

THE EVANGEL – MARCH 2021

FROM THE PASTOR



Wow, what a difficult year! Can you imagine that we skipped in-person worship last Easter and Christmas? I am like everyone else, wondering if things will someday go back to normal. I find myself more than a little confused by all the different opinions and points of view. And if that is not enough, I have close friends and loved ones at the extreme opposite end of most issues. Now I definitely think that is a gift to love and be loved by different kinds of people. So,

what is it that we all have in common? We are all children of the King!

In a world that God made for us, if we realized all that Jesus has done for us would we fight and argue over so many minor things? I wonder if the evil one loves how distracted and overloaded by division we have become? I try not to take sides in most controversial issues but am thankful for those that are concerned and actively engaged. With all that, do we, or can we fully grasp the Easter story? To be passionate about freedom or rights, health or justice, we must not overlook the greatest gift that Jesus was to the world. There is nothing that has ever changed the world or ever will like the resurrection! We are resurrection people who quite possibly have lost sight of the main thing! The awe and wonder that Jesus inspires and demands is the one thing we are always being distracted from.

This Easter season don't forget to let the MAIN thing be the MAIN thing in your life and in your thoughts. To confess and move into a deeper life-changing relationship with Christ WILL bring peace and joy, and not worry and anxiety! We all want love and laughter for our families and world and it starts with allowing the resurrection of Jesus to change us. To be in a surrendered relationship to the most miraculous author of peace and love. Jesus is the reason for the Easter season.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." – John 16:33

In Christ,

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

Pastor Jason Collier

PASTOR VISITS AND PRAYER LIST

Please let us know if you would like Pastor Jason to call on you or if you need to be on our prayer list. You may call **Pastor Jason's cell 563.343.3390** at any time; **church answering machine: 319-657-3020** or **Jan's cell 319.330-6175**.



HOLY WEEK PLANS

Sunday, Mar. 28 - Palm Sunday; April 1, Maundy Thursday Service, UCC, 7 PM; April 2, Good Friday Service, ACC, 7 PM; Easter Sunday, April 4, UCC 9 AM; ACC 10:30 AM.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE FOR MARCH

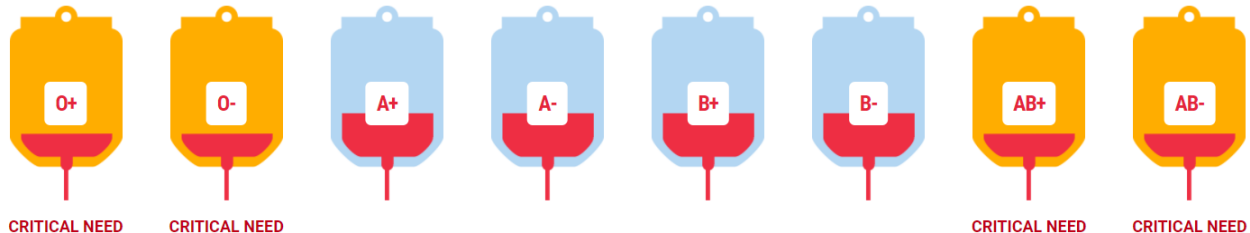
March 7	Lost Sheep, Coin, Son 3rd Sunday in Lent	Luke 15:1-32; (<i>Psalm 119:167-176</i>) Parables of lost sheep, coin, prodigal son.
March 14	Rich Man and Lazarus 4th Sunday in Lent	Luke 16:19-31; (<i>Psalm 41:1-3</i>) Parable of the rich man and Lazarus.
March 21	Zacchaeus 5th Sunday in Lent	Luke 18:31-19:10; (<i>Psalm 84:1-4; 10-12</i>) Healing a blind man, meeting Zacchaeus Jesus came to seek and save the lost.
March 28	Triumphal Entry Palm/Passion Sunday	Luke 19:29-44; (<i>Psalm 118:19-23</i>) Triumphal entry; Jesus weeps over the city that does not know peace.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE FOR APRIL

April 1	Last Supper Maundy Thursday	Luke 22:1-27; (<i>Psalm 34:8-10</i>) Preparation for the Last Supper, Words of Institution, Jesus is one who serves.
April 2	Crucifixion Good Friday	Luke 23:32-47; (<i>Psalm 31:5-13</i>) Crucifixion, Father forgive them; today in Paradise; into your hands I commend my Spirit.
April 4	Resurrection Resurrection of Our Lord	Luke 24:1-12 (<i>Psalm 118:17,21-24</i>) Empty tomb, women perplexed, bring the message.
April 11	Emmaus Road 2nd Sunday of Easter	Luke 24:13-35 (<i>Psalm 30</i>) “Our hearts burned along the road, as he opened to us the Scriptures.”

BLOOD DRIVE – THANK YOU!

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center reported that they collected 26 whole blood donations and had 6 double red donations during the February 15 blood drive at ACC. The coordinator stressed that several other groups were unable to host due to weather that day (it never got above zero the entire day) Thus they are very grateful to ACC for opening our doors and to all of our donors for braving the cold to come and donate. Every single unit collected was so important as you can see by their inventory below. The impact of the donations was great.



CROOKED CREEK CHRISTIAN CAMP




Summer camp is happening this summer! We are **hiring for counselors, housekeeping, kitchen staff, and lifeguards.** Visit our website: <http://www.crookedcreekcamp.org/employment-opportunities.html> for more information and to fill out an application. Contact Heather Bender, Executive Dir. at heather@crookedcreekcamp.org with any questions. 319-653-3611.

ACC FOOD PANTRY

The Ainsworth Community Church Food Pantry continues to serve families in need by contacting those who have previously participated. If you know someone in need of food, contact Kathi at 319.657.2387 or 319.461.1339 to make arrangements or receive confidential answers to eligibility questions.



BUDGET REPORT – 01/31/2021

	Income	\$12,186.77	Expenses	\$5,266.09
	General Fund	\$26,251.17	Building Fund	\$14,267.14
	Memorial Fund	\$39,714.72	Need/month for budget	\$7,638.25

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: We are grateful for worship in the sanctuary, newborns. **Concerns:** Continued prayers for Tom Colthurst, Pat Jenkins, and Steve Wood as they recover and rehabilitate; Karen Arduser seeking answers; those still seeking Covid vaccine injections; those isolated from family and friends because of Covid or other illness/situations. All those suffering from illness/loss; storm victims. **Serving Our Country:** We say “Thank You!” to members and their families serving our country.



PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



The Parish Council met via Zoom February 8. Following is an overview of the meeting. **Finance:** Sherrie has needed information to work on audit, there were some unplanned repairs needed on the parsonage furnace. **Property:** Will begin seeking alternatives to the old office/garage that could still provide storage space for the tenants. **Nominating Committee:** Liz Kaufman agreed to fill Council vacancy while Janene Kirk takes a one-year medical leave. **Mission:** – Busy serving local families. **New Business:** **Baptism:** Approved the baptism of Axyl Havel, son of Evan and Courtney Havel. **TV Purchase:** Approved the use of Memorial Money to purchase a TV for the back of the sanctuary – allows Jason to see what is on screen the congregation is viewing. Cost of 65-inch TV and mounting equipment will be about \$450. **Camera Purchase:** Approved use of Memorial Money to purchase a camera with the capability of zooming in and out to be used for posting worship online. Estimated cost is \$230. **AV assistance:** Nick Yoder is no longer available to work in the sound booth. Please let Jason or the office know of anyone interested in this volunteer opportunity. **Next regular meeting:** The next regular meeting will be Monday, March 8.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES



1)Ellie Anderson; 2) Steve Anderson; 3) Chris Richardson; 5) Molly Klinzman;
8) Stephanie Laverman; 9) *Dave & Karolyn Skubal; 17) Rita Anderson; Noah Hartzler; 19) Emma Beemblossom; Dawn Stewart; 20) Noah Mills Entsminger;
Happy Birthdays! 21) Jonathan Kruse; Erin Mills; 24) Jason Collier; Janet White-Stafford;
26) Janene Kirk; 27) Ruth Miller, Dorothy Jacobs; 29) Elizabeth (Izie) Collier;
Kurt Stewart; 30) Rich Riggan; 31) Jim McCreedy

DATES TO NOTE

Monday, March 8 – Parish Council, 7 PM – Face to Face at North Church plus Zoom
Sunday, March 14 – Daylight Saving Time Begins – Spring Forward
Sunday’s in March – Confirmation classes at UCC, 4 PM.

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

Nonprofit Organization
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Ainsworth, IA

Electronic Service Requested

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM, South Church – Corner of 4th & Washington

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, 318 4th Street, Ainsworth, IA 52201

Facebook: Ainsworth Community Church and

Ainsworth Community Church Youth Group

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

YOUTH GROUP CONTACT:

[Nick Yoder: 319-325-8070](tel:319-325-8070); nickyoder97@yahoo.com

SECRETARY: Jan Temple 657.2291; Cell: 319.330.6175;

OR EMAIL: templejan@gmail.com

ORGANIST: Linda McNeil; Jenny Yoder (substitute)

CUSTODIAN: Jenny Gerot: 319.461.1239

TREASURER: Colleen Bean

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Christina Collier, PO Box 40,
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.