

THE COMMUNICATOR

THIS WEEK
OCTOBER 7- 14

Wednesday, Oct. 7
Midweek starts
5:30-6:30pm- Meal- BBQ
6:30-7:30pm-
Classes for all ages
(nursery, K-5, M.S. Youth Group, H.S. Youth Group, adult classes)

Saturday, Oct. 10
7:00am- Fresh Encounter
Prayer Group

Sunday, Oct. 11
8:00, 9:00 & 10:45am-
Worship Services
10:10am- Sunday School
10:15am- Adult Sunday School

6:30pm- Refresh
(College-age/ Young adults)

Monday, Oct. 12
Noon- Senior Citizens
(E. 10th Pizza Ranch)

Tuesday, Oct. 13
9:30am- Play Group

Wednesday, Oct. 14
5:30-6:30pm- Meal- Soup
6:30-7:30pm-
Classes for all ages
(nursery, K-5, M.S. Youth Group, H.S. Youth Group, adult classes)

3RD GRADE BIBLES
will be given in church on
OCTOBER 18, 2026
Come at 9am or 10:45am

Clyde's Update

OCTOBER 7, 2026

October and the leaves are turning. After all the rain and the green grass growing like crazy, the leaves are now turning. Fall is just a beautiful time of the year, and as I say very often, I hope it lasts a long time. I know it has been challenging for farmers trying to get into those wet fields, but it looks like things are going to change in the coming days. We just must wait these things out, and eventually it all works out. There are lots of school activities going right now, as well, so life is very busy for many of you. Enjoy your days with your kids and grandkids.

I don't have a lot of news this week which is sometimes a good thing. Things are certainly getting started in the coming days with MidWeek and choir getting started here very shortly, but those things seem to be just a part of normal flow of things around the church. I am looking forward to all of that.

MidWeek gets started this week! We are very curious as to how many will join us. We have a great lineup of class offerings for our adult learners as well as all the youth activities. There will be a lot of action around the kitchen this week as well…here we go! If you have never been a part of MidWeek, I would highly encourage you to make plans on stopping by. It is a great way to make connections in this place. You get the chance to sit around tables and have a great meal with new friends. It is one of the best things we do around here.

Choir members: I do hope you are planning on being with us this year. I really think we have some great music to put together. It is challenging, but not crazy difficult. We have a great variety, and it is always a good time to do this each year. I know you have a million things going on and you don't need one more thing to add to the list, but we would sure love seeing you there. Once again, this is a connecting point to a church family. Plugging in can be challenge. This one is an easy way to get involved. Join us!

I have been thinking about doing a guitar class again this fall. I know, I don't need one more thing to do, but I haven't done that in a while, and they can be fun ways to gather some folks together and see what we can get of out the whole thing. In the past those have produced some good students, but more importantly it has been a way to connect with people on a completely different level. That is good for me. I'll keep you up to date on this. The challenge is finding the right time for everyone. That's always an issue for all of us.

Sunday we are going to talk about when we are anxious. You probably knew this one was coming. We have been all around that subject since this series began and this week, we are going there. Anxiety is the new "disease" in our culture. I do want to look at some of the practical themes wrapped up in this issue, and of course bring a word from a spiritual place in our hearts. How do we slow those minds down? How do we settle the rustling that goes on inside our heads? How do we communicate to our children words and actions that keep them grounded and secure? Lots of questions. We'll talk more on Sunday. Have a great week!

"Devote yourselves to prayer,
being watchful and thankful".
Colossians 4:2

THE GIVE



Check out THE GIVE wall in the lobby. It's a place to donate to local ministries.

For the month of October, we'll be collecting winter gear & other clothing items for the Center of Hope. Let's fill those bins!

CLOTHING



*SWEATSHIRTS
*JEANS/PANTS
*SHIRTS
*SWEATPANTS
*SOCKS/UNDERWEAR
(ALL SIZES- MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN)

HAT, GLOVES & SCARVES



WINTER GEAR



*COATS & JACKETS
*WINTER BOOTS
*BLANKETS & SLEEPING BAGS
*HAND WARMERS

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Daniel Burlingame (liver shunt)
- Colton Bultje (heart issue)
- Tim DeLoof (ALS)
- Carolyn Odens (concussion)
- Alvin Hoogendoorn (hip surgery)
- Dustin Schouten (auto accident recovery)
- Rod Sonnenburg (malignant lymphoma)
- Dree Mayer's sister, Charlotte (triple bypass)
- Carol Baker (ongoing eye issues)
- Anna Halverson (seizures)
- Jayne Knockenmus's friend, Shelly
- Kailee Taborda (Leukemia)
- Ken Stellinga
- Jodi Ackerman's mother, Karen (aortic aneurysm)
- Leroy Thill (infant son of Katie & Trevor Thill)
- Gracia Harmsen
- Al Price
- Jan Sturing
- Matt Meyer's fiancé Lynnette's dad (tumor)
- Ellen Nelson Garner (chronic airway disease)
- Brian Frisbee (ongoing rehab)
- Jordan Lipp's mom, Becky (dementia)
- Kristy Mouw's sister-in-law, Mindy (cancer)
- Susan Bierwagen's uncle, Darrell (cancer)

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the prayers for my brother throughout all of his testing. He does not have cancer! Also, thank you for your prayers as I moved.
Jan McDowell

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Sherri Van Beek & Scott Van Roekel for the passing of their father, Con. Please keep their families in your prayers.

FRESH ENCOUNTER

SATURDAY MORNINGS @ 7:00AM

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

Meeting code
meet.google.com/rkd-vfrv-ech
Phone Number
+1 567-250-1502

PIN: 308 500 420#

Questions?
Call Shawn Blom
605-940-6702



MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER

JON & GRACIA HARMSEN (CRU)

"We are honored to serve with Cru in the Sioux Empire, creating opportunities for college students to encounter Christ, be deeply formed in their faith, and be sent out as healthy, multiplying disciples of Jesus.

Our team is actively reaching students across 8 of more than 24 college campuses throughout South Dakota and northwest Iowa, with a desire to see every campus have a gospel presence.

Jon works directly with students at the University of South Dakota, Sioux City schools, and Mitchell Technical College, while also serving as the Sexual Wholeness Coordinator for Cru across an eight-state region, helping students experience freedom and wholeness through the Gospel.

Gracia serves in a variety of roles as the Sioux Empire team's administrative assistant, financial manager, graphic designer, and social media manager, while also spending time discipling and connecting with students on campus—earning her the nickname our team's "Swiss Army Knife."

Together, our ministry is centered around three simple goals: Win students to Christ, Build them up in their faith, and Send them out to reach others for Christ."



October is Pastor Appreciation month.
Let's take some time to show our appreciation to our pastors for the time, energy, and resources they give time after time!

DOYLE'S UPDATE

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



October is here and that means midweek at Community is officially starting! At the end of September we had a great turn out for the kick off event and I am looking forward to building on the momentum that is here! Our theme for this month comes from John 13:31-35. Jesus gives His disciples a new covenant to love others as He has loved. On one hand, this might sound simple. On the other, what does that really look like? There is an old acronym WWJD. You have all probably heard it before. This year I want to explore another one; DYKJETKWHWD - Do You Know Jesus Enough To Know What He Would Do? We ask, not to compare or shame one another with how much we do or do not know, but to walk in the good news that our knowledge and love continues to abound more and more on this journey of faith. Jesus changes everything!

Some of the biggest changes in my life have happened because of a youth retreat or camp. Both as a student and as a youth pastor. There is a small joke for Abby and I to have the "so what's changing this time" conversation when I get home from an overnight event. This year that change was not one for our family or my personal life, but for the youth ministry. There was already some thought on possible changes for our time at midweek, but after Rocky Mountain High a clear direction to the why unfolded. The theme this year was One Story and it is one we are going to continue to build upon as we look at ways in which God is including us in it. As we bring the middle and high school students together for a time of worship, there will be opportunities for them to share what God is doing in their life. We often have a series on how God has created us to walk with one another and how that can make a huge impact in our life. This fall, we change things up a little to provide a space for students to encourage one another in faith in their sharing of God's work and presence in life. Thats it for this week. Please feel free to reach out with any questions!

Doyle
doyle.burnside@communityrc.org



HEATHER'S UPDATE KID'S MINISTRY

I am very excited for Midweek to start, and a few of the kids told me they are looking forward to it as well. We have big plans for this year!

Midweek Details:

- Free meal- 5:30-6:30: Enjoy a delicious dinner prepared by volunteers. The rotating menu includes a different meal each week. Menus include soup, tacos, salads, pasta, sloppy joes, pulled pork, and more. Most meals also include the option of hot dogs. On the first week we get Sloppy Joes!
- Kids who get done eating early can come play in the children's wing for a little fellowship time called "Fun Zone" from 6-6:25. We clean up at about 6:25 to leave plenty of time to start our lessons right at 6:30.
- Activities for K-5 kids- 6:30-7:30: Fun, hands-on lessons with caring teachers keep kids coming back to K-5 Midweek Adventures each week.
- Adult classes and small groups- 6:30-7:30: We have something for everyone. This is a great way to grow in your faith and meet new people.
- Youth Group- Middle School and High School 6:30-7:30
- Nursery- Wednesdays in the Nursery are special. Little ones love the fun activities, sweet friends, and caring grown-ups.

For the K-5 kids this year, we'll be starting the year with a similar format to how we ended last year, but we have more adult helpers! We have some Education and Nursing students from the University of Sioux Falls who are joining us as part-time staff this year to help make a great experience for our kids. Some of our team from last year are joining us again as well. This allows all of the parents to be able to go to the Adult Classes on Wednesdays while still providing sufficient adults for the K-5 programming to run smoothly. We'll start as a large group right at 6:30 where I'll give kids instructions and any announcements. For this first week, that large group time will be a little longer as we show kids the learning spaces and present the various ways kids can explore the Bible stories as we learn them. Then, we'll dive into our projects. (Please note: if your K-5 child wants a special part in the Christmas Program this year, please be sure they are at Midweek as this is where we will assign and work on those bonus roles in addition to our usual Wednesday learning.)

Parents, your child should have been given a note about the **Christmas Program.** If not, you can still get the info at: https://communityrc.org/christmas The program is 12/13/26 at 3:30pm.

For Preschool: Preschool Kids meet in the children's wing at 3:10 before the program. Please practice the songs with your child at home or in the car. (We do our group Preschool Program practicing during Sunday School.)

For K-5:

- Every Sunday School class has a group speaking part.
- Kids will need to practice their group lines and songs at home. Classes might practice group lines a little during Sunday School as well.
- All K-5 kids sing the songs together.
- On the day of the program (December 13) we will have a final practice for all K-5 participants during Sunday School from 10:10am to 10:40am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Children should arrive at 2:45 on the afternoon of the program. They can wear whatever you decide is best. Some kids will put a costume over their clothes. Others may choose just a head piece or skip the costume.

On Wednesdays, interested kids can work on other parts (see below).

- Extra Parts: On Wednesdays, during Midweek, starting October 7, any K-5 student interested in doing an extra part in the program including speaking, songs, dancing, prop making, etc. will start to create and prepare their projects. They can work on them throughout the fall on Wednesdays. We'll discuss this as a group on the first week of Midweek and kids will have opportunities to sign up to be part of the program at that time.

ONE MORE IMPORTANT THING: The 3rd Grade Bible day this year will be on October 18 during the 9am and 10:45am services. If your child is in 3rd grade, they are invited to come to the front of church to receive their Bible, and we'll have a brief time of prayer. If your child is uncomfortable coming to the front, or if you will be gone that week, we can give them their Bible after church or on another day too.

Heather DeWit
Community Kids
605-336-1475

ONGOING MINISTRIES

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens will meet on Monday, **Oct. 12** at noon at the East 10th Pizza Ranch. Questions, please call Connie Parmley, 605-275-0030. Everyone welcome!

REFRESH

(College-age/ Young adults)
Sundays @ 6:30pm
High School Youth Room
Join our group chat for upcoming events:
https://web.groupme.com/join_group/107959399/aJVru2FZ

WD40

This group is for women of all ages. They meet the **first Monday of every month 7:00pm -8:00pm** in the fellowship hall.
Led by Liz Teel, WD40 is a community of women who join in discussions about their spiritual growth and emotional wellbeing.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Monday night men's bible study has been canceled because of lack of attendance. For any questions, contact John Thornton.

HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle will meet on **October 20th at 1:30.** Carol is the hostess and Barb has the lesson.

BOOK CLUB

The evening book club will meet on **Tuesday, Oct. 20., at 7 pm** at the church. We will be discussing Everything is Just Beginning by Bartels (which was rescheduled from an ice night last winter).

The morning book club will meet on **Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 9:30 am** at the Bagel Boy on Minnesota Ave near 33rd St.
We will be discussing the nonfiction The Watchmaker's Daughter by Loftis. **NOTICE THE TIME CHANGE...**So as to not overlap with a Bible Study that has been scheduled in our space until 9:30, we are going to try a slightly later time.

LIZ'S UPDATE

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP



Mid-Week gets started tonight (Wednesday, October 7) with supper at 5:30 and classes for everyone else from 6:30-7:30. I think I've shared about all the information I can think to share, so now you just have to come! I really do hope you give it a try. I think you might like it. 😊

Last week I promised that I would share more about the upcoming Women's Retreat that Abbie and I will be leading here at Community. The retreat will be held Saturday morning, November 7, from 9:00am to noon.
We do not offer childcare at these retreats because we want the women who are in attendance to be able to be fully present. So, this is where we need help from dads, grandpas, uncles, and brothers. If there are little kids in your families, it would be an awesome gift if you offered to take those kids for the morning so the women in your families could attend.

The retreat will be similar to retreats of the past, but there will be a few new additions to our time together.
We'll have times of worship and praise, times of teaching and learning, times of discussion and sharing, and times of eating and chatting! What we hope for these events is that you will come away having experienced God in new ways as well as having been challenged and grown in your relationships with Him. Our prayer is that you will be refreshed and renewed...and those are not the same thing. 😊

Our topic this year is "Amazon or Denial". 😊 The basic topic of our morning is self-denial. We tend to think of self-sacrifice and self-denial as the same thing...but they aren't! I hope you'll join us as we break down the differences and learn more about what it means to truly deny ourselves for the sake of Christ. These women's retreats are excellent for inviting family and friends to church. And in the past, God has always been faithful to meet us there. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask me!

Have a great week!

Liz

Liz.Teel@communityrc.org

Join Us!

WOMEN'S RETREAT
"AMAZON OR DENIAL"
Saturday, Nov. 7

9:00am- Noon
Join other women for a morning of worship and intentional spiritual renewal.
Led by Liz Teel & Abbie Coffey.
No childcare provided.

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

OCTOBER 7, 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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accounting@communityrc.org

Josiah Dunlap
Part-Time IT Coordinator