

## Finishing Up Romans in October (continued from front page)

- **October 18**— What does it mean to live in the light of the day of the Lord? That is the theme from the second half of Romans 13 that we will consider. A men's quartet will provide Ministry of Praise.
- **October 25**—The series on Romans will come to a conclusion as we explore what it means to be weak and strong Christians. A praise team will lead our singing. In the evening, everyone is invited to the Community Reformation Day service at 7 p.m. which will be held at the Christian Reformed Church.

### REMINDER about Hy-Vee Receipts

If you turn in Hy-Vee (Brookings only) receipts to the basket along the north wall in the fellowship hall, you can be part of a MESA fund-raiser. When we have \$150,000 worth of receipts, Hy-Vee will donate \$1,000 toward a MESA project yet to be determined. As of September 23, we have collected \$104,100.38. Thank you for helping!

### Trunk or Treat Set for October 31



On Saturday, October 31, FRC will be hosting its 10th Annual Trunk or Treat night. We invite you to park your car, van or pickup in the driveway at church (to get out of the wind) with some candy to distribute to the children who come. The time will be from 5:30-7 p.m. We usually get about 250 children. If you don't want to purchase that much candy, just come and do it until your candy runs out. MESA will serve coffee and hot chocolate to all those who distribute candy.

### New Books in the Library

Amish Greenhouse Mystery Series by Wanda Brunstetter

- #1 CF655— *The Crow's Call*
- #2 CF656— *The Mockingbird's Song*

Sylvia, sole supporter after losing her husband, father and brother meets fellow enthusiast Dennis—living in fear when attacks on King's greenhouse begin again. Will the family be forced to close the business?

### FOR AGES 4-7

*Just in Case You Ever Wonder* by Max Lucado

To assure children that they are safe, celebrated and loved no matter what

*You Are Special* by Max Lucado

A whimsical love letter from parent to child, Lucado assures kids they are special, welcome and cherished gifts from God

## First Reformed Church, Volga, SD

October 2020

# Glad Tidings

*"I bring you glad tidings of great joy..."*

### Finishing up Romans in October; Reformation Service on October 25

Here is what is in store for Sundays in October.

- **October 4**— It is Worldwide Communion Sunday. We will consider what the last half of Romans 12 might teach us about loving our enemies like Jesus did, and then we will celebrate communion in the same way that we did in August. Everyone will be invited to come forward one row at a time. At the front, worshippers will take some bread (on a toothpick) and then a small cup of juice. The Operation Christmas Child boxes will be available on this Sunday (the boxes will be collected on November 8.) The Jackets for Jesus boxes will also be out.
- **October 11**—We will honor organ and piano accompanists at our morning service. A praise team will also lead our singing. Ellie Koerner will bring Ministry of Praise. Pastor Dave will preach from Romans 13 about the role of government.





## IN NEED OF PRAYER

The following members needed medical care recently and appreciate your prayers:

- Dar Ludwig—colon surgery
- Bev Cotton—brain bleed
- Bernita Kooima—chemotherapy
- Dawn Lucas—chemotherapy
- Jodi Koerner—chemotherapy

## Congratulations



- \*James and Ashley Mans who were married on August 29
- \*Jared and Kaycia Peters who were united in marriage on September 5

## Youth Group Meetings for October

The youth groups will meet on the following Wednesdays in October at 7 p.m. each time.

October 7—High School Youth Group

October 14—Middle School Youth Group

October 28—High School and Middle School together

Kelly Vander Wal, our new youth group leader, looks forward to getting to know you all in this coming year.

### Upcoming Task Force Meetings

October 1—Education Task Force

October 14—Worship TF will decorate for the fall/Thanksgiving season and November 28 for Christmas

October 19—MESA Task Force

October 21—Consistory

January 13 (tentative) - Worship Task Force

## Looking Back Ten Years..... 2010!!

- Mourned the loss of Jessica Vande Weerd on September 28
- Welcomed Michael and Sandy Nieman in the FRC membership
- After months of prayerful consideration, consistory unanimously voted to permanently discontinue Sunday evening services as of the end of the year
- Pastor Carl Van Voorst will serve as FRC's classis moderator in the absence of a pastor
- Congratulations to Hollie and Josh Moldenhauer as they were united in marriage on October 16
- A Community Reformation Day service was held at the Christian Reformed Church

## Highlights of Last Month

- On August 30, our annual outdoor service moved inside once again because of weather
- The middle school youth group, under leadership of their new leader, Kelly Vander Wal, met on September 9 for a game of four-square-in-the air
- New Sunday School classes started up on September 13, with the teachers commissioned, and Bibles given to Cade Leinen, Rebecca Olson and Kinsley Sapp
- Layson Lucas, Marika Vander Wal and Preston Vander Wal made profession of their faith at the September 20 service
- In its exploration of whether or not it should eventually leave the Reformed Church in America (RCA), the Dakota Classis recently sent a letter to all the churches of classis to find out where they stood on various doctrinal creeds and confessions. Our consistory responded by affirming all the current confessions in the RCA and also a possible new one called the Great Lake Catechism, which contains biblical teaching about human sexuality and marriage.

## Church Library Books



As we continue to add books and videos to the church library, the committee would like to hear your recommendations. Please share your suggestions with Susan Vander Wal or Michelle Vande Weerd.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

A pastor’s heart is Protective  
And guards his flock from Satan’s snares.  
A pastor’s heart is Attentive  
And seeks to know his people’s cares.  
A pastor’s heart is Sacrificial  
And for his sheep will give its all.  
A pastor’s heart is Tender  
And listens to the Spirit’s call.  
A pastor’s heart is Obedient  
And heeds the Master’s commands.  
A pastor’s heart is Reflective  
And considers he is but a man.

Pastor Dave & Ruth -

Thank you for your  
willingness to serve FRC  
during your transplant  
and pandemic!  
May the good Lord  
bless and keep you!

- Deanna Malawy, Okawville, Illinois

Missionary News

**Pastor Jason and Ruth Wiersma** who have faithfully served the Living Stone Prison Church will be stepping down as chaplain. They are planning to plant a church in Sioux Falls for guys getting out of prison or for any ex-felon who has struggled to find a church home. Living Stone has hired another pastor, Dan Ebbens and his wife Natalie, who has pastored in Aurora Center for the past 11 years. COVID kept them away from the prison for four months. During that time, some of the inmates took it upon themselves to do worship in the prison yard and Bible studies on the unit. Pastor Jason was able to put together DVD’s with some songs and a sermon that were played on the prison channel that anyone could watch.

**The Rodriguez Family** - Back in March, COVID was only a threat that forced us into our house under strict lockdowns and curfews. The reality was hunger for many because of the loss of income. When the economy opened in July, adults poured to the streets desperate to provide for the families. Now in August and September, COVID is real. The health care system has collapsed; oxygen tanks/refills for home use are a precious commodity, contacting a doctor is a blessing, medications are expensive. Our immediate family is healthy as we do not have underlying conditions and do not fear a serious case of COVID. We continue our home school/distance learning hybrid. Kids still aren’t allowed out for more than a half an hour a day or more than 500 meters from the house. God’s promises are true in this dark season of the pandemic!

Time for Helping the Needy this Fall

The fall is always a time in which we have various opportunities for helping the needy.

- **Red Cross Blood Drive**—There is still time to sign up on-line for the Red Cross blood drive on Wednesday, September 30 from noon to 6 p.m. Because of the pandemic, the Red Cross has been discouraging walk-ins in order to avoid too many people just waiting to donate.
- **Operation Christmas Child**—Shoeboxes will be available at church on Sunday, October 11. We will then collect them on November 8.
- **Jackets for Jesus**—Two large boxes will be placed in the fellowship hall and in the coat area along the south hallway for you to donate warm winter coats, snow boots, gloves and mittens, coveralls, snow pants for kids.  
**PLEASE MAKE SURE THE ITEMS ARE CLEAN AND MENDED.**

Nomination Ballots Available

We are already at that time of year when we need to think about nominating new consistory members for 2021. This year, we will need one new elder (to replace Dean Vander Wal) and one new deacon (to replace Ron Koerner). All confessing members are to nominate two names for each of those offices. Nomination ballots were made available on September 27 and need to be returned by October 18. This is in preparation for the congregational meeting on Sunday, December 6.

Extra Safety Zone Set Up in Sanctuary

We all have different levels of comfort when it comes to the pandemic. Many of our members have returned to church without wearing masks, but others have not been as comfortable with that. We may be late with it, but the consistory would like to provide an area in the sanctuary for those who prefer a few extra safety precautions. Therefore, the first five pews on the south (organ) side of the church will be set aside as an **Extra Safety Zone**. That area will be for those who prefer to wear masks during worship, and seating will only be in pews 2 and 4, with 1,3 and 5 blocked off. If they prefer, those who sit in this area can enter the sanctuary from the side door toward the front. If we end up needing more spaces for this **Extra Safety Zone**, we can later revisit which pews will be so designated. We will also continue to have the area in the fellowship hall available for those who prefer some more space.

