



**Platte
Christian Reformed Church**

September 2018

Summer Apprenticeship

For this month's newsletter, Chase Pheifer was willing to summarize some reflections on his summer apprenticeship:

Dear Platte CRC Family,

My summer was filled with reading books, writing messages, and visiting with people. Here is what I learned and most enjoyed in the apprenticeship.

One of the most important lessons I learned is that a pastor has a lot to do in a week and has to be extremely self-motivated. If you think that Pastor Drew only works 2 hours on Sunday and that's it for the week, you are mistaken. A sermon could take 12, if not 15 to 20, hours a week. Throw in meetings, Bible studies, reading, catechism, visiting, and emergency visits, and it's a lot to keep track of. If you struggle with procrastination, it makes it a lot worse. A pastor doesn't have a much day-to-day oversight, so he needs to push himself to get his work done. Therefore, I learned two main lessons: pastoral work takes a lot of thought and a lot of self-motivation.

Another lesson I learned is that while not everything feels worthwhile, it still might have a purpose. Reading and prayer are examples of this. There is so much to do, so why would the pastor waste his time with reading and prayer? While it can seem like there are better things to do than read and pray, they are important for the pastor to do (especially prayer).

The pastor needs to pray because he does nothing by his own strength. The pastor needs to read because he always needs to be growing and learning. Another example of this is visiting with someone and not talking about any deep, biblical truths. The pastor can feel a pressure to make every meeting a deep, serious discussion. While those type of meetings need to happen, sometimes a visit is just for making a connection with someone and showing that the pastor is there for his sheep. Even though not everything feels impactful, it still might have a purpose.

Some parts of the apprenticeship I enjoyed this summer were being able to say reading was a part of my job. I also enjoyed giving messages throughout the summer and getting to know my church better. Even though I had to push myself to read, I still loved getting to read challenging theological books. Also, I enjoyed speaking to people in the nursing home, at a campground, and especially in our church. I found the act of speaking to people is something I really enjoy, and I know I have a lot to work on in that area. Finally, I really loved getting to know many of you better. It was really special.

This apprenticeship had a big part in making this a wonderful summer for me. I'm extremely thankful to Drew for taking time to teach me. I'm extremely thankful to you as a congregation for being so supportive and loving. This summer, I grew in my appreciation for all that Drew does on a weekly basis. He really loves and cares about his sheep. And I definitely grew in my love and appreciation for the church I grew up in. You are in my prayers, and I will miss you dearly as I go off to college.

Sincerely,

Chase Pheifer

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FAMILY PRAYER NOTES

GENERAL PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS:

- ◆ Praise God for His control over all things even when they seem out of control.
- ◆ Ask God that Platte Christian Reformed Church would courageously lift up the name of Jesus.
- ◆ Pray that God would use the coming school year to draw our students closer to Jesus Christ.
- ◆ Remember our church leaders, the elders and deacons, and pray that they would know what is best for our church.
- ◆ Ask God to provide for an abundant harvest, to His glory
- ◆ As Christ's disciples are distinguished by their love, pray that our congregation would abound in its love for each other and the community.

Nursing Home Residents, Shut-ins and their Caretakers:

- ◆ Tony & Rozella Baan Hofman, Ted Bultsma, Kevin Burma, Gertie DeJong, Clair & Pearl Dyk, Marie Kok, Clarence Hunsucker, JoAnn Kuipers, Juna Meyerink, Helen Pheifer, Ruth Pranger, Cheryl Reed, Don & Evelyn Severson, Harriet Sprik, Leona Van Dusseldorp, and Muriel Van Vuren, Betty Van Zee

Those Mourning the Loss of:

- ◆ Don Severson, Alfred VanZee, MacKenzie Haack, Esther Hoekman, Cornie & Eleanor Lieuwen, Jennie Bultsma, Darrell Kuipers, and Andrew Sybesma.

Missionaries:

- ⇒ Ben & Amy Meyer (CRWM– Mexico)
- ⇒ Victor & Lori Selemani (YWAM– Africa)
- ⇒ LaVeryl & Max Voss (Wycliffe– Papua New Guinea)
- ⇒ Calvin & Jessica Wunderink (TeachBeyond-Czech Republic)

Monthly Birthdays and Anniversaries

(to see church activities, please refer to our weekly bulletin, or to the online calendar at plattecrc.org for the most up-to-date information)

September Birthdays:

3: Dave Kuipers
3: Jerome Bentz
3: Sheryl Brondsema
7: Nancy Pheifer
8: Kalee Dykshorn
9: Cheryl Reed
9: Keith Sybesma
13: Keri Bultsma
14: Lydia Hansum
16: Delores Kuipers
16: John Tronvold
17: Gracia Kuipers
18: Helen Pheifer
18: Sherm Visscher
19: Hennie Van Essen
19: Kathy Bultsma
25: Danika Voss (Missionary)
25: Jan Van Vuren
27: Jan Hansum

27: Ken Overweg
28: John Buitenbos
29: Roy Lorensen
30: Clarence Van Essen

September Anniversaries:

1: Ken & Karla Overweg
6: John & Elsie Tronvold
8: Merle & Joyce Meyerink
10: Brent & Pam Veurink
13: Jeremy & Keri Bultsma
16: Duane & Tammy Meyerink
25: Chris & Amber Dykshorn

Please let the church office know if there are any birthdays or anniversaries that we've missed! Call 337-3572, or email: plattecrc@gmail.com