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To: «First Name» «Last Name»
«Company Name»
«Address Line 1»
«Address Line 2»
«City», «State», «ZIP Code»

Saturday
May 6



Spaghetti
Dinner
Fundraiser

4:30-
7:00PM

Join us Saturday, May 6, 4:30-7:00 for our annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser here at Hunters Ridge Community Church. This event raises money to help send campers to Village Creek Bible Camp. The menu features homemade Italian spaghetti sauce, homemade meatballs, fresh baked bread, Caesar salad and homemade cupcakes. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults, \$6.00 for kids (8 and under). You can buy tickets at the door, or call the church office at 587-8374.



Our Mission:
To relate to
God more
intimately,
to evidence the
fruit of the
Spirit, and to
bring Jesus
into all our
relationships.

Hunters Ridge
Community Church
Howard Anderson, Pastor
850 School Road South
Hutchinson, MN 55350
320-587-8374
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Issue 22.5

May 2023

HRCC News

From the Pastor's Pen...

God created the world in seven days. On the sixth day of Creation we are told, **“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (Genesis 1:26-27).**



The Bible says we have been created in the image of God. In Hebrew it is the word **“selem”**. In Latin it is the words, **“imago dei”**. In theology class I was taught many things about the image of God. I was taught that it is what sets human beings apart from the animal world. I was taught that it means humans have dominion over the earth. I was taught that being made in God’s image means humans have the ability to think, to reason and to make choices with their own free will. Anytime someone invents a machine, writes a book, paints a landscape, enjoys a symphony, calculates a sum, or names a pet, he or she is proclaiming the fact that we are made in God’s image.

I was taught that to be made in God’s image meant I have a conscience or a “moral compass” and therefore I can choose to live and reflect God’s holiness. Whenever someone writes a law, recoils from something evil that has happened, or whenever someone praises good behavior, or feels guilty, he or she is confirming the fact that they are made in God’s own image. They have a conscience and a “moral compass” because of being created in God’s image.

I was taught that to be made in God’s image means I can relate socially with others. Every time someone marries, makes a friend, hugs a child, or attends church, he or she is demonstrating the fact that we are made in the likeness of God. We are capable of relating socially with others and that is part of being made in God’s image.

Yet I also learned something that is important about being made in God’s Image: The word in Hebrew, **selem**, “refers to the image as a representation of the deity.” (TWOT, Volume 2, pg. 767) So, for example, the Old Testament forbids the making of idols as the idol would represent some manmade god. And yet as people who have been created in God’s image, our purpose is to represent God.

Being made in God’s image means I am supposed to represent another reality. An image of God or an image of Jesus isn’t Jesus. However my role is to represent and point people to the real Jesus.

That is our role in creation! God made humanity to reflect Jesus in such a way that we make Him known in creation. We were made to reflect God in Christ in the way we talk, in our attitudes, and in the way we love each other. We were made to reflect God by doing good in our bodies. We were made to reflect God

Continued...

in the way we rule, manage and steward creation.

Too often today we find our identity in something else and in this identity we try to exalt ourselves. Being made in God's image means I don't reflect and exalt myself. It means I reflect and exalt God in Christ. As a person that bears the image of God my purpose is supposed to be about glorifying God.

If this is who we are, if this is why God created us and made us, it should give us a new perspective for how we should live in this world. No matter what I do whether I am a teacher, a lawyer, a salesclerk, or whatever, I have been made to reflect God in Christ as an image bearer. We are to show the world how God loves, how God is good and how He rules as a loving, just, forgiving King.

Psalm 8:3-4 says, "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained; What is man that You take thought of him, and the son of man that You care for him?" The Psalm writer is overwhelmed with the fact that God not only made this vast universe but that God would consider him. Yet he is amazed that God not only thinks of him but cares for him. Being made in God's image means God not only considers us but deeply cares for us as His image bearers.

May we know Jesus intimately and walk with Him each day bearing His image.

Please know that I love you and desire that we all become more like Jesus.

Pastor Howard

Operation Christmas Child Update



Operation Christmas Child recently shared some interesting statistics about the 2022 shoebox collection with our OCC coordinator Dawn Vandenberg, and we are excited to share them with you.

9.3 million boxes were collected in the United States.

4.4 million children received the Greatest Journey Study (12-lesson course that includes a New Testament Bible of their own).

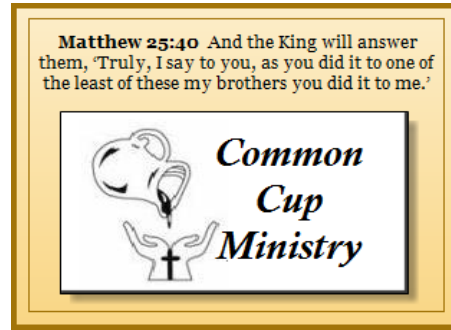
3.5 million decisions were made for Jesus.

What a great impact the boxes you are packing have made in the lives of children around the world. Watch for details for this year coming up in October!

Bike to Camp - August 11-13

For 33 years the Bike 2 Camp fundraiser has been a camp tradition each summer. Cyclists ride from St. Paul to Village Creek in 3 days, raising money for specific projects around camp.

The cost of the trip is \$100, and that helps to cover the cost of the support team and meals. We camp out in tents at churches along the way to minimize costs. Each rider is also asked to raise at least \$100 as a sponsorship endeavor for the camp - and many raise thousands each year. This is our largest fundraiser for camp. It is a great team building exercise, as well as personal growth - stretching yourself all while raising money for a great cause. Find out more at Bike2Camp.com or contact Sue Lyford for details. There are many ways to support - whether supporting a rider, riding, driving a support vehicle, or cooking the meals needed to give energy throughout the weekend.



We are still collecting diapers for the two diaper distributions that will take place this month.

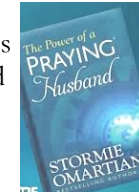
Sizes 5, 6 and 7 diapers are needed, as well as Pull-Ups for girls and boys in sizes 3T-4T, 4T-5T and 5T-6T. Check the online Target ads for deals. We also were told that the Pull-Ups at Aldi work well and are reasonably priced.

The Warm Coat Drive is continuing as well. Please bring gently worn, freshly laundered children's coats or snow pants and place in the green Common Cup box under the mailboxes. We are also accepting coats for teens, men and women.

Please stop by the Common Cup table to check out different volunteer opportunities. In 2022 we had 575 volunteers help out in many different ways. Won't you consider volunteering?



Conservative, Christian men seem to be Public Enemy Number 1 in many areas of society today, but you are more important than ever. This month our library is featuring books that can help men be who God intended them to be, with titles such as *The Power of a Praying Husband*, *Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper*, and more. Being a godly man can be challenging. Find encouragement in our library this month!



Easter Breakfast

Many thanks to the men of HRCC for preparing the annual Easter breakfast.



Jude

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| ANGELS | ENOCH | JESUS | POWER |
| BEASTS | EVIL | JUDGMENT | PRAYING |
| BELOVED | EXHORT | LUSTS | RAILING |
| CAIN | FAITH | MERCY | SALVATION |
| CHARITY | FEASTS | MICHAEL | SAVED |
| CORRUPT | FILTHY | MOCKERS | SEA |
| CREPT IN | FIRE | MOSES | SEVENTH |
| DARKNESS | GLORY | NEEDFUL | SHAME |
| DEFILE | GOMORRAH | NOW AND EVER | TWICE DEAD |
| DENYING | GRACE | PEACE | WAVES |
| DESPISE | JAMES | PERISHED | WOE |

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<http://www.thepotters.com/puzzles.html>

Read Through the Bible

In 2023 we will be reading through the Bible using a portion from the Old and a portion from the New Testament each day.

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. 1 King 10-11; Luke 21:20-38 | 9. 2 King 7-9; John 1:1-28 | 17. 1 Chron 1-3; John 5:25-47 | 25. 1 Chron 25-27; John 9:1-23 |
| 2. 1 King 12-13; Luke 22:1-30 | 10. 2 King 10-13; John 1:29-51 | 18. 1 Chron 4-6; John 6:1-21 | 26. 1 Chron 28-29; John 9:24-41 |
| 3. 1 King 14-15; Luke 22:31-46 | 11. 2 King 13-14; John 2 | 19. 1 Chron 7-9; John 6:22-44 | 27. 2 Chron 1-3; John 10:1-23 |
| 4. 1 King 16-18; Luke 22:47-71 | 12. 2 King 15-16; John 3:1-18 | 20. 1 Chron 10-12; John 6:45-71 | 28. 2 Chron 4-6; John 11:1-29 |
| 5. 1 King 19-20; Luke 23:1-25 | 13. 2 King 17-18; John 3:19-36 | 21. 1 Chron 13-15; John 7:1-27 | 29. 2 Chron 7-9; John 11:1-29 |
| 6. 1 King 21-22; Luke 23:26-56 | 14. 2 King 19-21; John 4:1-30 | 22. 1 Chron 16-18; John 7:28-53 | 30. 2 Chron 10-12; John 11:30-57 |
| 7. 2 King 1-3; Luke 24:1-35 | 15. 2 King 22-23; John 4: 31-54 | 23. 1 Chron 19-21; John 8:1-27 | 31. 2 Chron 13-14; John 12:1-26 |
| 8. 2 King 4-6; Luke 24:36-53 | 16. 2 King 24-25; John 5:1-24 | 24. 1 Chron 22-24; John 8:28-59 | |