



Ankeny
Christian Church

POSITIVE PEOPLE DOING GOD'S WORK



DISCIPLES
OF
CHRIST



March 2021 Newsletter

Here's what you will find in this issue:

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Sunday Morning In Person Worship Continues

**Please remember to sign up for worship and
bring your own communion.**

**Worship Sign up for February
28th**

Worship Covenant

Worship services will continue to be live streamed on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. You can either use the Facebook Link or the YouTube Link to see the live feed, or even worship a little later if you need to. Use the buttons below to choose which link fits your needs best.

Facebook Link

YouTube Link

Lord,



Teach Us to Pray

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.'—Luke 11:1

This series is about prayer. Prayer is one of those things that anyone can do. We all have the ability and opportunity. At the same time, the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. So, prayer can also be taught. For centuries Christians have prayed. We've prayed in many different ways, using many different words, occasions, tones, postures, and expressions to shape our prayers. During this season of Lent we will explore both the prayer of Jesus, and prayer practices that help us pray. All the while, we will learn to live our prayers!

Second Sunday of Lent
February 28, 2021
"Set the World Right"
Youth Sunday

Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2021

“Three Square Meals”

John 2:13-22

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March, 14, 2021

“Keep Us Forgiven and Forgiving”

Numbers 21:4-9

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 21, 2021

“Keep Us Safe from Ourselves and the Devil”

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Palm/Passion Sunday

March 28, 2021

“You Are in Charge. You Can Do Anything. You Are Beautiful.”

Mark 11:1-11

March 2021 Calendar Link

[Google Calendar](#)



Monthly Coffee and Convo

*Social Events are starting back up!
Saturday, March 6th from 8-10am*

*Join us for an open house style coffee
gathering in the fellowship hall.*

*We will continue to use Covid precautions and follow the
guidelines established in our ACC covenant.*



SPRING BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN

Spring Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, March 17, from 10:00 to 11:30, in room 5 at the Church. For this six week study we will be reading and discussing "Mountaintop Moments" by Ed Robb. We will be looking at personal spiritual mountaintop moments of characters in the Old and New Testaments, and their experiences and events related to these sacred places, and how these lessons can be woven into our everyday lives.

If you wish to participate or have questions, please call Karen Fausch at 515 556-1483 so a book can be ordered.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 28th at 9 a.m.



Rev. Sue Woods has put together this list of helpful hints for signing up for the vaccine.

Steps for Polk County Vaccine Registration:

1. If you live in Polk County, register yourself at this website:
<https://immunizepolk.com>
2. Note: Event indicates a registration event (date/time) not a different location outside of Polk Co.
3. Have photos of your Medicare or other main insurance card (front and back) ready to upload.
4. Once registered, Polk County will email a confirmation that states what group you are in (ex: 1b, 1c, or 2). Iowa is now vaccinating group 1a & 1b.

Steps for Walgreens:

1. Go to the Walgreens website and create an account:
<https://www.walgreens.com/>
2. Once you are logged in on the Walgreens website, go to the search bar at the top of the page and type in "Covid 19 vaccine"
3. Click "find appointment"
4. Scroll down and click "get started"
5. In the location search field, enter your zip code (or name of larger town near you). If you are willing to drive further, enter in the word "Iowa"
6. If you do not find appointments for the location try again with different locations you are willing to drive to.
7. If appointments are available on the day you search, they will appear on your screen. You will click the time you want for the 1st dose (do this part fast, you want to work quickly). Then you will click a time for your 2nd dose. As soon as you click the 2nd dose time slot, the screen will say "You are Confirmed"
8. If you are able to see a first dose but the next page tells you that no second dose is available DO NOT HIT THE BACK BUTTON - instead scroll

up to the location search bar and choose another location for your second dose. The two doses do not need to be administered at the same Walgreens location.

Timing and Best Practice Suggestions for Walgreens:

- Walgreens updates their website at 6am.
- New appointments become available every 2 or 3 days, at 6am sharp.
- Login to your Walgreens account at 5:45am. Then proceed with the steps listed above (starting on step 3).
- At 5:59am enter in the zip code/city/state and hit "submit"; at 6am.
- If you get an error message that says the website is unavailable you'll need to log out and log back in and start over.
- When logging into Walgreens you may need to validate your identity via text message or email.

They will email you a confirmation email. They have your email address because you gave them that information when you created your account. It can take up to 24 hours to receive that email. On the date of your vaccination, you will need to show printed copies of your Polk County confirmation email or the Walgreens confirmation email, a driver's license/state ID, and insurance card (if you have it.)

Pastor Owen's Note

Over the past few days, the white blanket of snow has receded such that we can see the hibernating grass. The past couple of mornings I have been greeted by birds singing happily, the sun has been shining, and things seem to be looking up. As of this writing 66.5 million vaccines to COVID-19 have been administered (according to the CDC's data tracker: <https://tinyurl.com/kpvyzpnn>), more than two times as many than the number of cases in the US. While we are not completely out of the woods, the light at the end of the tunnel seems to be getting brighter (if you will excuse the mixed metaphors).

Through the pandemic the word "essential" has become very important... what is essential and what is not. Everyone has their opinions and perspectives, and to be fair, there probably is much room for something to be essential for some and not for others. One of the most contentious ideas has been churches meeting in person. Is worship essential?

I recently read an article addressing that question called, "Why Do People Keep Going to Church?" by Edwin Leap, MD. (<https://tinyurl.com/swe9c6ep>). In the article he explores how, while religious folk should use caution when it comes to worship, there are also those who mistakenly view worship as something 'akin to a hobby' without any real consequence if it is done or not done.

We have certainly not stopped being the church during this pandemic, though Ankeny Christian Church has looked a little different. We have continued to worship, serve our neighbors and our broader world, and care for one another. We have continued "learning God's Word, sharing

Christ's love, and proclaiming God's message!"

All this got me to thinking, "what is essential about worship?" Dr. Leap articulates these things as essential: "It is a prioritization of our place in the universe. And it gives meaning and purpose in a vast world which everyone struggles to comprehend. It is our way of transforming from the people we are to the people we believe we are called to become in God... Practically it is a way of keeping perspective, a way of framing suffering (all the more important now). It is how believers find hope in times of trouble and comfort in the knowledge of their ultimate death...It is a deliverance, a spiritual infusion for the pain that life grinds into us, whether from relationships, grief, sickness, addiction, or the myriad of other miseries we endure (and inflict on ourselves and others)..."

When I read the article, I certainly resonated with these things. I also have things I might add. What would you add to this list? What is essential to you about church? What is essential to you about Ankeny Christian Church?

Shalom,
Pastor Owen

Pastor Alison's Youth News

Sunday School News

Sunday School will continue as normal through the month of March, with a bit of a different schedule! *Sunday School will not be held on the 14th and the 21st due to Spring Break!*

Our Pre-K through 5th graders will continue their Sparkhouse rotations during the month of March with the story of the Wedding at Cana! They will be exploring this story for one week with Randy Wehofer by playing GAMES! *The following weeks (March 14 & 21) we will take a break for Spring Break.*

Our 6th - 12th Grade class will continue asking important questions about their faith in tandem with the re:Form curriculum, taught by Susie Bentley, Lori Krase-Cayton, and Pastors Owen and Alison.

On March 28th, Palm Sunday, we will be having our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Hopefully we can take this event outdoors as we have some egg fun before worship! Keep your eyes peeled for more information!

Questions? Email me, Pastor Alison at alisonaccdoc@gmail.com or Christian Ed Chair Cathy Helmke at c_helmke@hotmail.com

CHAOS in March:

CHAOS will continue to meet in the month of March, but the schedule will be a little bit different due to Spring Break. Here is what we will be doing this month:

March 7 – CUPCAKE WARS!

March 14 – No CHAOS: Spring Break

March 21 - No CHAOS: Spring Break

March 28 – Labyrinths and Ice Cream!

We only meet for a couple of weeks this month, but those weeks will be full of fun and friendship! Keep your eyes on Weekly CHAOS for more detailed information. Questions? Email me at alisonaccdoc@gmail.com.

Mid-Week Mayhem

The Mayhem will continue in the month of March! We will mainly be focusing on different Lenten practices to help us notice God more in our lives. The schedule is a little different this month due to Spring Break. Here is what it will look like:

March 3 - Lent Practice: Examen

March 10 - Craft Night: Think Spring!

March 17 - No Mid-Week: Spring Break!

March 24 - Lent Practice: Mandalas

March 31 - Lent Practice: Labyrinths

We are looking forward to another great month of Mayhem in the middle of the week! Keep a lookout in the children's ministries weekly e-newsletter, Monday Mayhem, for more detailed information! Please email me with any questions you may have.

Birthdays

2 Darin Leach

Betty Grimes

4 Morgan Leach

5 Max Marshall
9 Ben Chatman
Mary Hanley
Jerry Sawyer
10 Brinson Kalvig
15 Megan Narwold
16 Judy Johnson
21 Hazel Magner
22 Crystle Brandenburg
Jennifer Koehler
26 Matt Porath
Mac Fett
Sully Fett
28 Wesley Brandenburg
Randy Hart
Joanie Wehofer
29 Beverly Morgan

Anniversaries

5 Sam & Frances Johnson
28 Bob & Shanon Buckroyd
29 Randy & Suzette Hart

*The church continues to operate even in these difficult times. If you would like to continue (or begin) to contribute to the work of the church financially, you can mail in a check to
2506 SW 3rd Street, Ankeny, IA 50023
or you can give online by clicking the link below.
There you can set up one time or recurring donations.*

[Online Giving](#)

Pastor Owen Cayton, Senior Minister
Pastor Alison Nicoll, Associate Minister
Melissa Webb, Office Manager

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