

# HIGHLIGHTS

## CARMEL REFORMED CHURCH

*“Can’t Wait For Sunday”*

**September, 2021**

Carmel Church Family,

Have you ever asked the question, “Why does Carmel Church exist?” Or what is our purpose, a small country church in the big world? What is God’s mission for our church? Over the past several months the leadership of Carmel Church has been asking, “Why do we exist and who we are?” The answer to these will help us discern our direction in the RCA as well as our pastoral search. When we are asking foundational questions such as why we exist, what we are asking is what is Carmel’s mission.

Carmel Church’s Mission Statement

***Carmel’s mission is to further Christ’s kingdom through loving God and loving others.***

While the mission statement seems simple, what does it mean? What questions come to mind? The first question that comes to mind is ‘what is Christ’s kingdom?’ Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of God almost more than any other topic in his brief ministry. Jesus preached sermons, initiated intimate discussion with his disciples, and proclaimed the good news about the Kingdom of God everywhere he went. So, what is the Kingdom of God?

Let’s first define a kingdom. A kingdom is a place where the king dwells with his people. Not only does the king dwell with his people, but the people of the kingdom reflect the character, purposes, and authority of their king in their devotion to him and their relationships with one another.

In God’s Kingdom, God is present with his people. You, the church are the people of God. When we reflect God’s character, purposes, and authority in our lives, we are living in the kingdom of God. The problem is sin broke our capacity to be in the presence of God, and if we can’t be in God’s presence, then we can’t be a part of his Kingdom. But the good news that Jesus proclaimed was God came to us. We cannot ascend to God, so God sent heaven down to us in Jesus Christ. He came to a broken and sinful world and gave his life so we might be saved through faith. Jesus has ushered all who believe in Him into the Kingdom of God by taking our sin from us and giving us His righteousness. When we place our faith in Christ, he gives us His Spirit so that we might be transformed into the likeness of Jesus. We begin to reflect God’s character, living out God’s purposes and submitting to God’s authority over our lives because of the Spirit’s work in and through us. Our mission is tied to our new identity in Christ as heirs in his Kingdom.

God is calling Carmel Church to continue the mission of furthering Christ’s Kingdom through loving God and loving others. We become like the ones we love. When we love God, we love what God loves, and hate what God hates. When we become like Christ, we advance Christ’s Kingdom by showing the world who God is. We also advance Christ’s Kingdom through loving others. We cannot love God without also loving His creation. We love others by giving out of our need, not just out of our wealth, by demonstrating humility instead of boasting, and by sharing the light of salvation in a dark world likely to reject it.

Carmel Church, our mission is not simply an organizational tagline, but a calling we all must live out in our daily lives. How can you further Christ’s Kingdom in your homes, schools, jobs, Sunday school classes, or corporate worship? Don’t just know the mission statement, live it!

Pastor Steve

(Take a look at the Values of Carmel Church on the next page.)

## **Our Values at Carmel Reformed Church**

### **Prayer**

We believe prayer is foundational to our relationship with God. We recognize we can do nothing apart from Christ, and prayer is our connection to Christ, the true vine.

*John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me, you can do nothing.*

### **Authority of Scripture**

We demonstrate our love for God by submitting to the authority of His word over our lives. The Bible is central to our preaching, teaching, worship, and ministries.

*Psalms 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.*

### **Hospitality**

We demonstrate our love for others through Hospitality. Everyone is welcome to worship with us at Carmel because we are all sinners in need of forgiveness and grace that is only available through Jesus Christ. While God loves us as we are, he loves us too much to leave us that way. Our desire is for everyone who worships with us to be transformed into the likeness of Christ through the work of the Spirit.

*1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.*

### **Family**

We believe the education and discipleship of our children and youth is a mandate of the church and family. We minister to our children and youth through Christ-centered and biblically-based teaching, worship, relationships, and mission opportunities in a wide variety of age-appropriate ministries. We believe spiritually healthy families are foundational to the witness of the church to a confused and dark world. We strive to encourage and support biblical marriages as well as provide resources and support for parents discipling their children.

*Deut. 6:4-9 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.*

### **Outreach**

Carmel Church believes in empowering our people to share the good news of Jesus in the communities in which they live and work. Carmel is a mission-minded congregation that is evidenced through our community impacting VBS, mission trips, and generous support for global and local mission partners.

*Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

### **Fellowship**

Carmel has a rich history of fellowship that spans generations. We value the gathering of God's people, young and old. We intentionally provide opportunities for multigenerational fellowship to share wisdom, fun, and joy.

*Psalms 145:4 "One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."*

### **Unity in Worship**

One of the ways Carmel is unique is the gathering of people from several communities in our area to worship together as one body furthering Christ's kingdom. We strive to be a unified Body of Christ because we are one in Christ Jesus.

*Eph. 4:3-6 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*



The Nursery will once again be staffed for the Sunday morning worship service. This will begin on September 12. The nursery will be open for parents at the evening service but **WILL NOT** have any nursery attendants.

- September 12:** Kayti Beukelman, Londa Boogerd, Nancy Boogerd, Nora Boogerd.
- September 19:** Amanda Borchers, Brooke Byker, Brody Van Voorst, Brynn Van Voorst.
- September 26:** Ruth De Jager, Danica DeMeester, Akenna Sandbulte, Kavri Van Kekerix.
- October 3:** Lynna DeWit, Jackie Huizenga, Raia Downs, Gabe Lerma.

PLEASE find a substitute or trade with some one, if you are unable to be in the nursery.  
**Please substitute an adult for an adult!**

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**REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE**

R - serve on Sunday morning; C - each bring 5 dozen cookies.

- September 5 - R-**Dale Woudstra, Marlin Van Voorst; **C-**Mimi Sandbulte, Alice Remmerde, Jo Te Grotenhuis, Erica Robertson, Eug. Sandbulte.
- September 12 - R-**John Leusink, Verlyn Van Regenmorter.
- September 19 - R-**Denny De Jong, Mike Haverhals. **C-**Kaye Kuyper, Teresa Sandbulte, Hazel Haverhals, Helen Vande Vegte, Mary Lou Verburg.
- September 26 - R-**Jerry Renes, Hans Smolders; **C-**Carmen Maassen, Carol Langstraat, Anita Van Ravenhorst, Doree Wolfswinkel, Cheryl Sandbulte.
- October 3 - R-**Tom Zwart, Dale Woudstra; **C-**Amy Rozeboom, Ryan Oostra, Amy McAlpine, Misty Zwart, Gabi Luevano.

Are you looking for a way to serve in Carmel Church?? We are looking for a few more people who would be willing to serve refreshments on Sunday morning. Contact the church office if we can add your name to the list.



Call the church office by noon on Monday, to let us know who your special music will be. If you are unable to have special music the scheduled time, please try to exchange with someone.

Top name is AM; bottom is PM:

- Sept. 5 - Lyle Diekevers  
Jo Dirksen
- Sept. 12 - Brent Downs  
Brianna Even
- Sept. 19 - Henrietta Farmer  
Dan Fedders
- Sept. 26 - Scott Fischer  
Brian Frangenberg
- Oct. 3 - Leon Franken  
Tyler Franken
- Oct. 10 - Amanda Friedrichsen  
Tim Gesink
- Oct. 17 - Mike Haverhals  
Chad Hoekstra
- Oct. 24 - Austin Hofman  
Loren Hooyer
- Oct. 31 - Phil Hooyer  
John Horstman

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Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Cole Rozeboom (Dennica VanDer Weide) who were united in marriage on August 7, in Carmel Church. The newlyweds are making their home in Inwood.

Dennica is a Med-Aid working at Whispering Heights in Rock Valley and Cole is a machinist at Siouxland Machine in Rock Valley.

Cole is the son of Kelly and Gina Rozeboom.

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**NEW ARRIVAL**

Congratulations to Brad and Tasha Oostra on the birth of a daughter, Jessa RaeAnn on July 29. She weighed 5 lbs. 15 oz. and was 18.75 inches long. She has a big brother Jaxson, who is 3, to welcome her to the family. Carmel Church grandparents are Orlin and Kristi Oostra.



**Sunday, September 12**  
**After the morning service**

Looking to get plugged in or find out what ministries Carmel has for you and your family. Plan to stay after the morning service on Sunday, September 12 and check out the various ministries of Carmel Church. Each ministry at Carmel from children to adult ministries will have a table or booth where you can learn more about what Carmel has to offer. AND there will be those yummy "Spudnuts" donuts for you to enjoy while you visit the various tables. You "Donut" want to miss this opportunity to learn about the ministries of Carmel Church!!

When the bell rings parents are encouraged to take your kids and find their classroom and meet their teacher. This is for TinyTots thru High School Seniors.

We hope you will join us for this time, but most of all we covet your prayers for all the various ministries of Carmel Church.

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Nick Van Regenmorter graduated from NCC with an Associate of Applied Science in Truck and Diesel Technology degree. He is working at Mouw Motor Co. in Sioux Center.

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The Jr. RCYF will be selling Sub Sandwiches as a fundraiser. Subs are great for school lunches, in the tractor or you can freeze them and enjoy later.

They are offering four types of subs:

- Turkey and cheese; Ham and cheese;
- 3-meat (turkey, ham, roast beef) and cheese;
- 3-meat (turkey, ham, bacon) and cheese

Order forms are in your mailbox or you can order from a Jr. RCYF member. **Order by September 5.** They will be ready for pickup on Sunday, September 19. Or if you ordered from an RCYF member, they will deliver them to you.



Jr. RCYF (for 7th & 8th graders) will kick-off the year on Sunday, September 12, from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Ross and Nikki Hulstein's home. There will be fun and games and supper will be provided. Parents can pick up their kids at 8:00. Hope to see all the 7th & 8th graders there.

The Sr. RCYF will have their kick-off on Sunday, August 29, 4:00 - 7:30 p.m. at Sandy Hollow with a time of food, fellowship and games. They will meet at church at 4:00 and travel to Sandy Hollow together.

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Mark your calendar for Wednesday, September 22, and plan to attend the Sr. RCYF's "50's Night" fundraiser. For a freewill donation they will be serving taverns, hotdogs, co-neys, chips and of course Rootbeer floats. Serving will be from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the parking lot behind the church. (In case the weather is bad, it will be held indoors.) So come out and enjoy the fun and bring a friend. You are also welcome to show off your classic car as well!!

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**WOMEN'S LIFE KICK-OFF!**

Mark your calendars for our Women's Life Kickoff Surprise on Tuesday night, September 21! We are planning a fun night for all the women of Carmel Church! Visit our Women's Life Table after church on Sunday, September 12th to find out what the big surprise is AND to sign up for the fall Bible Studies being planned!

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**Bible Quiz**

How many times in the Old Testament do people cross a body of water on dry ground?

- A. once
- B. twice
- C. three times
- D. four times

Answer: C (See Exodus 14; Joshua 3; 2 Kings 2)

## CARMEL GEMS



This year our theme is UNSHAKEABLE - which is perfect considering how we all have felt in the unshakeable world, especially these past 2 years! As we all navigate through this crazy time as parents of girls, we know they will not outgrow troubles, but we can overcome them when we place our trust in our unshakeable God!

*Truly he is my rock and my salvation;  
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken!*  
Psalm 62:2!

This year we are adding 2nd graders to our GEMS. We can start equipping our beautiful girls with sharing the joy and love of Jesus! God has provided amazing Jesus loving GEMS Counselors over the years and I am so excited for our new ones this year!

Counselors: Lindsay Kor, Amanda Haverhals, Amy Davelaar, April Kooi, Brynn Van Voorst, Amy Yoerger, Mimi Sandbulte, Kelsi Noteboom, and Jami Sandbulte. Craft Counselors: Anita Van Ravenhorst and Fonda Post. Prayer Friends: Mary Lou Verburg and Vicki Fischer. Kitchen Team: Anita Soodsma, Rashaylee and Shanelle Soodsma. Treasurer: Jolene Horstman. Club Coordinator: Kris Van Voorst.

In the middle of September the GEMS will be starting their annual fundraiser. You will be able to order "Pampered Chef" items, "Eileens frozen Cookie Dough" and an assortment of cards and misc. items! There will be an order sheet in the library and you will also be able to order online! The library has a large assortment of cards that you can purchase any time!

Who - All 2nd - 8th Grade Girls

What - Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior

Where - Carmel Church

When - 2nd - 6th Grade meet Monday nights.

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

7th - 8th Grade meet Wednesday night

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Please cover Carmel GEMS with prayers that we may be able to spread the love of Jesus and remind the girls they are LOVED!

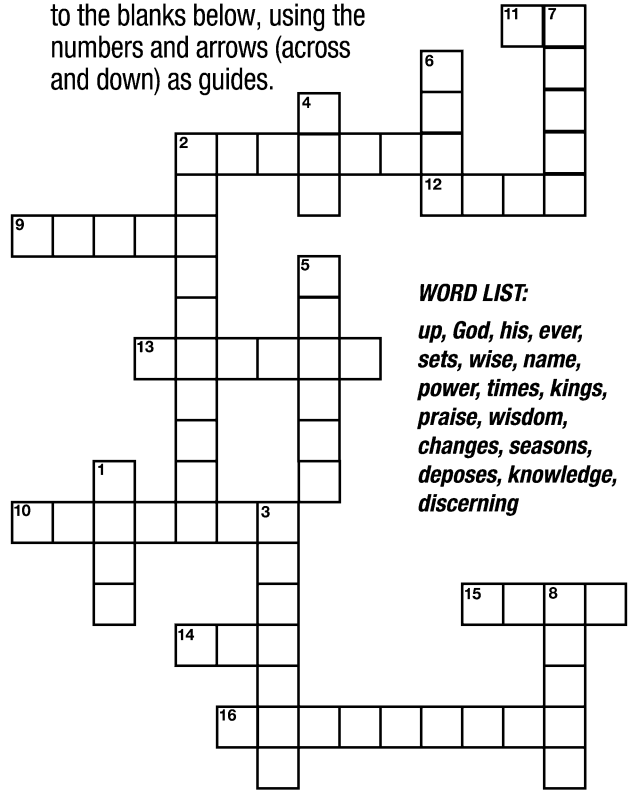
Standing Firm on God's Promises,  
Kris Van Voorst

## CADET KICK-OFF

The Cadets will kick-off their year on Monday, September 21, with a hotdog roast and a ball game. All 2nd - 8th grade boys, and their dads are invited. We will start at 6:00 p.m. at church. Be sure to bring your baseball glove!!

# Puzzle!

Fit these words from the book of Daniel into the squares. Then transfer them to the blanks below, using the numbers and arrows (across and down) as guides.



### WORD LIST:

*up, God, his, ever, sets, wise, name, power, times, kings, praise, wisdom, changes, seasons, deposes, knowledge, discerning*

" \_\_\_\_\_ be to the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
13→                      1↓                      4↓                      12→                      12→  
 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_. He \_\_\_\_\_  
5↓                      7↓                      14→                      10→                      8↓  
 and \_\_\_\_\_ ; he \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
3↓                      15→                      11→                      9→                      2→  
 them. He gives \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to  
5↓                      6↓                      16→  
 the \_\_\_\_\_ ." DANIEL 2:20-21  
2↓

Answer: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning." Daniel 2:20-21



## Deacon's Corner – SEPTEMBER

**Sound System Update:** Our new sound system installation has been completed. We appreciate your continued patience as we become familiar with the new system and as our volunteers in the sound room continue to train and learn all the new capabilities of the new system.

**Painting:** Painting of the interior of our church building has begun, to update and refresh these areas. We ask for your patience as we continue to work on this project and to complete this project by mid-September.

**Audio/Video Building Improvement Goal:** We are getting closer to reaching our goal of \$150,000.00 for the above projects. We still have approximately \$14,000.00 to raise as of the end of August to meet this goal.

Thank you for your continued support with your tithes and offerings for Carmel Church.

**Outreach Fund** – The Outreach Fund is available to assist Carmel Reformed Church members participation in mission projects/trip by providing financial assistance for registration and travel expenses. This does not include normally scheduled JR/SR youth group trips. The fund will reimburse ½ of travel and registration costs up to \$500.00 per individual per calendar year. Please contact the Outreach Fund deacon Monty Prins, or one of the other deacons for an application form.

**Christian Care** – The Christian Care Fund is available to assist with financial needs for those who are encountering difficult circumstances and are struggling to cover their basic financial needs. Please see the Christian Care Fund deacon, Marlin Sandbulte, if you are in need of assistance.

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### **KINGDOM BOUNDARIES ANNUAL BANQUET**

Kingdom Boundaries will be hosting a banquet to celebrate what God has done over the last 8 years. Mark your calendar for Monday, September 13, at New Life Reformed Church in Sioux Center. In addition they will present KB's vision for the future.

The doors will open at 5:00 p.m. There will be time to visit with staff, residents, and other friends of KB. The meal will be at 6:00, with the program to follow. The program will consist of testimonials, a ministry update which includes the vision to expand and build a new facility. Lastly, there will be a live and silent auction. More information will be coming soon.

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### **BIBLE LEAGUE CONFERENCE**

Bible League Volunteers will host the "Spreading the Fragrance of Life" Conference on September 21, at First Reformed Church in Sioux Center. Keynote speaker Kelli (Kredit) Gotthardt, worship leader Lora Ranken, and ministry director in Indonesia Thony Ronaldo, will be a part of this special conference. We also hope you will join friends and Bible League International representatives for dinner on Monday evening, September 20. Both events will be at First Reformed Church in Sioux Center. Tickets are available online at [bibleleague.org/tickets](http://bibleleague.org/tickets) through September 12. Brochures are also in your church mailbox.

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*"Education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire."* —William Butler Yeats



## September

- 2 - The Eddie Vander Weide's
- 3 - Jayse Niemeyer  
Mrs. Ashley Laackmann
- 4 - Kyle Wolfswinkel  
Mrs. Laura Van Ravenswaay  
Mrs. Hazel Haverhals  
The Kevin Sandbulte's  
The Lyle Diekevers'
- 6 - Mrs. Shelly Klarenbeek
- 7 - Monty Prins
- 8 - Shawn Sandbulte  
Curt Vander Vliet
- 9 - Marcus Van Voorst  
Mrs. Alison Glade  
Mrs. Lindsay Kor  
The Matt Segar's
- 10 - Katie Van Maanen  
Dennis De Jong  
The Brad Beukelman's  
The Mark Swets'  
The Bill Riphagen's
- 11 - Lennyx Koedam  
Attyson Prins  
The Monty Prins'  
The Terry Koedam's  
The Warren Post's
- 12 - Ty Vande Vegte  
Anthony Janisch  
Mrs. Courtney Mesman  
Larry Wolfswinkel  
The Steve Rozeboom's
- 13 - Ayda Maassen  
Avery Sandbulte  
Mrs. Jaimee Vonk
- 14 - Ethan Frangenberg  
The Warren Vonk's
- 15 - Josie Schelling  
Mrs. Rachel Moss  
The Rob Sayles'
- 16 - Kaylee Anderson  
Mrs. Tonia Woudstra  
Herb Kuyper
- 17 - Alaynna Nibbelink  
Johnny Van Voorst  
The Wally Valentine's
- 18 - Damon Downs  
Charlotte Leusink  
Mrs. Becky Vanden Brink
- 19 - Mrs. Evelyn Klaahsen
- 20 - Julie Sandbulte  
Beth Te Grotenhuis  
The Eric Van Roekel's
- 21 - The Brian Klarenbeek's
- 22 - Zach Renes  
Seth Haverhals  
Evelyn Moss
- 23 - Heather Brunsting  
Mrs. Amanda Friedrichsen  
Gary Sandbulte  
John Kleyer
- 24 - Mrs. Deb Swets  
The Derick Niemeyer's  
The Jack Soodsma's
- 25 - Emma Zwart  
Mrs. Sherri Wolfswinkel
- 28 - Mrs. Stephanie Schelling  
Mrs. Deb Fedders  
The Leon Franken's  
The Marlin Van Voorst's
- 29 - Blake Bomgaars
- 30 - Remington De Wit  
Ruthie Vanden Brink  
Gracie Vanden Brink  
Austin Vande Vegte  
Mrs. Anita Soodsma

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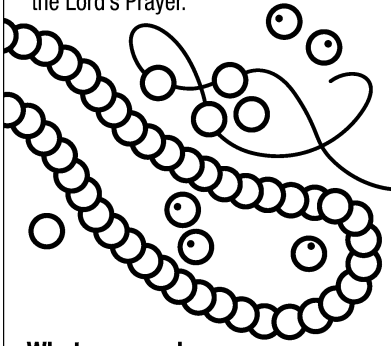
### THE MIRACLE OF SUMMER

A team of Sunday school teachers faced boisterous youngsters on Rally Day, the start of a new education year. Because kids were reuniting after a break, they were eager to chat about vacations. To restore order, a teacher asked the children to take turns sharing a favorite Bible verse, story or miracle. One, who still had summer on the brain, exclaimed, "I like the time when everybody loafs and fishes!"



## Prayer bracelet

Make this craft to help you remember the Lord's Prayer.



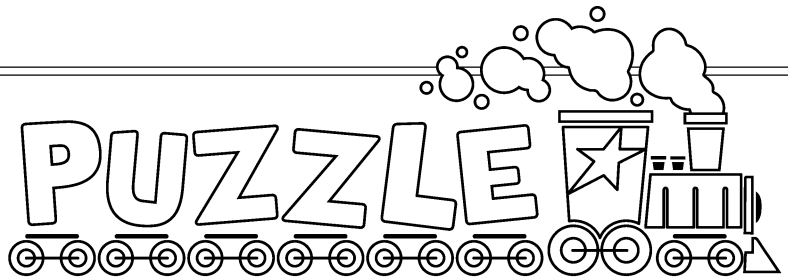
### What you need:

- Elastic string (12 inches)
- Colored beads (see below)
- Clear nail polish

### What you do:

1. Knot the string at one end. Add beads in this order: blue, white, gold, green, yellow, red, black, orange
2. Tie the ends so the bracelet fits your wrist. Place a dot of nail polish to secure the knot. Trim excess string.
3. As you pray, use the bead colors as reminders of Jesus' words (see Matthew 6:9-13):

- **blue** = the Father
- **white** = God's holiness
- **gold** = God's kingdom
- **green** = the earth
- **yellow** = wheat (bread)
- **red** = Christ's blood (forgiveness)
- **black** = temptation
- **orange** = God's power to deliver



## Teach us to pray

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

*Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.*

party - t = **p r a y** (v. 1)

lady + i = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 3)

drab + e = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 5)

rod + o = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 7)

bask - b = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

keeps - p = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

define - ee = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

shift - t = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 11)

sneaky - y = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 11)

sift + g = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 13)



What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13)

Answer: pray, daily, bread, door, ask, seek, find, fish, snake, gifts, Holy Spirit