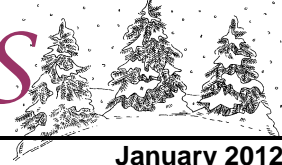




GOOD NEWS



Ankeny Christian Church

January 2012

Ankeny Singles

Ankeny Singles are having a fun and safe New Year's Eve celebration/open house, 7pm – 12:12am at Ankeny First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 206 SW Walnut St (north entrances). Bring an appetizer to share and a favorite game if you wish. We will provide (non-alcoholic) beverages, paper supplies, other games and entertainment.

Annual planning meeting

The annual Church Council planning meeting will be on **January 15** after the second service. The youth will provide a light lunch or soup for a free will donation.

GoodSearch update

Our church received a check for \$62.25 from GoodSearch, which we earned by our members using GoodSearch.com and GoodShop.com (to search the Internet and shop online) between Oct. 2010 and Sept. 2011.

Just go to GoodShop.com, designate us as the cause you support and then click over to your favorite store. You pay nothing extra - and you can even save money as GoodShop lists thousands of money-saving coupons and free shipping offers. A percentage of virtually every purchase at more than 2,500 retailers ranging from Amazon to Macy's goes to us. They also have 100,000 money-saving coupons and deals!

And new this year, visit GoodDining to earn up to 6% just by dining at over 10,000 restaurants.

Childcare garage sale to benefit Grady Greco

The Child Care center is having a garage sale-fundraiser to benefit one of our families that had a baby last July. He (Grady Greco) has had to undergo many operations for a heart condition that he was born with. We are collecting items (see postings in the center and church) to sell and the proceeds will go to the family. If anyone is interested in donating items for the sale they can see Tami Zumach, Director for Ankeny Christian Child Care or Tarah Widaman, Lead Teacher in the four-year-old room at ACCC. The garage sale will be held **Saturday, January 21** from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and **Sunday, January 22** Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Haiti mission trip fundraiser events:

- ☆ **Sunday, January 22** join us for a Pancake Breakfast between services. Hot cakes, sausage and drinks will be provided for a freewill offering.
- ☆ **Monday, February 6** join us at Pizza Ranch in Altoona for dinner. The mission team will be working at Pizza Ranch this day as servers. We will receive 10% of all sales between **5:00 and 8:00 pm**. Join us for this fun time to support our cause and also fellowship with other church members. Invite your neighbors, family and co-workers to attend this day also!

Grace & Peace—Pastor Dave

Francis Thompson wrote "The Hound of Heaven" in 1893 describing God's relentless pursuit of the writer through the "arches of the years" and "Labyrinthine ways," with deliberate speed, majestic instancy. "The Voice" does hound us, make demands of us, knows what we are capable of, and expects us to use our gifts to build and to plant. God keeps pursuing us, is after us all the time to receive blessings from heaven and to become blessings for others on earth. Sometimes we can fool ourselves into thinking that God can be domesticated, like a pet. I enjoy my old dog, Tucker. He is familiar, comforting. He is always glad to see me and lays at my feet. He comes when I tell him to come and he eats when I fill his dish. He knows when to keep his distance. But the Hound of Heaven does not keep distance. He comes when we think we are too busy. He invades our personal space and tidy lives with new demands. He is the one who bids us to come to him. God is the one who feeds us even when we are tempted to think we are doing God favors by being good. Throughout the span of your years on earth, God has been pursuing you. Maybe this is the year to let yourself get caught up in all the goodness that is offered to you and through you. What will that look like in your life? What is a step you can take to be more in tune with God?

Grace and Peace, Dave

Scriptures & Sermons

January 1 Luke 2:22-40
From Generation to Generation

We begin the New Year by recalling the stories of Simeon and Anna. They were faithful servants of God who gave blessings to Jesus when he was born. The New Year reminds us all to see whom we can bless in Jesus' name. And we give thanks for all that God has blessed us with. We are given faith that God will continue to provide into the future making this the most blessed year yet.

January 8 Mark 1:4-11
A Journey of Baptism

Why was Jesus baptized and how does his baptism reflect in our own baptisms.

January 15 1 Samuel 3:1-10
Listening for God's Voice

Does God still speak to us today? If so, how do we recognize God's voice? There are many who are clamoring for our attention, what does it take to zero in on the One who will lead us in right paths?

January 22 Mark 1:14-20
Followers not Admirers

Jesus calls us to be followers, disciples. What he asks of us is different than being a fan of a Jesus FaceBook page. Being a Jesus fan, or liking the things that Jesus said are different than obeying him, and putting into practice the things he taught us.

January 29 Mark 1:21-28
What Have You to do with Us?

This direct question to Jesus may reflect many areas of our lives that don't seem to have anything to do with faith. How can we let faith affect our daily lives in a more fulfilling way? Can faith have something to do with the way we work, play and relate to each other?



I RESOLVE...

Church Council highlights

November 16-21: Meeting was handled by email. Motion to clean up accounts by moving Endowment Local Outreach to Missions Local; move the following to Contingency—Equity EFM Scholarships, Equity Furnace, Equity Missions Pins & T's, Equity Second Service. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the proposed 2012 budget as presented via email on November 20, 2011. Motion carried.

Minutes not available from the **December 4** Congregational meeting.

Minutes not available from the **December 11** Church Council meeting.

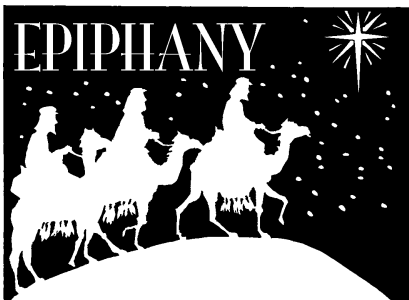
2011 Financial Report

Income for November	\$21,160.01
Expenses for November	\$16,082.00
Year to Date Income	\$187,977.20
Year to Date Expenses	\$189,112.52
Equity	\$86,494.19

Your giving is important to the life and ministry of Ankeny Christian. Thank you.

Attendance

	1st service	Sunday School	2nd service	Wed
Nov 27	96	29	61	X
Dec 4	84	37	81	X
Dec 11	No	37	202	X
Dec 18	99	100+	79	X



Revitalize

Perhaps this is redundant for some but I feel it is prudent to mention REVITALIZE for those of you who may not know what that word is or what it means to ACC. REVITALIZE was a collective vision on the part of members of ACC to evaluate our facility needs, identify how to pay for those needs (capital campaign), and how to continue making necessary improvements on the facility. While we enjoyed our facility, the reality was that we needed to make improvements as our congregation grew. Our parking lot was in critical need of replacement, our roof and gutters needed replaced, our sound system needed updated. These are but a few of many tasks that have been checked off our "to do" list. We enjoy a fantastic facility because of members' ideas, contributions and sweat equity. (We have members that perform above and beyond their membership obligations to make these projects happen and keep the costs of the projects down.....thank you.)

Recent work was completed on the CLC lighting. If you have not taken the time to appreciate the improvement, you will be amazed. The old lights were no longer being manufactured and by looking at the new ones in comparison, were quite ineffective. The new lights are also energy efficient.

The Fellowship Hall bathrooms and the tiling of the front entryway are completed.

The Narthex lights are the next project to be accomplished as well as the dry wall work in the Fellowship Hall.

Things continue to progress with Revitalize. Your continued financial support is necessary to maintain the pace of progress. If you've made a pledge and accomplished it, thank you. If you would like to refresh your pledge or begin one, we're always looking to continue our building improvements.

If you have questions about REVITALIZE, please contact me.

Arnie Porath 964-2563

Among Our Church Family and Friends

Prayer concerns

Bill Smith, Vera Klemme (grandmother of Roni Argetsinger), Donald (father of Christine Stoffa), Matt Drottz, mother of Matt Drottz, Brian Jass, Roger Swenson, Karen Grode, Nancy Belluchi, Carol Lee, Lois James, Tommy Cox. Shut-ins: Rita Oline, Ruth Maxwell, David Roberts. **Sympathy** to Danny Bice and family at the loss of his brother Paul on December 1.

The Prayer Chain can be started by contacting Julie Orser 289-2954 (between 9am and 9pm).

Please let the church office know about hospitalizations, surgeries, etc.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Deanna Clingan-Fischer on her appointment as Iowa's State Long-Term Care Ombudsman to advocate for residents and tenants residing in Iowa's long term care and assisted living facilities.

Welcome new member

Cheryl Gardner joined ACC on December 4 at the first service. Cheryl is retired. She has two children and seven grandchildren.

Thank you notes

To all members of ACC,

Thank you for the gift cards you gave us this holiday season. Thanks to everyone for the support and prayers the last couple of months especially the emotional support shown to the entire family. This is a difficult time for us and the church's support has been tremendous. Let whoever know it is appreciated, helpful and comforting.

God Bless,
David, Josh, Justin, Max, Carter

Thank you notes cont'd

Ankeny Friends

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. Our daughter from Kansas City visited us this weekend and brought it with her. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness. We are so blessed to be surrounded by such love and support.

Karen and Ron Grode

To the folks at Ankeny Christian Church

Thank you so much for the love you have shown to our parents, Dale and Doris Legg. They always spoke so highly of the love and the power of Christ that they found within their friends at Ankeny Christian. At the ends of their lives you continued to share your love with them by calling on them, sending cards and notes, sharing prayer shawls and flowers, and keeping them in your prayers. We are so grateful to know they had such a loving church family. Now, at the time of Mom's death, we've experienced first hand again the caring as you shared that love with us. Thank you. May God continue to bless your ministry to the community of Ankeny.

Dave Legg, Doreen Legg Leonard,
Deanna Legg Juhl

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Thanksgiving meal a success.

If you helped with set-up, baked a ham or turkey, prepared a side dish, or assisted with the clean-up, your help was very much appreciated! Thanks to the social-life committee members for making sure everything ran smoothly. You all are great!!

Mary St.Clair
Social Life Committee Chair





Women's Retreat

Friday, January 13 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Saturday, January 14 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 Ankeny Christian Church
 \$20 per person
 Snacks, Continental Breakfast
 and Lunch included

Loving Others, Loving Yourself

The best way we love others is to love ourselves, to take care of ourselves first – so how do we do that.....

- Keynote: Suzanne Stout, Minister of Family Life at First Christian Church Des Moines
- Workshops presented by Hy-Vee Dietician, and Balance Yoga
- Activities: prayer stations, mission project craft, displays by Mary Kay and Wild Tree Spices.
- Chair Massages available by license masseuse \$10 for 15 min massage

Come to get spiritually refreshed while strengthening bonds with your sisters in Christ.

What a great way to start the New Year
SEE YOU THERE!!

Register at ACC or
 call the church at 964-1083

Scholarships available if needed



Our Larger Family

● Sharing Christ's love

Special offering for January

The special offering will go to help fund the Haiti mission trip. Eight people from ACC will be joining with seven from First Christian Church in Des Moines to go to Haiti **March 16-23** to help with the rebuilding efforts after the 2010 earthquake. Those attending are Karla Rice, Dave Clark, Matt Porath, Rob Duffy, Cameron Hart, Darin Leach, Phyllis Bouley, and Lisa Thurston.

Money raised will be used to help finance the \$3,000 project cost to help rebuild a church in the Port Au Prince area.

Your support is appreciated.

Karla, Dave, Matt, Rob, Darin
 Cameron, Phyllis, and Lisa

Special offering report for Nov

Food Pantry	\$221.00
Thanksgiving DMF	\$45.00
Adult Mission trip	\$798.00
Youth Mission trip	\$10.00
North Pole-Northview	\$1,407.72
North Pole-Parkview	\$1,606.00
Silent Auction	\$1,401.00

Food Pantry Sunday is January 15

Save those barcodes

Woodhaven "purchases" items to benefit the individuals with developmental disabilities through Campbell's, Post Cereals, Bic & Pop Secret barcodes.

Woodhaven also participates in the Best Choice UPC barcode program and receives money for the barcodes. The funds received from Best Choice are used to maintain the wheelchair accessible vans.

There is a labeled basket in our coat closet for you to place collected barcodes. Thank you.



Ankeny Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
 2506 SW 3rd Street
 Ankeny IA 50023-2471

Phone: 515-964-1083

Web site: www.accdoc.org

Pastor.....David Clark

davedayna@gmail.com

Youth Coordinator..Lisa Thurston

Office Manager....Christine Stoffa

ankenycdoc@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Traditional Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School and
 Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service



wheelchair accessible

JUST 4 YOUTH!

C.H.A.O.S. youth group

(Christ honoring and others serving)

5th-12th grade

6:30-8:00 p.m.



Sun, Jan 8: lazer tag--meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. Plan to return at 7:30 p.m. We will be going to TOKENS in Des Moines for dinner and a game of lazer tag. Bring \$7 for lazer tag plus money for pizza. You may bring an extra \$7 for 2nd game of lazer tag or mini golf if you choose.

Sun, Jan 15: regular meeting

Sun, Jan 22: regular meeting

Sun, Jan 29: regular meeting

- Kids Club overnight lock/in retreat is being planned for **Friday, January 20-Saturday, January 21** at the retreat house at the Newton Conference Center. We will meet at the church at 5:30 pm. Friday and return at 4:00 p.m. Saturday. Bring sleeping bag and overnight needs. Bring sled if you have one and weather permitting. Details will be sent out closer to the date.
- Kids Club will resume meeting on February 1 with Wonderful Wednesdays.