

JUNE 2025

PEW ECHO

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
527 Giddings Ave., Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
920-467-3251
1stReformed.org

Brad Veenendaal - Pastor
pastorbrad@1streformed.org

Sue Dempster - Office
office@1streformed.org



THE 2025 GRADUATES...

(do you know who this is?)



CONGRATULATIONS 2025 GRADUATES!



NAME: Hannah Steffen

PARENTS: Travis and Morgan Steffen

GRADUATING FROM: Sheboygan Falls HS

FUTURE PLANS: Hannah will be attending Lakeland University on a full-scholarship for Elementary and Middle School education.

The future belongs to
those who believe in the
beauty of their dreams.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Do not follow where the path
may lead. Go instead where
there is no path and leave a trail

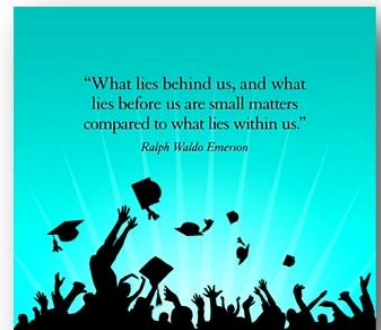
— Ralph Waldo Emerson —

2025 COLLEGE GRADUATES

Curtis Teunissen graduated from Concordia University with a Master's Degree in Educational Administration in May, 2025.

"What lies behind us, and what
lies before us are small matters
compared to what lies within us."

Ralph Waldo Emerson





JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1	Lori Gumm
3	Dave Stoffregen
7	Joan Mueller
10	Dawn Otte
12	Henry Fritsch
13	Sophia Houwers
16	Phyllis LeMahieu
24	Pastor Brad Veenendaal
26	Tonja Veenendaal
28	Sue Wisse

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

3	Steve & Stacy Wagner	(25)
12	Mike & Mary Rammer	(49)
14	Peter & Mary Loewen	(28)
18	Aaron & Connie Lund	(20)
19	Dave & Nancy Mulder	(49)
21	Duane & Lori Gumm	(25)
24	Paul & Ann Graumann	(36)
26	John & Pat Boge	(55)
30	Dick & Gail Huibregtse	(52)

Fun in Sunday School

A Sunday school teacher was explaining how God created Eve out of Adam's rib. Suddenly, a student who enjoyed showing off started groaning and grabbing his side.

When the teacher asked what the boy's problem was, he said with a smile, "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."



The marriage ceremony was over and the pastor raised his hand to pronounce the benediction. The bride, however, must have thought he was

offering her a "high five." She raised her hand and slapped the pastor's hand!

The congregation laughed.... not wanting to leave the groom out, the minister gave him a high five as well!

Bloopers from the church

• A new loudspeaker has been installed in the church. It was given by an anonymous man in honor of his wife.

• Ladies, remember the upcoming rummage sale. It is a chance for you to get rid of those things you are tired of keeping. Don't forget to bring your husbands to the sale.



Expanded lives

In a fascinating, kid-friendly science experiment, a bar of Ivory soap heated in a microwave writhes and expands into a unique, billowy shape. The change is due to Charles' Law, which describes how a gas, such as that contained in pockets inside a bar of Ivory, expands as its temperature increases. The soap can still be used as normal, though it's now fragile and flaky.

When the Holy Spirit enters us, we expand as well. Our Spirit-enlarged lives may seem misshapen to some, no longer conforming to the world's expectations. But our uniqueness reflects the creativity of our Triune God, who reveals himself to people in many different ways.

Our hearts expand and soften too, opening to other people's needs and concerns, while our God-created purpose remains: to be a force of love and care — of cleansing and renewal — in the world.

HANGING OUT WITH DAD

I've always been a "daddy's girl." Growing up, I usually spent Saturdays in the garage with my dad. We'd build something, fix a car part or get into some trouble together.

Though Joseph wasn't Jesus' biological father, he certainly served as a father figure for God's Son. Jesus followed in Joseph's footsteps as a carpenter, but we're told little about his childhood. When Joseph advised Jesus to "measure twice and cut once," did Jesus mention he'd get it right on the first measure? How many craftsman tips did Jesus learn from Joseph? And did Joseph learn a few from Jesus? Surely young Jesus looked up to Joseph. What did wonder look like in the eyes of the One who invented wonder?

How am I hanging out with God on a regular basis? Am I continuing to learn his "trade"? Do I intentionally mimic his words, his kindness, his ways of loving others well? Take a minute to ponder that. Imagine yourself out in the garage with God (or in the kitchen with God, or at the computer with God). What task do you imagine doing together? What does God say to you as you look into his eyes?

—Janna Firest

"Dad: a son's first hero, a daughter's first love."



A FATHER'S RESPONSE

In *He Still Moves Stones*, Max Lucado recalls the story of Derek Redmond, a 1992 Olympic competitor in the 400-meter race. Halfway through Redmond's semifinal run, a torn hamstring sent him tumbling to the ground. His dad, Jim, immediately ran onto the track. He met up with Derek, who, though crying, had managed to stand and was hopping forward.



"You don't have to do this," Jim said. But Derek insisted. "Well, then, we're going to finish this together," said Jim, who supported his son as he hobbled to the finish line. The crowd cheered and wept as Derek, with Dad's assistance, finished the race.

Lucado writes: "What made the father do it?... Was it the strength of his child? No, it was the pain of his child. ... God does the same. Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."



USHERS FOR JUNE

Steve Klescewski

Kevin Lammers



**USHER
SCHEDULE**



GREETERS FOR JUNE

June 1

Steve & Lisa Klescewski
Kevin & Margie Lammers

June 29

Ben & Joy Cleveland
John & Pat Boge

June 8

Curt & Sheila Teunissen
Jeff & Nancy Van Wyk

June 15

Lin Wilterdink, Bev
Dulmes
Steve & Linda Wilterdink

June 22

Dale & Beth Wingert
Rick & Ronda Arthur



Present: Pastor Brad Veenendaal, Dennis Beach, Dick Huibregtse, Dave Stoffregen, Steve Wilterdink, Aaron Lund, Doug Church, Kevin Lammers, Ron Mueller, Corey Kappers, Travis Steffen, Doug Fabian, Ben Cleveland
Absent: None

First Reformed Church
Consistory Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2025

1. **Devotions:** Pastor Brad led by reading from 2 Chronicles 20:12. What should we do when facing difficulties? Prayer and Praise and putting our trust in the Lord.
2. **Opening Prayer:** The consistory spent time in prayer, Pastor Brad closed.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** There was a motion and support to approve the minutes of the previous meeting (March 11, 2025). That motion carried.
4. **Agenda additions:** one
5. **Deacons Update/Financial Report:** A: Corey gave an update through the end of April with the balance sheet and going over various expenses vs income. Motion and support to approve the report. That motion carried. B: First Reformed Fix-up day Sat. May 17th. A nice number of people have signed up to help.
6. **Elders update:** Dave provided update on the April 1st and May 6th Elder's meetings.
7. **Executive Committee Update:** Dave provided an update on the April 8th meeting.
8. **Old Business:** None
9. **New Business:** Prayer and discussion – Connections Focus and Equip to Engage goals.
 - One community need to learn about and help meet
 - Two community events to have a presence atExamples brought forth were as follows: City/Main Street, School, Food Pantry, Love Inc., Chamber Concerts, Ducktona, Free Fish Day, Safety Day, Main Street Memories, Welcome Wagon, Farmers Market
10. **Ministry Team Updates:** None
11. **Adjourn and closing prayer:** There was a motion and support to adjourn. That motion carried. Pastor Brad closed the meeting with prayer.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 8th, 2025 7:00 PM
Pastor Brad Veenendaal
Dave Stoffregen (Clerk)



Dana & Brian Phipps

Dear Friends,

Fun Fact: Excavation on the biblical city of **Colossae** will begin in Turkey this summer!

This past Sunday our church looked beyond Turkey and focused on the **global advance of the Gospel**. Everyone seemed sincerely interested in the needs of the unreached.

Beril (pictured foreground) and **Aybala** recently completed our 15-week basic discipleship course. Praise God that our women's ministry is growing in size and depth of faith.



Tuncay came to our Easter outreach. At the time, he admitted that he was an unpleasant person and needed help to change. Last night **Tuncay placed his faith in Christ!**

Tuncay is married and has a good job. He seems very determined to walk with Christ. Please pray.

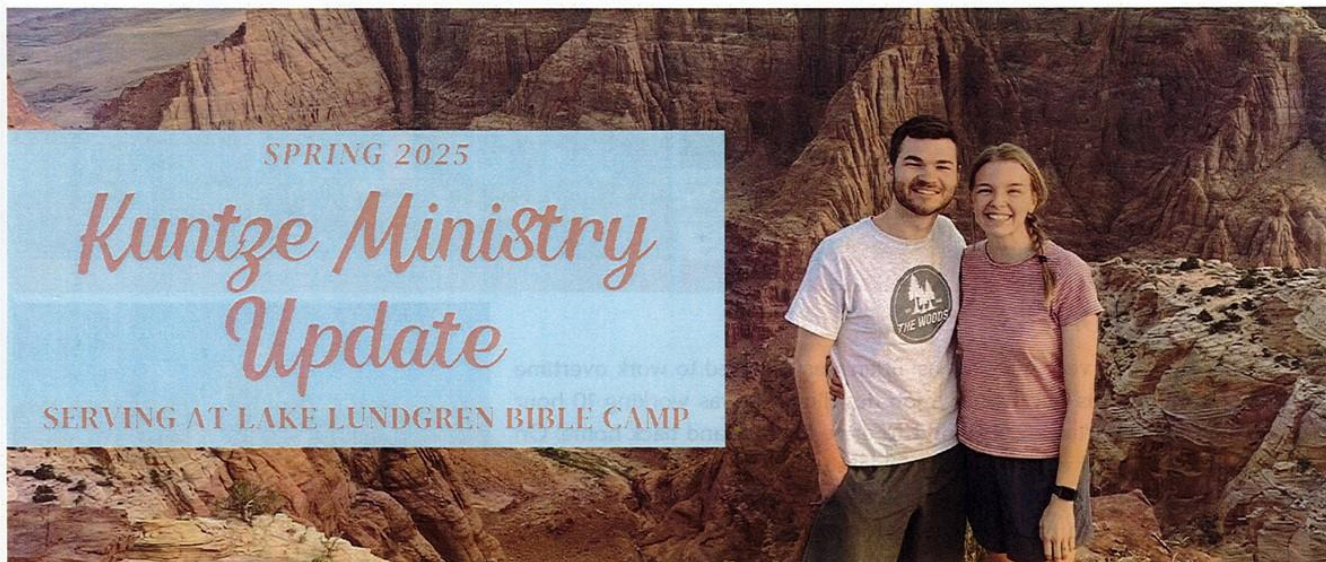


Love,

Brian and Dana

Avant

[10000 N Oak Trafficway](http://10000NOakTrafficway.com)
[Kansas City, MO 64155](http://KansasCityMO64155.com)
www.avantministries.org



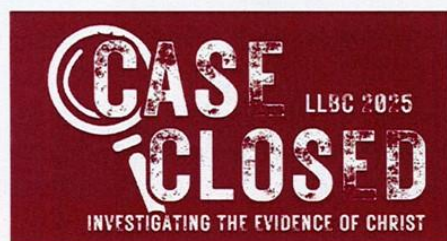
2025 HAS FLOWN BY...

Since Christmas, around 1,882 people have visited Lake Lundgren Bible Camp through retreats, volunteering, and community events—a wonderful opportunity to share the gospel! If you were at camp this winter, you may have seen me behind the camera, giving announcements, connecting with volunteers, or helping with activities. One thing I love about this time of year is that many adults who “grew up coming to camp” return for retreats years later. I’m grateful for how God has used LLBC since 1935, and I feel so blessed to play a part in His work here.



SUMMER IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Summer—our busiest season—is almost here! This year’s theme is “Case Closed: Investigating the Evidence of Christ,” based on John 14:11. With an old-time detective theme, we will be diving into the investigative process, ultimately emphasizing the importance of seeking the truth that is found in Christ and learning how to know the truth so you can spot the lies that our culture would tempt us to believe. Please pray for the 1,700+ campers joining us—that they would grow in their faith and trust the Lord more deeply. I trust that the Lord will work powerfully here this summer!



BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THAT I
AM IN THE FATHER AND THE
FATHER IS IN ME; OR AT LEAST
BELIEVE ON THE EVIDENCE OF
THE WORKS THEMSELVES.
JOHN 14:11

WHO WE ARE

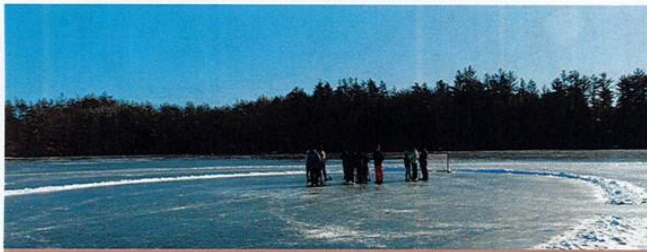
Hi! My name is Haley Kuntze. I am on Missionary Staff at Lake Lundgren Bible Camp in Pembine, WI. As a Program Coordinator, I work on general program planning and oversee Women’s Ministry, Social Media, Camp Store, Discipleship Camps, etc. My husband, Brian, is an electrical apprentice in the Marinette/Menominee area. Though he isn’t employed by camp, he serves with me to accomplish LLBC’s mission: “Lake Lundgren Bible Camp exists to glorify God by continually connecting all to Jesus.”



LAKE LUNDGREN
BIBLE CAMP

Lake Lundgren Bible Camp’s address: N18250 Lake Lane, Pembine, WI 54156

Email: Haley.Kuntze@LLBC.org



The lake in January 2025



The lake very soon!

PERSONAL UPDATES

This Winter has been very busy for us. Brian was required to work overtime for a couple of months because of a job deadline. He was working 10 hour days- 6 days a week. Plus a 2.5 round trip drive to work and back home. On top of that we juggled camp retreats, Bible studies, and youth group. That was a difficult time, but thankfully in March, Brian's work returned back to mostly normal hours. In April we decided to take a road trip to celebrate 2 years of marriage and spend intentional time together after a busy winter. We visited the Grand Canyon and surrounding areas— an unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime trip!

At the end of this year, Brian will be eligible to take the licensure test for his electrical apprenticeship. We are thinking and praying about what the next steps could look like after that point— please join us in seeking God's guidance for the future.

SUPPORT

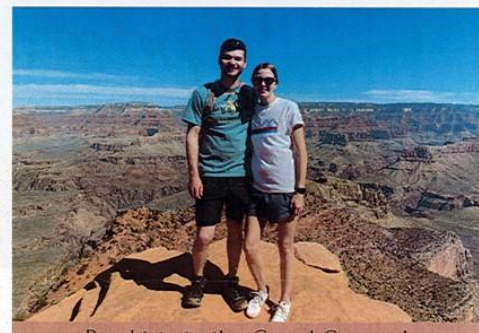
At this point in 2025, we've reached 25% of our annual financial support goal. As we consider what our future looks like, we are seeing the need for increase in our monthly support. All donations designated with my name go directly toward my paycheck, which is fully funded by supporters like you. This model helps keep camp costs low, making it possible for families of all income levels to hear the Gospel. Our mission is to connect all people who come to LLBC to Jesus- that they may know Him as Savior and King. Would you prayerfully consider partnering in this mission through prayer and/or financial gifts? To give, go to [LLBC.org/staff/haley-brian-kuntze/](https://llbc.org/staff/haley-brian-kuntze/) If you prefer to send a check, please make all checks payable to Lake Lundgren Bible Camp, with a note designating my name. Thank you.



Brian helping out with a variety show act during Winter Family Camp



No snow during winter camp = time to get out the dunk tank in freezing temps!



Road trip to the Grand Canyon!



A camper taking notes during an impactful chapel session



Smile!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Lives to be changed in the 1,700+ campers who will be at LLBC this summer
- Summer planning
- Financial partnerships
- God's leading in next steps after Brian gets his electrical certification

We hope to see you at camp soon! Please let us know how we can be praying for you!

— Brian and Haley Kuntze

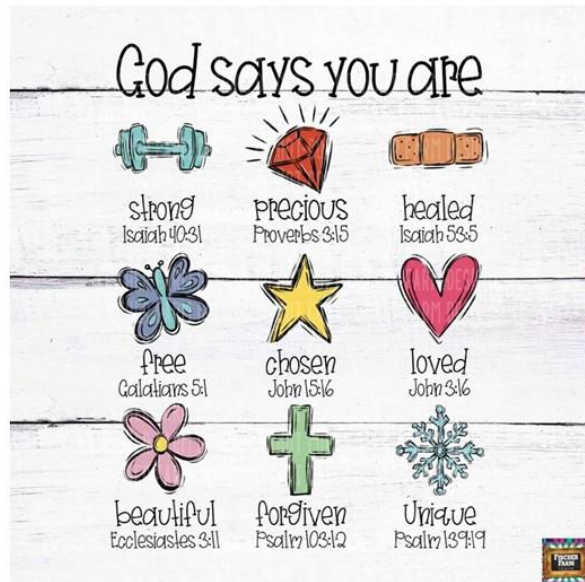
KID'S PAGE



Fully Rely On God

OLD TESTAMENT SCAVENGER HUNT

USE YOUR BIBLE TO FIND...



- ☐ The first book of the Old Testament _____
- ☐ The last book of the Old Testament _____
- ☐ The book with only 3 letters in its name _____
- ☐ The book named after a queen _____
- ☐ The 16th book of the Old Testament _____
- ☐ The book before Zephaniah _____
- ☐ The book with 150 chapters _____
- ☐ The book about the man who was in the den of lions _____
- ☐ The wisdom book with 31 chapters _____
- ☐ The book before Joel _____



June



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am Worship	2	3 7pm Elders	4	5	6	7
8 9:30am Worship	9	10 7pm Executive Committee	11	12	13	14
15 9:30am Worship 	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 9:30am Worship	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30am Worship	30					



A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.'

His son asked, 'What happened to the flea?'

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY

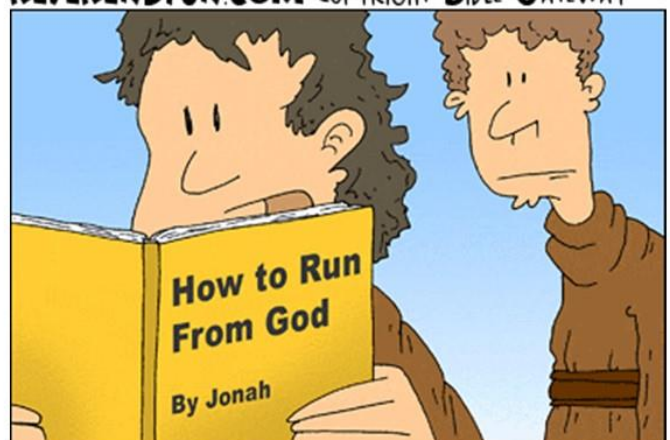


Thanks to Richard Germain

09-05-2008

IT'S TIME TO GET THE AUDIO BOOK
ALREADY

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Richard Germain (See Jonah 1-4)

09-19-2008

IT JUST SAYS "DON'T"