

Reformed *Informer*



Pastor Wayne Sneller
Email: wsneller@netins.net

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, SULLY, IA
MARCH 2020

"LOST NO MORE!"

Dear Friends,

This month allows us to observe Lent that will culminate in Easter!

Have you ever wondered about the name and why we as Christians observe it?

Lent is actually a forty day preparation where we remember in varying stages Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. It prepares us for the Easter celebration and Christ's resurrection! It also gives us a period where Christians reflect on how we have been given freedom from sin.

Sometime ago, I had to take a trip that differed from my usual route home to Sully! I believe it was a detour because of the spring flooding on the Missouri river that began this adventure.

In the middle of the night, flashed a road closed sign. Away we went on an unknown road in the dead of night. My navigator, also known as my wife, guided me expertly through twists and turns in the road. Unmarked county roads not listed on the Google map app met us on a regular basis!

We encountered road construction, one lane bridges, gravel roads that were supposed to be paved and bad coffee!

What a relief it was to finally pull into our Sully driveway and our home!

Our life experiences are paved with twists and turns, roadblocks and experiences that test our faith!

Lent reminds us that Christ paved the way for us by experiencing the temptations and trials we face! He was God and yet man! Jesus was the incarnate son of God!

We can face tomorrow with certainty because our Lord Jesus Christ paid the price with his death and resurrection!

Thomas declared to Jesus, "We don't know where you are going? How can we know the way? Jesus replied, "I am the way, the truth and the life."

I hope you will be able to reflect on Lent and its meaning to our Easter celebration! It will remind you of where you have been and where you are going! Home! Lost no more!

Have a Blessed Lenten season!

In Christ,

Pastor Wayne



Who: ALL 6th—8th graders
Impact Youth will be meeting EVERY SUNDAY at 4:59 pm in the WELL throughout the year!
March Dates:

March 1—Spiritual Growth Series
 March 8—Believe it or Not Series
 March 15—Spring Break—No Meeting
 March 22—NO IMPACT—Spring Break
 March 29—Believe it or Not Series
IMPACT Youth Group (6th-8th) meets Sunday evenings from 4:59—6pm in the Well
Leaders: Jeff & Alison Knouse, Denny & Donna Liekweg & Caden Dunsbergen

Youth & Ed Director—
Jeff Knouse

Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday
& Sunday's

Email: jkfrcsully@gmail.com

phone: 641-594-2935 ext. 3

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/sullyfrcyouth/

JUST a NOTE

FAITH WALKERS



2 Corinthians 5:7

FAITHWALKERS meet at 6:27 pm in the Well
All 9th - 12th Grade invited
Upcoming Events:

March 1—Live Like This Series
 March 8—Live like This Series
 March 15— Live like This Series
 March 22—Spring Break— No meeting
 March 29—9:30 am—Faithwalker Worship
 6:30 pm Live Like This

Faithwalkers Youth Group (9th—12th) meets every Sunday evening from 6:30—7:30 pm in the Well

Leaders: Jeff & Alison Knouse, Shawn & ChyAnne Huyser & Cody & Kelly Kesling



IMPACT YOUTH—
April 3—5

Middle School Retreat is a FUN weekend for middle school students and their

adult leaders! The MSR will be at at Hidden Acres Christian Center in Dayton, IA (about a 1/2 hr south of Fort Dodge). Synod Youth Ministries partners with Northwestern College students to plan an AWESOME weekend of worship, large group sessions, youth group time and of course recreation and games!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH

JULY 25-29 | 2020

ESTES PARK, CO

What is Rocky Mountain High?

Rocky Mountain High is an event held every three years and is sponsored by the Synod of the Heartland Office of Youth Ministries. It is geared towards high school students entering grades 8-12 for the 2019-2020 school year and their adult leaders.

This year we have 15 students and 5 leaders attending Rocky!

Prayer Breakfast

Free Jesus, and donuts.

Every Friday morning at 7:30 am all 9th—12th grade are invited to come for donuts, chocolate milk, orange juice and prayer. Invite your friends! It's a great way to end the school week! Only one date in March—March 13



Children's Ministry

Director—

Julie Van Manen

Office Hours: Wednesdays

Email: julievmfrcsully@gmail.com

Office phone: 641-594-2935 ext 5

Cell phone: 641-521-7951

STARS

Living the Fruit of the Spirit

STARS - On Ash Wednesday, the STARS children had an opportunity to rotate around to six different prayer stations, where they read a Bible verse, completed an activity, and prayed. Each student also went home with a Lent devotional, Do You See the Savior? Wednesday, March 11 will be the final STARS night. A family meal will be served and immediately following the children will present a short program on the Fruit of the Spirit and highlights of the year will be shared.

Not simply learning the Fruit of the Spirit, but being able to discuss how our lives exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit has been a learning experience for all. During the prayer station time, I was able to observe a crew of boys share what fruit each felt good about in his life and which fruits needed improvement.

As adults we also need to be reminded of examples where we exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit. Here is my story on one of the fruits that I experienced this month. I wanted to print some pictures off of my phone for church. Several people told me to use the app on my phone. Well, after several failed attempts of that, I decided I would just go to the store. When I walked into the store, the pictures downloaded. The clerk assisted me; however, she was trying to answer the phone and do other things as well. I wanted to know when my pictures would be ready so I could plan accordingly. So, I kept trying to ask the clerk; she turned to me and said, "Patience." I laughingly replied, "That's ironic, I am teaching the children at church about the Fruit of the Spirit and just last night we talked about patience." Believe me, at that point in time, I certainly wanted to react in another way that would not have demonstrated several of the fruits – love, patience, kindness, and self-control to name a few.

Continued.....

This is just one example, but it did remind me of how important it is that if we are truly Christians and believe that we serve a risen Lord and Savior that our lives need to show it each and every day especially as we live in a world that tries to tell us otherwise more than ever. So, as we enter the season of Lent let us be living examples of the Fruit of the Spirit each and every day!

22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)



Looking ahead—the Primary Sunday School Department (1st—4th grade) will be singing on **Palm Sunday, April 5** during the morning worship service. **Our last day of Sunday school will be Sunday, May 17.**



SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School will be held July 6—9 from 6-8 pm. Our theme this year is **"Rocky Railway...Jesus Power Pulls Us"**

Inscribe the Word Kids!

MARCH SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

THIS SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN IS DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4-10. EACH OF THE SCRIPTURES BELOW SHOULD TAKE TEN MINUTES TO JOURNAL. YOU CAN USE THIS PLAN IN CONJUNCTION THE ADULT WRITING PLAN AS A FAMILY DEVOTIONAL, FAMILY BIBLE STUDY, OR HOMESCHOOL CURRICULUM. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS TIME LEARNING ABOUT JESUS AS YOU INSCRIBE THE WORD!

AMAZING GRACE!

Day 1: John 1:16-17	Day 19: Acts 4:33
Day 2: Romans 11:6	Day 20: Acts 20:32
Day 3: James 4:6	Day 21: Romans 3:23-24
Day 4: 1 Corinthians 15:10	Day 22: Ephesians 1:6
Day 5: Hebrews 4:16	Day 23: Acts 20:24
Day 6: Proverbs 3:21-22	Day 24: 2 Corinthians 8:1
Day 7: Proverbs 3:34	Day 25: 2 Timothy 1:9
Day 8: Romans 6:1-2	Day 26: Luke 2:40
Day 9: Romans 6:15	Day 27: Jude 1:4
Day 10: Titus 2:11	Day 28: Colossians 4:6
Day 11: Ephesians 2:4-5	Day 29: 1 Peter 5:10
Day 12: Ephesians 2:8	Day 30: Hebrews 12:15
Day 13: Romans 1:5	Day 31: Philippians 4:23, Galatians 6:18
Day 14: Romans 5:20	
Day 15: Galatians 5:4	
Day 16: 2 Corinthians 12:9	
Day 17: Hebrews 13:8	
Day 18: Jeremiah 31:2	

WWW.THEFELICITYBEE.COM



Jason & Bailey Huyser
Birthdays: Jason—12/27/1979
 Bailey—8/23/1989
Anniversary: August 3, 2019

Jason and Bailey Huyser met when Jason came into the Dental office where Bailey worked at the time. They were married in Pella on a beautiful day in August of 2019 and currently live on a farm northwest of Sully.

Jason is a life-long resident of Sully, graduating from Lynnville-Sully High school. His parents are Dale and Minnie Huyser and he has two brothers; Steve (Newton) and Kent (Sully). He is a dairy farmer at their family's farm on the west edge of Sully.

Bailey grew up in the Newton area, graduating from Newton Senior High School and going on to graduate from Iowa Central Community College. Allen Smith and Danielle Smith are her parents and she has three brothers, one being her twin Beau Smith (Newton); Brandon Smith (Malcolm) and Brady Smith (Newton). If you go in to Recker Dental Care in Pella to have a checkup, you will see Bailey working as a Dental Hygienist there.

When Bailey first started coming to First Reformed, one of the special memories she has is sitting in the pew with Margaret Vande Krol, Jason's grandma.

Thank you Jason and Bailey Huyser for letting us "Get to Know You" Better!



Phil and Olivia
Ikel

PRAY

- That people come to know God's love through the CEPAD staff and their efforts to reduce rural poverty in Nicaragua.
- For the EMI Nicaragua office to be united and effective in their work and gospel witness.
- For grace and guidance as Phil transitions into EMI and continues to study Spanish.
- That God sets a strong foundation in Phil and Olivia's marriage, rooted in their identity in Jesus Christ.



About the ministry

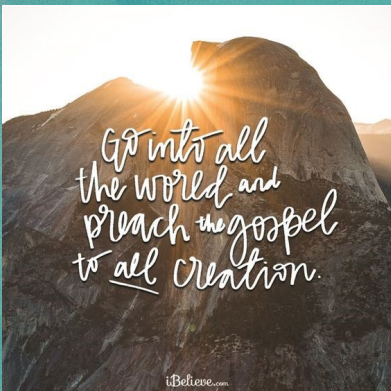
Community and family are the foundation of life in Nicaragua. Half of rural Nicaraguan families face extreme poverty, with lack of access to food, basic services, and education. Phil and Olivia work with local partners to help meet Nicaraguans' physical and spiritual needs.

Olivia facilitates church partnerships and volunteer opportunities for the Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua (CEPAD). Through faith-based leadership development, pastoral training, and food security programs, CEPAD ministers to the marginalized and helps communities break the cycle of hunger and poverty.

Phil serves as an associate structural engineer for Engineering Ministries International Nicaragua (EMI). He designs for Christian projects and disciples young professionals. EMI desires to see people restored by God and the world restored through design.

To learn more or support this ministry, visit:

www.rca.org/lekel
olivialekel@rca.org
plekel@rca.org





- March 1**
Dale De Penning ~ Brenda Jansen
Ryan Mortvedt
Danis Hedrick (84)
- March 2**
Duane Brand (83)
- March 3**
Brevin Hansen
Bailey Vander Molen
- March 4**
Carol Ver Ploeg
- March 5**
Ryenne Jansen
- March 6**
Deb Johnson
- March 10**
John Roozeboom
- March 11**
Krystal Van Dyke
- March 13**
Baylee Jansen ~ Russ Rozendaal
Hailey Scandridge ~ Alma Terpstra
- March 14**
Kendall Rozendaal
- March 15**
Eric Brand ~ Julie Keen
Hannah De Penning
- March 16**
Chase Jansen ~ Loren Vos

- March 17**
Brent Rozendaal ~ Corrina Rozendaal
- March 18**
ChyAnne Huyser ~ Christine Van Wyk
- March 19**
Carrie Mortvedt ~ Maury Van Der Wilt
- March 20**
Jan De Goey
- March 21**
Andy Dunsbergen
- March 23**
Stephanie Rozendaal
- March 24**
Kendra Fikse
- March 25**
Doyle Ver Ploeg ~ Rory Vos
- March 26**
Jade De Hoedt
- March 27**
Barb Maasdam ~ Payton Scandridge
Felix Torres ~ Ellington Dunsbergen
- March 29**
Zachary Dykema
Julie Roozeboom
- March 30**
Jennifer Kramer
- March 31**
Tammy Vos ~ Cole Henkle
Clarence Wyma

- March 11**
Kendall & Darci Jansen—**32 years**
- March 12**
John & Julie Roozeboom—**27 years**
- March 17**
Randy & Nancy Huyser—**48 years**
- March 23**
Andy & Jamie Dunsbergen—**7 years**
Craig & Barb Maasdam—**41 years**
- March 26**
Gene & Eleanor Jansen—**56 years**



March Scripture Writing Plan

Each of the scriptures below takes ten minutes or less to copy out. Commit to spending ten minutes each day listening to God's voice as you simply copy these texts out of your Bible.

- Day 1- Joel 2:12-14
- Day 2- Joshua 1:5-9
- Day 3- James 1:2-8
- Day 4- James 1:9-12
- Day 5- James 1:13-18
- Day 6- Ephesians 2:4-10
- Day 7- Ephesians 4:22-28

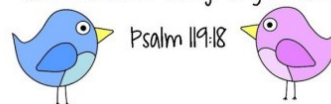
- Day 15- Galatians 6:1-6
- Day 16- Galatians 6:7-10
- Day 17- Psalm 62:1-5
- Day 18- Psalm 62:6-10
- Day 19- Psalm 20:1-5
- Day 20- Psalm 61:1-5
- Day 21- Isaiah 43:1-7

- Day 8- Ephesians 4:29-32
- Day 9- Romans 15:1-6
- Day 10- Psalm 91:1-4
- Day 11- Psalm 91:5-8
- Day 12- Psalm 91:9-13
- Day 13- Psalm 91:14-16
- Day 14- Galatians 5:13-15

- Day 22- Hebrews 6:13-16
- Day 23- Hebrews 6:17-20
- Day 24- Matthew 5:13-16
- Day 25- 1 Thessalonians 5:12-15
- Day 26- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22
- Day 27- 1 Thessalonians 5:23-28
- Day 28- Matthew 21:21-22

- Day 29- James 3:13-15
- Day 30- James 3:16-18
- Day 31- Choose Your Own Verse

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.



Psalm 119:18



EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar

- Monday, March 23**—Save the date—Bible League Spring Luncheon at 11:45 am at Trinity in Pella, IA with keynote speaker, Brian McLemore
- Sunday, March 29, 9:30 am**—Faithwalkers Morning Worship Service
- Sunday, March 29, 6:00 pm**—Gospel Singers Male Chorus at Sully Community Church
- Sunday, April 5, Palm Sunday, 9:30 am**—The Primary Sunday School Department will be singing
- Sunday, April 12, 8—9:15 am**—Easter Morning Breakfast in the Gathering Place followed by Easter Morning Worship at 9:30 am and Celebration Coffee time

What is LENT?

LENT IS THE 40 DAYS BEFORE EASTER. IT BEGINS THE DAY AFTER SHROVE TUESDAY (PANCAKE TUESDAY) AND ENDS ON PALM SUNDAY.



Christians celebrate LENT to remind them of the time Jesus fasted in the desert.

The symbols OF LENT

ASHES

Remind us that God created us from dust.

PALM LEAVES

Were laid upon Jesus path as he entered Jerusalem, for goodness and health.

PURPLE

The colour worn by royalty and associated with mourning.

Why do we FAST?

FASTING FOR 40 DAYS REMINDS US OF WHEN JESUS FASTED IN THE DESERT.



This is an important time when we give up something important to remind us of the sacrifices Jesus made for us.

What is ALMSGIVING?

ALMSGIVING IS THE ACT OF PUTTING OTHERS FIRST AND GIVING TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN US.

During LENT we focus on prayer and almsgiving.



Shrove TUESDAY

THE LAST TUESDAY BEFORE LENT BEGINS. In the past Christians used this day to eat the food that wouldn't last through LENT.

Pancakes used up the milk, egg and fat, just by adding flour.



Also called PANCAKE TUESDAY

Ash WEDNESDAY

THE FIRST DAY OF LENT



Ashes are placed on the forehead as a sign of the dust from which God made us. It also symbolises the confession of our sins.

Family Activity for Lent: Making Pretzels

By Marcia Floding

Pretzels have an important meaning during Lent. Pretzels were made in the fifth century as a Lenten food in Austria, Germany, and Poland. People began to make them on Ash Wednesday, the very first day of Lent. The word "pretzel" is a German word meaning "little arms." The dough was shaped in such a way to look like two arms crossed in prayer.

Pretzels were made to take the place of bread, since milk, eggs, and fats were not used during Lent. On certain days during Lent it was the custom to give pretzels to the townspeople who were poor.

As a family, make some pretzels. Two variations for making pretzels are included at the bottom of this sheet. Enjoy the pretzels and let them remind you that Lent is a time of prayer. Before you eat the pretzels, say a prayer together:

Dear God, we ask you to bless these pretzels which we are about to eat. Each time we eat them may we be reminded that this is the season of Lent, a time of prayer. Help us to remember to pray for those who need our prayers each day. Keep your loving arms around us, O God, to protect us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Adapted from "Pretzel Prayer," A Time of Hope: Family Celebrations and Activities for Lent and Easter, Morehouse-Barlow Co., Inc., 1979 (out of print).

Bread Pretzels

- 1 1/4 cups water (85°)
- 1 tablespoon dry yeast
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 4 1/2 cups flour
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 to 2 teaspoons water or milk
- Coarse salt



Let yeast and sugar dissolve in water for one hour. Add flour to yeast mixture and beat until smooth. Knead mixture for seven to eight minutes. Place in a greased, covered bowl and let the dough rise until double in size. Divide the dough in half; then divide each half into smaller pieces of equal size. Roll each piece in your hands to make pencil shapes twelve (12) to fifteen (15) inches long. Shape each length of dough into pretzels (see the diagram). Place on a greased baking sheet. Brush with egg yolk and water or milk mixture. Sprinkle with coarse salt. Bake at 325 degrees until lightly browned on top.

Frozen Bread Dough Pretzels

Thaw one loaf of frozen bread dough. Let the dough rise according to directions on the package. Divide the dough in half and place on a floured board. Cut each half into eight (8) equal pieces. Roll small pieces into strips about eighteen (18) inches long. Shape into pretzels (see the diagram). Place on a greased baking sheet. Brush the tops of the pretzels with beaten egg yolk mixed with one (1) tablespoon of water. Sprinkle with coarse salt. Bake at 350 degrees for twenty (20) to thirty (30) minutes or until lightly browned on top.



2020 PRAYER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Loren & Tammy Vos	2 Meldon, Eloise, Marissa, Mariah, Meleisha, Majesta & Mandeesa Vos	3 Steve & Rita Vos	4 Chris, Kara, & Raelee Warrick & Alyssa & Brayden Bassett	5 Mason & Cayla Wichhart	6 Dave & Karla Winegar	7 Clarence & Lynn Wyma
8 Mark, Justine, Ethan & Ashlee Wyma	9 Nathan & Stephanie, Skyler & Slater Young	10 Darrell & Linda Zegers	11 Murray & Judy Zegers	12 Ileen Zegers	13 Derrick, Annette, Georgia & Sadie Zimmerman	14 Henry & Betty Zuidema
15 Rod Zuidema	16 Mike & Kathy Zylstra	17 Nicole Anania	18 Ervin & Linda Arkema	19 Craig & Sheryl Baarda	20 Marvin & Iva Baarda	21 Shaun, Kristy & Brooke Baarda
22 Shirley Baarda	23 Nick & Kate Beyer	24 Sandy Beyer	25 Susan Beyer	26 Corky Boat	27 Kyle & Mikayla Bonnema	28 Audrey Brand
29 Charles Brand	30 Duane & Donna Brand	31 Eric, Faye, Carter & Abigail Brand				

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2020 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller</p> <p>10:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>5 pm IMPACT Youth</p> <p>6 pm Royce Spoelstra</p> <p>6:30 pm Faithwalkers</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 am LAST Sewing Days</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:45 am Promise Keepers</p> <p>3:30 pm STARS</p> <p>5:30 pm Family night meal</p> <p>6:15 pm 6th—8th</p> <p>6:45 pm 9th—12th</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>No Prayer Breakfast</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8—2 pm Shower in the Gathering Place</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller</p> <p>10:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>5 pm IMPACT Youth</p> <p>6 pm Pastor Mike Holleman</p> <p>6:30 pm Faithwalkers</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6 pm LS Boys Basketball Banquet</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:45 am Promise Keepers</p> <p>3:30 pm LAST STARS</p> <p>5:30 STARS Family night meal</p> <p>6:15 pm 6th—8th</p> <p>6:45 pm 9th—12th</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5 pm LS Girls Basketball Banquet</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:30 am Prayer Breakfast</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11—5 pm Shower in the Gathering Place</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller</p> <p>10:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>5 pm IMPACT</p> <p>5:30 pm Young Couples Bible Study</p> <p>6 pm Bob Hammann</p> <p>6:30 pm Faithwalkers</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:45 am Promise Keepers</p> <p>6:30 pm Elders Mtg.</p> <p>6:45 pm Deacon Mtg</p> <p>7:30 pm Consistory</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>No Prayer Breakfast</p>	<p>21</p>
SPRING BREAK—March 17— 20						
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller</p> <p>10:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>6 pm Bob Hammann</p> <p>NO YOUTH GROUPS</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:45 am Promise Keepers</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>No Prayer Breakfast</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12—5 pm Shower in the Gathering Place</p>
<p>29 Building Fund Offering</p> <p>9:30 am Faithwalkers Service</p> <p>10:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>5 pm IMPACT</p> <p>No Evening Worship</p> <p>6 pm Gospel Men's Chorus at Sully Community Church</p> <p>6:30 pm Faithwalkers</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				