



Oskaloosa 1st CRC Newsletter

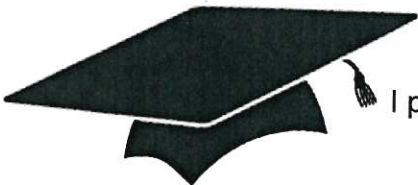
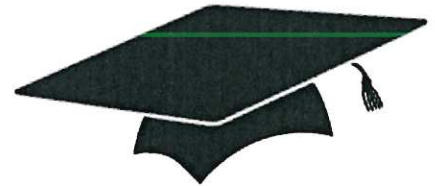
May – June 2023

Find Your Wings

By Mark Harris



It's only for a moment you are mine to hold
The plans that heaven has for you
Will all too soon unfold
So many different prayers I'll pray
For all that you might do
But most of all I'll want to know
You're walking in the truth
And if I never told you I want you to know
As I watch you grow
I pray that God would fill your heart with dreams
And that faith gives you the courage
To dare to do great things
I'm here for you whatever this life brings
So let my love give you roots And help you find your wings
May passion be the wind
That leads you through your days
And may conviction keep you strong
Guide you on your way
May there be many moments
That make your life so sweet
Oh, but more than memories
I pray that God would fill your heart with dreams
And that faith gives you the courage
To dare to do great things
I'm here for you whatever this life brings
So let my love give you roots And help you find your wings
It's not living if you don't reach for the sky
I'll have tears as you take off
But I'll cheer as you fly
I pray that God would fill your heart with dreams
And that faith gives you the courage
To dare to do great things
I'm here for you whatever this life brings
So let my love give you roots And help you find your wings



From Pastor Spronk's Desk

GRADUATION SEASON



When you read this newsletter, our community will be in the middle of graduation season, the time of year that we celebrate our college, high school and eighth grade grads. We may even have our little ones put on the cap and gown to celebrate the end of preschool or kindergarten. For some of our graduates, the ceremony will mark a simple transition from one grade to another. But we know that for some, a graduation delineates a significant life change. There may be a move to a new community coming and perhaps a new school or a first job awaits. So, we mark these milestones. Photos with mom and dad, grandparents and friends are taken. For a moment in time, we look back on what was accomplished and look ahead to what could be.

What I am pondering this graduation season are words that were read by my son, Nick, in our recent Psalm 119 service *"How can a young man keep his way pure? (v. 9)"* This is the question that confronts all who are parents and all who teach our youth. What are the lessons we are imparting to the next generation? As they graduate to the next level or next season in their lives, how are our graduates to navigate a world that is broken and sinful? As the psalmist asks *"how will a young person stay on the right path?"*

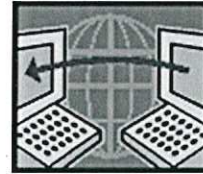
The question is answered in the next line (and repeatedly through the 176 verses of this long Psalm) *"How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word (v. 9)."* What is the best counsel and wisdom we can give a young person this graduation season? Follow the Bible. Read it. Meditate on it. Be transformed by it. In a world of confusion and chaos, the guidance of the Word of God is a lamp to all our feet. As our young people continue in their journeys, may the wisdom of the Scriptures guide us all: *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge (Proverbs 1:7)."*

Church Family News



Mailing Address:

Ryan & Amanda Brink
2948 Vernon Avenue
Fremont, IA 52561



New Email Addresses:

Ken & Linda Van Donselaar –
lkvand48@gmail.com
Byron & Deb Bruxvoort –
bdb Brux77@gmail.com

In Loving Memory:

Rachel Fynaardt
4/27/23



Spencer Lee De Bruin – 3/31/23
~ son of Ben & Courtney

Faye Wilhelmina De Ronde – 4/13/23
~ daughter of Kyle & Meredith

Membership Updates

Transferred ~ Joel & Lisa Van Gilst
to Central Church
in Oskaloosa – 2/27/23

~ Dillon & Neila Branderhorst
to Central Church
in Oskaloosa – 2/27/23



First CRC Council 2023

Pastor Jon Spronk	Pastor		641-295-5155 673-5693	(Cell) (Study)
Pastor Erik Kamp	Pastor		641-417-9433	
Doug Boender	Elder	2024	641-660-3282	Council Clerk, Elder's VP, & Pulpit Supply
Keith Brink	Elder	2026	641-660-4031	Youth Elder
Joel De Bruin	Elder	2025	641-295-6364	Evangelism Committee
Kurtis De Bruin	Elder	2024	641-660-6681	Building & Grounds & Tech. Committee
Rich De Bruin	Elder	2025	641-660-9820	Education Comm. & Library
Rich De Groot	Elder	2024	641-295-6240	Fellowship
Brent De Ronde	Elder	2026	641-660-9472	Communion, Care Groups & Bulletin Comm.
Doug Groenenboom	Elder	2024	641-638-4758	Worship Committee
Steve Plate	Elder	2025	641-660-8133	Elder's Clerk & Council VP
Luke Roozeboom	Elder	2026	641-660-4150	Communion, Care Groups & Records Clerk
Paul Van Donselaar	Elder	2025	641-660-4507	President, Pulpit Supply
Kyle De Ronde	Deacon	2025	641-660-2907	Deacon Secretary & Disability Concerns
Alex Fynaardt	Deacon	2024	641-780-9826	Ass't General Fund Treasurer
Brad McMahan	Deacon	2024	641-295-0479	Deacon Chairman & Disaster Relief Coordinator
Trent Meyer	Deacon	2026	319-231-6054	Special Offerings Treasurer
Brennan Plate	Deacon	2026	641-660-6949	Building Fund Treasurer
Marty Roberts	Deacon	2024	641-660-0676	General Fund Treasurer
Josh Van Donselaar	Deacon	2025	641-295-1942	Associate Pastor, Benevolence, Enduring Gifts, Mission Fund and Love, INC
Mitchel Veenstra	Deacon	2026	641-660-3653	Vicar & C.E.F. Treasurer

Sue De Bruin	Church Secretary	673-4272 673-7303	(Office) (Home)
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Updated 10/27/22

Nursery Schedule

May - June 2023

A.M.

May 7	Cassia B, Natalie P Harbor B
May 14 (Communion)	Amelia B, Trent DB Aubrey K, Pippa DR
May 21	Mary Beth J, Anniston M Jared R
May 28	Ellize C, Anna DB Cayden P
June 4	Deb B, Bethany VD Tegan P
June 11	Ruth B, John B Kwynn DB
June 18	Robbyn DB, Taylor H Zach DG
June 25	Karen F, Zech VD Harper McK



This Is My Father's World

Use the missing words to complete the crossword puzzle.
The word list will help you.

This is my Father's (15 across),
And to my list'ning (5 down),
All (7 down) sings, and round me (6 across)
The (2 down) of the (11 across).
This is my Father's world,
I (23 down) me in the (27 across)
Of rocks and (4 down), of skies and seas—
His (18 across) the wonders (17 down).

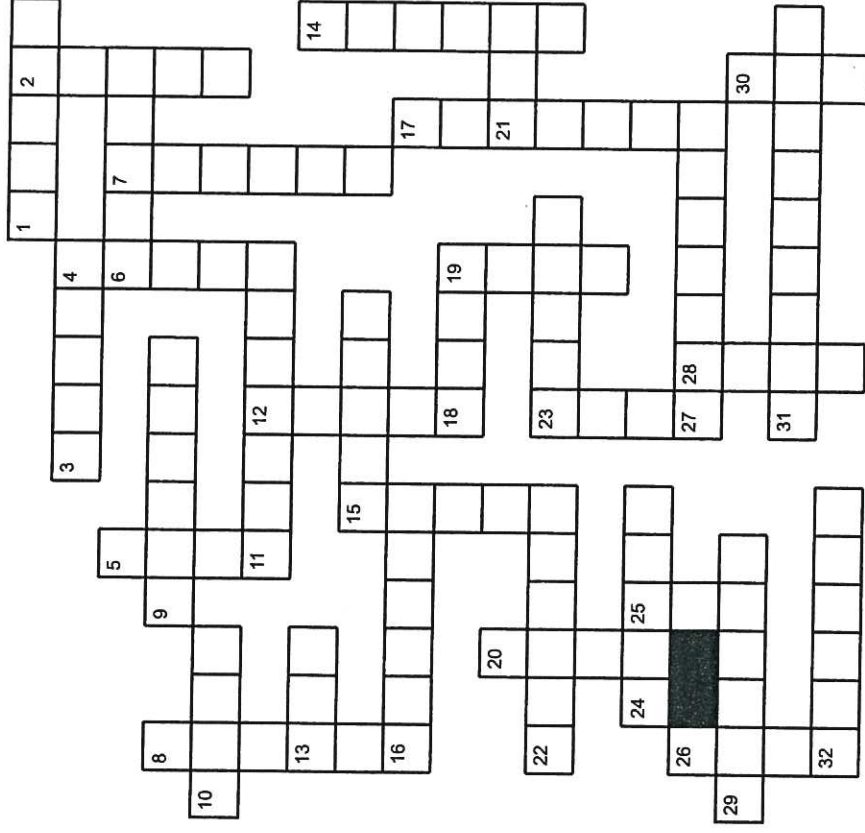
This is my Father's world,
The birds their (9 across) raise,
The morning (3 across), the lily (15 down),
Declare their Maker's (22 across).
This is my Father's world,
He (14 down) in (25 down) that's (20 down);
In the rustling (24 across) I (28 down) Him (26 down),
He (32 across) to me ev'rywhere.

This is my Father's world,
O (30 down) me ne'er (8 down)
That (16 across) the wrong (1 across) oft so strong,
(13 across) is the (23 across) yet.
This is my Father's world,
The (29 across) is not (10 across),
Jesus who (19 down) shall be (31 across),
And (12 down) and heav'n be (21 across).

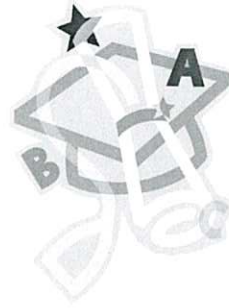
all
battle
carols
died
done
ears
earth
fair
forget
God
grass

hand
hear
let
light
music
nature
one
pass
praise
rest
rings
ruler

satisfied
seems
shines
speaks
spheres
though
thought
trees
white
world
wrought



2023



8th Grade Graduates

Elijah Boender

Will graduate from Oskaloosa Christian Grade School on May 19 and plans to attend Pella Christian High School. He is the son of Mark & Stacy Boender.

AnnaBelle Carter

Will graduate from Oskaloosa Christian Grade School on May 19 and plans to attend Pella Christian High School. She is the daughter of Trent & Christie Meyer.

Taylor Hol

Will graduate from Oskaloosa Christian Grade School on May 19 and plans to attend North Mahaska High School. She is the daughter of Eric & Kim Hol.

Arianna Jackson

Will graduate from Oskaloosa Christian Grade School on May 19 and plans to attend North Mahaska High School. She is the daughter of Mike & Mary Beth Jackson.

Leah Lorentzen

Will graduate from Oskaloosa Middle School on May 25 and plans to attend Oskaloosa Senior High School. She is the daughter of Jeff & Tammy Lorentzen.

Natalie Plate

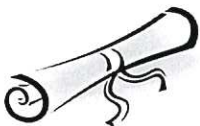
Will graduate from Oskaloosa Christian Grade School on May 19 and plans to attend North Mahaska High School. She is the daughter of Sherwin & Kristin Plate.

Lucas Roberts

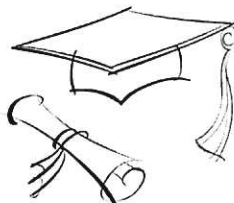
Will transition from Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont Junior High to Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont High School. He is the son of Marty & Crystal Roberts.

Finn Spronk

Will graduate from Oskaloosa Christian Grade School on May 19 and plans to attend Pella Christian High School. He is the son of Pastor Jon & Keri Spronk.



2023



High School Graduates

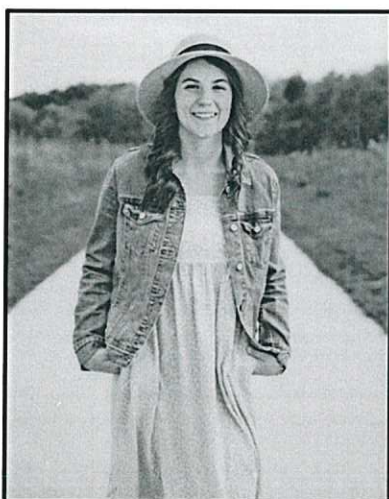
Rachel Boender

Bethany De Bruin

Ezra Groenenboom

Nathan Roberts

Leah Van Donselaar



Rachel Boender will graduate from Pella Christian High School on May 20, 2023.

She is planning on doing DMACC On-Line courses for their Accounting and Bookkeeping Diploma.

Rachel was involved in FFA and Trap, Skeet & Sporting Clay Shooting while she was in high school.

She enjoys hanging out with family & friends, going on walks outside and reading in her free time.

Rachel is the daughter of BJ & Cassia Boender.



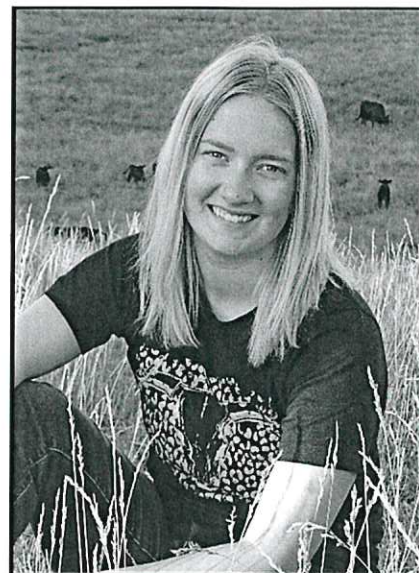
Bethany De Bruin will graduate from Pella Christian High School on May 20, 2023.

She plans to attend Dordt University to study Animal Science.

While in high school, Bethany was involved with FFA & Tennis.

In her free time, she enjoys working with her cattle and playing tennis.

Bethany is the daughter of Kurtis & Lisa De Bruin.



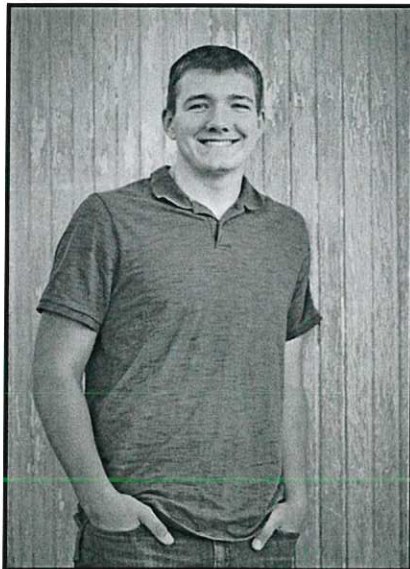
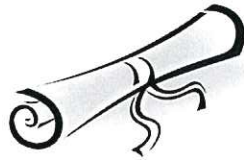
Ezra Groenenboom will graduate from Pella Christian High School on May 20, 2023.

He plans to attend Northeast Iowa Community College to pursue a degree in Diesel Mechanics.

Ezra was involved in FFA and Track & Field while he was in high school.

In his free time, he enjoys working on equipment, hunting, fishing and hanging out with friends and family.

Ezra is the son of Joel & Laura Groenenboom.



Nathan Roberts will graduation from Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont High School on May 21, 2023.

He plans to attend William Penn University's 3+2 Program for Mechanical Engineering where he will be at William Penn for 3 years and finish at Iowa State for 2 years.

Nathan was involved in football, basketball, track & field, FFA, golf, National Honor Society, Student Council and Shooting Sports while he was in high school.

In his free time, he enjoys Shooting Sports.

Nathan is the son of Marty & Crystal Roberts.



Leah Van Donselaar will graduate from Oskaloosa High School on May 21, 2023.

She plans to attend college at Indian Hills and major in Culinary Arts.

In her free time, Leah enjoys baking and hanging out with friends.

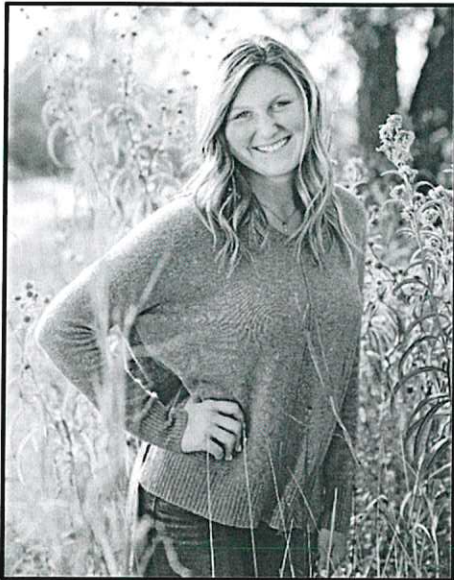
Leah is the daughter of Jeremy & Kristen Van Donselaar.





2023 College Graduates

Trisha Van Donselaar



Trisha Van Donselaar graduated from PCI Academy in Ames on October 11, 2022.

She is currently working at The Hair Designers Salon & Spa in Oskaloosa where she is a stylist.

In her free time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family.

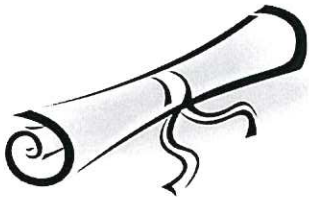
Trisha is the daughter of Jeremy & Kristen Van Donselaar.

You May Count That Day

If you sit down at set of sun
And count the acts that you have done,
And, counting, find
One self-denying deed, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard -
One glance most kind,
That fell like sunshine where it went -
Then you may count that day well spent.

But if, through all the livelong day,
You've cheered no heart, by yea or nay -
If, through it all
You've nothing done that you can trace
That brought the sunshine to one face -
No act most small
That helped some soul and nothing cost -
Then count that day as worse than lost.

by George Eliot



CADETS/GEMS CAR RACE RESULTS

We had a wonderful time at the races on March 22.

Thanks to all who came out to support us, to those who participated and for the good sportsmanship shown by all.

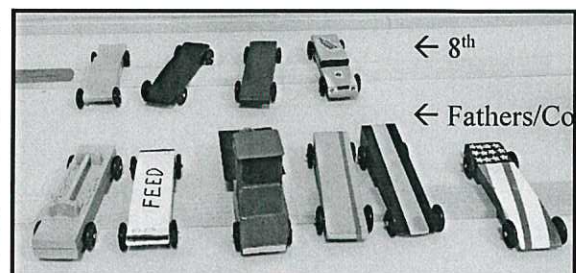
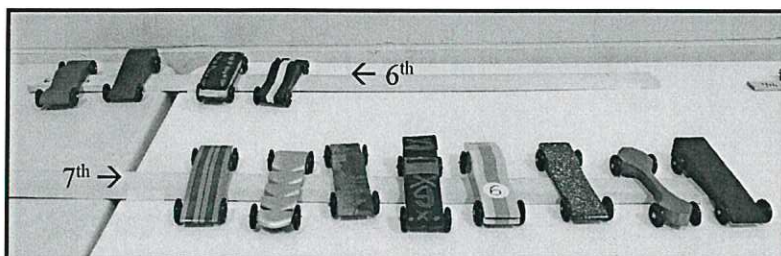
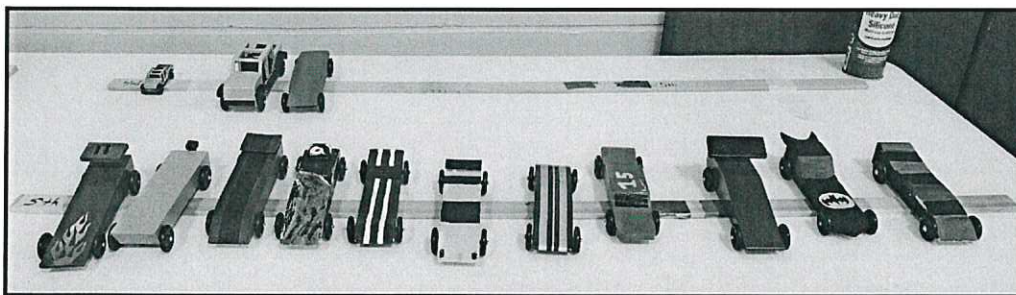


Cadets

4 th Grade Speed (1,2)	Blake, Willem	4 th Grade Show	Willem
5 th Grade Speed (1,2,3)	Zach, Ethan, Dawson	5 th Grade Show	Dawson
6 th Grade Speed (1,2,3)	Cayden, John, Jacksen	6 th Grade Show	John
7 th Grade Speed (1,2,3)	Isaiah, Anton, Dillon	7 th Grade Show	Colton
8 th Grade Speed (1,2,3)	Lucas R, Finn, Elijah	8 th Grade Show	Ian
Fathers/Counselors Speed (1,2,3)	Sherwin, Matt, Gene	Fathers/Counselors Show	Gene
Overall Speed (1,2)	Lucas R, Isaiah	Turtle Race	Galen

4th →

5th →



← 8th

← Fathers/Counselors



GEMS

4th Grade Speed (1,2)

Harbor, Kahlan

5th Grade Speed (1,2,3)

Madi, Caroline, Clara

6th Grade Speed (1,2,3)

Leah, Arriane, Rachel

7th Grade Speed (1,2,3)

Sabrina, Lindsay, Olivia

8th Grade Speed (1,2,3)

AnnaBelle, Natalie, Arianna

Overall Speed (1,2)

Madi, AnnaBelle

4th Grade Show

Kahlan

5th Grade Show

Cobie

6th Grade Show

Arriane

7th Grade Show

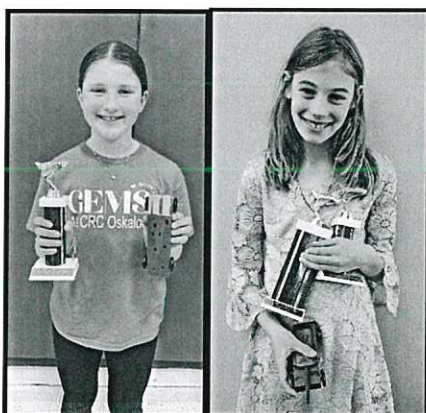
Lindsay

8th Grade Show

Taylor

Turtle Race

Nora



4th Grade



5th Grade

6th Grade



7th Grade



8th Grade





MCCA Newsletter

MEXICAN CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S AID

And whoever welcomes a little child like this in My name welcomes Me. Matt. 18:5

Serving the needy children of Baja since 1964

**SPRING
2023**



- Gifts of Gratitude -

At the El Florido Market in TJ on Saturday, January 7th, we gathered on our first Mexico run of 2023. As we finished loading the 17 trucks with tons of bulk food, to our surprise, a group of amazing children and teenagers showed up to present us with handcrafted gifts of appreciation. Each unique gift of artwork was an expression of thanks and encouragement. So beautiful and sincere.

The gentleman on the right is Obed. He is a wonderful happy and outgoing man, full of the joy of the Lord. He and his wife manage the Children's home called Ciudad de Refugio which means City of Refuge. They have taken these young ones, who had no home, into their home. They give them a bed, cloth them, feed them and teach them about the love of Jesus. They live the Gospel each day.

In the upper photo the young lady with blonde hair (front left) bravely stepped forward and, in Spanish, spoke to us on behalf of the group. Our new President of the Board of Directors, Paul Vela (back row center) interpreted to English for us. She spoke for several minutes expressing deep gratitude for the donation of food they receive each month. It was an unforgettable moment indeed.

Did you know, there is a great alternative to a Snail Mail Newsletter?



You can receive a digital version of our quarterly newsletter by email. Stay informed with the latest news from the MCCA and easily forward to family and friends. Also, by receiving a digital newsletter, you help us keep more of your donations going directly to the purchase of food instead of to the Post Office.

With your smartphone scan the QR code, on the right, to easily sign up for email correspondence. Or go directly to: www.bit.ly/MCCA_mailing_signup



Tax deductible donations can be made by visiting our website at <http://mccaredlands.org/>

Founded in 1964 in Redlands, CA., the Mexican Christian Children's Aid is a, 501(c)(3), Charitable Organization. It began when a group of Christian business people were moved to address the sharp contrast between the affluence in the U.S., and the abject poverty found just across our southern border in Mexico. We purchase and provide monthly bulk food deliveries and other assistance to local Christian organizations in the northern Baja region. We deliver the food donations primarily to organizations that sponsor Children's Homes and/or operate periodic Feeding Programs to needy families. Along with the food, Spanish translation Bibles, Gospel Tracts, clothing and other items are generally a part of our deliveries. Our monthly runs consist of all volunteer drivers and riders who donate their vehicles full of fuel and literally everything needed to complete the mission each time we go. The MCCA does not own or rent a building, nor are there any paid staff.

The result is that 97% of all monetary donations goes directly to purchase food products.

Below is a Devotion that we felt has special significance to the ministry of the MCCA. It was written by Jody Duncan from the River Church, Redlands, CA. Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Luke 14: 12 -14 "The Resurrection of the Righteous"

"Then Jesus said to his host, 'When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors. If you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

Biblical commentary suggests that the more proper translation is: 'Do not **HABITUALLY** invite your friends, your brothers or sisters ...' There is, of course, nothing wrong with inviting relatives and friends to dinner. It is only wrong if you **ONLY** invite such people, while ignoring those in need.

The more important point Jesus makes here concerns inviting only those who will be able to repay the invitation. He is warning against an 'I'll scratch your back if you'll scratch mine' mentality. Rather, he wants us to extend our kindness and hospitality to those who will never be able to repay it.

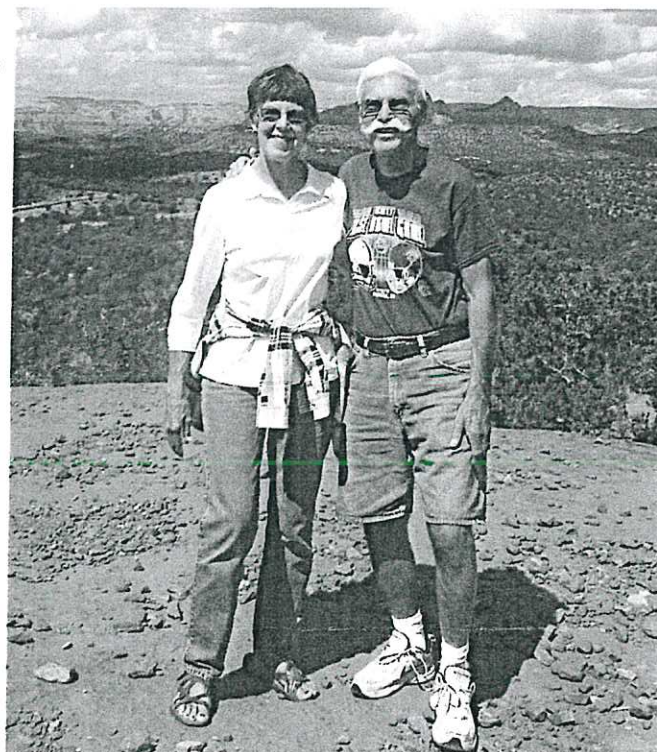
One of the features of my childhood was that we often had unfortunate people living with us. My father, a teacher and vice principal, would identify a kid having trouble at home, and next thing we knew, that kid was staying with us for months. One such troubled kid remained in our lives, if only intermittently, for years. I had cousins with troubled home lives who lived with us off and on. One time, an entire family of six – relatives of my father's from Texas – lived with us for several months. Twelve people lived in a house that barely accommodated the six of us! No matter – my parents put a picnic table or two in the living room, and we all ate together and made the best of it.

My parents didn't necessarily talk about inviting the unfortunate into our home. They modeled it. Whatever inconveniences and discord these arrangements caused – and, oh boy, there were inconveniences and discord! – the problems were more than outweighed by the lesson they taught us.

Let us reach out to those who need of an invitation today, to those who will not ever repay us in this world. Jesus promises that through such an act, we will be repaid at the 'resurrection of the righteous.'



**GREETINGS FROM OUR BELOVED FRIENDS
WARREN AND JUDY ARNETT**



We have been a part of MCCA since 2004 and have had many wonderful experiences visiting ministries. It has been a blessing and still is as Judy and I remain Prayer Warriors.

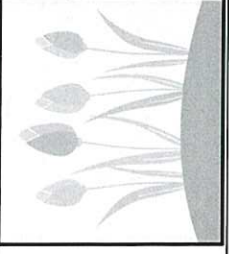






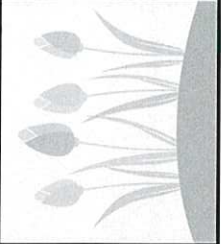
Mission Statement




MCCA is a ministry obedient to God's call to care for children in need by supplying those in Baja California with food, Spanish translation Bibles and the opportunity to know the love of Jesus Christ.

MCCA Executive Board Contacts

Paul Vela	President	psvela76@gmail.com
Steve Diaz	Vice President	stevediazwhosoever@gmail.com
Tom Rasmussen	Treasurer	rasmussen.thos@gmail.com
Rich DeWitt	Secretary	rldewitt@yahoo.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MCCA1964>
 Web Site: <http://mccaredlands.org/>
 Mailing Address: PO Box 9931, Redlands, CA 92375

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Council, Elder & Deacon Meetings	2	3 Games Day	4 Love, INC Meetings	5	6 <i>Dorothy Vos' Birthday</i>
7 Prayer Service (am) Sunday School Recognition & Potluck	8	9	10 <i>Elizabeth Boender's Birthday</i>	11	12	13
14 Prayer Service (am)  	15	16	17 Games Day Classis Meetings	18	19 OSCI Graduation 	20  Church rented out – afternoon
21 Prayer Service (am)  Church rented out – afternoon Worship Comm. Mtng.	22	23	24	25 PCGS Graduation 	26	27 <i>Linda Van Veldhuizen's Birthday</i>
28 Prayer Service (am)	29 Pancake Breakfast	30 Council, Elder & Deacon Meetings	31 Games Day	 <h1>May</h1>		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>June</h1> 						
4 Prayer Service (am) TEC Meeting – aft.	5 Vacation Bible School @ GNC	6 Vacation Bible School @ GNC	7 Vacation Bible School @ GNC	8 Vacation Bible School @ GNC	9 Vacation Bible School @ GNC (Parents are invited to the AM Opening Exercises)	10 Grilling Seminar – afternoon
11 Prayer Service (am) Homestead	12	13	14 Games Day	15	16	17 Slagter Anniversary Celebration – aft.
18 Prayer Service (am) TEC Meeting – aft.	19 Blood Drive 	20 Ice Cream Social	21	22 Ken De Groot's Birthday	23	24 Grilling Seminar – afternoon
25 Prayer Service (am) TEC Meeting – aft.	26 Council, Elder & Deacon Meetings	27 Anna Vande Wall's Birthday	28 Games Day	29	30	