

The AMERICANews

of the American Reformed Church
of Hull Iowa



2025

AMERICANews

the American Reformed Church
Hull, Iowa

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THE
PASTOR'S
Pen



Life is a journey, full of twists, turns, detours, and at times, complete dead ends. We often find ourselves behind the wheel, thinking we know the best route and are confident that our plans will get us where we want to go.

This was certainly my experience when I drove home to visit my family in Ohio. When I was on the Ohio Turnpike, a sign along the side of the road said 'Road Construction: Next 20 Miles.'

After already seeing how one-lane roads slow down a freeway, I quickly exited at the next exit, thinking I would drive around the construction, even though my GPS said I was on the best route. Thinking I had found a shortcut, a couple of miles down the road, I was met by another detour that literally led me into Michigan, which is not the state you want to be in when driving to Ohio.

But this all reminded me of the passage from Proverbs which tells us of a more profound truth: we are not meant to navigate life only on our own.

Proverbs 3:5-6 says this: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

And so there are two parts here that help us see how we are supposed to navigate life:

First, it says we need to "trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." Trust implies surrender. It means we stop gripping the wheel with this white-knuckled control and instead let God take the wheel. It's not just this casual form of trust either—it's a wholehearted, all-in type of faith that believes God sees the road ahead even when we don't.

I realized after the fact that the construction that I was trying to avoid was a much better option than the detour my decision led me into. My understanding was limited and flawed, and even though I didn't realize it, my GPS had already calculated all the options and was laying out the best route.

This is the case for our lives because God already knows the road ahead. And he has given us the ability to discern the best decisions to make based upon prayer and His Word. Does this mean we will never see days when we struggle? Of course not, but this is why there is a second part to this Proverb.

Next, it says, "In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." The road will not always be easy. There will be construction, detours, hills, and valleys throughout your life.

But God is ready to clear the confusion, level the road for you, and bring clarity and direction. The straight path leads us where God wants us to be—closer to Him and in the center of His will.

This happens when we invite God into every part of our journey: our relationships, our work, our decisions, even our struggles. When we honor Him in everything, we show that He is the Lord of all, not just a co-pilot sitting in the car with us when we get lost.

My prayer for you this month is that, as summer comes to an end and fall schedules begin with new challenges ahead, you will seek God. May He guide your family and help you navigate any difficulties that arise. His ways are higher than our ways, and His plan is designed to lead us when the road becomes winding and long. *-Pastor Mark*



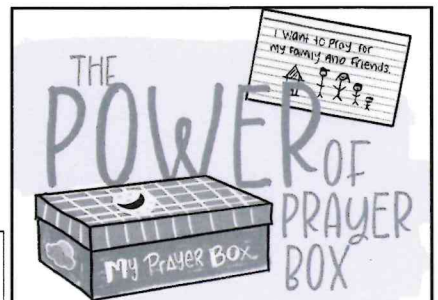
JESUS TRAVELED TO MANY PLACES

Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of the places. Can you find the names on the list?

Words can go left to right, up, down or diagonal—so look carefully in all directions!

BETHANY	EPHRAIM	MOUNT OF OLIVES
BETHLEHEM	GALILEE	NAZARETH
BETHSAIDA	JERICHO	PEREA
CAESAREA PHILIPPI	JERUSALEM	SAMARIA
CANA	JORDAN RIVER	SIDON
CAPERNAUM	JUDEA	TYRE
DECAPOLIS	MAGDALA	WILDERNESS
EGYPT		

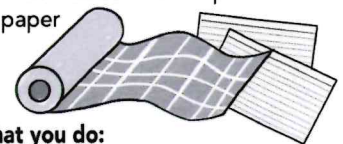
B	M	L	E	T	C	U	S	G	O	T	O	B	T	H	E
E	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R	E	M	N	S
T	U	E	U	E	N	A	R	B	Y	V	I	T	A	L	S
H	D	L	R	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	H	G	A	E
S	E	G	E	I	T	S	S	S	G	Y	O	L	D	I	N
A	A	C	J	A	C	O	N	I	Y	R	P	E	A	R	R
I	D	E	E	A	C	H	F	D	P	E	H	H	L	T	E
D	E	H	R	E	R	E	O	O	T	A	L	E	A	S	D
A	C	O	U	T	H	P	A	N	L	T	I	M	S	W	L
C	A	E	S	A	R	E	A	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I
H	P	P	A	A	Y	R	I	H	A	V	V	E	C	O	W
M	O	H	L	E	M	E	S	O	H	E	T	E	R	A	V
E	L	R	E	L	E	A	D	T	H	R	O	U	S	G	H
O	I	A	M	U	T	G	R	A	B	E	T	H	A	N	Y
L	S	I	I	L	G	A	L	I	L	E	E	E	E	F	R
O	M	M	C	A	P	E	R	N	A	U	M	M	A	R	K



Create a simple and meaningful prayer box your family can use to share requests and pray together all week long.

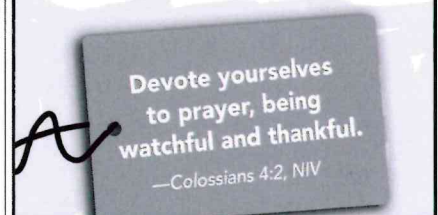
What you need:

- Shoebox with lid
- Wrapping paper or decorative paper
- Scissors & tape
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers and other craft material (optional)
- Pens or pencils
- Index cards or small pieces of paper



What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a gift, wrapping the lid separately so it can be opened.
2. As a family, decorate the box with drawings, favorite Bible verses, photos, or stickers.
3. Place the box somewhere central, like the kitchen or living room.
4. Keep index cards and pens nearby. When someone has a prayer request, they can write or draw it and drop it in.
5. Throughout the week, take turns praying over the requests as a family, or have a parent lead prayer time.



PROJECTION

AUGUST 3 Heather Mesman
AUGUST 10 Kaileen Roelofs
AUGUST 17 Jacob Gaul
AUGUST 24 Mel Reuvers
AUGUST 31 Loree Walton

VIDEO

AUGUST 3 Brian Sipma
AUGUST 10 Laura Woelber
AUGUST 17 Kaileen Roelofs
AUGUST 24 Carter Wallenburg
AUGUST 31 Aisayah Moss

USHERS

AUGUST 3 Josh Wissink, Kevin Roozing
AUGUST 10 Larry De Jong, Lyndon Moss
AUGUST 17 Larry De Jong, Lyndon Moss
AUGUST 24 Mike Gaul, Mark Sipma
AUGUST 31 Mike Gaul, Mark Sipma

NURSERY

AUGUST 3 Annie Van Der Zwaag, Merritt Moss, MaKenzie Mesman
AUGUST 10 Andrea Kelderman, Blake Verhoef, Milana Cercone
AUGUST 17 Jacob & Alex Van Der Wilt
AUGUST 24 Joyce Sipma, Kaden Soodsma, Teagan Sipma
AUGUST 31 NURSERY NOT STAFFED



FELLOWSHIP SQUAD INTRODUCTION



Over the past year, we at the American Reformed Church have come to realize the importance of fellowship more than ever. Observing trends in many churches, we understand that regaining the momentum of doing life together has not been easy.

After much discussion with the Consistory, we have decided to create what we are calling the **Fellowship Squad**. We believe this is a crucial step in our mission to strengthen our church community.

The Fellowship Squad will operate similarly to our current committees, with one significant difference: this team will work alongside the church and other committees to foster a stronger sense of fellowship within our congregation.

In the future, we hope to organize more potlucks, family nights, special events, and opportunities for people to connect and share life together. These events will be published in advance in our bulletins and newsletters each month.

All these fellowship opportunities will be open to everyone in the church, and we encourage you to invite your neighbors and family members. This is a chance to extend our warm community to others.

Our first event will be Kickoff Sunday on **September 7th**, where we will celebrate the children meeting their new Sunday School teachers. Afterwards, we will have a potluck and yard games in front of the church. We encourage you to stay after the service to enjoy time together in fellowship.

Additionally, the Fellowship Squad will provide oversight to our Life Groups within the church. They will work to promote the growth of these groups by offering ways for people to join or switch to different groups.

The current members of the Fellowship Squad are Aleisha Wissink, Jeanne Breuer, Sara Vink, Andrea Kelderman, and Consistory member Todd Visscher.

If you would like to assist the Fellowship Squad or volunteer to help enhance fellowship within the American Reformed Church, please reach out to Pastor Mark.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for what God is doing here in our church community. Your involvement is what makes our church a warm and welcoming place for others.





Looking ahead to Sunday, September 7, 2025.

The congregation is invited to a
Fall Education Kickoff
after worship including:

- *A time for students to meet their teachers & new Sunday School rooms,
- *Lawn games
- *Noon lunch including hotdogs, drinks & table service provided.

We are requesting the congregation's participation by families with last names starting with A-H to provide a salad and J-Z to provide a dessert.

Please join us in this new Fall 2025 season of learning, worship & growing together.
See you then.



LIFEWISE ACADEMY

BOYDEN AND HULL

BIBLE EDUCATION FOR 2ND-8TH GRADE
PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS DURING
SCHOOL HOURS

Enroll now by scanning
the QR code below!

lifewise.org/boydenhullia

SPONSOR A LIFEWISE STUDENT

We thank you for your support as we continue to spread the gospel to students in the Boyden-Hull school district at no cost to their families. Tax deductible donations can be made by check (mail to Kelley Crawford, 1310 Willow St, Hull, IA 51239) or by scanning the QR code to the left. Thank you!

\$100

Your one time gift
can provide Bible
Education to a
Boyden-Hull
Student for the
2025-26 school
year.

Thank you for your support!
-LifeWise Academy Boyden and Hull Board
Kelley Crawford, Chris Garris, Inisha Hoehamer, Tina Koerselman,
Erica Tiedeman, Pam Tiedeman and Brian Van Der Vliet



Sioux
County

LOVE & LEARN CLASSES



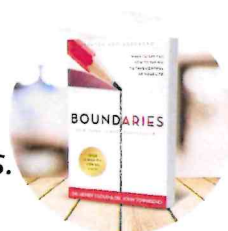
Faith & Finance

Learn financial skills such as budgeting, saving, and paying off debt. A mentor will help you apply what you learn in class to your personal finances.



Grief Share

Receive encouragement and support after the death of a loved one through your journey of grief. Learn more at www.griefshare.com



Boundaries

Cultivate habits of setting and maintaining boundaries at home, work, and even social media.



Redemptive Compassion

A Biblical exploration of how God has called the Church to love and serve our neighbors.

How to Register

Call: 712-476-5990

Email: ministries@loveincsiouxcounty.org

Please register by August 19

Classes begin Tuesday, August 26



Tuesday evenings
6:45-8:00pm



Trinity Christian Reformed Church,
Rock Valley

PASTOR

Pastor Mark Cercone439-2057
Email – mark@hullarc.com

CONSISTORY

Galen Breuer('27)..... 460-3331
Tim Brunsting('27). 441-5442
Todd Visscher('27). 441-5663
Todd Woelber('27)..... 441-6628
Mike Mesman ('26)..... 470-5455
Craig Moss ('26) Chair of Deacons 441-0948
Colin Sandbulte ('26)..... 441-7457
Kevin Roozing ('26) 441-4849
Carolyn Goold(25') Clerk 470-4753
Rob Van't Land (25')Vice President 441-6365
Kyle Roelofs (25') 470-9174
Rick Tiedeman (25')..... 541-5881

CONSISTORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Property Colin S, Rick T
Pulpit Supply Rob VL
Sacraments..... Carolyn G, Todd V, Todd W
Christian Education Craig M, Todd V
Worship & Music Mike M, Kyle R
Mission & Evangelism Galen B, Tim B, Carolyn G

SECRETARY: Donna Wallenburg: 441-1289
CUSTODIAN: Loree Walton: 470-2947
CHURCH TREASURER: Denny Kelderman.. 470-3652
MEAL MINISTRY:Jeanne Breuer, Ruth Moss
NURSERY SUPERVISOR: Amy Moss

COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS

WORSHIP & MUSIC:

Ruth Moss: Chairman: 441-4170
Jeanne Breuer, Mike Mesman, Harlan Moss,
Audrey Raman, Kyle Roelofs, Loree Walton,
Alex Van Der Wilt, Sara Vink

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Todd Visscher: Chairman: 441-5663
Heather Mesman, Aaron Moss, Amy Moss, Craig
Moss, Hayley Moss, Kevin Roozing, Joyce Sipma,
Aleisha Wissink

MISSION & EVANGELISM:

Galen Breuer: Chairman: 460-3331
Tim Brunsting, Ida Evertse, Ken Evertse, Carolyn
Goold, Julie Marra, Tony Van Der Zwaag

SPECIAL BENEVOLENT FUND OFFERING

January Love, INC
February Sr. ARCYF
March Gideons
April Sunday School Anniversary Fund
May Living Stone Prison Church
June Amistad Cristiana
July Village Northwest
August Jr High RCYF
September..... Grace Covenant Ministries
October Inspiration Hills
November Bruce & Tamar DeJong
December Center of Hope

FELLOWSHIP SQUAD:

Pastor Mark
Jeanne Breuer, Andrea Kelderman, Sara Vink,
Aleisha Wissink, Todd Visscher