

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”
Proverbs 22:6

The seasons outside our doors have changed from the cold of winter toward the warmth of summer. In this newsletter, we look to our graduates as they change into a new season of life and the changes to come for church.

Ryley Hoekstra – 8th grade



The Bible verse that speaks the most clearly to me is Ephesians 4:31. “Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.”

I expect to get involved with the PCHS musicals, because things like that have always been things that I’ve liked to see and do.

My best memories in junior high have come when I’m talking to my friends, or making jokes with them during lunch or break.

I am most looking forward to getting to know more people as more people come to the high school

So far, I have most appreciated my teachers who support me and help me do better in their classes.

The worst thing about Covid for me was that I couldn’t talk to my friends as much when we were in quarantine, but something that I liked was that I could get my school work done a lot faster. I also didn’t really like having to wear a mask for most of the school year.

Alexis Nunnikhoven – 8th Grade



I’m graduating from Pella Middle School.

I plan to do choir at Pella Community High School

My best memories in junior high and grade school have been the bonds that have formed between me and my friends.

In high school I’m looking forward to meeting new people and making new friends.

In middle school, I have most appreciated the work my teachers have put in to make me a successful student.

The worst thing that has affected me this year because of COVID 19 would have to be the masks. I miss being able to see everyone's faces and smiles. I also miss being able to go to school normally and not have to worry about all the precautions.

Rob Schreur – 8th Grade



My life verse is Psalm 118: 7. "The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I look in triumph on my enemies." This verse means so much to me because it shows that God will always be by my side no matter what I am going through and that he will always help me to prosper.

Some of the things that I plan on doing in high school are basketball, football, band and choir also.

My favorite memories from junior high and grade school are just all the memories I have with my friends.

In high school I am looking forward to the bigger challenge that comes with sports and the work that needs to be put in with them.

In my grade school and junior high years, I have appreciated my parents and my teachers for always being helpful, kind and teaching us new things.

I am thankful to my parents for always being there for me and always supporting me.

I think that the best thing about Covid was that it gave me lots more time to get closer to my family and God. During the whole quarantine I had so much more time on my hands to spend with God, and I was able to spend more time with the people I love. The worst thing about Covid for me was that it separated me from my friends. Since we had to be in quarantine it was hard to not see all of my friends and it got pretty lonely after a little while and only being able to see them on Zoom.

Kirby Van Wyngarden – 8th Grade



My life verse is John 3:30 – "He must become greater; I must become less."

I would like to participate in cross country and the play/musical in high school.

My best memories from junior high have been my exploratory classes in theatre, art and robotics.

I am most looking forward to Grandma Bonnie's food and chaos day.

In middle school, I have appreciated that everybody's included and there's more freedom.

The worst part of Covid has been having to wear a mask. Best part of Covid had getting to stay home last year.

Taylor Walker – 8th grade



My favorite Bible verse is Romans 5:8. "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

In high school, I'm going to do volleyball and choir.

My best memory from junior high was when I went to Pella High School and watched the Adams Family musical.

I am most looking forward to learning French in high school.

In junior high, the thing I've most enjoyed is all my nice teachers.

The best thing about Covid-19 this past year has been spending time with family. The worst thing was not getting to do a lot.

Xavia Walker



My motto is "Live the day like it's your last."

I am looking forward to being on Track and playing volleyball in high school

My best memories in grade school and junior high have been when I get to work on projects with my friends.

In high school, I am most looking forward to meeting new people.

In grade school, middle school, and junior high, I have most appreciated the wonderful teachers.

The best thing about Covid-19 has to be that I got to take 2 and a half months off of school. But the worst thing was that my mom got COVID-19 when she was pregnant and days before having my baby sister Zealynn.

The picture of me has Haylee and Madison in it too.

Aurelia Zylstra-8th Grade



I'm graduating from Pella Middle School.

My favorite Scripture is Psalm 121, which begins "I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

In high school, I'm planning on participating in marching band, choir, and show choir as well as theater and 4H.

My best memories in grade school are that I got to be a part of Spanish Immersion the very first year it started and I'm glad I got to keep the same classmates. Then when I went to Pella Community, I was excited to participate in show choir and be selected for honor choir. I am also starting showing goats for 4H and was so excited last year to win grand champion in my class at the county fair.

In high school, I am most looking forward to the marching Dutch and show choir!

In grade school, middle school and junior high, I have most appreciated my teachers.

The best thing about how COVID-19 has affected me is that it gave me a greater appreciation for the activities schools sponsor.

De Kinderen Kloset – by the numbers

By April Nieuwsma

Here are some statistics from this year's De Kinderen Kloset sale. Not everything is finalized yet, but since it wrapped up last weekend, we thought we could share some incredible numbers with you!



Sale dates: April 23-24, 2021

Number of Sellers: 25

Number of Items: 5,443

Number of Customer Receipts: 203

Time Spent preparing prior to sale: 6 weeks

Committee Members: Melissa Tukker, Jeanetta Nieuwsma, Regina Vaverka, Emily Boender, Nicole Yoder, Taylor Vande Voort, Kala Talsma, Sarah Christensen, Katie Magnussen, Stacia Veenstra, Kelsey Boot, Stephanie Roose, April Nieuwsma

Estimated Anticipated Giving to Lakeview Camp Angel Tree Ministries: \$1,550



in a season of change, that's natural. We don't always like change, that's normal.

Even positive change can be difficult, because with any change, something is lost. A new marriage is wonderful, but we lose the freedom we had as a single person. A baby is born that brings joy and love into our home, but with that wonderful bundle also comes sleepless nights and

added responsibilities. We rejoice in such changes, but we also have to die to the way things were before.

Pastor's Pen (Facing & Embracing Change)

By Pastor Paul Bradford

Dear Congregation,

Change and loss can be difficult. Many in our congregation have lost a spouse or even a child. Probably all of us have lost someone dear to us. Time does heal. Even more, the Lord's grace heals. But these major losses can be felt for years to come. With any major loss, we experience grief. The process of going through grief can, and usually does, include shock, disorientation, anger, depression, and eventually accepting the new reality (even if we don't like it) and discovering that a meaningful life can indeed go on. If we recognize these stages of grief, we'll understand that when we feel angry or down



Life is filled with change, some hard, some wonderful. With maturity we learn to deal with change. But, above all, as believers we learn that we need not fear change, because we know the Lord who never changes. God never leaves us, he never forsakes us, and he is the life-giving constant that is with us through all of life's changes.

Many changes are coming in the life of our congregation in the next few months. We need to pause and acknowledge that, for some of us, these changes are hard. Some will experience grief. We need to support one another through our grief. Others are

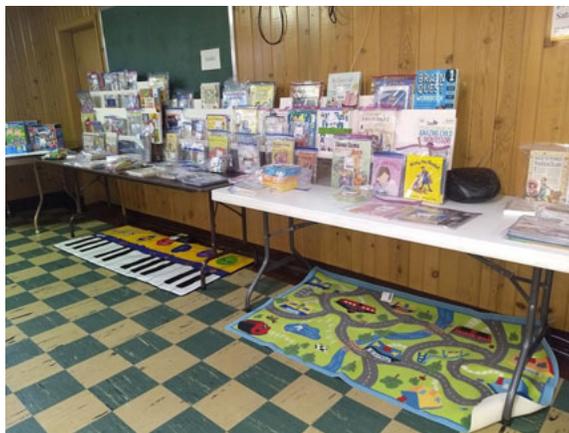
excited. As a family, we rejoice with those who rejoice, and mourn with those who mourn (Romans 12:15).

The week of May 17 our organ will be removed. Then sometime this summer, we'll move out of our old building and move into

our new building. Some have heard the organ played since 1988. Our congregation has worshipped in our current building since 1925. The organ and the building have many fond memories – worship services, weddings, funerals, baptisms, our family growing up, Sunday School, the list goes on. The good news is that the memories will remain in our hearts.

Even more, as believers we know that nothing in this life will last forever except that which will be part of the New Creation – which includes our lives as those who have put our faith in Jesus, the resurrection and the life. We will receive new bodies and live forever in a world where all grief and tears will be gone. We can face change because of the sure hope of a glorious future. “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him” (1 Corinthians 2:9)

We need to let ourselves grieve our loss. We also need to embrace the new things that



God is doing. Much promise lies in the future of Cornerstone Church. The new building will enable the congregation to minister more effectively in the 21st

Century. We are working diligently to press into God’s call for us to be a congregation that is “building courageous, authentic Christ followers”. We are setting our focus on reaching the lost for Christ, raising up our children to follow Jesus, and growing

increasingly as individuals and as a congregation into the glorious likeness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Let us move forward together with faith, with expectancy, with love, and with unity. God has so much for us! Let us rejoice and be glad in him! And let us boldly go forward into his good future for our lives and for Cornerstone Church!

In Christ our Cornerstone,

Pastor Paul

Welcome!

Allison Rose born on April 3, 2021
to Brent and Lisa Van Kooten

Pella II Newsletter invites your contribution. Drop a note in the mailbox of any one of our editors.

Joel Vander Molen
joelvan@vmtweb.com
628-1303

Ryan Hoekstra
hoekstrateam@iowatelecom.net
628-3964

Ruth Van Hal
secretary@cornerstonepella.org
628-2966