

Get Connected



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Birthdays and Anniversaries



- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1-Wyatt Terpstra | 11-Matthew Janssen |
| 3-Pete Keuning | Sarah Cerwinski |
| 5-Logan Beaver | Stone Turner |
| 6-Jerry Janssen | 14-Marilyn Bandstra |
| 7-Marilyn De Jong | 19-Brittany Dieleman |
| Gail Stewart | 21-Russ Van Hemert |
| Dan Terpstra | 22-Caryn Van Hemert |
| 8-Alex Van Den Broek | Mary Van Wyk |
| 9-Bill Van Waardhuizen | 26-Melanie Meinders |



27 ~ Al and Barb Kopaska

Mission and Vision of Connect Church

Mission

Connect People to Jesus

Vision

Disciples Made, Matured, Multiplied

Our Bowls of Broccoli

Thank you to all who showed interest in the previous article that I wrote. No one wrote me notes and left them in my mail box, but many came to speak with me concerning my and their bowl of broccoli. Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, well wishes, and food, it is very much appreciated.

When you shared your bowls with me, I was struck by the variety and depth of the feelings that go along with your bowls. I was somewhat aware of most of these situations but not the scares that we live with. I think I fell short of being a good listener. I need practice in not trying to fix, just listen.

I was struck also by the feeling that my bowl was not as bitter as some others. When difficulties affect our loved ones, rather than ourselves, there is more pain. Some of bowls last a few weeks or months, while others last a lifetime.

Where the bowls come from is a real issue for some. When we feel like there is a cause and effect relationship between our activities and the bowl we now suffer, that makes our bowl more difficult. These feelings do not come from God, they come from the evil one. Do not help him by trying to sort out how much you are responsible for. Our bowls of broccoli entered this world with sin and need to be left with him. John 9 addresses this when Jesus heals a man blind from birth. The disciples ask who sinned to cause his blindness, and Jesus corrects their thinking. That the Father might be glorified. That is how we need to view our bowls of broccoli. Even Solomon did not try to determine if difficulties come from cause and effect, from Satan, or from God. We know that God is in control of all these things, and we need to ask for His help in dealing with them. We need to deal with them in a way that honors Him.

I would like to share with you what was said concerning what was learned from our bowls of broccoli. Learning to deal with our bowls is a process, and God prepares us with smaller bowls. We are to help our friends and loved ones deal with their bowls. (I found that those who had suffered through their own bowls were the first to help me with mine, and knew best how to help.) Our bowls are easier when shared with others who care and pray for us. Bowls of broccoli make us into the people God wants us to be. Above all daily thank God for all He is, has done for us, has given us, gives us each day and will always be there for us. God will work these things to our good. Thank Him and Trust Him.

I think my next article will be a short one. Some of you have asked me about it, and I'm not trying to keep it a secret. The article will be "Choose Cheese". Cheese is what makes those less desirable veggies more palatable. I invite you to share with me what you think should be included in such an article. If you are pretty sure you know how to apply cheese to broccoli go for it. There is plenty of broccoli out there, and plenty of people who could use a little cheese.

Your brother in Christ

Case De Haan

Thank you

Thank you to those who sent Dad cards for his 84th birthday! Also, thank you to Bonnie for the cake and Dolores for the pie! Dad did not lack for desserts!

Also, thank you to the Shepherding team and congregation for sending out greeting cards to the shut-ins. Dad loves receiving them, and he reads them over and over.

We are so blessed to be part of such a caring church family!

Have a blessed Christmas season!

~ Blessings, Al Van Zee and Miss Leanna

A prayer group will be offered beginning in January! Look for the sign up sheet and info soon. Why am I excited about prayer group?

- 1) It keeps me more focused on the needs of our church, community and world because my mind doesn't wander so much while I'm praying with others.
- 2) It expands my prayers as others share their concerns, needs, etc.
- 3) It gives our prayers more unity as we listen and agree with the prayers of others.
- 4) It gives me encouragement and helps me feel more cared for when we lift each other in prayer.
- 5) It breaks down barriers and differences as we pray for each other - you can't stay mad at someone when you earnestly pray for them.

Perhaps you can think of other reasons why group prayer motivates you. We will be using Alvin Vander Griend's "The Joy of Prayer" devotional book to kick off each session.

~ Submitted by Celia Stouwie

Menu for the next Wednesday Night Supper ~ **January 15, 2020**

Lasagna

Lettuce salad

Garlic Bread

Angel food cake with strawberries and Cool Whip

Thank you ladies for all of your planning and preparation! Your food is always delicious and so appreciated!

Important Upcoming Dates

December 8 ~ Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins after a light lunch at church
(Lunch @ noon, caroling @ 1:00pm)

December 15 ~ Children's Christmas Service at 6pm with candle lighting

December 22 ~ Christmas Candlelight Service with Faith (@Faith) @ 6:00pm.

December 25 ~ Christmas Service at 9:30am

December 29 ~ Combined Old Year's Service @ Calvary CRC

Get Connected

Information

The purpose of *Get Connected* is to promote fellowship within the congregation and to keep everyone informed about what's going on at Connect Church. Anyone may write for *Get Connected*, suggest a story, share what's going on in your life! If there is a picture you have to go along with your submission and would like to share it, please include it. *Get Connected* editor reserves the right to shorten stories, and edit for clarity, spelling, and grammar, and style. Editor: Leanna Van Zee Submissions may also be placed in the *Leanna's* mailbox at church or emailed to the church office: leanna@connectchurchpella.org. Please visit our website @ www.connectchurchpella.org.



Schedules

Nursery Schedule

8 ~ Donna Janssen, Lu Ann De Haan, Brock Meinders

15 ~ Miss Leanna, Matthew Ver Meer, Maisy Meinders

22 ~ Mona Roozeboom, Donielle Ver Meer, Bria Van Soelen

Christmas ~ Darlene Keuning, Dolores Rooda, Logan Van Den Broek

29 ~ Judy De Vries, Will Keuning, Trenton Keuning

Greeters

8~ Case and Paula De Haan, Art and Marge Kuiper

15 ~ ~ Case and Helen Vande Ree, Barb Kopaska

22~ Harley and Karen Vermeer, Pat Callahan

Christmas ~ Harley and Karen Vermeer,
Pat Callahan

29 ~ Fred and Sandy Van Den Broek,
Berneda Steenhoek

Bulletin Delivery

December 1 ~ Ralph and Lu Ann
De Haan

December 8 ~ Helen Vande Ree

December 15~ Judy D V

December 22 ~ Marilyn Bokhoven

December 29 ~ Ralph and Lu Ann
De Haan

Projection

December 8 ~ Celia S

December 15 ~ Conner VW

December 22 ~ Marilyn

December 25 ~ Marilyn

December 29 ~ Austin

January 5 ~ Celia

Sound

December 8 ~ Tim C

December 15 ~ Wayne VW

December 22 ~ Bruce B

December 25 ~ Bruce B

December 29 ~ Sandy VDB

January 5 ~ Tim C

Fellowship

December 8 ~ Larry and La-
vonne

December 15 ~ Pete and
Darlene

December 22~ Tim and Pat

December 29 ~ Greg and
Marti

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 AM and PM worship @ Connect	2 Happy Quilters	3	4 GEMS/ Cadets/ Family Night Supper	5 Praise team practice	6	7
8 AM worship @ Connect/ Caroling to our shut-ins 2 1pm	9 Happy Quilters	10	11 YACS	12 Praise team practice	13	14
15 AM worship and PM worship @ Connect	16 Happy Quilters	17	18 GEMS/ Cadets/YACS skating party	19 Praise team practice	20	21
22 AM worship @ Connect/ PM Candlelight service @ Faith	23 NO Happy Quilters	24	25 Christmas Day service @ 9:30am	26	27	28
29 AM worship @ Connect/ PM Old Year's Service @ Calvary	30 NO Happy Quilters	31				