



**Pastor Wayne Sneller**  
Email: [wsneller@netins.net](mailto:wsneller@netins.net)



# Reformed *Inform*er

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, SULLY IOWA — APRIL 2020

Dear Friends,

It feels strange to maintain this kind of distance that we have had to practice recently, doesn't it? The coronavirus that started in a distant part of the world is now on our doorstep.

The Covid-19 virus has impacted every aspect of our daily lives. This includes church and worship, schools, weddings, buying groceries and even birth and death. How we gathered to celebrate birthdays and to grieve our dead has changed!

This all might feel strange and new to us but it is not the first time this kind of thing has ever happened.

I remember studying in seminary a lesson on how the Christian church managed through the time of the black death and plague. In fact, Martin Luther (the founder of the Reformation) wrote a letter to John Hess (a Reformed theologian) that was dated over five hundred years ago.

In that letter, he wrote about a deadly plague sweeping over the area where they lived. Composing that letter in a time of quarantine, Luther wrote this about his life and ministry to others.

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us then. I shall fumigate and help purify the air and administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order to not become contaminated and thus inflict and pollute others and cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, He will surely find me and I have done what He has expected of me. Therefore I am not responsible for my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. Such a God fearing faith is there because it is neither brash nor fool hardy and does not tempt God!"

Luther's thoughts are worth considering during these unusual days in our lives. I admit it is not easy to stay apart from one another. We are not made to isolate ourselves from one another. God has made us for relationships. We need each other. It is a sacrifice but it is worth it because of the social benefit for the care and health of one another.

As we celebrate Easter in one of the most surreal times ever, we still find the power of the resurrection giving the message of hope to a world that is seeking to find a Savior.

Much of that desperate cry is for an antidote or for a vaccine that will stop the spread of Covid-19.

For the Christian, it is an opportunity to rest assuredly in Jesus Christ.

In the book of Philipines, Paul writes, "...I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation...I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:10-13 The lessons taught here are based on contentment. The major lesson is whatever we face, whatever we have is based on what kind of relationship we have in Jesus Christ.

As these days of being in temporary isolation continue, I hope you are discovering what it means to trust and rest in Christ and find contentment! Christ is risen indeed!

Have a Blessed Easter! Until we meet again!

Pastor Wayne



**NO YOUTH GROUPS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE  
NO MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT—CANCELLED**

**Happy April, Everyone!**

What a strange, bizarre situation we find ourselves in. Stress, anxiety, and uncertainty may be at an all-time high for a lot of us. But rest assured, God is in control. Now, we have two options of how we face this virus. We can:

1. Crumble in fear and think about the worst possible outcome; causing us to think only about ourselves. OR...
2. Use this virus as an opportunity to draw closer to Jesus and really discern what is important.

Some questions that I've been thinking about are:

*How can I still love my neighbor during isolation?  
How can the church still be the church even though we're not meeting in person?*

*How can I use this as an opportunity to deepen my relationship with Christ?*

I encourage you all to consider these questions and look forward to the day we gather back together. What a day that will be. In the meantime, here are some helpful resources that have nurtured my own soul and deepened my faith. Until we see each other again.

### Books

- The Prodigal God by Tim Keller
- The Furious Longing of God by Brennan Manning
- Love Does by Bob Goff
- Everybody, Always by Bob Goff
- Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

### Spiritual Disciplines

- Lectio Divina
- Breath Prayer
- The Daily Examen
- The Book of Common Prayer

### Podcasts

- The Village Church Sermons
- Dream Big Podcast
- Gospel in Life- Tim Keller Sermons



**Youth & Ed Director—  
Jeff Knouse**

**Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday  
& Sunday's**

**Email: [jkfrcsully@gmail.com](mailto:jkfrcsully@gmail.com)**

**phone: 641-594-2935 ext. 3**

**Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/sullyfrcyouth/](http://www.facebook.com/sullyfrcyouth/)**

## MARCH CAMP NEWS



## Camp Update + Living with Hope

Camp Family,

We're finding ourselves in a time where things are up in the air and different than our norm. COVID-19 has caused a lot of "what-ifs" and taking extra precautions and asking "How are we, as Christians, supposed to respond to this?"

Lake View Staff is monitoring and praying for the situation. We are moving forward with plans for Summer 2020. As we pray along with camps across the country for our leaders, for our healthcare workers, and for this virus to be contained, we move forward with HOPE.

Here is what you can do in the meantime:

- **Enroll/register for summer camp to hold your spot!** We only ask that you withhold your payment. In the event that camps are delayed or canceled, this will simplify the refund process and keep us from losing the credit card processing fee. We will contact you about when to send/submit payment.

- **For those who have already registered and paid,** we will refund the full payment if we are unable to have camps this summer.

- **Check out our Facebook/Instagram page and our webpage.** We will be sharing activities for campers and families during this time of social distancing.

We encourage all to keep your eyes on God, who is Sovereign over all and who is the source of our HOPE. How fitting that our theme verse for this summer is: "So we fix our eyes on not what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:18)

With Love,

Lake View Staff

**P.S. Check out the next page for some uplifting camp pictures!**

Here are a couple of resources we found to be helpful:

**The Gospel Coalition:** <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/things-coronavirus-teach-us/>

**CDC:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>



**Children's Ministry Director—**

**Julie Van Manen**

**Office Hours: Wednesdays**

Email: [julievmfrcsully@gmail.com](mailto:julievmfrcsully@gmail.com)

Office phone: 641-594-2935 ext 5

Cell phone: 641-521-7951



**FREE RESOURCES**

Group: <https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/free-resources.do>

Right Now Media: <http://sullyfrc.org/resources/rightnow-media/>



**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"**

# STARS

The STARS program concluded on March 11. For one of the final activities, the children created resurrection gardens.

SINCERE HEARTFELT THANKS to ALL of the wonderful volunteers who shared their gifts and love for the children – over 30 involved – at least 15 each week!!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Thank you to those who have supported the STARS program through financial gifts and prayers!

As I was thinking about how to handle Sunday school and CIW looking at what resources to make available to families, I could not help but think back in time to what if this would have happened when my children were younger or even when I was a child and there was no formal Sunday school. (Both periods of time before the internet!) I probably would have read a Bible story and put in a Veggie Tales or The Donut Man video. As, I visited with someone who has similar age children, we both agreed that it is equally important that we as parents set a good example of how we react to this situation and our children as we work with them on Sunday school or school work. In addition, I remember many times on Sunday, my sister and I would create our own church and Sunday school with our dolls and stuffed animals.

Just keep exposing them to Jesus during this time whether it be formal or in those many moments/opportunities that just pop up as we are able to spend some quality time as families! Our prayer is that we can raise children who have a deep faith that trusts in God in the good times and the "bad" times that come with living in this world.

The timing of this - during the Lenten and Easter season is an awesome time for us as Christians! Like the song says - "Because He lives I can face tomorrow."

Please let me know if you need anything else. Enjoy the next few Sundays as a family and we will be so excited when we are once again reunited as a church family!

Thank you Jordyn & Gabe Rozendaal for sharing your Sermon notes from March 22, 2020: "Sensing God During the Storm: Replacing Fear with Faith"  
2 Corinthians 1:7; 2 Corinthians 4:7-10



## Resurrection Gardens

**Above:** Natalie Nore

**Right:** Owen Rozendaal & Alivia Nikkel

**Below:** Paisley Vos



# Getting To Know You

## Austin & Lysandra Newell

**Birthdays:** Austin—January 28

Lysandra—June 4

**Anniversary:** June 22, 2019



Austin Newell spent his formidable years growing up in the Sully area where his parents Alan and Brenda raised him and his sister Elana on a farm south of Sully. He and Lysandra James became acquainted in high school as they both went to Lynnville-Sully High school together. Austin attended DMACC for welding after high school and currently is a welder for the Vermeer Corporation in Pella.

Curtis and Stacey James are Lysandra's parents and she has one sister, Brianna; and two brothers Rylan and Cameyon. Lysandra lived in a rural Searsboro farm home growing up. After graduating from high school, she got her teaching degree from Central College in Pella and is currently a third grade teacher at Emerson Hough school in Newton.

On June 22, 2019, Austin and Lysandra were married at First Reformed, however Austin signed on the wrong line of the marriage license, so they had to redo the signing and resend it in to the state! Oops! The newly married couple makes their home in Galesburg and enjoys attending Iowa Hawkeye sporting events and going to concerts.

Special memories of First Reformed include Rocky Mountain High as well as they appreciate how welcoming, encouraging, and helpful everyone at church can be!

Thank you so much Austin and Lysandra Newell for letting us “Get

to Know You Better!”



Dear friends and family,

In the matter of a few short weeks, our world was unexpectedly shoved into a downward spiral of contamination, disease, disbelief, outbreak, social isolation, discomfort, uncertainty, epidemic, quarantine, death, shock, pandemic, fear.

In a crisis of this magnitude, no one is left unaffected. Governments around the world are scrambling in an attempt to slow the spread of the virus in order to keep the death toll as low as possible, not only in the short term, but also for the long term as they contain the impact this pandemic will have on the world economies.

Our prayer has always been to have no more or less than we need to do the work God has for us to do. Your giving has been our only source of income for over a decade now, and we have always had more than enough to meet our needs and bless others. We are grateful for your partnership in allowing us to serve in this way. But we want to be honest with you, that right now, our storehouses are full enough, and we do not want to become a financial burden to any of you during this crisis. Please allow us the joy of blessing you back in a season of fear and uncertainty.

So to make it as clear as we can, if you currently are or you anticipate you are going to be in a difficult financial position:

Feel free to indefinitely pause your monthly donations towards our ministry.

If any of you find yourself in need, please contact us immediately to discuss ways that we can financially support you.

It is our honor and privilege to live our life in full-time ministry service, so don't think for a second that you are any less a part of those we long to serve, care for and pray for as we usher in the kingdom of heaven by spilling over the abundance of blessings.

We continue all of our ministry work remotely, so we appreciate your prayers for wisdom and peace as we once again try to find a new family routine.

Take care, everybody!

*“For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” - Romans 8:38-39*

Sincerely,

Pavlos, Meggan, Theodore, Matthew, Risa Vasileiadis

**Email:** connect@pavmeg.com

**Facebook:** PavMeg Connect

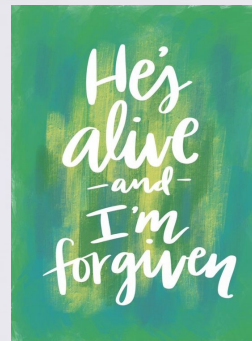
# Easter Word Search

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ANGELS  
 APOSTLES  
 BETRAYAL  
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 CROSS  
 CROWN OF THORNS  
 CRUCIFIXION  
 DARKNESS  
 DEATH  
 EARTHQUAKE  
 EASTER  
 GOLGOTHA  
 HIGH PRIEST  
 JESUS CHRIST  
 JOSEPH  
 JUDAS ISCARIOT  
 KING  
 LAMB

MARY  
 NAILS  
 PASSOVER  
 PIECES OF SILVER  
 PIERCED  
 PILATE  
 RESURRECTION  
 ROBE  
 ROMANS  
 SACRIFICE  
 SIMON OF CYRENE  
 SOLDIERS  
 SON OF GOD  
 SPEAR  
 STONE  
 TEMPLE  
 THIEVES  
 THREE DAYS  
 TOMB

SundaySchoolResources.co.uk



## Inscribe the Word

### April Scripture Writing Plan

# FOR KIDS!

Writing out Scriptures is a way to understand God's Word and Hear His voice without distractions. Each of the Scriptures below should take fifteen minutes to copy. So grab your journal, your bible, and some pretty pens, and let us INSCRIBE THE WORD together.



### How to Study the Bible

1. Read the Scripture out loud.
2. Write the Scripture in your journal.
3. Ask yourself how you can live out the Scripture.
4. Pray that Jesus would help you apply the Scripture.

## The Book of EPHESIANS

- 1. Ephesians 1:3
- 2. Ephesians 1:7
- 3. Ephesians 1:11
- 4. Ephesians 1:17-18
- 5. Ephesians 1:19-20
- 6. Ephesians 2:1
- 7. Ephesians 2:4
- 8. Ephesians 2:8-9
- 9. Ephesians 4:16
- 10. Ephesians 4:31
- 11. Ephesians 4:32
- 12. Ephesians 5:1
- 13. Ephesians 5:2
- 14. Ephesians 5:17
- 15. Ephesians 6:1
- 16. Ephesians 6:2
- 17. Ephesians 6:3
- 18. Ephesians 6:10
- 19. Ephesians 6:11
- 20. Ephesians 6:12
- 21. Ephesians 6:13
- 22. Ephesians 6:14
- 23. Ephesians 6:15
- 24. Ephesians 6:16
- 25. Ephesians 6:17
- 26. Ephesians 6:18
- 27. Ephesians 6:19
- 28. Ephesians 6:20
- 29. Ephesians 6:22
- 30. Ephesians 6:23

www.TheFelicityBee.com

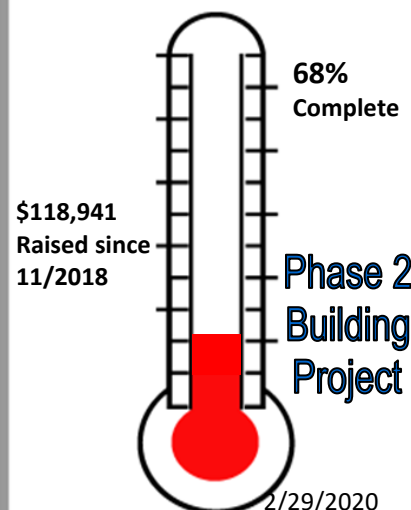
### Giving Options:

During this time of uncertainty, we believe God calls us to trust and continue to respond in faith. As you consider this, we want to remind you of the different ways you may still give to First Reformed Church.

- You may **mail your tithes and offerings** to the church at P.O. Box 208, Sully, IA 50251. You may also bring it to the church office Monday - Friday, 8 - 12pm.
- If you prefer to give with **cash, please put in an envelope & bring to the church office.**
- **Online** through the church website at [www.sullyfrc.org](http://www.sullyfrc.org). You may set up as a one time or recurring gift.
- **ACH contributions** which is a convenient way to give directly from your checking account. A PDF form is on our church website or you may pick up a form in the church office. Submit your completed form to Sharla Van Wyk or the church office. All information will be kept confidential and secure. Changes can be made at any time.
- **Deposits can be made through the drive-thru or night deposit box at First State Bank.** Please indicate that you want to deposit either a check or cash into the First Reformed Church of Sully account.

## Go for THE GOAL!

Our Goal: **\$176,000**





- April 1**  
Andrew Scholten
- April 3**  
David Nikkel
- April 4**  
Glenda Renaud ~ Linda Schnell  
Abby Freese ~ Logan Vos
- April 5**  
Darrell Maasdam ~ Nancy Huyser  
**Donna Brand (83)**
- April 6**  
Mason Dunsbergen ~ Jager Huyser
- April 7**  
Conner Deal
- April 8**  
Karen Hackert ~ Dylan Liekweg  
Roger Van Der Kamp
- April 9**  
Carlene Van Der Pol  
Mariah Vos
- April 11**  
**Carl De Goey (86)**  
Daniel Keen ~ Darrell Zegers  
Case Rozendaal ~ Siara Dunsbergen
- April 12**  
**Dorothy Van Der Kamp (96)**
- April 13**  
Liz Harthoorn ~ Asher Rozendaal

- April 14**  
Sadie Zimmerman
- April 16**  
Makenzy Rozendaal ~ Harlow Vos
- April 18**  
Kayla Van Dyke ~ Deb Van Kooten  
Shaleah Van Wyk
- April 19**  
Tim Vanden Hoek
- April 20**  
Kelsi Bowman ~ Aubrey Harthoorn  
Cory Van Zante
- April 21**  
**Margaret Vande Krol (93)**  
Lois Vander Leest
- April 22**  
**Audrey Brand (80)**  
Jennifer Torres
- April 24**  
Brent De Jong
- April 25**  
Dale Huyser
- April 26**  
Bryan Freese
- April 28**  
Kathryn De Penning
- April 30**  
Dorothy Corell

- April 5**  
Tim & Desiree Hardeman—**17 years**
- April 8**  
Jim & Marlis Van Zante—**48 years**
- April 10**  
Brent & Sandy De Jong—**39 years**
- April 11**  
Mike & Susan Jansen—**40 years**
- April 15**  
Carl & Joyce De Goey—**65 years**
- April 20**  
Rusty & Sharla Van Wyk—**30 years**
- April 26**  
Arie & Elaine Scholten—**52 years**
- April 27**  
Wayne & Reda Daniels—**7 years**
- April 28**  
Ervin & Linda Arkema—**48 years**
- April 30**  
Mike & Kathy Zylstra—**38 years**


### New office hours:

**8 - 12 pm**  
**Monday - Friday**  
subject to change

If a need arises, contact us at 641-594-2935  
or [frcsully@netins.net](mailto:frcsully@netins.net)



## Announcement

 If you are older or have health issues and are concerned about going out and running errands, know that there are a handful of us here at FRC who are willing to run errands and leave things at your doorstep. The people willing to do this will only do so if they are 100% healthy and we will be sure to wash our hands and wipe down anything delivered. Please email the church office at [frcsully@netins.net](mailto:frcsully@netins.net) or call 594-2935 ext. 1. We would be honored to help out!

## April 30 DAY SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

### Nothing is too hard for God!

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| April 1 - Jeremiah 32:17-20  | April 15 - Matt 14:22-29     |
| April 2 - Proverbs 3:1-6   | April 16 - Matt 14:30-36     |
| April 3 - Proverbs 3:7-12  | April 17 - Jeremiah 17:5-8   |
| April 4 - Proverbs 3:13-18   | April 18 - Isaiah 26:1-4     |
| April 5 - Proverbs 3:19-24   | April 19 - Isaiah 26:7-8, 12 |
| April 6 - Jeremiah 32:21-26  | April 20 - Psalm 121:1-8     |
| April 7 - I Chronicles 29:11-12  | April 21 - Joshua 1:1-9      |
|  Encouraging women to trust the authority of Scripture | April 22 - Psalm 36:5-10     |
| April 8 - Psalm 27:1-4   | April 23 - Job 19:1-9        |
| April 9 - Lamentations 3:22-27   | April 24 - I John 3:1-3      |
| April 10 - Matthew 8:22-27   | April 25 - 1 Peter 1:3-5     |
| April 11 - Psalm 27:5-10   | April 26 - 1 John 4:9-16     |
| April 12 - Psalm 27:11-14  | April 27 - Psalm 9:11-17     |
| April 13 - Isaiah 40:11/ 28-31   | April 28 - Psalm 91:9-16     |
| April 14 - Isaiah 43:1-3   | April 29 - Psalm 13          |
|  | April 30 - Nahum 1:7         |

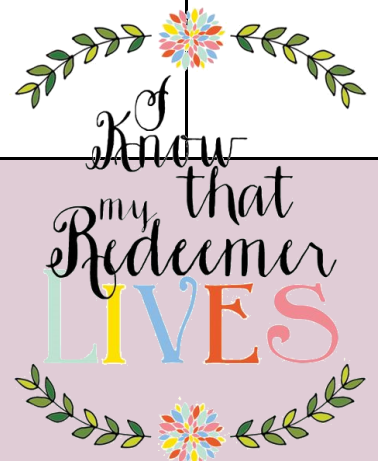
Take the challenge!

[HEIDISTJOHN.COM/SCRIPTUREWRITING](http://HEIDISTJOHN.COM/SCRIPTUREWRITING)  
Just 7-10 minutes in the Word of God each day can change your life!



# 2020 PRAYER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Verlan & Helen Brand	2 Zach & Delaney Brimeyer	3 Travis, Karissa, Aiden & Brooklyn Chapman	4 Coltin Collins
5 Duane, Joni & Cheyanne Collins	6 Lorna Christensen	7 Mitch, Angela & Dorothy Corell	8 Gary & Laura Lee Creasy	9 Wayne & Reda Daniels	10 Justin, Jayme, Connor, Chase & Caulen Deal	11 Carl & Joyce De Goey
12 Ryk & Jan De Goey	13 Garrett, Jade & Adler De Hoedt	14 Brent & Sandy De Jong	15 Bryan, Carna, Eric & Tracy De Jong	16 Chris & Kelly De Jong	17 Clarence De Jong	18 Johnnie & Delia De Jong
19 Dale De Penning	20 Donavon & Darlys De Penning	21 Howard De Penning	22 Nick, Hannah & Rose De Penning	23 Bryce, Katelyn, Brinley & Kinsley Doane	24 Gerald & Elaine Droppert	25 Andy, Jamie, Christian, Ellington & Siara Dunsbergen
26 Beryl & Velda Dunsbergen	27 Blake & Cathryn Dunsbergen	28 Brandon Dunsbergen	29 Bruce, Lynn & Ellie Dunsbergen	30 Dennis & Lisa Dunsbergen		



**First Reformed Church**  
 807 3rd St. PO Box 208  
 Sully, Iowa 50251  
 641-594-2935  
 frcsully@netins.net  
 www.sullyfrc.org

April

# 2020 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>NO CHURCH ACTIVITIES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICES LIVESTREAMED AT <a href="http://WWW.SULLYFRC.ORG">WWW.SULLYFRC.ORG</a></b>						
5 NO CHURCH ACTIVITIES	6	7	8	9 	10 	11
12  Morning Worship—To Be Determined NO SUNDAY SCHOOL NO EVENING WORSHIP	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Morning Worship & Activities—To Be Determined	20	21	22 Meetings to be determined 6:30 pm Elders Mtg. 6:45 pm Deacon Mtg 7:30 pm Consistory	23	24	25
26 Morning Worship & Activities—To Be Determined	27	28	29	30		