

Disciple



March 2025

**The mission of Anchor Bible Church is to love God, love people,
and make disciples of Jesus Christ.**

“Preparation”

Have you ever wondered what Lent was all about and why we observe it? For many of us today, we hear Christians in various areas giving something up or in some cases, adding a Christian practice to their lives.

The history of Lent dates back to the council of Nicea 325 AD. This was a council of Bishops who came together to combat many early church heresies. One in particular was the Arian belief that Jesus was inferior to God. The Nicea Council brought forth the truth of the Word of God that God is present as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The ultimate outcome was the Nicene Creed that is very much alive today.

From the Nicea Council combating early falsehoods in the Church much more than the Nicene Creed was a result. One particular practice of the Christian life came to be what we know as “Lent.”

Lent represents the 40 days of temptation Jesus endured in the desert by Satan. This 40 day period begins on Ash Wednesday (not counting the 6 Sundays in the duration). The early forms of Lent had a heavy consistency of fasting from meat, fish, and dairy. The fasting would be one small meal a day after 3:00pm. In some areas it was fasting on Wednesday and Friday.

Once the Protestant Revolution hit the ground running, many of the Lenten practices were brought into question. The main argument was Jesus didn’t give us specific timeframes of fasting or from what we should fast. Therein lies where we have come today as Protestants.

The Lord, time and time again, focuses on the condition of our hearts. Matthew 6:16-18 is a specific place we hear Jesus addressing fasting; “16 “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

From the Israelites and early Christians traditions and modes of focusing their lives upon God, we find ourselves in our present day. So what does Lent mean to us now? As time has grown we observe Lent as a time to refocus our lives and hearts upon the Lord.

Many Protestants use Lent as a time of preparation for new believers to be baptized while others creatively use this time to remove something from their lives that distracts them or hinders their faith.

What we believe here at Anchor Bible Church about Lent is this is a time period for us to confess both to our neighbor and God. To make mends and offer forgiveness while receiving it at the same time. We believe this is a time to repent from sin. We believe this is a time to rekindle the flame of our faith as we await Jesus’ death and resurrection.

The hope is that we set our hearts and eyes upon the anchor of our souls, our Savior Jesus Christ. Not just in these 40 days, but for the rest of our lives. May each of us be prompted by the Holy Spirit to live into our faith deeper each and every day.

May God Bless You and Keep You Always,
Pastor Andrew Happ

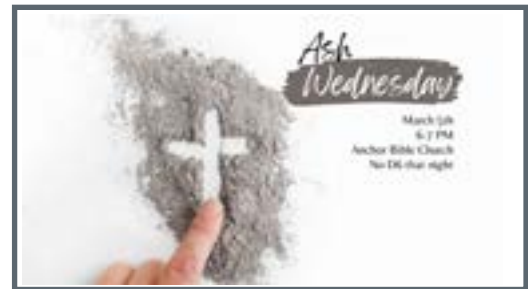
What's UP?

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March 2025

- Mar 1: Coffee and Conversation for Women 8-10am
- Mar 2: Confirmation Class 11:45am-1:15pm
- Mar 5: Ash Wednesday Service 6pm
- Mar 5: NO D6 Family Night
- Mar 9: Daylight Savings Begins ~ Set clocks ahead!!!
- Mar 9: CRI Mission Trip to Malawi Meeting 12pm
- Mar 12: D6 Family Night 5-8:30pm
- Mar 16: Confirmation Class 11:45am-1:15pm
- Mar 19: D6 Family Night 5-8:30pm
- Mar 26: D6 Family Night 5-8:30pm
- Mar 30: Confirmation Class 11:45am-1:15pm



ANCHOR BIBLE CHURCH
275 Green Street West / PO Box 283
Center Point, IA 52213

ph: **319-849-2518**

email: office@anchorbibleia.org

facebook: Anchor Bible Church

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am - 12Noon

Worship times: 9am & 10:30am

*Please call or email the office
to have events and information
included in the newsletter.*

Vision Statement:

*Leading our community to become Christ-centered
disciples who are anchored in the the Gospel.*

*We have this hope as an anchor for the soul,
firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary
behind the curtain.*

Hebrews 6:19



Reminder!!
**If the activities of CPU School
are canceled due to weather
conditions,
there will be no church
activities that evening.**

We will use email, facebook &
Channels 2, 7 & 9
to make announcements
regarding Sunday worship service
cancellations.

Prayers

Please Join Us *as we Pray*



Brothers & Sisters in Christ Serving in the Military:

(Our list contains those in full time military duty)

Sam Vick

husband of Chelsea (McEvoy) Vick

Chris Butterfield

husband of Lindsay Butterfield

Allison McEvoy

daughter of Mike & Tammy McEvoy

Ethan Parrott

husband of Allison McEvoy

Clark Schoch

son of Chad and Jamie Schoch

Jacob Snakenberg

son of Randy & Laurie Snakenberg

We will continue to lift those who are in the Reserve or a part-time basis when we pray for our Nation and those who serve our country.

- Mike Beck
- Mark Boies
- Tim Boies
- Mark Callahan
- Jim Carver
- Leonard & Karen Chapman
- Darlene Denison
- Doris Dufoe
- Beth Dunkel
- Linda Ficek
- Stan Hepker
- Gary Montague
- Krista Stepanek
- Terry Voss
- Whitey Weyant

Continued Prayers for:

- Brian Lage, Linda Marlow's nephew
- Renea, Jamie Schoch's mom
- Judy & Dean Gleason, Christina Lahr's parents
- Ken Burmood, Alyssa Newman's grandpa
- Wayne & Sheila Demmel,
- Jodi Weber's parents
- Elsie Payton, Mary Vang's friend
- Norma, Mary Vang's sister-in-law
- Duane & Vicki, Kelly Shuniak's parents
- Corey, Athena and baby Conor Callahan
- Jason, Diana Smith's son
- Oliver Dake, Austin & Jodi Covington's nephew
- Colton Dake, Austin & Jodi Covington's nephew
- Gary & Donna Brown, Glenda Allen's parents
- Dean, Dustin Mallie's dad

Prayers of Bereavement

Donna Cobley and family in the passing of George



Please pray for these Upcoming Marriage Celebrations:

- Jaida Trout & Kaden Neal
September 26, 2025
- McKenna Rawson & Kyle Coppess
April 25, 2026
- Autumn McGowan & Ben Opfer
Oct 1, 2026



The Cobley family would like to thank the Church family for all of the prayers and kindnesses they have shown to us after the sudden and unexpected passing of our husband/father/grandfather/great grandfather, George.

We asked for prayers of strength and peace and your willing hearts gave that to us at a very trying time in our ives when we had so many questions and were getting no answers.

Thank you, thank you, church family from the bottoms of our hearts.

Donna Cobley and family



Bulldogs

Who: the MEN of Anchor Bible Church & Surrounding Communities

What: Men encouraging men through understanding God's Word.

Where: Anchor Bible Church, 275 Green St West

When: 5:45-7am, Wednesday Mornings

Contact a Bulldog to find out how to join!

Russ Brandt (319-329-9703)

The Book of Nehemiah

The book of Nehemiah tells the story of God's power to restore his people. As Israel returned from exile to the Promised Land, they found the walls of Jerusalem in shambles. So God equipped Nehemiah to rebuild the wall and lead the discouraged Israelites. In this 10-session series, Dr. Eric Mason shows us how God renewed his people both physically and spiritually. Through the story of Israel's plight and God's faithfulness, we see how God preserved his people to carry out his mission of redemption.



Come & See What You are Missing!

Proverbs 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."



Confirmation

Anchor Bible Church Confirmation 2024-2025 Working Program Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Place	Topic
Sunday	3/2	11:45-1:15	Library	
Sunday	3/16	11:45-1:15	Library	
Sunday	3/30	11:45-1:15	Library	
Sunday	4/6	11:30-2:00	Sanctuary	Prep for Holy Week
Sunday	4/13	11:30-1:00	Sanctuary	Prep for Holy Week
Wed	4/16	5:15-7:00	Sanctuary	Confirmation Holy Week Presentation
Friday	5/2	5:00 -	Ridge Haven Overnight	
& Saturday	5/3	12:00	Ridge Haven Overnight	
Saturday	5/10	5:00	Fellowship Area	Confirmation Dinner
Sunday	5/11	9:00 & 10:30 services	Worship Center	Confirmation Sunday

Summer Games University Confirmation students July

Revised January 9, 2025

Confirmation Class of 2025 Confirmands & Mentors

Sophia Arnold ~ Jordan VanVors	Cynlee Otto ~ Vicki Anderson
Ryker Berns ~ Tim Whitehead	Owen Schalk ~ Bill Filter
Remington Boesenberg ~ Rob Milota	Ryin Shonka ~ Jennifer VanGorder
Parker Covington ~ Brandon Mize	Zaddek VanGorder ~ Landon Tweeton
Ally Filter ~ Britni Graham	Bayla Walters ~ Amy Rechkemmer
Audri Graham ~ Amanda Mize	Cora Werning ~ McKenna Rawson
Jack Mallie ~ Philip Klett	Ashlyn White ~ Lindsey Otto
Elin Newman ~ Sarah Eikenberry	Jessen Whitehead ~ Doug Berns

Treasurer's Corner

GENERAL FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

	JAN 2025	JAN YTD 2025	JAN YTD 2024
INCOME-General Contributions	28,785	28,785	310,770
Pastors, Benefits and support	15,361	15,361	160,210
Directors - childrens & adult	1,640	1,640	18,024
Connectial Giving	821	821	3,127
Wages - Office & Support/Payroll taxes	3,468	3,468	49,963
Administrative & Office Costs	963	963	13,066
Worship activities	743	743	4,859
Programs (Childrens, Youth, Small Groups)	195	195	8,956
Ministries & Outreach	1,627	1,627	12,192
Facility costs	4,025	4,025	31,497
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	28,843	28,843	301,894
NET INCOME(DEFICIT)	(58)	(58)	8,876

2025 BUDGET- General Fund	365,000
General Fund bank balance	59,235

OTHER FUNDS

Savings - Not Earmarked	32,059	26,963
Savings - Earmarked Funds	51,134	53,474
Memorial Fund	5,225	31,102
Endowment Fund - Lewis/McNiel Trust	432,531	342,394
Endowments - investment Vanguard	11,721	11,093

BUILDING FUND

Building Cash	44,777	48,108
Building LOAN	(381,809)	(459,041)

Building Fund Giving	2025	2024
January	17,241	3,451
Total YTD	17,241	3,451
Loan monthly mortgage payments	(2,843)	(2,843)
Loan extra principle payments	(10,500)	

JANUARY 2025

January General Fund giving was \$28,785, only \$58 short of the expenses. Building Fund giving was strong at \$17,241. On January 26, during our 2025 Vision Sunday announcements, we shared an exciting challenge. A generous donor has challenged us by the end of February to match their \$10,000 building fund donation. By the end of February, we hope to meet this and be able to make another principle only payment on our loan.

With new ministries, new committee members and even a new pastor, 2025 looks to be an exciting year at Anchor Bible! We pray that we stay focused on our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ who are anchored in the Holy Word of God. Thank you, Lord, for blessing us.

Huge Praises!!!

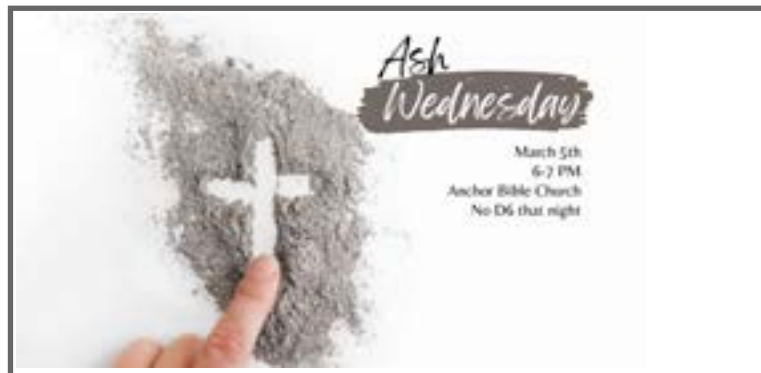
Our church family met and far exceeded the \$10,000 challenge that was set before them! \$16,550 was raised during the month of February to help pay down the principle on our building loan. Thank you to all! God is Good!!!



Events



Join us for coffee and conversations on Saturday March 1st from 8-10! Ladies of all ages are welcome and are invited to attend even if you can only join for part of the time!



Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 9, 2025

Remember: set your clocks ahead one hour so you don't miss church!



www.anchorbiblela.org/give

4 WAYS TO GIVE

When giving to Anchor Bible Church, you can be sure that the funds will be stewarded faithfully, confidentially, and that you are making a difference!

- In Person**
The offering boxes are located on either side of the sanctuary doors.
- Online**
[QR Code]
- Auto Withdraw (ACH)**
Auto Withdraw ACHs are available in the church office.
- Vanco App**
Download the Vanco App and search for Anchor Bible Church.



Life Groups

MONDAY

Amazing Grays 9:30AM (starting Jan 13)
Linda Marlow

Young Adults 6:00PM
Landon Tweeton/Dillon Fawcett

New and Bold 6:30PM
“Revelation ~ A book of hope and blessing”
Anne Stender/Cindy Graham

WEDNESDAY

Bulldog’s Men’s Group 5:45AM
Russ Brandt

D6 Adult Class ~ The Upper Room 6:00PM
Joe & Monica Steffeck

D6 Bible Basics 6:00PM
Ashley Rambo

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT ADULT MINISTRY OR LIFE GROUPS FEEL FREE
TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE (319) 849-2518 OR office@anchorbibleia.org

Youth Activities

Mar 5: **No D6** - Plan to Attend Ash Wednesday Service at 6pm
Mar 12: Middle School and High School Youth Group
Mar 19: Middle School and High School Youth Group
Mar 26: Middle School and High School Youth Group

New Youth Pastor

*Anchor Bible Church has recently hired a new Youth Pastor ~
Here is his introduction for us all to learn a little more about him:*

Hi! My name is Keith Steffeck, and I'm beyond excited to step into this new journey that God has called me to. I can't wait to get to know this amazing church family, but in the meantime, here's a little bit about me.

My wife, Morgan, and I have been married since 2020, and we have two incredible children, Kaladin and Liara. We're also thrilled to be welcoming another little boy at the end of March!

I grew up in Marion, IA, and I've been a Christian for as long as I can remember. But in 2020, God really convicted my heart, and that's when my faith became something I actively live out. Since then, I've jumped into serving in any way I can, volunteering at church, co-leading Bible studies, taking part in a one-on-one discipleship program, coaching women's basketball at Waterloo Christian, and going on mission trips with Children's Relief International.

Outside of church, I love woodworking, basketball, and disc golf, and I enjoy unwinding with some Xbox when I get the chance. I also have an interest in apologetics, biblical exegesis, philosophy, and good debates.

As I serve here, my heart is to encourage the youth to see themselves the way God sees them, help them discover their purpose, find their identity in Christ, and find ways to connect their talents and gifts with opportunities to serve the body. I'm really looking forward to this next chapter and to getting to know all of you!

Children's Education

Sunday School

Sunday School is held at 9:00am service after the children's message and at the 10:30am service right when church begins! Come join us! Please use the following link to sign up to help out. Volunteers are always needed!

[Sunday School Volunteers](#)

D6

Join us for our Wednesday night D6 program. All children age 3 years old (fully potty trained) through 5th grade are welcome! Nursery is also available. Please use the link below to sign up to help volunteer. We encourage you to stay, get connected, and join the adult bible study groups!

[D6 Family Night Volunteers](#)

****Don't forget to sign your child in for both Sunday School and D6!****

Please reach out to Randina Johnson with any questions 319-573-6645 or Randina@anchorbibleia.org

D6 Wednesday Nights



**Join us at
D6 Family Nights
Wednesday Nights**

“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.”
Deuteronomy 6:6-7

- 5:00-6:30pm D6 Diner (Come as a family and enjoy dinner together ~ free will offering)
- 5:45-7:00pm PreK to 5th grade
- 6:00-7:00pm Adult Group Study
- 6:00-7:00pm Adult Bible Basics Class
- 6:00-7:15pm Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grades)
- 7:00-8:30pm High School Youth Group (9-12 grade)

D6 Diner Food Donation Sign up

Anchor Bible Church hosts a community meal each Wednesday night before our D6 Family Night. In a effort to keep costs down, we are requesting donations of specific items for the meals.

Please see the link below for items to donate:

[D6 Diner Donation Sign Up](#)

The items may be brought to the church office Monday-Friday between 9-noon, when the church office is open or Sunday mornings. Donations need to be dropped off by the Monday before the meal is served, so we can purchase the remaining items.
Thank you in advance for your generous hearts!

Celebrations

“The Lord has done great things for us & we are filled with joy!” ~ Ps 126:3



- Mar 1** Emily Andrews
Nicholas Kongable
- Mar 2** Grady Jones
Zachary Kongable
Gemma Gienger
- Mar 3** Brady Pfeifer
Tanya Walters
- Mar 4** *George & Andi Castek*
- Mar 5** Mike McEvoy
- Mar 6** Gretchen Jones
Bailey Brady
Dave & Lori Leedom
- Mar 12** Lynette Voss
- Mar 13** Ashlee Wyant
- Mar 15** Levi Crowley
- Mar 17** Levi Johnson
Kyle & Katie Scheeler
- Mar 20** Parks Grennan
Kylyn Scheeler
Brent & Melea Willson
Chris & Lindsay Butterfield
- Mar 21** Blasi Whitehead
Dillon Fawcett
- Mar 22** Crystal Loy
Victor & Diana Smith
- Mar 23** Jake Crowley
Rebecca Kummerfeldt
Avery Schmitz



- Mar 24** Steve Pfeifer
Austin Moore
Kolten Lewis
Brailey Lewis
- Mar 25** Braylee Otto
Hayden Guttau
Jemma Guttau
Rachel Plein
- Mar 26** Emalyn Zimmerman
Terri Gauley
Tony Stadheim
- Mar 27** Mark Callahan
Melissa Grennan
Tyler Schnell
Addison Rechkemmer
Jennifer Upah
- Mar 28** Donna Hepker
Jaden Patterson
Grace Mize
Brandon Mize
- Mar 30** Grace Estling
Hannah Leedom
- Mar 31** Jamie Schoch
Einri Strabala

