

MARCH

Spring Forward!



Daylight Savings Begins

March 8 is when we move ahead into Spring. Set your clock one hour ahead before you go to bed Saturday, March 7.

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I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty.

Psalm 145:5



Church Calendar for March

March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:00 a.m. Sunday Service			10 a.m. Women's Bible Study			
6 p.m. Twigs Youth	6 p.m. Women's Bible Study		6 p.m. Awana	6:30 Prayer Gathering	5:30 Awana Grand Prix & Dinner	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
 10:00 a.m. Sunday Service			10 a.m. Women's Bible Study			
6 p.m. Twigs Youth	6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	6:00 p.m. Elders Mtg. 7 p.m. The Nest	6 p.m. Awana	6:30 Prayer Gathering 7:00 p.m. Men's Higher Calling	Mission Team to Fort Meyer's March 13-20	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:00 a.m. Sunday Service			10 a.m. Women's Bible Study			7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
"Let's Do Lunch"						
6 p.m. Twigs	6 p.m. Women's Bible Study		No Awana	6:30 Prayer Gathering		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:00 a.m. Sunday Service			10 a.m. Women's Bible Study			
11:30-3:15 Twigs Scavenger Hunt	6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	6:00 p.m. Elders Mtg.	6 p.m. Awana	6:30 Prayer Gathering		
29	30	31				
10:00 a.m. Sunday Service						
6 p.m. Twigs Youth	6 p.m. Women's Bible Study					

Updates and Opportunities

Chili Supper



We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to those that were willing to help, and donate to the Chili Supper. For those that came up with the idea, cooked chili, baked cookies, picked up supplies, helped on Friday night, and came to fellowship with us. You are a blessing!! We were able to meet new people from the community and support our missions team and youth. A beautiful picture of the body of Christ working together.



Vacation Bible School Is Coming



SAVE the dates! VBS is coming to Appleton Community E-Free the week of June 22-26th from 12:00-3:30. We will be looking for donations (monetary and supplies) to help make VBS possible. This year we are partnering with Appleton Gospel with the goal to reach our community and serve the children and families in our area. This year's theme is Rainforest Falls so get ready to visit the tropics! If you are interested in getting involved with VBS planning, prep, or serving, you can contact Pam MacDonald at appletonawana@gmail.com or 920-460-9571.

The Nest-Sunshine Boxes

Ladies of all ages, young to old are invited



Join us Tuesday, March 10 at 7 pm to fill boxes and bags with sunshine for those who could use some love and kindness in their lives. We will have all kinds sunny items to build exactly the kind of gift you want to give. Come help us spread the sunshine of God's love!

"Let's Do Lunch"



Come and join us March 15 at Pizza Ranch (5450 W. Integrity Way) We have reserved a community room for after church so we can spend some time eating and enjoying fellowship with one another. Mark your calendars now with the dates for the rest of the year:

April 19	July 19	October 18
May 17	August 16	November 15
June 14	September 20	December 13



Children's Church



Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children. Chuck Swindoll

I am so thankful for all of the parents and volunteers who so faithfully deposit truth into the minds of our children. You are banking treasures into their memories that will last a lifetime.

Evergreens

We are continuing our study of the Gospel of Luke. This month we will be studying the beginning of Jesus ministry starting with His baptism. The goal is for our students to read from the Bible itself about Jesus. Through discussion and activities to learn more and more about Him. Please be praying that those children who do not already know Jesus as their Savior come to salvation.

Sprouts

Our littlest ones are about God in the ways He shows Himself in the Old Testament. Our goal is for them to also know Who God is and how much He loves them.

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14)



Awana is ready to RACE through March, starting with our Grand Prix on March 6th. Everyone is invited to join us for a free hot dog dinner, followed by an evening of entertainment! Pastor Jim will be sharing a short message as we await for the final results of our races. March also kicks off our annual "Pie the Leader" contest, where ANYONE can vote for the leader they'd like to see get a pie in the face with their change, dollars, and even checks! All of the proceeds go to support our mission to provide Africa with a means of Awana in the PUBLIC schools. How cool is that?!

In February, we celebrated our Awana leaders. We really appreciate the time our leaders spend with our clubbers each and every week. The relationships, the encouragement, and the fun they have with our children does not go unnoticed. We appreciate all of you! Thank you for serving! If you are sitting on the sidelines and want to get in on the action, we are always looking for more Awana leaders who want to serve by loving, encouraging, and discipling our children.



Elder Report—Chris Matula



Spiritual Fervor in Prayer and Serving the Lord

Growth in knowing Christ and establishing contact with those who don't know Him are critical for believers both as individuals and in the context of His church. I can testify, with excitement, that I have observed this occurring at ACEFC in the last several months. Following a season of division, the Lord has absolutely blessed us with hope, spiritual growth, increased participation, outreach to outsiders, establishment of a church impact team and a prayer team, opportunities for fellowship as a church body, increased attendance, and new members! I have personally experienced increased compassion for the lost. Several individuals report observing positive results emanating from our passionate prayers to our Lord!

However, I have a concern. I know that we humans have a tendency to relax efforts once we see the first fruits of progress and then retreat from the efforts that produced measurable change. We have a tendency to push the "cruise control button" and decrease intensity of prayer and involvement. Therefore, I would like to lovingly beseech every one reading this message to recommit to DAILY prayer to the Lord of all of the moving parts of ACEFC such as:

Unity of the Elders and providing them wisdom,
Spiritual unity of every person who is a part of this body of Christ,
Spiritual outpouring as we meet on Sundays and throughout the week,
Men and women's ministries,
Children and Youth Ministry - strength and growth for the leaders and kids,
Pastor Jim's counsel to this church and his preaching of the God's Word,
Effectiveness in making known the gospel to family members, friends and co-workers, and
Loving and serving one-another.

Please don't let your commitment wane. We have a good God - a Powerful Father who responds to those who love Him and seek Him. The apostle Paul urged believers to keep spiritual zeal alive in service to the Lord and to be persistent in prayer. Let's do that! Please brothers and sisters, don't back off from seeking the Lord passionately for His blessing and power upon this church body.

If you are reading this report, please let me know it...and that you are committed to remaining diligent in prayer and involvement for the purposes of the Lord. Chris

Do not let your zeal subside; keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, persistent in prayer. Share with the saints who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:11-13





“Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.” Psalm 25:5

“Let The Fish Frys Begin!” This headline caught my attention. Before moving here I had no idea what a fish fry was. I soon learned that in Wisconsin the Friday Fish Fry is a big deal. Almost an institution.

Especially during Lent churches, VFW posts, bars and restaurants all have Friday Fish Frys. It began as a way that those of the Catholic faith fasted from red meat during Lent but has become a staple in the state.

It got me thinking about Lent. As a Quaker, I was raised without church liturgical seasons like Lent and Advent. Yet I think there is tremendous value in recognizing that there are times we should pause our usual routine and spend some time reflecting on our faith and all that God has done for us through Jesus Christ.

Lent is a time set aside each year in the Church calendar to consider our habits, evaluate them, and start new ones. It is a way of remembering who we are, in light of how God made us and what Christ accomplished in His death and resurrection.

Jesus instructed His disciples to continue to break bread and drink the cup, in remembrance of Him, until He comes again. God knew that good, even physical, habits would enable us to remember His faithfulness.

Now, I'm not promoting fish fry's. I don't actually like fish very much, especially beer battered fish. What I am suggesting is that we take some time over the season of Lent to reflect on how we are choosing to live. To remember God's faithfulness. Are there habits we would like to develop; are there things we are doing on a regular basis to remind us of the riches we have in all God has done for us?

This is an opportunity to step out of the familiar routines of our daily lives. It can be a time to think about priorities; are there things we may want to change. Reading one of the Gospels during this time is a great way to walk with Jesus during His time here on earth. Perhaps start a prayer or gratitude journal. Choose to set aside some extra time to just sit, reflect and listen, waiting on God.

No matter how we may choose to observe this special season, or not observe it, my hope and prayer is that we all grow in our love and faithfulness to God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mary-for you Women's Ministry Team



The ACEFC Prayer Web Team is a team of people who have expressed a desire to pray for the needs of other members and regular attendees at ACEFC. An email system (Prayer Web) is currently being used. Prayer requests may be emailed to one of the team leaders listed below. All prayer requests are sent via email to approximately 50 prayer partners. Each Prayer Web Team member is responsible to read the requests and pray.

PRAYER REQUEST NOTES:

- **Please limit** the necessary background information to a few concise lines. Extremely lengthy, overly detailed requests **may be edited** at the discretion of the prayer team leaders.
- **Please specify** the prayer needed. For example “Pray for God’s peace”, “Pray for healing”...etc.).

Please remember the Prayer Web’s purpose is for prayer needs and answered prayer (praises) only. Its purpose is NOT for invitations, notifications, or solicitations – even if they are valid, noble, or church related. In order to support the purpose of the Prayer Web, requests not in the form of a prayer need **may be rewritten** by the prayer team leaders. For example, “So-and-So needs this or that.” will be rewritten as, “Please pray that So-and-So will have their needs met for this or that.”

- **Pease check your e-mail** regularly for new requests, updates and praise reports.
- **PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!**
- **New members may join** by contacting the team leader maintaining the e-mail list.
- **Limit** non-emergency calls to the hours **8 a.m.– 9 p.m.**

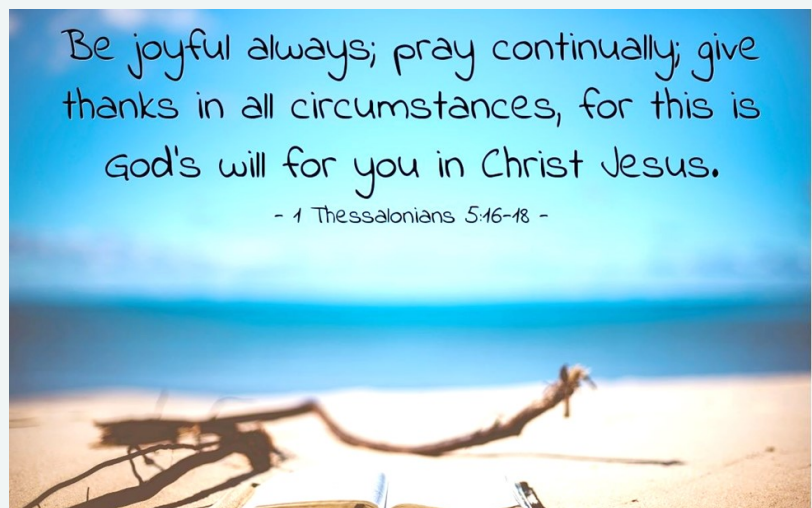
Share answers received for praise and encouragement.

It is a good practice to keep a prayer journal; date and number each request and praise received. The prayer closets of God’s people are where the roots of the church grow. Let’s grow caring and sharing our joys and needs. (Jeremiah 33:3)

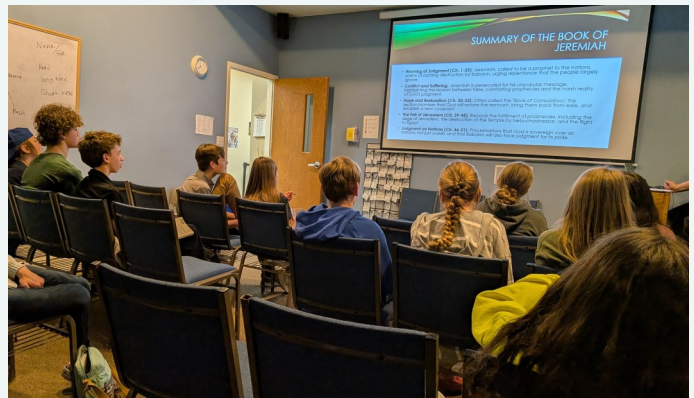
Thank you for praying!

Please email Prayer Requests to:

Karen Martin – (920) 757-0577
karen_m_martin@att.net



Church Happenings—Twigs Youth





TWIGS YOUTH (Teens Working In Growing Spiritually) YOUTH GROUP

We'd love for your student (s) to join us as we learn, grow, build strong biblical foundations together, and have fun while we do it.

- **Who:** 6th - 12th graders
- **When:** Sundays, 6:00-8:00PM
- **Where:** At church, unless posted otherwise

WHAT WE DID LAST MONTH

- **Annual Super Bowl Party!**
 - o Thank you to the Schauland family for hosting our annual Super Bowl Party!
 - o Students were given random objects and created fun Super Bowl-style commercials to perform at halftime.
 - o We also enjoyed a special bonus — Holly shared old Youth Group DVDs featuring the Diestler's!
- **The Non-Prophet's Guide to the Bible** (Todd Hampson): We began our study of the Prophets.
- **Bible Reading Challenge:** For students who have accepted the challenge, they have been reading through the Poetry Books.
- **Chili Supper & Bake Sale Fundraiser:** Thank you to everyone who helped make the event a success!!

WHAT WE ARE STUDYING NOW

This month, we'll continue exploring the Prophets, helping students understand:

- God's holiness
- The consequences of sin
- God's faithfulness and promises
- The coming Messiah
- How the entire Bible points to Jesus

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

Date	Time	Location	Event
<i>Sunday, March 1</i>	6pm-8pm	Church	TWIGS (regular youth group)
<i>Sunday, March 8</i>	6pm-8pm	Church	TWIGS (regular youth group)
<i>Sunday, March 15</i>	6pm-8pm	Church	TWIGS (regular youth group)
<i>Sunday, March 22</i>	11:30am-3:15pm	Church & Mall	Mall Scavenger Hunt
<i>Sunday, March 29</i>	6pm-8pm	Church	TWIGS (regular youth group)
<i>Sunday, April 5</i>	<i>No Youth Group (Easter)</i>		

Church Happenings—Chili Dinner



Church Happenings—Chili Dinner



Church Happenings

Praise Team



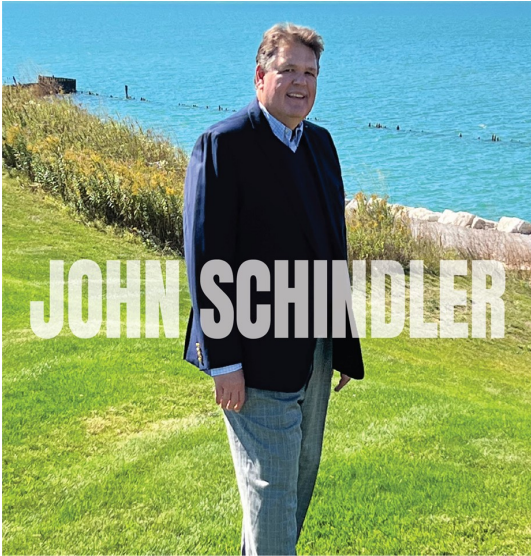
Children's Church



The Chocolate Nest



Church Happenings—Special Music by John Schindler on Palm Sunday, March 29



John Schindler Ministries
2280 Shiawasee Lane
Stevensville, MI 49127
(269) 429-5922

A friend of Pastor Jim's, John Schindler, will be performing some special music on Palm Sunday, March 29. Here is a short bio about him from Pastor Jim:

"John Schindler is a gifted communicator of God's grace and love through song. A baritone, he has recorded 15 CDs including the most recently released, Gospel Treasures. John offers a broad range of experience as his Gospel music and evangelism ministry has taken him throughout much of the United States and to Canada, Liberia, other West African nations, plus to other countries overseas. He has seen the Lord richly bless his ministry through concerts, special musical performances and opportunities to preach the Gospel. His rich, dynamic voice and the messages in his songs are an inspiration to his listeners. A pastor's comment made following one of John's concerts typifies this response, "John effectively communicated the greatness of God in a warm, personal way. I came away from the concert having been touched in my soul with the greatness of God."

John grew up in Liberia, West Africa, a son of missionary parents. He has often gone back to Liberia and other nearby countries for evangelistic ministry there. His physician father was the founder of the ELWA Hospital at Radio Station ELWA (Eternal Love Winning Africa). A graduate of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and Taylor University, John served as a church-planting pastor in Wisconsin. During his seminary training, he taught one year as a short-term missionary with SIM International at ECWA (Evangelical Church of West Africa) Bible College in Kagoro, Nigeria. John is now engaged in a ministry of music and evangelism. His heart's desire is to see people from all backgrounds come to faith in Christ."

Church Happenings—Impact Team Meeting



We had our first team meeting Saturday morning February 21st. We reviewed a comprehensive step by step process following the pattern of Isaiah's vision given us in chapter 6.

Following this pattern we will:

Look up to discern His mission, vision, purpose and values. We recognize our mission comes directly from the Scriptures!

Look in to determine our spiritual preparedness, healing, readiness, culture, hindering and helping forces

Look around to understand community needs, trends and unsolved problems

Look out to align our ministries to our mission and cast a compelling vision to pull ACEFC into the future

In our first meeting we were challenged to identify 5 core values as a multi generational church to unite us as one body.

We plan to meet twice a month on the first and third Saturday in March, April and May from 9-11am.

Please pray for the team and the Holy Spirit's guidance as we humbly seek His purpose and plan for ACEFC.

If you have any questions or input please feel free to let me know.

Pastor Jim



Some Prayerful Thoughts from Pastor Jim



I trust you're keeping up with our reading schedule through the New Testament this year and if not just jump in on today's passage going forward.

Last week we started reading the gospel of Mark and immediately you feel the fast-paced narrative. Mark emphasizes facts and actions rather than themes or topics. Next to the gospel of John the book of Mark is an excellent read for anyone new to Christianity. Although it's the shortest of the four gospels, it is often the most detailed. From the beginning Mark tells us about the authoritative son of God, initiating His ministry in Galilee by preaching the kingdom of God, calling His disciples and performing miracles. Jesus is clearly portrayed as a man of action and authority.

As I read about Jesus healings, exorcisms and parables I'm captivated by His demonstrable authority over demons, disease, sickness and nature all while facing growing religious opposition.

I'm drawn to Jesus demonstrated authority on earth to forgive sins in healing the paralytic which inspires my surrender to His will.

When Jesus faces back lash for calling a tax man named Levi to follow Him, He likens His purpose to a doctor who comes not to treat the righteous but the sick and in doing so implies the Pharisees are too proud to even admit they need a doctor much less a Savior.

We all know people too stubborn or proud to go to the doctor and let's take note of any pride that may keep us from the doctor of men's hearts.

Again Jesus demonstrates complete authority over a demon possessed man by giving these demons permission to come out and possess a large herd of pigs nearby leading to their complete destruction. When Mark brings us back to this poor man we find him completely delivered, at peace and in his right mind! Lesson for me? Jesus continues to deliver people from the bondage of sin. We don't need to defend the word of God but we do need to declare it to ourselves and to others. Jesus sets the captives free so introduce Him to those in need of the good news!

I encourage folks to read the Bible and of course the gospels like it's the first time and you will begin to see deeper and richer insights to delight your soul and set your heart on fire to live for Jesus. Keep a notebook or journal beside you and jot down impressions, insights and reactions from the narrative and you'll be surprised, blessed and strengthened by your time in the word and find yourself looking forward to reading God's word tomorrow.

Yours for the Gospel,

Pastor Jim

March Bible reading Schedule

1 Mark 8:11-38	10 Mark 13:1-13	19 Luke 1:24-56	28 Luke 6:1-26
2 Mark 9:1-29	11 Mark 13:14-37	20 Luke 1:57-80	29 Luke 6:27-49
3 Mark 9:30-50	12 Mark 14:1-25	21 Luke 2:1-24	30 Luke 7:1-30
4 Mark 10:1-31	13 Mark 14:26-50	22 Luke 2:25-52	31 Luke 7:31-50
5 Mark 10:32-52	14 Mark 14:51-72	23 Luke 3	
6 Mark 11:1-19	15 Mark 15:1-26	24 Luke 4:1-32	
7 Mark 11:20-33	16 Mark 15:27-47	25 Luke 4:33-44	
8 Mark 12:1-27	17 Mark 16	26 Luke 5:1-16	
9 Mark 12:28-44	18 Luke 1:1-23	27 Luke 5:17-39	

Missionary of the Month—Jim & Ginger Moore



Dear Appleton E-free Church Friends,

This August marks an incredible milestone—Ginger and I will celebrate 30 years of serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators! Appleton E-Free is such a big part of this story! From the very beginning, when we first stepped out in faith, you commissioned us and sent us out. Your prayers, your generosity, and your steady partnership have carried us every step of the way. We are deeply grateful. For those of you who aren't familiar with Wycliffe, our goal is that everyone should have the Bible in a language

that speaks to their heart. Of the 7400 languages spoken in the world today, 541 have yet to receive any of God's Word in their language. We work in support of Bible translation. Jim directs an organization that publishes translated Scripture on websites and phone applications for these underserved language communities. Ginger works part-time as a nurse at the JAARS clinic here in Waxhaw. Look [here](#) for Wycliffe's 2025 year in review to learn more about Wycliffe.

This past season has been full of momentum and God-given encouragement.

In November, our team led a workshop in Thiès, Senegal, where we launched **11 new websites** and trained **19 local website managers**. You can see the full story in the report [here](#).

One New Tribes missionary serving in southern Senegal shared this powerful reflection:

"I have just been so thrilled and excited about what has been going on this week. There has been a tool that's been created to allow a local African person to easily create a beautiful website and to easily bring in Scripture and other resources, to help people discover the wonders of knowing the Lord Jesus."

You can watch his full testimony in the video [here](#).

And the momentum continues.

In January, our team completed workshops in South Asia and Cameroon, with two more scheduled for March. Please pray for smooth travel, strong preparation, and for the Scripture shared through these websites and apps to be received with open hearts. Thank you for standing with us—for 30 years and counting. God is using your partnership to open doors for His Word in places hungry for hope.



Jim and Ginger Moore

Please pray:

- for the remaining 541 languages to have a Bible started in their language
- for God's wisdom and direction as we work and live life
- for our family, healthy babies and safe deliveries of 3 new grandchildren (March, April, July)

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)



Appleton Community
Evangelical Free Church
2490 West Capitol Drive
Appleton, WI 54914
Phone 920-735-9971

We're on the Web!
applefreechurch.org



Church Office Hours
Closed Mondays
Tuesday—Friday
8:30 - 2:30