

Reformed *Informer*

MAY 2020 |

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
SULLY, IOWA



Pastor Wayne Sneller
Email: wsneller@netins.net

"This Too Will Pass"

Dear Friends,

You have probably heard this phrase a hundred times during this Covid-19 pandemic. It goes something like this "we are navigating uncharted waters in this unprecedented time."

This phrase refers to the unknowns that we face, the deadlines that we can not write on a calendar or the declarations what announce that the virus is over. Why? Because we don't know!

We don't like that. We are people of action! We like to work, worship and play without a virus telling us that we can and can't do!

The reference to "navigating uncharted waters" refer to the many, countless decisions that we have to make. It seems as this virus, this bug, has invaded our lives with a domino effect that spans from toilet paper shortages to limiting how we greet one another to how we gather in worship.

Yes, decisions! Your elder board, your deacon board, your staff and pastor have spent countless hours trying to keep up with the ever changing rules that this virus has thrust among our church family. How to worship, when to worship, what does it look like to worship as God's family? These decisions and times make my head spin!

But, yet in all of this self-isolation, social distancing and live stream worship, God is creating in us a thirsty desire to get down to the essential core of why we trust in Him!

We lift up our voices to praise our God and in faith find the center of who we are in his love.

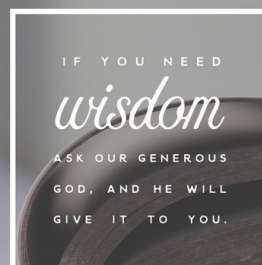
After this pandemic is over, and it too will pass, the scripture declares, my prayer is that we won't be the same as before.

I believe we can be a people of God that have experienced personally the power of knowing the cleansing power of a loving God. I believe we have had dates, celebrations, graduations, and our agendas stripped from us so that we might be better equipped to live for our Lord. Let us look to Isaiah 43:2-3 and be reminded of God's care for us in this time, "When you go through deep waters and great troubles, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. For I am the Lord, your God and Savior!"

So for now, pray for one another, encourage one another and trust in the Lord. Be prepared to live as a new person in Christ and let our Lord take us by the hand, and let Him lead the way!

Blessings!

Pastor Wayne



JAMES 1:5



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/



Hello Friends!

As I write this, I can't help but ponder what things would be like if things were normal and this virus wasn't around. More than likely I'd be making a shopping list for lots of gross things because our last youth group, the annual Crud War, would've been this Sunday. While I am saddened that we have not had youth group since March 12th, I am confident that God is at work and is inviting us into new territory in order to draw us closer to himself and bless us.

Since we are not together in person, I have a request for all of you who read this. Would you pray for our junior high and high school friends? I can almost guarantee that you have some very fond memories of junior high and high school days, and our teenage friends have had a chunk of that taken away from them. So, would you join us in covering them with prayer? If you know a high school student maybe reach out and just let them know that you're thinking about them and praying for them!

I long for the day we can meet together again. What a day that will be! In the meantime, keep looking and listening for the Lord, because He has not stopped moving and working in our midst. Blessings, friends!

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, SULLY

Sunday Worship
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Sully Reformed,
 The elder board met last night to discuss the Governor's proclamation that churches may resume worship services beginning May 1.
 While we appreciate our government officials acknowledging freedom of religion, we have decided to delay returning to in-person worship. We will continue to live stream our worship services on May 3 and May 10 at which point we will re-evaluate.
 As Jasper County is considered a Covid-19 hot spot and for the health and safety of everyone involved, we will be using the next weeks to carefully develop a return to worship plan. Rather than rushing and resuming in-person worship prematurely, we want to think through the fine details, and be prepared.

- So for now:**
- **We will not resume in-person worship until at least May 17. We will only be live streaming worship services for May 3 and May 10.**
 - **We are working on a plan for what return to in-person worship will look like.**
 - **We will re-evaluate our decision in the near future.**
 - **We will continue to offer online worship opportunities.**

We thank you for your understanding. As always, we covet your prayers, as we navigate this unprecedented time.

In Christ,
 Pastor Wayne Sneller and the board of elders of Sully First Reformed Church

Watch online at www.sullyfrc.org or on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FirstReformedChurchSully/

Inscribe the Word
 MAY SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

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.

Psalm 119
THE WORD OF GOD

Day 1: Psalm 119:1-6
 Day 2: Psalm 119:7-11
 Day 3: Psalm 119:12-16
 Day 4: Psalm 119:17-22
 Day 5: Psalm 119:23-28
 Day 6: Psalm 119:29-34
 Day 7: Psalm 119:35-40

Day 8: Psalm 119:41-44
 Day 9: Psalm 119:45-48
 Day 10: Psalm 119:49-54
 Day 11: Psalm 119:55-60
 Day 12: Psalm 119:61-66
 Day 13: Psalm 119:67-72
 Day 14: Psalm 119:73-78

Day 15: Psalm 119:79-84
 Day 16: Psalm 119:85-88
 Day 17: Psalm 119:89-94
 Day 18: Psalm 119:95-100
 Day 19: Psalm 119:101-106

Day 20: Psalm 119:107-112
 Day 21: Psalm 119:113-118

Day 22: Psalm 119:119-124
 Day 23: Psalm 119:125-130
 Day 24: Psalm 119:131-136
 Day 25: Psalm 119:137-142
 Day 26: Psalm 119:143-147
 Day 27: Psalm 119:148-154
 Day 28: Psalm 119:155-160

Day 29: Psalm 119:161-166
 Day 30: Psalm 119:167-171
 Day 31: Psalm 172-176

Proverbs 3:1-3
 MY CHILD, KEEP MY WORDS AND STORE UP
 MY COMMANDS WITHIN YOU.
 GUARD MY TEACHINGS AS THE APPLE OF YOUR EYE.
 BIND THEM ON YOUR FINGERS.
 WRITE THEM ON THE TABLET OF YOUR HEART.



Children's Ministry

Director—

Julie Van Manen

Office Hours: Wednesdays

Email: julievfrcsully@gmail.com

Office phone: 641-594-2935 ext 5

Cell phone: 641-521-7951

The fact we will not physically meet for Sunday School to conclude the year in May is hard to believe and process. I hope and pray that it is something that we do not face again in our lifetimes.

Families, continue to watch your email for resources and materials throughout May. Thank-you to all of our faithful volunteers who have taught, guided and shepherded the children of our church family this year. We couldn't do it without you! Following are a few activities/resources for children and families:

Focus on the Family provides two free digital issues of Clubhouse Magazine (8-12 years old) and Clubhouse Jr. (3-7 year olds) on their website. These magazines contain faith filled fun. (Back issues are also available from our Children's Library when we return to gathering at church.)

That's Impossible! Take turns trying to unwrap Hersey's Kisses while wearing oven mitts. Read Matthew 19:26 and ask: "What things can God do that are impossible for us to do? What are you facing that seems impossible? How can we trust that God has all these things in his hands and takes care of them for us?" Close with a group hug and enjoy some Kisses.

Unseen Blessings Beforehand: gather paper cups, put a few drops of food coloring in each, and cover the drops with a heap of baking soda. Ask: "What troubles do you face? Draw or write them on the outside of your cup." Read aloud 2 Corinthians 4:18. Say: "*If we focus too much on our outside troubles, we might forget to trust that God is doing good things we can't see.*" Pour a few drops of vinegar in each cup so the color appears. Ask: "What can we focus on instead of troubles? How can we trust God even though we can't see him?"

Spring is God's way of saying, 'One more time!'
Robert Orben



Thank-you to all of our faithful volunteers who have taught, guided and shepherded the children of our church family this year. We couldn't do it without you!



VBS registration is now open! All aboard the **Rocky Railway!** VBS will be held July 6-9, 2020 from 6-8 pm, with dinner being served from 5:30-5:45 pm.

Due to the current events, we will not be holding a physical registration, but you can register your children via **e-mail at sullyvbs@gmail.com or online at <http://sullyfrc.org/vbs-2020/>.** When emailing please include children's names, grades, any special information such as allergies that we should be aware of, your phone number, and whether they will be eating with us.

Volunteers may also use this E-mail and website to sign up or they may contact Heather Zylstra (CRC) or Julie Van Manen (FRC) to volunteer. We look forward to seeing you!

VBS—Casey's Box Tops needed

Have Casey's box tabs laying around? Don't want to go to the trouble of converting them? We would be happy to take them off your hands!

Casey's is allowing tabs be **converted up until June 30.** This will allow us to collect them for one more VBS pizza night! Please put any box tabs in the designated VBS mailbox so we can enjoy one more year of free pizza at VBS!! Thank-you for your faithful support and past Casey's box tabs donations! We are sad to see this fun tradition end.



LAKE VIEW CAMP REGISTRATION—Camps for ALL ages! Check for updates due to COVID-19 at www.lakeviewconference.com. Camp Family, We hope + pray that this update finds you + your family doing well! Please read below for a couple updates to questions many of you have asked:

1. The May 1st Early Bird deadline has been extended to June 1st. When you register, PLEASE WAIT ON PAYMENT until we let you know.
2. The possibility of camp this summer is still being discussed among Lake View Board + Staff while we wait for + listen to more recommendations from CDC and the government to be released. We will send out an update as soon as we can.



Slater Young plans to attend Central in Pella.
Major is undecided



Ethan Wyma plans to attend DMACC for a Business Administration degree





Brittney Hansen plans are to attend DMACC in Ankeny to study photography.

*Be Strong,
Be Brave,
Be Fearless.
You are never alone.
Joshua 1:9*



Cheyenne Collins plans on majoring in agribusiness at Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls this fall. She will play softball and participate in trapshooting also.



Destiny Torres plans to go to school to become a psychiatrist

*His will.
His way.
My Faith.*

JEREMIAH 29:11



- May 2**
Garrett De Hoedt
- May 3**
Morgan Jameson * Shannon Dunsbergen
Kinsley Doane * Barb Van Der Wilt
Marjorie Kramer (80)
- May 4**
Arloa Harthoorn
John Terpstra * Bryce Van Der Wilt
Gary Roorda (83)
- May 5**
Brenda Newell
- May 6**
Leah Rozendaal
- May 7**
Cheyanne Collins * Tracy De Jong
Linda Huyser * Kayla Henkle
Linda Van Maanen
- May 10**
Maddison Jansen * Delaney Brimeyer
Cale Foster
- May 11**
Faye Brand * Shelly Rozendaal
- May 12**
Brayden Bassett * Dwayne Maasdam
- May 13**
Kyle Kramer
- May 14**
Ellie Torres
- May 16**
Kevin Van Manen

- May 17**
Andrea Vos
- May 18**
Shelby Van Der Wilt
- May 19**
Bryce Doane * Slater Young
- May 21**
Cayla Wichhart * Laci Keen
Clarence De Jong (80)
Glenn Vanderpol (81)
- May 22**
Sandy De Jong
- May 23**
Monty Lukehart
- May 24**
Becky Rozendaal * **Ruth Van Maanen (82)**
Johnnie De Jong (89)
- May 25**
Meleisha Vos
- May 26**
Susan Jansen * Doug Maasdam
- May 27**
Darrel Jansen
- May 28**
Kara Warrick * Annette Zimmerman
- May 29**
Ellie Dunsbergen
- May 30**
Jacob Dykema
- May 31**
Janice Roorda (83)

- May 2**
Bryan & Carna De Jong—**40 years**
- May 4**
Tony & Deana Torres—**3 years**
- May 9**
Jordan & Miranda Vos—**5 years**
- May 14**
Mark & Justine Wyma—**27 years**
- May 17**
Harlan & Carleen Maasdam—**54 years**
- May 18**
Murray & Judy Zegers—**35 years**
Mark & Sarah Scholten—**36 years**
Jason & Michelle Van Zante—**24 years**
- May 22**
Monty & Carol Lukehart—**28 years**
- May 24**
Gary & Janice Roorda—**58 years**
LeRoy & Ruth Van Maanen—**59 years**
- May 26**
Gary & Laura Lee Creasy—**19 years**
- May 28**
Mason & Cayla Wichhart—**4 years**
- May 31**
Ryan & Carrie Mortvedt—**17 years**



2020 NATIONAL PRAYER FOR AMERICA—May 7, 2020 Habakkuk 2:14

Lord, we exist to give You glory. We exist because of Your glory, and in Your glory, as our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. We give you thanks and praise for every breath and moment You have given to us. We repent of our sin; for the shameful things we have done against You and for our silence when we did not speak up to proclaim Your Name, profess Your Word, or protect and practice Your will. We ask Your forgiveness. We pray that the knowledge of the glory of the Lord will spread across our nation and

the entire earth as we seek Your Kingdom and righteousness; as we walk in obedience to You, and in humble unity, love one another. Jesus, the Bible says that You are “the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.” You have taught us to pray, commanded us to love, and commissioned us to share Your gospel of grace. Your glory fills our hearts and families, it overflows into our neighborhoods, workplaces, campuses, churches, in our entertainment and media. We give thanks for our military and ask that Your glory would spread to, and through them as they preserve freedom around the world. We pray for our government, that all of our leaders and laws would be filled with Your glory, that they would magnify Your Holy Word and honor Your will and ways. We pray that Your grace and glory would spread to bring hope to the hopeless, and love where there is hurt and hate. God, use us as we pray your promise, that “the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” In Jesus Name, Amen!

Kathy Branzell
President, National Day of Prayer Task Force



2020 Prayer Calendar

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



					1 Dustin, Dana, Josh, Mason, Carter & Reese Dunsbergen	2 Kenton, Kayla & Brody Dunsbergen
3 Melvin & Shirley Dunsbergen	4 Ron & Julie Dunsbergen	5 Shannon Dunsbergen & Zayleana	6 Tim, Nicole, Caden & Carson Dunsbergen	7 Wanda Dunsbergen	8 Dan, Stephanie, Emily, Will, Zach & Jacob Dykema	9 Glenn & Rhonna Fiihr
10 Chad, Lynnette, Evan, Kendra & Laura Fikse	11 Dave, Lisa & Cale Foster	12 Bryan & Abby Freese	13 Joan Gose	14 Eileen Gruver	15 Jamie, Cindy, Acea & Callista Hackert	16 Ken & Verna Hackert
17 Karen Hackert	18 Chris, Jodi, Brevin & Brittney Hansen	19 Tim, Desiree, Brayden, Brooke, Bryson & Bristol Hardeman	20 Tyler, Kaila, Abel & Cale Harsseelaar	21 Carroll & Norma Harthoorn	22 Joel, Liz, Joah, Major, Tre, Grace & Faith Harthoorn	23 Kurt & Arloa Harthoorn
24 Nick, Amy, Kate, Brooke, Aubrey & Colton Harthoorn	25 Danis Hedrick	26 Cole, Kayla & Brooks Henkle, Will & Evie Kelly	27 Denise Horman	28 Gale Horman	29 Alex, Kenzie, Hailey & Lucas Huyser	30 Dale & Minnie Huyser
31 Doug & Sheri Huyser						



2020 Activity Calendar

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller—livestream	4	5	6 5:45 Promise Keepers	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day 9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller—livestream No Evening Worship	11	12	13 5:45 Promise Keepers	14	15	16
17 9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller—Teacher Appreciation NO Evening Worship	18	19	20 5:45 Promise Keepers 6:30 pm Elders 6:45 pm Deacons 7:30 pm Consistory Mtg.	21	22	23
24 9:30 am Jeff Knouse No evening worship	25 	26	27 5:45 Promise Keepers	28	29	30
31 9:30 am Pastor Wayne Sneller No Evening Worship						

First Reformed Church
 807 3rd St. PO Box 208
 Sully, Iowa 50251
 641-594-2935
 frcsully@netins.net
www.sullyfrc.org
 Our morning service is livestreamed through our website