

THE EVANGEL—NOVEMBER 2021

FROM THE PASTOR



Can you imagine if you were charged with changing a situation everyone knows is present, but no one knows how to change it? What in the world would you do? Would you come up with lots of plans? Would you come up with just one major plan? Would you pray and fast, and then ask God to form a plan? I meet with many pastors locally and they all have the same weight. We are all charged with making our church how they 'used to be', which for most is better than they are now. Some say they have a four or a seven-step plan. Others say if you just read this book. While others say you need to change the culture. And still, others say to shake the dust from your shoes, and move to another place if people won't do exactly what you think will work.

By now you know I am talking about the decline in the American church. And how we as pastors can't solve it. We can push and pull and rearrange the furniture but that does not change the culture of the world around us. So, we are left with one thing and one thing only, let go and let God. That sounds so simple BUT, our people are grieving for what 'used to be'. They are experiencing change on a significant level. That much change to how things 'used to be' puts us all far out of balance. And it makes it extremely hard to change anything else.

So, what are we as pastors called to do? Re-organize a shrinking congregation? Pastor and love well all that are left? Start new and flashy programs to bring in the new people? Be missional in nature? Change the culture? Do more outreach? Or pray and wait? If you say yes to all, the truth is all of these can't be done, unless God does it! And are any of us naive enough to think we could do any or all that it takes without hurting someone's' feelings?

As your pastor, I realize where we are and I am so thankful for our churches (our people)! We are continuing to grow in our faith and fellowship with God and each other. And for each of us, that is the most important thing! I just invite you to continue to pray for God's leading in our churches and the churches around us as we move into His will. May we seek Him first and heal our broken hearts for what our churches were. And may he lead us to relationship and fellowship with Him and others as our churches change or dwindle.

God Bless

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**.

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE, NOVEMBER '21

Oct. 31	Solomon's Temple 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost (Reformation Sunday)	1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13; (John 2:19-21) Solomon's temple – a place of sacrifice and divine presence.
Nov. 7	God Speaks to Elijah 24 th Sunday after Pentecost (All Saints Sunday)	1 Kings 19:1-18; (John 12:27-28) Elijah at Horeb; The prophet in despair, God speaks in the silence.
Nov. 14	Amos: Justice Rolls Down 25 th Sunday after Pentecost	Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24; (John 7:37-38) Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
Nov. 21	Isaiah: A Child Is Born Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday	Isaiah 9:1-7; (John 8:12) People who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
Nov. 28	Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles 1 st Sunday of Advent	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14; (John 14:27) Seek the welfare of the city; I know the plans I have for you.
Dec. 5	Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones 2 nd Sunday of Advent	Ezekiel 37:1-14; (John 11:25-26) Ezekiel prophesies to the dry bones and they are raised to new life.
Dec. 12	Word Accomplishes God's Purpose 3 rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 55:1-13; (John 4:13-14) Anyone who is thirsty, come drink' the word accomplished God's purpose.

CONFIRMATION CLASS RESUMES SUNDAY, NOV. 7



Confirmation will start again with a lunch meeting in the back room at 4 corners restaurant on Sunday, November 7th at noon. Kids and parents are welcome. Anyone interested in starting confirmation needs to be in 6th grade this year and above. Please rsvp with Jason at 563-343-3390!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS, NOV. 7

Remember to turn your clocks back – Fall back one hour before coming to church on Sunday, November 7, 2021.



CHARGE CONFERENCE – NOVEMBER 9, 6 PM



Charge Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9 at 6PM in Mt. Pleasant at the First United Methodist Church. Parish Council has reviewed the reports and budget. The congregation may review the materials (found with bulletins at each door of the sanctuary) and ask questions on Sunday, October 31 and November 7. Everyone is welcome

to attend.

ACCW – NOVEMBER 11, 10:30 AM, AT ACC

Ainsworth Community Church Women (ACCW) will hold their regular meeting the 2nd Thursday of November on the 11th. This is the Stone Soup-Thank Offering meeting that begins at 10:30 AM. Remember to bring a can of soup! Marcia Wilson will turn it into a feast for us! This will be the last meeting of the 2021 calendar year. Plans will be made for 2022.



THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE AT UCC – Nov. 24

The United Church of Crawfordsville extends an invitation to Ainsworth Community Church to join them for a Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 24. It will begin at 7 PM.



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.

MISSION COMMITTEE: HOLIDAY DONATIONS

The Mission Committee is getting ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you are willing to donate a little extra to purchase food and gifts for these families, please contact Brenda: beanbag@louisacomm.net or 319.461.1637. If you wish to mail a check, make it payable to ACC Mission Committee and send to: Ainsworth Community Church, PO Box 40, Ainsworth, IA 52201



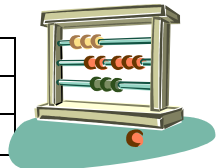
BLOOD DRIVE: DEC. 6, 1:30 TO 6:30 PM-UCC



The Crawfordsville Lion's Club and the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center will hold a blood drive Monday, December 6, 1:30 to 6:30 PM at UCC. For an appointment call Dave Jewell: 319.931.2044. Last date to donate elsewhere: October 11, 2020. **Bring a photo ID with AND WEAR A MASK.**

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE

Month	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
August	359	281	251	265	226	Covid	126
September	347	281	261	377	296	Covid	132



BUDGET REPORT – 9-30-21



Income	\$5,575.66	Expenses	\$7,773.09
General Fund	\$22,869.98	Building Fund	\$16,264.27
Memorial Fund	\$38,140.35	Need/month for budget	\$7,638.25

2021 Combined Presbytery and Methodist dues/apportionments in ACC budget: \$7,448.00

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES



1) Joe Dawley; 3) *Rick & Betty Anders; 5) Betty Bean; 8) Dale Holmes; Wendell Arduser; 10) Norma Paisley; 13) Keegan Blakley; 15) Angie Ornduff; 16) Brian Bean, Dave Kaufman, *John & Janice Skubal; 17) John Skubal, Michelle Castillo; 18) D. Donald; Jessup Collier; Neil Mills; 19) Judy Skubal; 21) Marshall Crossett; Carrie Ornduff; 22) Shayln Kirk, Deb Gilchrist; 28) Karlton Skubal; 30) *Alan & Julie Edmondson.



PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Highlights of the October meeting: **Treasurer's Report:** Colleen provided the financial report and bills for approval. Since the last meeting, she paid the Mission Committee their \$1500 annual budgeted funds. **Pastor's Report:** Jason shared a written report for June. He is trying to get caught

up with written reports. **Worship:** Linda has the church beautifully decorated for autumn. It is time to begin Advent preparation. We are reporting hymns to CCLI from October 2021 through March 2022. **Membership/Nurture:** A lunch for those attending Marge Lasek's funeral served. **Christian Education:** No report. **Property:** Joe is closer to getting a bid on replacing the parsonage roof. Jason is also securing bids. Jan has contacted 3 contractors about remodeling the south church. **SPPRC:** Minutes of the meeting: *The SPPRC meeting was held Sunday, October 10 at 4:30 PM in the ACC North Church Office. Those attending included: Colleen Bean, Steven Anderson, and Duane Louis, in-person plus Pastor Jason. Robin Plattenburger and Norman Brooks responded via text. The purpose of the meeting was to complete "Form I" for Charge Conference. It was agreed to give the pastor a raise of \$1000. The annual conference budget amount was changed to \$0 as the meeting will be via Zoom thus eliminating the needed for mileage, lodging, or meal expenses. Everything else was kept the same. Approved unanimously to forward to Councils and Congregation.*

Nominating Committee: It was recommended to the committee that since Covid prevented much committee work from happening this past year, that the year not be 'counted' as a year of service. As this applies to Parish Council, however, it was agreed that Liz Kaufman will serve just one year as previously agreed to fill Janene Kirk's one year of medical leave. It was agreed to suspend the by-laws that state a 6-year maximum of service before taking a one year leave from Parish Council as it relates to Colleen Bean for the coming year. Approved (Colleen abstained). **Mission:** There were no deposits and no checks written in September. Brenda made 10 infant jackets and 12 school bags for Ingathering Kits. Kits will be taken to Mt. Pleasant the first Saturday in November. 7 families (17 individuals) were served at the food pantry. **Old Business:** Jan has placed the order (with Colleen's help) for the new copier for the church office. It is to be delivered Wednesday, October 13. Jason reported that Tim Elliott is still waiting for a response for an individual to replace him as property manager of the parsonage.

New Business: Remodeling project to make the South Church more handicapped accessible: Jan shared the information she had received from the 3 contractors. Since the initial directive was to allow the contractors latitude in their ideas for how best to accomplish the objective, there was wide variation in the bids. Myron volunteered to work with Kevin McCreedy to draft a plan that all would then bid upon the same plan of action. 2021 Charge Conference, November 9, 6 PM in Mt. Pleasant. The Council reviewed the following forms and agreed to present them to the Congregation on October 31 and November 7: Budget; Form I/Terms of Assignment; Board of Trustees Report; Membership Report; Historian Report; Mission and Ministry Plan. The Nominating Committee report and the Leadership Worksheet will be addressed at a later time, probably via email. Recommended Finance Practices: Suggestions from Iowa Conference were reviewed. **The next regular meeting** of the ACC Parish Council will be Monday, Nov. 8, 2021. The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 8:22 PM.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Joys: We give thanks for our many blessings that God has bestowed upon us. **Concerns:** Prayers of sympathy for the family of Marge Lasek; prayers of healing and comfort for Kathi Bean, Jerry Bean, Eric Wenger, Karolyn Skubal, Carol Horning, Penny and Jim McCreedy, Dave Gerot, and Neil Mills sister-in-law, Cheryl as well as those undergoing tests and procedures. Prayers for those throughout our country recovering from natural disasters. Prayers for 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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2021



Monday, Nov. 1: Sacha Club using Fellowship Hall, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, Nov. 2: Bible Study at ACC North Church, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, November 3: Bible Study at UCC, 9 AM

Saturday, November 6: UMC Ingathering, Mt. Pleasant

Sunday, November 7: **Daylight Saving Time Ends;**
ACC Worship, 10:30 AM; Congregation meeting following worship to review Charge Conference materials; Confirmation Lunch Meeting, Noon, Ainsworth FoCo

Monday, November 8: ACC Parish Council, 7 PM

Tuesday, November 9: County Line Club, Fellowship Hall, Noon; Charge Conference, 6 PM, First United UMC, Mt. Pleasant

Wednesday, November 10: Bible Study at UCC, 9 AM

Thursday, November 11: Veterans Day

Sunday, Nov. 14: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM; 4-H Club Meeting, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM

Tuesday, November 16: "Card" Club with Brenda Bean, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 PM; Bible Study at ACC North Church, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, November 17: Bible Study at UCC, 9 AM

Sunday, Nov. 21: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, Nov. 23: Bible Study at ACC North Church, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, Nov. 24: Bible Study, UCC, 9 AM; Thanksgiving Eve Service, UCC, 7 PM

Thursday, November 25: Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, November 28: First Sunday of Advent; ACC Worship, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, November 30: Bible Study at ACC North Church, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 1: Bible Study at UCC, 9 AM

Sunday, December 5: Second Sunday of Advent; ACC Worship, 10:30 AM

Monday, December 6: Lions Club Blood Drive, UCC, 1:30 to 6:30 PM; UMC Circuit Meeting, ACC Fellowship Hall, 4:30 to 6:30 PM

Tuesday, December 7: Bible Study at ACC North Church, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 8: Bible Study at UCC, 9 AM

Sunday, Dec. 12: Third Sunday of Advent; ACC Worship, 10:30 AM; 4-H Club Meeting, Fellowship Hall, 4 to 8 PM

Monday, Dec. 13: ACC Parish Council, 7 PM via Zoom

Tuesday, December 14: Bible Study at ACC North Church, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 15: Bible Study at UCC, 9 AM

Sunday, December 19: Fourth Sunday of Advent; ACC Worship, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, December 21: "Card" Club with Brenda Bean, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 PM; Bible Study at ACC North Church, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 22: Bible Study at UCC, 9 AM

Friday, December 24: Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 25: Christmas Day

Sunday, December 26: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM

Friday, December 31: New Year's Eve



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

Nonprofit Organization
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 3
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;**

OR 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; nickyoder97@yahoo.com

SECRETARY: Jan Temple 657.2291; Cell: 319.330.6175;

OR EMAIL: templejan@gmail.com

ORGANIST: Linda McNeil; Jenny Yoder (substitute)

CUSTODIANS: Jenny Gerot: 319.461.1239

TREASURER: Colleen Bean, 319.461.0617

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Christina Collier, PO Box 40,

Ainsworth, IA 52201

MISSION COMMITTEE: Kathi: 319.461.1339; 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.