

Ferry Log

Newsletter of Ferry Memorial Reformed Church ♦ March 2015

Search Process Continues

Believe it or not, we are moving into month six since FMRC formed a Search Team and started down this road of “searching” for a new pastor. The Team has talked frequently about: we are *less* searching for a pastor, and *more* searching God’s will for Ferry, *less* trying to replace Pastor Dick, and *more* trying to remain open to God’s future leadership of Ferry. We know God has already chosen our next pastor. This is a time to think and pray about our priorities, remind ourselves to what God has called us, reflect and define ourselves as a church while we listen for the Spirit’s direction.

A huge thank you to all who turned in a survey—so much great information! Sometimes we saw strong consensus, sometimes not so much consensus! It was clear Ferry is a church concerned with evangelism and outreach, Ferry has a deep commitment to being the “hands and feet of Christ.”

We are now moving into the next phase of “searching.” Our church profile has been sent to the RCA for review, and in a few weeks the Search Team will start receiving résumés or profiles of prospective pastors. Search Team will then review, check references, and start making a list for initial phone interviews. At the same time we will seek leading through prayer. Just as the congregation participated in the initial phases and survey we ask that you will continue to participate as we move forward. Please feel free to contact Search Team members with concerns but most of all pray for the Search Team, we need wisdom and patience as we move into this phase.

Keep Praying!

FMRC Search Team:

Dan Lownds, Bern Bolema, Renée Cherry, Shirley Dahl, Jeanne Flanders, Jim Franks, Margo Fredenburg, Bonnie Gouine, Joan Grasman, Leigh Johnson, Rachelle Johnson, Julie Knoester, Bill McClain, Dan Proctor, Lynn Ramthun, Gary Ransom

“5 Best Things About Kid Connection”

Wednesdays, 6-7:30 pm

I (Stacey Kozal) polled a couple of kids and asked them what their favorite things about Kid Connection were. Here is what they said:

5. The snacks!
4. Meeting up with friends and enjoying game time!
3. Singing, dancing, and crafts, oh my!
2. Learning about God through stories and being able to tell friends and family about what they learned at Kid Connection.
1. God always LOVES us!

Have you heard of this program?

Kid Connection is an elementary age program where kids learn about God through the use of fun games, songs, and most importantly lessons! We are very pleased with how this program has grown. Join us on Wednesday nights! Volunteers are always welcome. Please see Renée Cherry or Stacey Kozal if you have any questions.



Property Committee now in place!

Just like any building, our old church and new church need regular maintenance and care. Consistory has formed a Property Committee, with Gary Ransom as chair. There is a wonderful group of talented folks who have come on board to help—Ken Giddis, Neil Flanders, Ron Aulerich, Bob Steensma, Mark Grotenhuis and deacons Roger Grasman and Dick Parker. They are all “doers” with a wide range of experience. The main purpose of the committee is to care for existing facilities, and to repair things that break. The committee has just been formed and is doing a walkthrough of the facilities in early March. Already they have been busy! The Friendship House was without water in late February, and the Committee called the city of Montague to unfreeze the pipes in the street. There was no damage to the pipes in the Friendship House, and we are grateful to Gary for his quick work!

March Volunteers!

NURSERY



- 01 Dawn & Isabelle Auch, Kaitlyn Hamann
- 08 Eric & Rachel Weesies family
- 15 Rich & Gina Houtteman family
- 22 Margaret Amstutz, Dolly Wantuch, Seth Cherry
- 29 Mike & Lisa McGahan family

SOUND BOARD

- 01 Mark Grotenhuis
- 08 Jeff Cherry
- 15 Jeff Auch
- 22 Roger Grasman
- 29 Mark Grotenhuis



POWERPOINT

- 01 Ryan Springer
- 08 Elizabeth Cherry
- 15 Ann Jeffries
- 22 Ann Jeffries
- 29 Ryan Springer



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 01 Rachelle & Amanda Johnson
- 08 Deb Markel and Amanda Holman
- 15 Dan & Wanda Lownds family
- 22 Lindsay DeRose and Rachel Houtteman
- 29 Nick & Katie Bultema family



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME -

coffee preparers/servers

- 01 Tony & Sue Moulds
- 08 Dan & Janice Proctor
- 15 Lois Brinks & Carol Brand-Twa
- 22 Carol Witzke
- 29 Jeff & Dawn Auch



cookies/snacks providers

- 01 Brad & Susan Tate
- 08 Margaret Amstutz
- 15 Karen Bolema
- 22 Katie Bultema, Donna Rypma
- 29 Renée Cherry, Chris DeRose

Happy March Birthday!

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 01 Evan Ritchie | 16 Karen Lohman |
| 06 Marion Flanders | 17 Ethan Balon |
| 07 Jeanne Peterson | 17 Bob Steensma |
| 09 Pastor Nick Bowling | 18 Mark Grotenhuis |
| 09 Elizabeth Grotenhuis | 20 Abbey Vermeulen |
| 11 Makenzie McGee | 21 Mary Pyper |
| 12 Ann Beishuizen | 23 Ron Grinwis |
| 13 Alan Weesies | 24 Jake Schutter |
| 14 Mike Barnhardt | 26 Isabelle Auch |
| 14 MaKayla Kozal | 29 Steve Markel |
| 15 Donna Doornbos | 30 Tristyn Balon |
| 15 Alexandria Mahan | 31 Bill Peavler |
| 15 Jeanne Rypma | |



If we have missed
your birthday or anniversary,
please call Gloria in the church office
(894-9415) or email: fmrchurch@charter.net
and provide the missing information.
We would like to “recognize” your special date!

Do you want to volunteer? Contact:

- Greeters: Shelley Berson (893-6902)
- Coffee Fellowship: Gloria R. (894-9415)
- Nursery: Katie Bultema (894-0068) & Lynn Ramthun (557-2942)
- Sound: Jeff Cherry (894-2163)
- PowerPoint: Gloria R. or Pastor Nick (894-9415)
- Kids' Kloset: Gayle Strasser (760-9842)
- Children's Church: Gina Houtteman (894-4766) & Mandie Johnson (231-828-5655)
- Sunday School: Pastor Amy (894-9415)



S.O.S. meets weekly, full of energy and enthusiasm. They have been discussing the Psalms, and ideas in the Psalms. Psalm 23 talks of God as our Shepherd. What does it mean to be led?



Since many in the **Sr. High small group** are upperclassmen, they have been talking about college, stress, and concerns and hopes for their future.

March's **Sr. High service project is Kids' Night Out**, March 14 from 6-8 pm. This is a great chance to share Jesus' love with kids and get to know them! Come at 5:45 pm to help set up.

Canada bound! The **Sr. High summer mission trip** is to Ontario, Canada on June 27-July 4. The Sr. High will go with SERVE and stay at a Christian Reformed Church in the small town of Vanastra, joining 50 other kids from the USA and Canada to serve the communities around Vanastra. Work will include a Habitat for Humanity house, local food banks, creation care, and possibly street ministry in London, Ontario.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

For whom: Everyone!
When: each Tuesday, 10:00 am—11:30 am
Where: Fellowship Hall
What: Studying the book of Amos



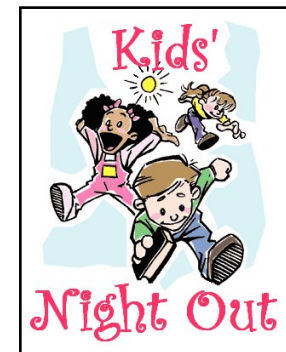
Ben Jeffries is the facilitator.
If you have questions, please contact Ben at 894-5043.

Please come!

Kids' Night Out

Saturday, March 14

6 pm-8 pm



Kids infant-5th grade (6-8 graders are welcome to help) are invited to play games with sr. high kids, make crafts, and eat a snack.

Parents:

This is time for you to relax, have a date night, or go out for coffee with a friend!

Drop off and pick up your kids anytime from 6-8 pm.

All kids K-5th grade are invited to a **Spring Saturday** at Montague United Methodist Church on March 21 from 10 am – 2 pm. Come for a Bible lesson, lunch, games and a fun kids' movie!

Rev. Amy de Groot Bowling, family and youth pastor

Rev. Nick Bowling, family and youth pastor

Gloria Rademaker, editor / deadline for next issue - March 23
