



The Ripple



Volume 13, Issue 12

DECEMBER 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

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.

How Do I Feel Loved?

Pastor Justin Hosking

As we approach the holidays, I wanted to give you some encouragement about how others love you. If you have been in a relationship, you know you **don't always feel loved. Sometimes, you might feel that people who should love you, are not loving you.** This feeling of being forgotten, overlooked or even annoyed by those who should be loving us can be unsettling. When we **don't feel loved we might get depressed or lash out in anger.** So how do we understand love from others?

First, people express love by how they feel love. One person feels love by touch and they will frequently touch you. It might be a pat on the back, or a hug or a touch on the shoulder – all appropriate types of touch. For the person who feels love by receiving gifts, they typically express love by giving gifts. For the person who feels love through conversation, they will come talk your ear off and leave you gazing off into the sky.

Second, people often don't express love in a manner that you express love. If you think about the options people have for expressing love (i.e. gifts, time, touch, communication, acts of service) it is easy to see that there is a 4 in 5 **chance that they won't be speaking the same language in which you like to feel loved.** You might want your grandchild to come visit you and bake cookies, but they want to send you a craft they made at school. You might want time, but they want a gift.

So, if they are expressing love in a manner that you don't connect with, does that mean that you aren't loved? Does that mean that they are doing something wrong? Does it give you reason to dive into despair and proclaim, "Nobody loves me; this holiday thing is awful! I wish people would just love me!"

Obviously NOT! You can't assume that they don't love you because you don't feel loved.

What is the solution? Do you tell others what they are supposed to do? Do you spell out your expectations for them and insist they love you the way you best feel love? I have spent years trying to help others understand how I **feel love and how to best love me. But it doesn't work. Sure, you can get a temporary fix from instructing others, but the next holiday, the next event, the next time it comes up, they revert back to the way they feel love.** (A side note- in marriage relationships, we commit to learning about the other

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 2022 Officers.

PASTOR

Justin Hosking*
Isaac Karpenske*, Associate

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*

* = Appointed



The Gift that Changed the World

How Do I Feel Loved? - *Continued from Page 1*

person and trying to love them in a manner that allows them to feel love. But in most relationships, it doesn't work that way.)

The point is this: You are loved even if others aren't loving you the way you want to be loved. We just have to love them enough to see how they are trying to love us.



Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
5:00 P.M.
Friday,
December 24

Christmas Program
Sunday,
December 12
during Morning
Worship.



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 to go with soup. And, bring games!

ANNUAL MEETING

December 19
Following Morning Worship

Reports for 2021 are due no later than Wednesday, December 15. At least one report has already come in—Thank You! A box/tray is in the church office for your report.

The Annual Meeting is now in December rather than January due to the new constitution and we have officers in place before the next year. This is especially important for the writing of checks, etc.

Marie Geist Berhow, Secretary

By the way, our officers for the last two years have done a fantastic job. They served longer than their original term and worked on the Constitution revision. We have gone through meetings with masks on due to COVID, making it hard to understand who moved their **mouth to make or second a motion.** (Oh, that's just my dilemma in trying to take minutes)

Please be supportive of your church board in the coming year.



Women's Ministries—Thursday,
December 2

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH FOR ALL LADIES OF THE CHURCH.
PLEASE SIGN UP IN FOYER BY NOVEMBER 28.

WHITE CROSS: Our packed tote is on the way to Africa. We had 75# of rolled bandages, dresses, shorts, kimono kits for new born babies.

Thank you all for your help in making this happen



What's in a name?
 An angel told Joseph what to name Mary's baby. Solve the puzzle to discover the name's meaning.

Directions: Begin at the circled H below and follow the arrows. Circle every other letter, and then place them in order to complete Matthew 1:21.

"S_e w_ll __ve b ir__
 to __ s_n, and __u a_e to
 gi_e _i_ the __me J__us,
 b_c_u__ he _ill s__e his
 __op_e f_o_ t__ir s_n_."

MATTHEW 1:21, NIV

START HERE

U E L W B A R V H P Q E F L S R Z M
 H M V S R B O L Y Q O X A V H R T
 F M K N L A D E G S C E J A T S
 A I N G F I P H S C I B E J H A

Puzzle 1 Answer: See Page 6

Membership Class
 Considering membership? Just want to learn more about us? Come to the membership class on December 5. Time to be announced.

Riddle: I'm light as a feather, yet the strongest man can't hold me for more than 5 minutes. What am I?

Bible Quiz:
 In Matthew's genealogy, which woman is not mentioned as Jesus' ancestor?

A. Tamar D. Ruth
 B. Rahab E. Sarah
 C. Mary F. Bathsheba

Answer: See Page 6

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!
 Help is needed in many areas of the church.

Children's Church: We need a volunteer to help with Children's Church once a month. This is a great service for the children and a help during morning worship when young ones need special attention and their parents can be more in tune to the message. See Erin Hosking to help with this "Ministry Opportunity".



Greeters: A friendly greeting at the front door is very welcoming and makes newcomers feel welcomed. Let's not give them the cold shoulder. A smile and greeting goes a long way. If you are not comfortable giving a hand-shake—that's okay. They may be avoiding touch also, but a smile reaches a long way. A sign-up sheet is in the entryway. Another "Ministry Opportunity"



LOVE YOUR neighbor AS YOURSELF.
Mark 12:31

If only . . .

There are many of you ... who think to yourselves: "If only I had been there! How quick I would have been to help the Baby! I would have washed his linen. How happy I would have been to go with the shepherds to see the Lord lying in the manger!"

Yes, you would! You say that because you know how great Christ is, but if you had been there at that time, you would have done no better than the people of Bethlehem. ... Why don't you do it now? You have Christ in your neighbor. You ought to serve him, for what you do to your neighbor in need you do to the Lord Christ himself.

—Martin Luther

"The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid."
 —Martin Luther

What's on your list?

A little smile, a word of cheer,
 A bit of love from someone near,
 A little gift from one held dear,
 Best wishes for the coming year...
 These make a Merry Christmas!

—John Greenleaf Whittier"

Senior Saints Potluck
 Tuesday, December 14 at noon

Minutes of Special Meetings and Executive Board Meetings are posted on the bulletin board outside the office door.



Birthdays and Anniversaries—DECEMBER

2021

2 Rod Wetzig
 4 Gloria Soldner
 6 Mike & Sheila Crim
 8 Dawn Lundgren
 9 Don Nelson
 9 Mitchell Symbal
 10 Bruce Beatham
 13 Candice Beatham

13 Calvin Wright
 13 Autumn Zimmerman
 14 Joyce Brown
 14 Clyde & MaryAnn Wright (1963)
 15 Ward & Suzette Taber (1984)
 17 Tiffany Peterson
 20 Larry & Annette Strandine (1965)

21 Logan Schug
 25 Deb Brown
 26 Brian & Tonja Nelson (2015)
 26 Wayne & Barb Tanner (1997)
 29 Linda Belland
 29 Glen & Louise Wright (1962)
 30 Mary Ann Wright

December 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.

December Mission of the Month—Child Evangelism Fellowship, St. Croix Chapter
 Bill Stirrat and Alice Brown are on staff in the area.

As most of you know, I recently returned from Children’s Ministries Institute® located in Warrenton, MO. I spent five weeks there learning how ministry with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) is operated and how to be a good leader that guides my followers and encourages them in their own walk with God. Throughout my time there, although I missed people, I had an unexplainable sense of peace that I know came from God. Thank you for your prayers! It was an amazing experience, meeting the godly men and women who work in the International Headquarters of CEF, and seeing their hearts for reaching kids around the world with the Gospel.

I will return to Warrenton around the end of January 2022 and stay until mid-March for my final seven weeks of training. This training will enable me to work for CEF full-time and train teachers to teach children in an effective manner. Please continue to pray for me. This stint will be longer than the first one, and the classes themselves will be harder and longer. I will need to be reliant on God to do this well. Thank you for all the supportive prayers, cards, and even finances. I plan to continue with CEF until God calls me out.

Submitted by Alice Brown



Joy amid suffering

Only Matthew records the holy family’s “flight into Egypt,” linking Advent with Lent and Christmas with Good Friday. In an article titled “Joy to the World/Pain in the World,” James I. Cook expresses gratitude that Matthew documents the slaughter of the innocents: “I turn to it again and again, when someone I know loses a loved one at the height of the Christmas season. It helps me — and I hope it helps them — to remember that theirs are not the first tears to fall on Christmas; to recall that there has never been a Christmas of pure peace and happiness; [to recognize] that ‘joy to the world’ has always been sung to the accompaniment of much ‘pain in the world.’”

—adapted from *Homiletics*

“All the Christmas presents in the world are worth nothing without the presence of Christ.”

—David Jeremiah

“God goes to those who have time to hear him — and so on this cloudless night he went to simple shepherds.”

—Max Lucado

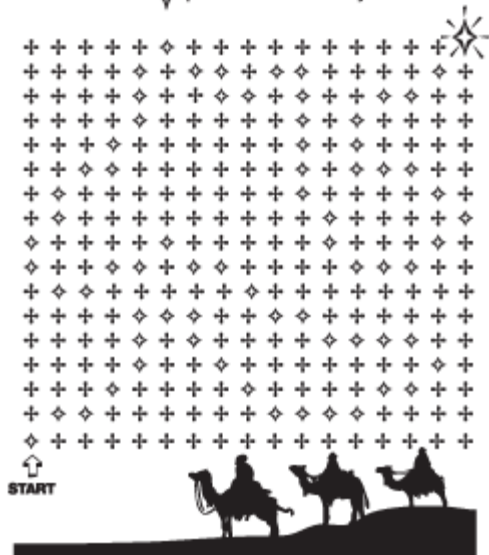


Sierra Amelia Gale Osborne

Sierra went to be with the Lord on Sunday, November 21, following a tragic accident. She was 16 years old. She went to Districts with the ARCC youth several times and committed herself to Christ.
Visitation: Sunday November 28 from 2-5 p.m. at Williamson White Funeral Home.
Service: Monday November 29 at 3:00 p.m. at Apple River Community Church. There will be a viewing between 2:00-3:00 p.m. that same day at the church.

Puzzle!

Starting in the lower-left corner, help the wise men follow the path that leads to baby Jesus.



Now unscramble these words to discover what gifts the wise men brought Jesus.

LD OG NCAKNRIENFSE RYHMR

Answer: gold, frankincense, myrrh

Prayer Concerns

Congregational Care:

- Those going through cancer treatments.
- Those afflicted with COVID, their caregivers, and healthcare professionals.
- Widows, widowers and going through the process of grief, especially Tasha, Sierra Osborne’s mother, other family and friends.
- Safety for those travelling during the holidays.

Ongoing Concerns:

- Pray for our church leadership to have wisdom to guide our church, protect its integrity and core values.
- 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.
- Racial inequality in our community and around the world.
- Our elected president and other officials, sheriff, police and fire fighters.
- Our missionaries.
- Our children in school, as well as their teachers.

Our Prayer Chains are Active.

If you have a prayer concern, contact Lorraine Aune (715-268-2429) or pastorjustin@live.com or 763-954-1642. 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 in 2021 are Judy Nelson, Linda Wetzig and Carol Smith.

A Season of waiting Our oven recently bit the dust, and the needed replacement part is no longer manufactured. Due to an appliance shortage, we had to wait eight weeks for a new oven! Yet even amid inconvenience, I see God’s purpose. We were thankful to have a grill and slow cookers in the meantime. We creatively attempted to cook favorite meals in different ways. And though we craved anything baked in an oven — cookies, casseroles, even chicken nuggets — we realized that waiting eight weeks for an oven isn’t truly a trying time.

Many of us wait for much greater milestones and miracles: physical healing, the return of a prodigal child, an end to financial struggles. Paul offers us hope as we wait: “May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had” (Romans 15:5, NIV).

When you’re in a season of waiting — including Advent! — consider what you’re thankful for and what you crave. Tell God how you’re feeling and ask for endurance while you wait.

—Janna Firestone

Family Photo An 8-year-old girl was showing her 4-year-old sister some pictures from her Bible. The younger sister was fascinated by a picture of Mary and baby Jesus. After examining it intently, she asked, “But where’s Joseph?”

The older sister thought for a moment and replied, “He’s taking the picture.”



2021

Apple River Community Church Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00a Men's Bible Study * 5:30p See Note Below	2 9:30a Women's Ministry Brunch 7:00p Men's Bible Study	3	4
5 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	6	7 9:30a Women's Bible Study	8 10:00a Men's Bible Study * 5:30p See Note Below	9 7:00p Men's Bible Study	10	11
12 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/ Children's Christmas Program 11:45a Potluck	13	14 Noon: Sr. Saints 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Deacon Mtg. 7:00p Exec. Bd. Mtg	15 10:00a Men's Bible Study * 5:30p See Note Below	16 7:00p Men's Bible Study <small>(6:30p TACTICAL using the bldg.)</small>	17	18
19 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 11:45a Annual Meeting	20 <u>RIPPLE</u> <u>Deadline!!</u>	21	22 10:00a Men's Bible Study	23 7:00p Men's Bible Study	24 5:00p Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25
26 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 7:00p Sunday Night Live	27	28	29 10:00a Men's Bible Study	30 7:00p Men's Bible Study	31 5:00p Soup & Games	
Bible Quiz Answer: E (See Matthew 1:1-17.) Puzzle: She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21 NIV Riddle: Breath			* 5:30p One-Way, and Impact meet at 5:30p weekly. MOPS joins them Dec. 8.			Ripple Articles for January MUST BE received by the deadline (Dec. 20) Send to arcc@amerytel.net (PREFERRED) or put in Ripple box in church office. Bulletin deadline: Wednesday's. Thank You, Marie