

October 2018

OUR MISSION:

To grow a loving community of active followers of Jesus, equipped to take his love and message to the world.



Church Family,

Many sports teams have a star player. Get the ball to him and he'll score. Get him up at bat with two men on base and he'll hit them home. The sports commentators keep extensive statistics on each player that they'll pull out during a lull in the play. It's usually all about the numbers — each person playing to advance his own career, to increase his averages — at least that's the way it seems at times.

But once in a while you see a team that plays together with a kind of magic. It's not about one person scoring big, but it's every team member doing his utmost to move the team forward to win the game — to get the ball across the line, to score.

Each player on the field or in the court has a role to play. And when each plays that role well and aggressively — keeping his eye on the ball — the whole team benefits. When one player just goes through the motions, the team is crippled. And if a key member of the team is injured — or just doesn't show up for the game — the whole team suffers. The team fails to score.

This past year, some of our church leaders have been reading and discussing a book called, *Church Is A Team Sport* by Rex Putman. We've found that a healthy church has a lot in common with a finely oiled sports team. Church shouldn't be just a spectator sport with a few players entertaining the crowd. Church — especially a small church — relies on each person actively doing what he or she does best. This fits the apostle Paul's description of the church as being a body united in Jesus Christ. By that description, the church is indeed a team sport.

Let me ask you: what's your role in this body of believers? What can you do and are you doing to move the ball forward? What have you been *asked* to do that might further your effectiveness as a willing servant of Jesus Christ?

Thank you to those team members that joyfully help your church do Christ's work! Thank you! Thank you for obeying God's call to be the church. While I celebrate all of the activity at our church, I still long and work for the day when many others will submit themselves to be faithful members of this team, a team that has the goal of glorifying God and bringing people to Christ.

This is the kind of magical team that I believe we all have a deep longing to be a part of! Thanks for playing your part on our LLRC team! If you are not active, we invite you to find a place where God can use your passions and gifts to equip others to take His love and message to the world!

To God's Kingdom!
Mark

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 11 10:30 am

We will vote for our new Elders & Deacons to replace those going off at the end of the year. Please be in prayer as to who should help lead our church. Childcare will be provided.

Sunday Volunteers

Worship: Doug N, Mike, Rod
Deacons: Brad, Jeff, Randy, Alex

October 7: Adult Choir

Coffee: Sarah Lefferdink
Nursery: Janelle D & Jacee C.
Power Point: Hunter DeBoer
Sound Tech: Mike Brown
Church Lock-Up: Alex Olson

October 14:

Coffee: Linda D. & Pearl W.
Nursery: The Boden Family
Power Point: Heather Riensche
Sound Tech: Brad Riensche
Church Lock-Up: Brad Riensche

October 21: Adult Choir

Coffee: Marge & Allen Klein
Nursery: The Sieck Family
Power Point: Tammy Goering
Sound Tech: Jacob Hickey
Church Lock-Up: Randy Sieck

October 28:

Coffee: Gloria & Dave Rice
Nursery: Samantha H. & Brenda R.
Power Point: Maddie Starr
Sound Tech: Keith TenHulzen
Church Lock-Up: Keith TenHulzen

Mowing Schedule:

Sept 24th -Oct. 7th – Clark Mulder
Glena Gana



Saturday, Oct 27 8:00am

Please join us for a morning of light work around the church as we prepare the grounds for winter. We have bushes to trim, leaves to rake and general fall maintenance and the more help, the quicker the work! Bring gloves and tools that fit all hands. And there will be coffee and donuts!!

Mission News

Wilson's. Mark was able to enjoy spending some time with their son, Zach, in the United States this summer. Also, praise God that Deb is recovering better than is typical from her knee surgery!

“F” Street Church. We recently had a team help serve food for their block party outreach events. Thank you to everyone who served!

Operation Christmas Child. It is not too early to start looking for items to include in your shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! This year, the GCT is paying the \$9 postage for the boxes so all you have to do is fill a box (that we will provide) with items that will bring joy to a child.

Todd Becker Foundation. We are planning to team up with area churches to bring an event to the Norris High School to share the gospel through the Todd Becker Foundation.

Scrip Card Update. The proceeds during September and October will go to People's City Mission. And during November and December, the proceeds will go to the (Lincoln) Crisis Pregnancy Center. Thank you for your support!

25th Anniversary of Operation Christmas Child!



Operation Christmas Child is something that anyone can participate in by filling a simple shoebox. Gift ideas include:

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, yo-yos, Etch-A-Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

School Supplies: pens, pencils & sharpener, crayons/markers, stamps & ink pads, coloring books, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, and more.

Hygiene items: toothbrush, soap, comb, washcloth, etc.

More: hard candy, lollipops, mints, sunglasses, wind-up flashlights, ball caps, socks, t-shirts, toy jewelry, hair clips, watches, small books, etc. No Chocolate!

Please remember the box needs to remain open for postal inspections, There are Boy/Girl labels for you to put on the boxes at the church. Boxes are available in the Narthex.

Consistory Minutes: September 11, 2018

1. Matthew 12:25 and Matthew 5:23 were the scriptures Mark Starr referred to in leading devotions on Chapters 14 and 15 of 'Church Is A Team Sport' by Jim Putnam. A culture of teamwork and Godly relationships was emphasized as well as living a life of 'uncluttered' Christianity in this world.
2. The consistory shared the mission statement '**To grow a loving community of active followers of Jesus, equipped to take his love and message to the world.**'
3. Zach McClintock of Hickman made a presentation on Fathers in the Field, a one-on-one ministry designed to teach forgiveness and stop the cycle of destructive father/son relationships caused by an absent father. Men make a commitment of meeting with the boys a minimum of four times per month for a year, including church attendance. The program has a solid Christian foundation and churches have champions that are resources for the mentors and the boys. Living Life Reformed has three individuals willing to commit to this. The financial commitment for materials is \$500.00 per team. It was MSC to support this mission for ten teams in the upcoming budget.
4. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of hosting a leadership summit in the upcoming year.
5. **Youth** – Ian Opfer
 - Ian indicated that 28 attended the first meeting of 4JC and 40 were at The Fire's opening get together.
 - The shingling project was completed on the recent White Earth mission trip and attendees were able to help Bill and Shirley at Hoot Owl Lodge with some additional projects.
6. **Building Committee** – Doug Goering
 - Door latches and closing storage room doors are needed to gain occupancy from the fire marshal.
 - The gym floor and flooring to the kitchen will be finished at a time after occupancy is attained.
7. Consistory representative reports
 - Congregational Care** – Cary Prange and Rod TeKolste
 - Discipleship/Education** – Doug Nieveen
 - God's Kids Club has 67 kids signed up with teachers and helpers ready for the first meeting on September 12th.
 - Worship** – Brad Riensche and Keith TenHulzen
 - Building/Grounds** – Alex Olson, Brian Auman and Doug Goering
 - Alex Olson presented a comprehensive list of costs that need to be covered to fully finish the new addition.
 - The fire alarm for the existing church building is set to be installed by June 1st, 2019.
 - Everything is cleared with the Fire Marshal except for the installation of handrails.
 - Hospitality/Outreach** – Doyle Petersen and Randy Sieck
 - The Hospitality and Outreach Team is meeting September 12th with continued planning for the Trunk-or-Treat event on October 31st.
 - Great Commission Team** – Jeff Gottwald and Mike Brown
 - A block party is planned for September 30th at F Street Church in Lincoln and a request has been made for volunteers from our church.
 - Our missionary contact in India is planning on returning there again next year.
8. **Financial Report** – Alex Olson

August 2018 Ending Balances: Building Fund \$40,219.71 General Fund \$24,720.08 Centennial Challenge \$18,876.00
Memorial Fund \$13,902.08 Branson Fund \$15,012.64 Rocky Mountain High \$1,321.9 Script Fund \$1,031.80

It was MSC to approve the August 2018 Financial Reports.
9. It was MSC to approve the minutes of the August meeting of consistory.
10. **Calendar of Events**
 - October 7th:** 'A Question Of Faith' Movie **October 8th:** Consistory Meeting **October 14th:** Nomination Ballots
 - October 31st:** Trunk-or-Treat

The 2018 Congregational Meeting is scheduled for after the morning worship service at 10:30 AM on Sunday, November 11th. The 4JC's will be doing a fundraising meal for the 2019 Power Connection trip following the meeting. It was MSC to approve the October calendar of events.
11. It was MSC to adjourn and Consistory closed in prayer.

Continued.....

Continued Minutes: September 11, 2018

Elder Notes

- The constitutional question was asked.
- The elders reviewed the spiritual needs of the congregation.
- Pastor review forms were distributed.
- Attendance at the Vitality Pathways Meeting at Holland is planned for September 24th.
- Communion will be held on the World Day Of Communion, October 7th.
- The elders closed their meeting in prayer.

Deacon Notes

- The church Fall clean-up day will be Saturday, October 27th beginning at 8:00 AM.
- The Living Life Reformed Church sign at the end of 68th Street has been installed and is complete with the final bill to be paid soon.
- The two basketball hoops from Bison, Inc. for the Family Life Center have been ordered.
- The sewer line from the parsonage to Seventh Street needs to be rerouted before the sewer line under the church can be repaired. The deacons are getting bids on this rerouting and will proceed with it within the next couple weeks. The village gave a tentative date of October 1 to start sewer line repairs under church. The company will dig a hole in the connection area to make a new hookup for the original church sewer which will be at the church's cost.
- The installation of the alarm system in the new addition is complete and payment will be made from the Building Fund.
- The deacons closed their meeting in prayer

BRANSON GETAWAY SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2018

Our 33rd LLRC Branson Getaway was a lot of fun & gave us the opportunity to meet some VERY NICE people. It was no surprise that the evaluations showed that, as always, it's the people who make these getaways so much fun! Fifty-six passengers left in the Navigator bus with our first-time driver, Allison, at the wheel. We all agreed she handled the bus very well and was a lot of fun to boot! Passengers were from 15 different towns including four passengers from three cities in Iowa. We are most thankful for your prayers for us while we were gone. God is good!

The drama "Samson" at the Sight & Sound Theatre was voted the favorite by far. What an incredible portrayal of that story from the Bible. It was an unforgettable, uplifting drama that literally "brought the house down."

The "Mystery Show" was a big hit! No one guessed that we were going to see Faith's Journey perform their "Absolutely Country Definitely Gospel" show at the Uptown Café. It turned out to be a fun mystery.

The noon meal on the Branson Belle was voted the favorite meal, although every meal was voted someone's favorite, and none of us came home hungry.

Marvin & Ilene announced that next year will mark 20 years of Branson Getaways! What an incredible 20 years it has been! They also announced that after 2019 they will be passing the baton on to someone else to continue the fun in planning Branson bus trips. Perhaps one of you would like to give it a try. You get to choose the shows you like and believe us when we say, the people that go on these trips are the most fun, helpful, considerate, and loving people you will find anywhere. Please talk to Marvin or Ilene if you are at all interested. You will find it to be a real blessing as we have.

Right now we're looking forward to the November Branson Getaway on November 7-10, 2018. The bus is filled to capacity and we are excited about that. We look forward to the Jim Stafford Show, Hughes Brothers Christmas Show, the Texas Tenors, O Happy Day, Christmas with Daniel O'Donnell, the Trail of Lights, and another Mystery Show.

The dates for 2019 are September 6-9 (Friday-Monday), and November 6-9, (Wednesday-Saturday). We would be pleased if YOU would plan to go with us.

White Earth Fall Mission Trip

On September 7th-10th a team of 10 individuals from our congregation traveled to White Earth, Minnesota to help a family in need. The team included: Steve and Keaton Anthony, Doyle and Terri Petersen, Bill Wieskamp, Randy Sieck, Mel Harms, Doug Goering, Dave Hobelman, and Ian Opfer. Our team's goal was to replace the roof of a house for a 19-year-old girl named, Alanna, and her three younger sisters. Members of our congregation have known Alanna and her sisters for as many as 13 years through our summer mission trips to White Earth. Alanna was granted custody of her three teenage sisters following the death of their father and grandmother and a court case. The girls have been through many difficult times in this past year, and were in need of a new roof before winter.

Our team was able to tear off and replace the roof on Saturday by mid-afternoon. By completing our main goal on Saturday we were able to extend a helping hand to Bill and Shirley, the owners of Hoot Owl, the resort that we stay at during our mission trips. Bill and Shirley are getting older and have a difficult time completing some of the tasks that are required to prepare Hoot Owl for the harsh Minnesota winter. They have also come to hold a special place in the hearts of many members of our mission's teams and it was our pleasure to assist them in whatever way we could. Our team helped by pulling many of the docks out of the lakes around Hoot Owl, draining and stacking boats and paddleboats, cutting firewood, mowing, and replacing screens on doors.

We are very grateful for all of the financial assistance, prayers, and fundraising help that were given for the team and this missions project. While 10 individuals physically went on this trip, it truly was a community effort.



Attributes of a Pastor

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

All the words listed are in the puzzle – left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and circle it. The leftover letters will form the **mystery answer!**

Abilities	Accepting
Bible	Caring
Committed	Confidential
Counselor	Development
Effective	Encourages
Enthusiastic	Family
Fellowship	Gifts
Loyal	Mature
Meetings	Mission
New Members	Participate
Plans	Powerful
Reaches Out	Skilled
Stewardship	Supportive
Teacher	Understands
Worship	

From christianbiblereference.org

God's Kids Club

God has blessed us with a mission field of sixty-seven kids this year! We are making use of all classroom spaces that we can. Once the Family Life Center is open for occupancy, we will be moving a few of the older students to different classrooms. The younger children will stay where they are now.

Our mission project will once again be our missionary contact in India as she is continuing her ministry to young girls. It's always rewarding to see a young adult that was raised in our church seek to go into the mission field. She is a talented young woman with a heart for God. All our offering goes toward projects she does with the girls, providing special materials, gifts and items to meet their needs. We would like to encourage you to find ways for your child to earn some extra money to add to their weekly offering. Fall is a great time to do some extra chores outside or inside the house. Besides our mission project, we seek to provide a service project for each age group at God's Kids Club. We want all kids to learn the importance of being like Jesus and to learn to give to others. If we teach them this at a young age, it is our hope they will continue to do so in their lives as adults. Even a child as young as three can make a card or a craft to brighten someone's day.

Our 5th grade class will be collecting new towels and wash cloths to take to the City Mission. Will you do us a favor? Look in your linen closet. How many towels does your family own? Our guess is you have plenty! Most of us have towels we use only for display, we have swimming towels, we have holiday towels, bath sheets for adults, hooded towels for young ones and the list goes on. This year we plan to start our towel drive right away! We will have a large container ready for you to place your donations of new towels for the City Mission. Maybe take your child shopping with you and let them pick out the towel or towels you wish to donate. We are all beyond blessed, let's be a blessing to others!

Robbie Morrison was our photographer at the Fall Kick-off. You will see the photos on display on our God's Kids Club board and on the church Facebook page. We would like to give a shout out for Robbie's willingness to be our photographer. He owns his own business, Morphology Video and Photography.

As always, we value your prayers for the children and volunteers at God's Kids Club!

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1 Collier Hestermann | 16 Mandy Cramer |
| 5 Ron TeKolste | 19 Jordan Hays |
| 6 Cody Auman | 21 Brian Auman |
| Doug Wieskamp | 22 Randy Sieck |
| 9 Taylor TeKolste | 27 Tyler Sieck |
| 12 Zander Olson | 28 Kylie Goering |
| 13 Megan Hickey | 29 Lindsey Roby |
| Clara Hickey | |
| 14 Ian Opfer | |
| 15 Jacob Starr | |

Anniversaries

11 Jeff & Kari Gottwald (22)
 17 Kendall & DeAnn Weber (37)
 20 Marvin & Ilene Docter (57)

October Family Meal Schedule

Oct. 3: Ham, Cheesy Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Dessert
 Oct. 10: Pizza, Garlic Rolls, Salad, Dessert
 Oct. 17: Meat Loaf, Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Rolls, Salad, Dessert
 Oct. 24: Homemade Mac & Cheese, Smokies, Salad, Doughnuts
 Oct. 31: Trunk or Treat Night - Grilled burgers & hot dogs, chips, baked beans



Mary & Martha Circle

Wed, Oct. 10 1:30pm
 Lesson: Ilene Docter
 Lunch: Marian Mulder

FIRE & 4JC Events

October 5th: Friday 6pm
 4JC Bonfire at Boden's (Food will be provided)
October 28: Sunday 6-8pm
 4th Sunday Fire Event Bonfire at Thimm's House (Food will be provided)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – October

Tuesdays	6:30pm	Prayer Gatherings
Wednesdays	5:30pm	Fellowship Meals
	6:15pm	4JC's
	6:30pm	God's Kids Club
	7:45pm	The Fire
Fridays	6:00am	Men's Group at Homestead

Fri, Oct 5	6:00pm	4JC Bonfire at Boden's
Sun, Oct 7	6:30pm	Movie Night" A Question of Faith"
Mon, Oct 8	1:00pm	"IF" Meeting (Ilene Docter)
	7:00pm	Consistory Meeting
Wed, Oct 10	1:30pm	Mary & Martha Circle
Fri, Oct 12		NO SCHOOL
Sun, Oct 14		Nomination Ballets due back!!!!
	7:00pm	Afterglow Bible Study
Mon, Oct 15		NO SCHOOL
Sat, Oct 27	9:00am	Fall Clean-Up Day!!
Sun, Oct 28	6:00pm	Fire "4 th Sunday Event"
Mon, Oct 29	1:00pm	"IF" Meeting (Ilene Docter)
Wed, Oct 31	5:30pm	Trunk or Treat!!



**October is
 Pastor Appreciation
 month!!**

Be sure to take a moment and thank Mark and Ian for being our Pastors and helping us to continue our mission of spreading the good news of God's love and mercy to those around us!

Thanks

Living Life Reformed Church
603 Russell, Box 295
Firth, NE 68358



Wednesday Night

5:30-6:30pm:

Fellowship Meal

6:15-7:30pm:

4JC's (Middle School)

6:30-7:45pm:

God's Kids Club

7:45-9:00pm:

The Fire (High School)

Sunday Morning

8:30-9:00am:

Family Brunch

8:30-9:00am:

Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00-10:00am:

Worship Service

10:00-10:15am

Fellowship & Coffee Time

10:15-11:00am:

Sunday School for 3yrs old through High School and Adults. Life Groups will also meet.

To Contact Us

Church Office Hours:

9:00am-12:00pm

Mark Starr: 320-262-9952

mark@livinglifereformed.org

Ian Opfer: 402-770-1775

ian@livinglifereformed.org

**Please return your nominations for
Deacon and Elder to the church by
Sunday, October 14th**

FREE MOVIE NIGHT!

Don't miss the free movie, "A Question of Faith" at LLRC on Sunday, October 7th at 6:30 p.m. Three families find themselves at a crossroads, questioning their faith and the God that guides their lives. Come enjoy the movie and free popcorn and see how these families discover God's love, grace and mercy. Bring your entire family and invite your friends. You are welcome to bring a bottle of water with you to go with your free popcorn.

**Join us on October 31
for a Fun Family Night!!**

Make us your first stop and join us for a fun evening of food, fellowship and great family activities on Wednesday, October 31, 5:30-7:00pm!



Cook-Out



Costume Contest



Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot

More details to follow – watch for information!!

To be a part of the T&T team, please contact Andy. Proceeds from the Free-Will offering will go to support the Family Life Center.

Phone: 402-791-5800 ● **Email:** church@livinglifereformed.org

Website: livinglifereformed.org ● **Facebook:** facebook.com/ReformedChurchofFirth