

THE EVANGEL – MARCH 2015

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season, converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of

faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church to observe a holy Lent: ***Come, Experience the Desert.***



Come with us to the desert. The desert is a place of beauty and difficulty. Have you been to the desert before? If you have, then you know that it's very seldom a picnic. And, if you're going to stay long, you will need some supplies. Don't even think about going into this desert without living water. Jesus was tempted for forty days in the desert. Those forty days represent lent (minus Sundays) on our Christian calendar. So, let's make an attempt this lent to move into the

desert with Jesus. Let's see if each of us can do something a little different each day for God, who is with us every step of the way. Let this year in lent, be the year that you experience God in a new way. I am certain that if you take this journey, God will meet you in your desert. Perhaps He's there waiting.

1 Thessalonians 4:13a

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Collier".

Pastor Jason Collier

PASTOR VISITS AND PRAYER LIST

For those who are church family or friends of the church, please let the church know if you would like Pastor Jason to call on you or if you need to be on our prayer list. Unless Pastor Jason hears from you, and you explain it is a special prayer request, he has no way of knowing of your needs. You may call Pastor Jason's cell 563.343.3390 at any time. You may also leave a message on the church answering machine: 319-657-3020 or call Jan's cell 319.330-6175.



WELCOME AMYSARA, ACC YOUTH LEADER



AmySara Richardson is the new ACC youth leader. She, her husband, Chris, and children, Caroline and Darrin, moved to Ainsworth in 2013. During the school year, she works at the Ainsworth Elementary School. She grew up in Wayland, and attended church regularly. She met and married her husband within eleven weeks in 1994. They moved one day after their marriage to start their life together on the East Coast. While Chris served in the Navy, they traveled up and down the Eastern Seaboard. She attended the Granby Street United Methodist Church in Norfolk, Virginia, where she taught Sunday school. When they moved to Great Mills, Maryland in 1999, she heard God calling her into ministry - Specifically ministry to young women.

In 2000, she started a program with students, and has had the privilege of hanging out with kids ever since! In 2008, when God answered their 13 year prayer to be parents, they decided to move back to the Midwest. Since Chris was from Keota and AmySara was from Wayland, Washington was a good "in between". She was hired as Youth Director at the Washington United Methodist Church in 2009, and stayed there until choosing to be a stay at home mom with her babies. She worked a year as the Washington UMC secretary until they moved to Ainsworth, and she took the job as Special Education Associate.

AmySara says: "I have a heart for youth. I believe that God is calling this Youth Group to bloom! The Christian Education Team and I met and shared our visions, and we believe that as a church, we can reach students and their families here in our community. I



I have a passion to share with young people that Jesus loves them exactly as they are, and He wants them to come to Him. I believe that my purpose is to be present with students as they journey towards an awesome relationship with Jesus, one that will sustain them through the remainder of their lives."

She continues, "I love licorice, Coca Cola, plain M&M's, and most anything cooked over the campfire. I enjoy playing cards, random games, and 'Name That Tune'. My favorite place in the church is the chancel rail, and my least favorite thing to do is clean out the rental van. I feel close to God when I pray, and I don't like it when people hurt each other. Okay, so now you know about all there is to know about me. I hope you will come to me with your questions and concerns. I hope you will get involved with the Youth Ministry in our church! I hope you know that you are part of an impressive community of believers here! If you're still reading this... thanks!"

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



The Ainsworth Community Church Women will host this year's World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 6 at 1:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. ALL women AND men are welcome to attend. The 2015 theme is "Jesus said, 'Do you understand what I have done for you?'"

KIDS' CLUB



The final session of the Spring 2015 Kids' Club will be extra special. All participants are encouraged to attend the class on Wednesday, **March 11 at 6:30 PM**. We hope the youth will plan to join us this summer for Vacation Bible School. Current plans are to hold VBS the 4 Sundays in June. Stay tuned for more details. A note with all the details will be sent home with Ainsworth Elementary students prior to the end of the school year.

THE 5 LOVE LANGUAGES OF CHILDREN



The final planned session of this study group will meet on Wednesday, March 11 at 6:30 PM in the South Church, Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Sherrie Hazen at 319-657-3782 or sherrie@iowatelecom.net

TKD – 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Tae Kwon Do classes have been meeting at ACC for one year now. It's not too late! If you want to - **Get in better shape?** Tae Kwon Do is for fitness! With proper diet, you can get in shape or stay in shape **Reduce stress?** Tae Kwon Do's mental and physical training is great for reducing stress. **Improve discipline?** Tae Kwon Do teaches respect and discipline. Class structure and rules teach discipline and respect in a safe way that students will be able to use in all aspects of their lives. Class is held Thursdays 6-7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Wear comfortable clothing. Anyone 6 years of age or older is welcome. Cost: Free-will donation to ACC. Instructor: Troy McCarthy.



SHANE CLAIBORNE TO SPEAK



The Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church is excited to announce their 2015 Manning Speaker, Shane Claiborne – an activist and author. Everyone, especially youth, is invited to Iowa Wesleyan College to hear him speak on

Sunday, March 1. Schedule:

2:30 PM: "Living as an Ordinary Radical" in the Chapel Auditorium

3:30 PM: Break/Refreshments

4 PM: "Another Way of Doing Life/Christian Troublemakers," Chapel Auditorium

5PM: Reception and Exhibition, "Anoint and Heal" Christians, P.E.O. Art Gallery.

7PM: Service Challenge.

HYMN SING - MARCH 1 AT UCC

The United Church of Crawfordsville will host the Annual Hymn Sing on Sunday, March 1 at 7 PM. The ACC Puppet Ministry Performers will participate as well as the recently formed Praise Band. Come join us for wonderful evening of music and Christian fellowship



YOUTH GROUP SPOTLIGHT



This month we are observing Lent. The youth group will be participating in Lent in various ways during our times together.

ACC youth had their first formal meeting with a new leader on February 15th. Eight students gathered together in fellowship and to talk about Joseph, God, and how forgiveness is the ultimate act of love. We played a game that tested our resolve, and required us to put as many different types of beans into a cup using only toothpicks. No one quit! We enjoyed and are grateful for the food provided by Janet Rees and Juanita Dawley. We had a great first meeting. Youth group will meet every Sunday from 4:00 - 5:30 PM in the South Church basement. For more information check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AinsworthChurchYouthGroup>

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

On Sunday, March 15 we will collect an offering for "One Great Hour of Sharing." Our past gifts have enabled programs at home and abroad to curb hunger, assist those suffering from disaster, and spread God's word. There will be a 'Donation' jar at the entrance to the sanctuary.



HARLEM GOSPEL CHOIR



The Harlem Gospel Choir will perform on Saturday, March 14 at 7:30 PM at the Fairfield Arts and Convention Center, 200 North Main Street, Fairfield, IA 52556. A group will depart UCC at 5 PM. The concert and dinner will conclude about 10 PM. Contact Pastor Jason for more details.

HOLY WEEK PLANS

- Palm Sunday - March 29 – Worship at ACC, 10:30 AM
- Maundy Thursday – April 2, Service at United Church of Crawfordsville, 7 PM
- Good Friday – April 3, Service at Ainsworth CC, 7 PM
- Easter – April 5: Sunrise Service with breakfast to follow, 7 AM at UCC; Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM, ACC



GIDEON GIVING REPORT



www.ClipProject.info

John Hays of Washington, IA spoke to the congregation in January. During that time, he shared information about the work of the Gideon's as well as his Hays Water Project. A donation was collected. That Sunday, ACC sent him back to Washington with \$150 for the Water Project and \$98 for the Gideon's. Thank you for your generosity ACC Family!

THANK YOU! – BRIAN, PROPERTY COMMITTEE

“THANK YOU” to Brian Bean for finishing the outside of the sound booth at the back of the South Church sanctuary. It looks fabulous! As time permits, he will work on the inside of the booth. For now, we are thrilled with the outside. Be sure to check it out as you grab your snacks.



KATHI BEAN – ONE OF 9 WHO CARE



We are thrilled to share that our own Kathi Bean was chosen as one of the ‘9 Who Care’ based upon the work of the ACC Mission Committee. Below is some background about the honor from the TV9 web page. (Thanks, too, to

Ann Freyenberger for submitting the nomination.)

“Each year, KCRG-TV9 and our Show You Care Sponsors honor outstanding volunteers throughout Eastern Iowa. Nominations are accepted during the month of November. Nine finalists are chosen by an independent panel of judges. The 9 Who Care award recipients are featured during a newscast and honored at a ceremony in February. During the ceremony, the award recipients are each presented with a \$500 charity award to give to their charity of choice. Of these nine winners, one will travel to Washington, D.C. to represent Eastern Iowa in a national competition for a Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award.”

2015 DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

You will find copies of the 2015 ACC Directory at both entrances to the sanctuary. The directory includes names and phone numbers of all the members of church committees. It also includes an overview of activities at ACC. Help yourself to a copy.



OPERA HOUSE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

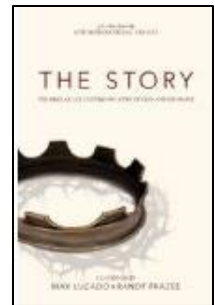


The Ainsworth Opera House is announcing its centennial year. The celebration begins with an event unique in the world. Two nights and one afternoon of world premier events of early film and music are planned at 7:00 PM on March 6 and 7 and 2 PM on March 7. The films are selected from the Brinton Film Collection, which is one of the most significant collections of early films in the world.

These films date between 1895 and 1908, and were originally shown in Ainsworth. Red Cedar Chamber Music has selected or commissioned appropriate music for each film. Red Cedar ensemble will accompany the films with live music. The film program is different for each night. Attendees are encouraged to dress for a world premier or however they are comfortable. Because of limited seating, reservations must be made in advance. This is a benefit for the Ainsworth Opera House. Ticket price is \$40. FMI or to reserve seats, contact Michael Zahs at [319-653-6250](tel:319-653-6250) or mikezahs@gmail.com.

"THE STORY" ADULT BIBLE STUDY

We are grateful to the leadership of Wynne and Oscar Steele for launching our Bible Study group using "The Story" materials. We are taking a break for Lent. The classes are offered at two different times each week. You may attend either or both. All classes will be held at the South Church. (Sometimes if there is a conflict, the Monday group will meet in the sanctuary rather than the Fellowship Hall). The classes will coincide with the sermon series by the same name that Jason will use in 2015-16. We will resume with **Chapter 4 on Sunday, April 12** at 9:15 AM and again on Monday, April 13 at 6:30 PM. Please note that if you miss one of the classes, the DVD material is available through "rightnow MEDIA". The church has a paid subscription to this website. Contact the church office if you need access to the site.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

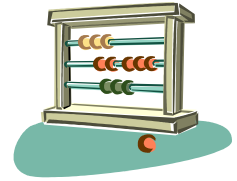


Joys: Youth and adult programs at ACC. Dedicated volunteers. Families helped through Mission and outreach. The hope of Spring.
Concerns: Bernice Darby, 'wintering' at Pleasantview Home would appreciate some visits and/or mail: Room #337, PO Box 309, Kalona, IA 52247; Arlene Sellars, scheduled for March 19 surgery, would appreciate our prayers; Baby Roxy Dennis, home now with parents Brittany and Tyson; Karen Arduser; Those anticipating and recovering from surgery; those experiencing challenges in their

work and personal life. **Serving Our Country:** Joe Dawley, basic training; to all members and their families serving our country, we say "Thank You!"

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

Month	2014	2015
January	228	220
February	282	308



PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS




At the February meeting, these were the highlights:

Christian Education – Kids’ Club resumed on January 21st. The Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper is February 18 at 6:30; Worship at 7PM. UCC has been invited for supper and Worship. *Youth Group Plans:* The Meet and Greet was held on February 8. They will meet weekly on Sundays at 4 PM. **Worship** – The Story Bible study is meeting twice each week until Lent begins

and will resume on April 12. “The 5 Love Languages of Children” is meeting simultaneously with Kids’ Club. The Hymn Sing is to be hosted by UCC on March 1. UCC is proposing the following schedule: Continue to rotate Hymn Sing; UCC would always host Sunrise Service and Maundy Thursday; ACC would always host Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Action was tabled until the next meeting.

Property – Brian is working on the sound booth. **Mission** – Held Garage Sale the first weekend in February. The committee was pleased with the funds generated from the event. **Old Business:** The credit cards came and they are functional. **New Business:** 1) Parish Council Officers for 2015: Chair – Myron Rees; Vice Chair – Dwight Miller; Secretary – Laura Temple. 2) Dan requested monies for Molly Klinzman to attend Crooked Creek Camp the summer of 2015. Cost would be \$150. Approved. Funds to come from the Campership Fund. 3) Jan completed statistical reports for both denominations.

BUDGET REPORT – 1-31-15

	Income	\$5,601.00	Expenses	\$5,807.54
	General Fund	\$11,345.96	Building Fund	\$9,838.94
	Memorial Fund	\$4,757.75	Need/month for budget	\$7008.67

2015 Combined Presbytery and Methodist dues/apportionments: \$11,329.82

MARCH BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES

1) Ellie Anderson; 2) Steve Anderson, Nancy Stewart; 4) *John & Margene Erlenbush; 5) Molly Klinzman; 8) Stephanie Laverman; 9) Ed White, *Dave & Karolyn Skubal; 11) *Kevin & Carrie Ornduff; 17) Rita Anderson; Noah Hartzler; 19) Emma Beemblossom; Dawn Stewart; 21) Jonathan Kruse; 24) Jason Collier; Janet Stafford; 26) Janene Kirk; 27) Ruth Miller, Dorothy Jacobs; 29) Elizabeth (Izie) Collier; Kurt Stewart; 30) Rich Riggan; 31) Jim McCreedy



LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE FOR MARCH

MARCH 1 (2ND SUNDAY IN LENT)

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
 Psalm 22:23-31 (UMH 752)
 Romans 4:13-25
 Mark 8:31-38



MARCH 8 (3RD SUNDAY IN LENT)

Exodus 20:1-17
 Psalm 19 (UMH 750)
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
 John 2:13-22

MARCH 15 (4TH SUNDAY IN LENT)

Numbers 21:4-9
 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (UMH 830)
 Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

MARCH 22 (5TH SUNDAY IN LENT)

Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm 51:1-12 (UMH 785)
 Hebrews 5:5-10
 John 12:20-33

MARCH 29 (PALM SUNDAY)

Mark 11:1-11
 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)
 Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm 31:9-16 (UMH 764)
 Philippians 2:5-11
 Mark 14:1-15:47 or
 Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

MARCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Please note: If you are not able to serve as a worship assistant, ***please find a substitute***. If you would like to be a worship assistant, PLEASE tell Jan!!



Date	Ushers	Greeters	Candles	Snacks	AV	Liturgist	Music	Children's Sermon
Mar 1	Ben Bean Brian Bean	Jan Temple Colleen Bean	Shalyn Kirk	Janet Rees Molly Hartzler	Jan Temple	Rosemary Harris	Erin Mills	Jan Temple
Mar 8	Steve Anderson Sam Kruse	Wilma & Darrell Chalupa	Molly Klinzman	Karen Megchelsen Brenda Bean	Jan Temple	Steve Anderson	???????	Chris Sieren
Mar 15	Dale Holmes Bill Wilson	Joe & Judy Skubal	Carson Bean	Pat Jenkins Deb Chalupa	Nick Yoder	Pat Jenkins	Kristi Bean	Carol Bean
Mar 22	Jim Hansen Neal Mills	Oscar & Wynne Steele	Kylen Anderson	Wilma Chalupa Penny McCreedy	Jan Temple	Juanita Dawley	?Praise Band?	Dan & Stacy Klinzman
Mar 29	Colton Bean Dennis Bean	Dan & Stacy Klinzman	Kate Hartzler	Wynne Steele Kathi Bean	Jan Temple	Wynne Steele	Nicole & Michele Miller	???????
Apr 3	Myron Rees Bill Wilson	Oscar & Wynne Steele	None needed	None needed	Dan Klinzman	None Needed	None needed	None Needed
Apr 5	Myron Rees Nick Yoder	Rita & Steve Anderson	Ellie Anderson	Judy Skubal Jenny Yoder	Dan Klinzman	Clifton Dawley	Will Hart	AmySara Richardson

MARCH – APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Sunday, March 1: Communion Sunday, Youth Group attending Mt. Pleasant events, 2:30 PM; Hymn Sing at UCC, 7 PM

Tuesday, March 3: Praise Band, 6:30 PM, UCC; "Son" Seekers, Herb and Dorothy Koehler, 7 PM

Wednesday, March 4: ACC-UCC Dream Team Meeting at ACC, 5 PM; Kids' Club, North Church, 6:30 PM; Love Languages Study

Group, South Church, 6:30 PM

Thursday, March 5: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; Men's Bible Study, UCC, 7 PM

Friday, March 6: World Day of Prayer Observation, ACCW hosting, 1:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 8: Daylight Savings Time Begins; ACC Youth Group, 4 PM, Fellowship Hall; Confirmation Class, 6:30 PM, UCC

Tuesday, March 10: Praise Band, 6:30 PM, UCC

Wednesday, March 11: Kids' Club, North Church, 6:30 PM – Final class until Fall 2015; Love Languages Study Group, Fellowship Hall, South Church, 6:30 PM

Thursday, March 12: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; Parish Council, North Church, 7 PM

Saturday, March 14: Harlem Gospel Choir and Dinner, 5:30 PM, Fairfield Art & Convention Center

Sunday, March 15: One Great Hour of Sharing Offering during worship service; ACC Youth Group, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM

Tuesday, March 17: "Card" Club, 5 PM, Fellowship Hall; Praise Band, UCC, 6:30 PM; "Son" Seekers, Mike and Mary Lou Koehler, 7 PM

Thursday, March 19: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM

Sunday, March 22: ACC Youth Group, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM; Confirmation Class, UCC, 6:30 PM

Monday, March 23: Sacha Club using Fellowship Hall, 6 PM

Tuesday, March 24: Praise Band, UCC, 6:30 PM

Thursday, Mar. 26: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; Men's Bible Study, UCC, 7 PM

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday, Youth Group, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM

Tuesday, March 31: Praise Band, UCC, 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday Service, UCC, 7 PM

Friday, April 3: Good Friday Service, ACC, 7 PM

Saturday, April 4: Crawfordsville Firemen's Breakfast, 6-9 AM; Sacha Club Egg Hunt, Marr Park, 9:30 AM

Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday! Sunrise Service and Breakfast to follow, 7 AM, UCC; Sunday worship with Holy Communion, 10:30 AM, ACC

Tuesday, April 6: Praise Band, 6:30 PM, UCC; "Son" Seekers, Wilma McAllister, 7 PM

Thur., April 9: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; ACC Parish Council, North Church, 7 PM

Sunday, April 12: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 4, Fellowship Hall, 9:15 AM; Youth Group, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM

Monday, April 13: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 4, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 14: Praise Band, UCC, 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 16: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM

Sunday, April 19: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 5, Fellowship Hall, 9:15 AM; Youth Group, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM; Confirmation Class, 6:30 PM, UCC

Monday, April 20: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 5, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 21: "Card" Club, 5 PM, Fellowship Hall; Praise Band, UCC, 6:30 PM; "Son" Seekers, Ruth Miller, 7 PM

Thursday, April 23: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; Men's Bible Study, 7 PM, UCC

Sunday, April 26: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 6, Fellowship Hall, 9:15 AM; Youth Group, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM

Monday, April 27: Sacha Club, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM; The Story Bible Study – Chapter 6, Sanctuary, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 28: Praise Band, UCC, 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 30: TKD, Fellowship Hall, 6 PM

Sunday, May 3: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 7, Fellowship Hall, 9:15 AM Communion, Confirmation and Senior Sunday Observation

Monday, May 4: The Story Bible Study – Chapter 7, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 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

Worship Service: 10:30 AM; Kids' Club & Adult Study Group:
Wednesdays – 6:30-7:30 PM

GENERAL MINISTRY OF CONGREGATION

PASTOR JASON COLLIER: Phone: 563.343.3390;

OR 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 St.,
Ainsworth, IA 52201

MISSION COMMITTEE: Kathi/Brenda: 657.2387; Judy: 657.2157;
And Stacy: 319.930.0291

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.