



Reformed *Informer*

OCTOBER 2022

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, SULLY, IOWA

"SEASONS"

How is it harvest season already? I heard someone mention “the holidays” recently. I’m not sure what happened to the month of September, but I’m convinced it gets a little shorter each year. We all just experienced the change from summer to fall. We felt the whiplash of going from unbearable Iowa heat one day to “sweater weather” (as my wife likes to call it) the very next. As a farmer, the fall is a heavily anticipated season simply because that’s when we get to go out and collect the crop we have been growing all summer.

We all go through seasons, both physically and spiritually. The Bible refers to seasons by saying, “*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.*” Ecclesiastes 3:1 It goes on to describe the different seasons we experience as we go through life. As a farmer, I can see the connection between the literal changing of seasons and the season of our lives.

In the spring, the soil is prepared and the seeds are planted with a great hope that all of our time and financial investment, which lies two inches below the surface, will grow into a product we can harvest. We also go through “spring seasons” in our personal lives. Maybe it is pouring our time and energy into young children, planting spiritual seeds into a coworker, or perhaps God is preparing and planting seeds of faith in you for the next season in life.

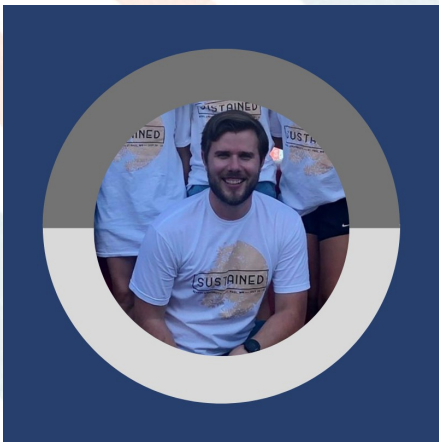
From there, the season of hope and promise turns into the season of waiting and diligent care for the crops. In trusting that the Lord will sustain us through any circumstance, we watch the rain and the strong storms come. Or like we all experienced this summer, week upon week of hot and dry weather. We all go through times where the storms of life won’t quit. We have weeks upon weeks of feeling dry spiritually and distant from God. But we know that these storms produce trust and faith while the dry spells create stronger, deeper spiritual roots. We are also reassured that this season doesn’t last. Time presses on toward the next season.

Fall can be a season of uncertainty. Will my crop be enough to cover my expenses? Will I have a costly break down? All we are asked to do is trust. “*Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him.*” Jeremiah 17:7 After all, God is the one who has it all in His hands. Harvest can also be a season of great celebration, blessing and thankfulness. May our hearts remain thankful as Paul instructs us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, “*Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.*” And perhaps this is the season spiritually where God blesses you and you see the fruits of abiding in Him! What a beautiful season it can be!

The season of winter is one of my favorites. It represents rest and renewal for me and my family. The cold, ice and snow gives this season a bad rap. However, like all the other seasons, it is necessary. Following your harvest season, you can be assured that you will find rest in the Lord. You will be prepared, renewed and readied for what is next. One of my wife’s favorite verses sums it up best, “*Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.*” Psalm 91:1

Thank God for every season, for they all have a purpose. Whichever season you are in, thank God for it. Rest in the hope and assurance that the seasons change and God is in control!

Guest writers: Jeremy and Becky Rozendaal



Youth & Ed Director—
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3
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YOUTH ACTIVITIES
BEGIN....
JOIN IN THE FUN!



IMPACT YOUTH GROUP—6th—8th grade
We will meet EVERY Sunday evening at 5:00
pm in the Well (downstairs in the basement)
October 2—Youth group
October 9—Fall Fun Night
October 16—Youth Group
October 23—Youth group
October 30—Trick or Treat & Costume contest

When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? When I was young, I was given a leather pilot's jacket from my uncle who is a pilot. I thought it was the coolest thing, and so from then on I wanted to be a pilot. Obviously, that worked out well.

I ask that question because in our youth groups here at First, we've been discussing making a difference for Jesus and opening our hearts to be used by Him. What we're discovering is that somewhere between childhood and adolescence, our imaginations and big dreams to do great things seem to fade away and are replaced by the stressors of this world. Students become stressed about their academics, being involved enough to be seen as a good applicant by colleges, and numerous other stressors.

Stress fills up our minds and pushes out any room for us to dream of how God could use us. Which is why we're telling them that there's another way. Ephesians 2:10 says that, "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which he prepared for us beforehand." Before we were born, God made us to live lives of meaning and purpose, and planned out all of our days. So we can take comfort in the truth that the stress we experience can not overcome God's plan for our lives.

This month, I ask that you would pray for students to grasp that God has made them with a purpose. To know that even at their age He can use them to do great things. Pray that they would know God personally and intimately. We're excited to see how God will continue to change the young people in our community!

FAITH WALKERS

2 Corinthians 5:7

FAITHWALKERS—9th-12th grade
We will meet EVERY Sunday evening at
6:30 pm in the Well (downstairs in the
basement)
October 2—Youth group
October 9—Youth group

October 16—Fall Fun night
October 23—Youth group
October 30—Youth group

SMALL GROUPS

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
6:15 PM - 6TH - 8TH GRADE IN THE WELL
NICK DE PENNING - FRANCIS CHAN STUDIES

6:45 PM - 9TH - 12TH GRADE IN THE LIGHTHOUSE
GERALD DROPPERT - THE CHOSEN- SEASON 3

Every Friday Morning

ALL 6th - 12th grade are invited
FRIDAY MORNINGS AT 7:30 AM BEGINNING FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Prayer Breakfast

In the Gathering Place at First Reformed Church
with Jeff Knouse

STARS Wednesday After School Program for Kindergarten-5th Grade began a new year on September 7.

Bible lessons this year are from the book *The Big Picture Interactive: Bible Stories in 5 Minutes*, published by B&H Publishing Group.

Each week, 30 minutes are spent on the Bible lesson, 10 minutes on Bible memory work, and 40 minutes on a learning activity.

Learning activities have been:

- **Week 1:** layered cookie jar mixes, with each child bringing home the start of chocolate chip cookies (special guest helping was Ellen Rozendaal, with Norma Harthoorn stepping in at the last minute for additional help).
- **Week 2:** horses (special guests were Mariah (Vos) Vande Voort and Mel, Majesta, and Mandeesa Vos)
- **Week 3:** houseplants, with each child bringing home a houseplant (special leader was Marlene Rozendaal, with some of the plants donated by Heidi Van Wyk)
- **Week 4:** "Who's Digging in my Yard", a lesson about pocket gophers, moles, and 13-lined ground squirrels (No, none of these were sent home with the kids!)

Registered kids are up to 47. Since more church members have volunteered to help, the kids can now be divided into eight crews instead of six.

At this writing, due to some changes, we are in need of a Bible memory leader, a part-time crew leader, and people willing to have their name on the substitute list. Please contact Eloise Vos (641-521-5861 or mevos@netins.net) if you are willing to help with this outreach program.

Eloise Vos, STARS Coordinator



FAMILY NIGHT KICKOFF

We had a **great turnout** for our **Family Night Kickoff!** The kitchen was busy serving food to over 200 people and the parking lot was full of kids playing games, riding on hay rack rides, looking in the tractors and petting the animals and riding the horses and enjoying smoothies and kettle corn! Thank you to everyone who had a hand in putting this together and helping out!





Pictured:
Jeff, Alison,
Jay & Sam Knouse

Jeff is our Youth & Ed Director for the past 5+ years.



Pictured:
Pastor Tom & Joy Vandenberg

Pastor Tom is our Interim Pastor and he began in October of 2021.



On **Sunday, October 23** we will celebrate Pastor Appreciation by having cake after the morning worship service for Pastor Tom and Jeff. There are baskets set out in the Gathering Place for cards, hand written notes, gift cards, etc. Let each of them know how much we appreciate them! God is good!

Sponsored by Women With Purpose

De Bloemen Hof presents

Pumpkin Succulent CENTERPIECE WORKSHOP

Monday, October 10 from 6 - 7 pm

Minimum of 4/max of 20 for class in
the Gathering Place

\$25 check payable to De Bloemen Hof

Sign up by the church office or contact Ruth Renaud at
ruthelaine.vanwyk@gmail.com



Upcoming
EVENTS

Dear Pastors,

Thank you
for the early Sunday mornings & the late Wednesday nights.

Thank you
for the seeds you plant & disciples you nurture.

Thank you
for the sermons you preach & the prayers you lift up.

Thank you
for the wise counsel & the words of encouragement.

Thank you
for the sacrifice and service.

Give Thanks and Sing

For the Thanksgiving service **Wednesday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m.** there will be an opportunity to give thanks and sing in an SATB youth through adult choir. Two rehearsals will be held on **Wednesdays November 9 and 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.** Contact **Gelene Evans** by email, gele-ne.evans@gmail.com or text, 641.521.5416 with your name, the part you prefer to sing—soprano, alto, tenor, or bass, and how you read music—well, kind of, or not at all.

"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly...through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts." Colossians 3:16

"I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live." Psalm 104:33

Discover Hope 5:17 Ministry
Stronger Together
Banquet 2022
Thursday, October 20th 2022
Social Hour 5-6 pm
Banquet 6 pm to 8 pm
Community Heights Alliance
2500 S 13th Ave E
Newton, IA 50208
FELLOWSHIP, DINNER & KEY NOTE SPEAKER
TO GET THE REGISTRATION LINK PLEASE EMAIL INFO@DISCOVERHOPE517.COM
OR SEE QR CODE ON BACK



Mike & Haley Bruck

Birthdays: Mike: 7/25/89

Haley: 4/21/89

Lailah: 11/14/15; Emery: 9/26/17; Wyatt: 8/22/19

Anniversary: October 19, 2013

Mike & Haley Bruck, interestingly enough, were married on center field of the local Portsmouth Iowa baseball diamond! They met through mutual friends, and currently live in Sully with their three children; Lailah, Emery and Wyatt with baby #4 coming soon in December! As a family, they love anything outdoors like, hiking, biking, camping or exploring the state and national parks. A secret they share would be to sell everything they own and travel the country!

Haley grew up in the Sully area so she is familiar here. She is the daughter of Denny and Kris Vos, graduated from Pella Christian High School and has a Bachelors Degree in Art Education from the University of Northern Iowa. Haley wears many hats as a stay-at-home mom, home school teacher, and the story time director for the library in Sully.

Mike was raised in the Portsmouth, Iowa area which is in the western part of the state, by Harlan. His parents are John and Janet

Bruck and he graduated from Harlan High School. He went on to earn an Associates Degree in Electrical Engineering from Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He works as the Maintenance Technician for Pella Community Schools.

The Brucks appreciate how everyone is so welcoming at First Reformed and have always loved the feeling of the closeness of community and family that the church gives.

Thank you Mike and Haley Bruck for letting us "Get To Know You" and your family!



October

SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

Beating Anxiety

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Day 1: Job 23:12 | Day 17: Galatians 6:9 |
| Day 2: Mark 11:24 | Day 18: Matthew 6 |
| Day 3: Job 19:25 | Day 19: Psalm 91:1 |
| Day 4: John 16:33 | Day 20: I Peter 4:13 |
| Day 5: Psalm 34:14 | Day 21: Romans 8:39 |
| Day 6: Psalm 34:18 | Day 22: II Corinthians 1:3-4 |
| Day 7: James 5:13 | Day 23: Proverbs 24:10 |
| Day 8: I Peter 5:7 | Day 24: Proverbs 3:5-6 |
| Day 9: Romans 12:12 | Day 25: Ephesians 3:20-21 |
| Day 10: Matthew 11:28-30 | Day 26: John 10:10 |
| Day 11: Isaiah 41:10 | Day 27: Psalm 4:8 |
| Day 12: Psalm 27:10 | Day 28: John 14:27 |
| Day 13: II Corinthians 12:9 | Day 29: Psalm 29:11 |
| Day 14: Psalm 55:22 | Day 30: Hebrews 4:16 |
| Day 15: Psalm 23 | Day 31: James 5:10-11 |
| Day 16: James 1:2 | |

*Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to meditate and reflect on God's Word.
Write down what you have gleaned from each day's scripture.*

The Ruffled Mango



gem
greater euromission

Contact

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+1 515 661 4290

Partner

gemission.org
ministry account #11370



Kat is serving in Czech Republic.

Even though Czech Republic is known as one of the most atheistic countries in the world, many Czechs are hungry for deeper spiritual realities. University students are at a particularly formational time in their lives and are more willing to consider spiritual questions.

Kat will be focusing on university outreach and hospitality ministry.



October 1

Tim Dunsbergen ~ Dennis Van Maanen
Olivia Wichhart

October 2

Majesta Vos ~ Cody Kesling

October 4

Cale Van Wyk ~ Matthew Vasileiadis

October 5

Corey Kramer

October 7

Trisha Vander Molen

October 8

Sandy Beyer (97)

Braden Larson

October 10

Karissa Chapman ~ Joyce De Goey(85)

Dana Dunsbergen ~ Tim Jansen

October 11

Hinley Jansen ~ Cathryn Dunsbergen

October 12

Tatum Huyser

October 13

Kaylee Maasdam ~ Katelyn Nikkel

October 14

Cooper Scandridge

October 15

Mark Scholten

October 16

Luke Kramer

October 17

Ron McKeag (80)

October 18

Miranda Vos

October 20

Kevin Van Wyk

October 21

Alex Huyser ~ Morgan Vander Molen

October 22

Justin Deal

October 23

Bryan De Jong ~ Taylor Vos

Adler De Hoedt

October 24

Caulen Deal ~ Abel Harsselaar

October 25

Gerald Droppert

Minnie Huyser ~ Linda Jansen

October 27

Brinley Doane

October 28

Dennis Dunsbergen

October 29

Delia De Jong (91)

Mathias Torres

October 30

Dawn Terpstra

October 1

Tyler & Kaila Harsselaar—6

October 2

Russ & Lois Rozendaal— 52

October 5

Jamie & Julie Keen— 26

Zach & Delaney Brimeyer—3

October 7

Shawn & ChyAnne Huyser—22

October 8

Drew & Leah Van Rees—6

October 10

Caden & Brenna Dunsbergen—2

October 15

Tim & Brenda Jansen—28

October 16

Ken & Lorie Van Soelen—41

October 19

Mike & Haley Bruck—9

October 24

Darrel & Barb Jansen—61

Tim & Marsha Vanden Hoek—35



GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP—join anytime

Location: Grinnell Friends Church, Hwy 146 South, Grinnell, IA

Mondays at 6:30

Dates: October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; November 7, 14, 21, 28; December 5 & 12

FAMILY NIGHT IS IN NEED OF HELP

Donations needed: Please drop off in the Legacy Kitchen

Hamburger	Butter
Boxes of Corn Flakes	Cake mixes
Peanut butter	Canned chicken
#10(large) cans of green beans	
Mini Marshmallows	
White corn syrup	
Cream of chicken soup (lg. can)	
#10(lg.) cans of peaches	
Walmart or Fareway gift cards	
Large cans of Bush's Baked Beans	



*Empty Cradle invites you to
A Walk to Remember*

Sunday, October 16 at 4 pm
Scholte Church in Pella Historical Village
(Enter at corner of Franklin St. and East 2nd St.)

Empty Cradle supports and connects families who have lost a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth or infant death. Family and friends are invited to join us for a time of remembering these precious babies. For more information, call Hospice of Pella at 641-620-5050.



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



2022 PRAYER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Drew, Shelby, Carter & Henry Shinkle
2 Paul & Patty Sneller	3 Pastor Wayne & Tammy Sneller	4 Kevin, Kelly & Riley Terlouw	5 Henrietta Terpstra	6 John & Dawn Terpstra	7 Warren & Alma Terpstra	8 Felix & Tia Torres
9 Tony, Deana, Destiny, Mathias, Elizabeth, Ellie & Lincoln Torres	10 Pastor Tom & Joy VandeBerg	11 Margaret Vande Krol	12 Brett & Sophie (Michael) Vanden Hoek	13 Tena Vanden Hoek	14 Tim & Marsha Vanden Hoek	15 Jerry & Pam Vander Beek
16 Bryce & Shirley Van Der Kamp	17 Roger & Jean Van Der Kamp	18 Lois Vander Leest	19 Caleb Vander Molen	20 Jeff & Shelley Vander Molen	21 Jeremy, Trisha Kylie, Bailey & Carson Vander Molen	22 Morgan Vander Molen
23 Carlene Van Der Pol	24 Glenn Vanderpol	25 Bryce & Barb Van Der Wilt	26 Corey, Shelby & Larsyn Van Der Wilt	27 Maury & Stacie Van Der Wilt	28 Kayla Van Dyke	29 Kyle Van Dyke
30 Gerry, Jill Krystal & Klayton Van Dyke	31 Gary & Dorothy Van Genderen					



2022 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 am Pastor Tom VandeBerg 10:45 am Sunday school for all ages 5 pm IMPACT youth 6:30 pm Faithwalkers	3 9 am Rental in Gathering Place	4	5 3:30 pm STARS After school program 5:30 pm Family night meal 6:15 pm 6th—8th 6:45 pm 9th—12th	6	7 No Prayer Breakfast	8
9 9:30 am Laity Sunday 10:45 am Sunday school for all ages 5 pm IMPACT youth 6:30 pm Faithwalkers	10 6 pm Pumpkin Succulent Class in Gathering Place	11	12 3:30 pm STARS 5:30 pm STARS Family night meal 6:15 pm 6th—8th 6:45 pm 9th—12th	13	14 7:30 am Prayer Breakfast	15
16 9:30am Pastor Tom VandeBerg 10:45 am Sunday School for all ages 12 pm Rental in Gathering Place 5 pm IMPACT youth 6:30 pm Faithwalkers	17	18	19 3:30 pm STARS 5:30 Family Night Meal 6:15 pm 6th—8th 6:45 pm 9th—12th 6:30 pm Elders Mtg. 6:45 pm Deacons 7:30 pm Consistory Mtg.	20	21 7:30 am Prayer Breakfast	22
23 9:30 am Pastor Tom VandeBerg 10:45 am Sunday School for all ages 2-4 pm Rental in Gathering Place 5:00 pm Impact 6:30 pm Faithwalkers	24	25	26 3:30 pm STARS 5:30 Family Night Meal 6:15 pm 6th—8th 6:45 pm 9th—12th	27	28 No Prayer Breakfast	29
30 9:30 am Pastor Tom VandeBerg 10:45 am Sunday School for all ages 5:00 pm Impact 6:30 pm Faithwalkers	31			<div> 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 </div>		