



June

Opportunities abound so take some time this month to fellowship, study and serve.

Prayer

The Prayer Team invites you to join them Sunday June 3 and Sunday June 17 from 9-9:45 am in the prayer room where they pray for requests from our church family.

The first Wednesday of every month is set aside for Fasting and Prayer for all those who feel led. This month Fasting and Prayer is on Wednesday June 6.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday June 2 at 7:30 am at the Golden Corral in Grand Chute. All men are invited to come and enjoy great food and fellowship.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 6:00 am.

Women's Bible Study

We will not be having a summer Bible study but will resume this Fall.

Garden Party: Wednesday, June 20 at the home of Nate and Roberta Selle. Details on pg. 3

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Save the Date

- Messy Fest-Sunday, June 3
- Mini Camp-June 20-22, Ages 3-5
- Garden Party-Wednesday, June 20—5:00 pm

Updates and Opportunities

Take Time To Pray

*"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances,
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

We know that God's will is for us to have joy in Christ Jesus, but joy is something that completely eludes us in the midst of our heartache. The secret to experiencing joy, even in the midst of our struggle is to **"pray continually"** and to give thanks for the good things in our lives.

A group will be gathering to pray for Adult Children & Families on Wednesday, June 13 from 6:30-7:30 pm. Please feel free to join us. If you have questions, please call the church office 920-735-9971.

Men's Sunday School

There will be no 9:00 am Sunday
School beginning June 3
We will resume in the Fall
Have a blessed Summer.

Marv



Those of you who like to bake and are willing to share with the rest of us, are encouraged to sign up for a Sunday morning. See the sign up sheet on the table near the doors. Thank you.



Men's Wednesday Morning Study Continues!

Every Wednesday at 6:00 am join other men for study and fellowship. Get a boost for the rest of your week.

Coffee and donuts provided!

Updates and Opportunities-Continued

Calling All Ladies ~ It's A Party At Roberta's!

Wednesday June 20

Come enjoy the garden and Hors D'overes at 5:00 pm

Stay for Dinner at 6:00 pm



*RSVP to Roberta at 920-427-2293
or email nateselle@sbcglobal.net*



Discipleship Notes

At ACEFC we value Evangelism. In Matthew 28 Jesus gives us the Great Commission, this was the last command given to us as He ascended into heaven. It instructs us to make disciples as we go about our daily activities.

At a men's breakfast a few years ago 'Big' Al shared with us an approach of how to share our faith. He introduced us to Bill Fay's method of reaching out to others in a non-confrontational way. I think it is worthy to share Bill Fay's 'how to share faith without an argument.' Bill uses this approach by asking the following questions, waiting for an answer before proceeding to the next one.

1. Do you have any kind of spiritual belief?
2. To you, who is Jesus?
3. Do you think there is a heaven and a hell?
4. If you died right now, where would you go?
5. If what you believe were not true, would you want to know it?

By asking these questions it allows people to give their opinions.

The next step would be to share the gospel with the following scripture verses: Romans 3:23; 6:23; John 3:3; 14:6; and Romans 10: 9-11. (Have the individual read the verses, one by one, and wait for a response of what it means to the individual.)

The final step involves the close, asking questions to recap the verses you've just guided them through and to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior. (I realize this method is only the beginning of a discipleship process for a new believer. The booklet I refer to later outlines an approach to discipling them).

I hope this has whet your appetite for sharing the gospel with either a relative, a friend, or a stranger. This approach has been put in a Discovery Series booklet of Our Daily Bread and is easily available.

I have several copies and if you ask me I will get a copy of "How Can I share My Faith Without an Argument?" to you.

God bless you on your journey of sharing your faith.

Tom Deason

Youth & Children's Ministry

Sunday School is out for the summer but the learning will continue Sunday mornings during the worship service. Lil' Sprouts, ages 6wks-24mo, the age will vary depending on ages of babies. If you have questions please ask. The theme for **June** Surprise Bag is God the Water.

The Sprouts, ages 2-5 yr. will be learning about God's plan for Moses.

Evergreens will continue with the Gospel Project; the life of Paul.

Thank you to our Y.A.M's...Youth **A**ccepting the **M**ission, last week they did a service projected and cleaned all the windows of the church. It was a great time of fellowship, afterwards they enjoyed ice cream, discussion, and prayer. Meeting times this summer TBD.



Be careful little eyes what you see. If you are on Facebook I am sure you have seen the discussions about the new movie that is out, Show Dogs. Here is a link if you would like to find out more information. I would not recommend this movie, even though they removed some questionable scenes. Plugged in is also a great resource. <https://churchleaders.com/news/326045-for-every-mom-complained-about-show-dogs-hollywood-backs->

Messy Fest

Sunday June 3
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Enjoy messy kids' activities
without the clean up!

Don't forget a change of clothes!

Don't Forget!



Mini Growing & Learning Camp

June 20-22
9:30-11 am

Join us for story times, crafts, singing,
dancing and snacks

RSVP to

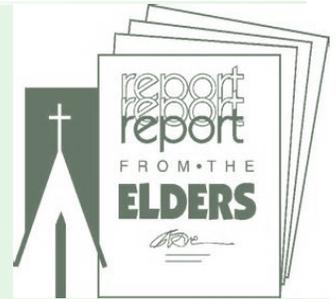
office@applefreechurch.org

By Monday June 18

Elders Report

“As iron sharpens iron...”

In recent weeks the Elder board has been working on documenting the responsibilities of the Pastor, church staff and Elder board. One item that has become apparent is the need for accountability in all our roles and the need to hold each other accountable.



Proverbs 27:17 says, “As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” Accountability may be a scary thought, especially when it comes to our Christian walk. As Elders, we know that we need to hold each other accountable for our board responsibilities as well as our personal walk with Christ. Allowing another person to be able to ask us how things are going with our lives is difficult. But it appears that God has made us to be accountable to one another in order to draw us together as the Body.

Are you accountable to anyone? Does anyone have permission to ask you the hard questions, not in a legalistic fashion, but as a way of encouraging you to strengthen your walk with Jesus? A friend, a spouse, someone you work with, or a member of your small group?

If the answer to the questions above is ‘no’, can I encourage you to find someone that you trust to give them permission to ask those question about your personal and spiritual life? It will take courage, and there may be some ‘sparks’ as the rough edges are worn off, but the reward will be worth it!

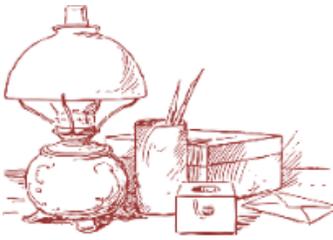
Lynn Burnett

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”



Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Some “Reflections” from Pastor Greg



To Take Control... Or Not?

Donna and I had an enjoyable “break from our normal routine” during our recent trip to Atlanta and the Tampa area. We also had a safe, but eventful journey back to Milwaukee that included a “surprise” overnight visit to Washington DC. Our flight from Tampa to Milwaukee was scheduled to make a brief stop at Reagan National Airport and we were simply supposed to change planes for the remainder of the trip. We left Tampa and all seemed well—according to the flight tracker on my phone, we were 17 minutes from DC (about 20 minutes ahead of schedule). But suddenly, the tracker changed its estimate and showed that we were almost two hours away. Then the pilot came on the PA system to tell everyone we were in a holding pattern due to a storm front that was covering the DC area. Eventually we landed in Richmond, VA and spent about several hours waiting for the weather to clear and for two new pilots to take over. After missing our flight to Milwaukee and being re—booked on a flight scheduled for the next day, we arrived in DC around 11 PM. Along with several other travelers who experienced similar delays and cancelled flights, we spent the night in a waiting area near the entrance of the airport, listening to the PA announcements and trying to rest because sleep seemed to be a bit out of reach. By 6:30 AM we were back through the TSA security lines waiting for our 11:05 AM flight.

The purpose of this article isn’t a “human interest” story—there is some spiritual truth that I’m hoping to present with some sense of clarity. (I’m trusting that you’re still hanging with me as I continue ...)

While we were waiting in Richmond, several people from the flight began to take things into their own hands and went directly to the car rental desk to obtain other transportation. Others called family or friends trying to find someone to make the two hour drive to Richmond from DC to pick them up. Several thoughts flashed through our minds wondering if we had any other options. However, it was clear to us at that point that we didn’t have “control over the situation.” All we could do was trust the Lord and wait for His provision for us. We couldn’t change the weather ... we had been re—booked on the next possible flight ... we were safe (even tho we were tired) ... and we had prayed many times about our travel.

One of the lessons we all need to learn (over and over) is that there are many times in life when we want to take control of things (or people, or circumstances, or “you name it”) that are beyond our ability or right to control. That’s where faith and trusting God becomes more important than ever. Often, the only part of a situation that we are supposed to control is our reaction or response—and the way we can best achieve that is to allow God’s indwelling Spirit to control us. In addition to this, we should also seek God’s wisdom and discernment about knowing when He expects us to take control—to fulfill our own personal responsibilities by using the gifts, talents, and resources wisely.

Trying to be objective about the question of control, I believe it’s safe to say that (1) God wants us to trust Him for everything that is beyond our control and (2) He desires for us to be wise and discerning in using His grace and His gifts to do whatever we can to bring honor and glory to Him.

As always, with praise for His grace and prayer for His glory, Pastor Greg

Philippians 4:4—9

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice!
⁵ Let everyone see your patience. The Lord is always near!
⁶ Don’t be anxious about anything. Instead, in every situation, through prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, tell your requests to God.
⁷ And the peace of God that surpasses all human understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
⁸ Finally brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is worthy of respect, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about these things.
⁹ And what you learned, received, heard, and saw in me, do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

Missionary for June-Robert Dykstra "The Shack"



When you walk up to the Shack it is not uncommon to see teenagers playing basketball and young children laughing and playing on the swings. Sounds of laughter mix with the rustling leaves on the trees and barking dogs. When you step into the actual building you see games, darts, and coffee mugs but what goes on in this building is something special...something supernatural.

You see, this is a place where those who do not know Jesus can come to find out who He is and what He is

about. They come first out of curiosity or sometimes boredom, but they stay because at the Shack they find what we all at some point or another are looking for. They find the missing piece to life's puzzle. They find Jesus.

Currently the Shack is in the midst of seeing the Lord move through the teenagers. The Teen Group meets six days a week. We share meals together, study the Bible, and sing songs. Currently we are reading through the book of Luke.

We seek to show these teens Jesus through the reading of the Word, relationship with the body of Christ, service, and His creation. This is done through meetings, camping trips, service projects, and just walking through life together.

The body of Christ at the Shack strives to not just tell the community about Jesus, but to also be His hands and feet. Not to just serve the community, but to be a part of the community. And finally not to just minister to the people of LCO, but to minister alongside them!

It continues to be so encouraging to gather with the youth here and see transformation take place before our very eyes. And though many of you have not met many of these youth I hope you are encouraged as well. Thank you for investing in their lives and my life through prayer!

Blessings on you.

in Christ,
Bob



Our Mission here at Appleton Community EFC is to lead all people in a growing relationship with Christ.

Growing together in Christ we value:

Biblical Truth

We depend on the Bible as our source of authority in what we believe, what we teach, and how we live. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Worship

We believe that we are created by God to worship Him. Therefore, we live in worshipful response to God's character and activity. (Psalm 86:11)

Prayer

We believe that daily prayer is essential in the life of a believer and as such we pray with expectancy knowing that God is actively involved in our world. (Colossians 4:2)

Evangelism

We believe in sharing the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ with honesty and humility. (Matthew 28:19-20)

Fellowship

We believe that accountability, caring and a sense of belonging are essential for each believer to grow in their relationship with Christ. (Philippians 2:1-4)

Encouragement

We believe we are responsible for caring for and encouraging one another. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)



We're on the Web!
applefreechurch.org

Appleton Community Evangelical Free Church
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Appleton, WI 54914
Phone
920-735-9971

Church Office Hours

Closed Mondays
Tuesday 10:00 am-4:00 pm
Wednesday 1:30 pm-7:30 pm
Thursday and Friday 10:00 am-4:00 pm

