

Reformed Informer

JULY 2022—FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, SULLY, IA

"Extravagant Generosity"

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 NIV

A story that Chuck has shared with others many times....

I was back in Nebraska, standing at the estate auction being held after the death of my Aunt Doris and Uncle Dale. Doris was my mother's older sister. Proceeds from the sale would be used to help pay for the care of Doris and Dale's adult son, my cousin, who was unable to live on his own. The next item up for bid was a miniature black cast iron stove, a salesman's model with moving parts that had somehow ended up in Doris's possession many years before. I remembered seeing that little stove as a child, looking at it perched on a shelf in a glass curio cabinet at my Aunt Doris's house. I decided to bid on it.

But once I did, the auctioneer immediately raised the bidding price. He'd look at me, and I'd acknowledge the new price, only to hear the bid raised again. This didn't make sense. I was sure he was looking straight at me every time, making me bid against myself, trying to run up the price. After a few rounds of this, I looked around me to figure out what was really going on. Standing right next to me was my Aunt Elna, my mother's and Doris's youngest sister. She had been bidding on the stove too. Now the auctioneer was looking straight at me again, motioning to me to acknowledge a new higher bid, but I stopped in my tracks. I told him I wasn't going to bid against my aunt.

So Elna had the winning bid, and she was handed the stove as her prize. But no sooner had she received the stove that she turned around and gave it to me. I was truly overwhelmed! Such extravagant generosity! This was just her nature, which I'd witnessed time and time again over the years.

Elna raised the bar that day. Her degree of generosity can remind us of God's gift to us in his son Jesus, our Savior. God allowed Jesus to walk among us, and to give his life as an atoning sacrifice for our sins, so that we might be redeemed, even though we don't deserve it. In his second letter to the Corinthians in chapters 8 and 9, Paul painted a picture of the Macedonian church, new Christians who in spite of their extreme poverty so generously gave of themselves to satisfy their pleas to help contribute to Paul's advancement of the gospel. Their strong desire to take part in this was based on the example already shown by the Corinthians. Paul then shared a challenge to the Corinthian church, urging them in Chapter 8 to continue their good work, to provide additional inspiration to others to help with Paul's mission of spreading the good news of Jesus. *"11 Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. 12 For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have."* Let us also be willing to generously give to others, as we have been so blessed by God's most extravagant gift.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your extravagant gift to us, your Son Jesus who died for our sins so that we might live with you in eternity. Even though we don't deserve it, please help us to truly appreciate your extraordinary generosity, and to strive to live our lives as we should, to be good stewards, so to honor you and the good gifts you have given to us. Amen.



Guest writers: Chuck and Deb Johnson



Youth Group News

The corn is getting taller, and the days are getting warmer, so it must be July. This is an interesting month (not just because my birthday is in July) because we are starting to turn our attention the upcoming school year. For some it feels like our education programs just ended, but to set us up for the greatest success we want to have things in order by the time the fall rolls around.

I have been here five and a half years now and I can say one thing with certainty: this church is *unique*. It still amazes me that in a town of 900 people we as a church have **133 students** ages 0-18 in our care. That's mind-boggling. As a Youth Director, it brings me great joy to see how God has richly blessed us with amazing kids, but it is also concerning. Are we doing everything we can to help students learn to love Jesus and follow Him? Are we teaching them how to read the Bible and how to pray? Are we preparing them for a life-long pursuit of Jesus that goes beyond high school?

We are striving to make the answer to each of those questions a resounding YES! But we could not say that without the help of people like you. Without volunteers, ordinary people who love Jesus and want to disciple the next generation, we could not do what we do.

Right now, we are in need of people like you to come alongside students and help them to love Jesus. Would you consider getting involved in one of the following areas:

VBS Bible/Crew Leader

Sunday School Teacher/Helper

STARS Crew Leader

Impact (6th– 8th grade) or Faithwalkers (9th—12th grade) Leader

If you think to yourself, "There's no way I could do that," then I want to comfort your thoughts with a promise from Scripture, *"Now may the God of peace... equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."* Hebrews 13:2

You can make a difference. Let the Lord use you to raise up the next generation of Christ followers.

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/

Power Connection 2022 is THIS SUMMER!

With speaker Heather Flies
Band Orchard Hill Collective
Illusionist David Wood

Power Connection 2022

SUSTAINED

ST. PAUL, MN
JULY 29 - 31

YOU'RE INVITED

4TH OF JULY FAITHWALKERS PANCAKE BREAKFAST



MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022

7 AM TO 9:30 AM

SULLY COMMUNITY CENTER

**SERVING: PANCAKES, SAUSAGE,
SCRAMBLED EGGS, COFFEE & JUICE**

FREE WILL DONATION - SPONSORED BY FAITHWALKERS, FRC, SULLY

Job Openings

Our **Lead Pastor** and **Children's Director** employment opportunities are listed on our website and you may know just the person who needs to hear about this opportunity! More details, job description, and application process here: <http://sullyfrc.org/resources/employment-opportunities/>

Examples of Biblical Fasting

Partial Fasting:

Refrain from eating from sun up to sundown (for example 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.) After sundown you may eat. You would pair this with either a complete fast (no solid foods) or a Daniel fast (fruits, vegetables, and nuts). Pray and press into God during normal eating time.

Daniel Fast:

What you can eat: Fruit, nuts, vegetables, drink water to flush out toxins.

Do not eat: Meat, pastries, chips, bread, fried food, coffee and tea. Pray and press into God during normal eating time.

Complete Fast:

Drink only water. No solid food. Pray and press into God during normal eating time.

Absolute Fast:

No food or drink including water. Pray and press into God during normal eating time.

Soul Fasting:

Abstain from a certain area of your life that consumes much of your time.

Ideas: Television, social media, podcast, magazines, video games. Pray and press into God during times when you would normally do these things.

When you pray: Ask God to help you. Invite God to be with you. Ask God to move on His plans for a Pastor and Children's Director. Ask God to unite us as a church. Ask God to move on our behalf. Ask God to Guide us to the right person. Ask God to guide candidates to us who are qualified. Ask God to show us the right candidate.

Fellowship, food & fun
CHURCH
Picnic



SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2022

**After our Kickoff to Sunday School
Watch for more details in the
coming weeks!**



Vacation Bible School

July 11-14 • Ages: (entering) K-6th grade

Supper served from 5:30-5:45PM

VBS activities from 6:00-8:00PM

Supper, drop off & pick up at **First Reformed Church**

We need volunteers, sign up to help out today!

To Register, scan the QR code

or go to <http://sullyfrc.org/resources/monumental-vbs-volunteer-sign-up-2022/>



Check us out
on Facebook!

VBS 2022

Supper Menu

(All meals are served with milk or water)

Monday: Hot dogs or loose meat sandwiches, green beans, & peaches

Tuesday: Pancakes, sausage, & strawberries

Wednesday: Walking tacos & applesauce

Thursday: Pizza & assorted fruits & veggies

*Salad bar offered every evening

Snack Menu

Monday: chocolate chip cookies/bars

Tuesday: rice crispy bars

Wednesday: Oreos

Thursday: puff corn

*gluten free equivalent will be offered each night

Offering being collected for:

Sukup Safe T Homes! Help us raise money to provide a home for a family!
Can we raise \$7,500? Let's give it a go!





Daniel & Sarah Zagami Developing Churches in Clarkston, GA USA

www.cten.org/missionary/danielzagami

1086 Nielsen Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021

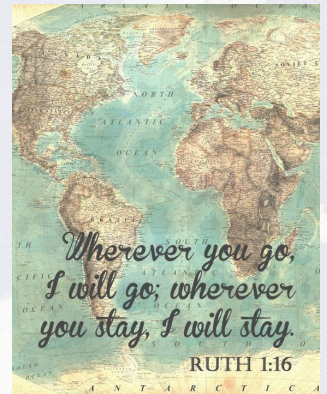
daniel.zagami@gmail.com or sarahzagami@gmail.com

- Daniel and Sarah are serving in Clarkston, Georgia a suburb of Atlanta the New York Times has called "the most diverse square mile in America." While living internationally in refugee apartment housing along with their three children, they are engaged in relationships with several ethnic churches and ethnic church leaders who share a similar vision for

starting reproducible refugee churches.

Prior to relocating to the USA in 2015, Daniel and Sarah worked in Africa for a total of 10 years.

- We praise God for the continued evangelism and outreach coming out of the Swahili-language church plants in Akron & Clarkston. We purchased a new stock tank and pump, which we keep in our basement for baptisms.
- New families from Afghanistan have been resettled here, and we expect families from Ukraine to be arriving soon.
- We plan to visit the new missionary training in Indianapolis and graduate our missions class in Clarkston later this year.
- The Zagami's vision is to develop new Christian fellowships among people who have not had an opportunity to follow Jesus Christ.



Darrell & Susan Maasdam

Birthdays: Darrell 4/05/1967
Susan 12/29/1962

Anniversary: February 1, 1997

Darrell and Susan Maasdam met through a mutual friend and were married at Sully First Reformed. Back in 1997, their photographer locked his keys in his car after the ceremony at the church so he had to catch a ride to the reception with the personal attendant! Not many cell phones in those days!!

Darrell began his life in the home of Harlan and Carleen Maasdam with his siblings Doug of Sully, Dwayne of Sully and Cheri of Ankeny. He graduated from DMACC with an Associates of Arts Degree in Diesel Mechanics. Darrell works for the Iowa Department of Transportation as a Highway Technician Associate.

Susan was born into the large family of John and Geraldine Burg of St. Anthony, Iowa. Her family includes her siblings: Patty of Colo; Pat (deceased); Charles of Ames; John of Prairie City; Jerry of St. Anthony; Mary of Ames; Marcus of McCallsburg; Elizabeth of Colo; and Lois of State Center. She has an Associate of Arts Degree in Business from Marshalltown Community College and is the Head of Operations at the FNNB Bank.

The Maasdams have 2 cats (their children with paws), Elliot and Racer. Together they like to go camping, especially at the Iowa State Fair, go on tractor rides, play games, watch racing and spend time with their friends and family. Darrell enjoys the farm, working with the cows, working on equipment, and Oliver tractors. Adding to their already busy itinerary, Susan appreciates reading and doing crafts when time allows. Someday they would love to go on a trip to Alaska.

One of the significant milestones in the life of the Maasdams was getting married at First Reformed. They also served on the Fellowship Committee and planned many events for the church. They appreciate the welcoming church family as no one is a stranger there and there is always something sweet in the candy dish in Deb and Deb's office!!

Thank you Darrell and Susan Maasdam for letting us "Get To Know You Better!"



Fresh, delicious, straight from Michigan blueberries are being sold by Lake View Camp as a fundraiser for their summer camping ministry.

The blueberries will be delivered to Pella on Saturday, July 16 (orders due July 11) and Saturday, July 23 (orders due July 16). Pick up at Pella First Reformed Church (605 Broadway St., Pella).

The order form can be downloaded from the camp's website, lakeviewconference.com or order forms are by the church office for you to mail in. Thank you for your continued support of Lake View's camping ministry!

The offering goes to the LS Ministerium which in turn is divided yearly and given to our local food pantries, community needs as well as Angel Tree Camp.

Pastor Kari Lee, St. Andrews Lutheran Church will be our speaker for the evening.

A poster for '4TH OF JULY COMMUNITY WIDE WORSHIP'. The background is dark blue with white stars and red and white diagonal stripes. The title '4TH OF JULY COMMUNITY WIDE WORSHIP' is in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the title, 'SUNDAY, JULY 3 AT 6 PM' is written in red, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Underneath that, 'Sully Community Town Square' is in white, sans-serif capital letters. Then 'Please bring a lawn chair' is in white, sans-serif capital letters. Finally, 'In case of inclement weather this will be held at First Reformed Church (will cancel by 4:30 pm)' is in white, sans-serif capital letters.



This year our church will have 2 teams representing FRC—one is organized by Jacob Van Manen and the other one is organized by Jeff Knouse. Tournament will be held August 16 & 18

COED CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE: At Sully Ball Park

- July 5 :** 6:30 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. Peoria CRC—east field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jacob VM) vs. Federated Fellowship—east field
- July 12:** 6:30 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. FRC (Jacob VM) —west field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. Federated Fellowship—west field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jacob VM) vs. Sully CRC—east field
- July 19:** 6:30 pm— FRC (Jacob VM) vs. Federated Fellowship—east field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jacob VM) vs. Peoria CRC—west field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. Federated Fellowship—east field
- July 26:** 6:30 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. Federated Fellowship—west field
6:30 pm— FRC (Jacob VM) vs. Sully CRC—east field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. Peoria CRC - east field
- August 2:** 6:30 pm— FRC (Jacob VM) vs. Peoria CRC—west field
6:30 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. Sully CRC—east field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. FRC (Jacob MV)—west field
- August 9:** 6:30 pm— FRC (Jeff K) vs. Peoria CRC - east field
8:00 pm— FRC (Jacob VM) vs. Federated Fellowship—east field



July 1

Lynn Dunsbergen
Tony Torres ~ Georgia Zimmerman

July 2

Rod Rozendaal

July 3

Maxwell Gebhart

July 4

Brandon Dunsbergen ~ Matt Schechinger
Don Jansen (82)

July 5

Susan Beyer ~ William Dykema
Josh Rozendaal ~ Clara Cunningham

July 6

Ken Van Soelen ~ Lois Rozendaal
Rusty Van Wyk

July 7

Owen Rozendaal

July 8

Cale Harsselaar ~ Ruth Renaud

July 9

Heidi Van Wyk ~ Kylie Vander Molen

July 10

Jerry Jansen ~ Will Kelly
Elana Newell ~ Kate Van Manen

July 11

Ken Hackert (82) ~ Karen Jansen (82)
Cole Vos
LeRoy Van Maanen (86)

July 12

Makayla Hansen ~ Conrad Van Maaren
Colt Harsselaar

July 13

Howard De Penning (83) ~ Katelyn Doane
Odin De Hoedt ~ Tate De Hoedt

July 14

Tyson Jansen ~ Jason Van Zante

July 15

Norma Harthoorn ~ Kayla Dunsbergen
Carter Shinkle

July 16

Brooke Harthoorn ~ Raelee Warrick
Joyce Ver Ploeg (91)

July 17

Riley Terlouw

July 18

Karla Winegar

July 19

Verlan Brand

July 20

Joah Harthoorn ~ Major Harthoorn

July 21

Gene Jansen

July 22

Jay Rozendaal

July 23

Monica Nikkel

July 24

Aaron Van Wyk

July 25

Klayton Van Dyke ~ Jeff Knouse

July 26

Lorie Van Soelen ~ Paisley Hay

July 27

Duane Collins ~ Jayme Deal

July 30

Jerald Kunce (85) ~ Mitch Corell

July 31

Doug Huyser ~ Shelly Vos



July 5

Derrick & Annette Zimmerman—**14 years**

July 12

Joel & Liz Harthoorn—**14 years**

July 13

Ryk & Jan De Goey—**59 years**

July 22

Kenton & Kayla Dunsbergen—**5 years**

July 25

Dustin & Dana Dunsbergen—**24 years**

July 26

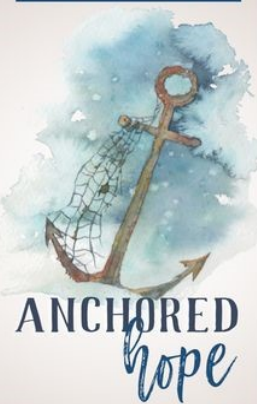
Kurt & Arloa Harthoorn—**49 years**

July 30

Paul & Patty Sneller—**45 years**

SWEET TO THE SOUL
ministries

DAILY READING LIST



1. READ
2. REFLECT
3. RELATE
4. PRAY
5. REMEMBER

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | 2 Corinthians 3:12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Jeremiah 29:11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Psalms 43:5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | Romans 5:3-4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | 1 Peter 1:13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | Hebrews 11:1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 | Proverbs 24:14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 | Psalms 71:14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 | Romans 8:25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 | Colossians 1:4-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 | Job 11:18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 | Psalms 62:5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13 | Romans 5:5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14 | 1 John 3:3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 | Ephesians 4:4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16 | Micah 7:7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17 | Psalms 71:14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 | Romans 8:24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19 | 1 Timothy 4:10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 | Jeremiah 14:22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 21 | Psalms 39:7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 22 | Romans 4:18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 23 | 1 Peter 3:15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 24 | Hebrews 6:18-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25 | Psalms 130:5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 26 | Romans 12:12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27 | Titus 3:6-7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 28 | 1 Thessalonians 1:3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 29 | Isaiah 40:31 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30 | Psalms 147:11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 31 | Romans 15:13 |

Women With Purpose Invite you to a Macramé Workshop



WHEN: Monday, July 18 at 6:30 pm

WHERE: First Reformed Church in the Gathering Place.

COST: \$5 per project

Join us and invite friends. Learn basic macramé knots. Create a wall hanging. All supplies provided.

Sign up by July 10 at the church office or online at sul-lyfrc.org.

Snack and beverage will be provided and you can bring a snack to share if you would like!

If you have any questions, contact

Ruth Renaud at ruthelaine.vanwyk@gmail.com



JULY *Activity Calendar*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 am Pastor Tom VandeBerg 6 pm Combined 4th of July Worship in the Park	4 7—9:30 am Faithwalker Pancake Breakfast—Sully Community Building	5	6	7	8	9
10 9:30 am Pastor Tom VandeBerg Pavlos & Meggan Vasileiadis will share during morning worship	Vacation Bible School—July 11—14				15 8 am Rental in the Gathering Place	16
17 9:30 am Pastor Tom VandeBerg	18 6:30 pm Women with Purpose Macramé Workshop	19	20	21	22	23
East Iowa Bible Camp—July 17—22						
24 9:30 am Pastor Tom VandeBerg	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 am Pastor Duane Laman				Power Connection—July 29—31 St. Paul, Minnesota		