



# SUSSEX CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

## July 2023 Newsletter

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### **A Note from Pastor Kendall: Summer!**

Olaf the Snowman in Disney's Frozen dreams of what he has never seen or experienced before-- Summer! He dreams of bees that buzz, kids blowing dandelion fuzz, and himself doing whatever snow does in summer. He imagines sipping little fruity drinks with umbrellas in them, lying on a raft in a pool, relaxing in the summer sun and letting off steam. Despite not knowing summer and snowmen aren't a great fit, he just can't help thinking about what life will be like in Summer!

Summer is officially here! With Summer we probably can't stop thinking about what life will be like. Summer means different things to different people. For some, it's a break from school and the freedom to explore, work, play, or travel. For some, Summer means longer days in the fields and dinner-time after the sun finally goes down. It's fresh produce from the garden or farmstand. It's the busiest work season of the year for some. Some of us travel, go on vacations, see family, spend more time outdoors, do more grilling. For still others not much changes.

For our church ministries, we slow way down. Many ministries take a break from regular meetings and might have a couple nights out just for fun. With the change of pace we have a natural season to take a break from some activities. But while we take a break from some things, one thing we never take a break from is God's presence.

David writes in Psalm 139:2-3, 7-10, "You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways... Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."

With the Summer change of pace, it's a gift from God to see his hand of blessing especially IN that change of pace. He gives us seasons of hard work and seasons of rest. He gives us great responsibilities and time of reprieve. Whatever this season brings you, I encourage you to take a few moments to savor the blessings of God in the small Summer moments. Like sitting on the porch sipping iced tea, listening to the sound of the rain outside, feeling the sunny breeze on a boat ride, the delight of hiking the mountains, the time you lie outside and tan, when you can sit and read a book, the moment you come inside from a hard days' work to see the family surrounding you at the dinner table. When we pause to thank God for those small moments, he helps to refresh our souls as we delight in him. So whatever the season brings you, remember God's gracious presence wherever you may go!

## ABOUT SUSSEX CRC

49 Unionville Ave.  
Sussex, NJ 07461

973-875-5591

sussexcrc.org

## STAFF

### **Senior Pastor:**

Pastor Kendall Everett

### **Worship Coordinator:**

Karisa Talen

### **Admin. Assistant:**

Rachael Klein

## July Birthdays

1: Karly Lockburner, Ryan Tilley

2: Colleen Fox

3: Rachael Klein, Alex Little

5: Carson Moore, Clay Sytsema

6: Teddy Dykstra, Kevin Lockburner

8: Alexandra Jeltema

9: Jessica Babich

12: Caneel Schipper

13: Ruby Kuperus, Rich Sytsema

15: Emil Talen, Ruth Young

17: Bob Westra

18: Peter H. Bast

19: Troy Yanoff

20: Christina Sullivan, Diane Tassej

21: Kyle Kuperus

22: Teddy Babich, Harper Tilley

23: Cadence Boyd, Laura Kuperus, Lois Schipper

25: Lanae Lobban

26: Peter J Bast, Jeremy Brands

29: Eliza Dykstra, Casey Langenbach

30: C. Mark Kuperus, Jennifer Kuperus

31: Karen Niedergall

# At Sussex CRC

## Council Notes from the June Meeting

- Profession of Faith interviews were held with Morgan Kuperus, Liz Treiber & Simon Valkema. A date will be set for their Public Profession of Faith.
- Holy Communion will be celebrated on July 16.
- The Deaconate reports That the Compassion Project is ready to go! A work day was scheduled for Saturday, June 24, weather permitting.
- Deaconate also reports that they are proceeding with ongoing projects, and that power should be run to the parking lot prior to the next outdoor service.
- The Harvest table will be set up again this year in the basement starting in July.
- A letter was received from Brianna VanderWindt (Kuperus) has requested her membership be removed from Sussex CRC. Brianna and her husband Ben have become members of the Knox Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor Michigan. The Council prays for God's blessing upon Ben & Brianna in his calling to live and serve in their new community.
- Plans for the upcoming VBS is progressing well.

## Have Something for the Newsletter?

The next newsletter will come out **July 28**. Stories are due by **July 21**.

Newsletter articles can promote upcoming or recap recent events, highlight a Bible study, youth program, or small group, or give an update on a missionary or organization we support. If you have any questions about or something for the newsletter, contact the church office.

## May 2023 Financial Statement

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Benevolent</u>	<u>Special Cause Donations</u>	
Beginning Balance	\$7,477.52	\$19,536.43	Capital Imp/Bldg	\$150.00
Income	<u>\$33,044.96</u>	<u>\$1,734.00</u>	GEMS Girls Clubs	\$115.01
Total	\$40,522.48	\$21,270.43	My Brothers Place	\$25.00
Disbursed	<u>\$40,936.97</u>	<u>\$200.28</u>	Sussex Christian School	\$25.01
Ending Balance	\$(414.49)	\$21,070.15	New City Kids	\$852.00
			Compassion Project	\$684.00
			<u>Special Fund Donations</u>	
			Benevolent	\$1,095.01
			Missions	\$815.01
			Tuition Assistance	\$384.01
			Classical Shares Paid through May 2023	
			Denominational Shares Paid through May 2023	

  

<u>Monthly Budget Needs</u>	
Amount Needed	\$31,310.69
Offering Received	\$30,462.91
Surplus	\$(847.78)
Previous month deficit	<u>\$(18,374.64)</u>
YTD Deficit	\$(19,222.42)

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## Congrats to All Graduates!



### 8th Grade

Luke Byma, Sussex Christian School  
Tyler Jeltema, Sussex Christian School  
Karly Lockburner, Sussex Christian School  
Jada Tallamy, Sussex Christian School  
Reyer Van Den Broek, Sussex Middle School  
Percy Van Ek, Sussex Christian School

### High School

Anneke Kuperus, Eastern Christian High School  
Ashley Kuperus, High Point High School  
Jake Kuperus, Sussex County Technical School

Kevin Lockburner, High Point High School  
Josiah Thiessen, Veritas Christian Academy  
Phoenix Valkema, Veritas Christian Academy  
Grady Van Ek, Veritas Christian Academy

### College

Emily Kuperus, Centenary University  
Morgan Kuperus, DeSales University  
Eden Van Ek, Dordt University  
Amy Van Grouw, Liberty University  
Abigail Vander Groef, Liberty University

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## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at Mystery Island is less than a month away and we are so excited to track down the one true God together! We thank God that MANY of our volunteer positions have been filled but we want to extend an invitation to volunteer in the remaining openings:



- **Lighthouse Lesson Leaders:** a one-night commitment to teach 3 back-to-back lessons to the children. (This is open to men/women/couples/duos!)
- **Islander Group Guides:** lead children from rotation to rotation, actively participating and helping as needed, and making sure all children are accounted for.
- **Junior Islander Group Guides:** (grades 7-12) assist the adult Islander Team Leader

**Snacks and supplies** for VBS are also needed! Items needed include lemonade/iced tea mixes, cups, Goldfish crackers, Dixie cup ice cream, plastic tablecloths, and more. If you would like to sign up to donate items for VBS, you can sign up online by [clicking here](#) or through the QR Code. You can also sign up at the Connection Center. If you have any questions about the snack and supplies needed, please reach out to Judy Vander Ploeg.

Most importantly, we covet your prayers as we seek to disciple both our own children and the children of our community!

And don't forget to register your kids at [sussexcrc.com/vbs](http://sussexcrc.com/vbs) today!

Learn more &  
sign up for VBS:



Sign up to bring  
snacks and supplies:

