



The Ripple



Volume 14, Issue 1

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.

Reflecting on 2021

Pastor Isaac Karpenske



As I reflect on the ministry opportunities we've had this year, it's been amazing to see God's providence in every circumstance, both big and small. I'm thankful He brought me to Apple River to serve as your Associate Pastor. I've made many great connections with people and continue to build relationships with members. I'm also thankful for my friend, co-pastor, mentor, and brother in Christ, Justin, for what he's done as well. I'm thankful to have completed my M.Div at the University of Northwestern - St. Paul. It's been a busy but awesome time, and I'm excited to see what God's going to do with the insights and wisdom gained from my studies.

Apple River has seen some awesome things take place. We've seen over 20 new members added to the membership this past year, dedications, a major renovation of the church garage, a revision of the structure of youth ministry at ARCC, and some fun opportunities with our youth and emerging adults. Events such as the Hangout at Dan and Carol Smith's, and (recently) volunteering at Salvation Army before Christmas break, all have been fun and have helped the students grow closer to each other and to Christ. Meeting up with the Emerging Adults for pizza, bible study, and games has also been fun. Lord willing, more opportunities will come for building relationship and discipleship.

Looking ahead to 2022, I'm excited to see what God has in store for ARCC. The kids are getting ready for DISTRICTS, Justin and I have a solid preaching schedule lined up, and the opportunities for ministry continue to grow. Lord willing, we will see another year of blessings and opportunities!



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 2022

To be Updated After Final Election of the "Open" 2022 Officers needed to complete Roster.

PASTOR

Justin Hosking*
Isaac Karpenske*, Associate

CHAIRMAN

Glen Wright

ELDER BOARD

Odrey Rasmussen (1 Yr.)
Rich Frankson (2 Yr.)
Kris Zimmerman (3 Yr.)

DEACONS

Ron Nelson (1 Yr.)
Dan Smith (1 Yr.)
Open
Open

DEACONESS

Carol Smith (1 Yr.)
Sandy Sias (2 Yr.)
Bev Cree (3 Yr.)

MISSIONS BOARD

Claudine Brown

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Joy Soldner

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Sue Lundgren

TREASURER

Mark Powell

TRUSTEES

Open
Open

CLERK/SECRETARY

Open



Welcome New Members

ARCC was happy to receive 17 new members in December, with another 3 to join soon.

The names of our New Members are posted on the bulletin board. Remember to greet them and welcome them.



New Year's Eve At Church was
Soup & Game Night
Friday, December 31



Despite the weather, about 30 people came for a night of food, fellowship and fun! There were several delicious soups, delicious breads and dips, and other goodies. The younger generation stayed later for movies, etc.

Fans On or Off?

The answer is preferably ON. If the furnace is on, the fans should be ON.

The temperature in the Fellowship Hall at sitting level can feel very cool if the fans are not on. We recently checked the temperature at the ceiling level and sitting level with the fans off. The temperature was 80-85 degrees at the ceiling level, while at chair height, it was 70 degrees.

Moral of the story—leave the fans ON!

Christian Symbols



Anchor Cross

The anchor is a symbol of the Christian's hope in Christ. "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure" (Hebrews 6:19, NIV). The early Christians used this cross during the days of persecution. They saw hope in the anchor's cross, while non-Christians saw nothing but an anchor.

Women's Ministries

Thursday, January 6 a 9:30 A.M.

WHITE CROSS:

All ladies welcome, we have many projects to work on this new year. PROJECTS: Tie 3 quilts, work on Hygiene kits, rip and roll bandages. (we sent all that we had done to Tandala, Africa) Time to start anew!!!

Judy Nelson will provide treats and a morning devotion for us.

Bring a sack lunch.

Come and spend the day working on "GOOD PROJECTS"



A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

Directions: Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.

Do not seek re_____ or bear a grudge against anyone among your _____ople, but love your neig_____ as yourself.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

Learn to do right; seek jus____. Defend the _____pressed. Take up the cause of the _____less; plead the _____e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown you, O mortal, what is go____. ... To act **justly** and to love me_____ and to walk _____ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV

So in _____ything, do to ot _____ what you would _____ve them d_____to you, for this s_____ms up the _____w and the Proph_____s.

MATTHEW 7:12, NIV



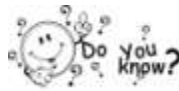
IT'S DISTRICTS TIME!

January 7-9

ARCC has 30 people going to districts in Green Bay, WI this year. This includes youth, drivers and chaperones. Please uphold them in prayer as they travel, and experience the excitement of worshiping God with MANY other Christian youth.

What a fantastic opportunity!

Riddle 1: Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday and Sunday?



Riddle2: Timmy's mother had 3 children. The first was named April, the next was named May. What was the name of the third child?
See Pg. 6

Puzzle!

Match each clue with the correct biblical dreamer. Use the Scripture hints if needed.

1. This person's brothers were irritated to hear of certain dreams.
2. Angels went up and down a ladder in this person's dreams.
3. This person dreamed about skinny cows eating fat cows.
4. After an unpleasant dream, this person warned a loved one to avoid Jesus.
5. This person saw a statue whose feet were smashed by a stone.
6. A dream warned this person (plus family) to flee to Egypt.
7. This person saw a vine produce grapes, with juice squeezed into a cup.
8. A dream warned about Herod's evil plan.

- A. Pharaoh (Genesis 41:17-21)
- B. The Magi (Matthew 2:12)
- C. Jacob (Genesis 28:12)
- D. Pharaoh's cupbearer (Genesis 40:9-11)
- E. NT Joseph (Matthew 2:13)
- F. OT Joseph (Genesis 37:9, 11)
- G. Pilate's wife (Matthew 27:19)
- H. Daniel (Daniel 2:31-35)

Answers: 1.F, 2.C, 3.A, 4.G, 5.H, 6.E, 7.D, 8.B

Senior Saints Potluck

Tuesday, January 18 at noon
Listen to the first video on Grief Share.



Puzzle 1 Answer: See Page 6 The Bible Quiz, puzzle, cartoons and articles are from NewsletterNewsletter to which we subscribe and have permission to reproduce.

Bible Quiz 1:

A New Testament book says God designated Jesus as a "high priest" and that Jesus was the most perfect mediator between God and humans.

Choose the name of the book below:

- A. Romans
- B. Hebrews
- C. Matthew
- D. Revelation

Answer: See Page 6

Bible Quiz 2:

After Sarah died, Abraham remarried. What was his second wife's name?

- A. Miriam
- B. Keturah
- C. Bathsheba
- D. Tamar

Answer: See Page 6

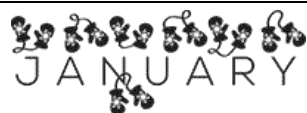


How to keep warm in church

1. Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up, and you'll avoid the draft in the back of the church.
2. Invite your neighbors and friends, and sit 12 people to a pew.
3. Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area.
5. Wait for an unfamiliar hymn — and then watch the sparks fly!

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

Marie Geist Berhow, Former Secretary



Birthdays and Anniversaries—JANUARY

2022

2 Willis Christenson
3 Abigail Beatham
11 Henry Soldner
18 Shannon Luster
18 Julie Reed

19 Richard Frankson
23 Troy Mintz
25 Hanna Khoury
25 Jack Peterson
27 Dana Powell

28 Abby Swantish
29 Sean Lundgren
29 Tonja Nelson
31 Sandra Arvold

January 2022						
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.

January Mission of the Month—**The Llapushi’s**

Our new missionary family for 2022 is the Llapushi’s from Albania in Europe. Elton (Tony) is the husband and Gresilda is his wife. They have a six year old daughter Holta, and a five year old son Hosea.

The people of Albania are mostly Moslem. From 1960 to 1990, there was a ban on all religions. The mosques, churches and temples became warehouses, arenas, cultural centers, or were destroyed. **Then in the 1990’s the ban was lifted. Albania had the reputation of being the strictest communistic and foremost atheistic country in the world.** There is Islam, Orthodox and Roman Catholic religions as well as a few Biblical Christian churches.

The Llapushi’s work with 15:20 Coalition headquartered in Kentucky. Their motto verse is Romans 15:20. Since 2011, they started three church plants; one in Kosovo and two in Albania.

In October, they held their first baptism with four adults being baptized. They have tried street ministry, handing out literature, built a playground to reach children and prepared food boxes for the poor.

Judy Nelson

Be of good cheer

Near the end of every January, stories circulate about “Blue Monday,” supposedly the year’s most depressing day. Factors include broken New Year’s resolutions, Christmas debts and cold weather. But this phenomenon actually originated as a PR gimmick. U.K. marketers invented Blue Monday as “the best day to book a summer holiday,” and a psychologist they enlisted to help later admitted the saddest-seeming day became a self-fulfilling prophecy.

January may lack the excitement of December, but it doesn’t have to be a letdown. Christmas is over, but Jesus isn’t! No matter the season of the year or our season of life, Christians always have reason for joy: God’s promises of forgiveness and eternal victory. As Jesus says in John 16:33, “In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (KJV).

First in line

We were rushing to our next destination when yet another traffic light turned red. As usual, I had packed too many tasks into the day. Now we’d be even later. While I stewed in frustration, my son had a completely different reaction to being stopped. “Yes — I love this!” he shouted as we sat. “We’re first in line!”

What an important lesson on perspective. I focused on the negative, but he saw the good in the situation. As Proverbs 15:13 says, “A joyful heart brightens one’s face, but a troubled heart breaks the spirit” (CEB).

Now instead of pep talks about half-full or half-empty glasses, our family offers reminders about being stopped by a light versus being first in line. The next time I’m delayed, I hope I can think, “Yes — I love this!” —*Janna Firestone*

Farewell

This is the last Ripple I will do for ARCC. It has been my pleasure to gather the information and try to put it together in a readable format. I was tasked in 2010 to help Pastor Bruce with bulletins, which led to the Ripple, and in February 2013, added secretary to my duties, taking minutes at meetings. They all tied together to have information to put in the bulletin and Ripple. Time flies when you have fun, so they say.

Marie

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.

Due to HIPPA laws, hospitals do not call when a member is admitted.

Being neighborly

The last time you moved into a new community, did your neighbors welcome you? From previous moves, I fondly recall receiving smiles, handshakes, baked goods and houseplants. Because one new neighborhood included two parsonages, I wasn't surprised to receive invitations to worship. After that, I began anticipating similar invitations, even though we had a church home. We don't always take our new neighbors up on the offers, but knowing that churchgoers live nearby is comforting.

When a new family moves into your neighborhood, how do you respond? Does it cross your mind to invite them to worship? Maybe they're waiting for — even needing — that invitation. To ask, you don't need to be a pastor or a member of the evangelism committee ... just a friendly neighbor. —Julie Lee

DUE DATES

I picked the due date of Wednesday's for items for the bulletin. I then send our events to the Amery Free Press and WPCA Radio as they also have deadlines.

The Ripple is printed to be distributed the last Sunday of the month. The Monday before distribution is a good day for Ripple articles, as it takes time to get your article into the Ripple, format it, making everything **fit, and print your newsletter. I may have other things planned for my time and don't want to finish it at the last minute on a Saturday— which is often the case.**

Marie

This Ripple has a lot of "fillers". Sorry about that. Everyone is busy over the holidays.



2022

Apple River Community Church Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	3	4 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Deacon Mtg. 7:00p Exec. Bd. Mtg	5 10:00a Men's Bible Study * 5:30p See Note Below	6 9:30a White Cross	7	8 Youth to Districts. Keep them in your Prayers
9 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/ Children's Christmas Program 11:45a Potluck	10	11 9:30a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Deacon Mtg. 7:00p Exec. Bd. Mtg	12 10:00a Men's Bible Study * 5:30p See Note Below	13	14	15
16 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	17	18 Noon: Sr. Saints 9:30a Women's Bible Study	19 10:00a Men's Bible Study * 5:30p See Note Below	20 <small>(6:30p TACTICAL using the bldg.)</small>	21 5	22
23 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church	24 <u>RIPPLE Deadline!!</u>	25 9:30a Women's Bible Study	26 10:00a Men's Bible Study * 5:30p See Note Below	27	28	29
30 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Worship/Children's Church 7:00p Sunday Night Live	31		* 5:30p One-Way, and Impact meet at 5:30p weekly.			
Bible Quiz 1 Answer B (See chapter 5:1-10 and chapter 9:11-15.) Quiz 2 : B (See Genesis 25:1.) Puzzle 1: revenge, people, neighbor, justice, oppressed, fatherless, case, good, mercy, humbly, everything, others, have, do, sums, Law, Prophets Puzzle 2: 1F, 2C, 3A, 4G, 5H, 6E, 7D, 8B Riddle1: Yesterday, today and tomorrow. Riddle 2: Timmy, of course! Ripple Articles for February MUST BE received by the deadline (Jan 24) Send to arcc@amerytel.net (PREFERRED) or put in Ripple box in church office. Bulletin deadline: Wednesday's. Thank You, Marie						