

HIGHLIGHTS

CARMEL REFORMED CHURCH

"Can't Wait For Sunday"

May 2025

YOU'RE GOING PLACES!

Commencement marks the beginning of a new stage of life, with graduates heading off to discover opportunities and face challenges. *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* - a Dr. Seuss book that's now a popular graduation gift—whimsically explores life's ups and downs, twists and turns.

Young adults will face excitement and slumps, fun and loneliness. They'll feel a sense of purpose as well as confusion and even fear. "There are some [things], down the road between hither and yon, that can scare you so much you won't want to go on," writes Dr. Seuss.

In the storybook, the life-traveler's sheer determination propels him beyond difficulties. But God's children don't need to journey alone. Our heavenly Father walks beside us on every winding path and around every corner. Life cannot take us anywhere God hasn't been first. Graduates—and all Christians—can trust in the promise of Joshua 1:9 (NRSV): "Be strong and courageous ... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

SEIZING HOLY OPPORTUNITIES

In *Holy Moments*, Matthew Kelly discusses the world's need for more small (but sometimes large) instances of people caring for others, cultivating joy, encouragement and love instead of anger, envy, fear. Kelly defines a Holy Moment as "a single moment in which you open yourself to God. ... You set aside personal preference and self-interest, and for one moment you do what you prayerfully believe God is telling you to do."

This may mean mowing the lawn for a neighbor with a broken leg, praising a child on his artwork, buying a surprise snack for someone having a bad day, working extra shifts for a coworker with cancer so she can receive her full salary while out sick, paying for the next car's drive-thru order. Anyone can create a Holy Moment, because you don't need special skills, position or wealth. "If you want to see miracles, make yourself available to God," Kelly suggest.

He adds that God has a track record of collaborating with "the most unlikely people to make amazing things happen, and now He wants to collaborate with you." When we're open to God's leading, holy opportunities abound. And *we* will experience as much joy as the ones to whom we show care.



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

May 11: Morgan Hoekstra, Nikki Hulstein, Addison Rozeboom, Rylee Bomgaars.

May 18: Alyssa Kuyper, Amy

McAlpine, Elyse Zwart, Faithe Van Maanen.

May 25: Jo Moget, Kristi Segar, Gaby Prins, Kinlee Wolfswinkel.

June 1: Hannah Smolders, Rachel Van Roekel, Ruthie Vanden Brink, Akenna Sandbulte.

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.

May 4-R-Gene Sandbulte, Matt Smolders
C-Cheryl Lange, Fonda Post, Carol Langstraat, Sherri Wolfswinkel, Mimi Sandbulte

May 11-R- Jack Soodsma, Jared Terpstra
C-Anita Van Ravenhorst, Cheryl Sandbulte, Gene Sandbulte, Rhonda Sandbulte, Alice Remmerde

May 18-R-Doug Van Beek, Mike Haverhals
C-Lin De Jong, Ronda Leusink, Hazel Haverhals, Donna Renes, Rachel Van Roekel

May 25-R- Verlyn Van Regenmorter, Dorene Vander Zwaag
C- Doree Wolfswinkel, Amy McAlpine, Sue Noteboom, Lorna Vander Vliet, Linda Altena

June 1-R-Becky Ochsendorf, Dennis De Jong
C-Sandi Vonk, Sue Dorhout, Rachel Terpstra, Misty Zwart, Kaye Kuyper

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.

May	4 - Cherub & Nursery Choirs
May	11 - Todd Kooi
May	18 - Marvin Kruid
May	25 - Herb Kuyper
June	1 - Scott Kuyper

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TRANSFER

The membership of Addisyn (Huizenga) Hofman, has been transferred to the Cornerstone United Reformed Church of Sanborn, IA.

The membership of Alison Glade has been transferred to the Messiah Lutheran Church of Mountain Lion, MN.

May God bless them in their new church homes.

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LORD'S SUPPER

On May 25, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper at our morning worship service. Those who would like communion served to them or a shut-in can contact an elder or call the church office or have a family member request it.

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NURSERY HELP NEEDED

The nursery is a great place for little kids to go during the worship service so mom and dad can listen to the message, but this takes volunteers to watch the children.

We are in need of more volunteers willing to watch children in the nursery during the worship service.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Ruth De Jager at 712-470-2419 or Morgan Hoekstra at 712-441-2762.



On Sunday, May 4, Carmel will participate in a combined service with Peace Lutheran Church and Lebanon Christian Reformed Church for the Neighborhood Prayer Service observing the National Day of

Prayer.

The service will be held at Carmel Reformed Church and begins at 6:30 p.m. This is the 37th year that the three churches have observed this service together.

Members of all three church will participate in the service through prayers and special music. A time of refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.

The theme for this year is "Pour Out to the God of Hope and Be Filled!" based on Romans 15:13.

Everyone is encouraged to attend this special service with our brothers and sisters in Christ from Peace Lutheran and Lebanon CRC.

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"Pray without ceasing" 1 Thess. 5:17

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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



Carmel's Mother Daughter Banquet will be held 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.



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The new phone directory is finally here and is in your mailbox. Please note that the mailboxes have been 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.

If there are any errors in the directory, please contact the church office so we can keep the information up to date.

If your information changes throughout the year, please let the church office know.

Don't forget about our online directory. This can be downloaded to your phone as an app. Please update your photo, address, phone numbers, etc.

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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 \$3,473.00.



VBS: WONDER JUNCTION

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

CARMEL VBS IS **QUICKLY** APPROACHING AND WE NEED **YOU!**



Carmel VBS registrations are in and we are so excited to enter Wonder Junction where we will travel through the Old West learning about Jesus' birth, childhood, ministry, death and resurrection, and coming return. To make this week successful, we need the help of many!

Please consider volunteering your time or donations for any of the following:

Teachers and Helpers: Sign up using the following link or QR code or contacting any director.



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

Donations: Hamburger for the VBS picnic. Contact Glenda Van Meeteren or the church office if you are willing to donate.

Craft Tent: The craft tent is looking for donations of pop bottle lids from 2-liter bottles, 16 mm wood beads, and used plastic tablecloths. There will be a box by the mailboxes for donations.

Volunteers: To bring snacks. Please sign up using the QR code or the link below. There will be a sign up sheet on the Coffee Station.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA5AF22A7FEC34-54838615-carmel>

People to PRAY: Your prayers are what help make VBS successful. You don't have to sign up for this, but please consider adding VBS to your prayer list. Please specifically pray that we get the needed volunteers to sign up and for the kids that will be attending. You can start praying TODAY!

2025 VBS Directors: Amy Davelaar, Jaimee Vonk, Aubrey Van Kekerix, Kiley Landman, Steph Vande Vegte, Randi Sayles.

RISE FEST

JUNE 20-21

RiseFest is more than a festival. It's a weekend where we take back ground in our lives, hearts, and communities by lifting up the name of Jesus together.

Last year, nearly 25,000 people were there. This year, we want you to be a part of it.

Early bird pricing ends April 30.

Ticket prices go up May 1.



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BIBLE LEAGUE SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

The Northwest Iowa Bible League's Spring Salad Luncheon will be held on Monday, May 5, at 11:30 a.m., at Rock Valley First Christian Reformed Church (1401 16th Street, Rock Valley, IA). Gayle Walhof will tell her 4-year journey in publishing her book "Songs of Naamah-A Novel of King David's Harem".

You are asked to bring one salad for every four persons. A freewill donation will be received to go directly to Bible League International.



Deacons Corner — MAY

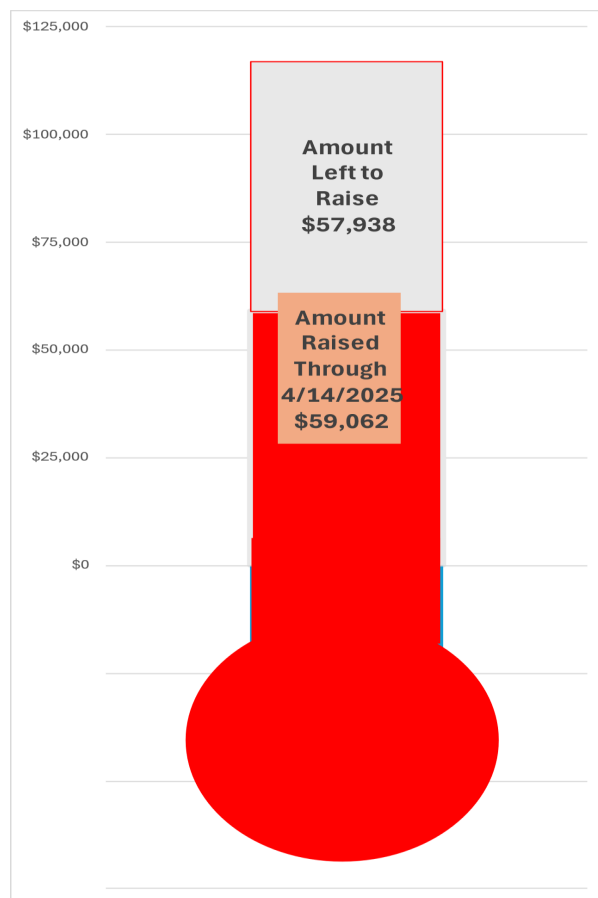
Outreach Fund – The Outreach Fund is available to assist Carmel Reformed Church members participation in mission projects/trip by providing financial assistance for registration and travel expenses. This does not include normally scheduled JR/SR youth group trips. The fund will reimburse ½ of travel 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 thrilled to share some wonderful news regarding our van purchase project! By God’s grace and your generous support, we have officially passed the 50% mark in funds raised. This milestone is a testament to the power of unity and faith within our congregation.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Every gift, big or small, brings us closer to our goal. Let us continue to work together as one body in Christ, knowing that “*God loves a cheerful giver*” (2 Corinthians 9:7).





On Sunday, May 4, our High School graduates will be presented with a Bible from Carmel Church. Our Consistory members wrote notes of encouragement in the Bibles, along with sharing their favorite verses and presented the Bibles to our graduates.

Graduating from Western Christian High School are:

Addison Terpstra— Addison is the daughter of Jared and Rachel Terpstra. She plans to attend Dordt University for Nursing.

Addison Rozeboom— Addison is the daughter of Brian and Nicole Rozeboom. She plans to attend Dordt University.

Breckyn Van Vugt— Breckyn is the son of Kyle and Tricia Van Vugt. He plans to work full time.

Barret Bleeker— Barret is the son of Eric and Marianne Bleeker. He plans to attend Northwestern College for Pre-Law and play football.

Lane Maassen— Lane is the son of Nate and Carmen Maassen. He plans to attend Northwestern College and play football.

Graduating from Sioux Center Community High School are:

Josie Bomgaars— Josie Bomgaars is the daughter of Tim and Julie Bomgaars. She plans to attend Dordt University.

Jayse Niemeyer— Jayse is the son of Derick and Kim Niemeyer.

Gavyn Dibbet— Gavyn is the son of Matt & Holly Dibbet. He plans to work.

Graduating from West Sioux Center Community High School are:

Kolton Koopmans— Kolton is the son of Randy and Cindy Koopmans. He plans to attend Northwestern College for Ag Business and play football.

Graduating from Rock Valley Community High School are:

Tielyr Rozeboom— Tielyr is the daughter of Kelly and Gina Rozeboom. She plans to attend the University of Iowa.

Kavri Van Kekerix— Kavri is the daughter of Scott and Erika Van Kekerix. She plans to attend Northwestern College for business and play softball.

Lane Van Kekerix— Lane is the son of Barry and Kelly Van Kekerix. He plans to attend South Dakota State University for Ag.

Covey Wynia— Covey is the son of Ross and Nikki Hulstein and Brady and Brittany Wynia. He plans to attend South Dakota State University for Ag Business.

Graduating from Boyden-Hull Community School is:

Rylee Bomgaars— Rylee is the daughter of Mike and Nikki Bomgaars. She plans to attend Northwestern College for elementary education and play softball.

Elyse Zwart— Elyse is the daughter of Tom and Misty Zwart. She plans to attend Dordt University.



Graduating from Dordt University in May is:

Matthew Bomgaars— Matthew will be graduating with a Ag Business degree. He plans to work on the family farm. Matthew is the son of Tim and Julie Bomgaars.

Ella Zwart— Ella will be graduating with a degree in Elementary Education. She plans to teach 5th & 6th grade at Inwood Christian School. Ella is the daughter of Tom and Misty Zwart.

Graduating from Northwestern College in May is:

Jacob Sandbulte— Jacob will be graduating with a Major in Secondary Education and History. He plans to teach 5th/6th grade Social Studies at the Sheldon Middle School. Jacob is the son of Harv and Trish Sandbulte.

Graduating from University of Sioux Falls:

Josie Maassen—Josie will be graduating with a Social Work degree. Josie is the daughter of Tim and Carrie Maassen.



MAY

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|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 - Brixen De Jager | |
| Paxton Sayles | |
| Adriana Sandbulte | |
| Mrs. Lorraine Post | |
| Mrs. Kara Van Meeteren | |
| The Owen Sandbulte's | |
| 2 - Leon Wichers | |
| 3 - Tim Maassen | |
| Mrs. LeaAnn Van Regenmorter | |
| The Harlan Van Maanen's | |
| 4 - Linda Altena | |
| 5 - Liam Kuyper | |
| Asher Van Voorst | |
| Mrs. Juliana Van Kekerix | |
| The Shawn Sandbulte's | |
| 6 - Micah Ochsendorf | |
| Makai Gesink | |
| Marvin Kruid | |
| 7 - Mrs. Ronda Leusink | |
| The Keaton Van Voorst's | |
| 8 - Fletcher Koedam | |
| 9 - Mrs. Betty Valentine | |
| 11 - Brian Vande Zandschulp | |
| The Matt Smolder's | |
| 12 - Sadie Janisch | |
| Mrs. Carol Sandbulte | |
| The Kelly Rozeboom's | |
| 14 - Colton Mesman | |
| Robert Den Herder | |
| 15 - Randy Vander Weide | |
| | The Henry Sandbulte's |
| 16 - Caden Hulstein | |
| 17 - Mrs. Jayden Pieper | |
| | David McAlpine |
| | Dave Bohl |
| 18 - Mrs. Lois De Jong | |
| 19 - John Hoogendoorn | |
| | The Brady Punt's |
| | The Scott Fischer's |
| 21 - Matt Zinnel | |
| | The Tyler Franken's |
| | The Ron Boersema's |
| 22 - Todd Noteboom | |
| | Paisley Davelaar |
| | Mrs. Julie Bomgaars |
| 24 - Austin Sandbulte | |
| 25 - Mrs. Nancy Smolders | |
| | The Mark Van Voorst's |
| 26 - Mrs. Kara Donlin | |
| | Wally Valentine |
| 27 - Mrs. Hannah Smolders | |
| | Mrs. Nikki Hulstein |
| | Terry Koedam |
| | The Jerry Wolfswinkel's |
| 28 - Isabelle Van Roekel | |
| | Maci Segar |
| 29 - The Larry Wolfswinkel's | |
| 30 - Eric Ochsendorf | |
| | Mrs. Doree Wolfswinkel |
| 31 - Gaby Prins | |
| | Jude Vonk |
| | Mrs. Heidi Vanden Top |
| | Zach Moget |
| | The Josh Leusink's |



A NOBLE EXAMPLE

Proverbs 31 describes a God-honoring woman. How are the women in your life like her? How can you follow their example?

Directions: Use the word bank to complete all the Bible verses. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Proverbs 31:30, NIV.



WORD BANK

bread, household, women, laugh,
children, clothed, speaks, husband, tongue



She is _____ with strength and dignity;
she can _____ at the days to come.

She _____ with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her _____.

She watches over the affairs of her _____
and does not eat the _____ of idleness.

Her _____ arise and call her blessed;
her _____ also, and he praises her:

"Many _____ do noble things,
but you surpass them all." Proverbs 31:25-29, NIV

Charm is _____eptive, and be_____ty is fl_____eting; but a
woma_____ w_____o f_____rs the Lo_____d is to be prais_____d.

Proverbs 31:30, NIV

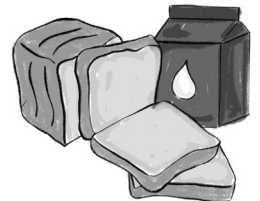
Answers: clothed, laugh, speaks, tongue, household, bread, children, women, husband, Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30, NIV



Make these sweet sandwiches
for a Mother's Day tea party.

What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
3. On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!

