

THE EVANGEL – DEC. '20/JAN. '21

FROM THE PASTOR



Greetings and love from the Collier family. We are rolling with the punches just like the rest of you. Can you imagine if I told you last year you would not be able to come to worship during Easter and Christmas? Just saying it feels like a gut punch. And yet I am so proud of our churches. We have stepped up and stepped out. We do what we can, when we can, and take great care of each other. You are all reaching out and reaching up. Wait that sounds like a song. Anyway, let's work

on this song together: **"Be thou my vision"**

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art--
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r:

raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my
pow'r.
4 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.
5 High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's
Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Here is a little secret I learned while in a slump. I would sing or meditate one song each morning and night. The words here you will sing with me in Dec. together for worship as we gather together online. But I wonder if we can get to the place where we know all the words. Because I find when I put my mind to worship, I no longer feel I have been punched in the gut. God is good. And thank you church for being the church and some of His good in the world.

Tidings of comfort and joy:

Pastor Jason Collier

RING SALVATION ARMY BELLS: DEC. 6 AND 20



Bell ringing this year is 2 days only: Dec. 6th and 20th at the Walmart in Washington. We need the funding to help people this year more than ever. Remember the monies collected stay in Washington County. While I have considered asking to be excused this year, I feel we can do this safely and carefully. All volunteers must work in pairs of 2 or more. Youth must work with someone over the age of 18. I (Jason) will handle the signup sheet. Just call or text Jason, what time you want hourly between 10 AM and 6 PM. We all know to keep our distance and just being there with the apron on up's the donations. So we will ring that bell, and help others in need.

Jason Collier: 563-343-3390

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE, DECEMBER '20

Nov 29	The Lion's Den 1st Sunday of Advent	Daniel 6:6-27 2 Kings 22:1-10 [11-20]; 23:1-3; (Luke 23:1-5) Daniel in the lions' den; deliverance; God's kingdom shall never be destroyed.
Dec 6	Joel: God's Promised Spirit 2ND Sunday of Advent	Joel 2:12-13, 28-29; (Luke 11:13) Turn to a merciful God, promise of the Spirit.
13	Spirit of the Lord Upon Me 3RD Sunday of Advent	Isiah 61:1-11 (Luke 4:16-21) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to bring good news, liberty, and to make an everlasting covenant.
20	Jesus' Birth Announced 4TH Sunday of Advent	Luke 1:26-45 [46-56] (Psalm 113) Announcement of Jesus' birth to Mary; he will receive the throne of David.
24	Birth of Jesus Christmas Eve	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20] (Psalm 96) Birth of Jesus
25	Shepherds Visit Christmas Day	Luke 2:8-20 (Psalm 123:1-2) Shepherds visit the infant Jesus.
27	Simeon and Anna 1st Sunday of Christmas	Luke 2:21-38 (Psalm 131) Simeon and Anna, Lord now you let your servant depart in peace.

WORSHIP ONLINE SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM

Bishop Laurie Haller has directed clergy and churches to cease in-person indoor worship and church activities through and including January 10, 2021. As a result of this direction, Pastor Jason will offer worship via Zoom and Facebook live-streaming on Sundays at 10:30 AM. Please note you will be able to watch the worship service any time after the original live-stream on Facebook.

To **WATCH** and participate in the worship, there are two options:



- a. You may **watch** on **Facebook**: "Ainsworth Community Church".
- b. You may **watch** on **Zoom**. Type: Zoom.com into your browser. On the Zoom page, click on the option listed near the top, "Join a Zoom Meeting". When asked for a **meeting ID, enter: 319.658.2366**. Then just keep clicking yes you want to participate with both audio and video. Jason will handle it from there.

To **LISTEN** to worship using your telephone (does not need to be a cell phone or smart phone), follow these instructions:



1. Dial the number: **1.312.626.6799**
2. When asked for meeting ID – dial this number: **319.658.2366#**

DISTRIBUTION OF WORSHIP BULLETINS

– If you will be listening to worship rather than viewing online and wish to have a printed bulletin to assist your worship time, please let Jan know and she will get them to you. Call: 319.330.6175. Jan will also post the bulletins on the church webpage: <https://ainsworthchurch.org/>



PASTOR VISITS AND PRAYER LIST



Please let us know if you would like Pastor Jason to call you or if you need to be on our prayer list. You may call **Pastor Jason's cell 563.343.3390** at any time; **church answering machine: 319-657-3020** or **Jan's cell 319.330-6175**.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Pastor Jason will continue offering Confirmation Classes but they will be held online until the Bishop declares worship in person may resume.



MISSION COMMITTEE: HOLIDAY DONATIONS



The Mission Committee is getting ready for Christmas. If you are willing to donate a little extra to purchase food and gifts for these families, Please call Kathi for information – 319.657.2387 or 319.461.1339.

ACC FOOD PANTRY

The Ainsworth Community Church Food Pantry continues to serve families in need by contacting those who have previously participated. If you know someone in need of food, contact Kathi at 319.657.2387 or 319.461.1339 to make arrangements or receive confidential answers to eligibility questions.



BLOOD DRIVE: DEC. 7, 1:30 TO 6:30 PM-UCC



The Crawfordsville Lion's Club and the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center will hold a blood drive Monday, December 7, 1:30 to 6:30 PM at UCC. For an appointment call Larry Fletcher: 319-461-1564. Last date to donate elsewhere: October 5, 2020. **Bring a photo ID with AND WEAR A MASK.**

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: THURSDAY, DEC. 24



The United Church of Crawfordsville is inviting the Ainsworth Community to Church to join them as they host an outdoor Christmas Eve Candlelight worship (no communion) at 7 PM in the south lawn of the church in Crawfordsville. It will be brief, yet meaningful. Everyone is invited. Please bring your own lantern, battery candle, or flash light and be sure to dress for the weather. Another option: Drive to the Crawfordsville church, but stay in your car and listen on your radio using the FM transistor. Details available upon arrival.

FOGLEMAN'S

Our best to Sharon and Lynn Fogleman on the birth of grandchild #5: Matthew Jack Fogleman, born Sept. 1 to their son Mark and his wife, Kenzi and brother to Emma and Will. If you wish to send congratulations to them: 718-8th Ave., Coralville, IA 52241 or reach out by email: sharonlynnfog@gmail.com; lynn.fogleman@gmail.com



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: We are grateful for the gift of our Savior. We celebrate the healing of those recovering from surgery and illness. **Concerns:** Janene Kirk; Tom Colthurst, Jim Thompson, Norma Paisley, Steve Wood, and Theresa (Betty Bean's sister) as they heal and gain strength. Concern for those dealing with any stage of the Covid-19 virus. Concern for those grieving the loss of a loved one - the Harold Hunter Family (Colleen Bean's father); the family of Eloise Shelangoski (Penny McCreedy's aunt), and the family of Jeremy Davis.. Prayers for those who may be traveling – or longing to travel. Those suffering with poor physical and/or mental health, limited resources, or family conflicts. **Serving Our Country:** We say "Thank You!" to members and their families serving our country.



PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



There was no stated Parish Council meeting in November 2020. During Charge Conference, Sunday, November 8, the budget, committees and reports that had been presented to the congregation were approved. There were two special meetings.

Meeting One:

The special meeting of the Ainsworth Community Church Parish Council was held via email on Wednesday, November 18. Council members were asked via email to respond with their 'permission to comply' with a directive from Bishop Laurie Haller related to Covid-19: *(Excerpt from letter)*


In light of worsening Covid-19 positivity rates, the crisis faced by our healthcare systems, and out of an abundance of caution and love for our neighbor, Bishop Laurie Haller and the Appointive Cabinet is directing clergy and churches to cease in-person indoor worship and church activities through and including January 10, 2021.

Meeting Two:

The special meeting of the Ainsworth Community Church Parish Council was held via Zoom at 7 PM on Sunday, November 22, 2020. In light of compliance with Bishop Haller's direction to cease in-person worship and church activities, the Council was asked to address a few specific situations. After discussion, it was agreed to cease ALL activities in both the North and the South Church until the Bishop's declaration expires (currently January 10, 2021). The one exception is the work of the ACC Mission Committee.

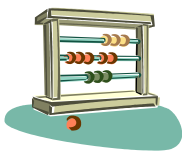
Jason closed the meeting with prayer at 7:27 PM. Next regular meeting is scheduled for Dec. 14, 2020.

BUDGET REPORT – 10-31-20

	Income	\$5,008.35	Expenses	\$7,338.57
	General Fund	\$19,175.77	Building Fund	\$14,467.93
	Memorial Fund	\$40,702.49	Need/month for budget	\$7,484.31

2020 Combined Presbytery and Methodist dues/apportionments: \$7,448.00

OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE



Month	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
October	337	371	317	274	246	158
November	479	354	301	193 (wks.)	256	92 (3 wks.)

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday!



1) Wynne Steele; 2) Michelle Miller, Brittany Stewart Thompson, Darrin Richardson; 5) Kristi Bean; 6) Janice Skubal; 7) Janet Rees; Kevin McCreedy; 10) Jesse Hahn; 12) Liz Kaufman; 16) Joel Hazelett; Joseph Collier;

20) Renee Megchelsen; Ariel Mills; 21) Neal Megchelsen, Sherry Lord, Joshua Blakley; 22) *Ron & Angie Ornduff; 24) Julie Sue Edmondson;

26) Jared Hazelett; 27) *Chris & Molly Hartzler; Anna Chalupa; Lexi Collier, Owen Chalupa; 29) Dorothy Koehler; 30) Molly Hartzler, *Dave & Liz Kaufman; Riley Thomann.





JANUARY BIRTHDAYS/*ANNIVERSARIES

1) Jennifer Crossett; 2) Molly Edgar; 5) *Jim & Sherrie Hazen-Hansen; Lance Mills;
 6) *Jim & Penny McCreedy; *Owen & Norma White, Diane Anding, Gary Stewart, Tammy Vest, Libby Berner; 7) *Jim & Betty Thompson; 9) Jim Thompson, Nick Yoder; 10) Liam Goodwin; 14) Sheri Bennett; 15) Kyle Entsminger; 17) Bev Holmes; 20) John Erlenbush; 21) Sherri Hazen-Hansen; 23) Kathi Bean; 24) Emily Stewart; 25) Alberta Miller; 26) Lois Riggan; 29) Betty Anders; 31) Mildred Wilson.



NARRATIVE LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE: JAN. 2021

January 3	Boy in the Temple 2 nd Sunday of Christmas	Luke 2:41-52; (Psalm 2:7-8) Jesus in the temple at age twelve. He is in "his Father's house."
January 10	Jesus' Baptism Baptism of Our Lord	Luke 3:1-22; (Psalm 51:6-17) John baptizes, bear fruit worthy of repentance, share what you have.
January 17	Sermon at Nazareth 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany	Luke 4:14-30; (Psalm 146) Sermon at Nazareth (Isaiah fulfilled, Elijah and widow, Elisha and Naaman).
January 24	Fish for People 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany	Luke 5:1-11; (Psalm 90:14-17) Great catch of fish, Peter will fish for people.
January 31	Healing on the Sabbath 4 th Sunday after Epiphany	Luke 6:1-16; (Psalm 92) Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath (plucking grain, healing a man) and call of disciples.
February 7	Raising the Widow's Son 5 th Sunday after Epiphany	Luke 7:1-17; (Psalm 119: 105-107) Healing the centurion's slave by a word and raising the widow's son at Nain.



Ainsworth Community Church
PO Box 40
322 Washington Street
Ainsworth, IA 52201

Nonprofit Organization
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 3
Ainsworth, IA

Electronic Service Requested

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM Online through Jan. 10, 2021

GENERAL MINISTRY OF CONGREGATION

PASTOR JASON COLLIER: Home: 319.658.3013; **Cell: 563. 343.3390**

OR EMAIL: jwcyyouth@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE: AinsworthChurch@gmail.com

Phone: 319.657.3020

PO Box 40, 318 4th Street, Ainsworth, IA 52201

Facebook: Ainsworth Community Church and

Ainsworth Community Church Youth Group

Web: <http://ainsworthchurch.org> Twitter: AinsworthCC

YOUTH GROUP CONTACT:

Nick Yoder: 319-325-8070; nickyoder97@yahoo.com

SECRETARY: Jan Temple 657.2291; Cell: 319.330.6175;

OR EMAIL: templejan@gmail.com

ORGANIST: Linda McNeil; Jenny Yoder (substitute)

CUSTODIAN: Jenny Gerot: 319.461.1239

TREASURER: Colleen Bean

FINANCIAL SECRETARY, Christina Collier, PO Box 40,
Ainsworth, IA 52201

MISSION COMMITTEE: Kathi: 319.461.1339; Brenda: 319. 657.2387; and
Ann: 319.330.0348

Ainsworth Community Church is a United Methodist/Presbyterian Church (USA) union congregation, together since 1973. Aligned with United Church of Crawfordsville since April 1, 2013.

We are the community church. We hope you will come and join us in one or more of these activities: Morning Worship Service, Youth Fellowship, Bible Studies, Women's Group, and much more.