

MARCH 2024

THE ANKENY ARCHIVES

The Official Newsletter of Ankeny UCC



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FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Welcome to the month of March!!

This month, we continue our Lenten journey alongside Jesus, as each passing day brings us closer to the gates of Jerusalem and the trials that await.

On our Lenten journey, we will be challenged, pushed to grow in new and unexpected ways, and will discover a deeper appreciation for our faith. Hopefully our Lenten discussion and learning activities after worship have been beneficial and informative for you. If there is a desire to continue with adult education studies, please let me know and we can work on what that will look like after Easter.

For that matter, it doesn't have to be a "formal" adult education time, either. We can expand out to do a book club or bible study as well. We will pursue whatever our faith family is passionate about, so if you have ideas, please reach out and let us know what you are interested in having us host as a church.



As our Lenten journey concludes at the end of this month, there are some important dates and events I want to make sure that you put on your calendars. On **Palm Sunday**, you will be asked to bring your completed Lenten gardens back to church so we can organize and display them on Easter morning for all to see. Please put your name on it somewhere so we can make sure it gets back to you after worship.

Additionally, on **Palm Sunday**, we will be hosting an intergenerational event after worship, as we will be coloring eggs and watching our kids participate in our annual easter egg hunt. Please bring hardboiled eggs to dye on that Sunday (mark the carton with your name) so we can make beautiful Easter eggs together as a faith family.

Then, later on during Holy Week, we will be hosting an ecumenical **Maundy Thursday** service at 7pm with our partners at Ankeny Presbyterian Church. They will come to our church to worship with us as we bear witness as Jesus endures the last hours of his earthly life.

Finally, on **Easter Sunday**, please join us as we witness the good news of the empty tomb and the promise of new life that is given to us all. May our Lenten journey be filled with wisdom and love, as we journey with Jesus to the very end.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Arik

IN OUR PRAYERS

Continue to keep
in your prayers:

Tom & Trina Rupp's
family

Hailey Young

Brian and Terri's
family

Laura and Bruce

Staff, visitors, and
residents at
nursing homes

NEW LOGO



You might have noticed that we have a new logo for our congregation! The rainbow leaf was chosen as it reflects our dedication to our growth, eradicating food insecurity, our community garden, and our prairie. We hope you like it!

A BIG THANK YOU



The Beckwith family would like to thank Clarice's church family for sharing their love in the celebration of her 100th birthday. Friends and family felt warmly welcomed in our service. Clarice stills glows with being surrounded by love.

NEW WEBSITE FINISHED

After months of work behind the scenes, our new website is officially up and running!

We want to extend a big thank you to Tom Broadbrooks for helping make this dream a reality.



For those who haven't seen the website yet, go to ankenyuucc.org and check it out! On the new website, you can watch last week's service on the homepage, listen to the weekly podcast episodes, keep up to date with our church calendar, submit a prayer request, and more!

NEW MEMBERS

Join us on Easter Sunday as we welcome the biggest new member's class we've had to date! As you've gotten to know them as they've introduced themselves during Lent, make sure to reach out and give them a warm Ankeny United Church of Christ welcome as they become official members of our faith family!

PASTOR ARIK'S COFFEE SHOP HOURS

You are invited to join Pastor Arik every Thursday from 8am-1pm at a local coffee shop for conversation outside of the regular church setting.

The coffee shop will change each month, but March's coffee shop will be at **Porchlight Coffee Shop** in Ankeny.



Whether you need to talk about something or want to stop on by just to say hi, he would love to see you there! Having an opportunity for conversation outside of the church office space can lend itself to a less intimidating atmosphere, so make sure to join him if you have the time!

EASTER EGG COLORING AND EASTER EGG HUNT



Join us after worship on Palm Sunday as we dye easter eggs as a church family and watch as our youth participate in the annual easter egg hunt!

If you are interested in dying eggs, please bring your hardboiled eggs in a carton (marked with your name) to church on Palm Sunday so we can begin dying them after worship ends.



THE CLERGY CORNER

A WEEKLY PODCAST FROM PASTOR ARIK

Join Pastor Arik every Wednesday as he releases short 5-10 minute reflections for us to consider throughout the week.

You can listen and subscribe to The Clergy Corner on iTunes, Spotify, or anywhere you listen to podcasts.

You can also listen on our website at ankenyucc.org/podcasts/

If you need a moment of reflection in the midst of your busy week, listen in!



MONTHLY COIN COLLECTION

This month's coin collection in worship goes to support Heifer International

This organization helps help families lift themselves out of poverty and works toward creating long-term solutions to world hunger.

Please join us as we support this incredible fund as a faith family



BIPOC LGBTQ+ COALITION OF IOWA

The BIPOC LGBTQ+ Coalition of Iowa is a great organization and resource for those looking to engage with BIPOC LGBTQ+ issues. They host monthly meetings via zoom on the first Fridays of the month and bring in special guest speakers to talk about various issues. If you are interested in learning more, please see below, and you can click this link to join the monthly meetings:

<https://grandview-edu.zoom.us/j/87316777200>



BIPOC LGBTQ+ COALITION

MONTHLY ZOOM MEETINGS
FIRST FRIDAYS

Our Mission:

To foster emotional, social, spiritual, and relational strength among diverse intersectional identities throughout the state of Iowa, aiming to combat anti-LGBTQ+ issues, dismantle oppressive systems, center BIPOC LGBTQ+ voices, and promote collective liberation.

Contact:

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HEAR FROM LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND LEADERS

SPONSORS



MARCH 1, 2024
12 NOON - 1PM / via ZOOM



Toni Loyal (he/him)
Educator & Founder of Gamma Phi Chi Fraternity, LLC

APRIL

MAY

JUNE



Gabby Ceron (she/her)



Denver Foote (they/them)



Tony Khuth (he/they)

HOST HOMES NEEDED

From our friends at Lutheran Services in Iowa

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we are grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities across the state!

At LSI, we believe every Iowan deserves the independence they need to thrive. LSI's Host Homes is an innovative way LSI is serving adults with disabilities. Through this program, an individual moves from Supported Community Living into a private family home with a carefully selected mentor. This program is built entirely around an individual's goals and interests, and LSI's extensive matching process ensures the mentor and mentee are a great fit.

Take a moment to read the following story from a Host Homes mentee:

"My journey with LSI's Host Homes started in early 2023. I've known my mentor for a few years while he provided hourly services to me. We learned about Host Homes and thought it would be a good fit for us. I moved into my mentor's home where he helps me maintain a daily routine with schoolwork, household tasks, daily living skills, improving independence, and more. I attend a college nearby and go to classes a few days a week. I am able to navigate the local bus system to access my community to attend classes and visit friends. My mentor is always available to transport me into the community as needed. This summer, I went on a trip across the country with one of my classes. While on this trip, I was able to maintain my independence with limited support, but I knew my mentor would be available by phone to assist me with my coping skills and problem solving. This trip was a big success for me knowing I had support only a phone call away. I like LSI's Host Homes Program because my mentor supports me in the way I want to be supported, assists me with some daily tasks I struggle with, and understands me."

If you are interested in becoming a Host Homes mentor and helping a fellow Iowan achieve independence, please visit LSIowa.org/HostHomes for more information.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

BIRTHDAYS

Elizabeth Street	03/03
Luke Schut	03/16
Ron Borstad	03/16
Bruce Orman	03/19
Allison Borstad	03/21
Brad Church	03/25
Dennis Pingle	03/26

ANNIVERSARIES

Sandee and Amy Garding	03/24	7 years
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March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 AA Meeting 6:00pm
3 Worship 10:30am Lenten Program 11:30am Boy Scouts 6:00pm	4 Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:00pm	5	6 Choir Practice 7:00pm	7 Pastor Arik at Porchlight 8:00am-12:30pm Iowa Food CoOp 4:00-6:00pm	8	9 AA Meeting 6:00pm
10 DST Time Change Worship 10:30am Lenten Program 11:30am NO Sunday School Boy Scouts 6:00pm	11 Trustees Meeting 7:00pm	12	13 Choir Practice 7:00pm	14 Pastor Arik at Porchlight 8:00am-12:30pm	15	16 AA Meeting 6:00pm
17 Worship 10:30am Lenten Program 11:30am Boy Scouts 6:00pm	18	19 Boy Scouts Committee Meeting 6:30pm	20 Choir Practice 7:00pm	21 Pastor Arik at Café Diem 8:00am-1:00pm Iowa Food CoOp 4:00-6:00pm	22	23 AA Meeting 6:00pm
24 Palm Sunday 10:30am Egg Coloring and Easter Egg Hunt 11:30-12:45pm Boy Scouts 6:00pm	25 Church Council Meeting 6:30pm	26	27	28 Pastor Arik at Café Diem 8:00am-1:00pm Ecumenical Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm	29	30 AA Meeting 6:00pm
31 Easter Morning 10:30am						



easter



WORD SEARCH

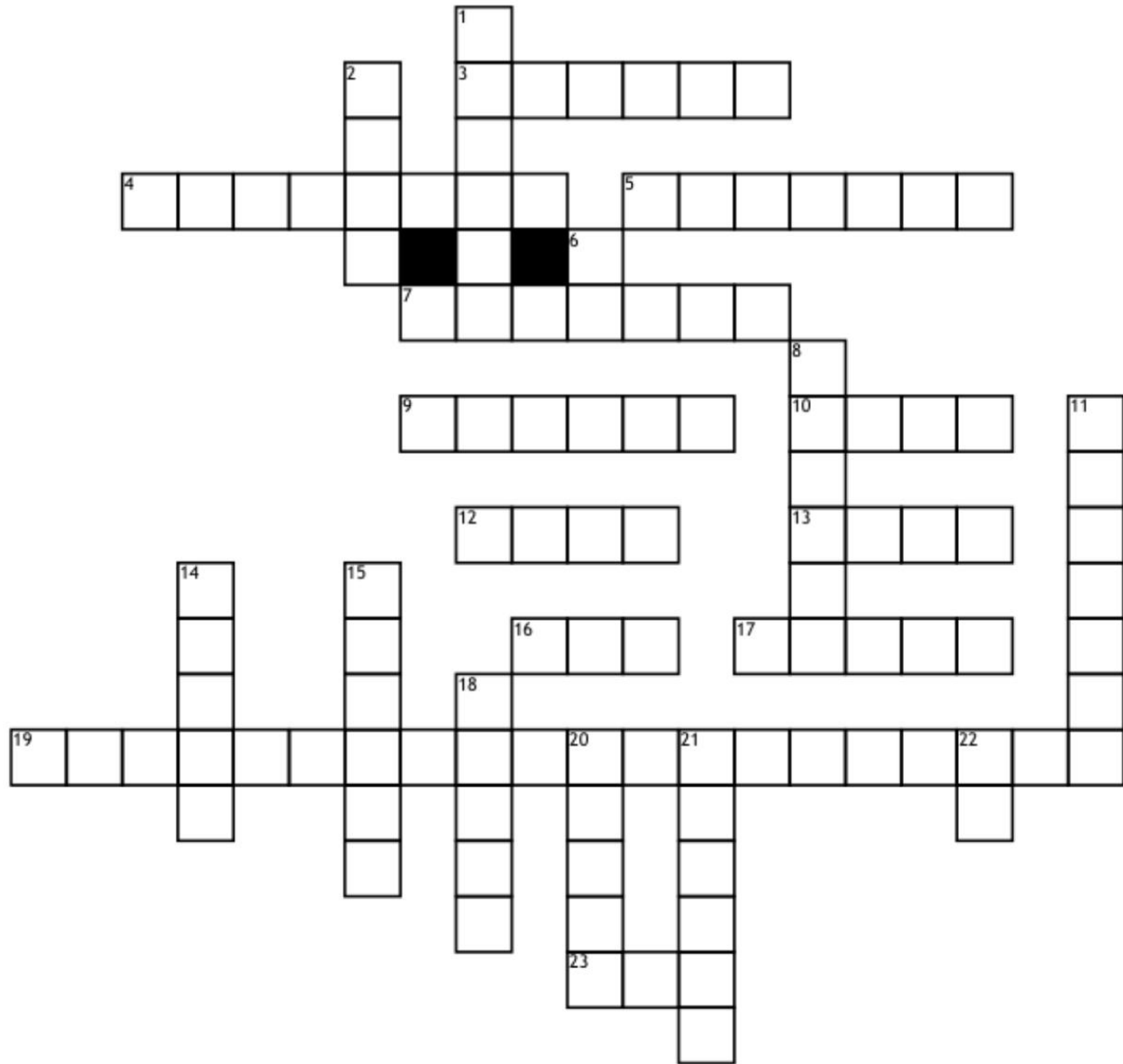
C	F	N	C	T	V	Y	J	E	A	K	L	H	E	Y
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H	O	G	H	N	A	T	G	S	Y	L	U	I	X	T
T	Q	W	Q	I	B	P	B	G	O	B	E	A	D	V
I	T	P	G	T	Y	P	R	C	H	A	E	U	H	D
C	Q	Z	N	A	J	V	O	I	S	U	O	A	F	B
L	R	C	I	R	B	H	F	T	L	M	N	Q	R	U
Y	G	V	R	O	C	E	E	L	Q	B	Y	T	I	E
J	L	F	P	C	R	R	C	A	N	D	Y	R	E	B
X	R	I	S	E	W	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	N	L
B	C	X	M	D	P	O	H	B	O	F	Q	P	D	R
Q	I	S	X	A	H	O	O	X	Y	L	L	R	S	Z
Z	J	N	T	T	F	W	W	S	H	F	S	U	I	G
E	V	M	M	P	S	J	I	L	I	J	X	K	T	O

APRIL
BASKET
BOWS
BUNNY
CANDY

CHOCOLATE
DECORATING
EASTER
EGG HUNT
EGGS

FAMILY
FLOWERS
FRIENDS
HOP
SPRING

Easter Crossword



Across

- 3. This color is the color of royalty and also considered an Easter color.
- 4. Cheerful, yellow spring flower.
- 5. These white, trumpet-shaped flowers are popular at Easter.
- 7. The name of the Easter Egg that broke in two (song).
- 9. Easter eggs are often made out of this treat!
- 10. You bake Easter cookies in this.

- 12. All the directions that the Easter Bunny goes
- 13. Bright, glowy colors or paint.
- 16. A type of Bunny dance.
- 17. Traditionally this material is what baskets are made of.
- 19. A big piece of candy that is put into every Easter basket.
- 23. What you dip your eggs in to color them.

Down

- 1. The season in which Easter is celebrated.
- 2. Lop eared rabbits have ears that do what?

- 6. Easter Bunny's monogram.
- 8. What a woman wears in the Easter Parade?
- 11. The Energizer Bunny runs on this.
- 14. A big pile of eggs made by the Easter Bunny.
- 15. Irving Berlin wrote a song called "Easter _____."
- 18. Mr. Cottontail's first name.
- 20. What you send to your friends and family on Easter either via the US Mail or on-line.
- 21. "A-Ticket, A- _____" (Song)
- 22. The 1948 movie "Easter Parade" took place in this state.