

Community Reformed Church

March 2020 - Volume 42 Issue 3

On the Road Again

On Wednesday, January 22nd a man wearing a black leather jacket, faded blue jeans, and well-worn tennis shoes began his journey home after just being released from the Tippecanoe County Jail. Having no money or a vehicle, he began his way on foot without any gloves or even a hat. Even though it was not currently snowing, there was snow on the ground. His brown hair was a little wild from lack of grooming and his facial hair was starting to come in thick, which may have been his only respite from the bitter cold. He was heading south, the same direction my husband was driving as he himself was also heading home. The man turned, stiffly, with one hand still in his pocket and with his other hand gave the thumbs-up gesture. My husband slowed his truck and motioned for the man to get in, hopefully able to provide some relief from the weather outside. The man stepped up into the truck using the door to help pull himself up. His hair tussled in the wind as he shot a slight grin of gratitude and firmly closed the door behind him. "So where are you headed?" my husband asked.

The man, approximately in his 40's, began telling my husband that he had been released out of jail that morning and didn't have any way to get back home. Home was in Attica. He had just walked a little over eight hours and was still a few miles from making it to West Point. He didn't provide a name and my husband didn't ask. He was very thirsty and asked if there happened to be a bottle of water that he could have. My husband checked the door pockets that occasionally held a water but found nothing. He suddenly remembered putting a bottle of Gatorade in his lunch that he had not opened. This seemed to suit the man just fine. After getting slightly settled, he began to share how he ended up in jail but only vaguely. My husband told him that he could take him as far West Point. The new Dollar General was open and he told the man that he could go in there to get warm for awhile if needed. He nodded and when the time came for him to hop out, he thanked my

husband for the ride and went straight back to the road. He didn't enter the Dollar General to get warm.

I remember being impatient as I waited for my husband to get home. It was getting close to 4:30pm and we needed to get to a certain store before it closed at 5:00pm. He should have been home before then. When he walked in the door, I quickly asked him where he had been. I knew he could tell I was a little irritated. He told me about the man on his way home. I instantly felt remorseful for being irritated. I always have mixed feelings when he (or his mother) picks up strangers, which is rare for him to do so I knew he felt he needed to. He began to tell me about the man but since it was such a short ride there wasn't a whole lot to know about the stranger. My husband said that most likely he was probably in jail for drugs, just by looking at him. I always hate when my husband profiles in that manner. I know it's on account of his law enforcement background but I still feel like we're judging somehow. He told me that he was headed to Attica but that he only took him as far as West Point. Immediately I felt like we needed to go back and take him the rest of the way. It was cold that day and the trip to Attica is through the open farm fields that offer no kind of break from the wind.

Coincidentally, the day before my husband provided the ride to the stranger, I had just finished reading a book that was written by an addict about her addiction. It's a story about her life and how she ended up in jail, tried killing herself, and then finally entered a rehab facility where she found Jesus and was able to finally become clean. I went through different emotions as I read the book. Parts of it made me angry to the point where I wanted to stop reading and I just wanted to dislike her. How could people do such things and knowingly hurt the people around them? But she explained things in a way that I never considered before. There is so much hurt and pain in this world that people turn to sin and in this case a substance to fill that hole in their heart. Many do not have God in their lives or have fallen astray. Something like drug or

alcohol abuse takes all that hurt and pain away so that they are willing to do anything, and I mean anything, to get that next high. That's where I would get angry again, but God gave me another perspective. I have Him to fall back on and she did not. She looked for answers and a cure through the physical world, but actually we find our relief within God. It was years until she finally met the right person who helped her to know God.

I believe God puts people and situations in our path to fulfill a purpose, whether we see the results or not is totally up to Him. After reading that book, I had the compassion to want to give that man a second chance. And we truly don't know why he was in jail. But regardless of what we think, we must wrap our loving arms around those who may wonder down the broken path, just as God does. He is the only one who knows how they came to walk it in the first place. We do not make each other better when we stand back and criticize one another. We need to be compassionate and it may be just a silent ride down the road, but we have no idea what God has in mind for that moment. Unfortunately, we didn't find the man as we made our way to Attica. My husband had called the Sheriff's Department to see if he could get any background on the man and they had no recollection or records of a man being in jail or released from jail that morning fitting his description. Hopefully he made it home safely and warmly to wherever home may be.

"They will neither hunger nor thirst, nor will the desert heat or the sun beat down on them. He who has compassion on them will guide them and lead them beside springs of water." Isaiah 49:10

The March mission highlight and special offering will take place March 8th and will be used to bless Mark Withers and his prison ministry!



Don't forget to set those clocks forward one hour on Saturday, March 7th! Because Daylight savings begins on Sunday, March 8th!

Every Sunday in March Fusion will be meeting from 5:15-

7pm, at

Sunrise Christian Church!



Happiness Is...

* Healthy baby boy for Zach & Hannah Evans! Born on Valentine's Day! Zachary Scot Jr. weighed in at 7lbs, 14oz, and 21" long! The Evans family is doing great!

*If you have happiness to share please write it on the clip board on the resource table or email it to Kelsey at Kelsey@crclaf.org!

Per tradition at CRC, lent nails will be available on the resource table. Please pick one up and carry it in your pocket throughout the lent season. We will come together on Maundy Thursday to pound our nails into the wooden cross up front.



Birthdays and Anniversaries!

If your birthday and/ or anniversary is incorrect or missing, please contact Kelsey to have it updated.

3 Jerry Baskett
5 John Vanderkolk
7 Ray Bridge
14 Emma Baker
16 Carly Buettner
24 John Budzik
29 Brad Baker
30 Karen Bosma



8 Greg and Teresa Thompson
13 Andy & Lisa Cree

The Ladies Bible Study will be hosting another Craft/Scrapbooking Event as a fundraiser for projects and missions. This year it will be Saturday, March 28th from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Advance registration fee of \$30 will include your use of an 8' table, breakfast, lunch and dinner, snacks and drinks. Your junior crafter can join you at your table for only \$15.

Join us for a fun day of crafting, scrapbooking, card making, quilting and socializing. Questions? See Bonnie Brenneman.

Registration flyers are on the resource table - space is limited so early registration is recommended.



Community Reformed Church

BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: CRC 2020 (NOV 2019-OCT 2020) - FY20 P&L
November 2019 - January 2020

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
Congregation Contributions	53,734.80		53,734.80	
Total Income	\$53,734.80	\$0.00	\$53,734.80	0.00%
GROSS PROFIT	\$53,734.80	\$0.00	\$53,734.80	0.00%
Expenses				
1000 Missions	6,393.50	26,500.00	-20,106.50	24.13 %
1010 Outreach	3,457.91	3,500.00	-42.09	98.80 %
1020 Pastoral Ministry Expenses	21,126.48	113,949.93	-92,823.45	18.54 %
1030 Church Office Expenses	6,115.45	26,348.00	-20,232.55	23.21 %
1040 Service & Life Expenses	619.16	1,700.00	-1,080.84	36.42 %
1050 Worship Expenses	1,533.58	7,265.00	-5,731.42	21.11 %
1060 Christian Education Exps	240.51	5,025.00	-4,784.49	4.79 %
1070 Property Maint Expenses	10,222.40	41,300.00	-31,077.60	24.75 %
1080 Other Expenses - Budgeted	2,431.26	25,450.00	-23,018.74	9.55 %
Payroll Expenses	5,736.95		5,736.95	
Total Expenses	\$57,877.20	\$251,037.93	\$ -193,160.73	23.06 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -4,142.40	\$ -251,037.93	\$246,895.53	1.65 %
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MARCH 2020

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Prayer Time

9:30 a.m. Morning Worship

11:00 a.m. Sunday School

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Communion Garden Announcement	2	3 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm 4-H Group	4 6:30pm Small Group Backpacking	5	6	7 8am Men's Bible Study
8 Mission Highlight & Offering 3:00pm REFIT® Anniversary Class	9 1-3:30pm Line Dancing Class	10 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study	11 6:30pm Elders' Mtg. 7:15pm consistory Backpacking	12 1:30 Craft Club	13	14
15 3:00pm REFIT® 5:15pm Fusion	16 1-3:30pm Line Dancing Class	17 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study St. Patrick's Day	18 Backpacking 6:30pm Small Group	19	20	21
22 Garden- Seed Planting 3:00pm REFIT® 5:15pm Fusion	23 1-3:30pm Line Dancing Class	24 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study	25 Backpacking	26 1:30 Craft Club	27 Scrapbook Event Set up	28 8am Men's Bible Study Scrapbook Event 9am-9pm
29 3:00pm REFIT® 5:15pm Fusion	30 1-3:30pm Line Dancing Class	31 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study				

Morning Greeters:

1 Abby Bowman
8 Mike & Anne Mecklenburg
15 Norma Newkirk
22 Joyce Oland
29 Carolyn & Mary Megathlin

Morning Coffee Hosts:

Jim & Marcia Dietrich

Consistory Opening & Closing:

Jon Bowman & Andy Cree

Nursery:

Karrie Bowman & Kelsey Haywood

Morning Ushers:

Jim Hainje, Jerry Baskett, Denny Plantenga, Tom Bosma

Morning Announcements:

1 Pastor Dale
8 Jon Bowman
15 Pastor Dale
22 Barb Walsh
29 Pastor Dale

Backpack Packers:

4 Budzik
11 Vanderkleed
18 Mecklenburg & Wolf
25 Spring Break

Backpack Drivers:

4 Budzik
11 Walsh
18 Plantenga
25 Spring Break

COMMUNITY *Reformed Church*

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Community Reformed Church
2501 South 18th Street
Lafayette, IN 47909



www.crclaf.org

Sunday Morning Worship
9:30 a.m.
Sunday School
11:00 a.m.

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PastorDale@crclaf.org
Prayerline@crclaf.org
Kelsey@crclaf.org

If you would like an email version
or a mailed copy sent to your
home please contact Kelsey!

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK –

A page where you can follow news,
events, and connect with each other.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Dale Buettner
Secretary.....Kelsey Haywood
Bookkeeper.....David Kensing
Accompanist.....Tim Galema
Custodians.....Jim Collie & Jim Swick

THE CONSISTORY

Elders
Terry VanderHoff, '20
Jim Collie, '20
Jon Bowman, '21
Jim Dietrich, '21
Deacons
Andy Cree, '20
Janet English, '20
Emily King, '21
Kali Vanderkolk, '21

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Worship & Praise.....Andy Cree &
Janet English
Education.....Terry
VanderHoff & Jim Dietrich
Service and Life.....
Emily King & Karrie Bowman
Building & Grounds.....Kali Van-
derkolk & Jim Collie
Missions & Outreach
.....Jon Bowman

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Sunday School Superintendent:
.....Jerrod Holley
Youth Group Leader..... Phillip Wil-
kins

LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. GROW & MAKE DISCIPLES.