

Overisel Overview

February 2024

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"The Forecast"

Revelation 22:20, 21 – He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

I am writing this article on Sunday as the snowstorm continues outside. School was canceled on Friday because the snowstorm was predicted to hit. The storm didn't really materialize until late in the day and some were wondering why school was canceled. The business of forecasting and predicting is not an absolute science. That was manifested again in this case. But the storm did come and continues today, so in that regard they were accurate.

Mankind has been trying to forecast the weather for hundreds and hundreds of years. Matthew 16 tells us that the people of Jesus's day could read the sky for hints to what weather was coming. Red sky in the evening meant fair weather and red sky in the morning meant stormy weather. And that has been passed on through the generations. My father, the farmer, would say the same thing to us as kids. And there are other things concerning wooly caterpillars and walnuts and animal behavior and many other things that attempt to tell us what the future may hold. I would be interested in hearing some of the things that you remember hearing and still stand by as predictors of the weather or season.

But there is one event that is coming that we can predict with absolute certainty. And the verses above tell us what that is. The second coming of Jesus Christ to this earth. We may not know when, but we do know that it will happen. And it won't be a secret when it happens. 1 Thessalonians 4:16 says – "For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God." There won't be a person anywhere in the world that will miss it.

The question we have to make sure we have the answer to is this – do you know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior? Are you ready for his second coming? Not just know about him, but have a relationship with him. Have you accepted the free gift of grace that has been offered to you by Jesus' death on the cross for your salvation? If you haven't, I pray that you will right now. We don't know when he will come again, but we do know that it is certain that he will.

Have a wonderful February and may the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all. I'll see you on the journey after the snowstorm is past. God Bless!

Pastor Ken

Adult Sunday School Education Opportunities

January-May, 2024

Marriage Matters!

You are invited! Several couples from our ORC family will be sharing about their marriage and family experiences Sunday morning, January 14, during the Sunday School hour in the sanctuary. This light-hearted conversation will be fun and interesting for anyone. Hope to see you there! (One Week Only)

RVL DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

Being a disciple is more than just knowing about the person Jesus wants us to be. It is learning to put it into practice. This video and discussion class follows the study by Ray VanderLaan that will help believers know how to do this. The class is open to everyone, high school age and above.

Start Date: January 21

Location: Choir Room

STUDY of 1 PETER

Learning more from the Bible may be a goal you have in this coming year. Here is an opportunity for you to study 1 Peter on Sunday mornings. Jesse Klaasen will be facilitating the discussion. This will be a time to study, learn and share together. Though this class is primarily for post high people and young couples, everyone is welcome to attend.

Start Date: January 21

Location: Room 13

THE ART OF PARENTING

This video and discussion class is continuing from the fall.

New Location: Olive Tree Room

WOMEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This discussion class will continue studies from the Gospels about Jesus' birth and life.

Location: Historical Room

*The class that usually meets in the Olive Tree Room will be attending the RVL Discipleship class in the Choir Room.

2024 Communion Schedule

January 14

February 11

March 10

March 28 (Maundy Thursday)

May 12

June 9

July 14

August 11

September 8

October 6 (World Communion Sunday)

November 10

December 8

The painting of the Overisel village in the 1960's that was on display in the foyer since the 175th anniversary is now hanging in the library hall on the west wall. Thanks again to Ron and Sheila Wiersma for their generosity in donating this piece of art to our church. Both Ron Wiersma and Sheila Kaper grew up in Overisel and attended the Christian Reformed Church. Sheila made the original sketches when in her teens and living across from her church. She completed the painting in time for the 175th anniversary of Overisel. If anyone is interested in purchasing a copy of it, there are order sheets on the information table showing the sizes available.

2023 OVERVIEW

BIRTHS

Josiah Allen Lubbers	February 12, 2023
Eleanor Jean Kruizenga	June 2, 2023
George Foster Kooyers	June 7, 2023
Jackson Henry Velderman	August 10, 2023

BAPTIZED

Jace Siriano	March 19, 2023
Josiah Lubbers	May 14, 2023
Eleanor Kruizenga	August 27, 2023
Michael VerKaik	September 10, 2023
Jackson Henry Velderman	October 22, 2023

RECEIVED AT CONFESSION

Elliott DeWeerdt	January 8, 2023
Abigail Laarman	June 5, 2023
Michael VerKaik	August 27, 2023
Makenze Schrottenboer	August 27, 2023
Grant Immink	September 11, 2023
Sophia DeWeerd	December 3, 2023

RECEIVED AT AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Joseph Stafford	February 7, 2023
Pamela Stafford	February 7, 2023
Luke Siriano	February 26, 2023
Megan Siriano	February 26, 2023
Logan Pitsenberger	April 10, 2023
Keith VanLiere	June 5, 2023
Patricia VanLiere	June 5, 2023
Kelly Laarman	December 17, 2023

RECEIVED BY LETTER – COMMUNICANT

Hunter Smith	February 7, 2023
Carl Immink	April 10, 2023
Jaynet Immink	April 10, 2023
Allen Naber	May 8, 2023
Gloria Naber	May 8, 2023
John Naber	May 8, 2023
Justin Machiela	September 11, 2023
Gina Pitsenberger	November 6, 2023
Logan Pitsenberger	November 6, 2023
Dennis DeWeerd	November 6, 2023
Patti DeWeerd	November 6, 2023
Rick Stob	December 4, 2023
Sandy Stob	December 4, 2023

RECEIVED – BAPTIZED

Ryan DeWeerd	November 6, 2023
Sophia DeWeerd	November 6, 2023

ADOPTIONS

TRANSFERRED COMMUNICANT

Jacob Smallegan	February 7, 2023
Melissa Broekhuis	June 5, 2023
Jared Broekhuis	June 5, 2023
William Stickley	June 5, 2023
Vicki Stickley	June 5, 2023
Ty Hogue	November 6, 2023
Dawn Hogue	November 6, 2023

TRANSFERRED BAPTIZED

Ella Hogue	November 6, 2023
Megan Hogue	November 6, 2023

DEATHS

Marcia Immink	January 21, 2023
Mary Kooyers	April 27, 2023
Alden Barkel	May 6, 2023
Carl Immink	July 9, 2023
Nelson Sneller	July 20, 2023
Arlene Kleinheksel	August 13, 2023
Jack Lampen	September 12, 2023
Josephine Hoffman	December 24, 2023

MARRIAGES

Justin Boeve & Jenna Clark	April 14, 2023
Jordan Gruppen & Alyssa Christensen	June 10, 2023
Ben Koopman & Daria Wedeven	July 28, 2023
Kyle DeNeef & Martha Kleinbrook	July 29, 2023
Hunter Smith & Rebecca Koopman	October 14, 2023
Grant Immink & Tsinat Klaasen	December 9, 2023

Star on the Service Flag

Commissioned Pastor

February Birthdays

February 2: Makenzie Brinks, David Kraker,
Jim Mentzer, Madison Schrotenboer

February 3: Christina Chambers, Rich Hoving,

February 4: Belva Dubbink, Henry Harrington,
Sue Schierbeek

February 5: Laura Boeve, Avery Grew, Luzia VandenBosch

February 6: LuAnn Broekhuis, Hailey Dalman, Lee Lubbers

February 7: Chris Kooyers, Leah Prince

February 8: Carole Koops

February 9: James Andersen, Martha DeNeef, Cindy Sneller

February 10: Matt Blood

February 11: Kaleb Pothoff

February 12: Anderson Borr, Linda Hemmeke, Josiah Lubbers

February 13: Darlene Schaap

February 14: Dawn Boeve, Courtney LaMar,
Makenze Schrotenboer

February 16: Amber Velderman, Bernadette Will, Gideon Gemmen

February 17: Kathy Hoving

February 18: Donald Becksford

February 21: Mitch Lohman, Craig Theodore

February 22: Gord Kempkers, Bruce Peters, Avery Reimink,
Mike Pitsenberger

February 23: Dean Jipping, Paul Theodore

(Continued...)



February Birthdays



February 24: Gerrit Heavener

February 25: Carrie Klaasen, Lance Wassink

February 26: Aiden Peter Lickley, Melinda Smallegan

February 27: Lynnae Genzink, Dave Michalak

February 28: Courtney Halstead, Maryn Kooyers,
Noah Laarman



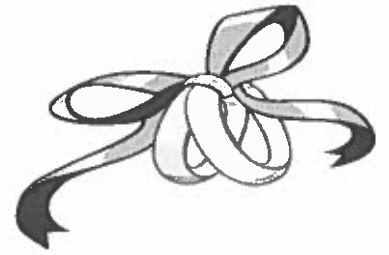
Extra Special February Birthdays!!

Laura Folkert will be 95 on February 4

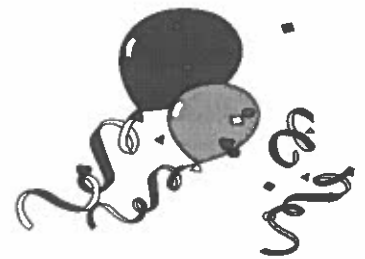
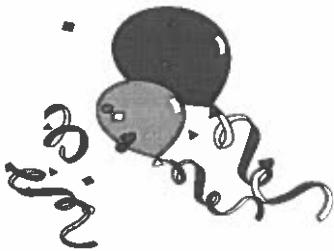
Faye Cornell will be 86 on February 20



February Anniversaries



Bryan & Missy Ulberg: February 4
Jim & Kim Mentzer: February 11
Matthew & Lisa Will: February 12
Jim & Jamie Bussis: February 26



An Extra Special Anniversary!!

Bill & Mary Nykamp: 51 years on February 23

Congratulations!!

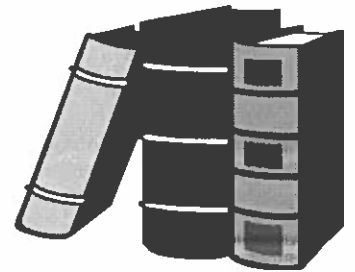


Grant Immink and Tsinat Klaasen became husband and wife at ORC on Saturday, December 9, 2023! At a 4pm ceremony, officiated by Pastor Mike, Tsinat's grandpa, Jack Ten Cate, sang "Each for the Other" and piano was played by Linda Hemmeke.

Parents of the couple are Todd & Carrie Klaasen and Bryan & Connie Immink. After honeymooning in Punta Cana, the newlyweds make their home in Hamilton.

♥ CONGRATULATIONS GRANT & TSINAT IMMINK!! ♥

LIBRARY BOOK REVIEWS



Title: *Born For Rescue (find purpose by refusing to do nothing)*

Author: Pat Bradley

Non-Fiction

Reviewer: Carrie Klaasen and Ruth Dannenberg

Born for Rescue is an incredible book that teaches how anyone can make a difference in the world today by refusing to do nothing. Pat Bradley is founder of Crisis Aid International, one of the first to show up in “no-go zones” where starvation, disease and danger are part of everyday life. They provide food to malnourished people around the world. They help rescue thousands of young women from sex trafficking. They are committed to “helping the helpless” as well as providing training programs.

Be sure to read this book and be motivated and inspired to do something in Jesus’ name to help the helpless and give them “the Gospel”

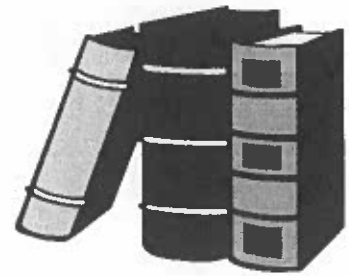
Title: *Looking for Leroy*

Author: Melody Carlson

Fiction

Reviewer: Linda Hemmeke

As Brynna and her friend Jan drive to their vacation site, new mini-camper in tow, she recalls her teenage camp romance with a boy named Leroy. She remembered his family owned a vineyard in the area, but she doesn’t remember his last name. Jan insists that they look for him and the search for a second chance at love begins.



Title: *When Stone Wings Fly*

Author: Karen Barnett

Fiction

Reviewer: Ruth Dannenberg

In 1931, the creation of the new Great Smoky Mountain Nat'l Park threatens Rosie McCavely's home. Rosie vows the only way the commission will get her land is if they haul her off it in a pine box.

Eighty-five years later her great granddaughter heads back to the Nat'l park to find answers to her great grandmothers mysterious death.

The Best Summer of Our Lives by Rachel Hauk

Reviewed by Ruth Verkaik

The Back Cover:

Twenty years ago, the summer of '77 was supposed to be the best summer of Summer Wilde's life. She and her best friends, Spring, Autumn and Snow—the Four Seasons—had big plans.

But those plans never had a chance. After a teenage prank gone awry, the Seasons found themselves on a bus to Tumbleweed, "Nowhere", Oklahoma, to spend eight weeks as camp counselors. All four of them arrived with hidden secrets and buried fears, and the events that unfolded in those two months forever altered their friendships, their lives and their futures.

Now thirtysomething Summer is at a crossroads. When her latest girl band leaves her in a motel outside Tulsa, she is forced to face the shadows of her past. Returning to the place where everything changed, she soon learns Tumbleweed is more than a town she never wanted to see again. It's a place for healing, for reconciling her past with the present, and for finally listening to love's voice.

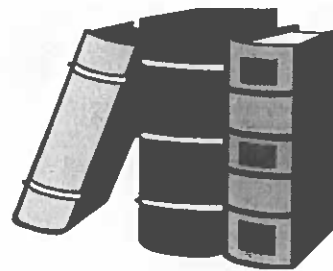
My thoughts:

Another story of complex characters. This time, as the reader, you have to keep track of when the story is being told and whom is telling it. Rachel Hauk is an incredible storyteller. She takes you on an emotional ride of choices and how through it all—no matter what—our God is there. Loving us in our mess.

Note to the reader: one of the characters in this story deals with unplanned pregnancy, but it is handled with great care.

The Weight of Air by Kimberly Duffy

Reviewed by Ruth Verkaik



The Back Cover:

In 1911, Mabel MacGinnis is Europe's strongest woman and has performed beside her father in the Manzo Brothers Circus her entire life. When he dies unexpectedly, she loses everything she's ever known and sets off in the company of acrobat Jake Cunningham in hope of finding the mother she thought was dead.

Isabella Moreau, American's most feted aerialist, has given everything to the circus. But age and injury threaten her security and Isabella, stalked by old fears, makes a choice that risks everything. Then her daughter Mabel appears alongside the man who never wanted to see Isabella again, and she's forced to face the truth of where, and in what, she derives her worth.

As Mabel and Isabella's lives become entangled beneath the glittering lights and flying trapeze of Madison Square Garden, their resiliency and resolve are tested as they learn the truth of what it means to be strong.

My Thoughts:

This story surprised me. It's about the circus, yes. But it's far more. Duffy has crafted a layered story with complex characters who truly wrestle with what it means to follow Christ. Enjoy!

All That It Takes by Nicole Deese

Reviewed by Ruth Verkaik

Back Cover:

When the ever-cautious Val Locker moves cross-country with her son for a secure job, everything she'd planned unravels within the first week. After Val reluctantly agrees to rent an apartment from her best friend's brother, an unexpected chance at an elite filmmaker's mentorship ignites fresh hope for a dream career. But as Va's community begins to expand, so do her insecurities, especially those heightened by her growing attraction to a certain friendly landlord.

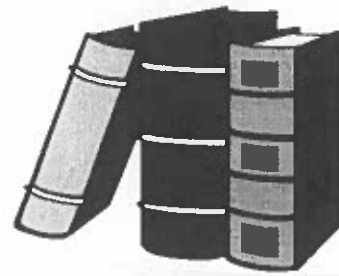
Pastor Miles McKenzie returns home from a short-term mission trip to discover that not only does he have an intriguing new tenant living upstairs, he's also been reassigned to a local ministry on life support. Disillusioned and restless, he distracts himself by throwing his energy into a host of new projects—not the least of which is pursuing Val—without stopping to consider the future.

As Val struggles to stop hiding behind the camera and Miles wrestles with shattered expectations, they'll find that authentic love and sacrifice must go hand in hand.

My Thoughts:

This is the sequel to *All That Really Matters*. This time, we get to follow the story of Val and Miles who we meet in the first book. While this story is all their own, Deese hits it out of the park again. Depth. Complex characters. All while touching on unplanned pregnancy and ministry disillusionment. Another incredible read!

All That Really Matters by Nicole Deese
Reviewed by Ruth Verkaik



Back Cover:

Molly McKenzie's bright personality and on-trend fusion and beauty advice have made her a major social media influencer. When her manager-turned-boyfriend tells her of an upcoming audition to host a makeover show for America's underprivileged youth, all her dreams finally seem to be coming true. There's just one catch: she has little experience interacting with people in need.

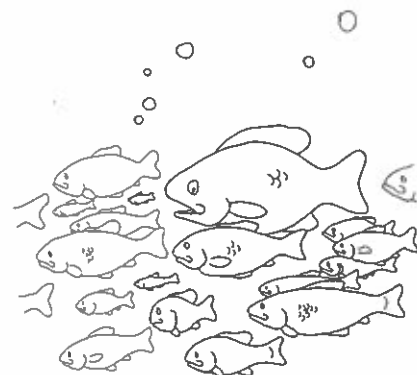
To gain an edge on her competitors, she plans to volunteer for the summer at a transitional program for aged-out foster kids, but the program's director, Silas Whittaker, doesn't find her as charming as her followers do. Despite his ridiculous rules and terms, Molly dives into mentoring, surprising herself with the genuine connections and concern she quickly develops for the girls—and Silas. But just as everything seems perfectly aligned for her professional future, it starts to crumble under the pressure. And as her one-narrow focus opens to the deep needs of those she's come to know, she must face the ones she's neglected inside herself for so long.

My thoughts:

With this book, I broke the cardinal rule: I totally judged it by its cover. It looked like a fluffy book about makeup and social media. (insert eyeroll here) Yet... it's not. Deese goes far deep. She hooks you with Molly's humor and personality and takes you on a ride. Don't be fooled, you will find yourself thinking beyond skin-deep as well. Enjoy the ride!



"I'VE BEEN TO THREE LUMBERYARDS, AND EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN CLEANED OUT BY SOME GUY NAMED NOAH." SEE GENESIS 6:15-16.



"THERE'S A BIG TRAFFIC JAM UP AHEAD. I OVERHEARD SOMETHING ABOUT THE WATERS BEING PARTED." SEE EXODUS 14:21.



Mary's Monthly Meal Recipe

Philly Cheese Steak Casserole

2 lbs ground beef
1 large diced onion
1 1/2 cups diced green pepper (diced large)
1 cup water
0.87 pkg brown gravy mix
1/2 T garlic powder
1/2 t pepper
1/2 T onion powder
1/2 t salt
1 1/2 cups Bisquick mix
3/4 cup water
1/2 cup mayo
2 cups of shredded mozzarella/cheddar blend



Preheat oven to 325 degrees

Cook ground beef to partial cooked status and add the onions and green peppers. Cook until they are soft and beef is no longer pink.
Drain grease

Put beef mix back on the stove and add gravy, garlic, onion, salt, and pepper. Stir well and cook until there is no longer any liquid. Remove from heat.

In a bowl, mix Bisquick and water until no more lumps.

Add mayo to beef mixture and stir well.

Pour Bisquick mixture into greased 9 x 13 pan and spread out. Spoon ground beef mixture over Bisquick. Sprinkle with the cheese.

Bake 35-38 minutes

ANCESTRAL MATHEMATICS

IN ORDER TO BE BORN, YOU NEEDED:

2 parents
4 grandparents
8 great-grandparents
16 second great-grandparents
32 third great-grandparents
64 fourth great-grandparents
128 fifth great-grandparents
256 sixth great-grandparents
512 seventh great-grandparents
1,024 eighth great-grandparents
2,048 ninth great-grandparents

For you to be born today from 12 previous generations, you needed a total of 4,094 ancestors over the last 400 years.

Think for a moment...
How many struggles? How many battles?
How many difficulties?
How much sadness?
How much happiness?
How many love stories?
How many expressions of hope for the future?
-did your ancestors have to undergo
for you to exist in this present moment...



HONOR THEM.

"Dad Jokes"

- My balloon elephant wouldn't fit on the back seat of the car.
So I had to pop the trunk
- A detective showed up at my house and asked where I was between 5 & 6.
I told him kindergarten



Keep our service members in your prayers

Cpl Drake Fogerty (Marine Corps)

SFC Sean Mather (Army)

Amn Kyle Theodore (Air Force)

SSgt Adam Voorhorst (Army)

Deadline on articles to be submitted for the March issue is **February 18.**



Articles can be submitted by placing in box outside of office.

fyi: I do not "hunt" for articles for print... if you would like something included in the monthly publication, please submit it. That also includes personal celebrations, accomplishments, births, etc.