



October Encounter 2025

Ankeny Presbyterian Church
317 SE Trilein Dr, Ankeny, IA 50021
515-964-0264 or office@ankenypresbyterian.org

A Word from Pastor Eric – October 2025

Celebrating the God of Plenty

October is when the leaves crunch, temperatures fall, and we as a church pause to remember that generosity is not a budget strategy—it's a spiritual practice rooted in the character of God. Our stewardship theme this year is "Celebrating the God of Plenty." Not a stingy deity parceling out rations, but the God who, as the Psalmist sings, "opens your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing." Celebration, then, is our proper response: we notice abundance, we give thanks for it, and we share it.

I know the word "stewardship" can feel about as thrilling as reading the warranty for your toaster. But in the gospel, stewardship is simply love expressed in a tangible way. It's the way we align our money, time, and energy with what we say matters most. The PC(USA)'s Confession of 1967 reminds us that God's reconciliation in Christ "makes us ambassadors of justice and peace"—and ambassadors don't travel empty-handed. We bring resources, creativity, and courage to the places God loves (everywhere, that is). Or in the language of the Brief Statement of Faith, we "trust in God... who sends us to love and serve others." Trust looks like joy. Joy looks like generosity. Generosity looks like you.

So, here's our invitation this month: Pray each week, "God of Plenty, show me what joyful giving looks like for me this year."

Notice the abundance already present—friendships, ministries, neighbors, music, the little mercies that keep finding you.

Participate by pledging for 2026, not as an obligation but as a thank-you and a yes. (If you're new to APC: a pledge is simply your best estimate of what you hope to give next year. It helps our leaders plan faithfully and boldly.)

My hope is that our stewardship campaign feels less like spreadsheets and more like a celebration—because it is. When we pool our gifts, worship becomes more beautiful, souls are formed in love, neighbors are fed, lonely people are seen, and hope keeps getting the last word. God's grace always comes first. Joyful giving is our grateful response.

Your Companion on the Journey,

Pastor Eric

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

As grandparents of preschoolers, we have a lot of conversations about sharing in our home. One of our of common reassurances is “there’s enough for everybody.” Whether it is LEGO pieces, slices of mango, or brownies, there usually is.

Likewise, when we consider the world around us, it isn’t hard to see the great “Plenty” that has been provided. There is boundless natural beauty to be taken in, so much goodness to be found in the people around us, and so many resources that God has placed before us. There is, indeed, enough for everybody.



As a congregation our call is to serve. Giving is in our DNA and God’s provision gives us the tools to do just that. The mission statement that APC adopted years ago is to “*Share God’s love through compassion and service in our neighborhood and beyond.*” It takes many talents, willing souls and financial resources for us to carry out this mission, and we invite you to be part of our journey this fall as we Trust in the God of Plenty to lead us forward.

On Sunday, October 5, we will begin our stewardship program for 2026. As we plan the coming year’s budget, we ask for commitments from the congregation to help us make wise financial decisions. Please watch for information packages which will be soon available for each household. These will contain an overview of our ministries as well as pledge cards to return. Our October worship services will also remind us of the generous God we serve and how we might better “live the plenty life.” In addition, we will hear individual members’ stories as they share their trust in their walk with God. As you consider your part in the life of APC, we ask that you begin thinking of your response to Trusting the God of Plenty.

In Christian Fellowship,

Bonnie McCaughey, Chairperson

Stewardship and Finance Committee

MISSIONS



IOWA HOMELESS YOUTH CENTER

*"We always get great meals from Ankeny Presbyterian.
Thank you!"...IHYC*



Thank you! to everyone who contributed to the meal that was delivered to the Youth Center in September! We get notes of appreciation every month for the meals that we provide.

The meal for October will be meatloaf, mac n cheese, green beans and dessert. It will be delivered to the Youth Center on Monday, October 13th. Sign-up sheet for food contributions is on the Mission table.

In addition to the meal, any personal care items or clothing placed in the bin next to the Mission table will also be delivered. The Center seeks donations of the following:

- Undergarments and socks (adult sizes)
- New or gently used clothing, suitable for work or school (adult sizes)
- Hygiene products (shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving supplies)
- Feminine hygiene products
- Laundry detergent
- Bedding
- Towels

Contact Carla Yeager at (515) 669-8620 or yeagercc@msn.com.



"Everyone in the U.S. has rights regardless of immigration status. We all belong. We will defend each other."

Sunday, October 26, 10:45 am

Susie Tierney, Development Director for IMMJ, will join us after worship to present on the immigrant and refugee environment in Iowa, work done by the IMMJ, an overview of immigration policies/laws that are impacting Iowa's refugee and immigrant communities; an overview of Know Your Rights and information about how individuals and our congregation can get involved/support Iowa's immigrant community. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. To plan for an adequate space for the presentation, please note your plan to attend on the sign-up sheet located on the Mission table in Fellowship Hall.



Special Offering: The Peace and Global Witness Special Offering will be collected on October 5th, World Communion Sunday. Gifts to this offering are combined with others to support Presbyterian mission and ministry locally and around the world. 25% of this offering will stay within our own community to support peacemaking and reconciliation ministries. The Mission Committee has designated First Arabic Presbyterian Church of Des Moines as the recipient of this portion of our offering. Remember when we all do a little it adds up to a lot.

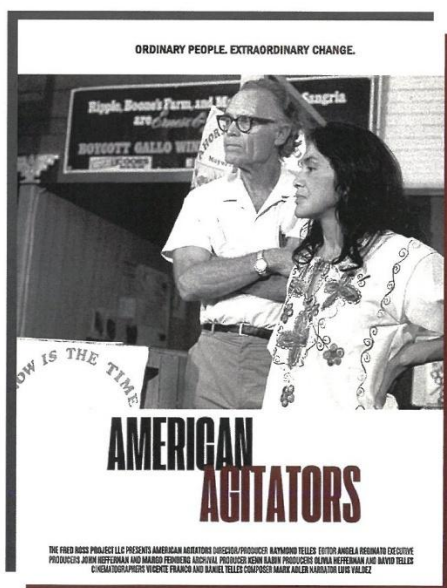


AMOS | WE *the* PEOPLE

30 years of organized power

FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

New documentary AMERICAN AGITATORS is a story of courage, persistence, and the power of collective action. Fred Ross Sr. was a pioneer for racial and economic justice and impacted generations, showing them how ordinary people can achieve extraordinary change. Join us to explore how Ross, the first IAF organizer in California, laid the groundwork for what became the powerful farmworkers movement.



In-Person

Tuesday, October 14

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Community of Christ Northwest

3003 62nd St, Des Moines

Register by Oct. 10

Virtual

Thursday, October 23

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Register by Oct. 20

REGISTRATION LINK

bit.ly/AMOSAA



Learn more about the film at americanagitators.com

"American Agitators" Film Screening & Discussion

Join us for the screening of a new documentary about the power of collective action to inspire our work today! Fred Ross Sr. was a pioneer for racial and economic justice and impacted generations, showing them how ordinary people can achieve extraordinary change. He mentored farm labor movement leaders Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta and advanced justice efforts throughout the 20th century.

As AMOS prepares for our 2026 30th anniversary We the People "house meeting" listening campaign, learn how this organizing tool emerged in the homes of California farm workers and imagine how we can identify new leaders and build power to act on the pressures impacting workers and families today. Check out the [film trailer here](#)

Two screening opportunities:

Tuesday, October 14

- **Community of Christ Northwest-** 3003 62nd St in Des Moines
- 6:00-8:00pm
- Popcorn provided!
- [Register here](#) by Oct. 10th

Thursday, October 23

- **Virtual on zoom**
- 6:00-8:00pm
- [Register here](#) by Oct. 20th to get access link

Help Spread the Word!

This film is a great opportunity to learn more about community organizing as an approach to social change. We invite you to come if this is your first AMOS event or 50th!

[Link to 2 min video invitation](#) to the screening.

Shareable [flyer](#), shareable [flyer image](#) for social media

AMOS

<https://www.amosiowa.org/>

AMOS · IA 50311, United States

This email was sent to yeagercc@msn.com. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).



Awesome Outreach Celebration

a **FALL FUNDRAISER** for the
ARABIC OUTREACH CENTER
the mission arm of First Arabic Presbyterian Church

Saturday, October 11, 2025

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Heartland Presbyterian Church

Corner of Hickman Road & 142nd Street in Clive

Soup luncheon (\$20) • Inspiring stories

Sandy Wagener to be honored

First Arabic Youth Choir

Live auction • Trivia Challenge

Treats for sale • and more!

Use this QR code to make reservations!



Or go to dmpresbytery.org. Latest Updates, News & Events. You can also sign up by calling **515-777-0429**. Reserve single seats or a table for seven.

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER

15



**cross
outreach**

Preventing homelessness with compassion.

- 100% Goes to CROSS Outreach
- Silent Auction Items
- Hosted Events
- Christmas Gifts
- Fall Themed Trivia - & PRIZES!!
- Delicious Food
- Fun For Everyone 😊😊😊😊
- Nursery Provided

FABULOUS FALL FUNDRAISER
RSVP BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Email - crossoutreachdm@gmail.com
Phone - 515-279-8877

Heartland Presbyterian Church
Saturday, Nov 15 - 5PM - 8PM

\$75 PER TABLE - Tables of 6-8 - Bring Your Own Beverage of Choice

- To Donate Silent Auction Items:
 - * Contact: Joanne Page @ 515-243-5740 or page@dwx.com
- To Donate to CROSS Outreach Directly:
 - * Go to: <http://crossoutreachdm.org/donate-now/>
 - * Mail to: PO BOX 12121 - Des Moines, IA 50312



BINGO

♦ BONANZA ♦

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025
2:00 - 4:00 PM

An Our Sister Parish Fundraiser

.....
\$20 INCLUDES BINGO CARDS, DAUBER,
AND SNACKS! (\$50 FOR A FAMILY)

*All money raised will benefit the 2026
Medical Delegation to El Salvador!*

Tickets sold at the door. Doors open at 1:30 PM.



AMOS VARIETY SHOW

NOVEMBER 16
3:00 PM

TICKETS:



ANKENY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER
710 NE 36TH ST | ANKENY

PASTOR ERIC TURNS 60 ON OCTOBER 1ST!



On October 5th, the Congregational Life Committee will be providing cake during fellowship to celebrate Pastor Eric's 60th birthday.



NOTE!
ADDRESS CHANGE

ADDRESS CHANGES FOR YOUR DIRETORIES

MIDDENTS' NEW ADDRESS

John and Jane's new address is 3450 Mulberry Ave #6, Muscatine, IA 52761, please change it in the directory that you have. The directories in the fellowship hall have the changes already.

SONJA MAXWELL

Sonja Maxwell has a new room number; it is now room 308 at Edencrest Siena Hills.

MARGE HENNINGS

Marge Hennings has disconnected her home phone, so please use her cell phone. Here new address is: 1201 SE Mill Pond Ct. Apt # 4104, Ankeny, IA 50021.



Gary & Beverly McKnight will become the newest members of APC on October 19th, 2025.

TRUNK OR TREAT



Begger' Night for the City of Ankeny will be held on Friday, October 31st from 6-8pm. Once again, we will be hosting a Trunk or Treat night as a way of connecting with our neighbors.

The Outreach Committee would like to make this year's Trunk or Treat event even bigger than last year, when we served about 400 children! Please be thinking about your trunk design and start stockpiling treats. Sign-up sheets for trunks and donations will appear in fellowship hall. Our goal is to have at least twenty-five trunks. Please pray that this event will be a success in communicating love and care to the families in our neighborhood.



POTLUCK FOR OCTOBER

We will have the next potluck on Oct. 19, 5:30. It will be brats and hot dogs provided by Dave Lawson. Come join us for brats, hotdogs, and fellowship on October 20th at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a side dish to share. Drinks and table service will be provided.

VETERANS AND ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY



The Worship committee is working on a display to recognize our veterans and active-duty members on November 8. If we don't already have your photo, could you please give one to Lori Lawson or drop one off to Kris in the office. We would also like information about your field and time of service. We would appreciate your information by November 1.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT



Did you Know? Our APC Wellness Committee Has Medical Equipment for Loan

Found in Classroom 304, in the Education Wing:

- Bath Chair - 2 Normal size
- Raised portable toilet seat- 1
- Bath Stool- 1 Normal size
- Cane- 5 Various types
- Crutches- 5 pair, aluminum
- Knee Scooter - 2
- Walker with Wheels- 6 Heavy duty
- Walker, seated with wheels and brakes- 3
- Wheelchairs-3 Normal size (1 in alcove)
- Leg Lift/Stand-2
- Digital Blood Pressure Monitor- 1

The Wellness Committee is still looking for an extra-large wheelchair to add to the inventory of medical equipment.

HELP YOURSELF TO CARE NOTES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



These are for you to take or to share with a friend. Topics include: Steps to forgiveness, dealing with bullying, anger, or grief, mental illness, and suicide prevention, among others.

Love Lunches



Thank you to APC and the volunteers for all you do to help provide the 9,485 meals that were served this summer. The space and help were incredible, and it was a busy, fulfilling summer.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE



The Outreach committee will be distributing a coloring page activity to local children after school, which we will ask to be

turned into us by Nov. 6. We will display them in the fellowship hall on Nov. 16, which will be our next Invitation Sunday. Please share the coloring page with any kids who may want to participate!

LUNCH AND LEARN

Wednesday, November 12
Unlock Your Savings!!!

Mid American Energy will be presenting a free program designed to help lower energy costs and make your home more comfortable. A Mid American expert will share proven strategies and introduce you to special programs that can make a real difference. Lunch will be provided by "In the Bag" and the Wellness Team. Please sign up by November 5 so there will be a lunch for you. Sign up sheet is on the mission table at church. Invite friends. Be sure to reserve a lunch for them.

THANK YOU



Thank you so much for your compassionate support and kindness after the passing of Dave Pedersen. Your prayers and cards brought us immense comfort during this difficult time. We are so grateful for your love and care.

Sincerely, Gerry and Karen Pedersen

OCTOBER HOSPITALITY

Greeters:

5th: Dan & Brenda Hucka, Jay & Jill VanderWilt
12th: Lee & Alice White, Tim Little & Carla Yeager
19th: Chuck & Karen Miller, Mary Ellen Fischer
26th: Gerry & Karen Pedersen, Ruth Wagner

Ushers:

5th: Ron & Sue Faerber
12th: Jan Klinker & Carla Yeager
19th: Dan & Brenda Hucka
26th: Ken & Myrna Rummer

Worship Leaders:

5th: Rich Flaugh
12th: Phil Pease
19th: Bonnie McCaughey
26th: Audrey Kobus

Welcome Desk:

5th: Jan Klinker
12th: Del Konopka
19th: Cathy DeMoss
26th: Jo DeHart

Home Communion:

Al Lamp – Gary & Janie Owens
Sonja Maxwell - Kathy & Jerry Brown
Joyce McCloud - Jill & Jay VanderWilt
Verne & Kelly Murray - Alice White & Bonnie McCaughey
Kathy & Al Overbaugh - Jan Klinker & Mary Kleis
Emily Wyckoff - Lola Peters & Myrna Rummer
Nadine Greiman - Mary Weeks & Marge Hennings

CHILDCARE DURING CHOIR:

October 1: Jan Klinker and Sue Faerber

October 8: Marcia McAdoo and Carla Yeager

October 15: Lori Lawson and Bonnie McCaughey

October 22: Sue Faerber and Coleen Myers

October 29: Jan Klinker and Marcia McAdoo

Mowing:

1st-4th: Noah Wood

8th-11th: Ray Peters

15th-18th: Gary Weeks



Birthdays

1st: Pastor Eric Pasanchin

2nd: Larry Zach

4th: Neiley-Joy Musoro

7th: Ron Van Heukelom

12th: Addie Brooks

12th: Eli Brooks

13th: Max Brewbaker

13th: Dave Lawson

15th: Erica Doud

19th: Franklin Kobus

24th: Sondra Lazear

28th: Dan Hucka

30th: Liam Doud



Anniversaries:

20th: Chuck & Karen Miller

27th: Rich & Bonnie McCaughey

28th: Steve & Lori SchraderBachar