

THE EVANGEL – FEBRUARY 2023

FROM THE PASTOR



What is a church and what is it for? If you are the pastor of a church, you should probably have thought of an answer to this question. I often wonder if it changes from church to church and or from time to time. Ok, you all know me and probably know I am not one for DEEP theological contemplation. So, the answer needs to be simple. You know the KISS method, but I prefer it with only one S.

First of all, churches should be hospitals for sinners and not sanctuaries for saints! Churches should be a place where we encounter God and learn and listen to His voice. So then why do we sing? The church is also a place to worship God! That is why we try to bring our best and be our best. If I went to the hospital and pretended everything was fine, they could never do anything for me. But when we come to worship, I often feel that we are pretending. Dressed well, sure. But I am talking about being vulnerable and real. The next thing church is, involves fellowship. This is one of my favorite things. 1 John 1:7 says, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." So sometimes it can feel like a sanctuary for saints but that is only one-third of what a church should be! And if we are leaving out worship and vulnerability, then we might be missing what God has for us.

In Christ,

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

Pastor Jason Collier
563.343.3390

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION MEETING – SUNDAY, FEB. 5, POTLUCK-4:30 PM; MEETING – 5 PM AT UCC



The first of two meetings to provide information about our affiliation with the United Methodist Church: Sunday, February 5, 2023, United Church of Crawfordsville, 5 PM; Potluck Dinner at 4:30 PM – bring a dish to pass.

This first meeting will focus upon the conservative side of the issue and what it would mean to move to the Global Methodist Church. The second meeting will focus on the implications of remaining with the United Methodist Church.

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.**



Blood Drive – Feb. 6, 2-6:30 PM



The Ainsworth Community Church will hold a blood drive on Monday, February 6 from 2-6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall of the South Church at the corner of 4th and Washington. The last date you could give and donate now: **12.12.2022**. For an appointment contact Kathi Bean – 319.461.1339. **Bring a photo ID.**

WINTERJAM, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

The Bethel Youth Group is organizing youth to attend WinterJam on Friday, February 10. You would depart from Bethel Church at 1:00 PM and return around midnight. The event is at the Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines. The Cost is \$40 per person, plus you will need money for your dinner. Contact: Nathan Grieser, 941.806.7604; FMI about Jam: <https://2023.jamtour.com/cities/des-moines-ia>



WORSHIP GREETERS AT ACC



We are seeking volunteers to serve as greeters on Sunday morning before worship. This involves arriving at church a little before 10AM and being “at the ready” to assist worshippers into the church as well as welcoming them. We need one or two persons to be at each door. In addition to being a welcome and friendly gesture to visitors and usual attendees, it is of great assistance to those with mobility issues and persons with young children. The signup sheet is at the back of the sanctuary. Or, just call Jan and she will be happy to put your name on the list. You are welcome to volunteer several times a year! Jan – 319.330.6175.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE FOR FEBRUARY

Feb. 5	The Golden Rule 5 th Sunday after Epiphany	Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29 (<i>Psalm 37:16-18</i>) Speck in the eye, narrow gate, wise man builds house on rock
Feb. 12	Parables of the Kingdom 6 th Sunday after Epiphany	Matthew 13:24-43 (<i>Psalm 84:1-7</i>) Parable of wheat and weeds
Feb. 19	Transfiguration Transfiguration	Matthew 16:24-17:8 (<i>Psalm 41:7-10</i>) Passion prediction, bearing the cross, Transfiguration
Feb. 22	Who Is the Greatest? Ash Wednesday	Matthew 18:1-9 (<i>146:7c-10 or 51:1-3</i>) Debate about who is the greatest, become like a child; if your right hand causes sin cut it off
Feb. 26	Forgiveness 1 st Sunday in Lent	Matthew 18:15-35 (<i>Psalm 32:1-2</i>) Church discipline, forgiving 70 times 7, parable of unforgiving servant
Mar. 5	Laborers in the Vineyard 2 nd Sunday in Lent	Matthew 20:1-16 (<i>Psalm 16:5-8</i>) Parable of laborers in vineyard
Mar. 12	Wedding Banquet 3 rd Sunday in Lent	Matthew 22:1-14 (<i>Psalm 45:6-7</i>) Parable of wedding banquet

ASH WEDNESDAY EVENTS: FEB. 22



Pastor Jason will offer a worship service at the United Church of Crawfordsville at 9 AM. He will offer a worship service at 7 PM in Ainsworth at the South Church. Kids' Club participants and their families, as well as persons in Ainsworth and Crawfordsville are invited to a pancake supper in the ACC Fellowship Hall prior to the 7 PM worship service. Pancakes and sausage will be served from 6 to 6:45 PM.

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2023

A 2023 ACC Directory is now available at the South Church. It includes names and phone numbers of all church leaders, officers, and committee members, as well as an overview of church activities, mission, goals.



KIDS' CLUB IS BACK IN SESSION



The ACC Kids' Club is now in session for the 'Spring' term. They meet on Wednesdays at the North Church beginning at 6:30 PM. Report to the lower level to find your classroom. The evening concludes at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary. The Spring session is set to end on Wednesday, March 8.

CROOKED CREEK CHRISTIAN CAMP EVENT

Crooked Creek Christian Camp will host a Craft Retreat March 3-5. It is a super fun way to spend your weekend! Come craft with us. To register visit our website at: www.crookedcreekcamp.org



CRAWFORDSVILLE LIONS PANCAKE SUPPER



The Crawfordsville Lions Club is sponsoring a Pancake Supper on Saturday, February 18 from 4-7 PM at the fire station. Carry-out available. Free-Will Donation. Proceeds go towards a WACO High School Scholarship Fund.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES



1) Robert McCreedy; 4) Diesel Freyenberger; 5) Rhonda Morrison; Drake Brezina; 6) Jim Hansen; 9) Halle Hazelett; 11) Jan Temple; 13) Christine Sands; 14) Gabrielle Dawley, Stan McCreedy, *Kurt & Dawn Stewart; 16) *Jason & Kristen Anderson; 17) Kerra Longbine; 18) Elaine Nicholson; 19) Bruce Temple; 22) Hannah Hartzler; 24) Dwight Miller; 27) Adam Rees.




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; 21) Jonathan Kruse; Erin Mills; 24) Jason Collier; Janet White-Stafford; 26) Janene Kirk; 27) Ruth Miller, Dorothy Jacobs; 29) Elizabeth (Izie) Collier;

Happy Birthdays!

Kurt Stewart; 30) Rich Riggan **BUDGET REPORT – 12-31-22**

	Income	\$9,552.95	Expenses	\$11,967.28
	General Fund	\$38,614.66	Building Fund	\$14,441.00
	Memorial Fund	\$43,226.95	Need/month for budget	\$7,948.88

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: New babies, grandbabies; retirement, construction progress. **Concerns:** Kim Yoder and Dennis Bean as they recover from surgery (and their families as they attempt to reinforce that their loved ones are to rest and heal). The Rita Schultz and Seth Richardson families as they grieve the loss of their loved one. Those recovering from illness, procedures and surgery. **Serving Our Country:** We say "Thank You!" to members and their families serving our country.



PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



The Parish Council met via Zoom January 9. **Election of Officers and Committee Assignments:** Jason reviewed the Current Officers: Chair – Myron; Vice Chr. – Dennis; Secretary – Rachel; Treas. – Colleen. It was moved and to retain the current officers. Approved. Jason reviewed the committee liaisons. It was moved, seconded and approved to have the following: 2023 Committee Liaisons: Christian Ed – Rachel; Membership/Nurture: Myron; Mission: Dennis; Staff/Parish: Betty; Property: Erin; Worship: Jan; Nominating: Jan and Jason assist as needed. **Verify Date of future meetings:** Currently Council meets the 2nd Monday of each month – as needed. Approved to continue with current meeting schedule. **Jason shared special events with his reports:** October: UCC Memorial service for Kathy Ann Weldon Oct. 10; UCC Memorial service for Dolores Siegle Oct. 22. ACC Wedding for Rachel and David Garrison. I attended the Ainsworth fall festival on Oct. 30. Radio interview with KCII Oct. 31. November: Ingathering Nov. 5; Harvest Supper Nov. 5; Memorial service for Roger D. Howe Nov. 14; UCC Nov. 10, Parsonage Inspection; ACC wedding for Courtney and William Boyd Nov. 12 in CR; ACC wedding Morgan and Zack Christner in Mediapolis. Charge Conference Nov. 20; ACC Memorial Service for Rita K. Edwards – graveside only Ainsworth Nov. 23; No Thanksgiving Eve service this year. I helped at the community Thanksgiving meal at WACO High and women purchased stuffing Nov. 24; December: Jason on vacation Dec. 5-10; Dec. 11 Christmas caroling in the church (potluck). UCC Memorial service for Jeffrey Jay Johnston Dec. 15 at UCC. ACC -Pastor Jason attended services for Eugene Steele Dec. 17. ACC Memorial for Rita K. Schultz Dec. 30. ACC and UCC candlelight service Dec. 24 UCC had worship Dec. 25; ACC did not. Master's hand work day Dec. 29, 30 – 9 total workers led by Pastor Jason. **Committee Reports:** Worship: A Worship Greeter sign-up sheet has been posted at back of sanctuary for people to sign up to welcome worshipers at the South and North doors each Sunday. Christian Education: The Youth Christmas Program was held during worship on December 18. Kids' Club will resume for Spring session on Wednesday, January 18. Property: Items requiring action in New Business: 1 – Replace/update Pastor Jason's iPad. It has been understood that UCC provides Jason with a desktop computer and ACC provides him with a portable unit. 2 – Replace projector screen at the front of sanctuary to avoid covering the cross on the altar. 3 – Toilets – when purchase ADA toilet for sanctuary, buy 3 because the two toilets currently in the Fellowship Hall are prone to plugging. 4 – Part of the renovation includes creating a coffee/snack area with running water to eliminate carrying coffee pots up and down stairs. Within that area there would be space for an under-counter refrigerator for bottled water. Request: Money for under counter refrigerator. Parsonage Committee: Jo is doing a great job getting our renter back on track with rent payments. Colleen was granted permission to reach out to Jo and pay her for work completed to date. Mission: – In December, the Mission Committee served 7 families representing 25 individuals. For Christmas they had 10 children. They received almost \$500 from FOCO in 2022. The Mission Committee will be sure to extend thanks to the FOCO for placing a donation canister at their business. Bridges still has money in the Mission Account. Memorial Committee: Monies from the Sandy Stout Family to be used for the bathroom and parking lot renovation have been received. **Old Business**: Pastor Jason has arranged for one of two

meetings about Methodist affiliation to be held. The first will be on Sunday, February 5 at UCC. There will be a potluck at 4:30 PM followed by the informational meeting at 5 PM.
New Business: 1 – Approved the purchase of a replacement iPad for Jason. 2 – New screen and frame at front of sanctuary. Test run was not acceptable. This issue is on hold. 3 – Jason will discuss further with Wilson's and 4M before taking further action on toilets. 4 – Approved up to \$250 for undercounter refrigerator. 5 – Celebrations in 2023 – We have 4 major events this year: 1 - Jason celebrates 10 years with us on April 1; 2 – The South Church turns 110 years old; 3 – The North Church turns 100 years old; 4 – Completion of renovation project. The Council agreed to have the Worship Committee plan up to 4 potlucks for 2023 to celebrate these occasions. Completion of the renovation project will be a separate event. The next regular meeting is Monday, February 13, 2023.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2023

Wed., Feb. 1: Kids' Club, 6:30 PM, North Church; Youth Group at Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

Thursday, February 2: Bible Study at Light House Shelter, 7 PM

Sunday, February 5: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM; UCC potluck, 4:30 PM prior to UMC meeting on denominational differences, 5 PM, UCC

Monday, February 6: Impact Life/Sacha Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall, 2-6:30 PM

Wed., Feb., 8: Kids' Club, 6:30 PM, North Church; Youth Group, Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

Thursday, February 9: Bible Study at Light House Shelter, 7 PM

Friday, February 10: Winter Jam, Des Moines, 2-11 PM (see details in newsletter)

Sunday, February 12: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM; 4-H Club, Fellowship Hall, 4 PM

Monday, February 13: ACC Parish Council, 7 PM via Zoom

Tuesday, February 14: Happy Valentine's Day

Wed. Feb. 15: Kids' Club, 6:30 PM, North Church; Youth Group at Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

Thursday, February 16: Bible Study at Light House Shelter, 7 PM

Sunday, February 19: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, February 21: "Card" Club with Brenda Bean, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 PM

Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday Service, 9 AM at UCC; Kids' Club with pancake supper for their families and the Ainsworth and Crawfordsville community, 6 to 6:45 PM, Fellowship Hall; Ash Wednesday worship service, ACC, 7 PM; Youth Group at Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

Thursday, February 23: Bible Study at Light House Shelter, 7 PM

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

Monday, February 27: Sacha Club, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 PM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MARCH 2023

Wed., Mar. 1: Kids' Club, 6:30 PM, North Church; Youth Group at Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

Thursday, March 2: Bible Study at Light House Shelter, 7 PM

Sunday, March 5: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM

Wed., Mar. 8: Kids' Club, 6:30 PM, North Church; Youth Group at Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

Thursday, March 9: Bible Study at Light House Shelter, 7 PM

Sunday, March 12: **Daylight Saving Time Begins**; ACC Worship, 10:30 AM; 4-H Club 4-8 PM, Fellowship Hall

Monday, March 13: ACC Parish Council via Zoom, 7 PM

Wednesday, March 15: Youth Group at Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

Thursday, March 16: Bible Study at Light House Shelter, 7 PM

Friday, March 17: St. Patrick's Day

Sunday, March 19: ACC Worship, 10:30 AM; Jason at Halcyon House, 2:30 PM

Tuesday, March 21: “Card” Club with Brenda Bean, Fellowship Hall, 4:30 PM; Youth Group at Bethel, 7 to 8:30 PM

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.**

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

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

SECRETARY: JAN TEMPLE 657.2291; CELL: 319.330.6175

EMAIL: TEMPLEJAN@GMAIL.COM

ORGANIST: LINDA MCNEIL; JENNY YODER (SUBSTITUTE)

CUSTODIAN: JENNY GEROT: 319.461.1239

TREASURER: COLLEEN BEAN

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: JESSICA DIERS, PO Box 40
AINSWORTH, IA 52201

MISSION COMMITTEE: KATHI: 319.461.1339; BRENDA: 319.461.1637;
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.