



The Ripple



Volume 10, Issue 1
JANUARY 2018

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 worshipping our Lord.*

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday, January 7

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

Sunday, January 14

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

Sunday, January 21

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

Sunday, January 28

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

www.appleriverchurch.org

Listen Here Tough Guy!

Pastor Justin



So, you're a tough guy. You closed your tear ducts years ago. You might tell Chuck Norris to put on his "Big boy pants" when he comes over to your house. Your hands have become so calloused that they will be sold for work gloves when you pass on to be with Jesus. You are a tough guy.

Or, maybe you're a tough girl. You get mad rather than cry. You consider what other people think about you as completely insignificant. You are never wrong anyway. You might have married that tough guy I just spoke of, and you tell him to grow up and stop complaining.

This part of the country is inhabited by thousands of tough guys and tough girls. There's a pretty good chance that you might be one. Yet, there is nothing wrong with that... as long as it doesn't get in the way of your relationship with Jesus or your relationship with others.

But lots of times it does. The toughness of our outer-person begins to sink down deep into our hearts. Zechariah 7 describes it as a people whose hearts have become hard like flint. We often think about hard hearts as a good thing. "Firm in our convictions," or "Sure of mind," are ways that we describe hearts of flint. But God sees something different. God sees us as holding back justice. God sees us as refusing to practice kindness. God sees us as withholding compassion. These words, compassion, kindness, and justice... they are not words that hearts of flint usually consider.

My friends and I used to joke about situations where justice and compassion were missing... and we would say, "Well, shouldn't have been standing there." And these words were unkind and did not reflect a God who loves and cares for all people. In a way, we were blaming a bad situation back on the people in that situation. Although the thought might be funny, it is a breeding ground for flint hearts. My friends and I have had to come to terms with being, "that person who shouldn't have been standing there." We have experienced loss in relationships, jobs, finances and family. And it isn't about just being tough. It isn't about just being in the wrong place at the wrong time. It is about being in a world that is full of sin.

Continued on Page 4

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 2017

PASTOR

Justin Hosking*

VISITATION PASTOR

Bruce Tanner*

CHAIRMAN

Glen Wright

DEACONS

Dick Berhow
Odrey Rasmussen
Mark Powell
Steve Wright

TRUSTEES

Dan Lundgren
Glen Brown, Jr.
Rich Frankson

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Erin Hosking* (Supt.)
Claudine Brown (Asst. Supt.)
Dana Powell (Member at Large)

SECRETARY

Marie Geist Berhow*

DEACONESS

Joyce Brown
Darlene Holecek
Lydia Weiberg

FINANCIAL

Sue Lundgren*
Joan Talmage*

TREASURER

Dana Powell*

* = Appointed



**CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 at 12:00.**

Various Committees: Please have your written annual report turned in to the church office by January 14. An email your report can be sent to arcc@amerytel.net.

This meeting will include an election of church officers.

Officers needed: Deacons, Deaconesses, Trustee, Sunday School Superintendent, Assistant Superintendant and Chairman. Some positions can be re-elected.

Please consider taking an active part in God's church here at ARCC. Pray for our Election Committee, and people to step forward to help lead ARCC. Contact Pastor Justin, Dick Berhow, Odrey Rasmussen or Sue Lundgren.



**Open Forum
Tuesday, January 2 at 7:00 PM**

Open Forum seeking input and thoughts on the future of the church. Come with good ideas, or help brain-storm together.

This is a pre-meeting to the Annual Meeting .

See YOU There!

**10TH ANNUAL LADIES CHRISTMAS TEA
Apple River Community Church**



The tea was a success again this year with 133 ladies in attendance.

Thank you to the committees that worked on the tea to make it a success.

Also, thank you to the men who served the food and kept the teacups full.

Keep Our Nation and Church in your Prayers!

WHITE CROSS and WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



No White Cross in January.

We will meet again on Thursday, February 1, 2018 when we will carpool to meet at Doris Danielson's home at 719 E Maryland Street, St. Croix Falls, WI.

Our project for the day will be "Scripture Cards". Ladies, please bring old greeting cards, old Christmas Cards, with appropriate pictures: flowers, scenery, animals, crosses, and short Biblical truths in English. We will cut out a picture and glue on to card stock. You need only to bring the pictures for gluing.

Watch the February Ripple and bulletins for further information.

**START THE NEW YEAR LEARNING
MORE FROM GOD'S WORD.**

**SEE YOU AT A BIBLE
STUDY**

**WOMENS: TUESDAYS AT 9:30
AM**

**MENS: WEDNESDAYS AT
10:00 AM
At ARCC**



PUZZLE

A NEW CREATION

The apostle Paul says everyone who believes in Jesus becomes brand new.

Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.

THIEROEFQORXEIDFAMNYAON
 SEILSITNCVHRKISDTTBHEWNE
 QWCDREYATMIOCNHFASWCOR
 MEGTHWEOFLDXHASSGZONL
 ETJHEWNEQWIDSHREROE

_____ E _____

_____ :

_____ ! 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

DISTRICTS IS ALMOST HERE! JANUARY 5-6



Leave for Districts at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, January 5th

Please bring \$30.00 for spending—food.

Wow, over 30 people are going to Districts in 2018! It should be an exciting time for ALL of them.

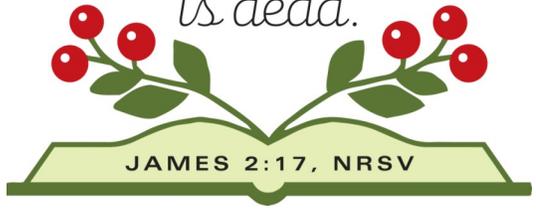
DIRECTORY UPDATES

Thank you to those who updated or confirmed their Directory information. If you haven't done your update, please do so ASAP.

Pictures will be taken in January.



*So faith by itself,
IF IT HAS NO WORKS,
is dead.*



JAMES 2:17, NRSV

Answer: See Calendar Page

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



WINTER FUN



Celebrate New Years Eve at Church

Sunday, December 31
5:00p

Bring a soup or accompaniment such as cheese, crackers or sandwich. Dessert is always good too.

Bible Quiz

In the book of Judges, a cycle is repeated many times: The Israelites do “what is evil in the sight of the LORD,” God hands them over to an enemy nation, they cry out to the Lord and he appoints a judge, or political/military leader, for them. Under the judge’s leadership, the Israelites conquer their adversary and prosper — until they start doing “what is evil in the sight of the LORD” all over again.

Who was *not* one of these judges?

- A. Deborah
- B. Ehud
- C. Esau
- D. Shamgar




“Okay, and now for the church directory... flash those reconciliation peace signs.”



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 2018						
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			



Continued from Page 1—Listen Here Tough Guy!

When we understand the power sin has in our world, we should bend our stiff knees to the Lord above and beg him to give us a greater understanding of how He sees sin. God desires compassion because of the destructive nature of sin in life. God desires justice because of the unfairness of sin in life. God desires kindness because of the hurt sin brings in life. God knows our sin and our failure. Yet, He loves us anyway. He LOVES us.

Jesus wants us to do the same. John 15 has multiple commands telling us to LOVE ONE ANOTHER. We are to love one another the way he has loved us. He did not consider himself better, but took on the form of a servant to save us. We are to be a body who is known by His love. It is hard to be known by HIS LOVE when we are tough guys or tough gals. To be known by His love requires two things. First, that we love one another. That part is pretty clear. But the second part is to be “KNOWN” as that.

To be “known” by His Love is to have our love on display and to have that love be recognized by others. This is where the tough guy or gal struggles. They MIGHT have love deep in their heart for someone... but they would never let it be known. That is a struggle. It is near impossible to be tough and show love. So, are you known for the vulnerability of Love or are you known for the flint of Toughness?

Baby Shower for Sophie Frankson and Baby Boy Noah

on Saturday January 20, 2018 at 1PM
 at Rich and Joann's home
 33606 Shady Oak Trail, Shafer, MN

Lunch will be served as we gather to meet Noah.

Talk with Erin or Betty A. for gift ideas or give money for a gift.

Please sign up in THE foyer if you can be a part of our party.



Christmas Greetings/Messages

Transport for Christ: Thanked us for the gift.

Franklin Graham expressed gratitude for our gift to Samaritan's Purse.



Church Signs—a part of our culture.

By Stan Miller

The United Methodist Church in Cumberland, Wisconsin proclaims through its sign that
 “A Smile improves your face value”

Want to look your best? SMILE! What do photographers say before snapping a picture? “Say Cheeze!” A smile certainly improves your appearance and a photograph reflects that picture, pun intended.

Proverbs 15:13 says, “A glad heart makes a happy face”; The key to a happy face is a glad heart. For the Christian that should be easy, but it's not always that easy for life has a way of delivering blows, however, there is a great difference between happiness and joy or gladness. Like the sun which is always shining above the clouds, we can have joy which shines through the gloom of an emotional low. Put on a happy face and it will improve your face value and the joy of knowing Christ will shine through the temporary setback.

Choose joy! As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the person.” That's what Proverbs 27:19 says and that tells me my heart should outshine my emotions.

Our Prayer Chains are active. If you have a prayer concern, contact Bev Richmond (715-268-4226) or Lynne Peterson (lybrpeterson@yahoo.com).

Hospital Calls: If you learn someone is hospitalized, please contact Pastor Justin and/or Pastor Bruce. The deaconesses also need to know so they can visit, send cards, etc. Our deaconesses are Joyce Brown, Darlene Holecek and Lydia Weiberg.

Prayer changes things

Winter Gift

“God ... does great things beyond our knowing. He says to the snow, ‘Fall to the earth’; likewise to his heavy, drenching rain. He shuts up all human-kind indoors, so that all people may know his work” (Job 37:5-7, NABRE).

Snow, ice and cold can make winter a hassle. “Snow days” due to a blizzard may thrill students but usually inconvenience parents. But now and then, winter blankets the earth so heavily that it seems to quiet everything. We’re granted permission to hunker down at home, snuggle close with family or pets, enjoy a book or movie, make cocoa or cookies, and rest. It’s like a surprise sabbath – the gift of grace-time – when no one’s expected to get out the door or the driveway.

Perhaps indeed, as Job declared, God sees fit on such days to put our busyness on hold and shut us all indoors so we pause and remember his work – his place – in our lives. Praise God for snow days!

—Heidi Mann

A penguin “parable”

During storms, emperor penguins huddle for warmth, taking turns at the center and on the perimeter of the group. While incubating eggs, up to 6,000 male penguins have been observed clustering for shelter against the harsh Antarctic winter. Partially grown chicks gather in protective “crèches” (French for “cribs”); often surrounded by a colony of adults, these groupings ward off predators and cold.



In stormy times, humans also need supportive groups; we can’t survive alone. A church family allows us to take turns giving and receiving care. Amid social upheaval, injustice, illness, natural disaster and any loss or crisis, God invites us to gather for protection and warmth. In the church community, we support and strengthen one another and are empowered to go out again into the less-sheltered world.

Cherry Raspberry Jell-O

- 1 c Cherry pie filling
- 1 ½ Cups Water
- ¼ Cup Sugar
- 2 3 oz. packages Raspberry Jell-O (or one 6 ounce pkg.)
- 1 Cup Cold coke or root beer

Bring water to boil. Remove from heat. Add Jell-O and sugar. Stir until dissolved. Add pie filling and the coke. Put in dish and chill overnight or 6 hours.

Thank you, Arla, for sharing.

United in Diversity

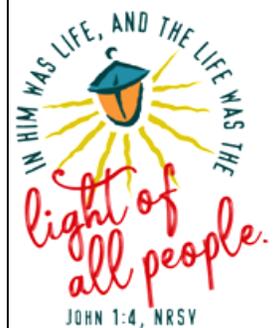
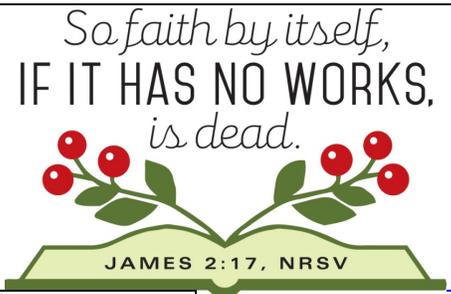
Although early Christians had much in common, they also dwelt in diversity. Each of their leaders emphasized certain parts of the gospel and favored certain worship styles. They all believed in the resurrected Jesus, and they all celebrated the Lord’s Supper and baptism. But Christians in Corinth had a unique approach, as did those in Ephesus, Philippi, Galatia, Rome and so on.

It might be boring if we all believed and practiced completely alike. Variations don’t need to be an impediment to Christian unity. As pastor Charles Best said, “If we’re going to be in heaven together, we might as well get along now.”

SAY YOU SAW

By MCCrim

Say you saw the light, boys
 Say you saw the light.
 Say you saw the lepers kneeling
 before the throne of Christ.
 Say you say the blinded see
 and heard the muted speak.
 Saw the footprints on the water
 from the Lord’s own holy feet.
 Say you saw the universe
 unformed and dark as night.
 Say you saw the birth of stars
 say you saw the light.
 Say you saw the angels
 in a circle round the moon.
 Say you saw the Father’s face
 inside of heavens’ room.
 Say you breathed the Holy Spirit
 and touched the Saviors’ hand.
 Say you felt the changing come
 to be a different man.
 Say you saw what couldn’t be
 and al the wrongs made right.
 Say that you believe in Him
 Say you saw the light
 Say you saw the light, boys
 Say you saw the light.



Apple River Community Church Calendar of Events



2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:00p Open Forum	3 * SEE BELOW	4	5 8:45a M.O.P.S 9:00a Lv. For Districts	6 Districts
7 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	8	9 9:30-11:00a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Deacons Meet; 7:30p Executive Bd Meets	10 * SEE BELOW	11	12	13
14 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church Noon: Potluck	15	16 9:30-11:00a Women's Bible Study	17 * SEE BELOW	18	19 8:45a M.O.P.S	20 1p Baby Shower for Sophie Frankson See Pg.
21 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 12:00 Annual Meeting	22 RIPPLE DEAD-LINE	23 5:00p Senior Saints 5:00p Serenity House	24 * SEE BELOW	25	26	27
28 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 7:00p Sunday Night Live!	29	30	31 * SEE BELOW			

* **10:00a Men's Bible Study**
5:30p One-Way Club

Ripple Articles **MUST BE** received by the deadline to be included in the Ripple. Send to 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,

Puzzle: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV
Bible Quiz: Answer: C (See Judges 3-5.)