**Community United Reformed Church**

**March 18, 2018**

**WELCOME TO COMMUNITY!**

We're glad that you're here with us today.  Please join us for a time of fellowship after the service.  If you're new here and have questions, speak with our pastor, one of our greeter volunteers, and/or fill out a visitor's card, located on the Visitors’ Kiosk, to help us get to know you.  May God bless our worship and life together.

*LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE*

*ON THE VISITORS’ KIOSK OR YOU MAY ASK AN USHER*

**TODAY**

 9:30 AM Morning Worship Service

 11:00 AM Sunday School & Catechism Classes

 4:30 PM Dyer Nursing Home\*

 5:00 PM Evening Catechism Service

 6:15 PM Choir Practice\*

 6:30 PM Fusion\*

TODAY our services will be led by Dr. Alan Strange.  Dr. Strange is professor of Church History and Apologetics at Mid-America Reformed Seminary.  Dr. Strange is a pastor at New Covenant Community Church (OPC) in Joliet, Illinois.  His ministry here today is a reflection of the unity and fellowship expressed between the URCNA and the OPC at our joint meetings held at our church this past week.  May God bless us through the preaching of his servant.

DYER NURSING HOME: You are invited to join us today at 4:00 pm as we visit with the residents!

GEMS SUNDAY: Prior to our evening service, we will have a brief presentation by our GEMS in recognition of GEMS Sunday. The CURC GEMS thank the congregation for their continuing support for our GEMS program. PARENTS OF GEMS: Please have your daughter arrive at 4:30 pm to practice before the service. We will be meeting in the GEMS room. Please don't forget to have your daughter wear her GEMS shirt. Thank you!

CHOIR: For the month of March, our choir will begin practicing Sunday evenings following the evening service.  This is in preparation for Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter.  All teenagers and above are welcome to join us in singing beautiful and familiar songs of praise to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Savior.

FUSION will be meeting tonight, March 18th. Anyone post-high to 30 years old is welcome to join us for our meeting in the fellowship hall of Oak Glen URC at 2244 Indiana Ave in Lansing, IL, following Oak Glen's service (Around 6:30pm). We will be continuing our discussion on the Lord's Prayer and would love to see some new faces!

**THIS WEEK**

Monday 7:30 PM Men’s Society

Wednesday 1:00 PM Women’s Afternoon Bible Study

 Lesson 9

 Snacks: Sandi Eenigenburg & Pam Hart

 7:30 PM Council Meeting

Saturday 8:00 AM Men’s Forum

**FUTURE EVENTS**

March 25 5:00 PM Men of A-Chord join us for worship\*

March 25 6:30 PM Psalm 150 Praise Night\*

March 30 5:45 PM Good Friday Potluck\*

March 30 7:00 PM Good Friday Service\*

April 27-28 Men’s Retreat at Gull Lake, Michigan\*

June 21-24 Church Camping Trip\*

*\*See announcements for details*

*\*\*More information coming soon*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

BAPTISM: The elders have accepted David Muller's request to join our church.  David will be baptized during the morning service on April 8.  We praise God for His work in David's life in leading him to a life of discipleship with Jesus.  We pray that as part of our church family, he will be a blessing to us and that we will have many opportunities to be a blessing to him.

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The elders have accepted Robin Muller's request to join our church.  As part of becoming a member of our church, Robin will be reaffirming her faith during the morning service on April 8.  We pray that as part of our church family, she will be a blessing to us and that we will have many opportunities to be a blessing to her.

TRANSFER: the consistory has received the memberships of Scott and Lynette Swets from Faith Church in Dyer.  We will be welcoming the Swets as members on March 25, Lord willing.  May the Lord bless the Swets in our church family and continue to use them to be a blessing to us.

TRANSFER: At his request, a statement of membership for Michael Huizenga has been sent to the Exeter Presbyterian Church, Exeter, New Hampshire. May the Lord bless him in his new church home.

CONGRATULATIONS to Bryan and Deb Punter (and to Julian) in the birth of a son (and brother).  Augustine Jan Punter was born last Sunday, March 11.  May God bless this family as they grow together in grace and love.  *"Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward"* (Psalm 127:3).

THANK YOU: Thank you to all who helped make the joint meeting of Classis Central US (URCNA) and the Presbytery of the Midwest (OPC) go so smoothly.  Thanks to those who set up, helped with technology, and cleaned up.  A special thanks also to those who provided hospitality and food.  Keep praying for the work of these two bodies, and pray for a continuing sense of fellowship and unity between our churches.

THANK YOU: "Dear friends and family, We are so grateful for the love and support that you have shown to us these many months with your prayers, notes, hugs, food and companionship. You have been one the primary ways that God has sustained us and given us comfort in this time. Cassia is now jet lag free and in Scotland with David, after her (almost weeklong) ‘vacation,’ snowbound in Ireland.  It has been some adventure!  It was a wonderful few months spending in worship and thanksgiving with all of you.  One of the blessings of this time has been renewed friendships with you and a deepening appreciation for your branch of God’s family which my parents and siblings are part of, (and how your children have grown!)  You will be close in my thoughts and prayers.  Thanks be to God, and thank you dear family. Much love, David and Cassia Boyd"

COURIER: The deadline for the next issue is March 18. Articles may be placed in the Courier mailbox in the office or they may be emailed to the church at curcoffice@sbcglobal.net. Any interesting news items and photos of the congregation would be appreciated.

GOOD FRIDAY POTLUCK: You are invited to attend the Good Friday Potluck to be held on Friday, March 30 at 5:45 pm before the Good Friday Service which will be held at 7:00 pm. More details are in the flyer in your mailbox. Please sign up on the fellowship committee table with your name, how many are attending, and what you would like to bring (main dish, large salad, vegetable casserole or dessert). Beverages will be provided. Contact Lori or Tim Eenigenburg if you have any questions.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES:  Our Good Friday worship service is scheduled for Friday, April 14 at 7:00 pm.  During that service we will be celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.  Professing members of the congregation are encouraged to prepare themselves for the sacrament according to the apostle Paul's instructions in 1 Corinthians 11.

MEN OF A-CHORD: Next Sunday night (March 25), the Men of A-Chord men's choir will be joining us for our evening service.  They will be providing a ministry of music before and after the service.  Come join us, and invite your friends for an evening of praise!

MEN’S RETREAT: All men are invited to attend the Community Men’s Retreat, April, 27-28, 2018 at Gull Lake, Michigan! Building on the themes of discipleship, hospitality and mission we’ve been focusing on as a church, this overnight event will provide a relaxed setting to build friendships, enjoy times of learning and recreation, and foster greater unity as we seek to follow Christ together. Bill Boekestein, pastor of Immanuel Fellowship Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan will lead us in two sessions of teaching and discussion on the topics of male friendship and hospitality. Please consider making this event a priority as you plan your spring calendar. More details are on the flyer in your mailbox. Sign up on the member’s table. Contact Elder Derek Terpstra if you have any questions or need more information.

PEANUT-FREE COOKIE REQUEST: Due to allergies of members and visitors, we are transitioning towards making our church a peanut-free zone.  More information will follow, but for now, we do request that if you are bringing cookies, snacks, or meal to a church event, please refrain from bringing anything containing peanuts or cooked in peanut oil for the safety and peace of mind of those who attend Community.

PSALM 150 PRAISE NIGHT: Next week, March 25, after the evening service, all are welcome to join in a time of fellowship and praise.  We will be sharing a meal and praising God through song.  We will be focusing on hymns and psalms celebrating Lent. If you play an instrument, bring it!  For our potluck, the main course and dessert will be provided. We will be having corned beef and cabbage along with hot dogs ☺. If you plan on attending, please plan on bringing a salad and drink to share. If you have any questions, please ask Andy Anderson or Derek Terpstra.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: our Outreach Team is looking for a volunteer (or several) to serve as a representative to Illiana Right to Life and other local pro-life organizations.  We are looking to improve our communication with these important ministries.  If you are interested or have questions, please speak to Terry Krooswyk.

SUPPER CLUB – SPRING/SUMMER 2018: You are invited to join our church Supper Club. Supper Club is for all adults (single or married). It is a great way to get to know others in our church family! Please sign up on the kiosk and check the appropriate box if you would like to join, remain on the list, or if you would like to take your name off of the list. The deadline to sign up is March 25! See the flyer in your mailbox for more details! Call Karla Zandstra if you have any questions.

**URCNA MISSIONS – March 18, 2018**

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| United in Prayer: Up-to-date Requests from our Missionaries.**REV ZAC WYSE IS A CHURCH-PLANTER IN CINCINNATI, OH.**1) Give thanks for significant growth in our membership in the last year.  We've added about 25 souls to membership.2) Pray for wisdom as we assess our readiness to "organize" and become a self-governing URC.3) Give thanks for continued joy and peace in our church plant, and pray that the Lord would uphold us in it. |

**SERMON NOTES March 18, 2018 Dr. Alan Strange 9:30 am**

**DISCIPLINE**

**BY THE FATHER AS SONS**

Scripture Reading & Sermon Text: Hebrews 12:4-13 (p. 1008)

**SERMON NOTES March 18, 2018**

**Dr. Alan Strange 5:00 pm**

**PURSUING TRUE HOLINESS**

Scripture Reading & Sermon Text: Hebrews 12:14-17 (p. 1009)

**GEMS SUNDAY**

***SONG:  “LORD I LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH”***

Lord I lift your name on high.

 Lord I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life.

I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth.

To show the way.

From the earth to the cross.

My debt to pay.

From the cross to the grave.

From the grave to the sky.

Lord I lift your name on high.

**GEMS AIM** *- Micah 6:8 “He has told you, O man, what is good;
     and what does the Lord require of you*

*but to do justice, and to love kindness,
     and to walk humbly with your God?”*

**REMARKS AND THANKS -**Christine Hoekstra

**SONG:  “HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD”**

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty

Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice

He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide

and trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, all will see

How great, how great, is our God

Age to age He stands

And time is in His hands

Beginning and the end, beginning and the end

The Godhead three in one

Father, Spirit, Son

The lion and the lamb, the lion and the lamb

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, all will see

How great, how great, is our God

Name above all names

Worthy of our praise

My heart will sing how great is our God

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, all will see

How great, how great, is our God

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, all will see

How great, how great, is our God

**SCHEDULES**

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| **SERVING SUNDAY – MARCH 18, 2018** |
|  | AM | PM |
| COOKIES | Cindy Poortenga, Deb Punter, Cecelia Rietveld & Holly Root |  |
| COFFEE | Sandi Eenigenburg & Jess Hoekstra |  |
| GREETERS  | Mark & Lisa LaReauDennis & Laurie Mitchell | Jordan & Jess HoekstraTerry & Diane Krooswyk |
|  | FLOATER | Eric & Sarah LaReau | Howie & Karen Hoekstra |
| LIBRARY | Jennifer Bultema | Steve & Alison VanderWoude |
| NURSERY | INFANT | Kristen Huizenga | Tabitha Eenigenburg |
|  | FLOATER | Laurie Huizenga |  |
|  | TODDLER | Kathy & Brandon DeYoung | Kathy & Kyle Eenigenburg |
| USHERS  | Josiah De Boer, Micah De Boer, JAK Klapak, Joe Klapak & Josh Klapak, | Jason Krooswyk, Neil Krooswyk & Terry Krooswyk |
| WELCOME WAGON | Andy & Rose Anderson |  |

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| **SERVING SUNDAY – MARCH 25, 2018** |
|  | AM | PM |
| COOKIES | Carol Rottier, Judy Rottier, Laurie Rottier & Diane Siersema |  |
| COFFEE | Sandi Eenigenburg & Jess Hoekstra |  |
| GREETERS  | Keith & Sandi EenigenburgNick & Ashley Frederick | Dave BakkerBill & Alvina DeBoer |
|  | FLOATER | Darren & Caitlin DeBoer | Kurt & Laura Bultema |
| LIBRARY | Deb DeBoer | Jorie Rottier |
| NURSERY | INFANT | Marissa Heim | Linda DeYoung |
|  | FLOATER | Abbie Martin |  |
|  | TODDLER | Elizabeth & Christine DeYoung | Jodi, Joanne & James Klapak |
| USHERS  | Josiah De Boer, Micah De Boer, JAK Klapak, Joe Klapak & Josh Klapak, | Jason Krooswyk, Neil Krooswyk & Terry Krooswyk |
| WELCOME WAGON | Scott & Vikki Ooms |  |

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| **MARCH 2018 GIVING SCHEDULE** |
|  | **AM** | **PM** |
| 3/04/2018 | Elim Christian School | Classis Central U.S. |
| 3/11/2018 | DeMotte Christian School | Illiana Christian High School |
| 3/18/2018 | Reformed Youth Services | GEMS |
| 3/25/2018 | URCNA | Calvanist Cadet Corps |

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| **CURC GIVING – MARCH 11, 2018** |
| General Fund  | $ 11,207.00 |
| Benevolence Fund | $ 180.00 |
| Ceap Fund | $ 235.00 |
| AM: DeMotte Christian School | $ 40.00  |
| PM: Illiana Christian High School | $ 45.00 |

***SCRIPTURE FOR THE MORNING SERVICE***

**HEBREWS 12:4-13**

 **4**In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. **5**And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
    nor be weary when reproved by him.
**6**For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
    and chastises every son whom he receives.”

 **7**It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? **8**If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. **9**Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? **10**For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. **11**For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

 **12**Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees,**13**and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.

***SCRIPTURE FOR THE EVENING SERVICE***

**HEBREWS 12:14-17**

 **14**Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. **15**See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; **16**that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. **17**For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

**You are invited to attend a**

**Good Friday**

**Potluck**

**Before the service on Good Friday**

**March 30, 2018 at 5:45 pm**

Please sign up on the

MEMBERS TABLE

with your name,

how many are attending

&

Indicate what you

would like to bring.

You may choose one of

The following to bring

To the potluck:

(Beverages will be provided)

Main Dish

Large Salad
Vegetable Casserole

Dessert

Contact

Tim or Lori Eenigenburg

if you have any questions

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