

# The AMERICANews

of the American Reformed Church  
of Hull Iowa



2025

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the American Reformed Church  
Hull, Iowa

Vol.35 No. 4  
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One of the reasons I love the Bible is that it tells the stories of real people navigating real challenges while experiencing a genuine relationship with God. It doesn't shy away from the struggles individuals faced, whether during famines or moments of doubt. The narrative highlights the hardships, including the confiscation of homes and times of imprisonment.

Notably, after the Babylonian exile, some Israelites remained in the Promised Land, grappling with their own struggles, which are documented in Lamentations 5. This chapter intricately captures their plight and the profound sense of loss they experienced. It serves as a poignant reminder that even in the face of adversity, their experiences resonate deeply with our own struggles today.

This is what is described in the book of Lamentations:

***"We must pay for the water we drink; the wood we must get must be bought. Our pursuers are at our necks; we are weary; we are given no rest. We have been given the hand to Egypt, and to Assyria, to get bread enough. Our fathers sinned, and are no more; and we bear their iniquities." (Lamentations 5:4-7)***

This passage highlights the immense hardships faced by the Jewish people. After the Babylonian siege, their lives became even more challenging. The hope of victory was extinguished, their nation lay in ruins, and they found themselves in desperate circumstances, pleading for assistance from their enemies. It's hard to imagine a more difficult time to endure.

Yet, this experience can resonate with many of us, serving as a metaphor for our own challenging seasons—those moments of scarcity or instances when it feels like we're being pursued by relentless troubles.

When we recognize that the experiences recorded in Lamentations are not mere poetic musings, but rather profound reflections shaped by intense suffering, we can understand how these passages speak to our own lives.

This is because, while we can empathize with their struggles, we can also identify the source of their hope. Just as God guided them through their challenges, we can have confidence that He will also lead us through any valleys we experience in our lives. It's a powerful reminder that, even in our darkest moments, there is a light of hope waiting to be discovered.

Let me end with a thought from Psalm 55, because God always hears us: ***"Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he hears my voice. He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage..." (Psalm 55:17-18)***

May we always hold onto this truth, whether it pertains to our own struggles or those of a friend or someone in need. Let us strive to be the encouraging voice for others who may feel lost or overwhelmed.

We are blessed with a hope that endures, rooted in the incredible love of our Heavenly Father. The Bible tells the story of where this hope comes from and how it touches each of our lives. This hope is not something we earn or deserve; it's a gift given to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

If you haven't had the chance to read your Bible or participate in a Bible Study, I invite you to start this Fall. God has provided us His Word to encourage, strengthen, and sustain us every day. If you're unsure where to begin, I would be more than happy to suggest some practical first steps to help you engage with His Word regularly.

We are excited to announce that we will be starting some new groups soon, along with our ongoing Bible Studies that you can join. This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your relationship with God and connect with others in meaningful ways. Whether you are new or looking to continue your journey, we encourage you to get involved!

~Pastor Mark





# Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle.  
Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks  
below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.

## WORDS:

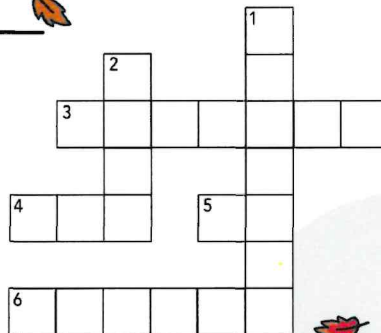
GOD, BLESSES, HARVEST,  
YIELDS, US, LAND

## ACROSS

3. Rhymes with farthest.
4. Rhymes with nod.
5. Rhymes with thus.
6. Rhymes with fields.

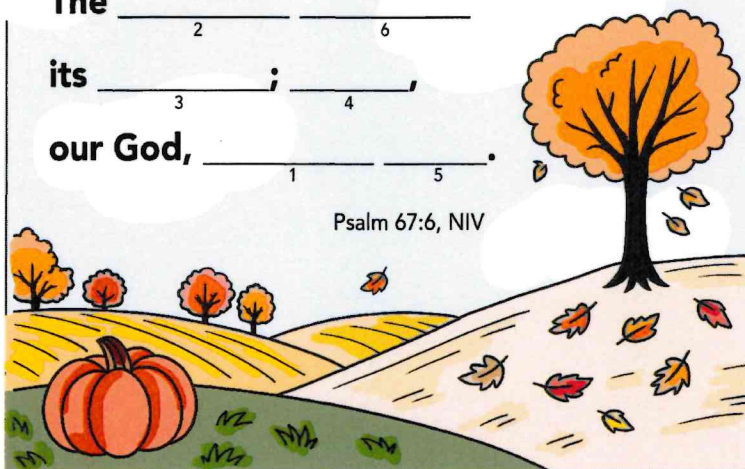
## DOWN

1. Rhymes with messes.
2. Rhymes with hand.



The \_\_\_\_\_  
its \_\_\_\_\_;  
our God, \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 67:6, NIV



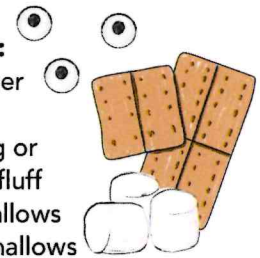
Answer: The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. Psalm 67:6, NIV



Create adorable sheep using  
graham crackers, marshmallows,  
and a little imagination!

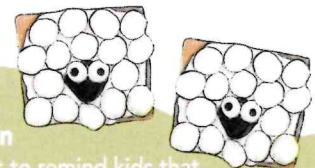
## What you need:

- Graham cracker squares
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Mini marshmallows
- Large marshmallows
- Candy eyes or mini chocolate chips
- Black gel icing or mini Oreo cookie



## What you do:

1. Spread white frosting or marshmallow fluff on each graham cracker square.
2. Stick mini marshmallows all over to make the sheep's wool.
3. Cut a large marshmallow in half and stick it near the top for the head.
4. Add candy eyes and a dot of black gel for the nose. Or use a mini Oreo cookie half for a more defined face.
5. Let kids decorate their sheep however they'd like!



## Lesson tie-in

Use this treat to remind kids that  
Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

I am the good  
shepherd: the  
good shepherd  
giveth his life for  
the sheep.

John 10:11, KJV

## PROJECTION

SEPTEMBER 7	Heather Mesman
SEPTEMBER 14	Kaileen Roelofs
SEPTEMBER 21	Jacob Gaul
SEPTEMBER 28	Mel Reuvers

## VIDEO

SEPTEMBER 7	Reid Van Voorst
SEPTEMBER 14	Brian Sipma
SEPTEMBER 21	Laura Woelber
SEPTEMBER 28	Kaileen Roelofs

## USHERS

SEPTEMBER 7	Mike Mesman, Russ Goold
SEPTEMBER 14	Mike Mesman, Russ Goold
SEPTEMBER 21	Tony Van Der Zwaag, Todd Visscher
SEPTEMBER 28	Tony Van Der Zwaag, Todd Visscher

## NURSERY

SEPTEMBER 7	Kaileen Roelofs, Jacob Gaul, Peyton Van Roekel
SEPTEMBER 14	Bonnie Van't Land, Carston Tiedeman, Adleigh Tiedeman
SEPTEMBER 21	Julie Noble, Grady Noble, Alex Gaul
SEPTEMBER 28	Laura Van Der Zwaag, Jack Van Der Zwaag, Sadie Cannegieter



## **EVERY SHEEP COUNTS!** *IS YOUR INFO UP TO DATE?*

We want to keep our **online church directory** updated with your new pictures and contact information.

Updated pictures and information can be emailed to the church at [amrefdch@mtcnet.net](mailto:amrefdch@mtcnet.net) or text to Donna at 712-441-1289



### VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

FREE App for iPhone,  
iPad & Android



Our church directory is a great resource tool to get to know our church family better!

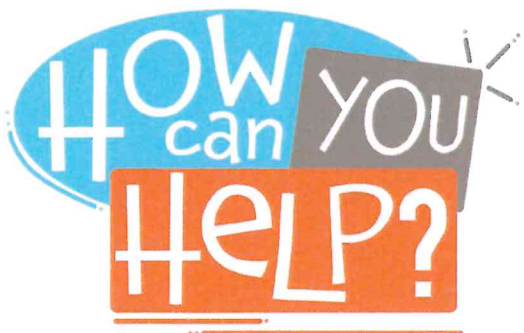
Simply go to the App Store, search for **Instant Church Directory** and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.







You are invited to join us by using your talents in these worship positions. We are looking for singers, accompanist, projectionists, projection assistant, sound and video people.

Also, help with providing music at the Grain House on December 11.

There is a sign-up sheet in your mailbox.

If you are interested, please fill out the sign-up sheet and return it to the box at the Connection Center by **September 7<sup>th</sup>**. Questions? Feel free to contact Pastor Mark, Kyle Roelofs, Loree Walton or Ruth Moss



*Jill Miller  
& Friends*



Sept. 28 @ 3 p.m.  
Elevate Church  
1421 Geneva St  
Sioux City, IA

Scan here for tickets!\*

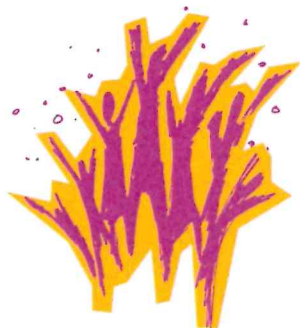


\*Please call 712 255 1769 if you would like to buy a paper ticket

Media Sponsors



Proceeds from the event will support The Gospel Mission

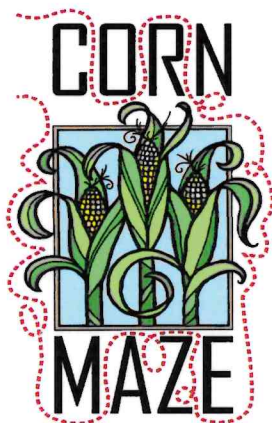


# youth group

SCHEDULE

## **SEPTEMBER 10** (Jr & Sr High)

Rocky+ in Orange City meet at Church at 6:30pm



## **SEPTEMBER 17** (Jr & Sr High)

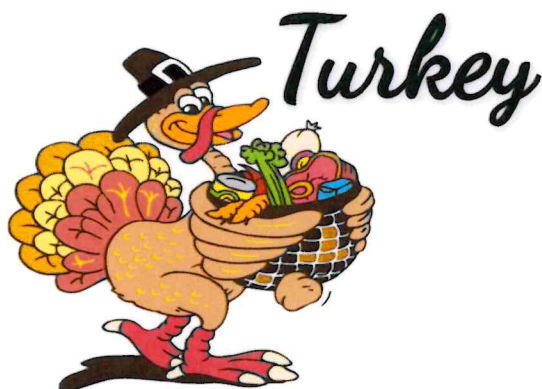
Fields of Fun in Sioux Center meet at Church at 6:45pm

## **SEPTEMBER 24** (Jr & Sr High)

Ask Pastor Mark Night meet in the Youth Room at 7:00pm

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## Let's Talk



## Turkey

Our Annual Turkey Supper  
will be held on

Tuesday, November 4.

Look for a sign-up sheet  
in the Great Hall on

Sunday, September 21 - October 5.

**REMEMBER:** Sign up early to get the job of your choice!





## August Consistory Highlights

*by Carolyn Goold*

Kickoff Sunday, September 7, will feature a meal after the service and games outside.

Christian Education is working on plans for a mentorship program.

On September 21, Bruce De Jong will be speaking during the service as well as during the Sunday School hour to all ages.

## SIoux COUNTY CHRISTMAS CHOIR CANTATA



ALL Singers are invited to come together for a **Siouxland Christmas Choir Cantata Service** on **Sunday December 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm**. This promises to be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ in worship and with beautiful music: it will feature a 40-minute choral cantata, "[The Winter Rose](#)" by [Joseph Martin](#), that will be accompanied by a full orchestra and includes arrangements of familiar Christmas carols and newly composed songs. This service will also include traditional liturgical elements (greeting, blessing, congregational singing, and an opportunity to give to a local Christian service organization).

Below are the main details of this worship event. **Interested singers can sign up to be a part of the choir using the [Google form link](#)**; the deadline for doing so will be **October 15**.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf4bgxY7p9m9H1zguZpm3yYtWLSwMU6IOweCsWu2T3NTVj5vw/viewform?usp=dialog>

### Worship Service

Sunday Dec. 14, 6:00 pm, BJ Haan Auditorium on the campus of Dordt University

"The Winter Rose" by Joseph Martin (40-minute work)

Also a few congregational hymns accompanied by orchestra and traditional service elements (greeting, blessing, offering, etc.)

### Rehearsals

Wednesday Oct. 29, 7:00-8:30 pm, Covenant CRC Sioux Center

Wednesday Nov. 5, 7:00-8:30 pm, Covenant CRC Sioux Center

Wednesday Nov. 12, 7:00-8:30 pm, Covenant CRC Sioux Center

Wednesday Nov. 19, 7:00-8:30 pm, Covenant CRC Sioux Center

Wednesday Dec. 3, 7:00-8:30 pm, Covenant CRC Sioux Center

Wednesday Dec. 10, 7:00-9:30 pm – Dordt University Recital Hall

7:00-8:15 pm orchestra only

8:15-9:30 pm choir and orchestra

Sunday Dec. 14, 4:00-5:30 pm – BJ Haan Auditorium

A preview recording of the music is available here:

<https://viewer.jwpepper.com/smc2/?product=8017303&preview=true>

September 2025

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to another great education year with your family. As a committee, we are very grateful for the teachers and helpers who willingly give of their time and talents! Please take note of the following information.

Our Sunday School Kickoff will be on September 7. During the service that day, we will hand out Bibles to the 4th graders. Right after the service, we will dismiss the children by classes (through 8th grade). All classes will meet their teachers and see where their classroom will be held. There will not be a Sunday School lesson on this day, the Fellowship squad is planning a church meal and activities for the kids.

Beginning September 14, Sunday School classes will begin at 11:05am and end at 11:45.

Singing precedes Sunday School for the students in 8th grade and lower. Children in 3rd grade and younger will meet in the church basement. Children 4th through 8th grade will meet in the choir room. Both groups will meet at 10:50am and be dismissed to their Sunday School classes at 11:05am. The Sunday School offering will be taken at this time. The offering goes to pay for the class materials.

We encourage students in the 4th grade and up to bring their Student Bibles to class, both Sunday and Wednesday.

For the younger students, 3rd grade and below, a parent or close family member should pick up the child from their classroom. If someone else will be picking up your child on a regular basis, please give the teacher a written note so the teacher can feel comfortable releasing their child to a non-family member.

We will be starting our Wednesday night programs on September 10. ARK (1st-3rd grade), (4th-6th grade), and 7th & 8th grade will meet from 7pm to 8pm. NOTE: Wednesday night programs will be canceled if Boyden Hull has no school or lets out early that day. . Also there will be no programs when Boyden Hull students participate in district and state events.

Parents of ARK students, grades 1, 2, and 3: please pick up your child promptly at 8pm. No child will be allowed to leave the church unless accompanied by a family member or well known adult.

Regarding the 3-4 year old class, if your child is 3 years old by September 1, he/she can start Sunday School in September. If your child turns 3 years old between September 1 and December 31, he/she can start Sunday School in January.

We appreciate your support in our programs here at ARC. Together we can make this another great education year for all involved. If you have any questions or suggestions for us, please contact Todd Visscher (712-441-5663) or any of the Christian Ed committee members. Thank You!



## Christian Education Calendar

2025-2026

### September

Sunday School Kickoff (Bibles to 4th grade class, dismiss by class).....	Sept 7
Midweek Programs Start .....	Sept 10
First Sunday School Lesson .....	Sept 14
First Quarter Sunday .....	Sept 14
Missionary Bruce DeJong (4th grade-adult for Sunday school) .....	Sept 21

### October

Quarter Sunday .....	Oct 12
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### November

Quarter Sunday .....	Nov 9
No Midweek Programs/Thanksgiving weekend.....	Nov 26
No Sunday School/Thanksgiving weekend .....	Nov 30

### December

Quarter Sunday .....	Dec 14
Sunday School Christmas Program (One Performance after a.m.worship).....	Dec 14
Sunday School Christmas Program Snow Date .....	Dec 21
No Sunday School or Midweek programs.....	Dec 21-Jan 3

### January

Sunday School Classes resume .....	Jan 4
Midweek Classes resume.....	Jan 7
Quarter Sunday .....	Jan 11
Youth Sunday .....	Jan 25

### February

No Sunday School/Congregational Meeting.....	Feb 1
Fundraising Auction/No Midweek programs .....	Feb 4
Quarter Sunday .....	Feb 8

## March

Quarter Sunday .....Mar 8  
Palm Sunday.....Mar 29

## April

Sunday School Anniversary Offering.....all April  
No Midweek Programs/Easter Break .....Apr 1  
No Sunday School/Easter Sunday.....Apr 5  
Quarter Sunday.....Apr 12  
Inspiration Hills Discount Deadline .....Apr 15  
Junior High Retreat/Hidden Acres.....Apr 17-19  
Last Midweek Programs.....Apr 29

## May

Last Sunday School Classes .....May 3  
Last Quarter Sunday .....May 10  
Quarter Presentation .....May 17  
Graduation Sunday.....May 24  
Aftershock/JHRCYF Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser.....May 25



THE MOMCO



# WHAT HAPPENS AT MOMCO



## COMMUNITY

At a MomCo Meetup, you can link arms with other moms to tackle this motherhood thing together — even if you're all just making it up as you go. You'll receive support, mentoring, and plenty of hugs. And just to let you in on a little secret: the moms you meet at MomCo will be your mom friends for life.



## LEARNING

From mothering topics, financial management, relational skills and more, mothers receive the support they need at MomCo. By meeting these needs MomCo is creating space for moms to discover their true purpose and fulfillment.



## FOOD

The best conversations often happen around a table. It's even better when that table has food on it. Many MomCo Meetups choose to provide snacks or meals for members to enjoy.



## CHILDCARE

Your strong mama arms hold your babies all the time. At MomCo, you'll get the chance to rest, enjoy a hot beverage (without needing to microwave it), and form community — all while caring MomCo Kids volunteers care for your littles. It sounds too good to be true. It's not.



**PASTOR**

Pastor Mark Cercone .....439-2057  
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