

HIGHLIGHTS

CARMEL REFORMED CHURCH

"Can't Wait For Sunday"

April, 2022

Carmel Church Family,

Have you ever tried to rip a piece of paper, or piece of cloth and found it more difficult than you thought? Can you imagine trying to rip a phone book or even harder a curtain that is 3 inches thick? One of the most pivotal moments in history is marked with a curtain that was torn from top to bottom.

Jesus, after being betrayed by Judas, rejected by Peter, falsely accused, wrongfully beaten, and sentenced to crucifixion; carried his cross up the hill of Calvary. He was nailed to the cross, first his wrists and then his feet. The crown of thorns digging into his head as the cross was put into place. He was mocked, spat at, and scorned. How did he respond to the soldiers? He said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they are doing." Then cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" The Son experienced the forsakenness of his heavenly Father because of our sin. Jesus experienced the weight of our sin upon his shoulders. The wrath of God pouring out upon His perfect Son in our place.

2 Corinthians 5:21 "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

After expressing his extreme thirst, a soldier standing nearby lifted a sponge filled with a sour wine or vinegar up to him. According to historical accounts, Roman soldiers used these sponges to wipe after they relieved themselves when they were on duty. After all this humiliation, Jesus spoke three words and then gave up his spirit. Jesus' final words on the cross, were three of the most important words uttered in the course of history, "It is finished!" Then, he died. Jesus paid the debt for our sin, he accomplished what he set out to do. Then Matthew writes,

Matthew 27:51 "And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom, and the earth shook, and the rocks were split."

Did you hear that? The curtain of the temple, a three-inch-thick curtain that was meant to separate the people of God from the Holiest of Holies in the temple. The curtain represented the division between man and God because of sin. Atonement for sin was made regularly with the sacrifice of a spotless lamb and the blood of the lamb would cover the people, but only for a short time. The practice had gone on for centuries. Jesus became the Lamb of God that would take away the sins of the World. John the Baptist recognized Jesus for who he truly was. When Jesus died on the cross, he became the final perfect lamb for those who put their faith in Jesus. When Jesus finished his work as the perfect lamb, the temple curtain tore from top to bottom. Heaven's curtain was torn open for all who believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We are no longer separated from God because of our sin because Jesus willingly died upon the cross and His blood covers our sin. When God sees us, he sees the atoning blood of Jesus and declares us justified. We can have a relationship with him. We can have life.

(continued on next page)

(continued from page 1)

John 14:6 "Jesus said, I am the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me."

In the beginning, Adam and Eve were created to dwell with God. But because of their sin and the sinful nature that was passed down to every generation, we experience death. Death is the separation from life. We experience physical death and spiritual death. When we sin, we are separated from God, the source of life; imagine the thick curtain. But Jesus, who was sinless took upon himself our sin and died upon the cross. He paid the debt for our sin so that we might be made right before God. Jesus paid it all! Jesus' sacrifice tore the curtain! As we celebrate Easter and the resurrection, let us remember that not only was the tomb empty, but the curtain was torn. Not only did Jesus defeat death, but he also defeated sin. And offers all who believe in him, eternal life. Amen!

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

All for Jesus,

Pastor Steve



CARMEL VBS

Our theme for this year is Zoomerang. During this pro-life VBS, we will be returning to the value of life. 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 families and regular attenders (along with grandchildren) was March 13 – March 27. If you missed registration please reach out to one of the directors.

Preschool registration for those who will be 5 years old, on or before August 1, 2022 and going to kindergarten, can register at the church office.

Volunteers are still encouraged to sign up online as well. Our volunteers are what make this week such a success. You do not want to miss out on this opportunity! You can sign up by also using the link: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/carmel>

Registration for the community will open on April 4, at 7:30 a.m. If we are at our capacity, they will need to call the church office to be put on a waiting list.

This year we are excited to partner with Hope Haven as our mission project. Kids will be able to collect socks, as well as spend a morning learning about their international wheelchair program. We will also be having our older grades (7th & 8th) go on a service project and help clean the wheelchairs for shipping.

We covet your prayers for all those involved in this week-long ministry. We pray that God will be glorified and many lives will be blessed through our 2022 VBS.

Donations of large and small Pringles cans would be appreciated. Donations can be left in the container by the mailboxes.

Emily Meendering
Jennifer Prins

Jolene Horstman
Becky Ochsendorf

Stephanie Schelling
Taylor Wolfswinkel



April 3: Becky Ochsendorf, Kristi Segar, Gaby Prins, Jennie Boogerd.

April 10: Hannah Smolders, Whitney Van Essen, Lane Van Kekerix, Kavri Van Kekerix.

April 17: Lexy Van Ginkel, Kelly Van Kekerix, Ella Zwart, Elyse Zwart.

April 24: Rachel Van Roekel, Kayla VanWyhe, Aiden Madsen, Karlee Leusink.

May 1: Kayti Beukelman, Londa Boogerd, Marcus Van Voorst, Kaylen Wolfswinkel.

May 8: Amanda Borchers, Brooke Byker, Railee White, Brynn Van Voorst.

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!

* * * * *

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

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

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

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

April 17 - R-Marlin Van Voorst, John Leusink; **C-**Cheryl Sandbulte, Amy Rozeboom, Ryan Oostra, Amy McAlpine, Misty Zwart, Tonia Woudstra.

April 24 - R-Verlyn Van Regenmorter, Doug Van Beek; **C-**Sarah Nibbelink, Shelly Sandbulte, Rachel Terpstra, Clarice Van Maanen, Donna Renes, Sue Noteboom.

May 1 - R-Denny De Jong, Mike Haverhals; **C-**Sherri Wolfswinkel, Glenda Van Meeteren, Cheryl Lange, Rachel Van Roekel, Sandi Vonk, Hannah Smolders.

Do you enjoy that cookie and cup of coffee after the worship service?? Well 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:

- April 3 - Kelsi Noteboom
Eric Ochsendorf
- April 10 - Nursery & Cherub Choirs
Brad Oostra
- April 17 - Orlin Oostra
Ryan Oostra
- April 24 - Trevor Pieper
Darwin Post
- May 1 - Warren Post
- May 8 - Lenore Prins
- May 15 - Monty Prins
- May 22 - Stan Prins
- May 29 - Brady Punt

Beginning in May we will no longer have ministry in music as part of our evening worship service. We will however still have ministry in music during our morning service. As in the past families of Carmel Church will be listed to find ministry in music on a particular Sunday. Due to the number of families in our church, you will only need to find someone for ministry in music every couple of years. We go through our membership list alphabetically, so please take note of the special music list in the newsletter each month, to see if you are on the list. If you are having difficulty in finding someone to do ministry in music, the church office has a list of Carmel members who are willing to do ministry in music. Please make every effort to find someone for ministry in music when it is your turn.

* * * * *



Church Directory

The new phone directory will be in your mailbox later this month. Please note that the mailboxes will be rearranged to accommodate the membership changes for the last year. Check to make sure the box is yours before removing the contents. Your box is above your name.



At the February elders' meeting they received the membership of Samantha Van Ginkel from Faith Reformed Church of Rock Valley.

Andrew and Samantha Van Ginkel make their home in Plantation Florida. Andrew is a football player for the Miami Dolphins. Sam is a Bible Study leader for the Miami Dolphins Women's Organization. They have an 8 month old son, Leo.

In their spare time, the Van Ginkel's like spending time together at the dog park, at the beach, hiking, kayaking or going for walks in their neighborhood.

The Van Ginkel's have many ties to Carmel Church. Sam is the great granddaughter of the late Kenny and Florence Sandbulte. Merlyn Sandbulte is her grandfather and Eric is her father. Andrew has several siblings who are Carmel members. Nate and Kyle Van Ginkel and Ruth De Jager also attend Carmel Church.

When asked what brought them to Carmel Church, Sam replied, "I have a deep family history in the Carmel Church. Knowing my family loves it at Carmel draws me in, but the community and fellowship with other believers is what makes me want to bring my own family here. Our lives are not 'normal' by any means. We are always on the go, knowing wherever we are is a temporary thing, but Carmel Church makes us feel at home."

* * * * *

PROFESSION OF FAITH

At the March elders' meeting Karrigan Glade was present to make profession of her faith. Karrigan is a receptionist at Central Vet Clinic in Sioux Center. She was married last July in Carmel Church to Kayden Glade. They make their home in Sioux Center. In her spare time Karrigan enjoys spending time with her family. Karrigan is the daughter of Carmel Church members Jerry and Sherri Wolfswinkel. She will be publicly received on April 3.

* * * * *

"An effort made for the happiness of others lifts us above ourselves." —Lydia M. Child

NEW ARRIVALS

We rejoice with Chad and Morgan Hoekstra on the birth of their first child, a son, Briggs Steven, on February 16. He weighed 5 lbs. 5 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Carmel Church grandparents are Steve and Amy Rozeboom. Carmel Church great grandparents are Glenn and Betty Rozeboom.

We rejoice with Luke and Millie Leloux on the birth of a son, Ezra Geane, on February 19. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and was 19½ inches long. He has a big brother Lucas, who is 3 to welcome him to the family.

We rejoice with Hayden and McKayla Kerkaert on the birth of their first child, a daughter, Kaylor Joan, on March 10. She weighed 5 lbs. 9 oz. and was 18 inches long. Carmel Church grandparents are John and Jolene Horstman.

* * * * *

BAPTISMS

On March 20 we celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism with several Carmel families.

Jack Ellis McAlpine, son of David and Amy McAlpine. Jack was born on October 29, 2021.

Kolter Jay De Jager, son of Tanner and Ruth De Jager. Kolter was born on January 24, 2022.

Leo Barrett Van Ginkel, son of Andrew and Samantha Van Ginkel. Leo was born on July 8, 2021.

* * * * *

ORDER EASTER LILIES



Would you like to donate an Easter Lily/Lilies "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone to help decorate the church for Easter? Stop by the Coffee Station in the Fellowship Hall. Fill out a slip and put it, along with \$17 per Lily, in an envelope and place it in the box. Make checks payable to Carmel Women's Ministries.

Deadline to order Lilies is April 5.



Our annual Prayer Day for Crops and Industry service will be held Wednesday, April 6, at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for this special service as we gather to ask God's blessing on our crops and industry for the coming year. Pastor Steve will share some thoughts at this service of worship and prayer. Carmel members will participate in a season of prayer. An offering will be received for the Christian Care Fund. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this special service.

* * * * *

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To Serve at the Banquet



Carmel will be serving the evening meal at The Banquet in Sioux Falls on Thursday, April 14. Needed are 25 people to help serve the meal.

The church van will leave the church parking lot at 4:00 p.m., if you do not wish to go alone. You must be at The Banquet by 5:15 p.m. This is a great opportunity to share the love of Christ with those who need a helping hand. Kids must be 12 years or older to serve at The Banquet. A sign up sheet is on the Coffee Station. Also needed are 5 or 6 people to prepare the meal ahead of time. They will leave at 1:00 p.m. Donations are also needed to purchase supplies and milk for the meal. A box for donations will also be on the Coffee Station. Please consider giving of your time or a donation.

Also needed are containers with lids (such as cool whip or margarine) for leftovers at the Banquet. Place your containers in the box near the church office.

* * * * *

CADET PINEWOOD DERBY

The annual Cadet Pinewood Derby will be held on Monday, April 4. The congregation is invited to join us and cheer on your favorite racer. Weigh-in is at 6:30 p.m. and the Derby begins at 7:00.

GEMS UPDATE

Carmel GEMS has only one more meeting left on April 4, 2022! Parent(s) are invited to join their GEM(s) that evening, we will be welcoming Julia Fluit Maassen and her dad Paul Fluit! They will share about being UNSHAKEABLE while serving our country in the Air Force.

This past year the Carmel GEMS learned about being UNSHAKEABLE in this world. God blessed us with girls from these different schools: 1 homeschooled, Central Lyon, Boyden-Hull, Sioux Center, Sioux Center Christian, Rock Valley, and West Sioux.

We had our kick off at Carmel — pizza, played games and painted canvases. Our group traveled to Sioux Falls to Thunder Road and had fun celebrating the Sisterhood of Carmel GEMS. Christmas Party — we took an offering for Kingdom Kids in Haiti, and had fun celebrating the birth of Jesus at church! Taunya De Weerd was able to join our GEMS after the New Year and share that girls in Haiti also have the same feelings and live differently than we do. Our group provided 30 Bibles to children who attend the after school program which Taunya and her husband Garry offer to children while their parents are working. They provide a meal, help with school work and a Bible lesson.

Our lessons throughout the year were: I am Loved, I am Forgiven, I am Strong, I am Not Alone and I am a World Changer!

Thank you to all our wonderful Counselors, Prayer Friends, and Craft Ladies who help encourage and love each GEM who walks through the doors at Carmel Church. We are blessed greatly!

GEMS Counselors are: Amanda Haverhals, Lindsay Kor, Amy Davelaar, April Kooi, Brynn Van Voorst, Amy Yoeger, Mimi Sandbulte, Kelsi Noteboom, Jami Sandbulte. Craft Ladies: Anita Van Ravenhorst and Fonda Post. Praise and Worship: Brynn Van Voorst. Prayer Friends: Mary Lou Verburg, Evy De Jong and Vicki Fischer. Kitchen Help: Anita, Ashayla, Rashaylee and Shanelle Soodsma. Treasurer: Jolene Horstman.

Standing Firm on God's Promises,
Kris Van Voorst - Club Coordinator



MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

The Middle School Retreat is a fun weekend for Jr. High students and their adult leaders. It will be held at Hidden Acres Christian Center in Dayton, IA. The MSR begins the evening of Friday, April 8. The retreat runs through Sunday morning, April 10. The speaker at the retreat will be Tracy Cleveringa. The Synod partners with Northwestern College students to plan an awesome weekend of worship, large group sessions, small groups, youth group time and of course recreation and games!

The theme this year is "Unexpected". He was not the kind of Savior people were looking for then ... or now. From Christ's surprising birth, hope-filled teachings, unbelievable miracles and parables until ultimately journeying alongside Him to the cross on a hill, the long-awaited Messiah first promised in Genesis surprised everyone. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ shows how God's one and only Son can bring us back into relationship with God.

Those attending the retreat are: Cole Bomgaars, Averi Huizenga, Izabella Klein, Wyatt Leusink, Cozyn Rozeboom, Alydia Sandbulte, Julie Sandbulte, Lucas Sandbulte, Eli Segar, Tyke Van Kekerix, Marcus Van Voorst, and Railee White. Going along as sponsors are: Ross and Nikki Hulstein, Shawn and Jami Sandbulte, Tom and Edan Bomgaars and Pastor Steve.

Keep them in your prayers that they may have safe travels and an awesome weekend of worship, friends, games and fun.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 1, we will be celebrating our Sunday School during the morning worship service. The morning will begin with a time of fellowship (coffee and cookies) in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. The worship service will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

During the service we will recognize our Sunday School teachers, receive an update on the Sunday School Mission Project, and hear from our students on the memory work they have learned this year. They will also be singing for our ministry in music.

Our Consistory members will be presenting Bibles to our graduating High School Seniors. There will also be a brief message given by Pastor Steve. Our special offering (2nd offering) that morning will be for the Sunday School. (Not Hope Haven as is listed on the offering schedule.)

The service will end with the Preschool - 8th grade singing "*Good God Almighty*" and "*House of the Lord Blessing*".

Following the worship service the Sr. RCYF will have a BBQ fundraiser. They will be grilling hamburgers, brat burgers and hot dogs. So everyone is invited to stay and enjoy some food and fellowship. A freewill donation would be appreciated for the BBQ.

Since this will wrap up the Sunday School year, they will not be doing this at the picnic in June. However we will have a "Church Picnic" on the 4th Sunday in June. A fun day is being planned for everyone to enjoy. It will be a day of worship, food, fellowship and games. So mark June 26 on your calendar and plan to enjoy our "Church picnic" with our church family and friends. More details coming soon.

Palm Sunday, April 10, 9:30 a.m. The Nursery and Cherub Choirs (TinyTots - 6th grade) will present the special music as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry.

On **Thursday, April 14**, Carmel Church will be serving at the Banquet in Sioux Falls. Volunteers can sign up at the Coffee Station, as well as make a monetary donation.

Good Friday Service. Friday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Easter Sunday, April 17, 9:30 a.m. Join us as we celebrate our RISEN LORD!! Please Note, there will be Sunday School that day.



BIBLE LEAGUE
SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

The Northwest Iowa Bible League's Spring Salad Luncheon will be held on May 2, at 12:00 noon, at Sanborn Christian Reformed Church. Pastor Phil Westra is going to talk about bees and gardening and how we can use our everyday work to spread the Gospel.

Please join us and carpool if possible. You are asked to bring one salad for every four persons. Important announcements and a short business meeting to update you about Bible League's activities will be part of the program.

All are welcome. Hope to see you there!

* * * * *

NAMI SUPPORT GROUP

The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5. Individuals and family members affected by mental illness are welcome. For information call Shirley Matheis 722-4462.

* * * * *

BLUEGRASS GOSPEL CONCERT

Ireton Christian School's Annual Bluegrass Gospel Concert will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022 at the BJ Haan Auditorium on the Dordt University Campus in Sioux Center. The two groups performing are The Wissmann Family and The Kenastons. Show times are 2:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 at the door or can be purchased from the Ireton Christian School. Children ages 15 and under are free.

* * * * *

"Lent is spring training. Easter is opening day!" —seen on a church sign

"An effort made for the happiness of others lifts us above ourselves." —Lydia M. Child

Puzzle!

Using the code, complete this passage based on Ezekiel 34.

CODE																									
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

"As a _____ looks after his
 H S V K S V I W

_____ when _____ is
 H X Z G G V I V W U O L X P S V

_____ them, so will I _____ after my _____.
 D R G S O L L P H S V V K

I will _____ them and _____ them.
 I V H X F V K Z H G F I V

I will _____ for the _____ and bring back
 H V Z I X S O L H G

the _____. I will _____ up the _____.
 H G I Z B H Y R M W R M Q F I V W

and _____ the _____. You are my
 H G I V M T G S V M D V Z P

_____ ... and I am your _____."
 H S V V K T L W



sheep, God
 pasture, search, lost, strays, bind, injured, strengthened, weak,
 Answer: shepherd, scattered, flock, he, with, look, sheep, rescue,

* * * * *



Summer Camps at Inspiration Hills are filling up fast. Early registration ends on April 15. After that the price goes up. Pick up a brochure from the stand near the mailboxes or go to the website: www.inspirationhills.org

and check out all the different camps. Remember Carmel Church pays for 1/2 of the registration fee for one camp, per student, per year. Call the church office if you have any questions. Also let the church office know which camp your child will be attending.



APRIL

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 - Mark Swets | 16 - Terry Van Regenmorter
The Micah Albert's |
| 2 - Aliza Madsen
Decker Hulstein
Mrs. Kim Niemeyer | 17 - Wyatt Zomer
The Colton Mesman's |
| 3 - Aria Vande Vegte
Joanne Luevano | 18 - Hannah Woudstra
Chloe De Jong
Chad Robertson |
| 4 - Sloane De Wit
Tim Bomgaars
Mrs. Lin De Jong | 20 - Koston Van Essen
Mrs. Sarah Fedders
The Vince Sandbulte's |
| 6 - Mrs. Brenda Janisch | 21 - Matthew Bomgaars
Mrs. Kiley Landman
The Sean Robinson's
The Paul Schelling's |
| 7 - Mrs. Mary Ann Zinnel
Milt Van Ravenswaay | 22 - The Gary Sandbulte's |
| 8 - The Matt Davelaar's | 23 - Rodney Moget |
| 9 - Vada Byker | 24 - Leah Nibbelink
Mrs. Karen Stiltz |
| 10 - Bill Plantage | 25 - Marlin Sandbulte |
| 11 - Tacey Van Kekerix
Lane Maassen
Beau Van Voorst
Shirley Van Voorst
Mary Brommer | 26 - Sarah Hooyer
Rick Sandbulte |
| 13 - Lane Klarenbeek
The Jerry Rus' | 27 - Karsten Niemeyer
Mrs. Lexy Van Ginkel
Chad Wynia
The Josh Vanden Top's |
| 14 - Quinlynn Klein
Jerry Rus | 28 - Verlyn Van Regenmorter
The Blake Zomer's |
| 15 - Lane Even
Jim Vande Zandschulp | 29 - Paul McAlpine
Jan De Jong
Mrs. Alice Remmerde |
| | 30 - Ron Schmith |

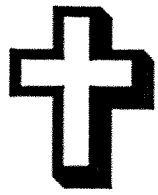
SENIOR APPRECIATION SUPPER

Your invitation to the Senior Legacy Appreciation Supper sponsored by the Sr. RCYF, is in your mailbox. They are planning a great meal as an appreciation to you for all of your support throughout the years. Please RSVP to the church office **by Monday, April 18.**

SHARE YOUR GIFTS OF MUSIC

Our Worship and Music Team met recently to assess the needs for our worship services. They are looking for people wanting to use their gifts through music to enhance our worship services. We have a great group of individuals who are presently using their gifts during our worship services, but are looking to add to this group so as not to over burden them.

We are looking for organists and pianists and also those who may play an instrument to share their gifts at our services as we praise our Lord and Savior. If you feel led to share your gifts of music, please contact Elder Tim Gesink and he will get you plugged in.



Deacons Corner — April

Cemetery Update—We wanted to give you an update on the progress and plans concerning the Cemetery work. First of all, the new section, which lies to the north of the existing Cemetery, was seeded and irrigated last fall and will hopefully fill in nicely this spring. The old growth trees and stumps were removed last month. And the trees that will create the east and the north border have been ordered.

What's next?

This spring we plan to remove the fence and plant the trees along the east and the north border of the Cemetery. We also intend to install an irrigation system for these trees. For the center portion where the old trees were removed, we hope to add a few new shade trees. As the lawn in the new section matures, we will grid and plot out this section and begin selling plots for future grave sites. Our hope, as funds become available, is to construct a gazebo in the area where the evergreen trees were removed. We feel this would create a nice atmosphere for quiet reflection for visitors. Ideally, much of this project will be completed with volunteer help. As we attempt to make improvements to the Cemetery that will honor loved ones who have passed, we would very much appreciate your support for this project. These improvements should fulfill the future needs of the church for many decades. If you would like to give towards this project, please note "Cemetery" in the memo of your check. Thank you. —Cemetery Committee

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.

Adoption Fund – For those considering an adoption please consider inquiring as to whether you will qualify for the Carmel Reformed Church Adoption Assistance Fund. This fund makes available up to \$1,500 to assist active Carmel Reformed Church members with adoption costs. See any deacon for details and a copy of the application form. All requests will require consistory approval.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD—February, 2021

Thank you so very much for your participation in Operation Christmas Child this past November. The numbers are in: Praise God that over 10.5 million shoebox gifts were gathered worldwide and are now being distributed to children in over 100 countries.

This significant increase over 2020 (over 9.1 million) was reflected at our local drop sites, thanks to your generosity!

Please, continue to pray for the children receiving shoeboxes ... that they would be delighted by these tangible gifts of love, and led to a saving relationship with Christ as they learn of His love, plans and purposes for them.

Loralie Wiese, Sioux Center
OCC Church Relations



HOLY WEEK i-SPY

Create this craft to share the events of Holy Week with a younger sibling or friend.



What you need:

- Clear bottle or jar with lid
- White rice
- Small items that symbolize Holy Week events

What you do:

1. Pour rice into bottle or jar so it's about two-thirds full.
2. Add the small items. Ideas: leaf, donkey, cup, towel square, praying hands, coin, bird, nails, thorn, cross, dice, stick, lamb, stone, white fabric.
3. Fasten the lid. Then shake and turn the bottle to "spy" each item.

PUZZLE

Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

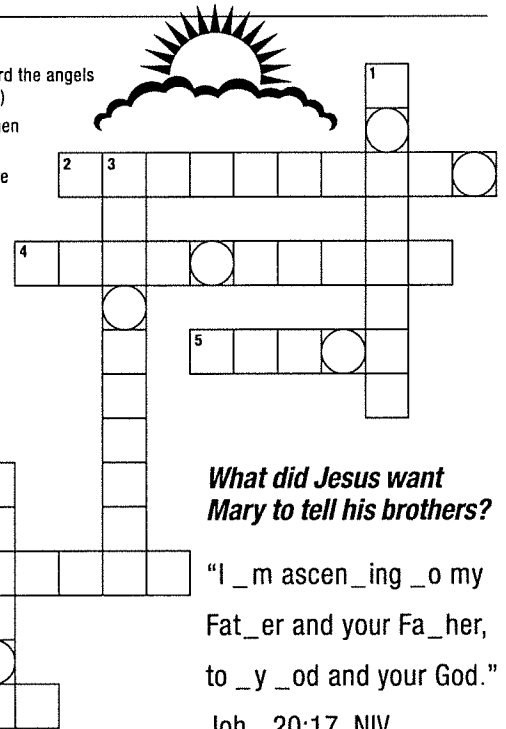
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

2. The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
4. The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
5. The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
7. Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
8. Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

1. At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
3. As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
6. She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen _ ing _ o my
Fat _ er and your Fa _ her,
to _ y _ od and your God."
Joh _ 20:17, NIV

Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen; DOWN 1. gardener, 3. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, NIV