

# HIGHLIGHTS

CARMEL REFORMED CHURCH

*“Can’t Wait For Sunday”*

**April, 2025**

## **It's Never Been Easier to Share the Gospel.**

Two thousand years after Jesus walked on the earth, followers of Christ are still working to fulfill the Great Commission. So, why haven't all nations been reached with the gospel yet? Maybe we don't realize just how much of our lives can be stewarded for the Kingdom today.

### **More Opportunities Than Ever**

We know that God has commanded us to reach the ends of the earth with the gospel. As I've talked to missionaries in hard to reach areas across the world, I've learned that's no easy task. But have we considered how many tools and opportunities are now at our fingertips that followers of Christ never had before? And how do these opportunities enable believers who aren't called to be missionaries to reach our neighbors and the nations with the gospel?

Today, the Bible has been translated into 756 languages, reaching 6 billion people. Over 3,756 languages have at least a portion of the Bible translated. Social media platforms also present opportunities to share the gospel and initiate gospel conversations.

### **How Are You Making the Gospel Known?**

God calls us to radical obedience, asking us to fully surrender our lives to him. If God is the all-consuming passion of your life, you will inevitably seek ways to tell others about him. Here's the thing: you don't have to be a missionary or work for a ministry to tell others about Jesus.

Do you consider the good things in your life to be gifts from God? Do you think of these gifts as things to steward for the spread of the gospel? Gifts like your freedom, your business growth, your home, your family, your education, and technology. We often take these things for granted, but they are actually amazing avenues to spread the gospel in ways the early church never could.

### **The Great Commission isn't just for a few Christians.**

The Great Commission isn't just for a few Christians. It's a command for all of us. So, let's praise God and ask him how we can use all of the unprecedented opportunities we have today—from technology and the workplace to social influence—to let Christ's name be known to all peoples and nations. Because when we have been saved, redeemed, and set free by Jesus, how could we not?

**Selah Lipsey**

Selah Lipsey is a Content Writer at Radical.net



**April 6:** Amy McAlpine, Jo Mogen, Aniya Robertson, Kierra Wolfswinkel.

**April 13:** Kristi Segar, Rachel Van Roekel, Alydia Sandbulte, Hannah Van Roekel.

**April 20:** Brynn Van Voorst,

Londa Boogerd, Slayden Sandbulte, Marcus Van Voorst.

**April 27:** Kristi Van Voorst, Ruth De Jager, Kylee Sandbulte, Josie Bomgaars.

**May 4:** Lynna De Wit, Dancia DeMeester, Jennie Boogerd, Heidi Boogerd.

PLEASE find a substitute or trade with someone, 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 6-R-** Chad Robertson, Dorene Vander Zwaag

C-Donna Renes, Doree Wolfswinkel, Linda Altena, Lorna Vander Vliet, Sue Noteboom

**April 13-R-**Dennis De Jong, Karen Boersema

C-Rachel Terpstra, Misty Zwart, Kaye Kuyper, Clarice Van Maanen, Carmel Maassen

**April 20-R-** Glenda Van Meeteren, Hans Smolders

C- Amy Rozeboom, Frieda Bartels, Erica Robertson, Glenda Van Meeteren, Colleen Bomgaars

**April 27-R-**Jerry Renes, Becky Ochsendorf

C-Teresa Sandbulte, Helen Vande Vegte, Mary Lou Verburg, Allison Leusink, Sarah Nibbelink

**May 4-R-**Gene Sandbulte, Matt Smolders

C-Cheryl Lange, Fonda Post, Carol Langstraat, Sherri Wolfswinkel, Mimi Sandbulte

If this schedule does not work with you please switch with someone.



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.

Special music schedule is for the morning worship service.

April	6 - Alex Koedam
April	13 - Cherub & Nursery Choirs
April	20 - Praise Team
April	27 - Terry Koedam
May	4 - Cherub & Nursery Choirs

\* \* \* \* \*

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

At the March Elders' Meeting, it was their joy to receive Courtney Sandbulte into the communicant family through re-affirmation of faith.

At the March Elders' Meeting, it was their joy to receive Matthew Bomgaars into the communicant family through profession of faith.

\* \* \* \* \*

### TRANSFER



At the Elder's Meeting, they received the memberships of Timothy & Carrie Maassen with baptized children Josie, Cheney, Reagan, and Brielle from Netherlands Reformed Church of Sioux Center, IA and Paul & Laura Maassen from Covenant Reformed Church of Watertown, SD.

Please welcome them into the Carmel Church family.

## BAPTISMS

On March 23, we celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism with several Carmel families.

Kolyn Michael Glade, son of Kayden and Karrigan Glade. Kolyn was born on January 21, 2025.

Remi Renee Hoogendoorn, daughter of Brady and Allison Hoogendoorn. Remi was born on September 10, 2024.

Sage Claire Bomgaars, daughter of Tom and Edan Bomgaars. Sage was born on November 18, 2024.

\* \* \* \* \*



Our annual Prayer Day for Crops and Industry service will be held Wednesday, April 2, 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 Ron

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.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 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 11. The retreat runs through Sunday morning, April 13.



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

The following students are attending: Gabriel Lerma, Bryce Meendering, Attyson Prins, Jackson Roland, Akenna Sandbulte, Morgan Terpstra, Tacey Van Kekerix, Brody Van Voorst, Peter Vonk, Cobyn Sandbulte, Bentley Van Kley, Addisyn Van Beek, Natalie Heasty, Kinlee Wolfswinkel, Faithe Van Maanen, Blake Niemeyer, Jude Vonk, Hezekiah Vanden Brink, Tyson Hulstein, and Lucas Hilbrands.

The following leaders are attending: Dan and Dancia DeMeester, Matt and Hannah Smolders, and Tom and Misty Zwart.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### To Serve at the Banquet



Carmel will be serving the evening meal at The Banquet in Sioux Falls on Thursday, April 17. 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

## SENIOR APPRECIATION SUPPER

Your invitation to the Senior Legacy Appreciation Supper sponsored by the Sr. RCYF, is in your mailbox.

Join us for our Legacy Appreciation Supper hosted by the Sr. RCYF. Enjoy a delicious meal, dessert, and an engaging activity planned for the evening!

**Date:** April 23, 2025

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

Please RSVP to the church office by **Monday, April 15th!**

*We look forward to having you join us!*

\* \* \* \* \*

The Sunday School mission project this year is Love Inc. of Sioux County. Love Inc is an organization that helps churches help people. Sometimes life can give challenging seasons of life, which Love Inc. will help walk beside them. Sometimes that can look like helping with food, home essentials and personal hygiene products, transportation or blessing your neighbors during the holidays. Other times it looks like providing financial mentorship, facilitating a class, helping with a special ministry event. The second Sunday of each month the S. S. offering goes to the mission project. The offering amount to date is \$3,115.00.



## EDUCATION APPRECIATION SUPPER



All volunteers involved in our education programs (S.S. teachers, substitute teachers, officers, music leaders, Wednesday LFC teachers, substitute teachers and Bible Study leaders, GEMS and Cadet Counselors, Jr. and Sr. RCYF Sponsors, and VBS Directors along with their spouse or guest) are invited to an Appreciation Supper on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. 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 contact the church office, if you will be attending. Please do so by **APRIL 23!**

\* \* \* \* \*

## DIRECTORY

The new phone directory will be in your mailbox soon. 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.



Please remember to update the online directory! Whether you have moved or your family has grown. Maybe you are a new member of Carmel. This is a great way to put names with faces.

\* \* \* \* \*

## BIBLE QUIZ



From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- A. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- B. "I thirst!"
- C. "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- D. "It is finished!"

Answer: **A** (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 4, 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 Ron Boersema.

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

\* \* \* \* \*

## MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET

You're invited to our Mother Daughter Banquet on **Wednesday, May 7**, with punch starting at 6:00 p.m. and the meal starting at 6:30 p.m.

Our speaker for the evening will be Jessica Remme, founder of the Oaklyn Foundation. The Oaklyn Foundation provides emotional, financial, and educational assistance and support for families who have experienced a child or infant loss. Jessica has a powerful and touching story about turning loss into a ministry that provides hope for so many families.

Tickets:

13 years-adult (\$20)

6-12 years (\$15)

0-5 years (Free)

RSVP by contacting the church office or putting your RSVP card in the box on the Coffee Station.

*Deadline to purchase tickets is April 20!*



## VBS: WONDER JUNCTION

**Howdy, partners! Dust off your boots—it's time to get your tickets to Wonder Junction.**

Welcome to Wonder Junction where we travel through the Old West learning about Jesus' birth, childhood, ministry, death and resurrection, and coming return. Kids will be challenged to grow their knowledge and discover the joy that comes with praising Jesus!



Throughout the week kids will explore the Old West while learning stories, engaging in activities, and asking BIG questions that will help them understand who Jesus really is. We will learn the amazing happenings that surround Jesus' birth, what Jesus was like as a child and teen, what astonishing things occurred during Jesus's adult ministry, how the King's death and resurrection were a wonder unlike any other, and what we should do while we wait for the return of the King of Kings.

Registration for Carmel friends and regular attendees (along with grandchildren) is March 9-April 13. Preschool is only available to Carmel members/regular attendees. If you still need to register, please reach out to one of the directors.

Our **volunteers** are what make this week a success! You do not want to miss the opportunity to walk alongside the kids and watch them grown in their faith. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up online using the following QR code or link:



<https://vbspro.events/p/carmelvbs2025>

Registration for the community will open on April 14 at 9:00 AM. If we are at our capacity, you will need to call the church office to be put on the waiting list.

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 2025 VBS.

Directors:

Amy Davelaar, Jaimee Vonk, Aubrey Van Kekerix, Kiley Landman, Steph Vande Vegte, Randi Sayles

## RISE FEST

JUNE 20-21

Don't miss this family-friendly Christian music festival happening in Sheldon, IA. Featured artists include Chris Tomlin, Matthew West, Crowder, Rend Collective, KB, Patrick Mayberry, Megan Woods, and more—with seminars, speakers, camping and activities for all ages happening all weekend.

Get your tickets at [riseministries.com](http://riseministries.com) or scan the QR code below.

JUNE 20-21, 2025 | SHELDON, IA

# RISE FEST

LEGACY PARTNER  
**ROSENBOOM**  
Custom Crafted Cylinders

CHRIS TOMLIN  
CROWDER  
MATTHEW WEST  
REND COLLECTIVE  
KB  
MEGAN WOODS  
PATRICK MAYBERRY

FAMILY-FRIENDLY CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Music, Camping, Seminars & Activities for All Ages

SCAN FOR MORE INFO AND TICKETS  
[RISEMINISTRIES.COM/RISEFEST](http://RISEMINISTRIES.COM/RISEFEST)

# Deacons Corner — MARCH

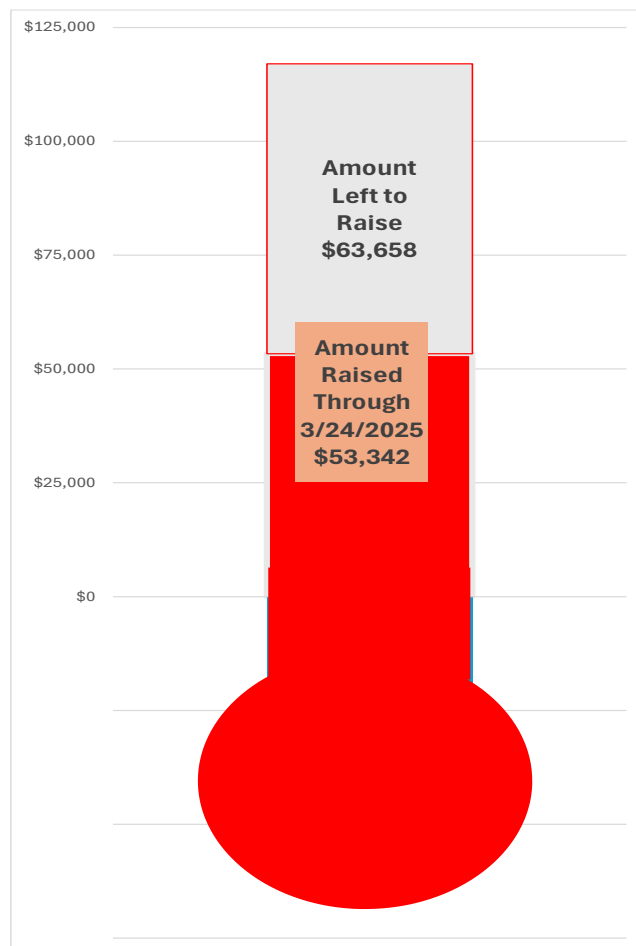


**Outreach Fund** – The Outreach Fund is available to assist Carmel Reformed Church members participation in mission projects/trip by providing financial assistance for registration and travel expenses. This does not include normally scheduled JR/SR youth group trips. The fund will reimburse ½ of travel and registration costs up to \$500.00 per individual per calendar year. Please contact the Outreach Fund deacon James Vanden Brink, 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, Adam Nibbelink and Elder, Dan Fedders 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.

**Van Fundraising**— We are excited to share an update on the Van Project! The final cost are in, and we are pleased to report that the total project cost came in under budget at \$117,000.00. The giving thermometer has been updated to reflect this information. Additionally, we were able to find a 2024 Ford Transit van in stock, which has already been purchased and put to good use by several church groups. We also have a 2025 model on order, which we anticipate arriving in late spring or early summer, though there is a possibility of a later delivery. While we are grateful for the progress made, we still welcome donations to help fully fund this project. If you would like to contribute, please note “Van Project” in the memo line of your check. Thank you for your generosity and support in making this project possible! These vans will be a great blessing to our church community for years to come.







## APRIL

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 - Mark Swets  | 16 - Terry Van Regenmorter   |
| 2 - Aliza Madsen<br>Decker Hulstein<br>Mrs. Kim Niemeyer  | 17 - Hennlie Rozeboom<br>The Colton Mesman's   |
| 3 - Aria Vande Vegte<br>Mrs. Joanne Hanson  | 18 - Hannah Woudstra<br>Chloe De Jong<br>Chad Robertson                                |
| 4 - Sloane De Wit<br>Tim Bomgaars<br>Mrs. Lin De Jong   | 20 - Koston Van Essen<br>The Vince Sandbulte's   |
| 6 - Mrs. Brenda Janisch   | 21 - Baylor Van Essen<br>Matthew Bomgaars<br>Mrs. Kiley Landman<br>The Sean Robinson's |
| 7 - Silas Sandbulte<br>Johnny Boogerd<br>Mrs. Mary Ann Zinnel<br>Milt Van Ravenswaay            | 22 - The Gary Sandbulte's  |
| 8 - The Matt Davelaar's<br>The Chris Van Meeteren's   | 23 - Rodney Moget  |
| 9 - Vada Byker  | 24 - Tulsa Robinson<br>Leah Nibbelink<br>Mrs. Karen Stiltz                             |
| 11 - Kovey Hofman<br>Tacey Van Kekerix<br>Lane Maassen<br>Beau Van Voorst<br>Shirley Van Voorst | 25 - Marlin Sandbulte  |
| 12 - Nancy Boogerd<br>Nora Boogerd  | 26 - Sarah Hooyer  |
| 13 - The Jerry Rus'   | 27 - Karsten Niemeyer<br>Mrs. Lexy Van Ginkel<br>Chad Wynia<br>The Josh Vanden Top's   |
| 14 - Cambri Hulstein<br>Quinlynn Klein<br>Jerry Rus   | 28 - Verlyn Van Regenmorter  |
| 15 - Jim Vande Zandschulp   | 29 - Paul McAlpine<br>Jan De Jong<br>Mrs. Alice Remmerde<br>The Isaac Hanson's         |
|   | 30 - Ron Schmith   |



**Palm Sunday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.** The Nursery and Cherub Choirs (4 year olds - 6th grade) will present the special music as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry.

**Thursday, April 17,** 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 18, 6:30 p.m. We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

**Easter Sunday, April 20, 9:30 a.m.** Join us as we celebrate our RISEN LORD!! Please Note, there will be no Sunday School that day.



## OUR EASTER GIFT

Thanks to Easter, what wonderful gift does God give us?

Directions: Start at the given letter, move one space in the direction each arrow points. Write the last letter in each sequence in the spaces provided. Then write those answers in order on the blanks below to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.

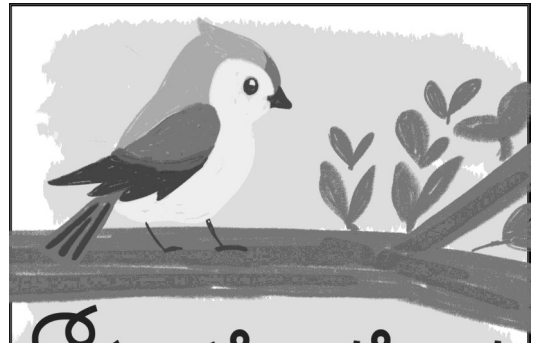
A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y

1. C → ↓ ↓ ↓ \_\_\_\_\_
2. H → ↑ → \_\_\_\_\_
3. V → → ↓ \_\_\_\_\_
4. I ← ← ↑ \_\_\_\_\_
5. T ↑ ← ↑ \_\_\_\_\_
6. P ↑ → → ↓ \_\_\_\_\_
7. D ↓ → ↓ ↓ \_\_\_\_\_
8. T ↑ ← ↑ ← \_\_\_\_\_



Praise be to the God and Father of our  
 Lord Jesus Christ!  
 In his great mercy he has given us  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 into a living hope through the  
 resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.  
 1 Peter 1:3, NIV

Answer: new birth



## Springing to LIFE



New life defines the season of spring. Make this Easter craft that symbolizes rebirth.

### What you need:

- Brown paper lunch bag
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue stick
- Jellybeans



### What you do:

1. From the bag's bottom, cut two 2-inch circles. Set aside.
2. From the sides, cut two 10-inch circles.
3. Draw a thin spiral on each large circle and cut along the lines. Crinkle spirals gently.
4. Starting at the center, wrap one spiral into a nest. Glue every few inches to hold it.
5. Glue one small circle to the bottom of the nest.
6. Repeat with the other spiral. Fill nests with jellybeans and give to a friend!

