

Maurice Moments

FEBRUARY 2019

**SWEETHEART
BANQUET**

February 7
6:30 PM

**PINEWOOD
DERBY**

February 16
10:00 AM

**STORE
NIGHT**

February 20
6:20 PM

MRC WINTER HAPPENINGS

**MRC
POOL
PARTY**

February 23
4-6 PM

**BELGIAN
WAFFLE
FUNDRAISER**

March 6
5-7 PM

**ASH
WEDNESDAY
SERVICE**

March 6
7:10 PM

MRC Family News

Our members who are celebrating an "Over 80" birthday this month:

Delmar Van Klompenburg

217 A Ave, P.O. Box 83
Maurice, IA 51036

**Delmar will celebrate his 81st birthday on February 7*



Hospitalizations...

We pray for our church family who have been hospitalized or have health concerns:

Chris Budden, Linda Zevenbergen, Liam Leusink, Bryan Van Gelder, Isaac Schmidt, Arlin & Lorna Bylsma, Landon Hofmeyer, Brent De Kok, Val Dykstra, & Ruth Heidebrink.

Sympathy...

- ◆ We extend our sympathy as Lola Heys, sister of **Marlin & Robert Wichers** and sister-in-law of **Eileen Wichers**, passed away.
- ◆ We extend our sympathy to **Rob & Sharon Schelling** in the passing of Rob's mother, Wilma Schelling. A funeral service was held in Sioux Center on January 29.

Congratulations...

- ◆ Congratulations to **Billy & Arla Korver** in the birth of their grandson, William Robert, born on December 14 to Jeremy & Marissa. Blessings to you all!

Congregation Thank You Notes

- ◆ I would like to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, and special wishes for my 81st birthday. - **Don Van Horsen**
- ◆ We appreciated all the phone calls, visits, food, cards, and words of comfort we received following the passing of our sister, Lola. We are grateful for a caring church family. Thanks to all. - **Marlin & Darlene Wichers, Robert & Wanda Wichers, and Eileen Wichers**



POOL PARTY

Got the winter blahs? Want to have some fun and fellowship? Come to our first ever February Pool Party! Bring the family! This is sponsored by the church. We hope to see you there! We will have pizza after swimming in the meeting room that overlooks the pool (freewill offering)

- **When?** Saturday, February 23
- **Time?** 4:00-6:00 PM
- **Where?** Sioux Center Aquatic Center
- **Why?** Because it will be fun!



Grandma Wanda's Mission to Maurice

Although not a traditional mission, Wanda Kuiken's card ministry has touched hundreds of people, letting them know that they are thought about and loved. You don't need to leave home to be a missionary!

In 1994 Pastor Wayne Sneller came to Maurice Reformed Church. Not too long after that he sought out Wanda Kuiken. He had discovered they had both shared grief from similar experiences. "He hugged me and told me we needed each other," said Wanda, "and asked me to be his prayer warrior. So I did."

One day when they were meeting, Wanda started talking about some children she saw running around town. They were not in a good family situation, and Wanda was concerned. Pastor Sneller took her concerns to heart, and soon the children were coming to Sunday School every Sunday. Eventually the children stopped by Wanda's house to sell something. She found out when their birthdays were, and made sure they got a birthday card on their birthday.

From that, Wanda's card ministry was born. She sends out birthday cards, anniversary cards and sympathy cards to every person going to Maurice Reformed. It averages a dozen cards a week, or a minimum of 624 cards a year! "I grew up in a family where birthdays weren't that special," she explained. "Mom would bake a cake, but that's about it. Everybody should know their birthday is special. That's really important: when you were born and how special you are."

"People are always really thankful for the cards," she continued. "Cards open a door to people. It makes a special connection with them. I have all these memories of people who have become my friends. It's a friendship builder."

Wanda has the "backdoor honor," at age 86, of being the oldest person in Maurice, and possibly the busiest. Her eleven children (8 still alive) have given her 30 grandchildren and 38 great grandchildren, and she stays busy in their lives. She shook her head, "I didn't want to be a rocking chair grandma. I don't think that's healthy, unless you physically can't do that." Nicknamed "Grandma Wanda," she is a surrogate grandma to many in church. Until not that long ago, she taught Sunday School, and is always there for many events, supporting youth and adults. One young man in his twenties said, "Grandma Wanda has been a better grandma to me than my own grandma!"

Wanda also works with the Jail Ministry, and does the can redemption ministry at Maurice Reformed. She volunteers often at the Orange City Area Health System, either in the Gift Garden or the Information desk. "I love to do that!" She laughed. "Sometimes people from Le Mars will come in and say, 'Hi mom!' When they say that I know they worked at Wells Blue Bunny while I was there for fifteen years. Sometimes I have to think who they are, because they aren't wearing hairnets! But if they come in and say 'Hi grandma Wanda!' I know that they're from Maurice!"

Her card ministry is close to her heart though. "I feel so good about that. It makes me feel connected with people. I like to see people happy, but you can't fix everybody! It's an expense I can handle, and something I love to do."

"I'm happy in this little town (Maurice). Neighbors watch over you. I think this town is wonderful. I pray for my town and my church every day."



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Have you noticed the amazing impact our children are making? Teddy bears for the Family Crisis Center; Chickens, ducks, goats, & cows for Uzima; and Talking Bibles, just to name a few. Bonnie challenges the students to earn the money they bring to church by helping around the house or helping neighbors with chores. By earning the money themselves, the students have a sense of pride and ownership in the program! These offerings were collected during the children's message over the past few months but moving forward will be collected during Sunday School hour. All children 3 years old through 5th grade are encouraged to participate.



During the month of February, we will be asking the children to help us spread happiness. We will be blessing the **Sanford Children's Hospital** with our offerings. These offerings will be used to help purchase gift cards for the child-life specialists to utilize in purchasing small gifts for use at the hospital. Each time children go to the hospital for a procedure, surgery, chemotherapy, etc. a child life specialist is there to help the kids (and family) through the tough parts of the appointment. A personal example is when Isaac Schmidt goes to the Castle to receive chemotherapy. A child-life specialist helps with port access and chemo treatment by talking with Isaac, bringing him an iPad or play games with him. She often has a small prize for Isaac after a successful appointment. The staff strives to make the experience as "easy" as possible on kids and families. Sometimes the small gift at the end of the day gets the kids through some pretty tough times! Child-life specialists get to know their patients and often like to get specific gifts to have on hand for them. That's where our gift cards come in as a huge blessing! The child-life specialists will be able to get specific items for the patients.

These gifts will be used hospital-wide. Child-life specialists are on every floor of the castle—inpatient floors, inpatient & outpatient surgery floors, procedure rooms, as well as outpatient treatment clinics. The gifts are not only for the oncology patients, but for any child using the hospital.

So please help us by encouraging your child to give during the month of February! We will have the singing room split into two teams and see what team donates the most (a little friendly competition is always fun)! It's a great cause! Kids helping kids! Watch the bulletin for more details on how much is being raised! It's going to be a great month!

MISSION

GATHER & GROW

- February 3** - Joseph Explained Dreams - Genesis 39-41
- February 10** - Joseph Saved His Family - Genesis 42-46, 50
- February 17** - No Sunday School
- February 24** - Moses was Born & Called - Exodus 1-4

A friendly reminder: Sunday School is done at 11:45. Please be sure to pick up your child on time! Teachers will stay with students until a family member arrives to pick up the child. Please be considerate of their time. Thanks!

CHILDREN & WORSHIP
February 10 - Noah
February 24 - The Mustard Seed



Kids Praise will sing during the service on February 3

Pinewood Derby - February 16

Our annual Pinewood Derby Races will be held on Saturday, February 16 at 10:00 am, with weigh-in starting at 9:30. Everyone is welcome to come and cheer on your favorite car! Concessions will be available with each item costing 25 cents!



Summer Camps



It seems early to be thinking about summer camps, but registrations for camps at Inspiration Hills open February 1! New this year is FREE online registration!

There will be a fee for all other forms of registrations, so check out the brochure or the information online. The church will again help with the cost of camps at any church related camp. MRC will pay 1/2 of the camp cost up to \$180.00. If you cover the entire camp cost, please notify the church office, so your child can be included in the list for camp mail. If you have any questions about camp registrations you can contact Priscilla Jansma or Bonnie Wolf.

 *Worship*
MINISTRY 

Piano / Organ Schedule



February 3

9:30 Praise Team

February 10

9:30 Judy Vlietstra / Barb Van Horn

February 17

9:30 Praise Team

February 24

9:30 Judy Vlietstra / Julie Vis


**KIDS
PRAISE**

*Leading in Worship:
Sunday Morning
February 3*

*“Love the Lord your
God with all your
heart, and with all
your soul, and with
all your strength, and
with all your mind”
Luke 10:27*

**Leading in
Worship**

*Sunday Morning
February 24*



Wednesday Night Meals

Feb. 6 - Spaghetti bake, cashew lettuce salad, garlic toast, mandarin oranges, cookie

Feb. 13 - Taverns, coney, hot dogs, baked beans, chips, peaches, brownie

Feb. 20 - Hard/soft shell tacos, nachos and cheese sauce, pears, scotch-a-roo bar

Feb. 27 - Pork loin, cheesy potatoes, green bean casserole, roll, poke and pour cake

VOLUNTEERING AT MRC

Prayer Room—February

Date	
Feb. 3	LaDonna DeVries
Feb. 10	Dyan Vander Sluis
Feb. 17	Marissa Maassen
Feb. 24	Lee Maassen

NURSERY

If anyone would like to be added to the Nursery Volunteer list, please contact Lisa Smit for more information. Thanks.

	Volunteers
Feb. 3	Caleb & Jill Haverdink, Svanna Borchers
Feb. 10	AJ & Lisa Smit, Christa Van Donkelaar
Feb. 17	Mark & Priscilla Jansma, Sierra Borchers
Feb. 24	Mike & Jennifer Vermeer, Angel Vander Zwaag

**Newsletter items are due on
February 20**

February Welcome Schedule

Main door - Dave & Eunice Koopmans
Gym door - Cindy Van Der Weide

Facility Usage Online

New to our website is our "Facility Use" page located under the "Contact Us" tab.

If you are renting a room at church, you will now be able to fill out a Facility Use form online!

To make a reservation, please first contact the church office. Once your event has been confirmed, you may then review our facility use policy & guidelines and fill out a facility use sheet all online.

Please contact Emily Borger if you have any questions!

February Memory Verse

Love

IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND.

IT DOES NOT ENVY,

IT DOES NOT BOAST,

IT IS NOT PROUD.

IT DOES NOT DISHONOR OTHERS,

IT IS NOT SELF-SEEKING,

IT IS NOT EASILY ANGERED,

IT KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS.

LOVE DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL

BUT REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH.

IT ALWAYS PROTECTS, ALWAYS TRUSTS,

ALWAYS HOPES, ALWAYS PERSEVERES.

LOVE NEVER FAILS.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

JR. GAP MINISTRIES



"He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time."

- 2 Timothy 1:9



SCHEDULE:

- Feb. 3** - Jr. GAP Super Bowl Party
- Feb. 6** - Authentic Faith
- Feb. 13** - God's Word, Culture & Homosexuality (parents welcome)
- Feb. 20** - Panel Night
- Feb. 27** - Hinton Tubing Night (weather depending) OR game night

LUNCH: Lunch is 2 dozen cookies/bars & 2 two liters of pop/juice

- Feb. 6** - Seth M, Emilee S, Kaden S, Brett VG
- Feb. 13** - Seth VS, Kortney H, Jocelyn M, Jaden B
- Feb. 20** - Addy L, Kye K, Jared O, Jackson F
- Feb. 27** - Summer B, Avery VD, Breanna J, Jon H

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Jr. GAP Super Bowl Party - Sunday, February 3 - 5 PM until end of game - Join us for the big game! We will have inflatables, 9-square, games, food—and of course—watch the Patriots vs. Rams! Entrance is 2 nonperishable food items, with all items being donated to the Hope Food Pantry. Invite your friends!

Wednesday Night Refuge Worship - Wednesday, February 13, 7:25-7:55 pm - Join us as we worship with our brothers and sisters in Christ! *PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, FRIENDS...ALL ARE WELCOME!*



Middle School Retreat - Hidden Acres - Dayton, IA - April 5-7 - Middle School Retreat is a FUN weekend for middle school students & their adult leaders! The MSR will be at Hidden Acres Christian Center in Dayton, IA (about 1/2 hour south of Fort Dodge).

Synod Youth Ministries partners with Northwestern College students to plan an AWESOME weekend of worship, large group sessions, small groups, youth group time, and of course, recreation and games! *Registration is open on www.synodyouth.org. From the home screen, click on "Register Online" to begin registering your Jr. GAPper. The cost of the Middle School Retreat will be \$100; checks can be written out to Jr. GAP (due by March 6). **If cost is an obstacle in any way, please contact Jon Eveland. We will make sure that all that want to go can go and experience this amazing weekend!***

Power Connection 2019 - Minneapolis, MN - July 23-28 - Power Connection 2019 is coming! We will again be participating in Power Connection Work Camp (July 23-26 and Power Connection weekend (July 26-28). Our desire is to provide an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to transform the beliefs of students and adult leaders into a lifestyle of faith in Jesus Christ. More details to come!



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Dad's Belgian Waffle Fundraiser - March 6
- #SaveTheKids Youth Night @ MRC - March 27
- Jr. GAP Youth Sunday - April 27

Jr. GAP February Birthdays:

- Micah Schmidt - Feb. 1
- Gabe Borchers - Feb. 23
- Ashlyn Aberson - Feb. 25

SR. HIGH MINISTRIES



"He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

- 2 Timothy 1:9



SCHEDULE:

- Feb. 6** - Sweetheart Banquet Set Up/Prep
- Feb. 13** - God's Word, Culture & Homosexuality (parents welcome)
- Feb. 20** - Panel Night
- Feb. 27** - Hinton Tubing Night (either depending) OR game night

LUNCH: Lunch is 2 dozen cookies/bars & 2 two liters of pop/juice

- Feb. 6** - Rachel L, Alex VD, Miranda M, Breanna O
- Feb. 13** - Brooklyn L, Tayce K, Eric P, Amber H
- Feb. 20** - Caleb S, AJ S, Angel VZ, Hope VZ
- Feb. 27** - Brandon VS, Autumn VD, Christa VD, Brooke V

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sweetheart Banquet - The Sweetheart Banquet is THIS week, so here is the need-to-know info for Sr. Highers:

- Sweetheart Banquet set up/prep is this week Wednesday (Feb. 9) during Sr. High (7:50-9:00 pm). **We need all hands on deck for this evening!**
- Sweetheart Banquet is this Thursday (Feb. 7) beginning at 6:30 pm and concluding approximately at 8:00 pm. **We are asking students to be at church at 5:15 pm to receive instructions and finish set up and to stay until clean up is complete around 9 pm. If there is a conflict with being there at 5:15 pm, please contact Jon Eveland.**
- Each student will have a role(s) the night of the banquet - servers, busing tables, valet parking, entertainment, leading opening devotion, music, emcee, etc.
- Remember to please ask off work for this night!



Air Madness Outing - Saturday, February 9 - Join us for a fun evening bouncing around at Air Madness! We will be leaving MRC at 4:30 PM. Cost is \$10 per person.

Sr. High Summer "International" Mission Trip – July 13-20 – Eaglecrest Alaska

Missions - We are excited to be partnering with Eaglecrest Alaska Missions (Sutton, Alaska) for our summer mission trip (July 13-20). We will be serving by participating in light construction, relationally with families in need, winterizing homes, chopping wood, potentially helping with a VBS and Summer Day Camp, and perhaps other needs that arise. **NOTE: We will be having a Parents Meeting in the Sr. High Youth Room for this trip on Sunday, February 17 at 10:45 am. This meeting is for the parents of Sr. Highers and leaders planning on joining us for this mission trip.**



INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP 2019

Wednesday Night Refuge Worship - Wednesday, February 13, 7:25-7:55 pm - Join us as we worship with our brothers and sisters in Christ! **PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, FRIENDS...ALL ARE WELCOME!**



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Sweetheart Banquet - Thursday, Feb. 7
- Sr. High Alaska Mission Trip Parents Meeting - Feb. 17
- Sr. High Youth Sunday - March 24
- #SaveTheKids Youth Night @ MRC - March 27
- Easter Pancake Breakfast - April 21

Sr. High February Birthdays:

- Svanna Borchers - Feb. 1
- Brooke Venema - Feb. 2
- Hanah Van Beek - Feb. 10



Moments in Missions

The **special offering** for the month of February is: **One Body, One Hope**
(please mark your check or envelope with "Special" & place in the plate with your offering)

One Body One Hope's focus for the first several years after its inception was a congregation located in the Dumbar Farm suburb of Monrovia, headed by Rev. Emmanuel Bimba. Emmanuel and his wife, Fatu, felt compelled along with their congregation at the end of the civil war to minister to the many orphaned children they found walking the streets of the city. This Spirit-led compulsion led to the founding of Christ Our Hope orphanage.

In the beginning, the orphanage grounds were extremely rudimentary with no running water, utilities, or phone lines available. In addition, Emmanuel and Fatu had no way to provide for the orphaned children that they had taken in. Periodically, God brought individual donors along, and the local church helped out when and where it could. Unfortunately, their pressing needs were ever-present and they prayed long and hard for committed long-term partners. In a meeting that only God could have orchestrated, Pastor Aaron Baart and his wife, Nicole, connected with one of the Abide in the Vine pastors in Ethiopia in December of 2006 while adopting their infant son. They felt an immediate calling to partner together. This began the birth of One Body One Hope.

One Body One Hope (OBOH) is a bi-national, non-profit organization that works alongside a series of churches and a mission homes in Liberia, West Africa. One Body One Hope makes the bold promise that all public donations go directly into the work being done and the partnership with our friends in Liberia. The board and teams work to cover overhead & operating costs so that we can make this promise.

One Body One Hope is a partnership between our community and the Liberian community built on friendship.



one body ★ one hope

International Ministry Partner: Tom Johnson

2018 has been a full year for Tom Johnson and his family. This was the first entire year that he spent in the US since 2000 and the very first in the girls' lives. He visited many churches, attended a 3 week missionary debriefing seminar, and started his new job with Many Hands for Haiti (MH4H) on Oct 1st.

Many Hands for Haiti (MH4H) was founded in 2008 by Iowa churches (mostly RCA) and volunteers, and it became an RCA Global Mission partner in 2017. It operates in the Pignon area in Haiti, aiding several communities through programs in agriculture, church leadership, education, evangelism, & health.

As the spiritual development manager and staff missiologist, Tom serves in an advisory role with MH4H administration, staff, supporters, and volunteers. He also manages all aspects of spiritual and leadership development training. In addition, Tom will be launching MH4H's missionary member care program, which provides needed spiritual and adaptive support for their personnel who are conducting residential cross-cultural ministry in Haiti.

Please pray for Tom and his family as they look for a house closer to Tom's work. Aichatou is currently staying at a Des Moines area women's shelter so please pray for God to bind up her broken soul since she is just "stuck" and unable to go forward. Continue to pray for the staff who serve MH4H who have daily opportunities to share Christ.



February 2019

MRC Mission Prayer Guide

PRAYER
changes things

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Pray for One Body One Hope as they support and encourage Liberian churches. Pray for their evangelism, agricultural and home projects.	2 Pray for Tom Johnson as he works with Many Hands for Haiti. Pray for a home for Tom & family closer to his work. Pray for Aichatou's healing as she remains at the women's shelter.
3 Pray for safety for our Guatemala team as they fly back to the US. Pray for the families who they were able to lead to Jesus that they may continue to grow closer to Him.	4 Thank God for open doors for S & A K as they minister in SE Asia during the holiday season. Pray their work equipping pastors and translation of the Bible.	5 Pray for Vasya and Maranda Heytsi as they minister to those who struggle with alcohol addictions and struggle to meet needs during the winter.	6 Pray for families at MRC who are caring for children in foster care. Pray for each parent to have wisdom and love as they care for the kids in their home.	7 Pray for Steve and Tara Dekkers as they meet with new believers and those seeking Jesus. Give them wisdom as they study His word together.	8 Pray for Erin Haverdink as she begins a new women's group and Jonathan as he trains up a few student men to lead a men's program at UNI.	9 Pray for Rob & Sharon Schelling as they work with World Renew in rebuilding homes in Florida. Pray for the families affected to be touched by volunteers.
10 Pray for Jeremy and Danielle Dykstra as they reach out and share about Jesus. Pray for many to come to know Jesus at these events.	11 Pray for Brian Renes as he trains Bible translators and learns new software programs to help with translation.	12 Pray with the S family in SE Asia , as they connect with neighbors and businesses. Pray for open doors of ministry, blessing new partnerships and friendships.	13 Pray for the ministry of the Genesis and Family Crisis Center as they meet needs of women and children in crisis.	14 Pray that God may be seen and felt through the ministry of Amistad Cristiana among the Hispanic community.	15 Pray for our winter work project team as they leave for Florida to help with the World Renew Projects in LaBelle, Florida.	16 Pray for wisdom for Brad Schelling with First Priority, as he counsels leaders starting new groups.
17 Praise God with Meggan & Pavlos for a growing church plant in Kypseli and for a successful inspection of the Bible school.	18 Pray for Dan Smith and the Paradise Bound Ministry team as they reach out to the distant areas of Guatemala and Central America.	19 Pray for Christians around the world who are persecuted for their faith and worship and pray in secret.	20 Pray for each student who comes to our Wednesday night program to be touched by God's love.	21 Pray for Pastor Wick and each MRC member to minister to those who are needing a visit due to illness or loneliness.	22 Pray for the ministry of CANA to reach out to those in need in Fort Dodge.	23 Pray for Ross Hoekstra as he leads us through preaching of the word at MRC. Pray that God's Spirit will lead him in His words.
24 Pray for Mark & Deb Wilson in Cambodia, for Mark as he teaches students, and Deb as she helps with a counseling center for healing from trauma.	25 Pray for ATLAS mentors to have words of encouragement and support as they walk alongside those who struggle with daily issues and challenges.	26 Pray for the Words of Hope ministry in bringing the gospel to difficult to reach places, and that resources will be received by new Christians to grow in their faith.	27 Pray for Bonnie and Jon as they work with the youth at MRC Pray that our youth will be examples of how to follow God and love others.	28 Pray for Pastor Deb Rensink as she ministers among women and children who have experienced trauma. Pray that they may see Jesus through her words and actions.		

"THEREFORE I TELL YOU, WHATEVER YOU ASK FOR IN PRAYER, BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED IT, AND IT WILL BE YOURS." MARK 11:24