

THE EVANGEL – FEBRUARY 2016

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Hello friends,

I know it's hard to believe but, here comes Lent. I want to tell you a little bit about our upcoming Lent study. I am so excited to give you the topics of discussion. I am praying these 40 days of sacrifice and love will point us all in a direction of personal growth and draw us closer to Christ.

Ash Wednesday kicks off Lent.

Week 1, February 14: Loose Kingdom

Week 2, February 21: Unleashed Generosity

Week 3, February 28: Cutting the Cloth

Week 4, March 6: Missing the Moments

Week 5, March 13: Sifting and Sorting

Palm Sunday, March 20: Turning the Tables

Holy Week: Maundy Thursday, March 24 -Bitter Betrayal,

Good Friday, March 25 -Forsaken

Easter Day, March 27: Shake, Rattle, and Roll.

This Lent will be a great church experience but I need some help! Please come talk to me or our secretaries. We have some responsive readings, special music, and Scripture readings, even a little bit of drama we need help with. I am so happy to be able to make this a whole church worship experience with you. Please prepare your hearts for a Lent experience that will have meaning and help us feel God's love even more!

In Christ,

Pastor Jason Collier

ASH WEDNESDAY: PANCAKES & WORSHIP



Ash Wednesday is February 10. **Everyone** (all Kids' Club participants and families, ACC, and UCC Church Family) is invited to the ACC Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM for a pancake supper. At 7 PM, everyone is invited to join in the ACC Sanctuary for the Ash Wednesday Worship service conducted by Pastor Jason. We usually adjourn by 7:30 PM.

NO HYMN SING THIS YEAR

For a variety of reasons there will NOT be a hymn sing this year for Ainsworth and Crawfordsville. BUT, do note that we are seeking individuals/groups to share music with us during all the Sundays of Lent. See the Worship Assistant section of the newsletter to note the MANY dates that are open.



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS



CHRIST IS ALIVE YOUTH GROUP

January 2016 was a busy month for Christ Is Alive youth group! The students met at Crooked Creek Christian Camp on the 8th, 9th, and 10th to retreat and connect. With PLENTY of food from all the generous donations of both congregations, and our precious kitchen angels, we always had enough to eat. The volunteer staff made it fun for the students to play and laugh, and were right there beside us as we soaked in the powerful testimony "tracks" of the speakers who chose to take off their masks and be very real with us. Despite the subzero temperatures, all students enjoyed three hours of fun at the Activity Center and a special communion which ended our Saturday night. The prayers of our church kept us all safe and connected to Christ and disconnected from our technological world. 21 full time students, 3 drop-in 5th graders, 7 full time volunteers, 4 kitchen staff, the Praise Team, several part time volunteers and one very exhausted youth leader all experienced God's presence and the love of their church family during this special weekend. If you would like to help with next year's retreat, please contact AmySara via cell or email.

Youth group also met for three regular meetings this month. A challenge has been issued for students to memorize all the books of the Bible for a special 121 dinner with AmySara. 121 is one to one time where a student and the youth leader dig their relationship down deep, talking about personal stuff, and truths which aren't likely to be shared in a group setting. If you have a question about 121 time or youth group, please ask a CIA member or leader.

Christ Is Alive Youth Group will take on one outreach/mission project each month, beginning in February. We are seeking donations of cookies to deliver, along with our handmade cards, to our church family who are in care facilities or are home bound. Please call or email AmySara to make a donation or to volunteer to drive our students on Saturday, February 13th to make deliveries. Your participation is greatly appreciated! Wednesday Nights at 6:30 in Ainsworth Community Church Fellowship hall is the place to dive into your faith! We have begun a new Bible Study for youth and are discussing our identity as believers. This Bible Study deals with content which is mature. If you would like to know more about this study, or if you would like to attend, please contact AmySara BEFORE coming.

March 24th marks the 2nd Annual Youth Lock In at Ainsworth. The doors will open at 9 pm. We need all kinds of volunteers to make this event happen! Volunteers to spend the night, some to come and supervise the kitchen, several to play games, play music and just hang out for a while with students. ALL students need to be picked up by 7am on Good Friday.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Ainsworth Spirit Sisters continues their God Sightings weekly. February 5, 6:30 PM; rest of February meet at 6:30 PM on Thursday. Location varies, so call AmySara for information.

Crawfordsville Sisters Circle meets Monday at 8pm in the church to encourage one another and pray together.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Do you know that family ministry is imperative to the overall health of the congregation, and that your church cares about your entire family? If you have a need that is not being met at Sunday worship or any of our small groups, please call AmySara or Jason to find out how we can minister to your family. God has commanded us to care for one another, and we happily serve our church family!

LIFETOUCH DIRECTORIES UPDATE



Just in case you were wondering – I received word from Lifetouch that our new pictorial church directory is to be shipped on Friday, February 5. They said to allow up to 5 days for it to be shipped from Illinois. Maybe I'll have them for you on Sunday, February 14!

PLANNING FOR OUR CHURCH'S FUTURE

The Ainsworth Community Church has a wonderful problem. We are growing! We have more people and more programs. This is GREAT! NOW we need YOUR HELP to plan for our future. We want to make sure we are meeting the needs of our current members and are adapting to needs of others. The Parish Council decided we need to do some strategic planning and visioning for the future. We reached out to the SE Area Office of the United Methodist Church. Phil Carver has agreed to facilitate our journey as we explore the needs, opportunities, and steps needed to carry out the mission of our church. He suggests we utilize "Adapt to Thrive." (Jan has copies ordered). We would meet once a month for 5 months starting **Tuesday, February 23 from 6:30-8:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Each month we will take steps and do real planning. This is NOT a report that will sit on the shelf! The Parish Council invites the entire Ainsworth Church Family to participate and provide input as we are planning for our future.



GARAGE SALE: FEBRUARY 18, 19, AND 20

The annual Winter Clearance Mission Committee Garage Sale is ready for your business. It will be at the North Church in Ainsworth. All proceeds will support Missions and Youth Ministry. Here is a preview of what you will find:

Many racks of clothing (infant to adult) and footwear

Dishes, Glassware, Silverware, Pots & Pans

Curtains, Tablecloths, Linens

Books, Games, Puzzles,

Wicker Baskets

Small Appliances

Luggage

Knick Knacks, And MUCH, MUCH MORE!!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18: 1 TO 5 PM
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19: 9 AM TO 3 PM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20: 9 AM TO NOON



"THE STORY" ADULT BIBLE STUDY



The 9:15 AM Sunday class of "The Story" will NOT meet during Lent. Class will resume April 3 with Chapter 26. The Monday evening session may resume in April if there is interest. It won't meet February 1 or 8.

KIDS' CLUB

Kids' Club is meeting at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays at the North Church. The final meeting of the spring session will be held Wednesday, March 9th.



SPIRIT SISTERS – CHANGE DATE/TIME



The day and times have changed for Spirit Sisters. The Crawfordsville group meets Monday at 8 PM. The Ainsworth Group meets on Fridays at 8:30 AM. For information and meeting location, please contact AmySara at 319.591.0745.

“SON” SEEKERS RESUMES

“Son” Seekers resumes Tuesday, February 16 at 7 PM. Linda McNeil will host.



BLOOD DRIVE – FEB. 8, 2:30-7:30 PM



The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center in conjunction with the Ainsworth Sacha Club will hold a blood drive on Monday, February 8th from 2:30-7:30 PM. You must be 17 years of age to donate or 16 years with a signed consent form from your parents. You must be at least 110 pounds and in good health the day of the donations. You need to eat a full meal within 4 hours of donating, avoiding fried, fatty foods and whole dairy products. For more information, call Kathi Bean at 319-657-2387 or 319-461-1339.

WEB PAGE CLASS – VOLUNTEERS TO ATTEND?

The Ainsworth Community Church was selected to participate in a special web page training offered by the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church. Although we currently have a website, it is believed that it would be beneficial to participate. The training session will be in Des Moines at the Conference Center on Saturday, February 13 from 9 AM to 3 PM. Lunch will be provided. If you would be interested in participating, please see Jan, Jason or AmySara.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



The United Church of Crawfordsville Women will host this year's World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 4 at 1:30 PM in Crawfordsville. ALL women AND men are welcome to attend. The 2016 theme is “Receive Children, Receive Me.”

JOURNEY WITH CHRIST: EMMAUS/CHRYSALIS

Emmaus is a 3 day experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation for adults. The next ‘Walk to Emmaus’ will be held at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. **Women's Walk: March 3-6, 2016; Men's Walk, July 14-17, Mt. Pleasant**

Chrysalis is a 3 day experience for teens 10th grade through college sophomore.



It's an opportunity to meet Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed through other believers. The next flight will be held **April 8-10, 2016, Grinnell**. Please let Amysara, Jan, or Pastor Jason

know if you wish to participate in these events.



CRAWFORDSVILLE LIONS PANCAKE SUPPER



The Crawfordsville Lions Club is sponsoring a Pancake Supper on Saturday, February 20 at the Crawfordsville Elementary School. Serving will be from 4-7 PM Cost: Advance tickets are \$7; at the door \$8; Children 12 and under \$5; Preschool free.

SALVATION ARMY KETTLE REPORT



Deb McCreedy wishes to thank everyone who helped with the 2015 Salvation Army Bell Ringing campaign. We helped raise \$13,000 that will help those less fortunate in our community this upcoming year. **THANK YOU** to those participating/donating.

THE ACC MISSION COMMITTEE



The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who helped us out the last few months. Several of you donated money when we needed help for a family. Then Pastor Jason challenged you to come up with \$1500 for us. You exceeded that amount. You donated to the tree we put up to help us with In-Gathering supplies, some of you have donated food for the food pantry and some have donated for the garage sale that we have with the youth.

Dwight Miller donated a pig so we'd have more meat in the freezers. We paid to have it butchered. We got 184 pounds of meat for our freezer. We got almost 200 pounds of groceries from New Attitude (the salon where Kristen Anderson works). We've received a lot of groceries from KCII from their promotion to re-stock our shelves. (We're not quite sure yet how many pounds of food they brought because we don't have it all put away yet.) Thank you, Bob Lynde, for the needed repairs to our storage cupboards.

We thank Sacha Club for help with the shopping at Christmas and also thanks to Theresa Hazelett for all the shopping and gift wrapping she does for us and others.

We also thank Dave Kaufman and Neal Megchelsen for coming almost every month to help us unload the groceries we get from HACAP in Hiawatha. Larry Bean, Dennis Bean, D Donald, Buzz Chalupa, Trent Megchelsen and others have also helped unload and we thank them all. Jan Temple drives almost every month to Hiawatha to pick up the groceries. Thanks all of you who come to help us get ready for the garage sales, etc. Thank you to Stacy Klinzman for serving on the committee and a very special "Thank You" to Judy Skubal for her years of "over the top" service and dedication to the families we have helped. We were so very blessed to have her.



Please keep praying for the Mission Committee and the families we serve.

The Ainsworth Community Church Mission Committee

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE FOR FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 7 (TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY)

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99 (UMH 819)

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:2-36 (37-43a)



FEBRUARY 21 (2ND SUNDAY IN LENT)

Matthew 20:1-16

Psalms 16:5-8

Unleashed Generosity/Making Allowance for the Job Seekers

FEBRUARY 14 (FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT)

Matthew 18:15-35

Psalms 32:1-2

Loose Kingdom; Finding Hope Despite Conflict

FEBRUARY 28 (3RD SUNDAY IN LENT)

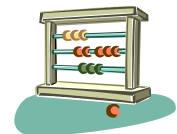
Matthew 22:1-14

Psalms 45:6-7


Cutting the Cloth/Attracted to the Feast

DECEMBER 2015 & JANUARY '16 ATTENDANCE

| Month | Last Year | Present |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| December | 531 | 582 |
| January | 220 | 255 |



BUDGET REPORT – 12-31-15

| | | | | |
|---|---------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|  | Income | \$14,605.18 | Expenses | \$8,340.38 |
| | General Fund | \$16,490.59 | Building Fund | \$13,260.28 |
| | Memorial Fund | \$5,258.17 | Need/month for budget | \$7025.00 |

PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Officers were elected: Chair – Laura Temple; Vice Chair: Dwight Miller; Secretary: Jenny Yoder. Council Members volunteered to serve as a liaison with the various committees of the church:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Christian Ed. –Kris Anderson | Nominating – Open |
| Worship – Laura Temple | Finance – Wayne Freyenberger |
| Property – Wendell Arduser | Mission – Jenny Yoder |
| Staff/Parish – Dwight Miller | Memorial – Jan Temple |
| Membership – Jan Temple | |

Christian Education – **Kids’ Club** has resumed and goes through March 9, 2016. Running simultaneously with Kids’ Club will be a Youth Bible Study in the South Church that is intended for teens. AmySara is providing leadership. 178 persons attended the Christmas Program this year. **Worship** – The Story Bible Study Monday evening session has been cancelled due to lack of participants; may resume after Lent. **Property** – The window in the South Church entry has been replaced. We are on Kim Yoder’s schedule for electrical work at the South Church – building surge protector; light for sign out front. Tim Elliott is working with Calls to remove fallen limb that is hanging on an old satellite dish from the roof of the parsonage. Dwight mentioned that trim is needed around the parsonage windows. **Mission** –Through Advent donations, received \$2913. **Nominating** – Must have a special Charge Conference meeting since there was confusion as to how many years an Annual Conference Delegate was to serve.

New Business: Date/s and Process for Strategic Planning Meetings – It was decided to accept the suggestion of Phil Carver of the SE District Office to work through a program called, “Adapt to Thrive.” It will be held once a month for 5 months; 2 hours each time.

FEBRUARY/MARCH (LENT) WORSHIP HELPERS

As you will note, we are short several assistants. The materials we are using for Lent this year provide lots of ideas you may use for Children’s Sermon. Thank you in advance for stepping up to volunteer. Sorry for the tiny print, but wanted you to see it all.

| | Ushers | Greeters | Candles | Snacks | Liturgist | Children’s Sermon | Special Music | AV |
|-------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Feb 7 | Myron Rees, Kenneth Kruse | Wilma & Darrell Chalupa | Kate Hartzler | Laura Temple, Jan Temple | NA | NA | NA | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |
| 14 | Jim Hansen, Wendell Arduser | Oscar & Wynne Steele | Lexi Collier | Sherri Hazen, Chris Sieren | Juanita Dawley | Chris Sieren | ??? | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |
| 21 | Carson Bean, Dennis Bean | Joe & Judy Skubal | Gracyn Bean-Humston | Wynne Steele, Kathi Bean | ??? | ??? | Kristi Bean | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |
| 28 | Neil Mills Neal Megchelsen | Carol Bean, Nancy Stewart | Carson Bean | Karen Megchelsen Brenda Bean | ??? | ??? | ??? | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |
| Mar 6 | Joe Skubal, Rob Yoder | Ruth Miller, Angie Ornduff | Molly Klinzman | Judy Skubal, Jenny Yoder | ??? | ??? | ??? | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |
| 13 | Dale Holmes, Bill Wilson | Steve and Rita Anderson | Shalyn Kirk | Kathi Bean, Pat Jenkins | Pat Jenkins | ??? | Dalton Diers | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |
| 20 | Carson Bean, Dennis Bean | Dan & Stacy Klinzman | Lexi Collier | Wilma Chalupa, Penny McCreedy | ??? | ??? | Kristi Bean | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |
| 27 | Myron Rees, Jason Anderson | Karen & Wendell Arduser | Kate Hartzler | Janet Rees, Molly Hartzler | JoAnn Torpey | ??? | ??? | Dalton Diers, Joey Collier |

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Joys: We are grateful Linda McNeil is back on the “getting healthier” list. Marg Colthurst is gradually getting stronger. George and Marg are most grateful to everyone who has been providing them with healthy meals. **Concerns:** Those

recovering from recent surgery; those learning of their own illness or of a loved one; those adjusting to the loss of a loved one; and those experiencing challenges in their work and personal life. **Serving Our Country:** We say "Thank You!" to members and their families serving our country.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES

1)George Lord, Robert McCreedy; 5) Rhonda Morrison; 6) Jim Hansen; 9) Halle Hazelett; 11) Jan Temple; 13) Christine Sands; 14) Gabrielle Dawley, Stan McCreedy, *Kurt& Dawn Stewart; *Herb Yoder & Dorothy Koehler; 16) *Jason & Kristen Anderson; 17) Kerra Longbine; 18) Elaine Nicholson; 19) Bruce Temple; 21) Michael Castillo; 22) George Colthurst; Hannah Mae Hartzler; 24) Dwight Miller; 26) Molly Koehler; 27) Adam Rees.



FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, February 1: Sisters Group, Crawfordsville, 8 PM

Wednesday, Feb. 3: Kids' Club, North Church; Youth Bible Study, South Church, BOTH - 6:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, February 4: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM;

Friday, Feb. 5: Breakfast Club, Crawfordsville, 9 AM; Spirit Sisters, Ainsworth, 8:30 AM

Saturday, February 6: Praise Team Rehearsal, 5 PM; Sanctuary

Sunday, February 7: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 25, 9:15 AM, Fellowship Hall; Worship 10:30 AM, The Story, Chapter 25 and Communion; Halcyon House Worship, 2:30 PM; CIA Youth Group, 4 PM, UCC

Monday, February 8: Blood Drive hosted by Sacha Club, Ainsworth Church, 2:30-7:30 PM; Sisters Group, Crawfordsville, 8 PM

Wednesday, February 10: Ash Wednesday; Kids' Club Pancake Supper and Ash Wednesday Service, 6:30-7:30 PM, South Church

Thursday, February 11: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM

Friday, February 12: Spirit Sisters, Ainsworth, 8:30 AM

Saturday, February 13: ACC Tech Team attending Web Site training in Des Moines, 9AM -3 PM; Praise Team Rehearsal, 5 PM, Sanctuary.

Sunday, Feb. 14: First Sunday in Lent; Worship 10:30 AM; Note: The Story will resume after Easter, 4.3.16

Monday, February 15: Sisters Group, Crawfordsville, 8 PM

Tuesday, February 16: "Card" Club, 5 PM, Fellowship Hall; "Son" Seekers, Linda McNeil host; 7 PM

Wednesday, February 17: Bachelors Lunch, 11:30 AM, Crawfordsville; Kids' Club, North Church; Youth Bible Study, South Church, BOTH - 6:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, February 18: ACC Winter Clearance Garage Sale, North Church, 1-5 PM; TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; Parish Council, North Church, 7 PM

Friday, Feb. 19: ACC Winter Garage Sale, North Church, 9 AM – 3 PM; Spirit Sisters, Ainsworth, 8:30 AM

Saturday, February 20: ACC Winter Clearance Garage Sale, North Church, 9 AM – Noon; Praise Team Rehearsal, 5 PM, Ainsworth Sanctuary

Sunday, February 21: 2nd Sunday in Lent, Worship at 10:30 AM

Monday, February 22: Sacha Club in Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; Sisters Group, Crawfordsville, 8 PM

Tuesday, February 23: Strategic Planning Meeting, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 PM

Wednesday, Feb. 24: Kids' Club, North Church; Youth Bible Study, South Church, BOTH - 6:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, February 25: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM

Thursday, February 25-26: Family Fun with the Pastors Family, Wisconsin Dells

Friday February 26: Spirit Sisters, Ainsworth, 8:30 AM

Saturday, February 27: Praise Team Rehearsal, 5 PM,

Sunday, February 28: 3rd Sunday in Lent, Worship, 10:30 AM

Monday, February 29: Sisters Group, Crawfordsville, 8 PM

Ainsworth Community Church
PO Box 40
322 Washington Street
Ainsworth, IA 52201

Nonprofit Organization
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit #3
Ainsworth, IA

Change Service Requested

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM; Kids' Club and Youth Bible Study:
Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 PM

GENERAL MINISTRY OF CONGREGATION

PASTOR JASON COLLIER: Home: 319.658.3013; Cell: 563. 343.3390;

EMAIL: jwcyouth@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE: AinsworthChurch@gmail.com

Phone: 319.657.3020

PO Box 40, 322 Washington Street, Ainsworth, IA 52201

Facebook: Ainsworth Community Church and

Ainsworth Community Church Youth Group

Web: <http://ainsworthchurch.org> Twitter: AinsworthCC

YOUTH MINISTRY: AmySara Richardson 319.591.0745;

OR EMAIL: amysararichardson@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Jan Temple 657.2291; Cell: 319.330.6175;

OR EMAIL: templejan@gmail.com

ORGANIST: Linda McNeil; Jenny Yoder (substitute)

CUSTODIANS: Dick & Chris Sieren: 657.2222

TREASURER: Rita Anderson

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Karen Megchelsen, 3206 265th Street,
Ainsworth, IA 52201

MISSION COMMITTEE: Kathi/Brenda: 657.2387; and Ann: 319.330.0348

Ainsworth Community Church is a United Methodist/Presbyterian Church (USA) union congregation, together since 1973. Aligned with United Church of Crawfordsville since April 1, 2013.

We are the community church. We hope you will come and join us in one or more of these activities: Morning Worship Service, Youth Fellowship, Bible Studies, Women's Group, and much more.