



Ankeny
Christian Church

POSITIVE PEOPLE DOING GOD'S WORK



DISCIPLES
OF
CHRIST



September 2021 Newsletter

Here's what you will find in this issue:

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SUMMER ROAD TRIP

The Journey Home

Sunday Morning Worship August 29th

The Journey Home: Interactive Worship Service

Hosted by the Christian Education Committee

Volunteers for In Person Worship

Communion Prep: Pat F and Angela J

Communion Server: Tai C, Larry and Judi D, Angela J, Jennifer K

Greeter: Larry and Judi D

Fellowship: Steve and Georgene R and Bob T

Usher: Arnie P

Communion Meditation: Georgene R

[Worship Volunteer Schedule](#)

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](#)

WHOLEHEARTED



Faith Life Community

[Jesus] said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment.

And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

-Matthew 22:37-40

Wholeheartedness: an individual's ability to have a strong sense of love and belonging.

-Brené Brown

September 5

Walk the Talk

James 2:1-10, 14-17

September 12

Teaching is Holy Work

James 3:1-12

September 19

Being whole means letting go

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

September 26

[2021 Calendar Link](#)

[Google Calendar](#)

Pastor Owen's Note

*“Hey, it’s good to be back home again, yes, it is. Sometimes this old farm feels like a long lost friend. Yes, and hey, it’s good to be back home again!”
-John Denver “Back Home Again”*

It is good to get away, but it is also always good to be back in the familiar. I have missed you all, missed being a part of worship at Ankeny Christian Church, missed my colleagues in ministry, and, really, I have missed the work of serving alongside you in ministry. It is good to be back home at Ankeny Christian Church again!

When we began the sabbatical three months ago, I was asked about what I hoped/expected things would look like upon my return, particularly in regard to COVID precautions and worship. What I wasn’t asked was about in what condition I hoped to return! I guess I had sufficiently expressed that I expected to be rested and refreshed, ready to continue ministry here for the foreseeable future.

The sabbatical was successful in that regard. I am eager to get back into things and reset some of my routines to help me be more effective. I am excited about ministry here. Indeed, along with providing rest and renewal, my time away reaffirmed in my mind and my spirit that I am where I am supposed to be and doing what I am supposed to do. I don’t know that this was so much the goal of the sabbatical as it ended up being a side-effect, particularly, since I was not overtly asking that question during this time away.

What I had not expected, or hoped for, was coming back right after surgery needing to use a knee scooter or crutches to get around! For those of you who don’t know the whole scoop, I ruptured my Achilles tendon during a very complicated chess move...I had to prove I had some fun on sabbatical, right?!? Okay, you probably don’t buy the chess move thing, and you’d be right.

Lori and I directed Adventure Camp together this summer. One of our adventures was taking the campers to a Ninja Warrior training gym. I was trying to run up one of the warped walls when I felt a ‘pop!’ in the back of my ankle. (The warped walls are the curved walls that, on the show, they usually have to run up and climb over the top and hit the red button to stop the

clock.) I had made it up progressively higher walls, but just stepped wrong on this one.

I am very grateful today, grateful to be back, grateful for my time away, grateful for Ankeny Christian Church, grateful for your prayers of concern and healing, grateful for your support, grateful for my family, grateful for the amazing parts of creation my family and I got to see, grateful for campfires, grateful for life and breath and rain and sunshine and trees and hammocks and camps and...well the list could go on. I am exceedingly grateful to serve as a minister at Ankeny Christian Church. Thank you! I look forward to seeing many of you this Sunday!

Shalom,
Pastor Owen

Pastor Alison's Youth News

A brief note from Pastor Alison:

You may notice that my articles are a bit sparse this month. Due to a busy summer, I'm a bit behind in my planning for our programming and asking volunteers to help. If you're looking for more information on children and youth programming, please see our weekly newsletters Monday Mayhem and Weekly CHAOS. Thank you for your grace and patience!

Children and Youth Sunday School Begins Sunday, September 12th!

Sunday School will start up for the fall semester at its normal time before worship from 9:00 - 9:45 p.m.

Our Pre-K through 5th Graders will be sticking to their Sparkhouse Rotation curriculum and will begin with the story of Ruth!

Our 6-12th Graders will be exploring more questions of our faith with the re:Form curriculum.

We're looking forward to another great semester of Sunday School!

The CHAOS Begins Sunday,

September 12th!

CHAOS (Grades 6-12) will begin Sunday, September 12th with WATER GAMES NIGHT! This will be a fun evening of water-themed games and some friendly competition! We'll begin our time together with pizza and getting caught up from our summers, and end with some epic games. We're still deciding on a time, so keep your eye on Weekly CHAOS for more information! Hope to see you then as we kick off our CHAOS year in the best way!

MidWeek Mayhem Begins Wednesday, September 15th!

MidWeek Mayhem (K-5th Grade) will begin on Wednesday, September 15th! We will spend some time this evening playing a game, talking about what we did over the summer, and doing some introductions! We'll end our time with a snack and prayer and our song. We are still deciding on what time might work best for us this year, so keep your eye on Monday Mayhem for more information. It's going to be a great MWM year! Can't wait to have some Mayhem in the middle of the week!

Committee Updates and other news

Let's Celebrate!!!

As of August 6th, Bob Brown will officially be retired from Nationwide Insurance after 31 years of service. He looks forward to traveling and spending time with his kids and spoiling the grandkids!

Choir will resume!!

We will be resuming choir practice starting September 8th at 6p. I have discussed having choir practice with the Covid Committee and they have given us approval to practice and prepare music for our services including a Cantata in December. I will continue to work closely with the committee to ensure we are in compliance with their recommendations.

Bob Brown

September Mission “Food Bowl”

While the universities are debating how best to position their sports programs through league affiliations, we at ACC know that supporting the DMARC Food Pantry through financial donations is also an extremely vital decision. We have an opportunity to support both our team and the food pantry without having to practice in the heat while wearing “itchy” uniforms.

September’s Kick-off play-off tournament features four Iowa teams plus our two pastors’ alma maters.

The winner is determined by total points. **Scoring is five points for every \$1.00 donated.** The event runs all four weeks of September. Scores will be posted weekly. Despite Covid, the total 2020 income was \$1700 and UNI was the winner.

Ways to donate: Clearly indicate with your donation which team to credit. Use the collection tray at church; mail the donation to the church; use your established on-line method; contact Pat Fliger for pick up (249-2599).

The event includes the four Sundays of September. Scores will be posted weekly. Vote often and vote generously. We all win, especially those who depend on food assistance.

Thanking you in advance,
The Missions Committee,
Chuck Fausch Chair.

Endowment

What is Endowment at Ankeny Christian Church? It’s a chance to give to the future of the church. Funds are deposited in the Christian Church Foundation, a secure investment that only works with Disciples of Christ churches. The money is never withdrawn, however the earnings from these investments can be used to make a difference in programing or missions, year after year after year.

Several of us have established in our wills to leave a portion to the Endowment Fund at ACC. We will be part of a legacy that continues to give long after we’re gone. Some folks have left the Endowment Funds as a beneficiary on their insurance policies. Some people have designated memorial funds to be left to the Endowment Fund to honor their loved ones and have them live on in the life of the church.

Donations can be made at any time in stage of life. Gladys and Jerry Sawyer deposited funds years ago. They use the annual earnings to donate to the Week of Compassion. The earnings in the ACC Endowment Fund currently amount to over \$1500/year. Those

funds are divided by four committees to use at their discretion in addition to their budgeted funds, allowing for opportunities that otherwise wouldn't be possible. Thanks to the people who had the foresight and generosity to give to our Endowment Fund. There is no minimum amount to give; together we can build a future of Positive People Doing God's Work for future generations.

Silent Auction Will Happen!!

Tentative, possible, maybe, plans are that there will be the traditional Silent Auction this November. No specific details are available, but a heads up to get creative and be ready to show off your talents. If you are short on talents, show your support by donating something of value that might become someone's treasure. Everyone is welcome to participate by bidding on and purchasing the donated items. The income generated from this event is crucial as it allows ACC to give financial gifts to members of our congregation to enable them to secure a special Christmas Holiday. Watch for details as they become available, meanwhile, contact Pat Fliger (249-2599) if you have questions.

Thank you in advance,
Missions Committee



Birthdays

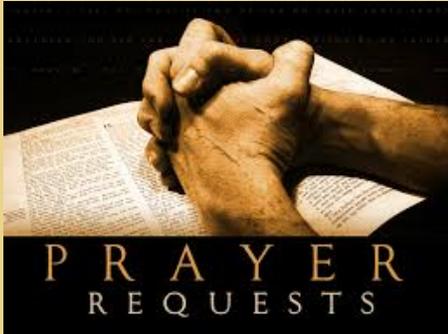
- 3 Angela Johnson
Tami Zumach
- 4 William Harris
- 5 Madilyn Moellers
Maya Schroeder
Coyer Kalvig
Laithan Kalvig
- 6 Tanya Cox
- 8 Adam Olson
- 10 Marlys Lapham
Corbin Widaman
- 14 Deanna Clingan-Fischer
- 15 Barb Bates
- 19 Norma Sperry



Anniversaries

- 1 Mike and Laura Dolley
- 5 Darin & Lori Leach
- 6 Jon & Jennifer
Hauschildt
- 17 Adam & Angie Olson
- 20 Curt & Megan Narwold
- 28 Larry & Nancy Squier
- 29 Jason-Paul & Amy
Channels

Randy Wehofer
20 Wesley Helmke
22 Sally Hanley
Susan Hanley
Amy Shelton
Kingston Ukpabi
23 Jodi Murphy
24 Logan Olson
Zola Parker
Emily Porath
27 Lori Reynolds



Do you have a Prayer Request?

If you have a prayer request, please email Laura Dolley at:

dolleyo808@gmail.com

*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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[Visit our website](#)

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