

THE COMMUNICATOR

MAY 13, 2026

THIS WEEK

MAY 13- MAY 20

Saturday, May 16

7:00am- Fresh Encounter

10:00am- Kid's Fishing
(Outdoor Campus)

Sunday, May 17

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

Tuesday, May 19

9:30am- Play Group

1:30pm- Hope Circle

7:00pm- Book Club (at church)

Wednesday, May 20

9:00am- Book Club
(Bagel Boy on MN Ave.)

STUDY IN ROMANS

Wednesday nights @ 7:00pm

Starting in June

Led by Pastor Clyde

SUMMER THROUGH THE PSALMS

Sunday nights Time TBD

Starting in June

Led by Pastor Clyde

Clyde's Update

May will be at the halfway point by the time this week's newsletter is published. I have been hearing several of you talking about how quickly time goes. With all the graduations going on in the area, people think about the passing of time in May more than the other months. If you have kids, you know what I mean. It seems as though they will be around forever in your house, and then one day all of that changes. You see it coming, but it surprises us when it happens. That is the way the world works and that will not slow down. The speed of passing days really does increase over time. It is a truth friends. So, enjoy the moments!

I want to put a couple of new announcements in the newsletter this week. We are going to be hosting our good friend from Nashville, Gordon Mote, who is set to do a concert at our church Friday, August 28th. Many of reading this article have seen him in the past and you know the kind of performer he is. Gordon Mote is an "A" list player in Nashville...that is a true fact. He has played with literally every name out there at one time or another. He is without questions one of the finest piano players in the world in that Southern Gospel/Country arena. You will be hearing more about this in the coming weeks. He is coming here in August! We will be starting the ticket sales in June, but I wanted to get the word out to you so you can be thinking about getting an early jump on the ticket sales. Pass the word! If you have questions, you can talk to me.

My second announcement is something completely different that I am going to be doing this summer for those who might be looking for a little extra during the summer months. This idea has been floating around in my mind for a couple of years, and so I am going to test the waters this year and see where it goes. It involves two somewhat different ideas on two separate nights. The first one will be taking place on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. A one-hour time frame which I am going to do a walk through in the book of Romans. It will be more than a Bible study. We will go through a different chapter each week, that will be our foundation. We will add a little music, some prayer time, and then a time of sharing from the text. I want it to be interactive and not a lecture format. The second plan is a Sunday evening event that will be a little more like a church setting. Music, prayer, and a message of sorts always from the Psalms. "Sunday through the Psalms" I'm calling it. I'm thinking 6:30pm start time on this, although I haven't settled on a time as of yet. (I'll announce that soon.) I want that to be under an hour in length, and a time to connect with each other. The reason for this is maybe your summer schedules have made Sunday mornings difficult. Well, this is my way to try to fill that void. I have no idea how these will fit into where you all are and/or what you might looking for. If they work, they work, if they don't, I'm just fine. This is truly a "put your toe in the water" and see where they go. You'll be hearing more about it in the coming weeks before we start in June.

Sunday's message was a fun one for me to do and this week I want to build on that idea. Not putting people down but lifting Jesus up! This week the focus is on how fear is used by our enemy to tear down our faith. To put doubt in our minds. To render us helpless. To bring mistrust to each other. It is a powerful tool of the enemy, but Jesus had words to say about that. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

PRAYER REQUESTS

"If each evening, as the newscast concluded, a great wave of prayer across the world could ascend to God on behalf of those in trouble and those making trouble, what a difference it might make."
Ruth Bell Graham

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MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR MAY

ARISE UKRAINE

Arise! Ukraine is a 501(c)3 non-profit ministry established in 1997 by missionary, Paul Logan. Its purpose is to see Ukraine saturated with living communities of believers where the transforming power of the gospel is reaching every area of society—giving every man, woman and child in the country the opportunity to be reconciled to the Father and to each other.

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FINANCES

Sunday, May 10, 2026

General: \$16,760
Vision: \$405
Mission: \$565

General YTD: \$323,574
Vision YTD: \$25,821
Vision Account Balance: \$5,074

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

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS

- Lloyd VanEssen (bladder cancer)
- Dorland Schuld (stroke recovery)
- Elaine Deelstra (eye sight changes)
- Carol Baker (cataract surgery)
- Anna Halverson (seizures)
- Jayne Knockenmus's friend, Shelly
- Adam & Julie Brown's son, Austin (hospice)
- Kailee Taborda (Leukemia)
- Ken Stellinga (Whipple surgery-1/27)
- Jodi Ackerman's mother, Karen (aortic aneurysm)
- Leroy Thill (infant son of Katie & Trevor Thill)
- Gracia Harmsen (surgery recovery)
- Al Price
- Jan Sturing
- Tim DeLoof (ALS)
- Steve Lee
- 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)

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



Kids
SUMMER
STORYTIME

In the church Library

2nd Sunday of the month
10:10am-10:35am
Starts May 10

Come enjoy storytime with our church librarians.

FREE

KID'S
FISHING

AT OUTDOOR CAMPUS

SATURDAY, MAY 16

10:00- NOON

Hotdog lunch provided & drawings for door prizes!

Sign up at The Link or email connect@communityrc.org

ONGOING MINISTRIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, **June 8** 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/>

HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet on May 19th at 1:30. Helen is hostess and Carol has the lesson.

BOOK CLUBS

The evening book club will meet Tuesday, May 19, at 7 pm at the church. We will be discussing *The Wager* by Grann.

The morning book club will meet Wednesday, May 20, at 9 pm at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave near 33rd St. We will be discussing *Hello, Beautiful*.

CHURCH SOFTBALL

Come cheer on the Community coed softball team Monday nights at Sherman Park by the Zoo

MONDAY, MAY 18

6:30pm- Diamond C
7:25pm- Diamond A

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



Last week, I wrote about a couple of books I had read that I did not particularly care for. (That's putting it nicely. 😊) And this week, I'd like to challenge you to think a little differently about a book I'm sure you have lying around your house somewhere... The Bible.

Tim Keller often taught that if we are walking with God in transformational grace and reading Scripture regularly, the likelihood that we will read something in the Bible we don't like is pretty high! He makes the inarguable point that if we read God's word, and if it never makes us uncomfortable, if it never digs up something we'd rather not think about, if it never makes us pause to consider deeply if we really believe what we just read, then we aren't truly reading Scripture at all. We might be looking at the words, we might even be paying attention to the words, but we are not letting the words read us, so to speak. We aren't creating room for the Holy Spirit to use His Word in the way God intended.

Scripture says of itself that the Word of the Lord is alive and active. That means God uses His word not just to teach about who God is, but He also uses it to do things within us. Hebrews 4:11-12 says, ¹² "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account." Ka-POW! The author of Hebrews wasn't messing around when he or she wrote about the Word of the Lord!

What the author is trying to say is that when we're reading our Bibles by the power of the Spirit and the grace of Jesus Christ, there are going to be many times when that Word "cuts" us. It will penetrate to the deepest parts of ourselves. It will divide and section off and incise those parts of our hearts and minds that need a little surgery. These are not pleasant words! These words are pointed and full of vivid descriptors of what the Word of God is capable of in our lives. That's why Tim Keller preached about it so often. When we read the Word of the Lord, alongside the comforting and encouraging words of God we will also find difficult and challenging words of God. The Bible is not a book of fluff. It is meant to help us be transformed into the very likeness of Christ. That means there will absolutely be things we read in scripture we won't particularly like, but we must wrestle with them. And that, my friends, is a big deal.

So, this week, I challenge you to read your Bibles a little differently. Don't just go to the same stories or psalms you usually read. Maybe it would be good to head to a section of Scripture you don't particularly like. Read through it. Pray through it. Have conversations with God about it and ask for His guidance as you study His Word. You may find a blessing you didn't expect, a transformation you could not have seen coming, or a refining that will make all the difference in your circumstances. The Word of the Lord is living and active. And it points us to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, all of whom want to do amazing and transformative work in each our lives.

I leave you with that this week. Blessings as you read!

Have a good week!

Liz
Liz.Teel@communityrc.org



We are so close to summer and graduation season is here! For all our high school seniors, we will be recognizing you Sunday mornings starting this week. If you would like to be included this year, please send me a senior photo, preferred name to display (Tom/Thomas as an example) where you are graduating from and what your plans for next year are by this Thursday. There has been a lot of work put in over the years. Congratulations seniors!

Our first event for the summer is only three weeks away! June 3rd from 6:00-8:00 we will be having a grill out, yard games and snow cones here at Church. Students entering 6th grade - graduating seniors are invited to join us for the night as we start our time together this summer! Looking forward to the summer evenings ahead!

Check out the full summer calendar on page 6! Parents, if there are any questions, please feel free to reach out anytime.

Doyle
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org



MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER EVENT

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3
6:00-8:00PM**



Hi Community!

My update this week is a personal one. My oldest daughter graduated from college this weekend. When she started at SDSU 3 years ago, she took a class called "Honors Orientation" which is designed to help students lay out their plans and goals for the rest of their college experience. As part of that class, students were assigned the task of writing a letter to themselves to be read in the future. This weekend, she was given that letter. She was surprised by parts of what she had written, and we were both surprised at the depth of emotion she experienced in thinking about that first semester how much has changed in those short years. New friends, hard times, joy, growth, fun, and of course learning have happened.

That experience, and the season in general, prompted me to ponder what I might have included if I had written letters to myself at various stages in my life. That made me think more about how consistent God has been throughout my life and the lives of the people I love. So much has changed, much of it is good, some of it is hard. I'm different from who I was 3 years ago, 5, 10, 20, and certainly 30+ years ago. God has been busy transforming me and sticking close, regardless of the highs and lows that happen in life. I find myself profoundly grateful.

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



MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CALENDAR

JUNE 2026

CALENDAR KEY

- HIGH SCHOOL WEDNESDAY NIGHT**
- MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL GRILL OUT**
- WORSHIP NIGHT**

NOTES

ALL STUDENTS ENTERING MIDDLE SCHOOL - GRADUATING SENIORS ARE INVITED FOR OUR GRILL OUT WITH BURGERS AND DOGS FOR SUPPER. COME JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FOOD, YARD GAMES AND SNOW CONES!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN ABBY AND I FOR A NIGHT OF WORSHIP WITH SONG, PRAYER, AND DEVOTIONAL.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3 6:00-8:00	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 HS 7:00	11	12	13	14 CHURCH 7:00-8:00
15	16	17 HS 7:00	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 HS 7:00	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JULY 2026

CALENDAR KEY

- HS WEDNESDAY NIGHT**
- THUNDER ROAD M.S. AND H.S.**
- WORSHIP NIGHT**

NOTES

OUR EVENT FOR THE MONTH IS THUNDER ROAD! STUDNETS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF GOLF, GO CARTS, LASER TAG AND MORE AS WE CONTINUE TO BUILD CONNECTION OVER THE SUMMER MONTHS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

IF YOU ARE HERE VBS WEEK, COME VOLUNTEER WITH THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FOR AN AWESOME WEEK!

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	1 NO YOUTH GROUP	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 HS 6:30	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 EVENT 6:00-8:00	16	17	18	19 CHURCH 7:00-8:00
20	21	22 HS FOLLOWING VBS	23	24	25	26
VBS WEEK AT CHURCH						ROCKY
27	28	29	30	31		
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH						

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

MAY 13, 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

Director of Discipleship & Worship
liz.teel@communityrc.org

Doyle Burnside

Senior High & Middle School Youth Director
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Teresa Lipp

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Lisa Blankers

Part-Time Financial Administrator
accounting@communityrc.org

Josiah Dunlap

Part-Time IT Coordinator