

HIGHLIGHTS

CARMEL REFORMED CHURCH

“Can’t Wait For Sunday”

March, 2022

Carmel Church Family,

One of the most common phrases among Christians is, “I’ll pray for you” or “I will pray for that.” In our eagerness to do the “Christian” thing and pray, do we every stop and wonder, how are we to pray? How would you teach a new Christian or your children to pray? I imagine in our current tech savvy world; we might just google it. Or ask our phone, “Hey Siri, how do I pray?” Before you do this, I want to encourage you to go to the best resource on prayer. Jesus, in the sermon on the mount teaches his disciples how to pray. He gives them a guideline, not a prayer to simply memorize. He gives them a template in which to orient their thoughts and minds on God and his will for their lives. Let’s look at this prayer together. (Matt. 6:9-13)

Our Father in heaven

Jesus teaches us to begin with an address to *Our Father*. Jesus reminds us that we are praying to our Heavenly dad, not some impersonal figure. The one who will never leave us, nor forsake us. God is *Our Father*, and we belong to him. God is intimate with his creation and desires a relationship with us. We pray in a way that reflects God’s desire for his children to call him, Dad.

Hallowed be your name

Simply, we recognize God’s holiness. God is set apart, above all creation for he is not created, but creator. We are giving honor to God as the name above all names.

Your Kingdom Come

The next guideline or directive is to pray for God’s kingdom to come. What is his kingdom? A kingdom is where the king and his people dwell. The kingdom of God is where God and his people dwell! We pray for God’s kingdom to be realized here on earth, even if in a small way. God and man together because of the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. We are to pray for God’s kingdom to come through fellowship with one another and with God. We also look forward to the full return of Christ and the fullness of the kingdom at that time.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

When we pray that God’s will be done, we are aligning our desires with God’s agenda. We are praying for God’s plan to be worked out and desiring to seek his will, not our own. In a sense, we are humbling ourselves and seeking God’s will for the present and the future. The posture of humility is the proper posture of prayer.

(continued on Page 2)

Give us this day our daily bread

Now that we have aligned ourselves with God's will, we then bring our daily needs before him. We are not telling God anything he doesn't know, but rather acknowledging our dependency upon him for the things we need. Praying for daily bread also reminds us of God's faithfulness to the Israelites in the wilderness who were fed daily by manna from heaven. God is the great provider, go to him with your daily needs.

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Jesus teaches us to confess and seek forgiveness from the Father. We all have sinned and fallen short. We all need forgiveness that comes through Jesus' death on the cross. Through Christ we are forgiven from God of an insurmountable debt, we too are to forgive those who sin against us. When we fail to forgive others, Jesus teaches that our father in heaven will not forgive us. We must not just be a forgiving people, but a forgiving people.

Do not bring us into temptation.

God does not tempt us, but Satan can teach a master class on temptation. We need God to lead us away from temptation, allow us to recognize it, fight it, and flee from it. The problem is that we often don't realize we are being tempted until we sin. God's desire is for you to fix your eyes on Jesus, follow him and allow him to direct your paths. He will lead you away from temptation, not toward it.

The Lord's prayer is a beautiful and simple way to learn how to pray. Prayer is not a bunch of fancy words or a formula to fill out, but a way to connect with God in a meaningful way. My prayer for Carmel Church is that we become a people of prayer.

All for Jesus,
Pastor Steve



Deacon's Corner



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.



March 6: Amanda Borchers, Jackie Huizenga, Tyke Van Kekerix, Josie Bomgaars.

March 13: Nikki Hulstein, Alys-sa Kuyper, Grace Van Roekel, Hannah Van Roekel.

March 20: Ashley Laackman, Kiley Landman, Nancy Boogerd, Nora Boogerd.

March 27: Amy McAlpine, Nikki Melton, Sarah Boogerd, Heidi Boogerd.

April 3: Becky Oschendorf, Kristi Segar, Gabby Prins, Jennie Boogerd.

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.

March 6 - R-Doug Van Beek, Denny De Jong; **C-**Jo Te Grotenhuis, Erica Robertson, Eug. Sandbulte, Kaye Kuyper, Teresa Sandbulte.

March 13 - R-Dale Woudstra, Mike Haverhals; **C-**Tonia Woudstra, Sarah Nibbelink, Shelly Sandbulte, Rachel Terpstra, Clarice Van Maanen.

March 20 - R-Jerry Renes, Hans Smolders; **C-**Donna Renes, Sue Noteboom, Sherri Wolfswinkel, Glenda Van Meeteren, Rachel Van Roekel.

March 27 - R-John Leusink, Verlyn Van Regenmorter ; **C-**Sandi Vonk, Nora Bohl, Hannah Smolders, Lin De Jong, Rhonda Sandbulte.

April 3 - R-Doug Van Beek, Marlin Van Voorst; **C-**Fonda Post, Ronda Leusink, Colleen Bomgaars, Frieda Bartels, Mimi Sandbulte.

April 10 - R-Mike Haverhals, Dale Woudstra; **C-**Hazel Haverhals, Helen Vande Vegte, Mary Lou Verburg, Carmen Maassen, Carol Langstraat.

We are **in need of** a few more people who would be willing to serve refreshments. Please step up and volunteer your time so we can continue to provide refreshments on Sunday mornings. Contact the church office if you can help us out.



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:

- Mar. 6 - Adam Nibbelink
Melinda Nibbelink
- Mar. 13 - Sr. RCYF
Jr. RCYF
- Mar. 20 - Josh Meendering
Derick Niemeyer
- Mar. 27 - GEMS
Jerry Noteboom
- April 3 - Kelsi Noteboom
Eric Ochsendorf
- April 10 - Nursery Choir
Brad Oostra
- April 17 - Orlin Oostra
Ryan Oostra
- April 24 - Trevor Pieper
Darwin Post

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It's time to update our Carmel Church phone directory. This year we ask for your cooperation in making sure all the information is correct and up to date. Maybe you've moved in the last year, or your phone number is different, or you no longer have a land line phone. Please inform us of these changes. Please turn in your information and save us a phone call. When you have it filled out, you may put the sheet in the box on the Coffee Station. Everyone's cooperation would be very much appreciated!!

If you are a regular attender at Carmel Church but not yet a member and would like to be included in our directory as a "friend of our church", please pick up a sheet from the Coffee Station and fill it out. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



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SAVE THE DATE

All volunteers involved in our education programs are invited to an Appreciation Supper on Wednesday, March 23, 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This includes S.S. teachers, helpers, officers, music leaders, LFC teachers, helpers and Bible Study leaders, GEMS and Cadet Counselors, Jr. and Sr. RCYF Sponsors, and VBS Directors, along with your spouse or guest. Childcare will be provided.

A great meal and fun evening has been planned for these individuals and we hope you can come and enjoy this time as we show our appreciation to our education volunteers!!

Please sign up at the Coffee Station in the Fellowship Hall or let the church office know if you will be attending. Also note if you need childcare. Please do so by **March 13.**

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YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, March 13 will be Youth Sunday. The Sr. RCYF will lead the morning service and the Jr. RCYF will lead the evening service. The morning special offering will be for Sr. RCYF and the evening offering for Jr. RCYF.

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SR. RCYF TACO SUPPER AND AUCTION FUNDRAISER

The Sr. RCYF will have a Taco Supper and Auction Fundraiser on Wednesday, March 30. They will have a Taco supper for a freewill donation. They will also have a silent auction of items donated by Sr. RCYF members. They will have the auction items on display in the Fellowship Hall beginning March 20. You can check out the items and make your silent bids on your favorite items. The silent auction will end on March 30. So come on out and enjoy some tacos and bid on the auction items.



SUPPER

GEMS Update

Carmel GEMS have been learning about God's UNSHAKEABLE promises this year!! It is hard to believe we only have 3 meetings left and GEMS Sunday!!

February 7 our lesson was on I am a World Changer! We welcomed Taunya De Weerd to our meeting! Taunya and Garry live in Haiti and run an after school program providing tutoring, mentoring, Bible teachings and a daily meal. Carmel GEMS mission for Christmas was for Bibles for the 2nd-8th Graders that attend Kingdom Kids. The girls asked questions and were able to see pictures of life as a Haitian girl. If you would like to know more information on Kingdom Kids there is a Facebook page : Kingdom Kids of Haiti.

Important dates to remember:

March 7 – 2nd-6th Grade

March 21 – 2nd-6th Grade

March 27 is GEMS Sunday – 2nd-8th Grade - please be at church by 9:15 am and we will sit as a group.

April 4 – 2nd- 8th Grade will meet and be celebrating the 5

UNBREAKABLE PROMISES OF GOD:

I AM LOVED

I AM NOT ALONE

I AM STONG

I AM FORGIVEN

I AM A WORLD CHANGER

Carmel GEMS has been blessed with such a wonderful group of counselors, craft leaders and prayer ladies!

Being part of GEMS is building relationships with girls of all ages, from all different schools, different backgrounds and showing them what it is like to be part of the Sisterhood of Jesus Christ!

If you need greeting cards the church library has tons of options!!

Standing Firm on God's promises,
Kris Van Voorst – Club Coordinator



MARCH

- 2 - Sara Kleyer
The Ron Dieck's
- 3 - Baylor Sayles
Mrs. Carol Langstraat
The Nate Maassen's
- 4 - Rachel Wynia
- 5 - Gracelyn VanWyhe
- 6 - Gracie Bloemendaal
Peter Vonk
Mason Vander Lugt
- 7 - Blake Niemeyer
Aiden Madsen
Karrigan Glade
The Glenn Lange's
- 8 - Mrs. Abby Madsen
- 11 - Nikki Melton
Rebecca Hooyer
Jared Terpstra
- 13 - Izabella Klein
Travis Even
Mrs. Kayla VanWyhe
Mrs. Jackie Huizenga
Randy Vande Vegte
Harlan Van Maanen
- 14 - Mrs. Janice Luevano
- 15 - Nyiah Gesink
- 16 - Elliott Landman
Kevin Sandbulte
Mrs. Fonda Post
The Scott De Jong's
- 18 - Lucas Sandbulte
Anthony Rau
Rod Van Ravenswaay
- 19 - The Rodney Sandbulte's
- 20 - The Ron Schmith's
- 21 - Grady Friedrichsen
Scott Fischer
Herb Remmerde
- 22 - Brian Klarenbeek, Sr.
Orlin Oostra
Mrs. Jo Dirksen
- 23 - Evan Van Meeteren
Charity Hooyer
Mrs. Janet Brunsting
- 24 - Mrs. Shalee Hofman
Warren Post
The Hans Smolders'
- 25 - Samuel McAlpine
- 26 - Mrs. Taylor Punt
- 27 - Mrs. Danita Nellore
- 28 - Sofia Sandbulte
Steve Sandbulte
- 30 - Jada Ochsendorf
- 31 - Everly Hulstein



Carmel VBS

Carmel VBS 2022 will be held June 6-10. Join us for Zoomerang as kids will discover that life is valuable. From the tiniest to the oldest, each person is made in the image of God—wonderfully designed to know him and live for him!

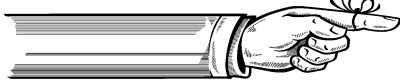
Registration for Carmel members and regular attenders children and grandchildren will be open March 13 to March 27. Watch the bulletin and e-mails for more details. Registration for the public will open March 30. The Directors covet your prayers as they gear up for VBS!

Jolene Horstman Emily Meendering Stephanie Schelling
Becky Ochsendorf Jennifer Prins Taylor Wolfswinkel



PRAYER

RE M I N D E R



Use this fun family activity to remember to pray for other people.

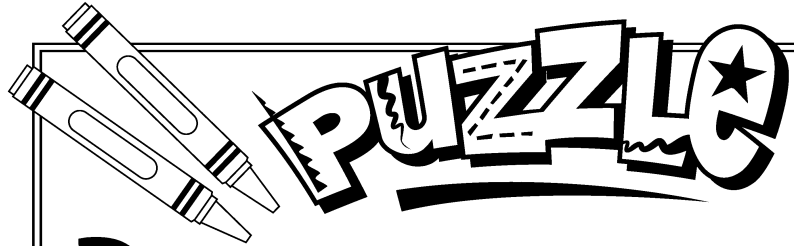
What you need:

- White index cards (at least six)
- Markers or colored pencils (red, orange, yellow, green, blue and brown)
- M&M's candies



What you do:

1. On each card, write a group of people to pray for (family members, friends, teachers, sick people, etc.). Use a different color of writing utensil for each card.
2. While sitting at a table, divide the M&M's among family members.
3. Spread out the cards and explain that each color represents a group of people to pray for. Have each family member choose one candy and consider who they'll pray for.
4. Designate one person to start praying aloud. Go around the circle, and have the last person close.
5. At the end of that round, eat those M&M's.
6. Continue until you've prayed for all the cards. (Make more, if you'd like!)



POWER OF PRAYER

When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do – any time and anywhere.

Directions: Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

1 apple anxious artichoke	2 every eagle emu	3 purple pink prayer	4 Paul petition Peter	5 taste touch thanksgiving
6 rest requests relax	7 God George Greg	8 puddle peace pond	9 transcends train truck	10 unusual unique understanding
11 guard giraffe gorilla	12 hearts hold held	13 many minds more	14 Philadelphia Pennsylvania Philippians	

“Do not be _____¹ about anything, but in _____² situation, by _____³ and _____⁴, with _____⁵, present your _____⁶ to _____⁷. And the _____⁸ of God, which _____⁹ all _____¹⁰, will _____¹¹ your _____¹² and your _____¹³ in Christ Jesus.” _____¹⁴ 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians