

Orchard *Weekly*

FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 21

Announcements

LOVE Ripon is coming April 24th. AV is organizing a group to work together on a project for this event. If you want to be a part of this church group, signups are at the welcome center or use the digital signup using this link: <https://forms.gle/WQaotoTyD2d96QBc8>. If you want to sign up individually you can go online at Loveripon.com and pick your own project. A flyer will be available for pick up at the Welcome Center. If you have questions you can contact Bill Buterman or Zac Dewey.

Deb and Ron Van Essen are hosting a small group study exploring the book, **The Benedict Option**. This will be a 10 session study, starting Thursday, April 1 at 7PM and meeting every other Thursday evening. If interested please contact Deb or Ron. Books have been purchased so you can get them through Deb or Ron. In the 6th Century St Benedict created a way of life for Christians struggling to hold on amid cultural chaos. He built resilient communities based on principles of order, hospitality, stability and prayer. The Benedict Option is a guide for Christians under siege today. This study will help change our lives to "be the church", without compromise.

Coffee & Fellowship Time will resume outdoors starting March 28th. If you are interested in being a coffee server volunteer, please contact Jean Vander Schuur or the church office.

Easter Weekend Services: This year we will host a Good Friday service at 7pm, April 2. There will two Easter Day services, April 4th at 9:30am & 5:00pm. Both services will have the same sermon. But the evening service will include some of the same songs and will also include communion. The evening service will require masks and is designed for those who aren't yet comfortable in large crowds. Also, come join us for an Easter morning breakfast before the morning worship service. More details to follow.

Keep in Mind: Interfaith Easter Basket Food offering, temporary housing request for Daniel Kim, Ripon Christian Schools Merchandise & Livestock Auction

Church Family

Thank you for all the cards & prayers that we received from all of you. They were greatly appreciated. - Dale & Bonnie De Bie.

Birthdays this week: 3/21 Becky Rhoda 3/23 Taylor Anema 3/26 Christopher Vanden Akker 3/27 Rachel Goslinga

Anniversary this week: 3/25 Randy & Dawn Eskes

This Week

Sunday

9:30am Morning Worship
10:45am K-12 Education Classes
10:45am Adult Education Class
6:00pm Evening Worship

Monday

6:30pm Cadets

Tuesday

Wednesday

7:30pm HS Youth Group

Thursday

7:00pm Worship Rehearsal

Sunday

9:30am Morning Worship
10:45am K-12 Education Classes
10:45am Adult Education Class
6:00pm Evening Worship

Weekly Prayer Guide

Monday - "Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am faint; O Lord, heal me, for my bones are in agony." Ps. 6:2 Pray for those in our congregation who are struggling with health issues. Pray that they experience God's loving care for them.

Tuesday - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me." Ps. 23:4 Pray for those who have had family members or close friends die recently. Pray also for those who are walking with someone who is looking at their impending death. May they have the comfort of knowing that God walks with them and has already prepared the way.

Wednesday - "Teach them (God's words) to your children and to their children after them." Deut. 4:9 Pray for Pastor Zac, the leaders, and the youth group as they meet tonight. May your words penetrate their hearts and lives and conform them evermore into your image.

Thursday - "Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea." Pray for those who struggle with life. Anxiety cripples many of us as we see the world getting crazier by the day. Jesus is still the ruler of his creation, and we are called to serve and trust him above all.

Friday - "We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land." Spring is a time of looking ahead with anticipation for a crop to harvest in the fall. As we pray for our farmers today may we also remember that all of us are called to sow the good news of God's love, that an abundant harvest may be reaped for God's kingdom.

Saturday - We have all offended God this past week with things we have done or have left undone. God already knows our sins, but we need to confess them so he can heal our wounded hearts. Then remember: "My sin - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, O my soul."

Sunday - "Holy God, we praise your name. Lord of all, we bow before you." Pray for all those who worship with us today. Pray for Pastor Mark as he delivers God's words to us. May God be glorified in our worship today.

AV Member Highlight—Natasha Smith & Taylor Anema

Natasha has been busy creating a succulent business for her FFA project. She won the Delta Valley Section Proficiency Award in the area of Nursery Operations. This qualified her to compete at the regional level where she was also successful. After earning awards at the sectional and then regional level, she qualified to move on to the state level.

Taylor helped lead the Dordt University cross country team and indoor track team to nationals. The cross country team placed first at the GPAC championship in November and Taylor won the GPAC women's race. The cross country team will compete at nationals in April (moved to the spring due to Covid). The women's indoor track team placed 5th at nationals. Taylor ran in the prelims for the Distance Medley Race and competed in the 5k. Next up for track is the outdoor season.



Well done, ladies!