



Fabulous 50's Sock Hop Dance

Bad boys with their hot rod cars, good girls with their skirts and scarves all meet down at the soda shop after dancin' at the hop. Dig out those threads put on your classic rags and come twist the night away with the Social Life Committee **Friday, May 19** from 7p.m.-9 p.m. at Ankeny Christian Church (in the CLC). Our DJ will have you rockin' around the clock and swingin' all night long. Don't be a square, **sign up in the Fellowship Hall.**

- ◇ **Snacks and Treats**
- ◇ **Games**
- ◇ **Contests**
- ◇ **Live DJ**

Social Life Committee



Please join us on **Sunday, May 21** as we honor the following graduates -

- Amoria (Momo) Sriviboon** graduated from Centennial high school in December and started at DMACC in January.
 - Kara Duffy** will graduate from DMACC in May with her AA degree in Business Management. She will go to ISU in the fall to further her degree.
 - Kayla Hughes** graduates from UNI in May.
 - Angela Johnson** graduated from Southern New Hampshire University with a Master of Arts degree in English and Creative Writing on April 1, 2017.
 - Laura Schneberger** graduated in December 2016 from the University of Iowa Nursing School.
- Cake and punch will be served during fellowship time.

Social Life Committee

From Pastor Owen

I wonder if anyone else feels like life is on autopilot sometimes. Things become so routine that we just go through the motions of the day without even thinking about it. Routines are very nice. They tend to make us a little more efficient. They give us a sense of order, of control.

There are times when routines can get in the way, however. One can become so familiar with their routine that it becomes simply mindless, with no intentionality. When it comes to faith, this is not necessarily a good thing. Sure, I would like to be in a position where practicing my faith was the routine for the day. At the same time, I know that my faith requires a bit more attention than I usually give it.

Here is what I mean. I move through my day: I get up, groom myself (usually brush my teeth first – I don't know why that always helps me wake up), get the older boys off to school, help get the baby ready for the day and come in for work where I go about the business of the day: brief devotion time when I get to the office, sermon and worship preparation, reading, writing newsletter articles, meetings, calling, etc. Interruptions to that flow can happen frequently. Now, it is not that I mind interruptions, I wouldn't make it very long if I did. In fact, I count on them.

The trouble is, I count on them a bit too much when it comes to faith. I count on the interruptions to keep me faithful. I often count on someone coming in and needing help for me to practice grace. Or, the phone call to practice care. Or, well any sort of interruption to my routine. So, it is not that I am not ready to practice my faith. Rather, in practice, if I get through the end of the day and I haven't bothered anyone, or hurt anyone, said my prayers, etc. I have been

a good Christian. In short, I often wait for the opportunity to be a Christian in practice. I wonder again if anyone else feels like that.

I often need a nudge out of this routine, anyone else? We Christians, I think, can be more intentional about our faith than simply keeping our eyes open for the interruptions to practice our faith. So, I propose for us to think about these things and be intentional every day about living our faith.

The mother of a friend of mine used to have a saying on a magnet on her refrigerator. It read, "Live today so that people can see a bit of Jesus Christ in you." From that, I offer two questions for us to answer when we get up each morning. "Today, how can I respond to God's grace?" And, "Today, how can I be an instrument of God's grace?" I hope that these questions will help you and me to be more intentional about practicing our faith.

Shalom,
Owen

Scriptures & Sermons

May 7 Acts 8:26-39
"Being a Blue Bunny in a White Bunny World"

May 14 – Special Guest: Global Missions Intern, Kristin Wolf (read article on page 7)

May 21 Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21
"Rebuilt from the Inside Out"

May 28 Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29
"One!"

From Pastor Alison

Mid-Week Mayhem news

May will be the last month for MWM until fall. Here's what's going on:

- **May 3** - Earth Day Scavenger Hunt
- **May 10** - Second Wednesday: End of the Year Spring Celebration!

What a great semester it has been trying out a new ministry! If you have any comments or suggestions for the fall, please email me at alisonaccdoc@gmail.com or Angie Olson at angie.olson.91705@gmail.com

All-Church Family Night

This month our final second Wednesday All-Church Family Night for this school year will be **Wednesday, May 10** from 6:15–7:30 p.m. in the Gym. We will have an End of the Year Spring Celebration! We will have springy crafts and activities for the kids and kids at heart to do after the meal. And if the weather is good, we will head outside for some games.

There will be a meal provided, as per usual!

As a reminder – this is for our entire church family! ALL are welcome to these second Wednesday events!

We hope that you can join us for this fun evening of celebration for the year!

CHAOS concludes in May!

CHAOS will conclude its year of weekly fun and amazingness on **May 7**. We will be having an end of the year party with food and lots of fun! There may be some color involved so be sure to bring clothing that you don't mind getting a little dirty!

What a great year it's been for our CHAOS group! We've made a difference in our community, had some great fun along the way, and will continue to do so as the summer unfolds. Keep your eye on your email and on the monthly newsletter for fun summer opportunities to gather together!

Sunday School news

Sunday School finishes up for the school year in this marvelous month of May! Here's the schedule:

May 7 - Regular Sunday School

May 14 - End of the Year Sunday School

Celebration: This will be a time of fun and games in the Gym for everyone to celebrate a great year of learning and growth! Hope you can make it!

It's been a fantastic year for our Sunday School classes and all the students have worked through Bible stories, have had great discussions, and have grown in knowledge of the Bible and what it means to be a Christian.

Questions? Email Pastor Alison at alisonaccdoc@gmail.com



BIBLE

Presentations

On **Sunday, May 21**, the 2nd graders of Ankeny Christian will be presented Bibles during worship services. Second graders receiving Bibles this year are Hayden Gage, Alexia Hathaway, Brenden Lahart, and Caleb Porath.

Christian Education Committee

Among Our Church Family and Friends

Prayer concerns

Amy, family of Warner's; Mary Comstock; Kayla granddaughter of Bates; Norma Sperry; Mother of Suzy Hart; Kiersten Mann; Mike Brandenburg; Madison, granddaughter of Ruth Smythe; Latisha Ukpabi's mother Judy; Cox family; Lloyd Warner. **Sympathy** to Harold Widaman and family at the loss of his father.

Lead Person for 2017: The Prayer Chain can be started by contacting Tara Baldwin at 257-6507 or tleigh.bald@gmail.com

Please let the church office know about hospitalizations, surgeries, etc. The Privacy Act (HIPPA) limits the notifications we get from health care facilities.

Welcome new members

April 16—at the first service, Sue Woods transferred her membership to Ankeny Christian Church from Waukee Christian and Emma Wehofer was confirmed.

At the second service Ben Cox joined and Evan St. Clair and Tommy Cox were baptized.

A Prayer Shawl ministry

Prayer Shawls available

Do you know someone you would like to give a prayer shawl to? You may pick one up whenever needed. Sign in the book located above the display rack to whom it is going and select a card to enclose. Pick a prayer shawl from the display rack or from the blanket chest in the entryway. Any questions contact Pat Fliger or Carolyn Fisher.

Attendance

	1st service	S School CHAOS	2nd service	Wed
Mar 26	71	44/22	95	30
Apr 2	84	50/22	71	32
Apr 9	102	52/24	88	60
Apr 16	147	140 Easter	126	21
Apr 23	71	37/21	82	20

Total Cash Flow for Mar 2017

Revenues - all funds	\$
36,595.66	
Operating expenses - all funds	
26,035.70	
Mortgage expense & other transfers	
3,964.98	
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$
6594.98	

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

Using a Childcare van

Reminder on the procedure and requirements for using a van.

1. All request go through the Office Manager.
2. To be an authorized user, the driver must be a member, active participant or employee of ACC with a valid driver license that includes a Class D – Chauffeur Endorsement 3 (no knowledge or driving test required if you've had a valid license and clear driving record for the previous two years for Endorsement 3)
3. Authorized user(s) must read and sign, Request for Child Care Van Policy and return to the Office Manager.
4. Authorized user(s) must complete the 15 Passenger Van video and pass the test at the SafeChurch website. To do this follow the Registration Instructions for Church Member Users that you can get from the Office Manager.

Please plan ahead if you would like to use a van.

Volunteer thank you!

A HUGE THANK YOU to all of our volunteers that have made our 2016-2017 Sunday School, Children's, and Youth programming run this school year:

Shanon Buckroyd – High School Teacher, CHAOS Sponsor, and MWM Volunteer

Mattai Cayton – MWM Youth Volunteer

Toviel Cayton – MWM Youth Volunteer

Becca Dean – MWM Youth Volunteer

Jade Dean – MWM Volunteer

Lisa Duffy – Rotation Leader and Children's Choir Accompanist

Rob Duffy – CHAOS Sponsor and Rotation Leader

Pat Fliger – Rotation Leader, Christmas Goody Bag Maker, and Christmas Program Costume Maker

Lori Krase-Cayton – Middle School Teacher and CHAOS Sponsor

Lori Leach – Rotation Leader and MWM Volunteer

Eric Lahart – High School Teacher and CHAOS Sponsor

Hettie Lahart – CHAOS Sponsor and Children's Choir Director

Adam Olson – Middle School Teacher

Angie Olson – Rotation Leader and MWM Volunteer

Cameron Porath – MWM Youth Volunteer

Grace Porath – MWM Youth Volunteer

Emily Porath – Rotation Leader

Adam Pederson – MWM Volunteer

Karen Rawson – Preschool Teacher

Lori Reynolds – Sunday School Shepherd and MWM Volunteer

Karla Rice – Children's Christmas Program Director

Angela Schnurstein – Children's Choir Director

Pat Sommerfeld – Preschool Teacher

Mary St. Clair – Sunday School Shepherd and MWM Volunteer

Eleke Ukpabi – Adult Sunday School Teacher

Randy Wehofer – Rotation Leader

Jeni Wilson – MWM Volunteer

We could not do the programming that we do without all of you and your time and dedication to these extremely important and formative ministries in the church. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do!





Christian Conference Center – **Sat, June 3**

Building Blitz



Our 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Christian Conference Center in Newton, Iowa is kicking off with a Blitz Build weekend. We will begin construction on the Lois McKee memorial cabin which will be located in Chi Rho Country (our rustic camp). This building will include a nursing station, sleeping quarters for camp directors, a meeting room, and a storm shelter. Come for part of the day or all day. Lunch will be provided to all volunteers. 50th Anniversary t-shirts will be available at a reduced price. Overnight accommodations are limited but may be available upon request. Contact Amber Elliott at the Christian Conference Center at 641-792-1266 to reserve a room. Let's go and "BUILD" our conference Center for future generations of youth and adults who treasure this Holy Ground.

Speaking of the Christian Conference Center

May's Special Mission Offering is designated to purchase **4 Baby Changing Tables** for the Christian Conference Center. We truly want our camps and conferences to be available to all ages. Our church has agreed to provide those tables from the Conference Centers "Wish List." The cost is \$900 for all four. With your generosity and heartfelt compassion for the great ministry our Conference Center provides, we believe we can fund this worthy project. Please give to the *Special Mission Fund in May* to make it happen. Designate your checks or donations to Mission Fund for Camps and Conference and we'll start changing babies.

Ankeny Love Lunches

Again, this summer a group of Ankeny churches will join together to provide hot lunches at Sunset Park on specified weekdays (Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays). Ankeny Christian Church is one of the participating churches. This information is simply a 'heads up' to let you know this is coming and we will be needing volunteers on the days we are assigned. The Ankeny Love Lunch program begins on June 1 and continues through August 21. As yet, we have not been given the specific dates we will be involved or what tasks we will be asked to do. Look for that information and additional specifics in the June newsletter. Thank you.
Missions Committee

Community Resource Hub at Neveln

The Resource Center is seeking volunteers to help with the bread program every morning, this would be to pick up bread from local sources and deliver to the Neveln building and put out on tables. Pick up is usually about 7:00 a.m. this would not be an everyday commitment but teaming up with other volunteers. We are also looking for volunteer drivers in the near future to help individuals in need of transportation for health-related issues. You may contact Becky M at 515-965-1976 or Kathy S at 515-249-4873. The purpose of our group is to help provide services to those in need in Northern Polk Count.



Thanks abound

The **2017 Guatemala Mission Team** has much to be thankful for:

- Ankeny, Waukee, Highland Park and Creston Christian Churches
- Grants from Week of Compassion, Des Moines Area Hunger Hike and the Upper Midwest Regional Church
- Good/safe travel by air, truck, van, foot
- Our Guatemala contacts including Hugo, Freddy, Veronica and others
- No major health problems
- Great devotional times (lead by each of the Team members)
- Plus much more.

Guatemalans are hopefully enjoying health kits, school kits, Days For Girls kits, two completed greenhouses (with plants and seeds to start growing vegetables) toys and more.

Your help needed

So the Team has one more task to complete! As a thank you for the Regional Grant, we plan to build a much-needed shelter over the Conference Center pool equipment and prepare the picnic tables at the pool for summer use. We will do this on **Saturday, May 6** beginning at 9:00 a.m. We would love to have you join us for this event. You can let one of us know you are coming or just show up! If you don't know where the Christian Conference Center is located, just ask.

A noon meal provided for \$5 per person.
Jerry and Gladys Sawyer

Special offering report for March

Food Pantry	\$ 190
TAKE (additional \$500 from Missions)	\$1,135
Week of C received in Mar	\$ 351

Food Pantry Sunday is May 21

A total of 12 items was collected and taken to IMPACT, for April. Thank you for sharing in this important ministry.

Let's bring a Missionary right to our doorstep



On **May 14** during both of our worship services, Kristin Wolf, Global Mission Intern with the Christian Church in Thailand will speak at our church. Kristin, who grew up in Georgia, has served with Global Ministries of the

Christian Church (DOC) for nearly three years. She will share her mission experience and the good news of God's work in Thailand as she challenges us to new vision of mission and understanding its relevance and impact in today's world. We are planning on having fun as Kristin teaches us songs and games from her missionary experience, as she also shares ways people celebrate and worship in other countries. Plan to be there and bring a neighbor or friend to listen to our own missionary at our doorstep as she faces her challenges in ministry on our behalf and in the name of Jesus Christ. Both services – Be there – Bring a friend!

Missions Committee



"Go and do likewise."

LUKE 10:37



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Sunday Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School all ages
- 9:50 a.m. Praise Team practice
- 10:45 a.m. Worship

Summer Schedule May 28

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time



wheelchair accessible

¡Saludos de la República Dominicana! by Toni Reynolds

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in..." Matthew 25:35



Greetings from the Dominican Republic! Global Ministries' partner, Servicios Sociales de Iglesias Dominicanas (SSID) has been working in the Dominican Republic since 1962. Now with programs and initiatives in Haiti, communities throughout all of Hispaniola benefit from the ministry of SSID. With a team of regional and local leaders, SSID fulfills the biblical call to care for the poorest of the poor. SSID recognizes the need to fulfill God's desire to care for one another.

The most recent program of SSID was a training workshop called "Celebrating the Family." The aim of this workshop is to create space for attendants to address their individual and familial needs as well as think about the future in some capacity.

This dream of the future proves difficult when many basic needs remain unmet. A repeated phrase throughout the workshop was, "You can't hear your thoughts if your stomach is screaming." Meaning, it is difficult to ask families to dream of their future when they do not know if they will eat today. There is both a mandate from scripture and a daily call to tend to the deepest and most immediate needs of our neighbors. This reality grounds the work of SSID.

From local connections to international relationships, SSID has a balanced approach to meeting the world heart-forward. There is no compromising the gospel message for the sake of individual or bureaucratic gain. As political tensions rise around the world, it is ever more important to stay rooted in the power of community. Please join in praying for our roots – those that nourish us most immediately, and those that connect us to our brothers and sisters around the world.

Toni Reynolds serves with the Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicanas (SSID) in the Dominican Republic. She serves as an assistant for program coordination. Her appointment is supported by Week of Compassion.