



ANKENY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

602 SE Delaware Ave, Ankeny, Iowa 50021

SEPTEMBER 2016

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Pastor Nathan Willard
515-639-0602

September 1, 2016

Greetings in Christ-

Well, here we are again. 33 months ago, I came to you, leaving my family behind in Cullowhee, and now I am here with you still as they go off to Berlin for four months. Then, we tried to get to know one another in the rush towards Christmas. Now, we are in the midst of asking, how can each of us share the ministry of this church in the world around us? For me, it will be a time of reflection and a time of action, as I embark on a spiritual practice of reading through the Bible and commit myself to meeting regularly with people outside our church family, serving with IMPACT and checking in on the Ankeny Service Center, joining delegations to AMOS gatherings, and supporting our members in our shared attempts to model "serving beyond," and rethinking how we do church, as we all understand the need to make fundamental changes but struggle to hear God's voice calling us into what will be new. Will you join me on this journey? Will you commit to imagining, in this fall, what might be, and talking with our whole church family about how we are to welcome the next person coming in the door? I'd love to meet with everyone over the next four months and share a cup of coffee, a meal, or just a conversation about where we are going.

We can start at the Hog Roast. As you meet new people and old people, let's ask them where Ankeny needs service. What are people afraid to talk about? Ashamed? Denying? How can we grapple with those things, inviting God's presence and the Holy Spirit's feeding fire?

Blessings,
Nathan

CONTINUING PRAYERS for

Nicholas Schreiner, Geg Moore, John Barber Sr., Glenn Beckwith, Beth Yale and Martha and Teddy on their journey and study and work in Germany for the next 4 months and for Pastor Nathan during his family's absence from home.

Ankeny UCC A Welcoming Church Family

Vacation Bible School: Thank you to all who attended vacation bible school. Special thanks to Annette Hong for her organization and to Peter and Annette Hong for preparing the Monday evening meal. Thanks to the helpers; Pastor Nathan, Elle and Joey Street, Joan Moore, Misty DeReus, Kayleen Conter, Ellie Fulton, Tami Fulton, Jen Street, Jenn Howieson, Clarice Beckwith, Laura Beckwith, Laura Rinehart, Peggy Colton, Susan Ramfjord, Rich Pleva, Beth Yale and Judy Hines. Thank you to Paige Wonderley, and Luke and Anneke Schut and those in the list above who provided food and served the Tuesday meal.

Greeters: Please sign up to be a greeter for one or more of the Sundays this fall.

Choir: Adult choir will again share in our Sunday worships beginning on Sept. 11. Choir practices will begin on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome.

Ankeny UCC Exploring Progressive Christian Theology

Sunday School will begin on September 11 at 9:15 am. Meet in the sanctuary for kick off of our Sunday school season. You can pre-register your children at ankenyucc.org/education/registration.

Unexpected Questions group will meet on Sundays at 9:15am in the Blue Room beginning on Sept. 11. Misty DeReus and Jenn Howieson will lead the group in discussing questions of faith, family and life. All are welcome.

EmmanuALE!: Tuesday, September 20 at 7pm at Firetrucker Brewery. Let's share stories of when church has brought us closer to God. Or when it hasn't. Never come before? It's a low-key environment for casual discussion and serious inquiry.

New Member classes will be held early evening on Sept. 25, Oct. 2 and Oct. 9. Contact Pastor Nathan if you are interested.

We need your cereal boxes! We're putting together a special Bible Study display for the fall, and need cereal boxes of all kinds (we'll dress them up as books of the bible).

September Book Study: If you would like to join a study group on the book "Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew—Search for Understanding", please check with Pastor Nathan. This will tie into an Ankeny community-wide study effort with activities at Ankeny's Kirkendall Library in September.

2016 August Weekly Attendance

August 07	August 14	August 21	August 28		Average
44	35	43	48		43

August Yearly Attendance Averages

August 2016	August 2015	August 2014	August 2013	August 2012	Average
43	Prior year	Figures not	Available for	August	

<p>September Birthdays</p> <p>01 Robert Bettie 04 Lois Stelpflug 13 Tom Wilton 12 Joel Schreiner 14 Scott Beckwith 18 Alex Beckwith 20 Nathan Willard 22 Sally Hanley 22 Susan Hanley 28 Nathan Schriener 29 Marie Ballard</p>	<p>September Anniversaries</p> <p>04 Tyler and Kristi Akins 14 Tom and Trina Rupp</p>
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**Is there a birthday missing or listed incorrectly? Notify the office to update records*

Ankeny UCC Caring Within

Naomi Circle: Meets Wednesday, September 28 at 9:30 am in Doris' Dining Room at Millpond. All are welcome. Meetings will now be regularly held on the 4th Wednesday of the month. As the parking at Millpond is challenging while they complete their additions, we can arrange for pick up from your home or the church if you wish to attend.

Financial Update: We gave away \$595 in July, including \$150 to DMARC and \$125 to Doctors Without Borders! Our general fund income was \$9,381.40 vs expenses of \$12,264.42, and annual giving/expenses are 76,577.76 vs 80,164.10.

Garden Help: Gale Gilbert and Mark Howieson are again coordinating our church vegetable garden. Contact Gale or Mark if you would like to help water, weed, harvest or transport produce to food pantries this fall. Thank you to Chuck and Marilyn Howieson, Trina Rupp, and Joan Moore for their help.

Flower Beds: If you would like to assist weeding or watering the front flower beds this fall, please contact a trustee or Laura Beckwith .

Mowing: Mowing season continues. If you would like to assist, a rider mower is available. Please sign up for a week or several weeks for this opportunity to make our church grounds look nice. Thanks to Scot Storjohann and Dennis Pingel for mowing for the past few weeks.

Church Fall Clean: We're tidying up the church and preparing to winterize the outdoors Saturday, September 24 from 9-12! Let's give it a scrubdown!

Administrative Help: If you are available to help with office administrative tasks, please contact Pastor Nathan.

Ankeny UCC Serving Beyond

HOG ROAST: The 3rd annual dig the pig hog roast will be held on **Friday, September 9** from 4 pm to 7pm. Invite your family and friends. Set up party begins at noon. Serving and pie room assistance is needed during the 4 to 7 pm period, and additional help at the clean up party at 7pm would be appreciated. Proceeds will go to Doctors Without Borders and the Backpack Program. Salad items are needed for the dinner: bags of lettuce, baby carrots, grape or cherry tomatoes. Please sign up or let a deacon know if you can provide some of these items.

Many food and garden donations have been delivered to Impact and Senior Lunch at Neveln.

Weekly Coin Collections for September and October will go to Zimbabwe Church Projects - UCCZ. This is part of the UCC Global Ministries – Child Sponsorship Program. The program supports a children’s home for abandoned children.

FEWD(Faith and Education Winter Donations) will hold an early coat drive in September for children in our community. Please bring your new or gently used outerwear.

Neighbors in Need offering will be taken on Oct. 2. This supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US, Puerto Rico and the Council of American Indian Ministries.

Hunger Hike Walk will be on Oct. 9. Funds raised are donated to non-profit agencies and programs, both local and international. Plan to walk or donate or both!

Heifer Project boxes and calendars are available at the back of the sanctuary. Put your full box into the offering plate any Sunday.

September DMARC Food Pantry request: Rice
(Please make sure to check expiration dates before donating items.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Containers and Pans: Are you missing a favorite container or pan? Check the cart under the counter in the kitchen for your cooking dishes.

Church Keys: We're taking an inventory of the keys and your cooperation in this project is appreciated. Please send Scot Storjohann an email message at storjo@msn.com and let him know if you have a key and what door(s) it/they lock(s)/unlock(s). Thank you for your help with our project!

Submitting Newsletter and Bulletin Items There are lots of ways you can submit something for the bulletin or newsletter. You can put your submission request in the “newsletter” mailbox in the narthex. You can call or email the office, or let Pastor Nathan know. Your feedback and submission requests are greatly appreciated! **Please make sure to put your name on communications left in case there are any questions.**

Service CDs available: Do you have trouble getting to church on Sundays? We've been recording services, and can burn a CD for you so you can still be connected with us as we worship God. If you would like one, let us know in the office. And if you are interested in delivering CDs, we'd love to know that, too.

Contact Information for Pastor Nathan Willard Pastor Nathan Willard will usually be available in the church office Monday through Thursday each week from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. There may be some times when other obligations interfere with that, but he can be reached other times by phone or email. You are welcome to email him at pastor@ankenyucc.org or call his Cell Phone: 515-639-0602. If it is urgent, don't hesitate to call.

September 2016

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				01	02	03
04 <i>10:30 Worship with Communion</i> <i>11:30 Fellowship Time</i>	05 Labor Day	06 Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm	07 Choir practice 7:30 pm	08 Café Diem office hours 1pm	09	10
11 <i>9:15 Sunday School</i> <i>10:30 Worship</i> <i>11:30 Fellowship Time</i>	12	13 Trustees 7 pm	14 Choir practice 7:30 pm	15 Café Diem office hours 1pm	16	17
18 <i>9:15 Sunday School</i> <i>10:30 Worship</i> <i>11:30 Fellowship Time</i>	19	20 EmmanuAle 7 pm (Firetrucker)	21 Choir practice 7:30 pm	22 Café Diem office hours 1pm	23	24 Fall Clean-up 9am
25 <i>9:15 Sunday School</i> <i>10:30 Worship</i> <i>11:30 Fellowship Time</i>	26	27 Council Meeting 7 pm	28 Naomi Circle 9:30 am Millpond Choir practice 7:30 pm	29	30	



Ankeny United Church of Christ

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10:30 am Worship Time

11:30 am Fellowship Hour

September 2016

Ankeny United Church of Christ Newsletter