

JULY 2026

**"Building God's kingdom
one life at a time"**

1 Peter 2:4-5

SHELDON FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

1107 7th Street, Sheldon, Iowa 51201

Website: www.sheldonfirstreformed.com

NOT OF THIS WORLD

John 17:16



Inspiration Hills

Summer Camp 2026

Summer Camp 2026

Below is a list of kids who will be attending camp in July. If you would like to send them mail while they are at camp, the address is:

~ Camper's name ~
Inspiration Hills Camp &
Retreat Center
1242 280th Street
Inwood, Iowa 51240



Discovery Camp - June 29-July 1

- Remington Drenkow

Saddle Up Camp - July 15-19

- Madisyn Dagle

**The church office will
be closed on Friday,
July 3.**



**Sheldon
Mobile
Food
Truck**

DATE: Thursday,
July 9
TIME: 4:30-6:00 PM
LOCATION: Living
Water Church
*Bring a box with you
to pick up your
groceries.*

VBS

July 12-16



CHILDREN & WORSHIP

July schedule:

**We will not be
having C&W on**

July 12, due to VBS, but
will be having it all the
other 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.
**C&W will meet only once
in August - on August 2.**

VACATION - JULY 2-10

During this time, Pastor Paul will be gone. Please direct any calls to the church office at 712.324.2130. If there is an emergency, please contact Dennis Ten Clay at 712.348.3160.



Village Northwest Unlimited

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Free Entry ★ Live Music ★ Food Trucks
Carnival ★ Petting Zoo ★ Fireworks Show

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 5:30 p.m.
330 Village Circle, Sheldon, IA

SCHEDULE

- ◆ 5:30 PM - Food Booths Open
- ◆ 6:00 pm - Carnival Games & Inflatables Open
- ◆ 7:00 PM - Free Outdoor Concert
- ◆ AT DARK - Spectacular Fireworks

DUE TO VBS ...

Evening Circle: Their meeting will be at 7 PM on Thursday, July 9 (a week early).

Afternoon Circle: Their open meeting will be on July 15. They will meet in the church parking lot at 11 AM and will be going to eat at the Grain House in Sanborn.

Background Checks

Anybody over 18 who works with children in any way (VBS, nursery, C&W, Awana, Sunday school, Family Night meals, etc.) needs to complete a background check. [Find Brenda at the table in the Fellowship Hall June 28 & July 5 to fill out the forms.](#) We especially need background checks for new volunteers. Updates will also be needed for many of our current volunteers.

JOIN US



JULY 12-16

5:30-8:30 PM

PRESCHOOL (AGE 3)-6TH GRADE

THERE'S STILL TIME TO SIGN UP!

COMPLETE THE FORM ON OUR WEBSITE TO
REGISTER TODAY!



Use the QR code to the left to sign up your child for VBS. You may also sign up to help with VBS on this form. Please remember that you can help even if you cannot do so on every day. It takes lots of help to carry out this ministry! See you at VBS!

Rocky Mountain High Prayer Partner Opportunity!



PRAYER PARTNERS ARE ASSIGNED A STUDENT OR ADULT ON OUR TRIP TO PRAY FOR, WRITE SOME ENCOURAGEMENTS TO, AND PROVIDE SOME GOODIES FOR THE TRIP

Contact Caitie with questions or to sign up

Sheldon Area
Unity Meal



WHEN: Monday, July 20

TIME: 5:30-6:30 PM

WHERE: Living Water
Community 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.

Red Cross Blood Drive

WHEN: Thursday, July 23

TIME: 1 - 6 PM

WHERE: Sheldon 1st CRC
(901 9th St.)

Please use the North fellowship hall door.

Please call 1.800.733.2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SheldonIA to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Celebrate
more life.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH PRAYER SEND OFF

DATE: Friday, July 24

TIME: 10:00 PM

LOCATION: church parking lot





SHOP WITH A COP

FRC is asked to collect the following items to help fill the backpacks for Shop with a Cop.

Please place the items in the tote found in the Fellowship Hall. The supplies will be picked up on **Sunday, July 26.**

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| ♦ Backpacks for K-8th grade | ♦ Metric ruler (non-flexible) |
| ♦ Head phones - no ear buds | ♦ Black sharpie |
| ♦ Crayola markers - original colors, 10-ct | ♦ Highlighters |
| ♦ Expo dry erase markers | ♦ 3"x5" index cards |
| ♦ 2 pocket folders | ♦ Colored pencils |
| ♦ Pencil box | ♦ Clip board |
| ♦ 1" binder | ♦ Set of Crayola water color paints |

Directory Additions

Marv & Luann Donkersloot's new address

- ♦ 800 Country Club Rd, Unit 116, Sheldon, IA

Bob Engel's new address

- ♦ Fieldcrest Assisted Living, Rm 110, 2501 E 6th Street, Sheldon, IA

Bev Heemstra's new address

- ♦ 711 4th Avenue, #8, Sheldon, IA

Ryer Dacken's new address

- ♦ 712 Washington Avenue, Sheldon, IA

Ed Verburg's new address

- ♦ Christian Retirement Home, Rm 219, 1414 Elm Ct, Sheldon, IA

Maison & Kailey Oostra

- ♦ 717 Garfield Avenue, Sheldon, IA
- ♦ Phones: M: 712.869.0371 K: 605.521.9355
- ♦ Email: maisonoostra@gmail.com & kaileymainolfi@gmail.com

Gavin & Jaiden De Hoogh

- ♦ 3115 Marsh Avenue, Sheldon IA
- ♦ Phones: G: 712.344.0261 J: 712.451.9988
- ♦ Email: gavindehoogh@gmail.com & jaideng42@gmail.com

Brandon & Rachel Krukow

- ♦ No longer have their landline
- ♦ 712.725.2752

The family of Donald De Vries thanks all of you who sent cards and memorial gifts, offered sympathy and support, and shared in remembering him. A special thanks to Pastor Paul for leading the interment service. All of you helped our family during a difficult time.

~ Edgar & Phyllis De Vries

Platte First Reformed thanks you for the use of your facility to sleep and have breakfast during RiseFest weekend. The weekend was inspiring and we totally enjoyed it.

~ Melissa Huizenga & the teens from Platte, SD

Words cannot convey the way our church family touched my heart and the hearts of my family these past months. As we journey through the days we are thankful for the prayers, cards, calls, gifts, food and other expressions of kindness given to us. Thank you for honoring Bob and loving on us. May God bless you greatly for remembering us.

~ Linda Stellinga and family

Thank you to all who helped with the bed build. Many hands made 10 beds in a few hours!

~ The Hands of Hope Team

Thank you to those who helped at the First Reformed booth at RiseFest, We pray you were blessed as you blessed others.

~ The Hands of Hope Team





July 1 Todd Van Beek
Kayci Woelber
Cooper Koerselman
July 2 Teresa Gardfrey
Nicole Dibbet
July 3 Gene Den Hartog - 94
Marvin Holtrop - 90
Audrey Moet
Amber Groendyke
Amanda De Groot
July 6 Arlan Lode
Avery De Hoogh
Cambree De Hoogh
Carly De Hoogh
July 7 Kyle Koerselman
July 8 Ed Dykstra

July 9 Ingetta Tutje - 91
Amy Renaud
Daniel Ten Clay
July 10 Jane Lode
July 11 Linda Popkes
Kali Mouw
Berkley Wolthuizen
July 13 Jordan Hoekstra
July 14 Mike Meyer
July 15 Jim Korver
Jayne Korver
Dan Van Regenmorter
Troy Wassenaar
July 16 Rod Kroeze
Grace Hoogers
Jordyn Stellinga
July 17 Tami Kuiper
Ruth Vogel
Tina Dekker
Drew Sauer
Bentley Bracy
Cash Haack
July 18 John Meyer
Chad Houtsma
Kailey Jorgensen
July 19 April Schaeffer
Tori Elgersma

July 20 Jo Franken
Willow Tune
July 21 Galen Van Velzen
Jennifer Dacken
Tyler Jorgensen
Charlie Storm
Hunter Jager
Koby Peelen
Gracelyn Kats
July 22 Marcia Vaandrager
Anderson Houtsma
Gibson Drenkow
July 23 Paul Van Maaren
Gage Jager
July 24 Mark Koerselman
Laura Westphalen
Sam Van Maaren
Logan Van Meeteren
July 27 Gloria Swoyer
Phyllis Buren
Glenda Hoogers
Shawn Vander Naald
July 28 Arlin Van Kley
Leroy Theis
July 29 Gavin De Hoogh
July 30 Amber Beukelman
Aiden Roozeboom



July 3 Dennis & Linda Popkes - 50
Larry & Wendy Vander Plaats - 46
John & Jewel Doely - 44
Toby & Lindsey Maggert - 2
July 7 Dave & Joyce Fedders - 20
July 9 Brett & Sheila Peelen - 21
July 10 Brent & Kristin Van Engen - 16
July 11 Cody & Hannah Feikema - 1
July 14 Tyler & Ashley Jorgensen - 19
July 16 Jerod & Samantha Reinking - 5
July 12 Barry & Maggie Whitsell - 12
July 19 Keith & Marcia Vaandrager - 35
Michael & Erica Jager - 23
Charley & Nicole Dibbet - 12

July 23 Herb & Lorrie Struyk - 34
Josh & Kelsey Van Beek - 15
July 24 Brian & Jill Van Meeteren - 33
July 25 Blaine & Larie De Groot - 18
July 29 Preston & Ruth Hoekstra - 51
Gene & Marlys Den Hartog - 9
July 30 Scott & Kristie Simonsen - 32

July
Anniversaries



GENERAL FUND - JUNE 2026

"A Gunpowder Story"

The Heroism of Elizabeth Zane by John Esten Cooke

The Background

The following short story is an adapted version by author Frances Jenkins Olcott in her book [Good Stories for Great Holidays](#) (1914). It is a story about a young girl whose courage saves several patriot families and protects an important fort in the Revolutionary War.

The Story

In the autumn of 1777 the English decided to attack Fort Henry, at Wheeling, in northwestern Virginia. This was an important border fort named in honor of Patrick Henry, and around which had grown up a small village of about twenty-five log houses. A band of Indians, under the leadership of one Simon Girty, was supplied by the English with muskets and ammunition, and sent against the fort. This Girty was a white man, who, when a boy, had been captured by Indians, and brought up by them. He had joined their tribes, and was a ferocious and bloodthirsty leader of savage bands. When the settlers at Wheeling heard that Simon Girty and his Indians were advancing on the town, they left their homes and hastened into the fort.

	May 26	Jan - May 26	Annual Budget
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 58,155.62		
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
General Fund	46,440.41	248,431.56	622,661.61
Interest Income	33.07	162.94	
Transfer In	0.00	0.00	90,000.00
Total Income	46,473.48	248,594.50	712,661.61
Gross Profit	46,473.48	248,594.50	712,661.61
Expense			
Alliance Dues	0.00	4,411.73	21,000.00
Congregational Care	1,113.17	5,624.69	17,000.00
Education	1,493.82	4,590.21	24,700.00
Facilities & Grounds	9,173.69	45,755.45	272,850.00
General and Consistory	884.43	7,409.71	18,100.00
Hands of Hope Outreach	714.08	7,707.68	18,800.00
Office	576.07	11,740.89	26,100.00
Payroll Expenses	23,245.73	121,467.16	300,211.61
Transfer Out	15,000.00	40,000.00	
Worship	42.35	1,619.13	9,100.00
Youth Groups	0.00	3,331.34	4,800.00
Total Expense	52,243.34	253,657.99	712,661.61
Net Ordinary Income	-5,769.86	-5,063.49	0.00
Net Cssh Flow	-5,769.86	-5,063.49	0.00
Ending Cash Balance	\$ 52,385.76		

Scarcely had they done so when the savages made their appearance. The defenders of the fort knew that a desperate fight must now take place, and there seemed little probability that they would be able to hold out against their assailants. They had only forty- two fighting men, including old men and boys, while the Indian force numbered about five hundred. What was worse they had but a small amount of gunpowder. A keg containing the main supply had been left by accident in one of the village houses. This misfortune, as you will soon see, brought about the brave action of a young girl. After several encounters with the savages, which took place in the village, the defenders withdrew to the fort. Then a number of Indians advanced with loud yells, firing as they came. The fire was returned by the defenders, each of whom had picked out his man, and taken deadly aim. Most of the attacking party were killed, and the whole body of Indians fell back into the near-by woods, and there awaited a more favorable opportunity to renew hostilities. The men in the fort now discovered, to their great dismay, that their gunpowder was nearly gone. What was to be done? Unless they could get another

LOWER-LEVEL FUND - June 2026

	May 31, 26
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
General Fund	
Lower Level Renovation	244,543.07
Total General Fund	244,543.07
Transfer In	
Endowment Interest	7,575.00
Total Transfer In	7,575.00
Total Income	252,118.07
Gross Profit	252,118.07
Expense	
Facilities & Grounds	
Building Improvements	
Lower Level Renovations	254,463.23
Total Building Improvements	254,463.23
Total Facilities & Grounds	254,463.23
Total Expense	254,463.23
Net Ordinary Income	-2,345.16
Net Cash Flow	-2,345.16

BENEVOLENT FUND - JUNE 2026

	Jan - May 26	Budget
Beginning Cash Balance as of January 1, 2026	\$ 75,930.13	
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Benevolent Fund	38,306.77	189,500.00
Missions	2,223.00	
Sunday School	326.00	
Total Income	40,855.77	189,500.00
Gross Profit	40,855.77	189,500.00
Expense		
Commitments		
Beth (Blankers) Borgens/CRU	1,750.00	7,000.00
Bethesda Christian Counseling	0.00	5,000.00
Grace Covenant Ministry-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	10,000.00
Love Inc	2,916.68	7,000.00
Mission & Service Projects	0.00	5,000.00
Mission to India-Church Planters	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	1,750.00	7,000.00
Total Reformed Church in America	3,500.00	14,000.00
Reformed Mission Services	0.00	5,000.00
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	7,000.00
Talking Bibles	0.00	7,000.00
Touch of Hope Bibles	1,156.68	4,000.00
Touch of Hope Haiti	0.00	7,000.00
Vasileiadis,Pavlos & Meggan-Greece	1,750.00	7,000.00
Village Northwest Unlimited	0.00	7,000.00
Words of Hope	0.00	28,000.00
Total Commitments	28,073.36	189,500.00
YTD Offerings Paid Out	24,086.77	
Total Expense	52,160.13	189,500.00
Net Ordinary Income	-11,304.36	0.00
Net Cash Flow	-11,304.36	0.00
Ending Cash Balance	\$ 64,625.77	

supply, they would not be able to hold the fort, and they and their women and children would either be massacred or carried into captivity. Colonel Shepherd, who was in command, explained to the settlers exactly how matters stood. He also told them of the forgotten keg of powder which was in a house standing about sixty yards from the gate of the fort. It was plain to all that if any man should attempt to procure the keg, he would almost surely be shot by the lurking Indians. In spite of this three or four young men volunteered to go on the dangerous mission. Colonel Shepherd replied that he could not spare three or four strong men, as there were already too few for the defense. Only one man should make the attempt and they might decide who was to go. This caused a dispute. Just then a young girl stepped forward and said that she was ready to go. Her name was Elizabeth Zane, and she had just returned from a boarding-school in Philadelphia. This made her brave offer all the more remarkable, since she had not been bred up to the fearless life of the border. At first the men would not hear of her running such a risk. She was told that it meant certain death. But she urged that they could not spare a man from the defense, and that the loss of one girl would not be an important matter. So after some discussion the settlers agreed that she should go for the powder. The house, as has already been stated, stood about sixty yards from the fort, and Elizabeth hoped to run thither and bring back the powder in a few minutes. The gate was opened, and she passed through, running like a deer. A few straggling Indians were dodging about the log houses of the town; they saw the fleeing girl, but for some reason they did not fire upon her. They may have supposed that she was returning to her home to rescue her clothes. Possibly they thought it a waste of good ammunition to fire at a woman, when they were so sure of taking the fort before long. So they looked on quietly while, with flying skirts, Elizabeth ran across the open, and entered the house. She found the keg of powder, which was not large. She lifted it with both arms, and, holding the precious burden close to her breast, she darted out of the house and ran in the direction of the fort. When the Indians saw what she was carrying they uttered fierce yells and fired. The bullets fell like hail about her, but not one so much as touched her garments.

With the keg hugged to her bosom, she ran on, and reached the fort in safety. The gate closed upon her just as the bullets of the Indians buried themselves in its thick panels. The rescued gunpowder enabled the little garrison to hold out until help arrived from the other settlements near Wheeling. And Girty, seeing that there were no further hopes of taking Fort Henry, withdrew his band. Thus a weak but brave girl was the means of saving strong men with their wives and children. It was a heroic act, and Americans should never forget to honor the name of Elizabeth Zane.

Source: https://www.celebratingholidays.com/?page_id=353

Animals Word Search

U P U V L F L H A A H E D G E H O G Q R
O H I C N O J M K K Y E L E P H A N T F
Q K P H D M Y G P O I Q C P W X D X U W
K X H O Q O L C C H A M E L E O N I G A
L J L J W U R J O U V L J D L V B N Z Z
Z T O C T O P U S A D B A X O R C L E J
Z C B R O A J C H E E T A H H L U H H K
G Q J K A N G A R O O K L F D W P D V I
A I W A L R U S W U U A G H E M T H M B
L B R T E U R M U G V X R Q O B E I I I
L X U A I C X O R C P I M M C D R V J N
I J R C F G H A W P B F N P A N D A W O
G L A A P F E I A E G S E S D D G P C D
A V W G C U E R J N R W I H W V I Q I X
T K X M E C V B J G H X W V O P D L G S
O U R S M L O M D U M L C Q O C E D L Z
R B U A F A T O N I X P L A T Y P U S O
S O S T R I C H N N Q A P E X W Z I W B
P X I F R C P L V Z E B R A W Y S G F F
F L A M I N G O Z A Z R N X E T Z V N Z

Elephant
Dolphin
Zebra
Alligator
Flamingo
Platypus
Ostrich

Giraffe
Penguin
Koala
Cheetah
Hedgehog
Chameleon
Walrus

Kangaroo
Tiger
Panda
Octopus
Raccoon
Armadillo



Minutes of the Consistory Meeting – First Reformed Church, Sheldon, IA Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Those present:

Elders: Dennis Ten Clay, Brad Bosma, Larry Vander Plaats, Galen Blankers, Steve Van Beek, Greg Sawyer, Randy Fonkert, Mike Kleinwolterink

Deacons: Cleiton Zanela, Andy Cooper, Brady Peters, Jerod Schaeffer, Rodney Kruse, Marty Van Peursem, Tyler Drenkow, Brent Hofmeyer

Absent:

Elders: Kendall De Groot

Deacons: Dan Bracy

- A. Pastor Paul called the Meeting to Order at 7:45 PM.
- B. Pastor Paul offered opening prayer and devotions from Jame 1:5
 1. As leaders we must ask God for wisdom and trust the He will guide us.
- C. Roll Call & Approval of minutes from May 19, 2026.
 1. **Motion Made Supported & Carried (MMSC)** to approve.
- D. Celebrations and Thanksgivings were discussed.
 1. Nine young people have completed profession of faith class.
 2. Thank you to RiseFest volunteers and celebrate a wonderful RiseFest weekend.
- E. Report from Deacons meeting-reported by Tyler Drenkow.
- F. Report from Elders meeting-reported by Mike Kleinwolterink.
- G. Pastor's Report – Pastor Paul's Report
 1. Custodial Meeting with Mike and Deb to better define duties and responsibilities.
- H. Financial report was provided Brady Peter
 1. Lower-level renovation fund is finished and is to be dropped as a line item.
 2. **MMSC** to approve.
- I. Committee Reports were discussed.
 1. **MMSC** to approve.
- J. Next Meeting: July 21, 2026 Prayer – Larry Vander Plaats
- K. Adjourn: **MMSC** to adjourn at 8:30 PM.
- L. Rodney Kruse closed in prayer.

10 Facts about Missionaries throughout History

<https://bethanygu.edu/missionary-facts-stats-trends-insights-into-it-all-2/>

These 10 facts all surround missionaries throughout history.

- The first missionary to India was William Carey.
- Dr. David Livingstone mapped Africa and brought the Gospel in the 1800's.
- One of the first missionaries to the Native American people was David Brainerd.
- Brother Andrew smuggled Bible's to persecuted places around the globe in the 1900's.
- Jim and Elisabeth Elliot were missionaries in Ecuador.
- Jim Elliot was a martyred on January 8, 1956.
- His wife, Elisabeth continued to live and share the Gospel in the village that killed her husband.
- Amy Carmichael was a missionary to India who opened safe houses and rescued children from being trafficked.
- Mary Slessor was a missionary for over 40 years in Nigeria in the early 1900's.
- Hudson Taylor was a missionary to China for over 51 years.

Each one of these missionaries has incredible stories about how God used them to spread the Gospel.

2026 Ministry Teams Contact People

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Pastor Paul - President
Dennis Ten Clay - Vice President
Mike Kleinwolterink - Clerk
Brady Peters - Chairman of Deacons
Tyler Drenkow - Secretary of Deacons

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Dennis Ten Clay - 712.348.3160
dennistenclay@gmail.com

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Cleiton Zanela - 712.230.1501
zanelavineyards@hotmail.com

CALLING ELDER

Gary De Hoogh - 712.348.2647
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CHURCH PRIVILEGE

Larry Vander Plaats - 712.348.4626
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CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Kendall De Groot - 712.324.1410
kdegroot@nethtc.net

We Care

Nancy Martens - 712.348.0590
nkmartens@hotmail.com

ENDOWMENT FUND

Brady Peters - 712.541.7640
brdyptrs@gmail.com

HANDS OF HOPE OUTREACH

Dianne Wolthuisen - 712.348.4679
waldian12@gmail.com
Janna Kats - 712.441.7122
jannableyenberg@gmail.com

MEMORIAL FUND

Brady Peters - 712.541.7640
brdyptrs@gmail.com

MISSION COMMITTEE

Rodney Kruse - 712.348.4232
rodneykruse@hotmail.com

NURSERY

Kelsey Cooper - 712.348.2636
kelseydh34@gmail.com

PRAYER CHAIN COORDINATOR

Brenda Godbersen - 712.348.0392
brendagodbersen@gmail.com

PULPIT SUPPLY

Dennis Ten Clay - 712.348.3160
dennistenclay@gmail.com

SACRAMENTS

Larry Vander Plaats - 712.348.4626
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SAFETY & SECURITY

Greg Sawyer - 712.348.1021
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TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Andy Cooper - 712.348.6718
andycooper343460@gmail.com

WOMEN TO WOMEN

Elise Drenkow - 712.324.1182
emdrenkow@hotmail.com

WORK GROUPS

Bev Brouwer - 712.348.4083
brouwerb@premieronline.net



2026 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 are 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., please let your shepherding team know of the special occasion. In all these situations, an appropriate prayer to the Lord will be offered.

Your Shepherding Team is directly above the list of families to whom they are assigned.

Team 1: Kendall De Groot & Tyler Drenkow

Ed Alons – Darren De Groot

Team 2: Brad Bosma & Dan Bracy

Kendall De Groot – Betty Gonnerman

Team 3: Steve Van Beek & Marty Van Peurse

Johnny Granstra – Shane Jager

Team 4: Dennis Ten Clay & Jared Schaeffer

Luke Jenness – Toby Maggert

Team 5: Larry Vander Plaats & Rodney Kruse

Eileen Martens – Carol Pomerence

Team 6: Randy Fonkert & Cleiton Zanela

Caleb Popkes – Noah Sterk

Team 7: Galen Blankers & Brady Peters

Brian Stofferan – Norma Van Gorp

Team 8: Mike Kleinwolterink & Andy Cooper

Lyle Van Heuvelen – Darlene Verrips

Team 9: Greg Sawyer & Brent Hofmeyer

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 or
wendy@sheldonfirstreformed.com

Important 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.
- ◆ **MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL:** Follow us on Instagram & Facebook @ Frcsheldonstudent ministries for upcoming activities & any updates. To be added to the email list please email Caitie at caitie@sheldonfirstreformed.com.
- ◆ **DURING THE WEEK:** The church is open from **7AM-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 wendy@sheldonfirstreformed.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 the August Encore is noon on Thursday, July 30. It will be printed on July 31.**

NOTE: To access videos & bulletins, note the above information in [purple](#). If you cannot find bulletins, look under the media tab. Then scroll down to the date of the bulletin you are looking for and click on it.

News from Our Missionaries

Pascals in Moldova June 2026

A Camping We Will Go

This was our third summer taking kids from our soccer ministry camping for a few days next to the Nistru river and it was always a highlight. For us it fulfills three things we want to see in our soccer.youth ministry.



1. Spending Time: time spent with any person who we are serving is so important. We know them more, their felt needs and we can share more about our lives and how amazing God is.
2. Core Memories: many of these kids may not become believers before they move on from our soccer team but we tell them often, 'we care about you and even in 15 years you can come back and we will be on your team and your side in life.' Sleeping in tents, running through the high grass and swimming with your neighborhood friends is something they may never experience otherwise. Our time together will forever be locked in their minds. We pray they always know we have adults that love them and have answers to life's questions.
3. Bible: we try and open the bible with the youth whenever we can. This camping trip we talked about the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. Sasha talked about whether we compare ourselves to others and the standard of 'good' that the world sets, or to the holiness of God and how, when we compare ourselves to God, we see our sinfulness.

And A Camping We Will Go ...

We leave June 29th with 15 youth (including our two) for 6 days at EDGESports Football Camp. We will meet with other Christian leaders and their teams for this evangelistic soccer camp. The theme is OUTSIDE THE BOX, challenging the youth to get outside of their comfort zones and explore the gospel of Jesus. I, Sara, am speaking on the second evening about having courage to ask questions about God and really listen to the answers, using the story of Nicodemus in John 3. Each evening we will have small groups.

It is World Cup time! We are asking that each time you think or hear about soccer these next few weeks, you will pray for this camp.

It is powerful time for kids to come to know Jesus and we are praying for our boys. Please, pray for open hearts, spiritual growth and kids to put their faith in Jesus. Pray for Sasha and I as leaders, that we will be healthy, well rested and in sync with each other and our kids.

And A Camping We Will STAY ... because it is day camp!

July 20-July 24th will be our annual English Day camp for neighbor kids. The theme (Thanks Redeemer Church for the idea) will be "I Wanna Be a Sheep" complete with songs, English lessons and Bible lessons. 46 kids ages 7-12 are signed up.

We cannot wait for the five person team from Whatcom County to arrive and help us with this camp. They will bring joy and energy. Pray for God's protection over this time.

Thank you so much for your support and prayers. We think we have most of our summer ministry expenses covered and are praising God.

Thank you! -- Sasha, Sara, Adela & Miroslav

Sara.pascal@worldteam.org sasha.pascal@worldteam.org

Financial support

www.missiondispatch.org



Did you know Talking Bibles offers a free online audio Bible listening site where people around the world can hear God's Word in more than 50 languages?

For many people, listening is the best way to learn and understand. Others may never be able to read a printed Bible. Through the listening site, people can personally connect with God's Word online in languages such as Hebrew, Greek, Mien, Anuak, and many more.

Whether someone is listening from a remote village, a busy city, or their own home, God's Word is available free online for anyone to hear.

It is exciting to see how technology can help make the Bible accessible to people around the globe in their own language.

We invite you to explore the listening site and experience the power of hearing God's Word for yourself.

Thank you for taking a moment to learn more about the ministry of Talking Bibles and the lives being reached worldwide.

Blessings,

Talking Bibles

If you would like to listen to this Free Audio Bible Online go to: audio.talkingbibles.org



June 2026

RCA Global Mission does not receive denominational assessments or covenant shares. We depend on the faithful generosity of churches and individuals like you.

Reformed Church in America
4500 60th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

Campus Updates

Our staff has been hard at work this past month, making updates to our campus here in Annville! We have renovated our cabins to have showers and beautiful living spaces, as well as brand new mattresses thanks to a supporting church! We're so excited for teams to have a nice space to unwind after a day of serving.

We also added a beautiful fountain to our Reflection Center Pond, thanks to a kind donor! It is a great addition to our gathering space.

Please be in prayer as we begin our summer camp season! Please pray for our staff as they share the love of Christ with each child in attendance, and for hearts to be changed!

In His service,

Chad Demers

Campus Director



Grace Covenant Ministries
PO Box 340
Annville, KY 40402



"For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen Romans 11:36

Henry T. Blackaby said in his book, "Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God," *'We don't choose what we will do for God; He invites us to join Him where He wants to involve us.'* Blackaby reminds us that we should always be alert to where God is at work around us. There are many times that I meet people in random places, but they are not random to God. He is always working!

As I walked down the hall toward the infirmary, I saw several men waiting for an officer to check them out. (The kitchen workers are from Minimum Unit C, so they must be checked in and out.) One of the men asked, "Could you please pray for us? We really need it." So, I prayed with them and for their families back home. He also asked whether I could visit him in Unit C. A week later, I had the opportunity to do so. (Normally, he would not have been available because he had class that morning, but since the teacher did not show up, he was free to visit. As we talked, I realized he was very religious, but he did not have a personal relationship with Jesus. He had never prayed to trust Jesus as his only hope of salvation. He prayed to receive Jesus into his life as Lord and Savior! The Lord is always on time. God had me meet him in Jameson's hallway, so

God could save his soul a week later! God is always at work ahead of us or around us.

I had the opportunity to meet a young man who had been baptized a week earlier by another ministry. This ministry does a weekly church service. As we visited about being saved and what baptism meant, he realized he didn't fully understand salvation and baptism. We went over the plan of salvation verses in front of the Gideon Bible. He realized he needed to trust Christ as his Savior, which he did. As we went over other Bible passages, he was very attentive to it. He told me that he was ready to start his new life in Christ with a new perspective on life!

I am enclosing a letter to explain the change in the name of the prison ministry. My prison ministry will continue to be the same. The change is the name to which you make your donation. The change is at the bottom of my newsletter.

Thank you as always for your faithful support through your prayers and your donations!

Pray is vital in spreading the gospel, because we are in a spiritual battle for souls. Billy Graham said, *"Prayer is key to our effort to communicate the Gospel and win men and women to Christ."*

In Christ,

Harlan

Please designate my name in the memo section of your check. Make the checks out to: Converge Heartland, or PLF, the address is: 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone: 605-940-4220, Email: harlan@convergeheartland.org



BibleLeague®
INTERNATIONAL

SHARE
The Word
CHANGE
Young Hearts



Thank you for helping young people across Africa to hear the Gospel.

Share the Gospel with Young People

"Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children." More than 2,000 years ago, Jesus proclaimed these familiar words in Luke 18. Through this one statement, Jesus reveals His heart for young ones. He made Himself available to the kids, just as He always does for people—no matter their age.

Whether it's in schools, through sports, or at church, God is doing mighty work in the hearts of young people. Our Bible study curriculum for children—the *Discovery Series*—has created new opportunities to spread Christ's hope to kids in places like Haiti and Brazil for the first time.

God's Word Transforms Lives and Communities

Her smile is so bright it might hurt your eyes. Four years ago, that smile had disappeared.

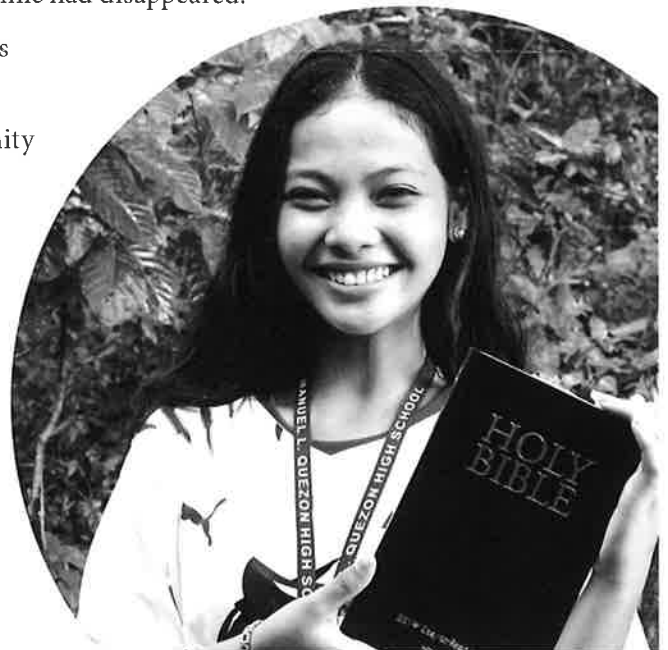
Hopelessness had taken hold of Ashley. At 11, believing her life was meaningless, she cut her wrists.

Ashley lives in Batangas, Philippines. Despite the vibrant community around her, she felt surrounded by darkness.

After her suicide attempt, Ashley tried to find purpose. But nothing helped. Suicidal thoughts still filled her mind. She felt like her life had no meaning—like a puzzle with a missing piece. Then Ashley's little sister, a new Christian, helped her find it at church. One day, her sister excitedly said, "Hey, big sister, come with me to church. It's cheerful there!" Seeking joy, Ashley decided to give it a try.

There, she met Pastor Bitek, a Bible League-trained Christian. His teaching on John 10:10 brought Jesus alive for Ashley. Finally, Ashley found the piece to make her whole. It had been Jesus all

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God's Word Transforms Lives (*continued*)

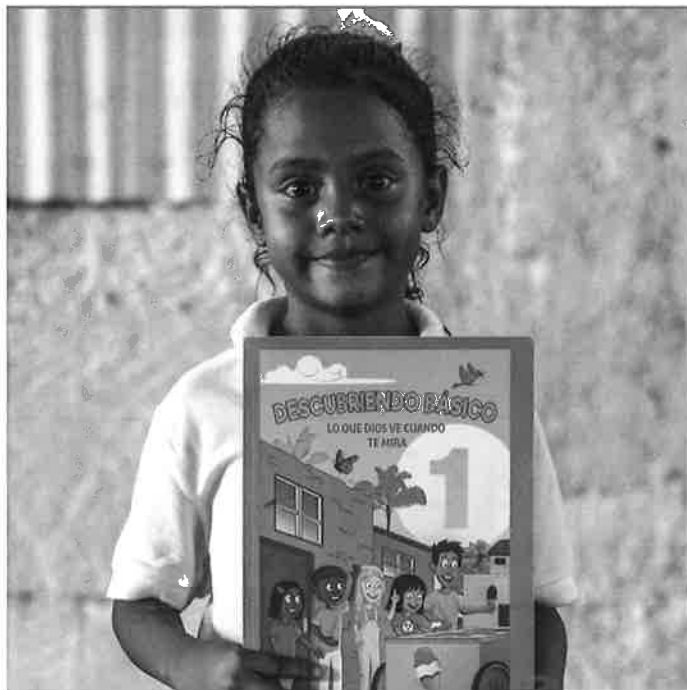
along. She continued studying God's Word through the Bible League Bible study. Eventually, she accepted Christ as her Lord.

Now, at 15, her smile is back. Since becoming a believer, she has also completed Bible League's Bible-based Literacy class. Today, she is joyfully teaching literacy to children in remote areas. But it's not all rainbows. Flecks of gray still appear as she endures anxiety attacks. In those moments, she turns to Jesus. "Talking to Him truly empowers me to turn my sorrows into joy."

Today, Ashley isn't just surviving—she's helping others to discover the same hope that saved her life.

Prayer Requests

- One hundred kindergartners in Indonesia are hearing how much God loves them through Bible League's children's Bible studies. May these little ones grow up rooted in Christ and His Word.
- Pray for the children at schools in Adeiso, Ghana, who recently completed their Bible League Bible studies.
- Praise the Lord for the 72 children in Egypt who have finished the *Discovery Series* Bible study program. Ask God to transform their lives and families through the power of the Gospel.



The Holy Spirit is transforming young lives!

Join Others in Leading Young Hearts to Christ

When you join with the Bible League Volunteer Ambassadors, you're making an eternal difference in young hearts in 42 countries! Your gifts and heartfelt prayers provide Bibles and invaluable biblical resources that help young people know Jesus. Each \$14 you provide today has the power to root a child in God's Word. Young people are often more open to the Gospel and eager sharers of it. Through them, siblings, grandparents, and parents discover God's Word. Entire families transform. Thank you!

Faithfully serving more than 50 countries worldwide

We equip the under-resourced Church to make disciples, transforming lives through God's Word.



Listen to **The Word in Action**—a podcast about how God's Word is transforming lives around the globe. You'll hear from people who are spreading the hope of Jesus each day. Explore new stories monthly of how God is moving in the lives of kids, persecuted believers, church planters, and so many others.

Subscribe, listen to, and comment on your favorite podcast app, or tune in at: bibleleague.org/action-podcast



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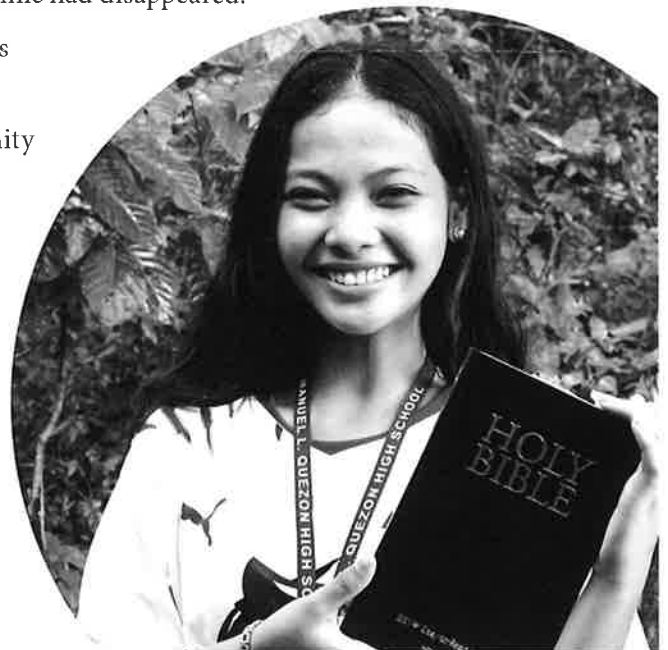
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God's Word Transforms Lives (*continued*)

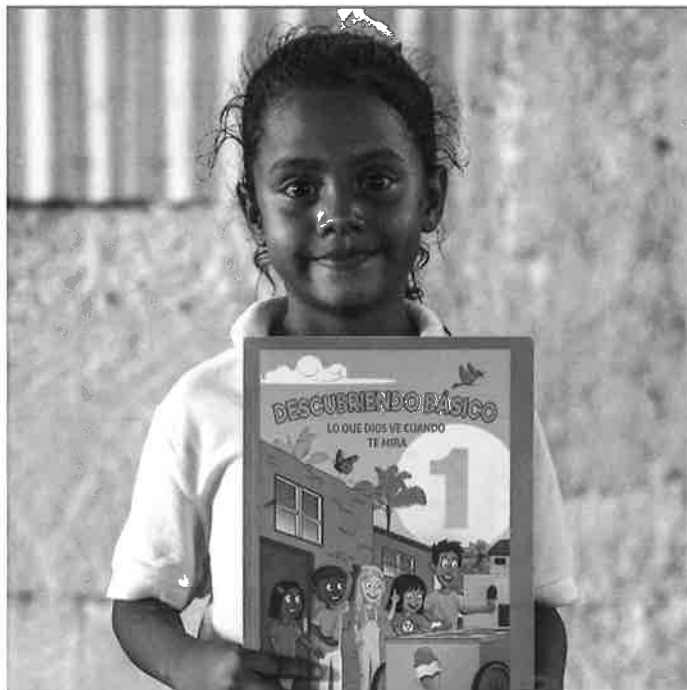
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Subscribe, listen to, and comment on your favorite podcast app, or tune in at: bibleleague.org/action-podcast

2026

GLOBAL MIDTERM REPORT



5,516
Churches
Started



572,066
People Reached
with the Gospel



212,313
People Who Now
Follow Jesus



839
Churches
Using TYCP

**Verifiable ministry results from January-April 2026*

South Asia Ministry Hub

South Asia Hub Developer Kris Ramsundar reports that priorities for the new hub include strengthening leaders in countries Multiplication Network currently works in and developing new opportunities in other countries such as Sri Lanka. Major challenges to this are increased persecution and limited resources in several countries, especially as some ministry partners are under increased scrutiny. On a recent visit to two countries in the hub, opportunities to collaborate with new ministry partners arose. These represent more than 3,000 churches pursuing More and Stronger Churches training. Leaders have noted that great work is being done both in the start of new churches and making training materials more accessible. In one country, ministry partners especially praised the work of a new National Coordinator who has been successful in adapting Multiplication Network's materials to both urban and rural areas of the nation.

Southeast Asia Ministry Hub

Hub Director Sopheak Ea writes that ministry partners in Cambodia, Thailand, and other countries are incorporating Multiplication Network's training into their ministries. Most have started with More Churches training and are working on incorporating Stronger Churches training into their programs. As the scope of ministry in Southeast Asia increases, the shortage of staff in comparison continues to be a challenge alongside the conflict between Cambodia and Thailand. Effective collaboration is key in addressing these challenges, and the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding between Multiplication Network and several ministries in Cambodia is one tangible example. Leaders in several countries, especially Thailand, have expressed their excitement in using Multiplication Network's training.



Caribbean & U.S. Hispanics Ministry Hub

According to Hub Director José Almonte, priorities in the Caribbean and U.S. Hispanics Hub include developing emerging leaders, strengthening leadership teams, and expanding work to unreached English-speaking islands in the region. Fuel shortages, an increase in transportation costs, and the overloaded agendas of some denominations have made it difficult for leaders and church planters to travel and train. These issues are especially difficult in Haiti where gang violence has paused training in some areas. While these challenges are prevalent, leaders continue to demonstrate resilience and flexibility in addressing them by restructuring training opportunities. These include the launch of a training school in the U.S., a meeting in the Turks and Caicos Islands with leaders representing eight Caribbean islands to provide training, and meetings along the Haiti and Dominican Republic border to continue the work.



Latin America Ministry Hub

Leaders in the Latin America Hub are providing training in person and online to effectively prepare those responsible for training church planters. According to Hub Director Juan Carlos Melo, a major challenge in the hub has been leadership transitions among some ministry partners as new leaders are unfamiliar with Multiplication Network. That said, there are notable examples of collaboration including a movement in Guayaquil, Ecuador that has brought together different denominations with the common goal of starting new churches. Likewise, programs such as Project Barnabas have already celebrated their first graduation of mentors together with their church planters. Other programs such as Saturation and PlantiKids continue to strengthen and expand. Feedback from leaders who have received training has been very positive. They value its role as a catalyst in the transformation of disciple-making communities and appreciate the emphasis on mentorship.

East Africa Ministry Hub

The East Africa Hub is focusing on identifying, developing, and mentoring new and emerging leaders according to Hub Director Michael Sillah. The greatest challenge for the hub is having more opportunities than resources even after dividing the hub into two new hubs. There is a high demand for training and an increasing need for more trainers. Some trainings have been postponed due to this issue. While difficult, it is also encouraging as it gives the team confidence that Multiplication Network's training is impactful and transformative. Two countries are examples of significant growth in East Africa. Madagascar's National Coordinator has established several new ministry partnerships in the country. The National Coordinator in DR Congo received a letter from the office of the Durba City Council of Churches asking Multiplication Network to work with all of the denominations associated with them.

Southern Africa Ministry Hub

As work begins in the newly established Southern Africa Hub, ministry partnerships are being developed in 10 countries thanks to a committed team. The hub had its first official Southern Africa Hub meeting in April which was a success. While travel to remote areas and a shortage of workers are challenging according to Hub Director Brian Mutarwa, the team is committed to addressing these issues through God's provision. Notable collaboration is taking place in Zimbabwe where Stronger Churches training is being led effectively as well as new training initiatives with Bible schools in Namibia and South Africa. Feedback from church planters and trainers has been very encouraging and positive. Many are grateful for Stronger Churches training, especially amongst churches who want to strengthen their ministries and begin church planting. This has led to more ministry partners recommending Multiplication Network's training to others.

West Africa Ministry Hub

Fostering a culture of disciple-making, increasing reporting standards, and equipping leaders are major priorities according to West Africa Hub Director, Mike Okuneye. The team is regularly organizing trainings, emphasizing mentorship, and contextualizing church planting strategies to meet them. Challenges include cultural and religious resistance in some communities and a lack of committed leaders in others. That said, there are notable examples of successful collaboration within our network such as an upcoming collaboration meeting in Cameroon in July and other nations. Church planters have been working together in evangelism, sharing resources, and supporting each other in prayer and mentorship even across nations and regions. Ministry partnerships with local churches are also growing stronger. Church planters overall emphasize their appreciation for training as it's both practical and biblical and are grateful for materials translated in their local language. They add that their ministries are more effective now than ever.



Eurasia Ministry Hub

Eurasia Hub Director Daniel Pedraza writes that the hub's main priority is the reorganization of the hub after merging many former Eurasia Hub countries with the Europe Hub. Leaders met in May to discuss both these changes and new training opportunities. Two new ministry partners in the region are interested in working with Multiplication Network. The greatest challenge for the Eurasia Hub is travel due to the war between Russia and Ukraine. Communication issues have also increased due to being unable to meet in person. The restructuring meeting in May provided an opportunity to address these challenges in person. Though there is little to report from the region at this time, the hub is looking forward to addressing the need for churches in Eurasia together.

Europe Ministry Hub

Co-Hub Directors Daniel Pedraza and Xoán Castro write that they are working toward collaboration with more denominations and theological institutions to increase Multiplication Network's presence in Europe. The integration of Eastern European countries in the hub as well as overall secularization in the region are two challenges being addressed. A meeting will be taking place in Dresden, Germany later in June to promote collaboration. New church planting efforts have started in France through a Ukrainian pastor as well as work with new denominations in Spain, Poland, and Latvia. The hub also celebrates the graduation of new cohorts from the Chinese Church in Spain and in Brussels, Belgium. Feedback of the training materials is overall positive, which has opened doors for Multiplication Network to participate in key evangelism and discipleship forums and events.



Your gift to Multiplication Network helps to strengthen and empower our 9 ministry hubs to oversee and drive the vision of church planting. **Because of generous ministry supporters like you, lives are eternally changed.**

Thank you!



JULY 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 7am Executive Team Mtg Paul's vacation - July 2-10	3 Office Closed VNW Independence Day Celebration Paul's vacation - July 2-10	4 Independence Day 
5 8am Praise Team Practice Message - John Swoyer C&W Paul's vacation - July 2-10	6 6pm Congregational Care Mtg 6:30pm Hands of Hope Mtg Paul's vacation - July 2-10	7 Paul's vacation - July 2-10	8 Paul's vacation - July 2-10	9 4:30-6pm Sheldon Food Truck 7pm Evening Circle Mtg Paul's vacation - July 2-10	10 Paul's vacation - July 2-10	11
12 8am Praise Team Practice NO C&W 5:30-8:30pm VBS	13 5:30-8:30pm VBS	14 5:30-8:30pm VBS	15 1:30pm Afternoon Circle Open Mtg 5:30-8:30pm VBS	16 5:30-8:30pm VBS	17	18
19 8am Praise Team Practice C&W	20 5:30-6:30pm Sheldon Unity Meal	21 6:30pm Elders/Deacons Mtgs 7:30pm Consistory Mtg	22	23	24	25 CRH 100th anniversary celebration @ FRC Rocky Mtn High - July 25-29
26 8am Praise Team Practice C&W Rocky Mtn High - July 25-29	27 Rocky Mtn High - July 25-29	28 Rocky Mtn High - July 25-29	29 Rocky Mtn High - July 25-29	30	31	