



# The Ripple



Volume 12, Issue 01

JANUARY 2020

## 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 5**

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

#### **Sunday, January 12**

9:30a Sunday School  
10:15a Fellowship  
10:30a Worship/Children's Church  
Noon: Potluck (*Circle 4*)

#### **Sunday, January 19**

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

#### **Sunday, January 26**

9:30a Sunday School  
10:15a Fellowship  
10:30a Worship/Children's Church  
7:00p Sunday Night Live! (*Circle 1*)

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

"Like" us on Facebook

## GOOD BYE JIM

Bruce A. Tanner

We are saddened by the recent passing of our friend and brother, Jim Gorman. Jim dropped in at the church one afternoon years ago while we were having a deacon meeting in the fellowship hall. I gave him a quick tour of our new addition. He attended services the next Sunday and was a part of our church family from then on. To Jim, it was like "coming home". After John Weiberg died, Jim took over our Adult Sunday School class. We appreciated his transparency, and his sense of humor.

Jim shared his testimony with his Sunday School class. He grew up under humble circumstances on a northern Minnesota farm. He also worked as a logger before he was ready to answer the call and go off to Bible school. He served churches under an organization called "Village Missions". His first church was in California, then it was on to Nebraska and Minnesota.

Jim endured a lot of disappointment and heartache, especially in his later years. He was glad to find a special friend, in Olga. They made a great pair, walking into Sunday Night Live hand in hand.

About once each month, Jim and I would meet at Subway for a sandwich. We had some great visits. I will miss those visits a lot. The last time we met, Jim seemed to be preoccupied with the prospect of death. He had contracted some sort of blood disease for which there is no cure. He was looking forward to "going home", not wanting to succumb to dementia, and not wanting to be confined to any nursing home. Those wishes were granted. Jim is now safe at home with his Heavenly Father.

Jim Gorman was a humble man, a bit shy especially in one on one situations. All this shyness vanished when Jim got up to preach or teach his Sunday School class. His jokes would keep us in stitches.

Wood carving was Jim's passion. His little apartment was lined with dozens of examples of his work. I have a couple of examples which I will always treasure.

One of Jim's favorite sayings went like this, "I'm not afraid of death, I just don't want to be around when it happens". A few days ago, he was around, and it did happen. But as the Apostle Paul tells us, "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. So long for now, Jim. We'll be seeing you again soon!"

### 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 2019

PASTOR

Justin Hosking\*

VISITATION PASTOR

Bruce Tanner\*

CHAIRMAN

Dick Berhow

DEACONS

Mark Powell

Steve Wright

Rod Wetzig

Odrey Rasmussen

Ron Nelson

Glen Wright

Dan Smith

TRUSTEES

Rich Frankson

Dan Lundgren

Mike Crim

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Erin Hosking (Supt.)

Deb Brown (Asst. Supt.)

Denise Luster (Member at Large)

SECRETARY

Marie Geist Berhow\*

DEACONESS

Judy Nelson

Linda Wetzig

Carol Smith

FINANCIAL

Sue Lundgren\*

Joan Talmage\*

TREASURER

Dana Powell\*

\* = Appointed

Possible Constitutional Bi-Law Change —Keep this proposal in your prayers.

**OFFICIAL NOTICE:**

Annual Meeting, January 19—You are Invited!

You are invited to the Annual Meeting to be held January 22nd following morning worship service.

All members and non-members are invited. We appreciate all comments, but only members have the opportunity to vote or hold office.

Officers are needed for 2020. We need candidates with a good Christian walk to help with goals and operations within the church. If you are willing to serve, contact Pastor Justin. We would like names printed on the ballot prior to the meeting.

Annual reports are needed from various committees and positions by January 12. Please email your report to arcc@amerytel.net, or put on the desk in the church office. Thank You!



**Celebrate New Year's Eve At Church**

Soup & Game Night

Tuesday, December 31 at 5:00p



Come for a night of food, fellowship and fun!

Bring soup or goodies (crackers, sandwiches, chips, veggies, fruit) to go with soup. And, bring games!!

**Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study**

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study will start on January 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM. We will look at the book of Jonah—what could this whale of a tale possibly have to do with us? Come and find out and bring your friends. Please sign up in the foyer so we can order books. Questions? Call Carol Smith at 715-268-2835.

Quotes by Martin Luther King, Jr.

“I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.”

“Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.”

“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”

“Transitory gods are not able to save or bring happiness to the human heart. Only God is able. It is faith we must rediscover.”

**WHITE CROSS DAY**

Thursday, January 2, 2020

9:30 AM - Begin the day with coffee and treats served by Annette Strandine and devotions with Annette.

Projects: We were given several bags of white sheets, so we will work on ripping, sewing and rolling. Bring your sewing machines and help us rip and roll in this New Year!!

We also have a lap quilt to tie and bind.

Lots of fun to spend the day with the ladies. Join us for the day! Bring a sack lunch and stay as long as you can to work on these projects.

There will be no Women's Ministries Meeting

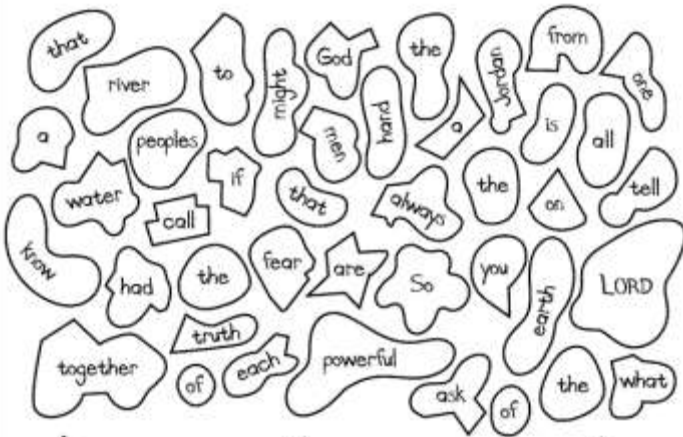


# PUZZLE

## Reminder rocks

When Joshua and the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they set up stones for a special reason.

*Directions: Shade all the rocks that aren't completely rounded. Unscramble the remaining rocks to reveal a message from Joshua 4:24, NIV.*



So \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ the  
 \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

JOSHUA 4:24, NIV

Answer: See calendar page

### RENT-A-TEAM

Do you need help with projects? Our youth would like to help and earn money for camp or Districts Youth Conference!



There are no set fees – you decide your contribution for the project.

Call Alice Brown at 715-857-5246 to schedule a crew (large or small), or sign up in the church foyer.

### 30 HOUR FAMINE

By Kathy Lundgren



Our One Way youth group, chose to raise awareness of child hunger by participating in the 30-hour famine. During these 30 hours, our youth will work on scripture goals, play games, watch movies, pray, and enjoy fellowship with each other, all while getting a small glimpse into what the hunger crisis is all about. Our goal at ARCC is to have our youth group raise \$1,000 by April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. All money raised will go to World Vision to help those in need of food and water. Raising \$1,000 will feed a child for just over 2 years!

To continue our awareness and give our youth the opportunity to make a difference in the world, we chose to sponsor a child through world vision. Each month, the kids will try to raise \$40 to send to a young girl to help her go to school and bring food home to her family. Please pray for our youth and these new endeavors - that they would be fruitful and allow us all to share the love of God.



**Districts Information:**  
 Fri. Jan. 3 8:00 AM Arrive at church.  
 Return Sunday 5:00-6:00 PM.  
 Bring: \$35 for food; Bible, notebook & pen; Swimsuit; toiletries & pajamas; sleeping bag & pillow; change of clothes.  
 DO NOT BRING—Electronics (can use in car only)

**Questions: Call Justin at 763-954-1642**

**Bible Quiz:**  
 According to Matthew, who was present at **Jesus' baptism?** (Choose as many as apply.)

- A. John the Baptist
- B. The Spirit of God
- C. **Jesus' mother, Mary**
- D. His first disciples



Answer: See calendar page

**“Our hope is not in the new year, but in the One who makes all things new.”**

—Unknown

The new year is our opportunity to refresh our relationship with the One who says, **“See, I am making all things new”** (Revelation 21:5, NRSV).

### Baby Shower

Come to a Baby Shower for the daughter of Patricia Potter & Dale Dotson.

When: After potluck on January 12th.

Gift ideas: See Deb Brown.



Districts Pray for safe travels and a life-changing, spiritual experience for everyone.

Thank you to everyone that hired youth to work via Rent-A-Teen/Team or contributed money to Districts.





# January Birthdays and Anniversaries

2020

2 Willis Christenson  
 3 Abigail Beatham  
 11 Henry Soldner  
 14 Perry Melstrom  
 18 Julie Reed  
 19 Richard Frankson  
 19 Marlys Johnson

23 Troy Mintz  
 25 Hanna Khoury  
 25 Jack Peterson  
 27 Dana Powell  
 29 Sean Lundgren  
 29 Tonja Nelson  
 31 Sandra Arvold

**God Isn't Deaf**  
 Little Sonia was praying loudly to God and asking for a new doll for her birthday. Her mother interrupted her and said, "There's no need to shout. God isn't deaf." Sonia responded, "No, but Grandpa is and he's in the family room watching TV."

January 2020						
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	

## Mission Updates —

Kaylee Tracy of Reach Global—Kaylee, from Osceola, WI joined Reach Global with the EFCA to serve in Berlin Germany. Our Mission Board recommends we take on support for Kaylee starting in January 2020 for \$420 for the year.

Kaylee will spend her first year in Berlin focusing on language learning and building relationships. She will work in a refugee camp to mentor the kids as they are processing through identity, trauma and integration. She will be working alongside a pastor and his wife thorough a German Free Church.

Germany accepted over 1 million refugees since 2015, most of whom are from the Middle East. Kaylee's dream is that these people experience Christ for the first time and that the city be transformed and the local church be more engaged with this community.

*Berry Anderson*

Navigators—the Longs—Navigators is a worldwide organization to reach college students with the gospel, disciple them and train them to reach other students. They are finding teens today have more **depression, suicide, drug issues and fear the future. They don't want to get a job, communicate verbally or become independent.** The constant use of social media and playing video games makes for a greater challenge to win them to Christ.

In the fall they do a survey of incoming freshmen to determine who is willing to come to a Bible Study. They go two by two to the campus and strike up conversations. This year, they are trying to go to other Twin City colleges where there is as yet no Bible studies.

There are 11 full-time staff at the University of Minnesota. The goal for navigators is to reach one million students worldwide by 2030. Trevor did 1:1 discipling with Clay who has now started a small group himself. Cassie met weekly with Kristin who now has four women in her small group.

Trevor and Cassie live with their four young children in a not-so-safe neighborhood in North Minneapolis. Pray for their safety as well as their large shortage of financial support.

Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF)— CEF is a worldwide organization to reach children with the gospel of Christ. The majority of people come to Christ by their teens. It was started in 1937.

**Bill Stirrat finished a 12 week course in Children's Ministries and is on the local staff in the St. Croix Valley.** Lisa Inlow recently resigned. Pray for a replacement for her. Thousands of dollars are needed for their financial audit, missionary support and materials for Good News Clubs and Five Day Clubs.

Nine people participated in Verse-A-Thon. They memorized enough verses to raise \$4,000 for our local chapter. Currently after school clubs meet in Amery, Turtle Lake, Unity, Luck and Baldwin. Plans are to start clubs in Osceola and Barron schools. Pray for more volunteers. People from our church have been involved with CEF. These include Odrey and Alona Rasmussen, Linda Bibeau and Claudine, Makaila and Alice Brown.

In February the Winter Retreat will invite teens interested in becoming leaders in next summers Five Day Clubs.

*Judy Nelson*

Helpful Hints and Etiquette for Potluck Sundays

The Circles set up and set out food for potluck. It is helpful if you can lend a hand in setting up tables and chairs, as needed.

Our oven is a warming oven only to keep your food warm until ready to serve. Please bake it before bringing it to church. Please bring food cut up and ready to serve.

The hallway is a popular spot to congregate, but it would be very helpful if the doorway to the kitchen is kept clear for incoming food. The food could also be dropped off at the kitchen window. Please give the people in the kitchen room by not staying to visit in the kitchen area. People enter church with their hands full of hot food, etc, and need room to navigate, so let's give them some space.

*Marie B*

Daughters and Sons

12-10-19 M.C. Crim

Mercy is given, grace is received  
 Blessings for all, who have believed  
 God became flesh  
 He died and He rose  
 He took all our sins  
 And He made us all whole  
 And in conquering death  
**He conquered it's hold**  
 No longer to fear it  
 Rather joy in new hope  
 Eternity beckons  
 And welcomes us in  
 To the presence of God  
 In a world without sin  
 We all have that promise  
 Each lover of Christ  
 From our Heavenly Father  
 The Father of light  
 The Creator of all  
 He of infinite might  
 Who forgives us and loves us  
 And cares for our plight  
 He molds us and shapes us  
 And we have become  
 Heirs through adoption  
 Daughters and sons.

A Winning Pattern for the New Year

Some anonymous wise person penned the following directions for living without bringing pain to others or oneself:

**“You will never be sorry — for thinking before acting, for hearing before judging, for forgiving your enemies, for being candid and frank, for helping a fallen brother, for being honest in business, for thinking before speaking, for being loyal to God and the church, for standing by your principles, for refusing to participate in gossip, for holding your words when tempted to demean another, for not entertaining impure or hateful thoughts, for sympathizing with the afflicted,**

Cultivating Good Habits

Entering a new year is a good time to inventory our habits — the bad ones as well as the good. Greek philosopher Aristotle once opined on this subject: “Moral excellence comes about as a result of habit. We become just by doing just acts. We become temperate by doing temperate acts. We become brave by doing brave acts.”

Just so, we will become faithful lovers of God by seriously worshiping and faithfully following the Christian way of life. Attending corporate worship, learning more about Christianity, doing good deeds for others and participating in fellowship events are all good habits. They enhance your life and bring joy to people around you.

**Bulletin items must be received by Thursday for the next Sunday’s bulletin.**

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.

*Thank You, Marie*

Congregational Communication and Care

At the December Deacon and Deaconess board meetings we discussed that as an extension of our roles, we will try and work on better communication with the congregation. One of the ways we will be doing this is Dan and Carol Smith will make announcements on Sunday mornings. If you have something to share, please let them know at 952-888-8118.

*Thanks, Carol Smith*

Our Prayer Chains are Active.

If you have a prayer concern, contact Bev Richmond (715-268-4226) or Lynne Peterson at ([lybrpeterson@yahoo.com](mailto:lybrpeterson@yahoo.com)). Contact them if you want to be added to a prayer chain.

Hospital Calls: If 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 Judy Nelson, Linda Wetzig and Carol Smith.



2020



# Apple River Community Church Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Happy New Year	2 9:30a White Cross	3 8:00a Youth meet to leave for Districts 9:00a M.O.P.S.	4
5 8:45a Praise Team Practice 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship	6 6:30p Women's Bible Study	7 9:30a Women' Bible Study	8 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 One-Way Club	9	10	11
12 CEF, Bill Stirrat here 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	13 6:30p Women's Bible Study	14 9:30a Women' Bible Study 6:30p Deacon Mtg. 7:30p Exec. Bd. Mtg.	15 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 One-Way Club	16	17 9:00a M.O.P.S.	18
19 8:45a Praise Team Practice 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship	20 6:30p Women's Bible Study RIPPLE Deadline!!	21 9:30a Women' Bible Study	22 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 One-Way Club	23	24	25
26 8:45a Praise Team Practice 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's	27 6:30p Women's Bible Study	28 9:30a Women' Bible Study	29 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 One-Way Club	30	31	

Bible Quiz: A and B (See Matthew 3:13-17.)  
Puzzle: So that all the peoples of the earth  
might know that the hand of the Lord is power-  
ful. Joshua 4:24 NIV

Ripple Articles **MUST BE** received by the deadline (Jan. 20) 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