



The Ripple



Volume 11, Issue 5
MAY 2019

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, May 5

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

Sunday, May 12

Happy Mother's Day!

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

Sunday, May 19

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

Sunday, May 26

9:30am Sunday School
10:15am Fellowship
10:30am Worship/Children's Church
6:30p Sunday Night Live! (Circle 5)

www.appleriverchurch.org

The State of the Church

Pastor Justin



A recent article was published about the health of the church in the twin Cities. Seeing that we are only a few miles from the border of where this information was gathered, its conclusions are applicable to us as well. This article was shared with the Amery Ministerial and should help us reflect and evaluate what we are doing as an individual church in light of trends from the corporate church.

The information was gathered from Catholic and Protestant churches in the Twin Cities and shares data results from 2010 to 2016. Here are some of the interesting statistics that stuck out to me. The Lutheran Church, both ELCA and Missouri Synod, have declined by an average of 17% in those 5 years. This is significant because there are so many Lutheran churches in this area. The average weekly church attendance rate across the board dropped from 200 in 2010 to 155 in 2016. And those who identify themselves as Evangelicals is declining as there is a significant rise in those who claim to have no religious affiliation.

The survey also looked at churches in age groups, from churches that were less than 10 years old, churches that were 10 to 20 years old, churches 20-50 years old, churches 50 to 100 years old, and churches older than 100 years old. One of the more alarming statistics is that every church age group over 20 years old declined in average weekly attendance over the 5 years surveyed. The only group of churches that averaged growth were those less than 20 years old. The survey concluded that, on average, it seems churches are losing their effectiveness when they get to be more than 20 years old.

The good news is that churches less than 10 years old grew during this time at an increase of 114%. Churches that were 10 to 20 years old grew at an average increase of 10% of weekly attendance. Although most denominations saw a decline during this time period, Assemblies of God and Converge (Baptist General Conference) saw an increase in 24% and 7%, respectively. There has also been a dramatic increase in non-denominational churches in the Twin Cities, with a significant number of the younger growing churches being non-denominational.

The survey pointed out that, on average, bigger churches are not growing faster than smaller churches. In fact, almost 70% of weekly church attenders choose a church of less than 200 people.

There seems to be a move from a liturgical high church to a more experiential, engaged worship service. The survey concluded that

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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).*

Continued from Page 1—The State of the Church

CHURCH OFFICERS 2019

PASTOR

Justin Hosking*

VISITATION PASTOR

Bruce Tanner*

CHAIRMAN

Dick Berhow

DEACONS

Mark Powell

Steve Wright

Rod Wetzig

Odrey Rasmussen

Ron Nelson

Mike Croes

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

SENIOR SAINTS

May 21 at 5:00 P.M.

Potluck dinner will be at

Jim Gorman's apartment at

408 Tower Road #107,

St. Croix Falls.

Come and see Jim's numerous wood carvings.

Ron & Judy Nelson in charge.

POTLUCK SUNDAYS

No potlucks in

May—**Mother's Day**

June—FREE Fishing Weekend at

Palmers (bring potluck)

July—No Potluck

August—Potluck Resumes

SAVE THE DATES:

WOMEN'S FALL

REFRESHER

AT ARROWHEAD BIBLE

CAMP.

SEPTEMBER 20, 21, AND 22.

WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Come, Lend a Hand!

Workday at Church May 4

8:00a—?

Help work on several projects to spruce up **God's church.** **Laurie Lundgren** volunteered to provide lunch.

Come for the day, or even a few hours.

Many hands make light work.

Questions—See Dan Lundgren, trustee.



COMING IN MAY

White Cross is hosting an evening white Cross starting on Wednesday May 15 at 6PM-8PM. Supper will be provided along with a short devotion and many projects for all ladies and kids to work on.

Make sure to check out the White Cross Display table on Sunday, April 28 to see all the work that does happen in a White Cross meeting.

There will be a "Sign-up" sheet in the foyer on Sunday, May 5th. Let us know if you are going to be able to attend.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DAY

Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 9:30 A.M.

White Cross from 9:30 A.M. to Noon.

Coffee, treats and devotions by Sandy Sias

Projects: Tie a lap quilt; work on bandages, gather materials for sewing; dresses, shorts, quilts.

Your Sack Lunch from Noon—12:30 P.M.

Women's Business Meeting 12:30 - 2:00 P.M.

Devotions and coffee: Marlys Johnson

All ladies invited. Join us for the day.



A blessed woman

The last chapter of Proverbs describes a woman who loves God and strives to be a good wife and mother.

Directions: Use the picture clues to complete Proverbs 31:15, 28.

She gets _____ while it is still _____ ;



she provides _____ for her _____



Her _____ rise _____ and



_____ her blessed.



PROVERBS 31:15, 28 (NIV)

See calendar page for answer. The Bible Quiz, puzzle, cartoons and articles are from NewsletterNewsletter to which we subscribe and have permission to reproduce

Ripple: Got News? Upcoming Events? Submit your article by May 22 to be included in the May issue. Preferably by email to arcc@amerytel.net, or put in the Ripple box in the church office.

Bible Quiz

In Matthew's genealogy of Jesus, to what two women is Boaz connected?

- A. Rahab and Ruth
- B. Tamar and Rahab
- C. Ruth and Bathsheba
- D. Bathsheba and Mary



Answer: See calendar page

Let's keep our youth "On Fire" for the Lord.

It's time to Plan for CAMP!

This year's theme is "KNOWN"
 "The Lord knows those who are his." II
 Timothy 2:19

Brochures are available in the foyer. Start registering now.

The first session is June 9.

Early Bird Discount: If your registration is postmarked on or before May 1, you receive \$10 off.

Family Discounts available.

RENT-A-TEEN

Help our youth earn money to pay for camp or Districts Youth Conference!

Spring chores are coming up! Do you want some help –

- Sprucing up your yard?
- Washing windows?
- Spring cleaning?
- Planting flowers?



YOUTH RENT A TEAM

We'd love to help!

There are no set fees – you determine 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, its up to you!!

Thank you for supporting us!!



High School

- Samantha Frankson
- Kendra Tylee
- Calvin Wright

College:

Hallie Krueger





Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Denise Wright
 2 Mike Crim
 3 Jim Hughes
 3 Glen Jr. & Deb Brown (1997)
 4 Paul Anderson
 7 Rebecca White
 8 Lydia Weiberg
 9 Ray & Betty Cheshire (1956)

10 Stan Miller
 11 Laverne & Carol Stevens
 15 Dick Berhow
 16 Mary Munson
 17 Jenna Lundgren
 17 Bruce & Ginger Tanner (1975)
 20 Henry & Joy Soldner (2000)
 21 Helen Elmer

23 Dareld & Sue Lundgren (1959)
 24 Zachary Hosking
 26 Sandra Sias
 31 Jeremiah Beatham
 31 Erin Hosking
 31 Davy Wolter

May 2019						
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 Update—Pioneers

PIONEERS is an organization ministering to unreached people groups with the gospel in creative ways. There are 3,248 members in 104 countries, 212 languages and 324 teams. The people may be Buddhist, Hindu, Animist or Muslim. Sixty percent are of the Muslim faith. PIONEERS started their work in Africa 40 years ago.

These workers may dig wells, purify water, teach about HIV, or teach children’s Bible classes. They often travel by foot, bike or motorcycle.

One of the Pioneers lives in an unnamed city due to security risks. She dresses in traditional gowns and headscarves of the culture. At times, a security guard will accompany her. She sees camels, sheep and goats roaming the city streets. She has a car, rents a house and has a roommate of African descent.

Every morning she gathers for prayer with her team. Five mornings a week she does language studies. This gives her opportunity to discuss beliefs, culture, religion, meaning of words and Holy **Books. Women have often heard about Jesus but don’t believe He is who He claimed to be. She tries to show them why we need a Savior.**

Two or three evenings a week she teaches at the University. In her sociology classes, she teaches community development. This includes soil erosion and caring for the environment.

Pray for our Pioneers and their safety, chances to share their faith, loneliness and endurance. The hot climate is also hard on their skin, and food choices are limited.

Submitted by Judy Nelson

MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in membership, please contact Pastor Justin at pastorjustin@live.com or 763-954-1642
 Or Dick Berhow at 715-268-5768.



Baptism—If you are interested in being baptized, contact Pastor Justin or one of the deacons. Baptism will take place June 2 at Palmers (FREE Fishing Weekend) More info. To follow.



Church Signs—a part of our culture.

By Stan Miller

Calvary Covenant’s sign in Alpha, WI read:

“Happy people are not thankful people, but thankful people are happy people”

Once again, it is the attitude. In this case the attitude of gratitude. Being thankful in your circumstances, whatever they happen to be. Doing the arithmetic of noting your blessings when you realize it is a blessing. To do this thing rightly is to empty yourself of self and fill yourself with God’s wisdom and understanding.

The vessel must be emptied of self, filled with God’s love and blessings. Remember his command to us, “Love God with all your heart, mind, and soul, and love your neighbor as yourself”. A vessel emptied of self is never left on the potter’s shelf. He is the potter and you are the clay!

<p>You are Invited To a celebration! Dareld & Sue Lundgren's 60th Wedding Anniversary Open House Saturday, May 18 1:00—4:00 P.M. At Apple River Church</p>	<p>You are Invited Join Calvin Wright in the celebration of his high school graduation at an open house Saturday, May 18th 3:00 to 6:00 P.M. at their farm. 526 US Hwy 8</p>	<p>Who Ya Gonna Call Being "self-made" may be admirable in the world's eyes, but as numerous people have quipped, self-made people often worship their creator – themselves. As actor Roland Young observed, "I'm a self-made man, but I think if I had it to do over again, I'd call in someone else." St. Paul knows just whom to call. Reflecting on his sinfulness, the apostle writes, "What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?" Paul immediately answers his own question: "Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (See Romans 7:24-25, NIV.)</p>
<p>Sunday, May 5th, Tony and Gresilda Llapushi and family will share in Sunday School and a short time in Church. Learn about their mission with TMS Global. They will be involved in Church planting in the Balkans. <p style="text-align: right;">Submitted by Betty Anderson</p></p>		
<p>Pray for Missions, and give to the Benevolence Fund which helps the Deacons with mission work in our own area.</p>		



Floating on Faith

As a man and his young daughter were boating one day, their vessel sprang a leak. The father knew he'd have to swim to shore but couldn't with the child in tow. She hadn't gotten far in swimming lessons but could float on her back, so he told her to do so and promised to return.

Coast Guard personnel were skeptical that a child could survive so long in the water. But hours later, as the sun set and they considered halting the search, someone spied a red dress amid the waves. The girl, still floating, was singing a hymn. Astounded, rescuers asked how she held on so long. "My daddy said he'd come back for me," she said, "and he never breaks his promises."

Prayer rests on just such trust. We can't know when God will answer or act, but we know he promises never to abandon us and that God keeps his promises. So we can lie back and float – on faith.

TACTICAL Meets at ARCC on May 9 at 6:30p They are hosting Curtis Bowers (Agenda Movies).

Our Prayer Chains are Active.

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

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.

Keep our nation, church, youth, teachers, schools and the sick and hurting in your prayers!

People of Light

On Memorial Day, it is important to pause in gratitude to all those upon whose shoulders we stand. We should remember with great appreciation those who died making helpful, positive contributions – whether large or small – throughout human history. As Christians we should be especially grateful to those whose faith, service and love have enabled us to know the Gospel and its vast implications for the entire earth.

Without our Christian teachers, pastors, missionaries and the ordinary servants of Christ, we would not have **the Good News which is like a great light shining in the world's darkness. They have made sure Christ's precious Light has not gone out or been diminished.**

Memorial Day is a day for us to think about the people of the Light and to express to God our appreciation for them.



2019

Apple River Community Church Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	6 6:30p Women's Bible Study	7 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Deacon Mtg; 7:30p Exec. Bd. Mtg.	1 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way	2 9:30a White Cross—Bring Sack Lunch—See Pg. 2	3	4 8:00a Work Day
12 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church Noon Potluck (Circle 3)	13 6:30p Women's Bible Study	14 6:30p Women's Bible Study (Last session before a summer break)	8 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way	9 6:30p T.A.C.T.I.C.A.L.	12	11
19 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	20 6:30p Women's Bible Study RIPPLE Dead-line!!	21 5:00p Senior Saints Potluck See pg. 2	15 10:00a Men's Bible Study 6-8p White Cross	16	17	18 1:00-4:00p 60th Wedding Anniversary for Darel & Sue Lundgren
26 8:45a Praise Team 9:30a Sunday School 10:15a Coffee & Fellowship 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 7:00p Sunday Night Live! (Circle 4)	27 Memorial Day 6:30p Women's Bible Study	28	22 10:00a Men's Bible Study 6-8p White Cross	23	24	25
			29 10:00a Men's Bible Study 6:00-8:00p White Cross	30	31	

Bible Quiz: Answer: A (See Matthew 1:5.)
Answer: Puzzle: up, night, food, family, children, up, call

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

