

## Harvest Community this week

### This Lord's Day, July 26

**9a – 'War of Words' Bible Class** for all ages

**10a – Worship.** Heb 6:1-8; Mark 4:1-20; Gen 24:59-67

**6p – Worship.** Ps 145:1-4; Jer 13; Rom 9:14-18. Gary Vander Plaats leading.

*Afterparty the De Haans'*

### Wednesday, July 29

**7p – Prayer Meeting,** Psalm 40:6-10

### Friday, July 31

**5:30p – Officer Election,** Party Immediately Following

### Next Lord's Day, Aug 2

**9a – 'War of Words' Bible Class** for all ages

**10a – Worship.** Heb 6:9-12; Mark 4:21-34; Gen 25:1-18

**11:30a – Fellowship Meal**

**6p – Worship.** Ps 145:5-9; Jer 14; Rom 9:19-21. **The Lord's Supper.** Russ

Herman leading.

*Afterparty at the Hakims'*

**August Servants' Rotation:** Greeting—De Groot; Coffee—Hermans; Nursery—Lavermans; Cleaning—Vander Harts

You may contact Harvest by phone (712-395-0983), email (church@harvestoc.net), or post (209 1<sup>st</sup> St. NE, OC, Iowa, 51041). **If you would like information, prayer, counsel, or some other assistance please contact one of our elders:**

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*The Lord's Day, July 26, 2009*

*"Then Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother and took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death."*

*Genesis 24:67*

*"So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy."*

*Romans 9:16*

## Welcome, Announcements, and Preparation

### Call to Worship – Hebrews 6:1-8 (Pew Bible, p1003)

*As Hebrews began to tell us last week, one of the great benefits of worship is that in it Jesus, our Prophet, proclaims to us the basics of His gospel. Last week's text referred to these basics as "milk." This week's refers to them as "the elementary doctrine of Christ" and our "foundation."*

*Foundations are important; it is pointless to work on any other part of the building until the foundation is set. The passage that calls us to worship this morning does so by reminding us of those truths that must be our foundation, and the great danger of hearing them over and over if we then reject them*

*Let us then cling to these truths and rejoice in them as our foundation, as we taste the goodness of Jesus in the Word of God read, sung, prayed, and preached!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #347, *The Church's One Foundation*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #94, *How Firm a Foundation*

*As we enter God's presence then, let us sing our joy in Jesus Christ, our Foundation presented to us in the Bible, upon Whom we rest securely now and forever!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Prayer for Help

*Let us pray for the help of the Spirit of God, that He might keep us resting squarely upon the Lord Jesus, throughout the service, this week, this life, and forever!*

### <sup>UNISON</sup> Serial Reading – Mark 4:1-20 (Pew Bible, p839)

*As Mark continues to confront us with who Jesus is and what Jesus has done, he now brings us to a new and important truth about Jesus: only Jesus can give us understanding about Jesus!*

*We see this in the passage, where Jesus hides plain truths about Himself in what on the surface looks like just a story about the different ways that people respond to His Word. But in the context around the story we learn more: Jesus is using the parables to distinguish between those whom He will give understanding and those from whom He will hide it.*

*So what this text confronts us with is this: we must respond by hearing Christ's word and accepting it and bearing fruit. And if that is to happen, we must ask Christ Himself to give us this understanding, and acceptance, and fruit-bearing!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #392, *O Day of Rest and Gladness*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #146, *Break Thou the Bread of Life*

*From our two texts this morning we have been hearing that in congregational worship on the Lord's Day, Jesus reveals Himself through His Word. So let us sing our joy in this great gift, and our prayer that Christ would bless it to us!*

## Congregational Prayer

*We know our complete dependence upon God's mercy and help, and we therefore have many praises and requests to make before Him. Since we are invited to make them known to Him, let us all give heart, mind, and will as we are led in prayer.*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Morning Sermon Text – Genesis 24:59-67 (Pew Bible, p19)

### Morning Sermon – *Marriage: Comfort in a Covenant Companion*

*As Genesis 24 concludes, God teaches us of all that marriage can be: a covenant blessing that He uses in His eternal plan of salvation; an exclusively intimate companionship in God's service; and, one of God's greatest blessings in this life*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #717, *Blest the Man That Feels Jehovah*

*Let us respond, using Psalm 128 to sing our joyful confidence that when a home is led by a God-fearing man, such man will enjoy godly wife, children, and even church forever.*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Benediction

*(This concludes the worship service)*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Parting Song – #717, vv4-5, "Lo, on him that fears Jehovah..."

PLEASE STAY FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE—LET US GREET AND WELCOME ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST!

Evening Worship Assembly, 6p.m.

## Welcome, Announcements, and Preparation

### Call to Worship – Psalm 145:1-4 (Pew Bible, p524)

*God deserves praise as great as He is! This is, of course, one reason there must be a Trinity—otherwise God could never receive praise up to that standard. But it is also the reason for corporate worship.*

*As we have seen throughout the Psalms, those who delight in the praise of God’s glory as described in vv1-3, are not satisfied for him to receive a merely individual cry from our own hearts. We will give Him that to the best of our ability. But we long for Him to receive corporate, congregational praise that spans time.*

*Therefore we delight in His call to public worship, for it is there that “one generation commends His works to another.” Indeed, that is what we are doing here tonight. Let us then meditate upon the glorious splendor of His majesty and upon the wonder of His works!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #5, *God, My King, Thy Might Confessing*

*So let us use these literally divine Words of Psalm 145 to sing this divine praise!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Prayer for Help

*Let us then pray for our great God’s gracious aid to praise His greatness and grace!*

### <sup>UNISON</sup> Serial Reading – Jeremiah 13 (Pew Bible, p641)

*v10 confronts us with a dilemma: a choice between two things. Following God’s Word is opposed to following our own hearts. Following God’s Word leads to truly serving and worshiping Him. Following our own hearts leads to idolatry, other service and worship.*

*v11 gives more detail on what following God’s Word looks like: clinging to Him, existing not for ourselves but as a people who exist for His name, His praise, His glory. The point of the loin cloth is that if we cling to dirt, we become dirty—and everything that isn’t God is dirt!*

*Just as they have turned their service and worship on its head, God will turn their blessing on its head. He will take wine, itself an object of great blessedness and health(v12), and make it for them an object of curse and destruction (vv13-14).*

*At the heart of the poetic section in vv15-27 is v21—that whatever we hope in or love other than God becomes to us a judgment to our shame and destruction.*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #557, *Blest Are the Undefiled*

*Jeremiah 13 leads well into this selection from Psalm 119, which identifies that our hearts were not meant to lead us but rather joyfully to be led by God’s law!*

## The Evening Prayer

*As we have been hearing of clinging to God and submitting to Him, let us do that now in prayer—making our requests, especially that we might obey His commands.*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Evening Sermon Text – Romans 9:14-18 (Pew Bible, p945)

### Evening Sermon – *The God Who Has Mercy*

*Leave it to us humans to turn the wonderful truths of God on their head. We hear about election, and where we should be exclaiming, “Now THAT’s MERCY!,” we are instead complaining, “but that’s unjust!”*

*This passage actually has comfort specifically for those who continue to struggle with this attitude, and encouragement for them to continue struggling in dependence upon God that they might believe its teaching, get past the sin barrier, and break through to see that the mercy of God is greater than they had previously imagined.*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #463, *A Debtor to Mercy Alone*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #469, *How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place*

*So let us sing of God’s great mercy and our longing that He would fill His church with redeemed sinners to sing of this mercy and grace!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Benediction

*(This concludes the worship service)*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Parting Song – #469, vv5-6, *“Pity the nations, O our God...”*

*Immediately following worship, all are invited to a Lord’s Day after-party at the De Haans’ (804 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE). If you would like to host an after-party some week, let James know to put it in the worship booklet; thanks!*

## Congregational Announcements

**DON'T FORGET THE LORD'S SUPPER AND FELLOWSHIP MEAL NEXT WEEK.**

**'WAR OF WORDS' IS THE INTERGENERATIONAL (i.e. for ALL ages) BIBLE CLASS THIS**

**SUMMER**. The psychologists are always talking about communication; but, this summer, we'll ask and answer: **what does GOD have to say about it?** This course of 12 half-hour lessons on DVD, with accompanying discussion, is a thorough study of Scripture on how we use our mouths. Not only is this a huge practical matter in areas like our children's discipleship, our love and faithfulness in marriage, the strength of our witness to the grace of Christ; but, **the Bible also tells us that our speech is a great battleground and proving ground for the issues of our heart.** We have a license to print as many of the discussion guides as we need. If you need **LARGE PRINT**, we can do that too. Also, if you wish to **purchase the book that teaches the same material more in depth, you can do so for \$10**—just ask Pastor James.

**FRIDAY, JULY 31—OFFICER ELECTION AND CELEBRATION.** When the congregation votes, we are not choosing the men we want but recognizing, *according to the Bible*, the men God has given us. Appropriately then, we will have some kind of celebration (cookout? bonfire? details to come) immediately following.

**LARGE PRINT PEW BIBLES** are now available. Please pick them up from the bookshelf nearest the door, and return them there after worship, so that they are readily available for the next people who need them.

**THERE IS AN OFFERING BOX ON THE RESOURCE TABLE** by which you may bring the tithes and offerings that we offer as we come to worship God through Jesus, our great High Priest (Heb 7).

**DON'T FORGET MATT AND MAGGIE'S CAMP** that is donating tableware and china for our use. If you would like to participate in a financial gift to the camp, please put a separate contribution in the offering box and designate it accordingly.

## Community Announcements

Summer Suites – music, theatre and sweets in backyard gardens – will be held Wed., August 5, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Featured will be the jazz & folk duo Bella Ruse (Joseph Barker & Kay Gillette); cellist Hannah McGarvey; and Bob Hubbard in "Selections from 'Grace Notes: A One-Man Show.'" The settings will be the gardens of Art & Doris De Hoogh, Arlyn & Bea Schapp, and Jack & Anita Vogel. Tickets must be purchased in advance from City Hall or an Orange City bank. Prior to noon August 3, tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for K-college students. More info? Call the Orange City Arts Council, 707-4885.

## Prayer Requests

- Harvest's worship, evangelism, discipleship, elders, teachers, parents; officer training and election
- Our Presbytery, the PCA, the church around the world, particularly mission works and the persecuted church
- Our country, particularly those in high position
- Celestin—family, ministry to Muslims, efforts to help Congolese Presbyterians with farming
- MTW, SAT-7, MERF, ITEM, Gideons, Gospel for Asia, and other world mission works
- Robin – God's grace, mercy, and peace for everyone involved
- Heather Hakim – Jonathan Isaac and Beatrice Christi due end of November
- The Kobza Family – Traveling out east, returning July 31
- Phyllis Vanden Brink – getting medical care at Happy Siesta in Remsen
- Brother in law of JoAnn Vander Plaats and Darlene Fedders—waiting for results from bladder cancer chemo, newly discovered lung cancer
- Marlo and Darlene's friend with bone cancer
- The Rowenhorst Family—Randy's headaches; falls increasing, subsequent injuries
- The Kauk Family in the loss of Jo Ellen
- Carla Van Essendelft's pregnancy, due October
- Jacob De Groot – air national guard school in Pensacola
- Jonathan Vander Plaats – refreshment and safe travel during time off
- Ron De Groot – looking for work, physical and spiritual progress, Christian friends

