

## Harvest Community this week

### This Lord's Day, July 12

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

**10a – Worship.** Heb 5:1-8; Mark 2:13-3:6; Gen 24:15-28

**6p – Worship.** Ps 138:1-2; Jer 11; Rom 9:6-13. Mark Fedders leading.

*Afterparty at Gary and Jean Vander Plaats'*

### Wednesday, July 15

**7p – Prayer Meeting,** Psalm 40:1-10

### Next Lord's Day, July 19

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

**10a – Worship.** Heb 5:9-14; Mark 3:7-35; Gen 24:29-58

**6p – Worship.** Ps 138:4-6; Jer 12; Rom 9:14-18. Craig De Haan leading.

*Afterparty at ??? [contact James to get your name put here!]*

**July Servants' Rotation:** Greeting—Coopers; Coffee—Marlo Fedders family; Nursery—Bob; Cleaning—Van Essendelft family

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 12, 2009*

*"So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough and ran again to the well to draw water, and she drew for all his camels."*

*Genesis 24:20*

*"But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel"*

*Romans 9:6*

## Welcome, Announcements, and Preparation

### Call to Worship – Hebrews 5:1-8 (Pew Bible, p1003)

*God has appointed Christ our Priest in worship. Jesus intercedes for us with great earnestness, who knows from His own experience our absolute dependence upon God, and whose intercession rests upon His own perfect fear of the Lord.*

*Here is the foundation of both our confidence before God and our reverence before Him: the perfect, reverent intercession of Christ, through Whom we also worship!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #520, *Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #9, *All You that Fear Jehovah's Name*

*Let us then sing our confidence in Christ's blood and righteousness as our only qualification for worship now and forever. And let us sing from Psalm 22 of how those that fear the Lord as Christ does delight to praise Him in the congregation.*

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

*God has been so generous and gracious to us that He has provided more even than Christ's personal mediation in glory. He has promised and provided His own Holy Spirit by whose aid we might worship in Spirit and truth. Let us pray now, through Christ, for His Spirit!*

### <sup>UNISON</sup> Serial Reading – Mark 2:13-3:6 (Pew Bible, p837)

*As Mark continues to confront us with Christ, these passages demand of us to answer whether Christ is the center of our religion.*

*2:13-17—Christ came to call NOT the righteous but sinners; so, are we trying to be accepted by God because Christ is righteous, or because we are?*

*2:18-22—since fasting seeks the presence of God, its proper object is fellowship with God through Jesus; so, do we hope to attain God's presence through our diligence in religious exercises or through those exercises' participation in Jesus?*

*2:23-28—Sabbath was given to man as a provision, the greatest of which is the Lord of the Sabbath, Jesus; is the heart of our Sabbath to feed upon Christ?*

*3:1-6—Sabbath was given to man also for healing and salvation, again the ultimate of which are found in Jesus; so, does our Sabbath keeping have at its heart receiving rest and renewal from Jesus, and offering others as well His healing and salvation?*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #656, *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

*God's Word has challenged us: is Christ the center of our religion? Is He the substance, the heart, the foundation, the treasure of our righteousness, our joy, our nourishment, and our salvation? Let us sing this song together to answer, "Yes! A thousand times, yes!"*

### 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 24:10-28 (Pew Bible, p17)

### Morning Sermon – *Kindness, Diligence, Strength, Endurance, Hospitality*

*The servant had laid out a fleece—an impossible one at that—and it came exactly to pass. And yet here he is gazing intently to find out if she's the one. What's he looking for? As we look on with him, this is what we see: kindness, diligence, strength, endurance, and hospitality. We'll consider each of these in turn, including suggestions for how to cultivate them, before identifying their only true source.*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #335, *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

*As we have heard of our need for the Spirit to produce Christ-likeness in us, so let us sing.*

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

*(This concludes the worship service)*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Parting Song – #731, *Doxology*

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

## Welcome, Announcements, and Preparation

### Call to Worship – Psalm 138:1-2 (Pew Bible, p521)

*The Septuagint took ‘gods’ to mean the angels who were present at the temple worship of v2, angels who are also present in Christian congregational worship (1Cor 11:10).*

*What do we do in the congregation, in the presence of such glorious angels? We thank and praise the Lord with our whole heart, praising the glory of His Name and Word, which He has exalted even above the burning ones of Heaven. God grant that our worship this evening would be a public display of the glory of His Name and Word!*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Song – #88, *With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring*

*God has exalted above all things His Name and Word, so let us praise His Name, using the very Psalm from His Word that has called us to worship.*

### <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 11 (Pew Bible, p639)

*This chapter is all about Words. We are to hear and do God’s words (v2, 6, 7). Though we may fail to do so, we can be sure that God Himself will do according to His words (v8). Indeed, the wicked aren’t just opposed to doing God’s word, they even hate hearing it (vv18-21); those who set themselves against hearing God’s Word in God’s name (v21) can expect nothing from God but death and disaster (vv22-23). The Word of God is a covenant Word—absolutely certain in its guaranteed blessings and guaranteed curses.*

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

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

*So, let us sing our confidence in God’s Word and desire to be keepers of it!*

## The Evening Prayer

*As we have heard of the greatness of God’s majesty and mercy, His wrath and His grace, His holiness and power to make us holy... as we have come face to face with our complete dependence upon Him in the Lord Jesus Christ, so let us now express that dependence together as we are led in the evening prayer.*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Evening Sermon Text – Romans 9:6-13 (Pew Bible, p945)

#### Evening Sermon – *God’s Perfectly Successful Word*

*Since so many of us were gone last week, we’ll use vv1-5 to get a running start at this text. This evening, God is answering the question: “has His Word to Israel failed?” It’s an important question, because it contains within it the answer to another question: “is His Word to Christians reliable?”*

*The answer to the first question is that His Word has not failed, because not all descended from Israel are Israel. And the answer to the second question is that Israel’s rejection of Christ actually has the effect of showing that God’s electing Word is the only unalterably reliable thing. Israel should have seen this in their Old Testament Bibles, and their rejection of Christ is only the latest installment of historical acts in which God displays that the sure foundation of our hope is His gracious calling according to His gracious choice.*

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

*These songs capture how Christ alone can be the ground of our hope, and how our complete indebtedness to grace makes us not proud of our own salvation but longing that many others would know the same salvation to the glory of God!*

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

*(This concludes the worship service)*

### <sup>STANDING</sup> Parting Song – #94, v1 only, *How Firm a Foundation*

*Immediately following worship, all are invited to a Lord’s Day after-party at **the Vander Plaats’ (2520 460<sup>th</sup> St., East of Ireton)**. If you would like to host an after-party some week, let James know to put it in the worship booklet; thanks!*

## Congregational Announcements

**‘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).

## 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 – twins due end of November
- 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
- 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