

THE EVANGEL – DEC. ‘17/JAN. ‘18

FROM THE PASTOR

The Christmas season is here! We are celebrating advent and waiting for the birth of Christ. This waiting is not normal (or should I say comfortable). I never like waiting. It seems that Christmas season is here too soon and yet I want Christmas to be here now. Ok before you judge me the truth is I love giving gifts and singing Christmas songs. Getting gifts is great too but not as amazing as playing with my kids and Nieces and Nephews during Christmas.



Why should we wait? It is not a natural thing to want to do. We are to foster a need in our hearts for the Christ child who has saved the world. But if it is already done what are we waiting for? Well I think Advent provides space for more than just baby Jesus expectation. In the waiting we are also considering the future. We focus on hope, love, joy, and peace. The focus is on our future and the expectation of a resurrected life because of the Christ child who died for our sins. The focus is on what we can do about our time here on earth and how we can bless others by bringing the expectation of Advent to life. Join me this year as we anticipate our church's time of jingle B.E.L.L.S. We will kick off our new year with a time of **B**lessing, **E**ating and **L**istening, **L**earning, and finally **S**ending. This Advent season be ready to anticipate and participate in the coming birth of the Christian spirit!

Merry Christmas and Jingle B.E.L.L.S.

In Christ,

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

Pastor Jason Collier



PASTOR VISITS AND PRAYER LIST



If you have special needs or would like Pastor Jason to call on you, you may reach him on his cell phone at any time – 563-343-3390. If you would like to request prayers or join the prayer chain, contact Jan at 319-657-3020 or 319.330-6175 or ainsworthchurch@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT ACC

Sunday, December 3, 10, 17 and 24: The ACC Puppeteers will present a special number as the prelude on these Sundays. Other members of the congregation will share special music during the offertory.

Sunday, December 17: The Youth Christmas Program will be held during 10:30 AM worship in the South Church Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 24: Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM; Christmas Eve Candlelight worship (no communion) will be held at 5 PM at ACC. Note there will be a 7 PM service at the United Church of Crawfordsville.

Monday, December 25: No worship services on Christmas Day at ACC or UCC.



FROM THE YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM



Thank you to all who have donated to the Money Wall, those who have volunteered their time and talents, and those who have given donations every time we've called out for help. Just a reminder that we always need loving people to hang out with us in student ministry. The simple act of being present means so much, and it's no different for teens. Seeing that there are members of the faith community who want to spend time with students is an incredible witness. Please continue to pray as the transition of leadership finalizes in the month of December and Nick and Sam fully enter into their positions in January. Your help and prayers are definitely needed now more than ever! Retreat will be held the first weekend of January at Crooked Creek, and there is a place for YOU!

Again, your presence, prayers, gifts and service are always noticed and appreciated in student ministry and our church. God bless you this holiday season!

AmySara Richardson

RING SALVATION ARMY BELLS: DEC. 10, 17, 24

Our church has been assigned several Sunday's in December to ring bells for the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign at the Walmart in Washington. The three Sunday's are the 10th, 17th, and 24th from 11 AM to 5 PM. All volunteers must work in pairs of 2 or more. Shifts are one hour each. Youth must work with someone over the age of 18. A signup sheet will be at the back of the sanctuary or call Jan (319.330.6175) to volunteer. Note that all monies collected stay within Washington County. 'Thank You' to our volunteers for donating their time!



CHARGE CONFERENCE/BYLAWS CHANGE




The Parish Council is recommending a change in the composition of the Finance and Memorial Committee (having these responsibilities completed by the Parish Council and eliminating those two committees). The committee changes necessitate a change in the church bylaws which requires a vote of the congregation. There will be a vote on Sunday, December 3 following worship for the Bylaws change. The 2017 Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday, December 10 at 2:30 PM at the Washington United Methodist Church. The congregation is encouraged to continue asking questions about the budget and other Conference action prior to the December 10 meeting.

KIDS' CLUB SPRING SESSION - JANUARY 20

The Ainsworth Community Church Kids' Club will resume on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 and run through Wednesday, March 7, 2018. Each session begins at 6:30 PM and will conclude by 7:30 PM at the North Church Building. All youth aged 3 years through 6th grade are welcome for the 8 week session.



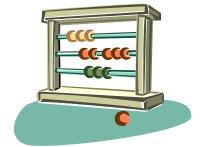
BUDGET REPORT – 10-31-17

	Income	\$5,230.00	Expenses	\$5,831.41
	General Fund	\$6,056.76	Building Fund	\$8,750.71
	Memorial Fund	\$8,096.43	Need/month for budget	\$7,718.00

2017 Combined Presbytery and Methodist dues/apportionments: \$10,819.00

OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

Month	2015	2016	2017
October	337	371	317
November	479	354	301



THANK YOU, ACCW



I was pleasantly surprised when I returned home from a time spent in Arkansas visiting my family to find a fruit basket on my desk. Thank you for remembering me again this year.

Mary Meeks

PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following is a brief overview of the November 13, 2017 meeting.

Committee Reports: Christian Education: Kids' Club Fall session has concluded with the Harvest Meal that was attended by a total of 65 persons. The Youth Christmas Program will be December 17.

Membership/Nurture: We have created our own note cards for ACC. We may print as needed 'in house.' Worship: The sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas the week after Thanksgiving. Property: The benches from in front of the South Church have been moved inside for the winter. Clifton worked on the west outside wall of the South Church to improve its appearance. A grant extension has been requested from the WCRF for funding to cover the outside painting at the North Church as Randy Finke did not get that completed this year. A list of projects has been compiled and a budget request submitted. Mission: The In-Gathering kits were taken to Mt. Pleasant thanks to Mildred Wilson. The Mission Committee served 44 persons from the food pantry in October.

Finance: A tentative budget has been prepared. Nominating: Completed the slate for 2018. Old Business: Property – It agreed to reduce Property Committee to 3 members with the Parish Council Liaison being a voting member. It will take three years to transition to the new format as terms expire. New Business: Authority to sign checks: It was agreed to have the Secretary of the Church be the secondary authorized signature. The financial secretary can be listed to make deposits. Mileage for Youth Ministry Leaders: Combined they will have a \$1500 travel budget. Apportionments: Agreed to pay apportionments by December providing there is \$10,000 in the General Fund. Both the Presbytery and the United Methodists will only be paid \$1000. Mission Committee: It was agreed that the Mission Committee may use the Fellowship Hall for babysitting purposes if needed. Proposed Bylaws changes: These are to be presented to congregation for approval. Nominating Committee Report: Adjusted to reflect changes to committee structure outlined in revised bylaws. Terms of Assignment: Approved as printed. Proposed Budget: Reviewed. Adjustments shown in Charge Conference packet. December meeting: No December meeting. Next meeting is January 8, 2018.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Joys: We are grateful for the gift of our Savior. We celebrate the healing of those recovering from surgery and illness: Joyce Lord, Jerry Bean, and D. Donald. We rejoice in the level of participation in activities of the church and give thanks for the many volunteers who make the programs successful. **Concerns:** Those suffering with poor health, limited resources, or family conflicts. **Serving Our Country:** We say "Thank You!" to members and their families serving our country.

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE: DEC. 2017

December 3	“Daniel: The Fiery Furnace” 1st Sunday of Advent	Daniel 3:1, [2-7]; 8-30; <i>(John 18:36-37)</i>
December 10	Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones 2nd Sunday of Advent	Ezekiel 37:1-14; <i>(John 11:25-26)</i>
December 17	Word Accomplishes God’s Purpose 3rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 55 1-13; <i>(John 4:13-14)</i>
December 24 10:30 AM	Word Made Flesh 4th Sunday of Advent	John 1:1-18; <i>(Psalm 130:5-8)</i>
December 24 5 PM Worship	Birth of Jesus	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]; <i>(Psalm 96:7-10)</i>
December 25	Shepherds’ Visit	Luke 2:8-20; <i>(Psalm 123:1-2 or 123:2)</i>
December 31	A Voice in the Wilderness	John 1:19-34; <i>(Psalm 32:1-2)</i>

SCRIPTURES BY TOPIC FOR JANUARY 2018

Surprising the world: Colossians 4:2-6 and 1Peter 3:15-16

Changing the World One Meal at a Time: Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Answer is Always Jesus: Romans 1:1-6

The Sent Ones: Matthew 5:14-16; 10:7-8

DECEMBER 2017 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Greeters	Advent Candles	Snacks	AV
Dec. 3	Joe Skubal, Rob Yoder	Judy Skubal; Jan Temple	Chris/Molly Hartzler Family	Jessica Diers Pat Jenkins	Dalton Diers
10	Dennis Bean Dave Kaufman	Karen/Wendell Arduser	Adam/Erin Kaufman Family	Liz Kaufman Rita Anderson	Rob Yoder Dalton Diers
17	Myron Rees Neil Mills	Carol Bean Bertie Miller	Jeff/Kim Prier Family	Judy Skubal, Jenny Yoder	Joey Collier
24	Neal Megchelsen Steve Anderson	Wilma/Darrell Chalupa	Brian/Anna Chalupa Family	Wilma Chalupa Karen Arduser	Kyle Entsminger
24- Eve	Myron Rees Janet Rees	Jan Temple Linda McNeil	Jeremie/Renae Thompson Family	NA	Dalton Diers
31	Jim Hansen, Wendell Arduser	Sherrie Hansen; Karen Arduser	Lexi Collier	Karen Megchelsen Jessica Diers	Dalton Diers, Joey Collier

JANUARY 2018 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Greeters	Candles	Snacks	AV
Jan. 7	Nick Yoder, Sam Kruse	Steve/Rita Anderson	Jacob Hartzler	Janet Rees, Molly Hartzler	Rob Yoder Dalton Diers
14	Myron Rees, Jason Anderson	Karen/Wendell Arduser	Drew Diers	Jan Temple Laura Temple	Joey Collier
21	Dave Kaufman, Steve Anderson	Oscar/Wynne Steele	Ellie Anderson	Sherri Hazen, Chris Sieren	Kyle Entsminger
28	Neal Mills Neal Megchelsen	Steve Miller Drew Diers	Kate Hartzler	Kathi Bean, Brenda Bean	Dalton Diers
Feb. 4	Joe Skubal Rob Yoder	Jennifer and Marshall Crossett	Lexi Collier	Jessica Diers Pat Jenkins	Dalton Diers, Joey Collier

DEC./JAN. BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES



December: 1) Wynne Steele; 2) Michelle Miller, Brittany Stewart, Darrin Richardson; 5) Kristi Bean; 6) Janice Skubal; 7) Janet Rees; Kevin McCreedy; 10) Jesse Hahn; 12) Liz Kaufman; 16) Joel Hazelett; Joseph Collier; 20) Renee Megchelsen; Ariel Mills; 21) Neal Megchelsen, Sherry Lord; 22) *Ron & Angie Ornduff; 24) Julie Sue Edmondson; 26) Jared Hazelett; 27) *Chris & Molly Hartzler; Anna Chalupa; Lexi Collier; 29) Dorothy Koehler; 30) Molly Hartzler, *Dave & Liz Kaufman.

January: 2) Molly Edgar; 5) *Jim & Sherrie Hazen-Hansen; Lance Mills; 6) *Jim & Penny McCreedy; *Owen & Norma White, Diane Anding, Gary Stewart; Tammy Kruse; 7) *Jim & Betty Thompson; 9) Jim Thompson, Nick Yoder; 10) Liam Goodwin; 14) Sheri Bennett; 17) Bev Holmes; 20) John Erlenbush; 21) Sherri Hazen-Hansen; 23) Kathi Bean; 24) Emily Stewart; 25) Alberta Miller; 26) Lois Riggan; 29) Betty Anders; 31) Mildred Wilson.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2017



Recurring Weekly Events: Sunday, Worship, 10:30 AM;

• **Tues.:** Jason Office Hours: ACC: 1-3 PM; Jan Office Hours, 2-4 PM

• **Thursdays:** Jan Office Hours, 2-4 PM; TKD, North Church, Sanctuary, 6 PM

Sun., Dec. 3: Drop & shop for community families, 1-6 PM; Confirmation, 4 PM; Student Dinner, 5:30 PM, CIA Wrap Christmas Gifts 6 PM all in Ainsworth

Mon., Dec. 4: Lions Club Blood Drive, United Church Crawfordsville, 1:30-6:30 PM

Sunday, December 10: Ring Bells for Salvation Army, 11 AM to 5 PM, Walmart, Washington; Charge Conference, Washington UMC, 2:30 PM; Highlanders 4:30 PM.

Wednesday, December 13: Highland Outreach at Townview Village, 11 AM, Program by elementary students; lunch following provided by ACCW

Sun., Dec. 17: Christmas Program, 10:30 AM; Ring Salvation Army Bells, Walmart, Washington, 11 AM to 5 PM; Lunch at the Corners, Noon to 2 PM; Youth events, Ainsworth: Confirmation, 4 PM, Student Dinner, 5:30 PM; CIA Holiday Party, 6 PM

Wednesday, December 20: ACC Food Pantry Open, 3-6 PM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 24: Sunday Worship 10:30 AM; ACC Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5 PM, South Church Sanctuary; UCC Candlelight Service, 7 PM

Monday, December 25: Merry Christmas! **Sunday, December 31:** New Year's Eve

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2018



Recurring Weekly Events: Sunday, Worship, 10:30 AM;

• **Tues.:** Jason Office Hours: ACC: 1-3 PM; Jan Office Hours, 2-4 PM

• **Thursdays:** Jan Office Hours, 2-4 PM; TKD, North Church, Sanctuary, 6 PM

Fri., Jan. 5 thru Sat., Jan. 6: CIA Youth Retreat, Crooked Creek Christian Camp

Sunday, January 7: Communion; Confirmation, 4 PM; Student Dinner, 5:30 PM, UCC

Monday, January 8: ACC Parish Council, 7 PM, North Church Office

Sunday, January 14: Highlanders 4-H Club Meeting, 4:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, January 16: "Card" Club, 5 PM, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 17: ACC Food Pantry Open, 3-6 PM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 21: Lunch at the Corners, Noon to 2 PM; Confirmation, 4 PM; Student Dinner, 5:30 PM; CIA Escape Room, Outfox

Monday, January 22: Hold Fellowship Hall, Sacha Club, 6-10 PM

Wednesday, January 24 through Saturday, February 3: Jason and Tina Vacation

Sunday, January 28: Confirmation, 4 PM, UCC; Student Dinner, 5:30 PM, UCC; CIA Bowling/Mini Golf, Colonial Lanes, 6 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

GENERAL MINISTRY OF CONGREGATION

PASTOR JASON COLLIER: Home: 319.658.3013; **Cell: 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: Colleen Bean

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.