

HIGHLIGHTS

CARMEL REFORMED CHURCH

“Can’t Wait For Sunday”

August 2025

Last month we saw how Samuel Rodigast, in 1675 composed a song that continues to encourage and sustain those still today who face sickness or hardship, drawing from the truth’s of Scripture to remind us of the sovereignty and goodness of God at all times.

This month I wanted to share a prayer from the same time period, the times of the Puritans, that can give expression to our heart’s cries and pleas to a Holy God who not only created us in His image, but is redeeming that same image within us through the effectual work of Christ and the Holy Spirit working in us.

Here is an adapted prayer from one of those Puritans that I hope will give encouragement to your prayer life.
Pastor Ron

CREATOR AND REDEEMER GOD,

Author of all existence, source of all blessedness,
We adore you for making us capable of knowing you,
for giving us reason and conscience,
for leading us to desire you;

We praise you for the revelation of yourself in the gospel,
for your heart as a dwelling place of pity,
for your thoughts of peace towards me,
for your patience and your graciousness,
for the vastness of your mercy.

You have moved our conscience to know how
the guilty can be pardoned,
the unholy sanctified,
the poor enriched.

May we be always among those who not only hear but know you,
who walk with and rejoice in you,
who take you at your word and find life there.

Keep us always longing for a present salvation
in Holy Spirit comforts and rejoicings,
for spiritual graces and blessings,

for help to value our duties as well as our privileges.

May we cherish simplicity and godly sincerity of character.

Help us to be in reality before you as in appearance we are before men,
to be religious before we profess religion,
to leave the world before we enter the church,
to set our affections on things above,
to shun forbidden follies and vanities,
to be a dispenser as well as a partaker of grace,
to be prepared to bear evil as well as to do good.

O God, make us worthy of this calling,
that the name of Jesus may be glorified in us and we in him. Amen.



August 3: Rachel Van Roekel,
Brynn Van Voorst, Jennie
Boogerd, Morgan Terpstra
August 10: Kristi Van Voorst,
Londa Boogerd, Elyse Zwart,
Kinlee Wolfswinkel
August 17: Ruth De Jager,
Lynna De Wit, Addison Roze-

boom, Faith Van Maanen

August 24: Nikki Hulstein, Jo Moget, Heidi
Boogerd, Akenna Sandbulte

August 31: Morgan Hoekstra, Amy McAlpine,
Sadie Janisch, Ruthie Vanden Brink

September 7: Jami Sandbulte, Edan Bomgaars,
Gabby Prins, Slayden 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.

August 3-R-Hans Smolders, Jerry Renes
C-Amy Rozeboom, Frieda Bartels, Erica Robert-
son, Colleen Bomgaars, Teresa Sandbulte

August 10-R-Gene Sandbulte, Jack Soodsma
C-Helen Vande Vegte, Alison Leusink, Sarah
Nibbelink, Cheryl Lange, Fonda Post

August 17-R-Doug Van Beek, Becky Ochsen-
dorf
C-Carol Langstraat, Sherri Wolfswinkel, Mimi
Sandbulte, Anita Van Ravenhorst, Cheryl
Sandbulte

August 24-R-Jami Sandbulte, Aubrey Van
Kekerix
C-Gene Sandbulte, Rhonda Sandbulte, Alice
Remmerde, Ronda Leusink, Hazel Haverhals

August 31-R-Denny De Jong, Chad Robertson
C-Lin De Jong, Donna Renes, Rachel Van
Roekel, Doree Wolfswinkel, Amy McAlpine

September 7-R-Jared Terpstra, Mike Haverhals
C-Sue Noteboom, Lorna Vander Vliet, Linda Al-
tena, Sandi Vonk, Sue Dorhout

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 un-
able to have special music the sched-
uled time, please try to exchange
with someone.

Special music schedule is for the
morning worship service.

Aug.	3-	Tony Madsen
Aug.	10-	David McAlpine
Aug.	17-	Josh Meendering
Aug.	24-	Colton Mesman
Aug.	31-	Rod Moget
Sept.	7-	Mitch Nettinga

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THE LORD'S SUPPER

On Sunday, August 3, by the Grace of God, we
will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
Any shut-ins or Nursing Home residents who would
like communion served to them, please contact an
elder.

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

At the July Elder's meeting, it was their joy to
receive ReAnna Wolfswinkel into the communicate
family of Carmel Reformed Church through Profes-
sion of Faith.

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NEW ARRIVAL



Congratulations to Austin and
Ashley Vande Vegte on the birth of a
daughter, Amara Ann, who was born
on July 14, 2025. Amara has two old-
er siblings, Aria and Archer, to wel-
come her home.

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TRANSFER

At the elder's meeting, they received the
membership of Perry Van Gorp from Cen-
terpoint Church of Sioux Center, IA.



MARRIAGES

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Bomgaars (Miah Bleeker) who were united in marriage at Carmel on July 11.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Sandbulte (Katlyn Chandler) who were united in marriage at Carmel on July 18.



May God bless them with a long and happy married life.

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GET PLUGGED IN TO OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMS

If you are a regular attender of Carmel Church and wish to have your children participate in our education programs (if they are not already included in the class list), please contact the church office with your child's name and grade. The Education programs include Sunday School (4 years to 12th grade), Wednesday night programs (K-12th), GEMS or Cadets (2nd—8th grade) and Junior and Senior High Youth Groups.

Look for an email for signing up Preschool-Kindergarten Sunday School. Please fill out the form as this will help us to place the students in the correct classes.

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WOMEN'S LIFE

Carmel Church Women's Life Group host various women's activities throughout the year including Bible Studies, outings, game nights, and so much more. The purpose of Women's Life is to encourage spiritual growth and to build deep and caring relationships with each other with a Christ-centered focus. Women's Life would like to invite all women in Carmel to join us for any of our events!

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HOMEBUILDERS

Homebuilders is a couple's Bible Study group. Each couple takes turns "hosting" the Bible Study for each month. This group meets every 3rd Sunday, September-May, at 8:00 p.m.



Off to College

ALL Carmel members and regular attendees who will be attending college, graduate school, trade school or taking online classes this fall, please get your college information to the church office. Please turn in your information (school attending, address and birthday) even if you live at home or the information is the same as last year. A sheet to fill out can be found on the coffee station. You can also e-mail the info to the church office at carmelch@mtcnet.net. Please do so by August 20th, so we can include a list in the September *HIGH-LIGHTS*.

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CADETS

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity."
1 Timothy 4:12

Cadets is a weeknight program that meets twice a month to help boys become more Christlike in all areas of life. Cadets is for 2nd-8th grade boys. During the year they will have lessons, and fundraisers, and fun outings. They meet at Carmel every 1st and 3rd Wednesday, September through April, at 7:00 p.m.

This year's theme is *STAND FIRM*. This is based on 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love."



We pray that this theme will challenge cadets and counselors to be faithful believers in their churches and communities. In doing so, we hope to encourage the boys and men of Cadets to stand firm as they live for Jesus.

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GEMS

Carmel GEMS kickoff is September 17! GEMS is for girls 2nd-8th grade. GEMS will be meeting on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The theme this year is *"Walk On Water: Stepping Out to Trust Our Faithful God"*. If you have questions please contact Head Counselor Kris Van Voorst.

SR RCYF

Carmel SR RCYF is excited to kick-off the '25-'26 year! We welcome all students who are returning and invited all freshmen and new-comers to join our group. Our new sponsors for the year are Brian and Nicole Rozeboom along with returning sponsors Jared and Rachel Terpstra, Beau Van Voorst, and Trevor and Jayden Pieper. SR RCYF is a youth group for all students 9-12 grades and meets on Sunday nights at 6:30 p.m. We are looking forward to a year of lessons, events, fundraisers, and fellowship! As sponsors, we strive to pour God's love into each and every one of the students through all these fun experiences! The dates for Rocky Mountain High have been set so mark your calendar for July 24-29, 2026! This will be a time for Carmel SR RCYF to experience God working in the mountaintops of Colorado!

If your child will be attending SR RCYF, we would like you to contact Jayden Pieper or Beau Van Voorst with their name and grade. We can also answer any questions you may have. We look forward to a new year of SR RCYF!

Jayden Pieper-712-441-4459 or
tjpeeps17@gmail.com

Beau Van Voorst-712-441-0485 or
vanvoorst68@gmail.com

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JR. RCYF

We are so excited to begin a new year of Jr. RCYF youth group, studying God's Word and growing together in meaningful, encouraging community! Jr. RCYF is for 7th and 8th graders, and friends are always welcome too! September through early May, we meet at church most Sunday evenings to enjoy a lesson or listen to a speaker, play some games, and eat plenty of snacks! We also love to mix in some fun outings throughout the year, such as going to a corn maze, bowling, or Great Shots— just to name a few. In April, we look forward to attending the Middle School Retreat. We also love to give back to our communities through service projects as needs arise. To help support our youth group, we will organize a few fundraising events. In September, we will be selling and preparing sub sandwiches— be on the look out for order forms soon!

Come meet us sponsors during Carmel's Education Ministries Kickoff Sunday! We'd love to share more about Jr. RCYF, answer any questions, and say "hi" to this year's group of students. We cannot wait to start the 2025-2026 year!

Matt & Hannah Smolders
Tom & Misty Zwart

RVL DISCIPLESHIP-THE STUDY

This fall Pastor Ron will be leading the second season of the Ray Vander Laan Discipleship study. In *RVL Discipleship: The Study*, we are exploring this idea of discipleship through the lens of its original definition in Scripture. What did it mean to be a disciple of Jesus back then, and what does that mean for us today? This study is organized into four seasons, exploring how to walk the path God has set before us.

In Season 1 of *The Study* showed us how we are meant to interact with the Text: 1) approaching it from the context in which it was written; 2) exploring how Jesus used the Scriptures in His teaching; 3) understanding how His followers were meant to be changed by what they learned; and 4) identifying the major paradigm that ties the whole Bible together.

Building on the tools and central themes from the first season, Season 2 of *The Study* explores the roots of discipleship, examining how God trained and established the nation of Israel in preparation for Jesus' ministry to come.

Even if you didn't come to the first season of The Study, you're welcome to join us for season two. We will be meeting on Wednesday nights starting on September 10, beginning with a comprehensive recap of season one to refresh those that were apart of last season and to catch you up if you are new this season. We hope to see you there!

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*"Education is the most powerful weapon which
you can use to change the world."*

-Nelson Mandela

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

What: ABC—(Answers Bible Curriculum)
When: 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesday Nights Beginning **September 10 at 7 pm**
Who: ALL students Kindergarten—12th grade
*All grade levels will be studying the same topic.

*We encourage everyone to join us as we study God's Word and dig into scripture
so we can stand in God's Truth when the winds of the world blow on us.*

ABOUT ABC—(ANSWERS BIBLE CURRICULUM)

Mission:

Answers Bible Curriculum was developed to present the gospel, beginning in Genesis, to all generations; to train believers to know, obey, and defend God's Word; and to encourage believers to become conformed to the image of Christ.

Overview:

The 2009 book *Already Gone* by Ken Ham and Britt Beemer (and the scientific study on which the book is based) reveals the reasons why young people are leaving the church. In much of the teaching to day in our churches, the Bible is disconnected from the real world, and the authority of Scripture is undermined and replaced with secular reasoning using man's ideas.

The church has failed to teach the Bible as relevant fact. We have, intentionally or unintentionally, taught the Scriptures as nothing but "stories" that relate to spiritual matters and have avoided engaging the challenging questions from the secular world that bombard church children and adults the other 166 hours of their week. As a result, children are beginning to doubt the Bible—and the gospel message that it presents—as early as elementary school. Many studies confirm that more than 60% of young people leave the church after they graduate from high school.

Answers Bible Curriculum was designed and written to provide answers to the questions and issues that confront youth and adults in school, in the media, from friends, at work, etc. It is our hope and prayer that God will be pleased to use this curriculum to instill a lifelong trust in the Bible and in the God who authored it.

SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR

Date:

Wed. September 10

Wed. September 24

Wed. October 8

Wed. October 22

Wed. October 29

Wed. November 12

Wed. December 10

Wed. January 14

Wed. January 28

Wed. February 11

Wed. February 25

Wed. March 11

Wed. March 25

Wed. April 8

Wed. April 15

Wed. April 29

Unit:

Lesson 61: Moses Sends the Spies

Lesson 62: God Judges Rebellion

Lesson 63: God Prepares the Way

Lesson 64: Rahab Helps the Spies

Lesson 65: Israel Crosses the Jordan

Lesson 66: Israel Conquers Jericho

Lesson 67: God Gives the Victory

Lesson 68: Joseph Forgives His Brothers

Lesson 69: Israel Turns to Idols

Unit Review

Lesson 71: God Uses Gideon

Lesson 72: Samson Receives Strength

Lesson 73: God Blesses Ruth

Lesson 74: God Calls Samuel

Lesson 75: Israel's First King

Lessons 71-75 Review/Fun Night



Deacons Corner — AUGUST

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.

Online Giving – We're pleased to announce that our new online giving platform is now live! Giving has never been easier-whether you're at home, at work, or on the go, you can now support our ministry securely and conveniently. We will still be passing the offering plates on Sunday to give in person.

How to Give Online: Visit our website carmelchurch.org and click on the "Give" button. You'll be able to set up a one-time donation or schedule recurring gifts in just a few easy steps. You can scan the QR code and it will take you to the "Give" page.



"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

3RD ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER

"Driving FORE the Kingdom" **4 Person Best Ball Golf Tournament**

Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship with the 3rd Annual Golf Outing.

When: August 6

Where: Rock Valley Golf Course

Time: Check in @ 4:30 p.m.
Start Golfing @ 5:00 p.m.

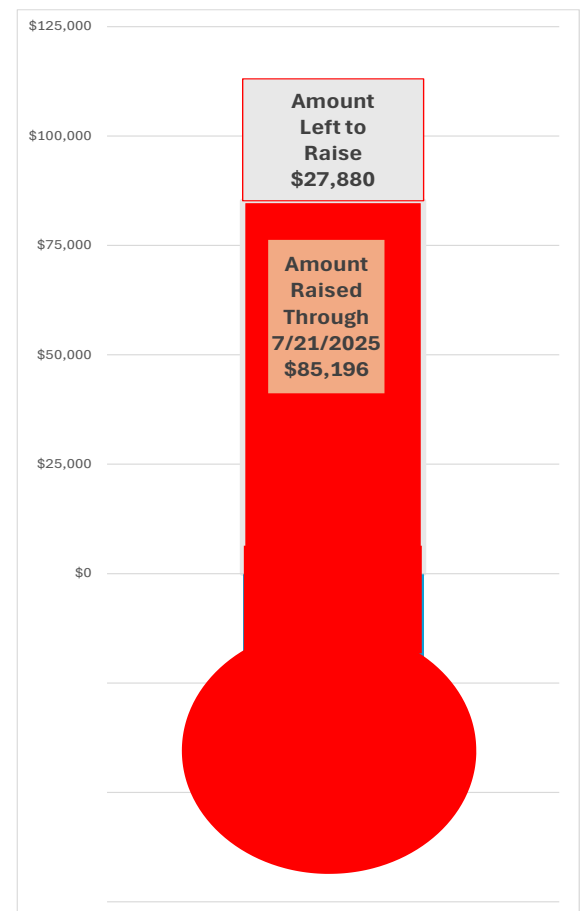
Cost: \$300.00 per team
(pay when you sign up your team)
This includes a meal of Pulled Pork, Brisket, chips, and pork & beans.

Cart Rental: \$20.00 per cart (payable at event)
When you sign up please let the church office know if you will need a cart or if you have your own cart to bring!

There will be \$5.00 Mulligan Tickets available to purchase at the event!

****All proceeds go towards the Van Project****

Sign up at the Coffee Station or sign up at the Church Office during office hours.





August

- 1 - Everett Sandbulte
Bob Janisch
Arlyn Keizer
- 2 - Barry Van Kekerix
Mrs. Trish Sandbulte
Jerry Noteboom
The Neil Ranschau's
The Mike Haverhals'
- 3 - The Johnathan Boogerd's
The Phil Hooyer's
- 4 - Weston Maassen
Isaac Hooyer
Art Van Ravenhorst
The Spencer Van Ravenswaay's
The Thomas Bomgaars'
The Loren Punt's
- 5 - Mrs. Annette Sneller
The Daniel DeMeester's
The Glen Vander Lugt's
- 6 - Kaleb Kuyper
The Mike Bomgaar's
The Harold Vander Vliet's
- 7 - Mike Donlin
The Thijs Doelman's
The Cole Rozeboom's
The Keith Byker's
The David McAlpine's
- 8 - Paul Leusink
The Robert Den Herder's
Mrs. Deb Dibbet
- 9 - Kyle Van Ginkel
Nate Landman
Mrs. Emily Meendering
Mrs. Helen Vande Vegte
- 10 - Keaton Van Voorst
- 12 - Alydia Sandbulte
Trevor Segar
Mrs. Randi Sayles
The Seth Sandbulte's
The John Horstman's
The Doug Van Beek's
- 13 - Bryce Davelaar
Eli Segar
Ethan Hooyer
Ken Altena
- 14 - Brayden Beukelman
The Chris Hulstein's
- 15 - Faithe Van Maanen
The Willard Hulstein's
- 16 - Matt Segar
Marlin Van Voorst
The Chad Hoekstra's
The Tom Zwart's
- 17 - Gabriel Lerma
Mrs. Tricia Vande Zandschulp
Ken De Boer
- 18 - Mrs. Lois Joffer
The Austin Hofman's
The Jeremy Stiltz's
- 19 - The Tim Gesink's
- 20 - Brady Hoogendoorn
- 21 - Jacob Sandbulte
Mrs. Linda Diekevers
The Marvin Kruid's
- 22 - Landyn Van Kekerix
Sean Robinson
Greg De Wit
The Verlyn Van Regenmorter's
- 23 - The Paul Maassen's
- 24 - Waylon Doelman
Dallas Rozeboom
Mrs. Nora Bohl
Henry J. Wolfswinkel
The Jim Joffer's
- 25 - Charli Bomgaars
Nate Van Ginkel
Heidi Vande Zandschulp
- 26 - Brody Van Voorst
Brian Rozeboom
The Matt Dibbet's
The Bob Ver Mulm's
- 27 - Mrs. Cassidy Robinson
Mrs. Teresa Sandbulte
- 28 - Alvin Sandbulte
Calvin Sandbulte
- 29 - Loren Punt
Mrs. Dittie Houtkooper
Mrs. Frieda Bartels
The Dave Dibbet's
The Russ Vande Vegte's
- 30 - Ripley Sayles
Alex Koedam
- 31 - Josie Maassen
Mrs. Whitney Van Essen
Mrs. Melinda Nibbelink
The Eric Van Meeteren's
The Dennis De Jong's



WHO AM I?

Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets?
Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines.
Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.

I am _____.

2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.

I am _____.

3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.

I am _____.

4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.

I am _____.

5. I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.

I am _____.

6. I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.

I am _____.

7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.

I am _____.

8. My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.

I am _____.

Prophets are _____.

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel. Messengers.

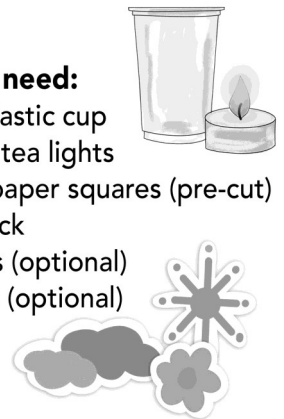
SHINE FOR Jesus



This easy and colorful craft helps kids remember that Jesus is their light—no matter where they go!

What you need:

- Clear plastic cup
- Battery tea lights
- Tissue paper squares (pre-cut)
- Glue stick
- Markers (optional)
- Stickers (optional)



What you do:

1. Use the glue stick to press colorful tissue paper squares around the outside of the cup.
2. Add a simple phrase like "Jesus is my Light" or use fun stickers to decorate.
3. Turn on the tea light and place it inside the cup.
4. Turn off the lights and let your lantern glow!

