

Shepherd's Staff

June 2018

We gather to worship, we go to serve our Lord.

"You will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth!"

Parkersburg Christian Reformed Church

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m. ~ Church School 10:45 a.m. ~ Life Plus Wed., 6:30 p.m.

Through a Child's Eyes

"Oh to be young again" is something that many of us have thought about or maybe even dreamt about. The excitement of seeing the world through eyes untarnished through the many disappointments that have a tendency to make us cynical as we age takes its toll on us. But what if we were able to have that delight in life come back? How would we, despite our past, find joy in the simple things that astonish little children?

Perhaps we should take a look at our perspective of what God has made. I was brought to this conclusion early this month when we received a picture of our grandchildren. They were smiling as they were showing off some special head gear that their mother had made featuring flowers that grew in their yard. The delight of the crown of flowers was the identity they were given. These, Charlotte said, were "sunflowers"! That is not what I would have called them. I would have called them weeds! Dandelions are not something I find delight in, but to Charlotte, they were beautiful.

What makes us find delight in some flowers and not others? It is all about our perspective. What we find beautiful is often what we have been told is so at the expense of others that have been defined as being in the weed category. If we want to find the delight in life as a child, could it be that we need to come with an open mind as to what is beauty and what is not?

I think this is what Jesus was referring to when he defended the children who were coming to him. In both Matthew 19 and Luke 10, Jesus found the children to be much closer to heaven than the wise, or learned. If we fail to see the world through eyes as little children, what are we missing? Are we closing our eyes to the beauty that God sees when he looks at the creation he has made?

If we are to see the world through eyes as a child, then we will not be darkened by the hate or prejudice that is so prevalent in the world today. We will be able to see the love that God showers on all people. How many times have we failed to see the beauty for ashes that show the redeeming quality that God gives to us in the world? Is it time that we see "sunflowers" instead of weeds when we see others so that we can love them as God loves us?

Imagine what joy we can have if we reset our perspective so that we can see the beauty all around us. Looking through eyes of love and not suspicion may be a good place to start. This can be quite the challenge as our point of view took a long time to get to where it is. I know I have room for improvement as I still try to keep the dandelion sunflowers out of my yard! But who knows, if I try really hard, I may see others in a new light. Seeing as a child sees may be more like looking through God's eyes than I ever thought.

Pastor Rus

Sunshine Circle News

Our 2017 – 2018 year began on Sep. 6th with a delicious lunch at 12:30. We met only once a month this year. We used Dr. David Jeremiah's tapes on 'Ten Questions Christians Ask.' On Sep 12th we hosted the meeting of Classis North Central Iowa. We served lunch after the Reformation Service on Oct 29th.

We enjoyed Janna Voss telling us about her ceramics at our Christmas Tea on Dec 6th.

Our only fundraiser was selling daffodils. We are sorry they were not the quality that we had last year and will try something else next year.

At our last meeting on May 2nd we dispersed the following: World Renew: \$100.00, Home Missions: \$100.00, Faith Promise: \$300.00, Shannon Ries: \$100.00, KNWS: \$50.00, Back to God Ministry: \$50.00.

Our officers for next year are: Jan J: Pres., Marcia A: Vice, Marge A Sec., Janet V: Trea, Kay Swanson: Vicar.

We are still collecting cancelled stamps and the front side of all types of greeting cards.

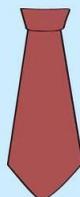
We want to thank all of you who help serve and/or supply food whenever we ask you to.

As always, we would love to increase the number of ladies to join us. Our goal to support our missionaries and to learn more about the Bible and how it applies to our daily lives. Of course, we always have coffee and a treat and lots of laughs and fellowship. Hope to see you on Sep. 5th.



**A father is someone you look
upto no matter how tall you grow.**

- Unknown



WE LOVE YOU



DAD

June Birthdays/Anniversaries

WE LOVE YOU



DAD

Happy Birthday

6/1 Frances VanEllen
 6/14 Lillian Reints
 6/18 Chelsea Meester
 6/25 June Karsjens

Happy Anniversary

6/9 Cory & Kamie Shepard
 6/10 John & Jodi DeBerg
 6/20 Clarence & June Karsjens
 6/28 Rus & Mary Boersma



Reminder: If you have anything you'd like included in the Shepherd's Staff, please try to have it to Wendy Mulder by the 20th of the month. The goal is to have the newsletter in your mailboxes on the last Sunday of the month.

CRC Service Schedule

	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Coffee*</i>
6/3	Dave & Betty (N) Henry & Kathy (S)	Ken Kramer	Ken & Jan
6/10	Marlyn & Marcia (N) Mike Ascher Family (S)	Joel & Kellen	Dennis & Sharon
6/17	Arnie & Kay (N) Mike Stirling Family (S)	Mark Kramer	Clarence & June
6/24	Melvin R. & Rod Mulder (N) JoLynne & Lauren (S)	Joshua	Don & Annie

*If you are unable to serve coffee on your Sunday as listed, please find your replacement. Thank you.

Things to Do With Dad Word Search

V	V	C	A	M	P	I	N	G	I	U	C	I	E	M	D	P	BASEBALL
W	P	O	O	L	O	Q	I	D	R	B	M	V	G	E	I	F	BBQ
E	H	N	C	X	U	W	X	D	E	V	C	N	Z	N	Y	O	BOWLING
B	E	F	V	U	C	E	S	U	N	I	B	A	G	W	H	O	CAMPING
O	G	N	I	H	S	I	F	Q	N	V	L	P	A	O	J	T	CUDDLE
I	G	A	M	E	S	C	B	C	I	V	O	T	C	T	M	B	DINNER
P	F	Q	G	S	K	G	I	V	D	N	C	K	S	T	X	A	EATOUT
G	L	P	N	M	W	P	A	N	G	H	E	J	H	L	L	L	FISHING
J	O	L	I	Q	M	K	X	R	T	Y	R	J	L	W	A	L	FOOTBALL
T	G	A	T	T	R	H	B	V	D	M	R	A	C	H	H	Z	GAMES
T	W	Y	N	A	U	U	B	B	V	E	B	B	C	F	I	Q	GARDENING
K	S	B	U	N	E	O	Q	Q	N	E	N	A	W	H	K	C	GOLF
N	T	A	H	K	G	L	T	L	S	J	X	I	R	N	I	Q	HIKING
T	R	L	K	J	N	C	D	A	A	G	R	P	N	P	N	Q	HOCKEY
D	O	L	U	S	K	R	B	D	E	K	L	A	T	G	G	G	HUNTING
X	P	G	N	I	L	W	O	B	U	U	R	E	C	C	O	S	KITEFLYING
V	S	Y	A	R	D	W	O	R	K	C	V	I	P	O	N	T	PICNIC
H	R	X	V	K	K	I	T	E	F	L	Y	I	N	G	D	A	PINGPONG