

Vacation Bible School food donation sheets are available for sign up!!

We have set up care packages in the fellowship hall for the college students who have finals coming up. Please add goodies and notes of encouragement to those boxes. ***They will be mailed next Friday, May 7.*** We have 4 care package boxes and 3 graduate bags! This year we have 2 high school graduates and 1 college graduate. Please add cards and gifts to those bags. Senior Recognition Sunday is planned for May 23.

Budget Report:	2021 Budget	\$310,035.00
	Monthly Budget	25,836.25
	March Offerings	16,593.88
	Year to Date	74,110.23
	YTD Standing	(29,234.77)

### Reflections for May 2, 2021

In the midst of discouragement have you ever “lost heart?” Losing heart is the idea of discouragement...sadness...depressed...cannot succeed...to be demoralized. Problems can do that. The problem begins to make you think you can never win. You are always going to be on the losing end. It is helpful to know that life is hard, and God is good. But I also think it is important to know that love wins...life wins...that in the end connected to Christ we will win, and that glory is coming.

Imagine with me that you had to miss one of the games of your favorite football team. You used the DVR and recorded it to watch later. You tried hard not to know the outcome until you could watch the recording. You knew it was going to be a hard-fought game. As you prepare to sit down later that night you inadvertently see a twitter feed with the score. The team you were cheering for won 28-27. A big win in a close game. You decide you still want to watch it. You know the outcome. You are confident because your team wins. But as you watch the game you wonder how. They fall behind early, 21-0. It is almost halftime before they score. Going into halftime it is 21-7. Still behind but they did make it on the board. You are not worried because you know the outcome. As the 2<sup>nd</sup> half begins the starting quarterback on your team goes down with an injury. It looks like he is done for the day. You are thinking how is it possible that my team wins? But you know they do...so still not worried. The other team scores first in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half but misses the extra point. 27-7 halfway through 2<sup>nd</sup> half. Still not worried or frazzled because you know the final score. Your team makes a comeback and with 1 minute left in the game trail 27-21. You do not know how, but you are still confident because you know the final score. Otherwise, you would have been nervous, but now a confidence. They will win. And they do with a couple of incredible plays toward the end they cross the goal line with no time left on the clock. The extra point is coming. Before you would have closed your eyes and could not watch, but now you watch with a certain knowing that it is going through...and it does 28-27 is the final score.

When you know the outcome of something even if there are continual trials, struggles and problems you live (watch the game) with a certain confidence. That is what the Apostle Paul is teaching in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. Even though life is hard, and it can be filled with problems, there is hope that we will win in the end. That hope is found in Jesus Christ, “because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus” (2 Corinthians 4:14). We do not lose heart, even if physically we are declining, because inwardly we are strong in the knowledge of who we are in Christ, and that glory is coming where we will see Jesus face to face. We are going to think about this on Sunday in the continuing series “A Life Perspective.” Life is hard because everything is broken. God is good. And now glory is coming so do not lose heart. Some scripture passages to read: 2 Corinthians 4:4-18; 2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Revelation 21:1-7.

Grace upon Grace,  
Verlyn

## Community Announcements

Shepherd's Table: Trinity CRC will be serving a drive-thru only meal on May 3 from 5:00-6:00pm in their south parking lot. Food bags of bakery & frozen items will also be handed out. Please drive to the south side of Trinity CRC and enter from the west. We would love to see you!

The students and staff at RVCS will be holding a 'money' war from May 1 - May 25. There will be three jars by the office to put your money in - one for Mr. Vis, one for Mr. McCray and one for Lanette Vander Ziel, head cook. Whoever has the most money in their bucket by the end of the day on 5/25 will be 'dunked' at our lunch picnic on May 26th. *Donations raised will be given to the Greg & Jasmine Boer family in support of their son Leo. Modern Woodmen of America has agreed to match the funds raised! (Check donations may be made out to Trinity Christian Reformed Church - write 'Benevolence' in the memo.)*

Rock Valley Christian School ARROWS will hold our annual Jog-a-thon on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. The Junior High band will kick off the event at 5:15 pm in the bus barn. Tavern, coney dogs, hot dogs, and nachos will be served in the bus barn from 5-7:30 pm. Ice cream and popcorn will also be available. Games and inflatables will be open from 6-8pm. Students in K-8th grade will be running between 6:15-7:40. In the case of inclement weather, the games will be held in the bus barn and there will be no running. Funds raised at this event are utilized to support students and classrooms at Rock Valley Christian School. Bring your lawn chair or running shoes and join us for this fun event!

Inspiration Hills Volunteer Workday will be on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>! Bring your church group, youth group, friends or family and spend the day outside preparing Camp for Summer Camp! Many different projects for all ages! Contact the office at 712-986-5193 or email [ihills@inspirationhills.org](mailto:ihills@inspirationhills.org) to sign up today.

Inspiration Hills is preparing for Summer Camp! We are still in need of guy counselors! So if there is anyone you know who loves Jesus and works well with kids, please encourage them to join the team for a summer of missions! Dates are from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup> with great benefits including room and board. Visit the website at [www.inspirationhills.org/summer-service](http://www.inspirationhills.org/summer-service) for more information. We are also looking for a few more chaplains! If you or anyone you know has a heart for teaching children, please send them to our website at [www.inspirationhills.org/summer-volunteer](http://www.inspirationhills.org/summer-volunteer).

The Justice for All (JFA) Board is seeking an experienced Christian leader to guide, manage and grow the organization. The Executive Director will be the main representative of the organization in the community. They will be responsible for working with stakeholders to develop the strategic plan and broadly communicate JFA's vision; to manage comprehensive fundraising efforts; to oversee JFA's budget and operations; to provide leadership to the staff; and to support the Board.

The successful candidate will be an experienced leader with a high level of integrity who has led and managed a similar non-profit or ministry. They will have an extensive knowledge of Christian Community Development; sharing the Gospel; have a successful track record of raising money and resources; have led organizational growth; and have experience working with volunteer boards.

To Apply:

To be considered, applications must include both a resume and cover letter explaining your interest in Justice for All Ministries and why you think you are a good fit for this role. Only resumes with cover letters will be considered. No phone calls please. Please send your application to [info@jfa-nwiowa.org](mailto:info@jfa-nwiowa.org). Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but preferential review will be given to candidates submitting their application by June 15, 2021.

***If you or a family member have a prayer concern and would like to have either the elders or the whole church to pray with you or for you, please contact your calling elder or a member of the consistory.***

## **Glory is Coming**

### **2 Corinthians 4:7-18**

- Nobody wants to lose heart
- Life is hard because everything is Broken...  
Relationship with God is broken...  
Relationship with physical world is broken...  
Relationship with others broken...  
Relationship with self is broken...
- Jesus came to bring substantial healing...
- Effects of the fall continue until Jesus returns....
- God is good...provides a way
- Who wrote these words?

### **Four Reasons to Not Lose Heart**

1<sup>st</sup>: Momentary Troubles

2<sup>nd</sup>: Light Troubles

3<sup>rd</sup>: An Eternal Glory

4<sup>th</sup>: The Unseen Eternal Glory to Come

### **Good News Truths: LOOK**

#1: Your troubles do not have the last word...

#2: Your troubles are momentary...

#3: Your troubles are producing an eternal weight of glory...