



Building God's kingdom one life at a time.

First Reformed Church
1101 7th Street, Sheldon IA
712-324-2130

July 2025



**Thursday,
July 3**



VNU Independence Day Celebration

Schedule

5 PM: Food Booths Open
6 PM: Carnival Games & Inflatables Open
7 PM: Free Outdoor Concert: Landslide - Tribute to
Fleetwood Mac
Spectacular Fireworks at Dark!

**Are Your Kids and their friends
signed up to attend VBS?**



**Join us
VBS 2025
July 6-9
5:30-8:30pm**

Register here:



**The church office will be
closed on Friday, July 4.**



CHILDREN & WORSHIP

July schedule:

We will not be having it on July 6, due to VBS, but will be having it the last 3 Sundays in July in room 21. It will be open to **3 yr olds - Kindergarten kids**. On some days the kids may be going outside. **There will be no C&W in August.**



KIDS ATTENDING SUMMER CAMP

The list of kids attending camp in July is below. Lists of the kids that will be attending camps each week will also be included in the prayer/praise section of the bulletins during the summer. We encourage you to send the kids mail while they are attending camp. They love to get mail!

June 30-July 2: Discovery Camp

- Elliot Thurman
- Madelyn Van Voorst

July 28-August 1: Day Camp Explorers

- Remington Drenkow

Mailing address:

Inspiration Hills Camp &
Retreat Center
1242 280th Street
Inwood, Iowa 51240

Summer Family Bible Bingo

Families with kids who are in PK-6th grade, don't forget to pick up a June bingo card on the Welcome Table. Complete the card as a family and turn it into the office or to Sami by July 6.

**Prizes will be
awarded!**



Sheldon Mobile Food Truck

DATE: Thursday, July 10

TIME: 4:30-6:00 PM

LOCATION: Living Water Church

Bring a box with you to pick up your groceries.



JULY 13 - 19

The mission trip will entail several physical projects in Rapid City, SD. They will be working along with a mission group associated with Love INC.

JUST A REMINDER ...

Please check the volunteer schedules in the bulletin to see if you are assigned duty in the nursery or Children & Worship on Sunday.

If you will be gone for the assigned date, please find a substitute. You are encouraged to call Kelsey Cooper @ 712.348.2636 for nursery changes and also let the office know of the change so the bulletin contains the correct information.

Please wait in the nursery for 10-15 minutes if children aren't there initially.

Background Checks

Anybody who works with children in any way needs to complete a background check. Find Brenda in the Fellowship Hall starting on July 13 to fill out the forms. Updates will also be needed for many of our current volunteers.

WHEN: Monday,
July 21

TIME: 5:30-6:30
PM

WHERE: Living Water
Church

A come and go buffet will be served. A bag of groceries is available to take home with you after you have had your meal. Come join us for some food & fellowship. Bring a friend!



DEPARTURE SCHEDULE

- ♦ **8:30 AM** - load the vehicles
- ♦ **8:50 AM** - prayer send-off
- ♦ **9:00 AM** - leave

Anyone interested is invited to the prayer send-off in the church parking lot on Sunday morning.

People who will be going on the trip are: Pastor Paul, Caitie, Dan D, Dan VR, Charm N, Cayden S, Josh N, Levi S, Harper VM, Zeyda K, Audrey P, Addisyn K and Dulci M.

Please keep them in prayer as they literally help "build God's kingdom one life at a time!"



**IT'S SUMMER
& WITH IT COMES
STAFF VACATIONS**

July 13-19: Both Caitie & Pastor Paul are going on the mission trip and will be gone for the week.

July 16-20: Wendy will be on vacation.

July 21-27: Caitie will be attending Power Connection Workcamp/Power Connection & will be out of her office.

July 28-August 3: Pastor Paul will be on vacation.

When Pastor Paul is gone, please direct any calls to the office. If there is an emergency, please contact Dan Dykstra at 712.752.8199 (home) or at 712.230.0379. When Wendy is gone Shannon will answer the phone in the mornings. And there will be nobody in the office in the afternoons or on Friday.

CELL PHONES

For the sake of knowing and loving Jesus and to minimize distractions, mobile phones, electronic devices and toys, will no longer be welcomed or permitted in the classrooms or large group spaces at FRC. This applies to children and teens, Preschool - 12th Grade. A

student may be permitted to use a phone or other device at the direction of a teacher, but only for a limited time. If a phone is brought in, it shall be turned off completely and stored in the basket provided in each classroom until the end of the class or learning time. Parents, thank you for helping your child to know and love Jesus and for helping his or her teachers and sponsors to minimize distractions. We also ask that the teachers and sponsors limit the use of their cell phones and electronic devices unless they are needed for the lesson. We need to set an example for our children and youth to follow.





TEEN BIBLE STUDY & HANGOUT

Wednesdays 2:00-3:00pm
June 11-August 13

**COME JOIN AREA YOUTH DIRECTORS
FOR A SHORT BIBLE STUDY AND GAMES
THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER!**

For teens entering 7th-12th grades

POWER CONNECTION WORK CAMP

July 22 - Prayer send-off @ 9:50 AM
Departure time @ 10 AM

Students need to make sure they have packed clothing required for their work sites and have not packed items on the "Do Not Pack List."

POWER CONNECTION WEEKEND

July 25 - Meet at church @ 9:20 AM
Departure time @ 9:30 AM

Students should bring enough money for our time at Valley Fair, lunch on the way home, and for souvenirs & other items they may want. Again, students should make sure they packed what is on the packing list and do not pack items that are not allowed.

New Baby Gift Baskets

Baskets are on the table at the back of the church (in the narthex) for: Jude Mark, son of Marty & Katie Van Peurse; Violet Jane Borgens, daughter of James & Beth (Blankers) Borgens; and Jessa Jo, daughter of Mitch & Jessica Jensen. The baskets will be on the table below the Missions bulletin board through the month of June and the first part of July. Please bring your baby gifts to add to the basket by Sunday, July 6.



More info can be found in emails sent by Caitie. If you are not receiving these emails please reach out.

A NOTE OF



First Reformed Church,

Sheldon Community Ambulance Team wishes to thank you for helping us continue to assure a high level of emergency care for those who deserve the best ... the people of our community. We appreciate being able to use your facility to prepare for our supper. Thank you very much.

~ SCAT

A HUGE thanks to all of the people who helped in the FRC booth during the RiseFest weekend. It was a hot and windy weekend, but you took time out of your busy lives to reach out to the RiseFest attendees. May God bless each of you!

~ Hands of Hope Community Outreach Team

Thanks to all the people who helped decorate for VBS on June 24. Your help is so very much appreciated. Thanks for helping VBS an exciting time for kids!

~ VBS Planning Committee

UPDATE FROM THE DEACONS

The lower-level project is close to completion nearly a year from the flooding rains that impacted so many in Northwest Iowa. The deacons want to express our thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness and provision through the generosity of His church. The deacons set a goal of \$220,000 to cover this project. Just over \$251,000 was raised, which helped cover unexpected costs and overages that are common with a project like this. As we finish up the final details of the lower level, it is our prayer that this will be an improved tool for discipleship programs at First Reformed Church. All glory to God for the many servants and resources that made this project a reality.



July 1	Todd Van Beek Kayci Woelber	July 9	Ingetta Tutje - 90 Amy Renaud Daniel Ten Clay	July 20	Jo Franken Willow Tune
July 2	Chris Van Beek Teresa Gardfrey Nicole Dibbet	July 10	Jane Lode	July 21	Galen Van Velzen Jennifer Dacken Tyler Jorgensen Charlie Storm Hunter Jager Koby Peelen Gracelyn Kats
July 3	Gene Den Hartog - 93 Marv Holtrop Audrey Moet Amber Groendyke Amanda De Groot	July 11	Linda Popkes Berkley Wolthuizen	July 22	Marcia Vaandrager Anderson Houtsma Gibson Drenkow
July 6	Arlan Lode Avery De Hoogh Cambree De Hoogh Carly De Hoogh	July 13	Jordan Hoekstra	July 23	Paul Van Maaren Gage Jager
July 8	Ed Dykstra	July 14	Mike Meyer	July 24	Mark Koerselman Laura Westphalen Sam Van Maaren Logan Van Meeteren
		July 15	Jim Korver Jayne Korver Dan Van Regenmorter Troy Wassenaar	July 27	Gloria Swoyer Phyllis Buren Glenda Hoogers Shawn Vander Naald
		July 16	Rod Kroeze Grace Hoogers Jordyn Stellinga	July 28	Arlin Van Kley Leroy Theis
		July 17	Tami Kuiper Ruth Vogel Tina Dekker Drew Sauer Bentley Bracy Cash Haack	July 29	Gavin De Hoogh
		July 18	John Meyer Chad Houtsma Kailey Jorgensen	July 30	Amber Beukelman
		July 19	April Schaeffer Tori Elgersma		

July 3	Dennis & Linda Popkes - 49 Larry & Wendy Vander Plaats - 45 John & Jewel Doely - 43	July 24	Brian & Jill Van Meeteren - 32
July 7	Dave & Joyce Fedders - 19	July 25	Blaine & Larie De Groot - 17
July 9	Brett & Sheila Peelen - 20	July 29	Preston & Ruth Hoekstra - 50 Gene & Marlys Den Hartog - 8
July 10	Brent & Kristin Van Engen - 15	July 31	Scott & Kristie Simonsen - 31
July 14	Tyler & Ashley Jorgensen - 18		
July 16	Jerod & Samantha Reinking - 4		
July 18	Barry & Maggie Whitsell - 11		
July 19	Keith & Marcia Vaandrager - 34 Michael & Erica Jager - 22 Charley & Nicole Dibbet - 11		
July 23	Herb & Lorrie Struyk - 33 Josh & Kelsey Van Beek - 14		



Anniversaries

Benevolent Fund – June 2025

	<u>Jan - May 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2025	\$ 90,325.63	
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Benevolent Fund	18,087.98	187,250.00
Missions	1,100.00	
Sunday School	411.00	
Total Income	<u>19,598.98</u>	<u>187,250.00</u>
Gross Profit	19,598.98	187,250.00
Expense		
Commitments		
Beth (Blankers) Borgens/CRU	1,750.00	7,000.00
Bethesda Christian Counseling	0.00	4,000.00
GraceCovenantMinistry-Annville	1,750.00	7,000.00
Grooters, Jay & Amy-Costa Rica	1,750.00	7,000.00
Harlan Moss-SD Prison Ministry	1,750.00	7,000.00
Inspiration Hills	0.00	7,000.00
Jake & Brittany Korver	1,750.00	7,000.00
JoJo Bong-Asian Youth	0.00	3,500.00
Lay Mission Fund	0.00	15,000.00
Love Inc	2,916.65	7,000.00
Mission & Service Projects	5,990.00	5,000.00
Mission to India-ChurchPlanters	1,875.00	7,500.00
Mission to India-Literacy Prog	625.00	2,500.00
Multiplication Network	0.00	3,500.00
Pascal,Sasha&Sara-Moldova	750.00	3,000.00
Reformed Church in America		
Brownell-Japan	1,750.00	7,000.00
Nicole Opgenorth-Nicaragua	<u>1,750.00</u>	<u>7,000.00</u>
Total Reformed Church in America	3,500.00	14,000.00
Rise Fest	5,000.00	5,000.00
Rise Ministries	1,750.00	7,000.00
SandalsOnSand Min (B Godbersen)	0.00	2,500.00
Sheldon Christian School	0.00	6,000.00
Talking Bibles	0.00	7,000.00
Touch of Hope Bibles	92.94	4,000.00
Touch of Hope Haiti	0.00	7,000.00
Vasileiadis,PavlosMeggan-Greece	1,750.00	7,000.00
Village Northwest Unlimited	0.00	6,000.00
Words of Hope	<u>0.00</u>	<u>28,000.00</u>
Total Commitments	32,999.59	186,500.00
RCA College Scholarships	750.00	750.00
YTD Offerings Paid Out	<u>6,227.98</u>	
Total Expense	39,977.57	187,250.00

Now, that's funny!

from [Inspire21.com/churchhumor/](https://inspire21.com/churchhumor/)

Little Johnny

Little Johnny went to Sunday school one Sunday. The lesson for the day was from Genesis. “God opened up Adam’s side, took a rib from him, and created Eve from it,” was what really struck Johnny.

Later, that afternoon, Johnny started feeling sick, and his side began to hurt. He layed down on the couch, and after about half an hour, his mother came over and asked him if he was feeling okay. He said, “Not really – I think I’m gonna have a wife.”

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### Johnny’s Dust

After church, Johnny tells his parents he has to go and talk to the minister right away. They agree, and the pastor greets the family.

“Pastor,” Johnny says, “I heard you say today that our bodies came from the dust.”

“That’s right, Johnny, I did,” he says.

“And I heard you say that when we die, our bodies go back to dust.”

“Yes, I’m glad you were listening,” the pastor replies. “Why do you ask?”

“Well you better come over to our house right away and look under my bed, ’cause there’s someone either comin’ or goin’!”

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Benevolent Fund - June 2025 (cont.)

Net Ordinary Income	<u>-20,378.59</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Net Cash Flow	<u>-20,378.59</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Ending Cash Balance \$ 69,947.04

General Fund - June 2025

	May 25	Jan - May 25	Annual Budget
Beginning Cash Flow	\$49,680.77		
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
General Fund	47,796.94	242,036.62	587,810.06
Interest Income	55.60	282.38	
Total Income	47,852.54	242,319.00	587,810.06
Gross Profit	47,852.54	242,319.00	587,810.06
Expense			
Alliance Dues	0.00	4,414.27	19,000.00
Congregational Care	414.97	3,863.86	17,000.00
Education	1,600.89	3,096.66	21,850.00
Facilities & Grounds	3,353.24	22,507.56	128,000.00
General and Consistory	845.54	8,817.27	15,600.00
Office	587.90	8,237.15	21,645.00
Outreach	1,128.52	8,045.01	24,300.00
Payroll Expenses	22,514.53	120,622.12	331,365.06
Transfer Out	15,000.00	45,000.00	
Worship	315.58	1,388.91	4,100.00
Youth Groups	14.97	385.10	4,950.00
Total Expense	45,776.14	226,377.91	587,810.06
Net Ordinary Income	2,076.40	15,941.09	0.00
Net Cash Flow	2,076.40	15,941.09	0.00
Ending Cash Balance	\$51,757.17		

Painting the Church

A cheating painting contractor had been skimping by thinning his paint excessively. Nevertheless, he landed a big job painting a church. He was almost done when a major storm blew up. It washed all the paint off.

Amid the thunder and lightening, there came a loud voice...
 "REPAINT," it boomed. "REPAINT, AND THIN NO MORE!"

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Terri asked her Sunday School class to draw pictures of their favorite bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle's picture, which showed four people on an airplane. So, she asked him which story it was meant to represent.

"The flight to Egypt," said Kyle.  
 "I see... And that must be Mary, Joseph, and the Baby Jesus," Ms. Terri said. "But who's the fourth person?"  
 Kyle explained, "Oh, that's Pontius the Pilot!"

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Lower-Level Renovation Fund - June 2025

	<u>May 31, 25</u>	Gross Profit	251,697.99
Ordinary Income/Expense		Expense	
Income		Facilities & Grounds	
General Fund		Building Improvements	
Lower Level Renovation	<u>244,122.99</u>	Lower Level Renova- tions	<u>177,915.46</u>
Total General Fund	244,122.99	Total Building Improvements	177,915.46
Transfer In		Total Facilities & Grounds	177,915.46
Endowment Interest	<u>7,575.00</u>	Total Expense	<u>177,915.46</u>
Total Transfer In	<u>7,575.00</u>	Net Ordinary Income	<u>73,782.53</u>
Total Income	<u>251,697.99</u>	Ending Cash Balance	<u>73,782.53</u>

Important Church Information



- ◆ WEBSITE: www.sheldonfirstreformed.com
- ◆ WORSHIP VIDEO: www.sheldonfirstreformed.com/media/worshipservices.cfm
- ◆ BULLETIN: www.sheldonfirstreformed.com/media/weeklybulletin.cfm OR paper copies are available in the bulletin box outside the north kitchen door along with the most recent Encore and devotional
- ◆ RADIO BROADCAST: Sundays at 10 AM on FM 100.7
- ◆ TV BROADCAST: Tuesdays at 4 PM on local cable channel 12
- ◆ FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/sheldonfirstreformed
- ◆ E-GIVING LINK: Text the word "SFRC" to the number [833.484.7253](tel:833.484.7253) or give online at www.sheldonfirstreformed.com/give
- ◆ TRADITIONAL GIVING: Mail to Sheldon First Reformed Church, 1101 7th Street, Sheldon, IA 51201 OR drop your offering in the slot on the church office door during the week
- ◆ MY CHURCH APP: Download on Google Play or the App Store OR text the words "SFRC APP" to the number [833.484.7253](tel:833.484.7253)
- ◆ PRAYER REQUESTS/PRAISES: Call the church office at 712.324.2130 or email Pastor Paul at paul@sheldonfirstreformed.com
- ◆ NEXT STEPS CODE: The QR code is on the bulletin cover. Using your smartphone device scan the code & it will bring you to a page that will take you to our Connection Card, Prayer Requests, or Giving.
- ◆ PARENTS: Children's bulletins are available at www.sheldonfirstreformed.com/media/children-s-bulletin.cfm.
- ◆ SUNDAY SCHOOL GUIDES: Pick up in the youth house.
- ◆ ALPHA TEENS & RCYF: Check the Remind App & Instagram for upcoming activities & any updates. To be added to the email list please email Caitie at caitie@sheldonfirstreformed.com.
- ◆ KIDS PROGRAMS: To keep up with what is going on with our kids' program, sign up to receive reminder text messages from FRC Kidz. Just text the following: **Text@ frckidz to the number 81010**
- ◆ DURING THE WEEK: The church is open from **8 AM-4 PM Monday - Thursday, and from 7 AM-12 PM on 2nd & 4th Fridays**. During the week you may use the north & south doors to get your mail or drop off offerings etc. in the office. You will need to ring the door bell (silver button) to the right of these doors to enter the church. Wendy will buzz you in from the office.
- ◆ **SUNDAY MORNINGS:** The church doors will lock at 9:30 AM. If you find the doors locked upon your arrival, go to the front/east door and a team member will welcome you into the church
- ◆ If you would like to receive church emails & don't currently receive them, please call the church at 712.324.2130 & provide Wendy with your email address. You may also fill out the connection card with this info & place it in the basket as you leave the sanctuary.
- ◆ If you have moved, made changes to your emails or phone numbers, please contact the church office with the updated information by calling 712.324.2130 or emailing frcsecretary@outlook.com.
- ◆ **BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER ITEMS:** If you would like items included in either, please get the items to the office by 10 AM on Thursday morning for the bulletin & the Thursday of the last full week of the month for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter. **The deadline to submit items for inclusion in the August newsletter is 10 AM Thursday, July 31.**

NOTE: To access videos & bulletins, note the above information in [green](#). If you cannot find bulletins, look under the media tab. If you still need help, call the church and we will help you navigate the website.

Minutes of the Consistory Meeting – First Reformed Church, Sheldon, IA
Thursday, June 19, 2025

Those present:

Elders: Greg Sawyer, Leon Kleinwolterink, Dan Dykstra, Larry Vander Plaats, Bob Stellinga, Dixon Van Meeteren, Mike Kleinwolterink

Deacons: Brandon Krukow, Evan De Hoogh, Nathan Punt, Brady Peters, Rodney Kruse, Marty Van Peurse, Cleiton Zanela

Those absent:

Elders: Brad Bosma, Randy Fonkert

Deacons: Tyler Drenkow, Jared Schaeffer

- A. Pastor Paul called the Meeting to Order at 7:35 PM.
- B. Pastor Paul offered opening prayer and devotions from 2 Timothy 4:7.
 - 1. It provided encouragement for consistory members in their third year of service to “finish the race.”
 - i. Don’t coast
 - ii. Stay engaged as a leader
 - iii. Continue to serve if motivated to do so
- C. Roll Call & Approval of minutes from May 15, 2025.
 - 1. **Motion Made Supported & Carried (MMSC)** to approve.
- D. Celebrations and Thanksgivings were discussed.
 - 1. Kids in class for profession of faith
- E. Report from Deacons meeting-reported by Brady Peters.
- F. Report from Elders meeting-reported by Mike Kleinwolterink.
- G. Pastor’s Report – Pastor Paul’s Report
 - 1. Ted will be departing at the end of August from his custodial position.
 - 2. New cell phone policy was reviewed and **MMSC** to approve.
 - 3. By laws updated regarding consecutive terms for Elder and Deacons were reviewed and **MMSC** to approve.
 - 4. By laws for committee members wishing to serve consecutive terms were reviewed and **MMSC** to approve.
- H. Financial reports were provided by Evan De Hoogh.
 - 1. **MMSC** to approve.
- I. Committee Reports were discussed.
 - 1. Pulpit Supply – Dan Dykstra
 - i. July 13: John Swoyer
 - ii. August 3: Ken Snyder
 - 2. **MMSC** to approve.
- J. Next Meeting was moved from July 17 to July 24. Prayer – Cleiton Zanela
- K. Adjourn: **MMSC** to adjourn at 8:20 PM.
- L. Leon Kleinwolterink closed in prayer.

2025 SHEPHERDING TEAMS

First Reformed Church, Sheldon

The congregation is divided into nine groups - one for each Elder/Deacon pair. Your consistory shepherding team is responsible for keeping in regular contact with the families listed under their names. If you are experiencing some significant trial or illness or you may be involved in a crisis situation such as a job loss, major life change, or family death feel free to contact your Care Elder or Deacon. If your family has experienced a joyful occasion like the birth of a baby, the marriage of a son or daughter, a wedding anniversary, a promotion at work, or retirement, etc. contact your Care Elder or Deacon as well. In all these situations, an appropriate prayer to the Lord will be offered.

The names of your Care Elder & Deacon are located above the group in which your last name falls.

Team 1: Bob Stellinga & Tyler Drenkow

Ed Alons – Gered De Hoogh

Team 2: Brad Bosma & Nathan Punt

Jim De Jong – Betty Gonnerman

Team 3: Leon Kleinwolterink & Marty Van Peurse

Johnny Granstra – Shane Jager

Team 4: Dixon Van Meeteren & Jared Schaeffer

Luke Jenness – Jaci Martens

Team 5: Larry Vander Plaats & Rodney Kruse

Murray Martens – Carol Pomerence

Team 6: Randy Fonkert & Cleiton Zanela

Caleb Popkes – Noah Sterk

Team 7: Dan Dykstra & Brady Peters

Roger Sterler – Norma Van Gorp

Team 8: Mike Kleinwolterink & Brandon Krukow

Lyle Van Heuvelen – Darlene Verrips

Team 9: Greg Sawyer & Evan De Hoogh

Marwin Vogel – Brad Zuetenhorst

***“Building God’s
kingdom one life at a
time.”***
1 Peter 2:4-5



Church Contact Information

Church phone number: 712.324.2130

Email: frcsecretary@outlook.com

2025 Ministry Teams Contact People

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Pastor Paul - President
Dan Dykstra - Vice President
Mike Kleinwolterink - Clerk
Evan De Hoogh - Chairman of Deacons
Brady Peters - Secretary of Deacons

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Nathan Punt - 712.449.9001
punt76@gmail.com

CALLING ELDER

Gary De Hoogh - 712.348.2647
gndehoogh@msn.com

CHURCH PRIVILEGE

Larry Vander Plaats - 712.348.4626
plaats58@yahoo.com

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Bob Stellinga - 712.348.3330
stell@nethtc.net

We Care -

Norma Van Gorp - 712.631.0977
rvangorp@netllc.net

ENDOWMENT FUND

Evan De Hoogh - 712.541.3521
evan@gecabinetryinc.com

MEMORIAL FUND

Evan De Hoogh - 712.541.3521
evan@gecabinetryinc.com

MISSION COMMITTEE

Rodney Kruse - 712.348.4232
rodneykruse@hotmail.com

NURSERY

Kelsey Cooper - 712.348.2636
kelseydh34@gmail.com

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Mike Kleinwolterink - 712.348.1161
standaide@premieronline.net

PRAYER CHAIN COORDINATOR

Brenda Godbersen - 712.348.0392
brendagodbersen@gmail.com

PULPIT SUPPLY

Dan Dykstra - 712-230-0379
faddjd@hotmail.com

SACRAMENTS

Dixon Van Meeteren - 712.324.1600
dixvm@nethtc.net

SAFETY & SECURITY

Larry Vander Plaats - 712.348.4626
plaats58@yahoo.com

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

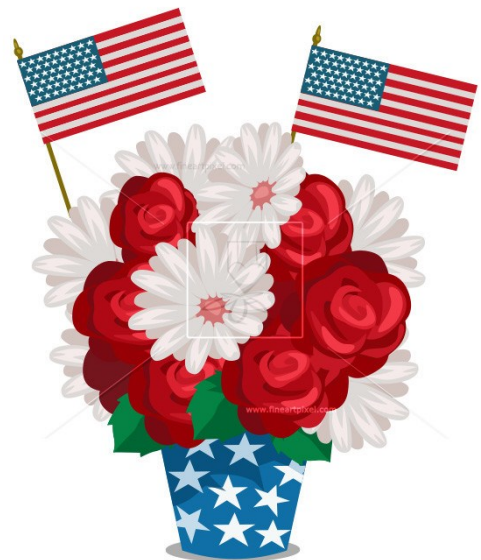
Brady Peters - 712.541.7640
brdyptrs@gmail.com

WOMEN TO WOMEN

Molly Sauer - 712.363.4268
pmsauer12@gmail.com

WORK GROUPS

Joyce Fedders - 712.539.9945
jfedders@nethtc.net





Missionary News

Sasi lives in a remote village, far from the reach of formal education or consistent spiritual guidance. A mother of seven and a non-reader, she gave her life to Christ two years ago—but struggled to grow in her faith. She longed to know more about Jesus, but without the ability to read, God's Word always felt just out of reach.

Then everything changed.

A traveling pastor visited her village and brought a gift that would transform her life: a Talking Bible.

Sasi eagerly stepped forward to take responsibility for the device. That was just five months ago—but in that short time, her life has been completely transformed.

Now, Sasi leads a group of five adults and ten children in her community. Every day, they gather to listen to God's Word together. Though she still cannot read, the Talking Bible has become her teacher, her encouragement, and her constant companion.

"It shaped my character," Sasi says. "Specifically, it gives me holiness. It shows me the way toward the Lord. I wasn't able to understand the Word when people read it to me before, but now, after listening, it's easier to understand."

And the transformation hasn't stopped with her. Through her faithful leadership, **every single person in her listening group has come to Christ.**

"It helped me guide my kids toward good character just by listening to the Bible," she says with joy. "I always feel like I am in a spiritual program—because the Talking Bible is always with me."

Sasi's story is a powerful reminder: **when someone who cannot read receives God's Word in a way they can understand, lives are transformed—and entire communities are changed.**



NICOLE IN NICARAGUA

JUNE 2025



For my family and friends in the US, happy summer! I miss the long summer nights, my dad's grilling, and making s'mores around the fire.

Here in Nicaragua, we are entering rainy season, when it gets "cool". Nicaragua has ruined me with good weather and lots of sunshine, I have to pull out my sweaters when we get in the low 80's. The rain brings refreshment, but it takes a lot longer for my clothes to dry on the line!

In May, I celebrated my 29th birthday with my host family and some other friends. I felt so loved after receiving so many birthday messages from family and friends both near and far. What a way to celebrate 29!

As I have started my new position with my new Partners at Tesoros de Dios (God's Treasures), I have been so encouraged by many of you. Thank you for joining me in this exciting new chapter.

I have been inspired and encouraged by what I have seen from both the staff and the families who come to Tesoros de Dios. Recently, one of our bus drivers, Mario, was retiring, and at his goodbye lunch, he shared two pieces of wisdom he wanted to leave with us:

Ministry Updates

1. You are not here by coincidence. The Lord has you here for a reason.
2. While we work with children and youth with varying abilities, it's important to remember that their souls are not disabled, so that the most important thing we can do is share the Gospel with them.

Even as the "newbie" on the team, I know what Mario said was true. It is not a coincidence I ended up here. The Lord made it very clear, both to me and the team at Tesoros, that this was the right place for me to partner with.

Just as it is no coincidence that I am here, the same is true for the families that attend. I have seen children who were told by doctors they would never walk, run and climb on the playground. Children who were told they would never speak, talk with their parents. What the Lord is doing here is no coincidence.

I am deeply humbled to be a witness to how the Lord is working and I am grateful to join this team.

Thank you for all of your support, both in prayer and giving, in this new chapter, and I hope you will continue to pray with me for all of the exciting things yet to come!

Prayer Requests

- ◆ PRAISE for this new partnership, it has been a blessing to me in so many ways already.
- ◆ For this transition time as I assimilate to a new role and a new team dynamic - that I may be able to serve their needs while also providing new ideas.
- ◆ That all of my supporters will choose to continue partnering with me in ministry, so that my fundraising remains stable.

Many Blessings,

Nicole Opgenorth



PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER June, 2025

"For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but sorrow of the world produces death." II Cor. 7:10

Many of the men I visit with show a remorse for their circumstances. Not all of them are truly sorry that they sinned against a holy God as Psalm 51 says, "Against You, You only, have I sinned and done this evil in Your sight...You desire truth in the inward parts." Sometimes a person can lie not only to themselves, but also to God.

I conduct a Sunday church service once a month. This month my sermon was about what is involved in salvation. Salvation includes repentance and being converted from above. After the service George came up to me and expressed his frustrations with himself. He went on to tell me, "I am having trouble sleeping at night and I am frustrated with my life. It has been eight years since I was released from prison. I had everything anyone would want in life, but I was not living for Jesus, but for myself." We talked about any bitterness he had toward others and why that would be why he felt tormented in his mind. We talked about Matthew 18:21-35, where Jesus told the story of the unforgiving servant. Jesus says in verse 34, that the unforgiving servant would be turned over to the tormentors until he would forgive others from his heart. George also realized he had religion, but he did not have Jesus as his Lord and Savior!

He knew about Jesus, but he did not know Him. George now realizes his sin. He prayed for forgiveness and trusted Jesus as his Lord and Savior!

On May 10, Pastor Greg held an all day seminar at the prison. He used the Kyle Idleman DVD, "Don't Give Up." It was about the believers in the Bible who did not give up, referring to Hebrews 11. The five men at my table talked about times in their lives when they wanted to give up. We talked about the importance of knowing Jesus personally if they were going to have the power to live the Christian life. One young man at my table said, "When I came into the Chapel this morning, I felt such peace, like this is where I needed to be." He said he did not know Jesus but wanted to know Jesus Christ as his Savior. After we talked about the gospel he prayed to asked Christ for forgiveness and trusted Jesus to be his Lord and Savior. I visited with him a week later and he told me, "I have read Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. What should I read next?" It is awesome to see the Holy Spirit at work in these men's lives!

There was graduation for all the men who completed their GED. I attended it because a young man who I had baptized was graduating. He attended my Bible studies and counseled for a couple of years. Many of these men do not have a man in their lives to encourage them. It was privilege for me to attend and tell him of was proud of him for completing his GED! His thankfulness was worth attending.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support! I hope you have a great month of June!

Blessings, *Harlan*



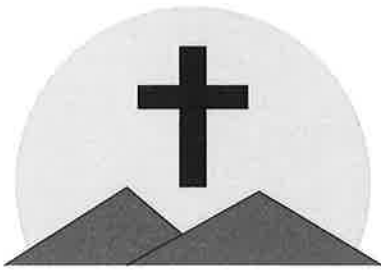
life in God's kingdom". God has been so faithful to celebrate Gods goodness and unfailing love. These 3 days will be filled with worship, music, fun/games, Jason Gray concert, and reminiscing with friends and supporters of Inspiration Hills. There will be lodging and camping available and if interested in staying on site the entire time, you can do so by an RSVP to contacting the camp.

This August 8-10,2025 Inspiration Hills Camp and Retreat Center will be celebrating 50 years of "Providing an environment for individuals to come to know Christ, grow in Him, and be challenged for Inspiration Hills through these 50 years we want to

First Reformed Church has been a faithful supporter of Inspiration Hills starting at the conception 50 years ago. Faithful members of First Reformed Church Elmer and Gene Den Hartog (Mouw and Den Hartog Construction) actually worked with the initial Inspiration Hills Board to design and build the facility. Their foresight and faith in Gods leading resulted in a facility that has served many children and adults, so well over many years.

Our church will be sponsoring the Saturday August 9, 2025 noon meal. Inspiration Hills will procure the food, supplies and drink for the meal. They are asking FRC to make a donation for the food. This donation has been approved by the deacons. All we need to do is provide 2 or 3 people to assist in serving the meal. They will be serving the meal from the camp's kitchen facilities.

If you are willing to help serve the meal, please contact Wendy by email, or stop in the church office by the end of July.



Annville Institute/Grace Covenant Ministries

179 Campus Drive

Phone (606) 364-5151

PO Box 340, Annville, KY 40402

June 20, 2025

Mission Committee
First Reformed Church
1101 7th St.
Sheldon, IA 51201

Dear Partner in Missions,

We sincerely appreciate your generous donation to our Outreach Ministry. Enclosed with this letter is a receipt for your gift. Supporters like you make it possible for us to continue our mission of serving the community and spreading the love of Christ to those in Appalachia who need it most.

This spring, we have been blessed by the participation of three wonderful volunteer groups. Their hard work and dedication have been genuinely inspiring. They have rehabilitated a kitchen, replaced floor joists, revitalized the Trade Store, repaired the ramp leading into Hacker Gym, and cleaned up the campus. The impact of their efforts, combined with support like yours, has been significant, and we are deeply thankful for their commitment to our mission.

It is hard to believe, but our summer camp sessions are already nearing the halfway mark. Our first three camps—art, baseball/softball hitting, and basketball—had record attendance. We are grateful for the opportunity to interact with these students and share God's love with them.

Sincerely,

Jacob L. Moss
Director of Development

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 7am Executive Team Mtg Caitie gone - Jul 3-6	4 Independence Day Church Office Closed Caitie gone - Jul 3-6	5 Caitie gone - Jul 3-6
6 8am Praise Team Practice No Children & Worship 5:30-8:30pm VBS Caitie gone - Jul 3-6	7 5:30-8:30pm VBS	8 5:30-8:30pm VBS	9 5:30-8:30pm VBS	10 4:30-6pm Sheldon Food Truck @ Living Water Church Cody & Hannah's wedding rehearsal	11 4 pm Cody & Hannah's wedding	12
13 John Swoyer message 8am Praise Team Practice Children & Worship Mission Trip 9 Jul 13-19 Pastor Paul & Caitie gone	14 Mission Trip 9 Jul 13-19 Pastor Paul & Caitie gone	15 Mission Trip 9 Jul 13-19 Pastor Paul & Caitie gone	16 1:30pm Afternoon Circle Mission Trip 9 Jul 13-19 Pastor Paul & Caitie gone Wendy vacation - Jul 16-20	17 7pm Evening Circle Mission Trip 9 Jul 13-19 Pastor Paul & Caitie gone Wendy vacation - Jul 16-20	18 Mission Trip 9 Jul 13-19 Pastor Paul & Caitie gone Wendy vacation - Jul 16-20	19 Mission Trip 9 Jul 13-19 Pastor Paul & Caitie gone Wendy vacation - Jul 16-20
20 8am Praise Team Practice Children & Worship Wendy vacation - Jul 16-20	21 5:30-8:30pm Sheldon Unity Meal @ Living Water Church Caitie gone	22 Power Connection Work Camp - July 22-24 - Caitie gone	23 Power Connection Work Camp - July 22-24 - Caitie gone	24 Power Connection Work Camp - July 22-24 - Caitie gone 6:30pm Elders/Deacons Mtgs 7:30pm Consistory Mtg	25 Power Connection - July 25-27 Caitie gone	26 Power Connection - July 25-27 Caitie gone
27 8am Praise Team Practice Children & Worship Power Connection - July 25-27 Caitie gone	28 Pastor Paul vacation - Jul 28-Aug 3	29 Pastor Paul vacation - Jul 28-Aug 3	30 Pastor Paul vacation - Jul 28-Aug 3	31 Pastor Paul vacation - Jul 28-Aug 3		