen these, stop in and see our wide variety.

If you haven't been to our full-service church library lately, it's definitely time to check it out.

Your librarians,
Trudi, Lois, Lorena, and Merry

**In need of prayer or want to share your prayer request?
Email Pastor John at prayerline@communityrc.org**

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ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Anna Halverson (seizures)
- Jayne Knockenmus's friend, Shelly
- Pete & Jan Mellema's son-in-law, Chris (hospice)
- Harlan Van Meeteren (hospice)
- Adam & Julie Brown's son, Austin (hospice)
- Gary McCann (neck surgery recovery)
- Kailee Taborda (Leukemia)
- Lloyd Van Essen (bladder cancer)
- Ken Stellinga (Whipple surgery-1/27)
- Edna VanDeVendel (breathing issues)
- Rick Beckstrom (radiation treatments)
- Jodi Ackerman's mother, Karen (aortic aneurysm)
- Leroy Thill (infant son of Katie & Trevor Thill)
- Claradith Kingsbury (stroke recovery)
- Gracia Harmsen (surgery recovery)
- Al Price
- Jan Sturing
- Tim DeLoof (ALS)
- Steve Lee
- Denny Spitler (chronic foot pain)
- Mike Hay's father, Duane
- Gracia Harmsen's dad (esophageal cancer)
- Matt Meyer's fiancé Lynnette's dad (tumor)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Jerralynne Tjeerdsma's daughter, Deb (cancer)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Carmen Van Middendorp and her family on the passing of her brother-in-law Brent Davelaar.

FRESH ENCOUNTER

SATURDAY MORNINGS @ 7:00AM

Join us for prayer on Saturday mornings at 7am via Zoom or in person in our chapel. People can join via video or using the call-in number if video is not an option.

<https://bradymartz.zoom.us/j/87440575632?pwd=RwtTfrMNRbOXcg9KlhabfrdoMWC2Cb.1>
Meeting ID: 874 4057 5632

Passcode: 052482

One tap mobile

+12532050468,.87440575632# US

+12532158782,.87440575632# US

• +1 346 248 7799 US

Questions?

Call Shawn Blom

605-940-6702





CURT VAN OORT SERVING IN GUATEMALA

On Saturday, March 14, I'll be leaving for my 4th trip to Guatemala with Helps International. The team that I serve on installs high efficiency wood burning stoves and water filtration systems in the homes of Guatemalans living in the rural, mountainous areas of Huehuetenango. A medical team will make the the trip as well totalling about 100 people.

It's a tough trip and the team needs your prayers.

Pray for our safety. About the time that you are worshipping on the morning of March 15, we will be winding through the mountains of Guatemala on a 6 hour bus ride that I dread.

Pray for our health. There is no shortage of things to ingest that can derail our health and the rough terrain can do a number on knees and ankles. Ibuprofen is our friend.

Pray for our emotional health. The things we see take a toll on us and weigh on our hearts.

Guatemala is a country with virtually no middle class. There really isn't a pathway out of poverty for the people that we serve or for the next generation. Pray for the people of Guatemala as well.

This trip reminds me that I live in a bubble. Getting out of my bubble strips away the luxuries that I take for granted such as water that doesn't make me sick, a mattress and pillow to sleep on, or a stove to cook on. It also reminds me of what I have in common with the people that we serve - the fact that we worship the same God and celebrate a risen Savior who died for us regardless of where we live or our circumstances in life.

Thank you to Community Reformed for all of your support!

Curt Van Oort

ONGOING MINISTRIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, **March 9** at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

NO AA MEETING

These Tuesday evening meetings are paused at the moment. Here are other options for meetings in the area. <https://sober.com/aa-meetings/south-dakota/sioux-falls/>

REFRESH

Weekly gathering of college students and young adults every Sunday at 6:30pm.

BOOK CLUBS

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, March 17, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing *Everything is Just Beginning* by Bartels.

The morning book club will meet Wednesday, March 18, at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave near 33rd St. We will be discussing *West with Giraffes*.

BAPTISM SUNDAY

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**BELIEVER'S BAPTISM SERVICE
SUNDAY, MARCH 15
3PM**

IF INTERESTED, EMAIL LIZ (LIZ.TEEL@COMMUNITYRC.ORG)

FINANCES

Sunday, March 1, 2026

General: \$10,243
Vision: \$400
Mission: \$220
Wednesday night: \$110

General YTD: \$139,855
Vision YTD: \$5,406
Vision Account Balance: \$2,249



HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY



Hi Community!

I've been learning about Generation Alpha lately. If you've never heard of that term, Generation Alpha is the name that was given to the generation of kids born between around 2010 and 2024. That means they are between around 2 and 16 years old. When people think of kids today, they usually talk about the impact of technology or how today's kids have shorter attention spans. They might mention the impact of Covid on the generation or the fact that kids today are extremely busy and have full schedules. However, when I am with them, I notice so much more and so I am doing a little studying. As I've spent a little more time learning about Generation Alpha, I've learned some of their statistical and studied attributes that make me smile.

1. Generation Alpha kids and teens are more likely than previous generations to share their faith with others, speak about their beliefs openly, and/ or invite a friend to church.
2. Kids in this generation who do not go to church are very likely to say, "yes" if a friend invites them. (73% would say yes!)
3. In a survey, 76% of Generation Alpha children and youth say that their faith beliefs, religion, or spiritual journey are an important part of their identity.
4. When asked about their dreams for the future, Gen Alpha showed much more interest in making a difference & helping others than making lots of money or becoming famous.
5. Generation Alpha cares about being authentic and responds best when others are genuine and vulnerable. They value connection and relationships over appearances.

Community, thank you for hiring me to do this job so I can hang out with amazing kids. I wish you could all spend time with them to hear their heart for Jesus, their interest in what the Bible says, and their love for God and for others. They are a gift!

As I chatted with some women from the W40 group earlier this week about Children's Ministry and today's kids, someone asked me a wonderful question. She asked how she could support the ministry that is happening in the Children's Wing. My answer at that time was that I asked for prayer, and I still think that is probably the most honest response I could give. However, this morning as I reflect on the conversation with those women, the other thing I want to say is that I humbly request that you all keep showing up. The person who asked this question is kind and has a warm smile. They are often at church and always friendly. Who this person is and how they show up has already made a positive impact on the children here. One way that children learn is by watching adults and what adults are doing. Certainly, they watch their parents, but they are also watching the rest of us. All of you, please keep showing up and participating here at church when you are able. That matters more than you realize. When children see people who love Jesus in worship, spending time in the House of the Lord, smiling and genuinely seeking to get closer to Jesus, the kids grow. When kids see us show up here when we are sad or tired and see the way God heals and holds us, kids notice. When kids see us share our celebrations with one another, kids see that. So, the many ways you make ministry for and with kids possible at Community by volunteering, giving financially, encouraging, and praying are critical, and this wouldn't be possible without you. And also, your presence here matters. Thank you for being part of this special family. You might be surprised to know that the kids are praying for you too!

See you soon!
Heather DeWit
Community Kids
605-336-1475

LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



We are into the Lenten season, and I wanted to encourage you, even if you haven't done something intentional for Lent this year, to start something! In my last article, I mentioned daily praying the Psalmists Prayer in Psalm 139:

"Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

But you don't have to use that if you don't want to! There might be another way God is inviting you to take part in this season of Lenten preparation. A few questions to get you started are:

- Do you find yourself frustrated with the same problem or type of problem over and over?
- Have you been wronged in some way and are having a hard time forgiving it and letting it go?
- Is there something you wish God would change about your life but doesn't?
- Is there a sin in your life, and you think you have it whipped, only to find out that it shows up again at the most unexpected time?

What I've noticed in my own life over the years is that if I take time to notice patterns in my life where certain situations cause me to over-think or cause me to have high emotional responses that far outweigh the actual circumstance, the chances are very high that God is inviting me to notice something specific about my life that He wants to address and change in me. Lent is the perfect time to do this. It is a powerful time to consider not only all the sins Jesus' death and resurrection paid for, but also all of the broken things about us that Jesus is constantly making new. My goodness, the work of Jesus Christ can never be fully measured!

I encourage you to give this some thought this year, friends. Even if only for a day or two, take time to consider what Jesus has changed and is desiring to change in you. It's already paid for. We just need to let Him in so He can do the work.

Have a blessed week, friends.

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

DOYLE'S UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

SPRING FLING

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

AT COMMUNITY

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

6:00PM

\$30/ Ticket

Tickets on sale in the lobby

Come to support our youth group as they raise money for Rocky Mountain High this summer!

We'll have a meal catered by Chef Dominique, a dessert auction and we'll end the night with BINGO!

Tickets are on sale in the lobby on Sunday or call the church office (605-336-1475)

**COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH
6800 E. 41 STREET
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57110**

MARCH 4, 2026

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Permit No. 7119

REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP & BAPTISM...

**If you would like to request membership or baptism, please
e-mail the church office at connect@communityrc.org.**

**We are doing individual family baptism after the 10:45am
service until further notice.**

NEED GROCERIES? OR GAS?

**Gift cards for HyVee, Fareway & Sunshine can be purchased
every Sunday morning at the coffee bar. 5% of that purchase
will go toward our Vision Fund at church.**

Pastor Clyde Teel

pastor@communityrc.org

Liz Teel

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Josiah Dunlap

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