



# The Ripple



Volume 9, Issue 1

January 2017

## WELCOME TO APPLE RIVER COMMUNITY CHURCH

*Reaching out to our community with Jesus' love*

**We welcome you and hope you will visit our church and join us in worshiping our Lord.**

## CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday, January 1

9:30am Sunday School  
10:15am Fellowship  
10:30am Worship /Children's Church

### Sunday, January 8

9:30am Sunday School  
10:15am Fellowship  
10:30am Worship/Children's Church

### Sunday, January 15

9:30am Sunday School  
10:15am Fellowship  
10:30am Worship/Children's Church  
Potluck (Circle 2)  
1:00p Annual Meeting

### Saturday, January 22

9:30am Sunday School  
10:15am Fellowship  
10:30am Worship/Children's Church

### Wednesday, January 29

9:30am Sunday School  
10:15am Fellowship  
10:30am Worship /Children's Church  
7:00p Sunday Night Live (Circle 3)

[www.appleriverchurch.org](http://www.appleriverchurch.org)

## The Lost One and 10 Questions:

*Pastor Justin*

The story of Zacchaeus is interesting and raises questions for us. First, let me summarize the story. Jesus enters Jericho and Zacchaeus wants to see him.

Jesus spots him up in a tree and says, "I'm coming to your house today." And, Zacchaeus gladly welcomed him into his home. But all the other people condemned Jesus for eating at the house of a "sinner". Zacchaeus stands up and makes restitution for any wrongs he has done. Jesus then proclaims that salvation has come to Zacchaeus. For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.

Jesus, bent on his mission to seek and save the lost, reaches through the crowd and grabs the heart of Zacchaeus. In the middle of this, we see a crowd that looks down upon Jesus for his work. Did they really think that Zacchaeus was so bad? Was there a hint of jealousy that the "popular" Jesus was going to the house of this man? Doesn't this fit with what Jesus taught about the 99 sheep and the 1 that was lost? It appears that the Spirit of God had worked on Zacchaeus at some points of the story... climbing the tree, making restitution... is there one point of the story that is the turning point for Zacchaeus?

I don't have answers, but the more I reflect upon the story... the more I can see myself in it.

Am I working in conjunction with Jesus and his mission or with the people and theirs? Would I be willing to do what Jesus did? Sometimes it is easier to sit in judgment of others rather than loving them. Sometimes, don't we all forget the mission of Jesus to seek and save the lost? We can be like a pack of hungry dogs stumbling over ourselves to find food when it comes to sharing Christ with others. Rather than working together, why do we trip each other and stumble? Why do we let our concepts of theology detract us from what is important? We let our public image keep us from certain people and places where they gather. Why do we let our self-prescribed righteous behaviors prohibit us from seeking the lost?

Let's try to stop tripping over ourselves and focus on the real goal... the goal of Jesus: to seek and save the lost.



## MISSION STATEMENT

*The purpose of Apple River Community Church is to glorify God by helping people to find Jesus and grow to be like him.*

**OUR AFFILIATION** Apple River Community Church is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America (Forest Lake District).

## CHURCH OFFICERS 2016

### **PASTOR**

Justin Hosking\*

### **VISITATION PASTOR**

Bruce Tanner\*

### **CHAIRMAN**

Glen Wright

### **DEACONS**

Rich Frankson

Dick Berhow

Josh Bell

Odrey Rasmussen

### **TRUSTEES**

Mark Powell

Dan Lundgren

Dan Smith

Glen Brown, Jr.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Erin Hosking\* (Supt.)

Claudine Brown (Asst. Supt.)

Crystal Bell (Member at Large)

### **SECRETARY**

Marie Geist Berhow\*

### **DEACONESS**

Joyce Brown

Darlene Holecek

Lydia Weiberg

### **FINANCIAL**

Sue Lundgren\*

Joan Talmage\*

### **TREASURER**

Nancy Jorgenson\*

\* = Appointed

Keep Our Nation in your  
Prayers!



## **ANNUAL MEETING**

**January 15, 2017**

The meeting will include an election of officers. Please consider being a deacon, trustee, helping in Christian Education, being a deaconess, etc. Please talk to a member of the Nominating Committee: Josh Bell, Dick Berhow Odrey Rasmussen and Pastor Justin.

Various Committees, Officers, etc. Please turn in your written annual report to the church office by Sunday, January 8. You can email it to arcc@amerytel.net, or put it on the desk in the church office by January 8th, so we can print it and compile the Annual Report.



### **Ways to Start Off the New Year**

According to historians, the celebration of the New Year is the oldest holiday. Ancient Babylonians first observed it in the spring about 4,000 years ago. In 153 B.C., the Roman Senate declared January 1 as New Year's Day.

The early church started to hold religious observances that coincided with pagan celebrations. Some denominations still mark Christ's circumcision on New Year's.

The tradition of making resolutions dates back to the Babylonians, who often promised to return borrowed farm equipment. Using a baby to symbolize rebirth and the new year dates back to the ancient Greeks and Egyptians.

Modern-day New Year's customs often focus on prosperity. In Spain, people eat 12 grapes at midnight, hoping to have 12 happy months to come. The Dutch eat donuts because another year has come full circle.

One of the best ways to start off the New Year is by spending time in prayer. Look back on God's many blessings during the completed year and ask for his guidance in the one to come. Also consider starting the tradition of praying for people around the world on New Year's Day.

### **Ignite!**

It is with Christians as with burning coals. If these are scattered apart, one after the other, they are easily extinguished. But, when collected together, the fire of one preserves that of the other, and the glowing coals often ignite others that lie near.

—August Francke

## **WHITE CROSS**

Thursday, January 5

9:30AM Devotions, coffee and treats: Claudine Brown

Ladies, join us as we begin the new year working together on projects for everyone.

"Rip and Roll" sheets for bandages – our box is empty.

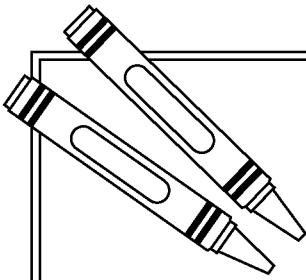
Several lap quilts to tie and finish.

Stocking caps to make - again our box is empty.

Work on a large quilt and baby quilts.

Bring a sack lunch and spend the day, enjoying the fellowship of ladies having a great day.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRIES WILL NOT MEET THIS MONTH**



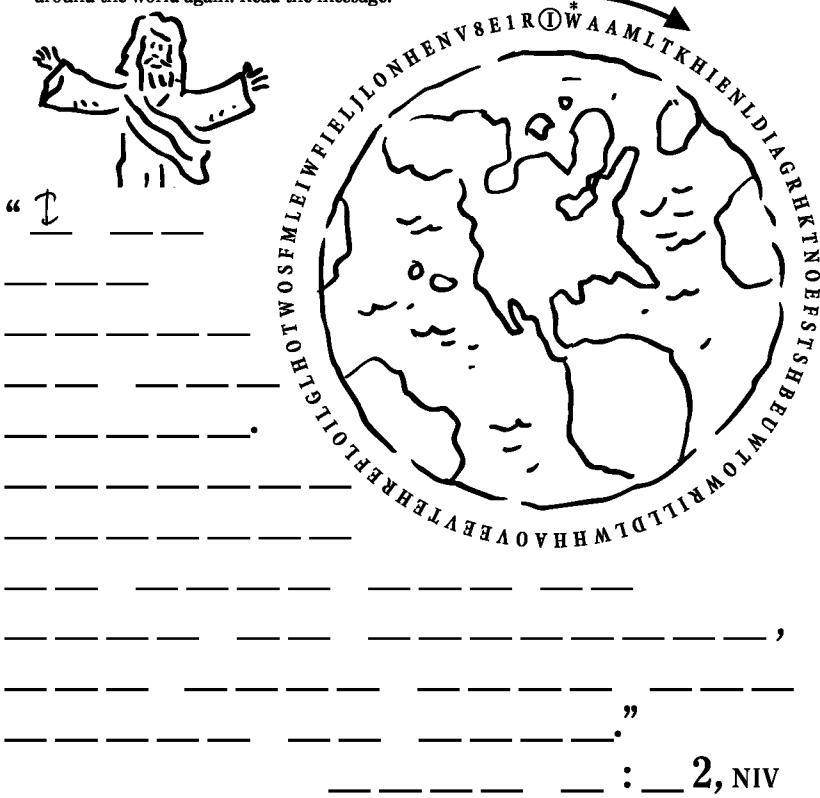
# Just for KIDS

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we begin a new calendar year, let us always remember who we should follow in this world.

### Directions:

1. Start at the circled letter "I." Follow the direction of the arrow and circle every other letter until you have gone around the world one time.
2. Start at the circled letter "I" again, and write down the circled letters on the blank lines below.
3. Beginning at the \*W, write the letters or numbers that are not circled until you have gone around the world again. Read the message.



See calendar page—puzzle #1

The Bible Quiz, puzzle, cartoons, and various articles are from the Newsletter to which we subscribe and have permission to reproduce.

### Bible Quiz

In Matthew 13, to what does Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven?

- |                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. A farmer sowing seed | E. A merchant who finds a pearl |
| B. A mustard seed       | F. A fishing net                |
| C. Yeast                | G. All of the above             |
| D. Hidden treasure      |                                 |

Answer: See calendar page



Remember Our  
Children  
in Prayer

### LESSONS FROM A SNOWMAN



- It's okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- Accessories don't have to be fancy or expensive.
- We're all made mostly of water.
- You know you've "arrived" when a song is written about you.
- So what if you're a little bottom-heavy?
- Don't get too much sun.
- Sweating too much can be disastrous!



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli. If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."

### NEW MERCIES

Everyone seems to have at least one resolution that seems impossible to keep. And that can become very discouraging.

The prophet Jeremiah, who had his own reasons to feel down, wrote, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23, NRSV).

God refuses to give up on us. When we lose hope, when we fail and fall short, his mercy never runs out. Tomorrow is full of promise and our Lord's unceasing love.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



## Birthdays and Anniversaries



2 Willis Christenson  
3 Abigail Beatham  
7 Evelyn Newbauer  
11 Henry Soldner  
13 Ryan Newbauer  
14 Perry Melstrom

15 Joshua Stager (Brown)  
18 Julie Reed  
19 Richard Frankson  
19 Marlys Johnson  
23 Troy Mintz  
25 Hanna Khoury

25 Lorel Schaeffer  
27 Sophie Frankson  
28 Tim & Lorel Schaeffer  
(2015)  
29 Sean Lundgren  
31 Sandra Arvold

January 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### The Light of the World

Early Christians celebrated both Jesus' birth and baptism on Epiphany, January 6. Only in the fourth century did Roman Christians appropriate a pagan festival to celebrate what we now call Christmas — a contraction of "Christ Mass."

But the origin of when we celebrate Jesus' birth doesn't detract from the day's holiness. In fact, God has *always* transformed things of the world to serve his purposes and show his glory.

The festival honoring the "Unconquered Sun," held on what was then considered the winter solstice, was deemed the perfect time to praise the "Sun of Righteousness" (a prophetic name for Christ; see Malachi 4:2).

By claiming this day as our own, Christians profess that earthly darkness — winter's seasonal darkness and the darkness in our hearts and lives — is brightened not by a heavenly body that will one day cease to shine but by Jesus, the *real* unconquered and unconquerable Light of the World.

### HELP PROGRAMS AVAILABLE:

Amery Memory Café is a gathering for people with memory concerns and their care partners. They meet monthly from 1:00-2:30pm on the 3rd Thursday at the Amery Community Center. Call 1-715-720-7611 to RSVP

GriefShare mets at the Amery Community Center every Monday at 1:00 pm.

Long Term Care Planning at Amery Community Center January 30 from 1-2 pm



### Church signs—a part of our culture.

By Stan Miller

The Covenant church in Alpha, WI declares:

"Worry causes wrinkles, which gives you one more thing to worry about."

It seems that we humans focus on things and situations over which we have little or no control. Perhaps that fact keeps us humble or maybe we are unconsciously telling God he could have made a better design. What arrogance.

The Bible tells us not to worry, yet we do. It tell us to pray instead. Most of the time we don't! Maybe as a last resort. Jesus asked, "Who can add a cubit?" and then added, "Consider the lilles." It's a matter of trust.

Solomon said in Proverbs 14:30, "A relaxed attitude lengthens life; . . . So cast worry aside, eliminate a wrinkle or two, lengthen your life and TRUST your maker.

### Puzzle!

Write a word that fits each definition. Then place the letters in the numbered boxes to read a Beatitude, one of the special statements Jesus shares in Matthew 5.

# Puzzle!

Write a word that fits each definition. Then place the letters in the numbered boxes to read a Beatitude, one of the special statements Jesus shares in Matthew 5.

*The color of coal*

— 1 — 2 — 8 — 17 — 21

*Flower with thorns*

— 9 — — 4 — 3

*Woman's Sunday garment*

— 7 — 23 — 6 — 5 — 24

*Vegetable in a pod*

— 14 — 10 — 16

*A light for my \_\_\_\_\_*

— 20 — 11 — 12

*Electric fish*

— 13 — 15 —

*Dark green gem*

— 18 — 19 — 22 — — — —

— — — — — — — —

— — — — — — — —

— — — — — — — —

See calendar page #2.

### YOUR Article Here!

Suggestions: Missions, favorite recipe, youth events, new Sunday School material, or upcoming Bible Study topics. There are many possibilities.

We have "fill-in stories", but your input is appreciated.



# Apple River Community Church Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Happy New Year!</b> 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:30-11 Women's Bible Study 6:00p Deacons Meet; 7:30p Executive Bd Meets	<b>4</b> 10:15a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way Club	<b>5</b> 9:30a White Cross all day. Bring sack lunch. See pg. 2.	<b>6</b> 8:45a MOPS	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:30-11 Women's Bible Study	<b>11</b> 10:15a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way Club	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church Noon: Potluck ( <i>Circle 2</i> ) 1:00 Annual Meeting.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30-11 Women's Bible Study	<b>18</b> 10:15a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way Club	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:45a MOPS	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	<b>23</b> RIPPLE DEADLINE	<b>24</b> 9:30-11 Women's Bible Study 5:00p Serenity House	<b>25</b> 10:15a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way Club	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 7:00p Sunday Night Live ( <i>Circle 3</i> )	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:30-11 Women's Bible Study				

Puzzle #1 Answer: 1. forever 2. Son 3. father 4. give 5. throne 6. kingdom 7. David 8. he 9. end 10. Jacob 12. great 13. High

Ripple Articles MUST BE received by the deadline to be included in the Ripple.  
Send to [arcc@amerytel.net](mailto:arcc@amerytel.net) (*PREFERRED*) or put in Ripple box in church office.  
Bulletin items must be received by Thursday for the next Sunday's bulletin.

*Thank You, Marie*

Bible Quiz: D (See Matthew 2:1-12.)

#2 Answer: black, rose, dress, pea, path, eel, emerald.  
Blessed are the peacemakers.