



The Ripple



Volume 13, Issue 6

JUNE 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.

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.

The Church of Jesus and the Government

Pastor Justin

Recently, I was reading a section of a book by Wayne Grudem, an evangelical theologian. He had some good words I would like to share with you about how the Church and the Government should relate to one another. Through the past year, we have felt the infringement of government policies in all areas of our lives. We are **left asking questions of "What authority of Government in the life of the Church?" and "What is the role of the Church in the sphere of the Government?"**

Starting with a basic thought will help clarify our thoughts on the subject. We start by acknowledging the concept that Jesus taught in John 18:35 that His kingdom is NOT of this world. Jesus explains that if it were of this world, his servants would rise up and fight. We believe Jesus to be telling us that the Kingdom of Heaven is not to be found on the earth during this time. There will come a time in the future, when the Kingdom will come down to Earth and the Lamb of God will wage war. But, that is not now. That is also not our job to fight that battle. God will do what God will do, when God wills it to be done. For now, the church is an embassy of Heaven through which God makes His appeal to all humankind. We are Ambassadors of this divine embassy.

Del Tackett, who led the "Truth Project" videos, said that the church and the state govern two separate "spheres" of influence within the world as we know it. These spheres have clearly defined borders and do not have authority over one another. We can look at the Anglican Church of England and the Queen/Parliament as a bad example of this. In that setting, the Queen and the Parliament have authority over all that the Anglican Church teaches and who sits in leadership of the church. **This doesn't fit with Jesus' idea of the role of His church in the world. Nor,** would the practice of the Catholic church of the Middle Ages, which held power to appoint kings, queens and rulers over the lands that the church presided over. Matthew 22:21 teaches us that we are to give to **Caesar those things that belong to Caesar. It isn't the battle of the church to fight.** We operate on two different playing fields.

But, the Church is to stand and fight is for the freedom of people to worship as they see fit. This thought is scary in the modern world. Jesus, as he is walking with the disciples through the Samaritan towns, reached a place where a village would not receive Him. The disciples turned to Jesus and asked if they should call down fire from heaven to consume the town. Jesus strongly rebukes them. He goes on to say,

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*
Isaac Karpenski*, Associate

CHAIRMAN

Glen Wright

DEACONS

Rod Wetzig
Odney 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*

* = Appointed

The Church of Jesus and the Government—Continued from Page 1

Jesus strongly rebukes them. He goes on to say, "The Son of Man did not come to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through him." Jesus seems to stand with the idea that men can worship as they see fit. Yahweh will sort it all out in the end. I think Jesus would be appalled with the idea that we would try to use force to convert people to Christianity, as the Catholic church did in the Crusades. It doesn't fit with the ministry of Jesus. He would never force people to convert as is popular in Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu countries today.

Grudem says, "The civil government should not enforce laws requiring or prohibiting kinds of church doctrine, or abridging the people's freedom to worship as they chose." In other words, we need to be ok with people choosing to follow false religions and even defend their right to do so. The basis for this idea is the sovereignty of God and his omnipotent power. God is able to defend Himself. Revelation teaches us that Yahweh wins in the end. Christianity is able to defend itself in the arena of public opinion and holds up well against the attacks of false teachers. We do not need to fear those who would seek to destroy Jesus' teaching. Rather, we should seek the freedom to worship as Christ has called us. The only way to do this is to seek the freedom for all humankind to worship as they see fit as well.

I want to encourage you to keep the Church separate from the Government. We cannot legislate morality to the people of this country. True morality, doing what is right, only comes from Christ changing our hearts. Only when Jesus is enthroned in our hearts and minds can we live out lives that please him. As a country, we can "act" like a Christian country by forcing people to "act" like Christians. But that doesn't mean a country is Christian, it just means we are good at acting like one. Only when we bend our will to be obedient to Christ, have changed hearts, flee from wickedness and pursue Christ's lordship in all areas of our lives would we ever be a Christian nation. But, that will also require us to abandon our Republic form of government for a Theocracy where Yahweh is ruling all will that happen. In the meantime, we seek the freedom for all to worship as they see fit and trust the rest to God.

Welcome, Isaac Karpenski
Our New and First Associate Pastor

The membership met on April 25 and elected Isaac as our associate pastor. Rob Weise, a director from Forest Lake District Evangelical Free Church commissioned Isaac and the congregation at our worship service on May 23.

Isaac will mainly work with the youth. He has several tentative events planned.

His office is on the west side of the sanctuary. He has renovations planned for the church library.

Be sure to welcome Isaac and give him your support and encouragement.



Keep our Pastors in your prayers.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY—JUNE 3

Join us for lunch on Thursday, June 3,
11:30AM at
Pure and Simple. Sign Up sheet in foyer.
No White Cross for June or July.

All Ladies Welcome!



June 21

Puzzle!

For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode
Proverbs 3:5, NRSV.

CLUES:

Y = T, D = I

Y K T P Y D X Y J Z

V Q K R F D Y J O V V

C Q T K J Z O K Y, O X R

R Q X Q Y K Z V C Q X

C Q T K Q F X D X P D L J Y.

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



FREE FISHING
JUNE 6th
After Church

Come to our annual Free Fishing event at Carol and Dan Smiths. It's a fun time with games and potluck.

Address: 1161 Jeans Lane, Amery, WI

Boats and life preservers needed. If you don't have these, come anyway, as some will be available. Potluck around 4:00 PM, so you may want to eat a sandwich earlier.

Bible Quiz:

Complete this proverb: "Like snow in _____ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

- A. springtime
- B. summer
- C. seedtime
- D. autumn

Answer: See Page 6



RENT-A-TEEN

Do you need help with a project? Our youth can help and earn money for Bible Camp and/or Districts! There are no set fees.

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



Thank you for thinking of Rent-a-Teen to help you.



Our Graduates, Sarah Frankson and Corbin Wright each received a beautiful quilt made by our White Cross quilting ladies. Pictured is Sarah Frankson with her quilt and our quilting ladies. Thank You!

Thank You

To the Women's Ministries, Thank you for the wonderful quilt, it is very nice. -Corbin



June 3—5:30-9 PM at Michael Park in Amery: Hope Alive— for ALL Ages
Great Music, Good Food, Games for all ages!
Three Bands!!

June 16 Hike at Wisconsin Interstate Park, St. Croix Falls. (Bring money for lunch.) Watch the bulletin for more info.

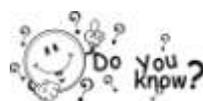


June 11 Bonfire/Lakeside Event at Dan & Carol Smith's.. The bulletin will have more details.



Riddle:

What belongs to you but is used more by others?



You are Invited to **Celebrate Sarah Frankson's High School Graduation!!**

Saturday, June 19 from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
33606 Shady Oak Trail, Shafer, MN 55074
RSVP 651.249.8247
Texting Compatible

Prayer Concerns



Congregational Care:

- Those going through cancer treatments.
- Widows, widowers 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.
- 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.

 BLOOD DRIVE	Bloodmobile June 10 At ARCC Noon—6:00 P.M.	<u>SAVE THE DATE:</u> September 17-19 WOMEN'S FALL REFRESHER AT ARROWHEAD BIBLE CAMP. Spend the whole weekend , part of it or just for the day. Full Weekend: \$100 Fri-Sat. only \$65 Sat-Sun \$ 65 Sat only \$32
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Father's Day—More than a day
Father's Day was first observed in America in 1910. In 1923 the third Sunday of June was set as the official day, and in 1924 President Coolidge recommended its national observance. Today it has a fixed place in the calendar of special days in our country.
 But devotion to and pride in fathers does not need to wait for official approval. As long as there have been families, love and respect for fathers has existed.

<p>Thank You!</p> <p>Gary and Bonnie Fredrickson hank you for the prayers, phone calls, cards, etc. We really appreciate it very much.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">God Bless</p>		<p>Thank You, Church Family</p> <p>For your prayers, cards and calls during Dareld's recent illness. We appreciate your prayers for continued healing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dareld & Sue Lundgren</p>
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Apple River Community Church Calendar 2021 of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10:00a Men's Bible Study	3 11:00a Women's Ministries Lunch at Pure n Simple 5:30-9 PM Hope Alive—see Pg. 3 7:00p Men's Bible Study	4	5
6 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church Following Worship: FREE Fishing and Potluck at Dan Smith's	7	8 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Deacon Mtg; 7:00p Exec. Bd. Mtg.	9 10:00a Men's Bible Study	10 9:30a White Cross 7:00p Men's Bible Study	11 Youth Event— at Smith's See Pg. 3	12
13 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/ Children's Church	14	15 9:30a Women's Bible Study 5:00p Sr. Saints	16 10:00a Men's Bible Study Youth Event—Hike See pg. 3	17 7:00p Men's Bible Study	18	19
20 Father's Day 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	21 <u>RIPPLE</u> <u>Deadline!</u>	22	23 10:00a Men's Bible Study	24	25	26
27 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 6:00p Sunday Night Live (no food refreshments)	28	29	30 10:00a Men's Bible Study	Don't forget to put your upcoming events in the Ripple. News about youth events, etc. are all ways welcome in YOUR Ripple!		
Bible Quiz Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV.) Puzzle: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5 NRSV Riddle: Your name				Ripple Articles MUST BE received by the deadline (June 21) to be in the July Ripple. Send to arcc@amerytel.net (PREFERRED) or put in Ripple box in church office.		Thank You, Marie