

July 21st Evangelism BBQ followed by Movie Under the Stars

In an effort to reach out to our surrounding community, the Evangelism Committee is hosting a free BBQ at the picnic shelter behind the church at 7:00 p.m. on **Friday, July 21**, prior to the City's showing of Zootopia at the Wagner Park Band Shell. The Evangelism Committee will make arrangements for smoked meats, table service, and a couple of kid-friendly sides to get things started. Plan to bring your family, friends, lawn chairs and a salad, dessert or other side dish to share. The movie begins at dusk, and attendees will be responsible for their own transportation to the Band Shell.

Need more info, see Mike St. Clair
mikestclair@mac.com or 515-778-7631.

Night Out with the Cubs!

Social Life is sponsoring a Night Out with the Cubs!! The game is **Saturday, July 22, 2017** at 7:00 p.m. Iowa Cubs vs Oklahoma City Dodgers. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet and make sure to put how many tickets you'll need. We'd love to see you there!

Checks should be made out to Ankeny Christian Church.



Vacation Bible School Save the Date!

Be sure to mark your calendars for some summer VBS fun **Sunday-Thursday, July 23-27!** VBS is from 6:00-7:45 p.m. and includes a meal. This year's VBS theme is "Hero Central"! We will be talking about the strength of God and how we are Heroes in our own lives and the lives of others with God by our side. Keep an eye out for ways that you can volunteer for VBS and to get your child registered.

We hope you can join us for these five days of learning more about God and having fun with our friends from around the community!

From Pastor Owen

The Disney version of the Hercules myth, tells of a displaced child of Zeus and Hera whose godhood was stolen from him barring him from living with his parents on Olympus. Though he still possesses his godlike strength, he is awkward and clumsy, which makes him all the more dangerous to the people around him. Because he is unintentionally dangerous, the people around him fear and even despise him and ultimately make it clear that he does not belong. All he wants to do is fit in; to find where he belongs.

The desire for belonging is a strong one in part because it is a question of identity. When we know who we are we know where we belong...and...when we know where we belong we have a sense of who we are. It's sort of a chicken and egg thing.

We often relegate this quest for belonging and identity to adolescence. To be sure, a part of what defines adolescence is seeking one's own identity (apart from parents, and in relation to others). It is why adolescents can seem rebellious and continually frustrate their parents who would make different choices for their children.

At the same time, the quest for belonging and identity is not exclusive to adolescents. Even in our adult lives we have crises of belonging and identity. Sometimes we're not quite sure where we fit in or how our gifts connect or disconnect us. Indeed, many have suggested that this is at the root of our current cultural crisis. We are so connected (through things like social media) to people we never imagined we would be, and our world changes so quickly (news is instantaneous – for good or ill), and we are inundated with choices (Sonic Drive-in boasts over 1,063,953 drink combinations) it is hard to filter all of that.

That is why when we dedicate children, or bless graduates, or say goodbye to friends

who are moving or just leaving us for a time, or whatever moment in our lives together we are observing, at the root of those moments the church must seize the opportunity to remind them that we will always be a place of belonging for them. We must reiterate that they are always welcome among us, no matter what they do or where they are or what has been done to them.

When we do that, we remind them and ourselves of our primary identity: we are children of God.

Shalom,
Pastor Owen

Scriptures & Sermons

? “Big Questions” Series ?

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|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| July 2 | “Bible” | Hebrews 4:12-16 |
| July 9 | “Prayer” | (Scripture tba) |
| July 16 | “Heaven and Hell Part 1” | Luke 18:18-30 |
| July 23 | “Heaven and Hell Part 2” | 2 Peter 3:1-9 |
| “So Loved” Series begins | | |
| July 30 | “The World God Loves Part 1” | Jonah 4:1-11 |

From Pastor Alison

Youth mission trip to Minneapolis

July 2 – 7 youth from our congregation will be headed to Minneapolis, Minnesota to work with different groups around the city including Feed My Starving Children, Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly, the Twin Cities Parks and Recreation, and more! We will be staying at the SpringHouse Ministry Center in the middle of Uptown, which is a three ministry model of church between a Disciples congregation, an ELCA congregation, and a UCC congregation. On top of the fun we will be having at our worksites for the week, we will also be having a great time exploring Minneapolis by going to the Mall of America and a Twins game at Target Field.

Please keep our youth and sponsors in your prayers as we head off to Minneapolis to be a positive presence in the city with our hands and feet! Alison Nicoll, Darin Leach, Shanon Buckroyd, Rob Duffy, Emma St. Clair, Halle Wulfekuhle, Morgan Leach, Grace Porath, Rebecca Dean, Jenna Ross, Samantha Deean, Maddie Mann, Maya St. Clair, Toviell Cayton, Mattai Cayton, Mike Hunter, Matt Hunter, Hannah Wehofer, Jonathan Rawson, Andrew Rawson, and Trinity Smith are participating.

Summer CHAOS

Mark your calendars! On **Wednesday, July 26**, we will be headed to Cascade Falls (2350 SW Prairie Trail) for an afternoon of cooling off in the hot summer heat! The cost of the event will be \$8 and we will meet at the church at 1:00 p.m. and will return to the church at 4:30 p.m. Parents, keep your eyes out for an email from me for a reminder as the event gets closer! Can't wait to splash around and have some fun in the sun!

Wanted!! Charter Members to join the newly formed Ankeny Christian Church Legacy Circle

Who is included? Anyone who has designated ACC as a beneficiary in their will.

What is it? The ACC Legacy Circle is a society of a group of folks who want their love for ACC ministries to live on for generations to come as a legacy. The Legacy Circle recognizes and celebrates donors for their gifts and their gift intentions by creating a culture in which faithful members consistently bless the ministries of the church with legacy gifts. These special gifts do not take the place of regular, systematic giving but are in addition to pledges and donations. These funds are placed into a Permanent Fund along with unrestricted gifts from memorials. The interest earnings from this Permanent Fund are used to accomplish areas of work that ACC might not otherwise be able to undertake.

The congregation will be voting on a revised policy of investment and earnings distribution plan. The ACC Endowment Committee (the trustees of the ACC Legacy Circle) is planning a giving seminar this fall to explain all the particulars and celebrate the gifts already given and intended to be given through existing wills. That is why we are asking now - if you have already included ACC in your will - please let one of the Endowment Committee members know and please consider joining the ACC Legacy Circle to encourage others to do the same. Your request for confidentiality will be respected.

The Endowment Committee: Pat Sommerfeld, Chair, Bryan Jansen, Dorothy Mathis, Bev Lancaster, Jerry and Gladys Sawyer, and Patrice Sayre. Both ministers, Owen Cayton and Alison Nicoll are ex officio.

Prayer concerns

Beckett, grandson of Squiers; Lisa Duffy; Mother of Pat Morton; friend of Jen Schroeder; Mother of Connie Fleming; Joanne, mother of Cindy Holub; Tara Baldwin; Mother of Suzy Hart; Kiersten Mann; Mike Brandenburg; Latisha Ukpabi's mother Judy; Madison, granddaughter of Ruth Smythe; Cox family; Lloyd Warner. **Sympathy to** Emily Porath and family at the loss of her two great-aunts.

Lead Person for 2017: The Prayer Chain can be started by contacting Tara Baldwin at 257-6507 or leigh.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.

Remember our July campers in your prayers

July 5-7: Pee Wee Camp—Brenden Lahart, Caleb Porath.

July 9-14: Junior Camp #4—Layla Hart, Jacob Mueller, Joey Olson, Evan St. Clair, Kingston Ukpabi.

July 14-15: Grand Camp—Arnie Porath, Colleen Porath, Ella Porath, Odin Helmke, Hazel Magner, Logan Olson, Madi Shreffler.

July 16-21: CYF Camp #16—Rebecca Dean, Morgan Leach, Maddie Mann, Jonathan Rawson, Trinity Smith, Emma St. Clair, Alison Nicoll, CYF #16 counselor.

July 30-Aug 2: Adventure Camp—Jenna Ross.



send letters to campers

Campers Name, Camp #
Christian Conference Center
5064 Lincoln St
Newton, IA 50208

Infant/Child dedications

Pentecost Sunday, June 4 Evan Sigler, Kailee Robinson, Chloe Schroeder, and Elian Cayton were dedicated.

Thank you notes

Ankeny Christian Church,

Thank you all so much for the prayers, cards, concern and well wishes you have extended towards me since my cancer diagnosis.

I am home now recuperating and getting stronger each day. I need to learn patience, which isn't one of my strongest attributes. I hope to see you all very soon.

Norma Sperry

Total cash flow for May 2017

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Revenues - all funds | \$ |
| 28,677.59 | |
| Operating expenses - all funds | |
| 26,935.49 | |
| Mortgage expense & other transfers | |
| 4,018.09 | |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$ |
| (2,275.99) | |

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

Any church media?

Calling all shutterbugs, church historians, and self-proclaimed "videographers." I am collecting pictures and videos, new and old to share on Ankeny Christian Church's website. If you have any media that fits the bill please email it to me at ankenychristiancontent@gmail.com

Thank you, Tarah Widaman





A hands-on-ministry
Love Lunches Reminder

This is a reminder for those who signed up to help serve Ankeny Loves Lunches. We have three more Wednesdays to go – June 28, July 19 and 26. Please be at Sunset Park by 11:30 on the day(s) you indicated you could help. We'll set up then and begin serving lunch at 11:45. Based on our experience so far this year, you should be able to leave by 1:00. If you are not able to help as scheduled, please find a replacement and let Steve Raver (515-964-5262) know who will be filling in. If you have any other questions pertaining to Ankeny Love Lunches, contact Steve. Thank you.

Missions Committee



PSALM 100:2, ESV

Special offering for July

Ankeny's Project Fresh Start



School just ended for summer break. It makes it hard to think about school beginning, doesn't it? However, July is the month our church will observe a special mission offering to purchase school supplies and backpacks for students in the 2017-2018 school year. Project Fresh Start distributed 750 backpacks in the four hours of the Days of Giving last year. During the school year they distributed to an additional 225 students.

Please give with a generous heart so that no student will attend school without their needed supplies.

Missions Committee

Special offering report for May

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|------------------------------|-------|
| Food Pantry | \$163 |
| Christian Conference Center | \$941 |
| Wish List -4 changing tables | |

Food Pantry Sunday is July 16

Not enough donated items in June to deliver to IMPACT here in Ankeny.



Ankeny Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
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ocayton@gmail.com

Associate Pastor.....Alison Nicoll

alisonaccdoc@gmail.com

Office Manager....Christine Stoffa

ankenycdoc@gmail.com

Sunday Schedule

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time



wheelchair accessible

Reformation for All by Kearstin Bailey

"Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble." 1 Peter 3:8

A few months ago I accompanied international church guests to the Reformed Church in Hungary's 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In the city of Debrecen, I was crowded into a large tent surrounded by a mixture of Hungarians and internationals, listening to speakers reflect on being reformed. Speakers from Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Taiwan, Scotland, Lithuania, Germany, Spain, and Greece spoke about how they see the spirit of the reformation shaping their personal lives and the ministry of their church today.

I, like many Hungarians, have been reflecting on what my reformed identity means now and for my future. As I sat there, bunched up against other internationals, all layered up to fight the cold outside, something clicked – the Reformation is for all of us.

The first speaker was from Scotland and spoke about how the Reformation was about spreading God's love to everyone, no matter their age, race, or background and how this is still a process that is happening today.

Until recently, I had not given much thought to my reformed identity. The idea that Reformation is for everyone made sense, but it was as if it didn't truly feel real until that moment - surrounded by people from all around the world, united in our reformed identity, and listening to personal journeys.

The next speaker was from Taiwan and he focused on the idea that each individual can help nurture the common faith and that churches around the world must manifest the unity that we find in Jesus Christ.

The Reformation, historically, has not always brought about unity, but it is my hope that we find ways to connect to and learn from our reformed sisters and brothers around the world. The Reformation makes God's word accessible to all and strengthens the church for the future. May we strive to make manifest the love of God in the world around us, coming together with people of faith from all walks of life.

Kearstin Bailey serves as a Global Mission Intern with the Reformed Church in Hungary. Her appointment is supported by [Week of Compassion](#), Our Church's Wider Mission, Disciples Mission Fund and [your special gifts](#).

