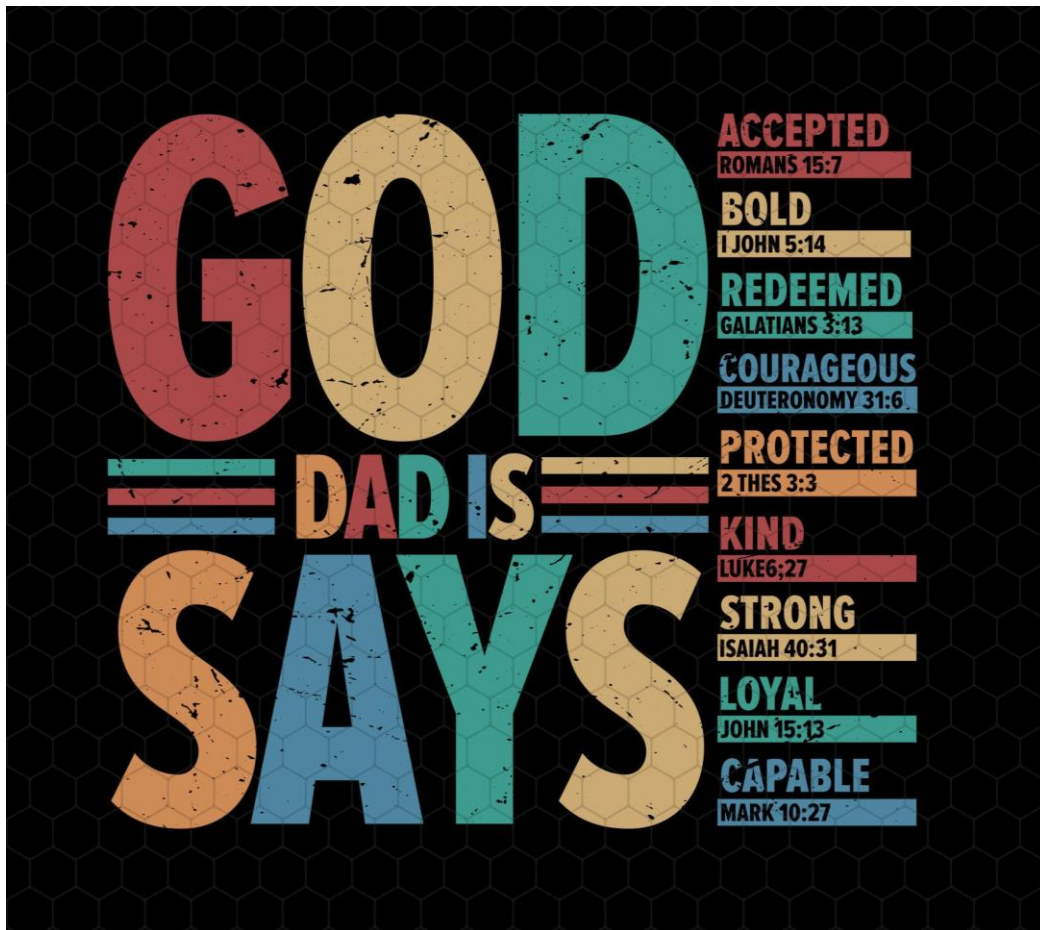


INNERGLOW

**First Reformed Church
Boyden, IA**

LaVonne Sietstra & Teresa Harms, Editors



June 2026



Greetings from your favorite church secretary! This month's article is actually a couple writings from the books "Chicken Soup for the Soul - Just for Preteens" and "Chicken Soup for the Christian Teenage Soul." Both are special stories about dads. I hope you like them. And Happy Father's Day! Teresa

"Promises Kept" by Kristi Powers

"My father was not a sentimental man. I don't remember him ever "ooing" or "aahing" over anything I did as a child. Don't get me wrong; I knew that my dad loved me, but getting all mushy-eyed was not his thing. He showed me love in other ways.

I always believed that my parents had a good marriage, but just before I turned sixteen my belief was sorely tested. ... I was not prepared for the day Mom told us kids that Dad had decided to leave. I was stunned. It was something I never thought possible. ... That night before my dad left, I stayed up in my room for a long time. I prayed and cried. I wrote him a long letter. I told him how much I loved him and how much I would miss him. As I folded my letter, I stuck in a picture of me with a saying I had heard: 'Anyone can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a daddy.' Early the next morning, before my dad left, I sneaked out to his car and slipped my letter into one of his bags.

Two weeks went by with hardly a word from him. Then one afternoon I came home from school to find my mom sitting at the dining-room table. I could see she had been crying. She told me Dad had been over and that they had talked for a long time. They decided there were things they were willing to change - and they decided their marriage was worth saving. Then she looked at me. 'Kristi, Dad told me you wrote him a letter. Can I ask what you wrote to him?' I mumbled a few words and shrugged. Mom continued, 'Well, he said that when he read your letter, it made him cry. It meant a lot to him. I've hardly ever seen your dad cry. After he read your letter, he called to ask if he could come over to talk. Whatever you said really made a difference to him.' A few days later my dad was back, this time to stay. We never talked about the letter.

Over the next sixteen years, my siblings and I witnessed one of the truly 'great' marriages. Their love grew stronger every day, and my heart swelled with pride as I saw them grow closer together. When Mom and Dad received news that his heart was rapidly deteriorating, they were hand-in-hand throughout the ordeal. After Dad's death, we had the unpleasant task of going through his things. ... my brother said, 'Kristi, Mom said to give this to you. She said you would know what it meant.' My brother was holding the picture I had given Dad that day.

My unsentimental dad, who never let his emotions get the best of him ... had kept the one thing that meant so much to both of us. I sat down and the tears began to flow as I realized what I had meant to him. Mom told me Dad had kept both the picture and the letter his whole life. I have a box in my house that I call the 'Dad Box.' In it are things that remind me of my dad. ... I remember the unspoken promise made between a father and his daughter - a promise kept."

"Daddy" by Jennifer Lynn Clay

I don't remember clearly
all the times you held my hand
while crossing a busy street,
risking your life
for mine.
I do know
that each time I climbed a tree,
you stood at the bottom,
arms open,
in case I fell.
Faintly I recall,
like a hazy photograph,
you cheering me on
as you held my training wheel-less bike
and I pedaled away.

I never saw the look on your face
as I went off
to my first day of kindergarten,
but I know it must have been
happy for me,
sad for you
that I was growing up,
and maybe even a bit scared.
I don't clearly recollect
much of when I was really young,
but I do recall your loving me
All the time
and how much I loved you back.
And that's one thing I know
I'll never forget.

Praise & Thanks for...

***graduation of children, grandchildren and/or loved ones whether it be from high school, college, tech school, etc**

***all Fathers on Father's Day and every day!**

***those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries of many years**

***healing after surgery and hospitalizations for our family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc**

***returned health and strength**

***compassion show to others in a time of need**

***the great truth that Jesus' death on the cross had set us free from our chains of sin and we are forever His!**

***opportunities each day to be of service to one another**

***answers to personal prayers**

***the Elders and Deacons giving of their time and providing leadership roles in our church**

***each family of Boyden FRC**

***the ability to talk to God anytime, anywhere and knowing that He hears you and loves you and will answer your prayer in His time**

**“O our God, we thank
you and praise your
glorious name!
1 Chronicles 29:13**

Pray for...

- *volunteers to help serve at Boyden FRC – and for those who have served faithfully for many years**
- *God’s comfort to those who grieve the loss of a family member, friend, coworker, neighbor, etc**
- *those struggling with personal hurts and disappointments**
- *our missionaries as they serve God on the mission field – Seung & Amy Kim, Barry & Terryl Bruce and Way Out Ministries, and J.J. Ten Clay the the RCA Refugee program**
- *those living with mental illness**
- *a tongue that speaks love for one another and not malice**
- *a blessing upon the crops that have been planted and for continual safety to farmers and everyone working in agriculture**
- *the lonely, those in nursing homes and those who are shut-in**
- *our service men and women and their families**
- *the consistory of Boyden FRC in the decisions they make for our church and the work needed to follow God’s path for this church**
- *summer programs and sports for our schools and community – may all be safe and have a great time!**

Prayer is exhaling the spirit of man
and inhaling the spirit of God.

Edwin Keith

SUNSHINE FOR THE MONTH:

Answers to Children's Book Trivia Quiz from last month – 1.a, 2.c, 3.a, 4.b, 5.c, 6.a, 7.b, 8.a, 9.b, 10.c, 11.b, 12.a.



Football, SCATTERGORIES

G A M E

1) CONCESSIONS SNACK	_____	_____	_____	_____
2) FOOTBALL ATTIRE	_____	_____	_____	_____
3) FOOTBALL TEAMS	_____	_____	_____	_____
4) JERSEY COLORS	_____	_____	_____	_____
5) TEAM COACHES	_____	_____	_____	_____
6) FOOTBALL TEAM CITIES	_____	_____	_____	_____
7) PLAYER POSITIONS	_____	_____	_____	_____
8) PIZZA TOPPINGS	_____	_____	_____	_____
9) STADIUM BEVERAGES	_____	_____	_____	_____
10) SPORTS EQUIPMENT	_____	_____	_____	_____

HYMN OF THE MONTH: ***“GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU”***

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases.” Psalm 103:2-3

J.C. Penney, who descended from a long line of Baptist preachers, was well on his way to establishing a successful career when the 1929 Great Depression threw him into crisis. His business deals turned sour, and Penney became overwhelmed with anxiety and insomnia. He developed a painful case of shingles and was hospitalized, but tranquilizers and drugs only made things worse. His mental state deteriorated until, as he later said, “I was broken nervously and physically, filled with despair, unable to see even a ray of hope. I had nothing to live for. I felt I hadn’t a friend left in the world, that even my family turned against me.”

But one morning he heard singing coming from the little hospital chapel. The words of the song said, “Be not dismayed whate’er betide / God will take care of you.”

Entering the chapel, he listened to the song, to the Scripture reading, and to the prayer. “Suddenly - something happened. I can’t explain it. I can only call it a miracle. I felt as if I had been instantly lifted out of the darkness of a dungeon into warm, brilliant sunlight.” All worry left him as he realized more fully than he had ever imagined just how much the Lord Jesus Christ cared for him. From that day J.C. Penney was never plagued with worry, and he later recalled those moments in the chapel as “the most dramatic and glorious twenty minutes of my life.” He later became one of America’s greatest retail merchants.



On a Sunday in 1904, Civilla Martin was in Lestershire, New York, where her husband, Walter, was compiling a collection of hymns for the Practical Bible Training School. They were planning to travel to another town that day, for Martin had a preaching assignment. Civilla woke up sick, and Martin was about to cancel his plans, when their young child piped up and said: “Oh, Daddy, you don’t have to stay home because of mother - God will take care of us.”

Martin proceeded to the train station and fulfilled his appointment. When he returned, Civilla handed him the words of “God Will Take Care of You,” which she had written in his absence. Going to his little organ, Martin composed the music, and it was first published in the songbook he was compiling for the school.

*God took care of me yesterday.
He’s taking care of me now.
He’ll take care of me tomorrow.*

God Will Take Care of You

1 Peter 5:7
Civilla D. Martin (1866-1948) alt.

C.M.Ref.
W. Stillman Martin (1862-1935)

1. Be not dis - mayed... what - e'er be - tide, God will take care of you; _____
 2. Through days of toil when your heart doth fail, God will take care of you; _____
 3. All you may need... He will pro - vide, God will take care of you; _____
 4. No mat - ter what may be the test, God will take care of you; _____

Be - neath His wings... of love a - bide, God will take care of you. _____
 When dan - gers fierce... your path as - sail, God will take care of you. _____
 No - thing you ask... will be de - nied, God will take care of you. _____
 Lean, wea - ry one... u - pon His breast. God will take care of you. _____

Refrain

God will take care of you, Through ev - ery - day, o'er all the way;

He will take care... of you, God will take care... of you.

FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

In Years Gone By ...

50 YEARS AGO – June 1976

Sympathy wishes were extended to the family and friends of Bert Bosma and Ida Korthals.

A reception for the student pastor and his wife, Mr & Mrs Keith Pals, was held.

Children's ministries – the Sunday School had a picnic; a Junior Camp for 6th & 7th graders was held; and the RCYF planned a retreat at the Rawhide Valley Camp in Sioux City.

25 YEARS AGO – June 2001

A Women of Faith Celebration was held in St Paul MN with 24 ladies from Boyden FRC attending – a total of 63 ladies from the 3 Boyden churches went to the event.

A Special Debt Reduction offering was taken with over \$3000 received.

A 60th Anniversary Open House was held in honor of Tuff & Mina Grooters at the Demco Center.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism was administered to Madysen Hansmann, infant daughter of Dwayne & Becky.

10 YEARS AGO – June 2016

Sympathy wishes were extended to the family and friends of Mr. Chris Soppe, BHRV freshman baseball coach and special education teacher of BH.

Community Worship was held with special speaker Dave Mulder of "Mission of Hope and Love."

Alvin & Clarella Van Marel's granddaughter was asking for used eyeglasses for her mission to provide eyeglasses to Kenya, Africa for redistribution.

5 YEARS AGO – June 2021

Larry Moret celebrated his 80th birthday!

Volunteers to mow were needed.

The Consistory announced that all Covid precautions were now lifted. Praise God!

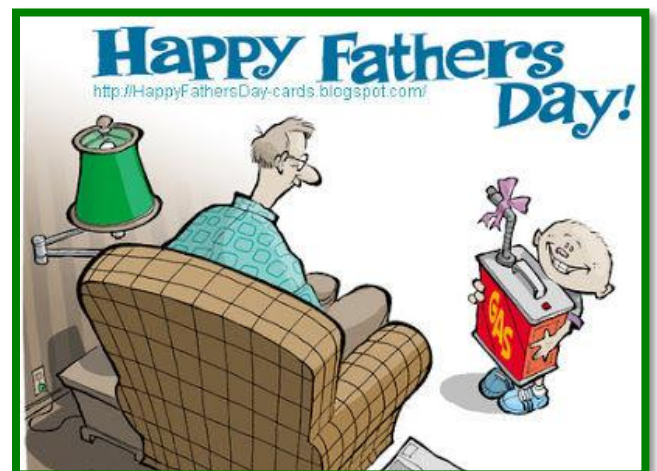
A call was put out for volunteers to help gather information and documents that will be needed if/when a church decides to leave the RCA in "grace-filled separation."

HAPPINESS IS ...



Wasn't it Smart of God to ...

- ... give us free environment cleanup crews consisting of buzzards and other carrion eaters so we don't have to deal with dead critters that are rotten and smelly.
- ... design us in such a way that the fifty thousand cells that die in our bodies while we're reading this newsletter won't rot and smell bad, thus eliminating the embarrassing buzzards-over-our-heads potential.
- ... make giraffes able to clean their own ears with their twenty-one-inch tongues so we don't have to do it for them with our stubby ones.
- ... make our left lungs smaller than our right lungs to make room for our hearts.
- ... create the woodpecker with the amazing ability to peck twenty times per second and not get a headache.



"I gave my father \$100 for Father's Day and said, 'Buy yourself something that will make your life easier.' So he went out and bought a present for my mother."

June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>"The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him."</p> <p><i>Proverbs 20:7</i></p>	1 Peg Noack	2 Men's Group 5:30am Evening Ladies' 7pm Jackson Van Tilburg	3 Alan Warntjes	4 	5 Ashley Bolkema	6 Paul Moret Jon & Kirstin Huls (6)
7 Mission Offering Larry Moret Robbie Warntjes Mark & Cindy Warntjes (46)	8 Elias Schmith	9 Men's Group 5:30am Evening Ladies' 7pm Elders'/Deacons/ Mtg Consistory Mtg	10 Jeff & Shauna Neuman (18)	11 General Synod Casey Kooiker	12 General Synod	13 General Synod 
14 Flag Day!  General Synod	15 General Synod	16 Men's Group 5:30am Evening Ladies' 7pm General Synod	17 David Olson Les & Carla Starkenburg (45)	18	19 Juneteenth! 	20
21 Happy Father's Day! 1st Day of Summer! Bldg & Repair Off. Marv & LuEtta Heemserk (58)	22 Innerglow news due!	23 Men's Group 5:30am Evening Ladies' 7pm	24 	25 Boyden Bash! Angela Kooiker Bryant Schafer	26 Boyden Bash! David Mouw	27 Boyden Bash! Doug Van Roekel
28 Community Worship at the Park! 10:00 AM Norlan & Roxie Van Roekel (63)	29 	30 Jahlyn De Jong Nic & Kaitlyn Rosenboom (8)	<p>MY FATHER GAVE ME THE GREATEST GIFT ANYONE COULD GIVE ANOTHER PERSON: HE BELIEVED IN ME.</p>			

