



The Ripple



Volume 13, Issue 3

MARCH 2021

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

9:30 AM Sunday School for
ALL Ages

10:30 AM Worship and
Children's Church for ages
3—2nd grade

Inside seating with distancing.
Please use hand sanitizer. Please
exit the sanctuary using the north
and south exits.

Seating for the most vulner-
able is in the Fellowship Hall
(MASKS REQUIRED).

If you wish, stay in your car and
listen to 107.5 on your radio (only
available in the church parking lot).

10:30 AM Livestream On Facebook
Listen to WPCA, 93.1 Amery
for the service on
Sundays at 1:00 P.M.

or

www.appleriverchurch.org

The Ripple is also on this site.

Church Growth

Pastor Justin



Have you ever noticed how different churches are from one another? I have a second cousin who preaches at a church with over 6,000 members. His church has 6 different campus sites and he preaches 8 different times on a Sunday morning. Between services, he has a car and driver waiting for him to drive from one site to the next.

A friend of mine pastors a small church in Minnesota. They meet in an old insurance building with about 50 people each Sunday. In this low-ceiling office, they lay out metal folding chairs and squeeze a piano in the corner. They sing and study the word of God together. It is common for them to share prayer requests and update one another during the service.

Still, a vast majority of churches in America are about the size of our church. 100-150 people gather each Sunday in a building that is comfortable to meet in. These churches have a blend of paid staff and volunteers that proclaim the Gospel.

After watching a recording of a small church's Sunday gathering, I was hit with the question, "Which method of worship is what God wants?"

My mind drifted to the early church that met in the homes of believers. They would come together and share all they had in common with one another. They would eat a meal together and disperse money to those who were in need. As I picture these gatherings, they would have me think that the small church is the best option.

But as I thought, I began to realize that in the beginning of Acts, God added 3,000 to their number in one day. And right after that it says that God added to their number daily those who were being saved. (Acts 2) In a city where some 600,000 people lived, it is easy to see why the early church started meeting on the temple courts (Acts 2:46) because it was the only place big enough for them to all gather. Could you imagine what that would have **been like? Even today, large churches don't have that many people** gathering at one place at one time. It seems that the church that met in the temple would have been quite large.

Continued on Page 2

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 2020

To be Updated After Election of 2021 Officers.

PASTOR

Justin Hosking*

VISITATION PASTOR

Bruce Tanner*

CHAIRMAN

Glen Wright

DEACONS

Rod Wetzig

Odrey Rasmussen

Ron Nelson

Dan Smith

Rich Frankson

TRUSTEES

Dan Lundgren

Steve Wright

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Erin Hosking (Supt.)

Deb Brown (Asst. Supt.)

Denise Luster (Member at Large)

CLERK and SECRETARY

Marie Geist Berhow*

DEACONESS

Judy Nelson

Linda Wetzig

Carol Smith

FINANCIAL

Sue Lundgren*

Joan Talmage*

TREASURER

Mark Powell*



Set your clocks ahead on the night of March 13

Church Growth *Continued from Page 1*

I think the struggle for large, medium, and small churches is the same – that is we get comfortable with the status quo. We might be in **the church of 6,000 and feel like we don't want to see it grow because** then we have to figure out new space and how to fit more services in. In the small church, we become comfortable with our close friends and have difficulty making room for new people. The same thing can be in our medium sized church as well. Growth makes us uncomfortable.

If a church is to grow it has to give up being comfortable. The church has to believe what it says about the Good News being for ALL people. If we believe it is for everyone, then we should be able to make room for everyone. And, according to Acts 2, we would expect the Lord to add to our numbers daily. Though we might verbally confess to **believing the Gospel is for all people, our actions speak the words, "I like it like it is now," or "I'm comfortable and don't want to change."**

Let's be sure we are open to the people God brings into our fellowship. We should go out of our way to develop friendships and encourage those who choose to make this their church home. Yes, it is impossible to know everyone; however, we can always foster encouragement, joy, mutual love and respect with everyone we come into contact with within the church. God has called us His children, we can love those whom God has chosen.

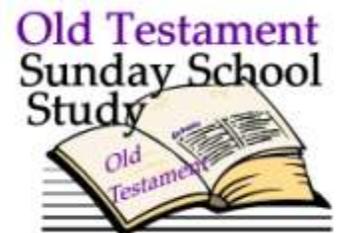
New Adult Sunday School class, beginning March 21
"Story Thru the Old Testament", taught by Rod Wetzig

Most of us know the major Old Testament stories: "David and Goliath", "Daniel in the lions' den", "Creation", "the Flood", etc. However, would you be able to place them in chronological order? Would you know why God chose to put them in the Bible? Would you be able to see practical lessons from each of the stories?

Beginning, March 21, the Auditorium Sunday School class will begin a study of 26 important Old Testament stories, in chronological order, and learn how to get the major facts in our minds, how to tell them to others, how to apply them, etc.

Much of the world learns through "story-telling". God knew this, and we should learn how to pass His Word on to those around us.

All are invited.



WOMEN'S WHITE CROSS—March 11

9:30– Devotions by Fay Caneday,

Coffee and Treats provided by Sue Lundgren.

Projects: Tie a quilt, sew bandages and roll, clean flower cupboard in back room.

Ladies, please join us for this morning of projects.

Noon: Lunch - Bring your own sack lunch.

12:30p Women's Ministries Business Meeting followed with devotions and dessert provided by Erin Hosking.



BIRDS IN THE WORD

The Bible mentions many kinds of birds. How many have you seen?

Directions: Unscramble the bird names, using the Bible references and pictures as clues. Then insert the final unscrambled bird name to complete the passage below.

-  VDEO _ _ _ _ _ (Genesis 8:8)
-  LWO _ _ _ _ _ (Psalm 102:6)
-  GEELA _ _ _ _ _ (Isaiah 40:31)
-  TOKRS _ _ _ _ _ (Jeremiah 8:7)
-  APROSWRS _ _ _ _ _

“Are not five _____ sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ... Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many _____.”
LUKE 12:6-7, NIV

PUZZLE A: Answer on Pg. 6 The Bible Quiz, puzzle, cartoons and articles are from Newsletter to which we subscribe and have permission to reproduce

RENT-A-TEEN

Winter is here. Do you need help? Don't forget our youth would like to help and earn money for Bible Camp and/or Districts!

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.

START THINKING CAMP!

Camp Brochures are here!
 (See Entrance table)

Theme: GRIMM'S FOREST
 Even in the Struggle He is Good
 Psalm 13

Early Registration Saving Opportunities:

- Save \$20 if postmarked by April 1
- Save \$10 if postmarked by May 1
- Family Discount—First two children—pay in full.
 Third—\$25 off.

Look forward to Lara Sykes from Arrowhead to be here March 7th.

Fun
 Friends
 Stories
 Crafts
 Bible
 Lessons



Congratulations Amery Warriors Wrestlers for winning Conference, Regional, Sectionals and State Championships. Our own Mason Tylee won his state match by decision. A great accomplishment.

Way to go, Warriors

Kendra Tylee leaves for Bend, Oregon on Monday, March 1. Kendra will mentor at Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch, a Christian ranch that works with broken families and kids at risk.

It will be a girls road trip to Oregon as Kendra, Liza and Brenda will drive to Oregon. Pray for safety and safe travels.

Kendra has a place to stay and it will be an adventure for her. God does provide, as the housing situation was recently resolved.

Kendra will post updates on her Facebook page.

Bible Quiz: As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, they longingly remembered some of the foods they'd had in Egypt. Which foods were not mentioned?

- A. carrots and potatoes
- B. onions and garlic
- C. fish and leeks
- D. melons and cucumbers



Answer: See Page 6

Riddle: A What has a face and two hands, but no arms or legs?
 Riddle B What has to be broken before you can use it?

See Pg. 6



“Why call it Daylight Savings Time when the service feels so much longer.”



Birthdays and Anniversaries **

MARCH

2021

1 Elise Powell 2 Melissa White 3 Susan Hawkinson-Silvernagel 7 Bruce Tanner 8 Linda Gale 9 Linda Bibeau 10 Lee & Deb Elmer (1972) 11 Arlue Gray	14 Curtis Lundgren 16 Wylis & Susan Silvernagel 17 Carol Smith 18 Lorraine Aune 20 Joan Talmage 23 Simon Soldner 23 Deb Elmer	23 Glen Holecek 24 Judy Nelson 24 Brenda Tylee 25 Darlene Holecek 27 Bev Cree 27 Wylis Silvernagel 31 Mary Christenson
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March 2021						
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			

** If we missed your birthday or anniversary, it was not intentional. If you are new to the congregation, we most likely are missing your information. Please update us by email at arcc@amerytel.net or put a note in the Ripple box in the church office.

March Mission of the Month — Duane Dietz

Duane, a single man, grew up in Wisconsin. He serves with the Evangelical Free Church mission in Tokyo, Japan. He has been a career missionary for over 30 years.

Tokyo Multicultural Church ministers to people of many nationalities. The Prinses and Littles also work there with Duane. They hold services in English and Japanese.

Covid restrictions impacted their church and they have had on-line services. The Olympics will be held in Tokyo this summer and they are hoping to have a ministry to tourists from other countries. Due to ancestry worship, the work goes slow and few commitments to Christ are made.

A Grand Entrance

Decades ago, as English actress Gertrude Lawrence waited behind the curtain for a play to begin, the queen upstaged her by arriving at the royal box to much applause. "What an entrance," Lawrence remarked, to which her friend, playwright Noel Coward, replied, "What a part!"



Jesus certainly made a grand entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, entering to adoring shouts of "Hosanna!" But worldly glory and fame weren't his intent. Instead, our Lord knew that his Father had prepared a sacrificial role for him. Jesus handled the adulation with dignity and poise. The humble yet courageous Son of God knew that danger, despair and death awaited — but that he must endure it all to fulfill prophecy for humanity's sake.

The pageantry of Palm Sunday is a stark contrast to the role of Suffering Servant that Jesus faced a few short days later. Yet each event during Holy Week represents victory — for Jesus as well as for his beloved children. Palm Sunday is a glorious day, so let us wave palms and shout, "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" The Savior has come. What an entrance! What a part!

Executive Board Meetings

Those committees/boards that would come to the monthly Executive Board Meetings if the revised Constitution passes, are welcome to come now. Get a taste of meeting together. The monthly Executive Board Meeting meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00p.

When God Giggles

Before dinner, our family was preparing to pray, which we do by holding hands. Upon discovering that one child hadn't washed his hands, my husband struck a contorted pose to avoid physical contact. The mealtime blessing quickly dissolved into laughter as we each peeked at him.

Afterward, as we passed around the food, I asked, "What do you imagine God thought about us laughing during prayer?" One child quickly replied, "I think he was laughing right along with us." Yes! Although prayer is reverent, God invites us to converse with words, emotions — and even giggles!

—Janna Firestone

FREE SIGN

The sign is 4 feet X 8 feet.

One side says: "God loves you. He always has. He always will".

The other side says:

"GOD.....the Betsy Ross flag then CONSTITUTION".

The sign is located at 1934 U.S. Hwy. 8.

(The cross is not to be given away.)

If interested, contact mcrimm14@startmail.com

Prayer Concerns



Congregational Care:

- Those going through cancer treatments.
- Widows and those going through the grief process

Ongoing Concerns:

- Pray for our church leadership to have wisdom as they guide our church and protect its integrity and core values.
- Pray about the proposed Constitution.
- Pray about an assistant pastor.
- Pray for our congregation to embrace spiritual discipline including daily Bible reading, prayer and scripture memorization.
- Pray for intentional focus of winning others to the Lord.
- Pray for revival in our churches and a spiritual awakening in America.
- The homebound and in nursing homes who are unable to have personal contact of visitors.
- Those struggling to find work, reliable shelter and healthy food.

Concerns Beyond our Doors:

- Our local, state, national and international leaders.
- Teachers, staff, parents and students this school year which will be different than normal.
- Racial inequality in our community and around the world.
- Those afflicted with COVID, their caregivers, and healthcare professionals.
- Our elected president and other officials, sheriff, police and fire fighters.

Our Prayer Chains are Active.

If you have a prayer concern, contact Lorraine Aune (715-268-2429) or Deb Brown at debbriel37@gmail.com. Contact them if you want to be added to a prayer chain.

Hospital Calls: If someone is hospitalized, please contact Pastor Justin. The deaconesses also need to know so they can visit, send cards, etc. Our deaconesses are Judy Nelson, Linda Wetzig and Carol Smith. Due to HIPPA laws, hospitals do not call when a member is admitted.

Thank You!

It's B-a-a-a-c-k

Sunday Night live is coming back March 28!

The new time is 6:00 P.M.

Due to COVID restrictions, there will be no lunch following the night of musical potluck.

Come out for a night of entertainment.



Good Friday Service

A combined service, as in the past, will be held.

Watch for more information in the bulletin and April's Ripple.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Updates for the non-picture directory are still coming in. We include both members and non-member friends.

If you haven't completed a green sheet, please do so ASAP. Or, email arcc@amerytel.net with name(s), addresses, emails, phone numbers, and birthdates (First name and MO/Day) and Anniversaries MO/DAY/(and YR—if desired).

I will be contacting a few of you because I know you moved, or you filled out a green sheet but it was incomplete, or I have questions. We want to get the right information.

The directory is coming together and plan to have it ready before the next Ripple.

Questions? Contact Marie at 715-268-5768

Thank You!

**Church
Directory
Update**





2021

Apple River Community Church Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:30a Women's Bible Study	3 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way	4 7:00p Men's Bible Study	5	6
7 Welcome Arrowhead Reps. 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	8 * * * 10:00a	9 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Deacon Mtg. 7:00p Exec. Bd. Mtg.	10 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way	11 9:30 White Cross-Noon: Sack lunch 12:30p Women's Ministries Meeting 7:00p Men's Bible Study	12	13
14 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	15	16 9:30a Women's Bible Study	17 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way	18 7:00p Men's Bible Study	19	20
21 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	22 <u>RIPPLE</u> <u>Deadline!!</u>	23 9:30a Women's Bible Study 5:00p Sr. Saints	24 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way	25 7:00p Men's Bible Study	26 5:30p . Next Gen	27
28 Palm Sunday 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 6:00p Sunday Night Live (no food refreshments)	29	30	31 10:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30p One-Way			
Bible Quiz Answer: A (See Numbers 11:4-6) Puzzle: dove, owl, eagle, stork, sparrows Riddles: A= A clock; B= An egg Ripple Articles MUST BE received by the deadline (March 22) to be in the March Ripple. Send to arcc@amerytel.net (PREFERRED) or put in Ripple box in church office. Thank You, Marie						

