



Annual Ministry Review

June 28, 2020

Antigo Community Church is affiliated with the
Forest Lakes District of the Evangelical Free Church of America

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ANTIGO COMMUNITY CHURCH

is a community of
Christ-followers
GROWING IN CHRIST and
MAKING NEW DISCIPLES.

Our VISION is for each
CHRIST-FOLLOWER among us to:
Represent JESUS faithfully and boldly
in words and actions
so the GOSPEL of Jesus
is heard and responded to.

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Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Antigo Community Church

Sunday, June 28, 2020

11am

1. Open Meeting with Prayer - Chairman Dave Will
2. Call to Order - Chairman Dave Will
3. Motion to Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting on June 30, 2019
4. Vote to Accept New Members - Michael & Amanda Hunter
5. Interaction over Ministry Reports
6. Reports from Various Officers
7. Election of Elders
8. Motion to Approve Amendments to our Constitution
9. Motion to Approve Heating System Plan
10. Approval of 2020-2021 Budget - Ben Wilhelm
11. Motion to Adjourn
12. Closing Prayer

Minutes of the Previous Annual Business Meeting

Antigo Community Church

The annual business meeting of Antigo Community Church was held on Sunday, June 30, 2019 at 11am in the worship center. The meeting was called to order and opened in prayer by Chairman Ben Wilhelm.

An opportunity was given for any questions or changes to be made to the minutes from the meeting last year on June 10, 2018. No changes were requested.

A motion was made to accept the following new members: Casey and Brittney Golema, Kathy McDermott, Ashley Oakland, Matthew and Kelsey Shruck, and Dan and Amy Whipple. Motion was carried.

Todd Stensberg and Tom Duke were elected by an overwhelming majority to serve a 2 year term on the elder board. They will serve along with Steve Sanford, Ben Wilhelm, Dave Will, and Pastor Kellen Lewis. Dan Mihajlovic resigned from the elder board as he and his family moved away.

The 2018-19 budget was presented and explained by Ben Wilhelm. Motion was made and seconded to approve the final budget. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Ben Wilhelm closed in prayer.

2020 Ballot

For the Office of Elder of Antigo Community Church

June 28, 2020

The congregation shall elect the lay members of the elder board for two-year terms until six consecutive years have been served (according to the terms of the new Constitution and Bylaws: XI. Bylaws; 3. Organization: B. Boards; ii. Elder Board).

The nominating committee has put forth three candidates, Keith Cunningham, Brennan Duke, and Charlie Zanayed, to serve on the Elder Board. If elected, they will serve on the elder board along with:

- Pastor Kellen Lewis
- Steve Sanford, who has served year one of his second 2 year term.
- Todd Stensberg, who has served one year of his first 2 year term.
- Tom Duke, who has served one year of his first 2 year term.

Please indicate yes or no for the candidate shown below:

Keith Cunningham..... Yes ____ No ____

Brennan Duke..... Yes ____ No ____

Charlie Zanayed..... Yes ____ No ____

Pastor's Annual Letter

Antigo Community Church,

This past year was unexpected to say the least. We have seen things in our world that cannot compare to what any of us remember with the Covid-19 Pandemic having a global impact that has upended almost everything that almost everybody is doing almost everywhere. God has thus far been merciful to our church in sparing us any known infections as well as to our community in sparing us any Covid deaths. And that has been a huge answer to prayer. I know that my human sensibilities told me that coronavirus was going to hit us hard during the spring. But I consistently prayed that God would spare our church and our community. And I was grateful to watch as we were within minutes of being the last county to have a confirmed case in the state of Wisconsin. And I still continue to pray along those lines.

Moving forward into a new church year, we face a lot of uncertainty. What will schooling look like in the fall? How should we handle ministry to students? Will our local community continue to be spared from epidemic-scale infection, or will things get much worse? Which way will our local economy go? What opportunities and challenges will these things present to our congregation? While we do not know the answers to any of those questions, we have a God who knows the answers. And he invites us to participate in making those answers into reality. Whatever else prayer does, Scripture is clear that when we pray, things happen that otherwise would not.

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

James 5:13-18 (ESV)

Sin is a vastly more significant issue than a virus that may or may not cause physical death. And we are among a handful of churches in our area that clearly proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ whose death achieves our forgiveness and justification and launches a kingdom that will result in a world made perfect and free from sin and all of its consequences. Our message is as timeless and relevant today as it always has been.

Our strategy of getting that message out to our community and the world will evolve even as the coming year unfolds. And with that uncertainty, it is extremely important that this year we are all in consistent prayer, letting the God who knows the future guide our steps and our prayers to shape what that future will look like, and to help us be faithful each step along the way. We will need to be flexible - a comparable biblical word is longsuffering - with each other as we may have to adjust some of our strategies on the fly. But what you see here are some of the things God accomplished through us, and some of the steps we hope to take in the coming year.

May God continue to guide our steps and move us to pray and be more sensitive to his guidance than ever before! May Christ continue to build his church!

Pastor Kellen

Elder Board Report

Dave Will, Chairman of the Elder Board

It was an honor to serve on the elder board this year. The following individuals also served on the board: Steve Sanford, Tom Duke, Todd Stensberg, Kellen Lewis, and vice-chairman Ben Wilhelm. These men generously gave their time to serve the Lord and the congregation at Antigo Community Church (ACC).

As an elder group we decided to read Larry Osborne's book, *Lead Like a Shepherd*, and apply some of the principles contained in this book to better serve the congregation at ACC. This book encourages church leaders to actively consider the needs of the congregation and tailor church ministries to meet those needs. More emphasis was placed on shepherding church congregants. We also discussed the importance of continuing to encourage congregants to attend church, join a life group, and serve in the church in some capacity. Finally, Pastor Kellen has preached several sermons to specifically address the spiritual needs of church congregants.

The board continued to discuss our dilemma of dealing with a failing heating system in the Quest Center. Our Director of Operations, Adriana Oakland, solicited proposals from 3 heating contractors on how to effectively resolve our heating system concerns. The board forwarded these proposals to a licensed engineer for a recommendation on a system that would best meet ACC's needs. The engineer recommended a specific proposal to be the best solution. He said, "This proposal is a more simple, proven method. It has less mechanical things to go wrong, is simpler to repair, has a local maintenance contractor, and is half the cost of the next proposal. The other two proposals would take a very long time to save any appreciable energy costs." In the upcoming months, the elder board will discuss the funding and installation of this heating system with the congregation.

Finally, the elders worked together to develop and implement a plan to re-open live church services. We considered the needs of church congregants and implemented a plan that would best meet those needs. Please pray that the Lord blesses this plan and that ACC will thrive this year in serving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Preaching

Pastor Kellen Lewis

Ministry Mission: To proclaim God's Word to help disciples grow in obedience to all the Jesus commands, and to equip disciples to make new disciples.

Accomplished Goals:

- Preached an equipping series last summer organized around our church values to help develop a more missional culture as a church.
- Preached an outreach-potential Advent series, "Prepare Him Room" that examined what Jesus brought us.
- Preached a church-history message on Athanasius and the doctrine of the Trinity.
- Adapted to preaching pre-recorded messages for the highest possible quality video services during the Covid-19 quarantine.

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Continue to provide sermon discussion questions for personal reflection or family or life group use.
- Meeting weekly with a sermon prep team to strengthen sermon development.
- Started preaching a gospel-growth series based in 1 Corinthians. Need to finish 1 Corinthians after the Psalm 23 series.
- Started an outreach-oriented series "Asking for a Friend" which will also resume after the Psalm 23 series.
- Continuing to work at becoming a better "bi-lingual" preacher trying to present God's word compellingly to Christians and non-Christians alike so that our services have better outreach potential and we have less "translation" to do between what we're hearing on Sundays and what we're sharing with our neighbors throughout the week.

New Goals for the Coming Year:

- Make better use of digital recordings of messages to reach people in our area with the gospel.
- Preach more concisely (25 minutes or less) during the coronavirus epidemic to help limit service times and exposure to the virus.
- Structure services to facilitate personal response to the gospel.
- Preach a gospel-growth series in the spring – perhaps gospel messages in the book of Acts.

Worship

Josh Suehs

Our mission is to create an environment that allows for people to connect with God.

Accomplished Goals:

- Find and train new ProPresenter volunteers
- Visits to other churches to get ideas for areas in which we can grow

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Working to develop our musicians by giving guidance while practicing instead of letting everyone do whatever they want. Taking time to focus on the musical arrangement, and be intentional about where the song is going
- Casting a vision as to where we want to be as a worship team

Goals for Upcoming Year:

- Better equip worship leaders with tools needed to succeed
- Find and train more sound volunteers
- Encourage and collaborate with other worship teams to share ideas on what is working for us and hear what is working for them and implement new ideas
- Use pad tracks to help transition from song to song
- Have a Worship team breakfast to communicate, share ideas, and help build community within the worship teams members.

Nursery

Christen Lewis

The nursery of Antigo Community Church serves the congregation by providing care for children ages 0-3 during worship services.

Accomplished Goals:

- The nursery staff uses the Breeze directory program for child check-in and name tags.
- There are enough volunteers to staff nursery with 3 adults per service, with each volunteer serving approximately once per month.

Continuing Goals:

- Follow ACC's child protection policy guidelines to ensure safety for children and accountability for volunteers.
- Show God's love to nursery children and their families.
- Encourage spiritual growth by reading Bible stories to children during snack time.
- Encourage physical growth by providing plenty of Cheerios to children during snack time.

New Goals:

- Establish a protocol (most likely following the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation guidelines for child care facilities) for sanitizing the nursery each week to minimize the potential for contamination from exposure to COVID-19.
- Make sure the nursery is consistently stocked with necessary supplies, such as Lysol wipes, Kleenex, paper towels, etc.
- Find 2-5 more volunteers to help staff the nursery. (If ACC adds an additional service, we will likely need at least 10 more volunteers so most nursery staff would not miss more than one service per month.)

Sunday School

Jeanie McLellan

ACC's Sunday school program desires to be a community of Christ-followers growing in Christ and making new disciples as the children are taught God's Word.

Accomplished Goals:

- Recruited several new teachers/helpers
- Amazed at the creativity, commitment and dedication each teacher/helper have in using the gospel Project curriculum. We have been using this curriculum for the past 4 years.
- Dropped middle school class throughout the year. Grades 3-6 will not meet during the summers.

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Continue to recruit new people for teaching or helping.
- Continue to complete a 3-month schedule quarterly for teachers/helpers
- Continue to recruit for an assistant coordinator who would become the Sunday School Coordinator in the future.

New Goals:

- Incorporate a bell choir into service throughout the year with the help of Adriana and SS teachers.
- Christmas SS video using same techniques that was used for Easter video. Allow parents to sign up children and then they complete video clips of the part the children have chosen. Then have Adriana help incorporate into a complete video and present on Sunday morning during Christmas season

One Way Club

Brennan & Amanda Duke

Antigo Community Church's One Way Club provides the perfect balance of fun and learning to give kindergarten-2nd graders an introduction to Jesus and the gospel through a game time, songs, Bible story and small group time.

Accomplished goals:

- Memorizing a Bible verse every club night
- Stories this year included Old Testament stories and how they point to Jesus
- Maintained an average of about 25 kids per night! (10 more than last year)
- Had many "theme" nights like Packer Backer night, Crazy Hair night, and a One Way favorite, Pajama Night!
- Planned to and on track to provide a Pizza Party for the top 2 teams in total accumulated points throughout the year, but were unable due to the abrupt end to the club year
- Sent out "care packages" (including notes from their leaders) to One Way clubbers to keep them connected to clubs during covid 19

Ongoing goals:

- Clearly introduce the gospel to unchurched youth
- Help churched kids reinforce and develop their knowledge of Jesus and the gospel
- Bring new kids to club through "bring a buddy" nights throughout the year
- Play fun games each club night that everyone can participate in
- Continue with dedicated leadership, in the small groups and as a group in general
- Continue to synchronize our program with Cross Trainers
- Encourage leaders to memorize verses

New goals:

- Grow our club to reach more kids in our community
- Continue to update our One Way room
- Try to market One Way to the community
- Send out another "care package" to continue keeping kids engaged and get gospel materials into their homes

CrossTrainers

Dave & Linda Wager

CrossTrainers is a youth-oriented, entry-point ministry that represents Jesus faithfully and boldly in words and actions so the Gospel of Jesus is heard and responded to.

Accomplished Goals:

- Administration and implementation of 2019-2020 CrossTrainer Club year (to 21+ faithful clubbers) by a leadership team of 12 staff which included the following goals and more:
- Intentional teaching of 23 Bible memory verses to the entire club (including the key year verses)
- Taught through one year of a 3-year curriculum - this year focusing on an Old Testament Overview emphasizing how all of the Bible points to Jesus and the Gospel
- Implemented weekly directive teaching tools for Huddle leaders to use to effectively run, lead, and teach small groups. These include a rotation of the following: Fastest Fingers (Bible Drills), Tic Tac Know (Review Game), Color Coding Bible Verses, and CT Challenge (Mystery Word Review Game)
- Provided deliberate one-on-one time with 1 leader and each clubber each week
- Provided clubbers with an energizing, fun, interactive Game Time
- Exposed clubbers to overseas missions through Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection and began collection for Help for Honduras Mission Trip which was cancelled.
- Continued implementation of the clubber/parent check-out system at the end of each club night
- Weekly communication with parents of clubbers via email regarding club details
- Some integration of CrossTrainer leadership with Sunday School teachers for same age group consistent leadership, discipleship, continuity, and familiarity
- Opportunity for clubbers to memorize additional Scripture through OverTimers (pre-club program); low attendance
- Interacted with parents during Family Dinner Night/Parent Shadow Night; not able to host a year-end Closing Program this year due to COVID19.
- Encouraged leaders to memorize John 1:1-14 as a group and recited together in front of clubbers on a weekly basis
- Encouraged participation in theme nights, attendance, bringing friends, memory verses, OverTimers, and more through CrossTrainer Cash and CT Store program
- Continued communication with clubbers through the COVID-19 Quarantine through videos of Bible lessons and encouragement sent to parents to share with families
- Welcomed 6th graders to CrossTrainers to expand it from 3rd-6th grade and it was well received

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Training/growing of young, new, and seasoned leaders through leadership/teaching opportunities and responsibilities
- Continued to attract non-believers to the program (25% of clubbers are from ACC; 25% from other churches and 50% cite no home church)
- Continued to disciple believers in the program
- Continued to integrate clubbers and families into church life (Sundays, etc.)
- Encouraged clubbers to attend camp at Silver Birch Ranch for continued outreach and discipleship

New Goals:

- We will assist with the transition of leadership in CrossTrainers by answering questions and providing CrossTrainer program documents as requested.

REALIFE

Josh Suehs

Our mission is to create a community of Christ Followers who long to make new and better disciples by drawing closer to God and building Gospel centered relationships.

Accomplished Goals:

- Have leaders start area bible studies

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Start a leadership team of students
- Find new leaders to replace leaders who stepped away

New Goals for the Coming Year:

- Build a leadership team of students
- Have a monthly leaders meeting for leader growth
- Have leaders meet with 2 students a week

White Lake Kids' Club

Rich Hess

Reaching kids for Christ – Teaching kids of Christ – Kids reaching their families and community for Christ.

Accomplished Goals:

- Sharing the Gospel of Christ on a regular basis
- Awesome Christmas party – great attendance
- Meeting 1 on 1 with some kids every week during small group time
- Seeing some attend SBR in the summer

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Taught over the three years from Genesis through the life of Christ and also the Book of John
- Visit kids at concerts or sporting events at school

New Goals:

- We plan on teaching through the Book of Acts
- We need to find an apprentice and someone who will take over the director position of this club
- We still need to follow up with older kids – offer service opportunities and Bible study

Leadership Development

Pastor Kellen Lewis

Ministry Mission: To develop maturing followers of Jesus Christ who pursue becoming great and godly leaders.

Accomplished Goals:

- Preached a sermon series on our values hoping to help develop a healthier and more missional culture as a church.
- Trained Adriana Oakland to serve as our Director of Operations.
- Provided internship opportunities for Dylan Llanes in worship ministry and Parker Lundberg in youth ministry under the oversight of Pastor Josh.
- Pastor Kellen finished the TOOLS group led by former Forest Lakes District Church Leadership Catalyst Brian Thorstad.
- Pastor Kellen met and received feedback with a public speaking coach.
- Included testimonies from newer Christians and evangelism training during Mission Antigo breakfasts.
- Started a staff coaching program with interns and staff members.

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Encourage every ministry leader to offer some specific training for their ministry.
- Help every ministry leader find and start investing in an apprentice.
- Recruit new participants to sermon development team.
- Continue to meet weekly with the sermon development team. Approximately 1 hour is focused on ministry issues and prayer and 1 hour is focused on sermon development.

New Goals for the Coming Year:

- Provide specific elder training resources for new elders.
- Potentially pursue elder training for our entire elder board.
- Integrate coaching into how we do things to help our leaders grow.

Local Outreach

Adriana Oakland

Ministry Mission: To extend God's grace by loving and serving those within our direct range of influence, yet outside of our church buildings and grounds.

Accomplished Goals:

- Hope periodically used a room in the Quest Center for counseling and classes with clients.
- The fourth Mission Antigo was modified due to COVID-19, but projects were still completed.
- Pastor Kellen continues to serve as a Chaplain with the Antigo Fire Department.
- Pastor Josh and intern Parker Lundberg served alongside Greg Parise with Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Antigo High School and led FCA at the Middle School.
- Several couples in our church continue to offer the Art of Parenting classes.
- Welcomed event was held for local churches, foster parents, and Child Protective Services workers to learn about the possibility of starting foster family care communities.
- Church services, informational videos, and events were posted on social media.

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- The Mission Antigo board continues working to come up with ways to glorify God through this annual outreach.
- The fourth season of our softball team sponsored by Fifth Avenue Lounge participating in the city Men's Slow Pitch league is starting, depending on COVID-19 regulations, to build relationships in hopes of making disciples.
- Our facility will be used by the Langlade County Aging and Disability Resource Center as a meal site again when safe to do so.
- We will continue to work with the Welcomed ministry to receive training to care for foster families.

New Goals for the Coming Year:

- Create a more consistent online presence
- Help create care communities be more supportive of fostering and adopting parents
- Work more closely with Youth Ministries

Antigo MOPS/MOMSnext

Maria Schwarz

We aim to invite all moms in to find community, encourage their mothering and spiritual growth, and share the love of Jesus through authentic connections.

Accomplished Goals:

- Budget organized and plans made for finances
- Childcare program using Breeze and utilizing a structure for curriculum
- Adapted our mission to meet needs during COVID-19 including grocery assistance, care packages, Zoom meetings, and virtual encouragement

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Moms are bringing friends and building friendships outside of our meetings
- Sponsors have donated food and offset our costs for our dance fundraiser
- Marketing and interacting through social media

New Goals for the Coming Year:

- Continue to support and develop our childcare program
- Identify two new childcare workers
- Invite more moms and continue to advertise and encourage MOMSnext moms

SALT

Carol Godager

Accomplished goals:

- Senior socializing
- Sharing feelings and prayers

Ongoing goals:

- Socializing of senior citizens
- Communicating on spiritual level
- Inclusion into ACC community

New goals:

- New members
- Make awareness that our group exists
- Increase men memberships
- Realizing that not only do we exist but we are an important part of the community

Global Outreach

Mary Wilhelm

We pursue opportunities to multiply Christ-followers beyond the direct influence of ACC in others areas of the state, country and world. We partner in serving people in need and spreading the gospel of Jesus in a variety of ways including financial support, prayer, and sending people to continue following Christ elsewhere as missionaries.

Accomplished Goals:

- Coordinated Missionary Christmas, providing \$275 for each missionary individual or family supported by ACC.
- Facilitated seven presentations/visits from ACC-supported missionaries and ministry organizations (one additional visit cancelled due to COVID-19).
- Held quarterly team meetings to provide oversight of the budget covering the monthly support of ACC-supported missionaries and ministry organizations; to share updates and to pray for our missionaries.

Continuing Goals:

- Oversight of the GO Team budget, providing monthly support for 12 missionary family units or ministry organizations.
- Provide emotional support, encouragement and prayer for our missionaries.
- Facilitate missionary visits as opportunity permits.

New Goals:

- Explore possibility of offering the Perspectives on the World Christian Movement class in Antigo or elsewhere in central Wisconsin.
- Foster increased prayer for missions and missionaries.
- Identify and begin transition to new GO Team ministry team leadership.

Operations

Adriana Oakland

Accomplished goals:

- Processed Child Protection Policies
- Used Breeze calendar and events to send out reminders to Sunday school teachers, nursery volunteers, and greeters
- Used Breeze and MailChimp bulk email to send out Antigo Community Church reminders, news, and prayer requests

Ongoing goals:

- Work closely with Antigo Community Church ministries, teaching them to utilize Breeze for attendance and coordination of volunteers
- Work closely with all ministries and staff, facilitating communication, coordinating building usage, and church calendar
- Keep buildings clean
- Keep current Child Protection Policy, membership, and baptism records
- Check into different services our church uses to make sure we are getting the best value for what we pay

New goals:

- Organize a fellowship team to put on gospel-centered events
- Help start a women's retreat with interested ladies in our congregation
- Organize a church campout
- Recruit people to help with décor in the Worship Center, especially for Christmas

Facilities Team

Steve Petznick

Our mission is to provide a safe, comfortable, and inviting environment where believers can gather to worship and strengthen their faith.

Accomplished Goals:

- Refinished worship area flooring
- Remodeled Nursery check-in area
- Major Landscape Refurbishing

Progress on Continuing Goals:

- Rebuilding Prayer Room exit
- Installing paddle lock on lower church door
- Creating “Helping Hands” opportunity

New Goals for the Coming Year:

- Refurbish four bathroom in Quest Center
- Install new heating system in Quest Center
- Remove over-grown vegetation at Quest Center

Antigo Community Church Values

1. The Bible is our goldmine.

As the very Word of God, the Bible is the highest authority in all matters that it addresses. Our lives are enriched and situated within the storyline of God's Word which began with a very good creation, which got trashed and distorted by humanity's sinful and rebellious fall, which leaves us hopeless without Christ's gospel work of redemption, which gives us a certain hope for a future, perfected, new creation. A key focus of our gatherings is expository preaching, where Bible passages are unpacked for their original intended meaning and then applied to our lives today.

Best practices: Read the Bible every day. Reading approximately three chapters per day will get you through the entire Bible in a year. If you are very familiar with one translation of the Bible, try reading it in a different, solid translation.

2. The Gospel is our center.

The person of Jesus, and the historical facts of his death and resurrection are the turning point of history that changes everything forever, provides the only ground for our salvation, and lays at the heart of everything we do.

Best practices: spend time every day confessing sin and reflecting on Christ's death and resurrection. Forgive others as God forgave you. Rest on Christ's merits rather than trying to earn God's favor. Consider yourself dead to sin and alive to God. Regard yourself, your time, your body, and your possessions as God's property bought by Christ's blood to be used for God's purposes.

3. Prayer is our fuel.

Through prayer our naturally-deviant wills are brought into alignment with God's will so that we ask God to empower us doing things in us, through us, and among us that are otherwise beyond us.

Best practices: find a time and space each day to intentionally devote yourself to talking to God. Praying out loud can help you focus by engaging more of your body and senses. Jesus taught us to pray in a secret place to be noticed by the Father rather than men.

4. Intentional Discipleship is our mission.

We aim to be followers of Christ who multiply other followers of Christ. Discipleship is a life of trusting Christ alone for salvation that begins with hearing and accepting the gospel, demonstrating faith with baptism, learning the commands of Jesus, then putting those commands into action, functioning as a part of the church body according to unique gifting, and going about daily life making other disciples until the last disciple comes to Jesus and Jesus comes back to us.

Best practices: Discipleship is encouraged life-on-life. Try to have at least 3 discipleship-related relationships. Find a Christian you respect and try to learn from them. Find another Christian with

untapped potential, and help them become the person Christ is calling them to be. Establish a friendship with somebody who is not a Christian and let your light shine so that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.

5. Obedience is our compass.

Jesus is our Lord and we orient our lives around him as his blood-bought slaves. As Christ's disciples we are dedicated to learning to obey all the commands of Jesus. Our Free Church forebears went by the motto "where stands it written?" We also want the commands of our Lord to guide everything that we do.

Best practices: Consciously attempt to proactively follow a specific one of Jesus' commands every day. The commands of Jesus are primarily recorded in the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, but are also recorded indirectly by his apostles in the rest of the New Testament. Matthew 5-7 is the Sermon on the Mount, which is Jesus' lengthiest continuous teaching. Find at least one area of ministry at ACC where you can use your gifts to build up the body of Christ.

6. Grace is our lifeblood.

The one thing we deserve is immediate death and hell. Grace is all the kindness God shows us instead: from life and breath, sun and rain, food and clothing to eternity and salvation. By grace alone we are saved. In grace we stand. Through grace sinners like us can have relationships with God. And by grace we will one day be what we should be in God's presence. In response, to God's grace, we aim to show grace when people fail, sin, disagree with us, or just rub us the wrong way. Grace is not tolerance, which ignores evil. Rather, grace is redemptive by confronting evil for another person's immediate and eternal benefit. Without grace, everybody would be spiritually dead. And without grace, human relationships die as well.

Best practices: Regularly remind yourself that you have earned hell, thank God for his grace, then prayerfully ask God how you can help another person be successful. If you see a need, meet it on Jesus' behalf. Try to do it without being noticed. If somebody thanks you, tactfully deflect the praise to God

7. Loving Relationships are our glue.

First, God loved us. In response, we love God. We love each other. We love other gospel-centered churches including those in our community and those in the Forest Lakes District of the Evangelical Church. We love the church and parachurch organizations. We love Antigo, its people, and the organizations that enrich it. Actively investing in these relationships holds us together as a church.

Best practices: Do lunch with somebody to get to know them better. Never speak ill of others. Build bridges with Christian co-workers. Collaborate with people and organizations that share your passions.

8. Family is our identity.

We are a family of the redeemed: adopted as children of the Father, paid for by the blood of his Son, and animated by the Holy Spirit. We also value earthly families as a lasting legacy of creation and the fundamental building block of human civilization. Anchored by an exclusively committed marriage, a family provides the best environment for raising children and making disciples of the next generation.

Best practices: Have at least one meal per day with family and/or other Christians and include elements such as prayer, Bible reading, discussion about God, or singing. Commit to a life group do develop deep relationships with other Christians from church.

9. Worship is our purpose.

Worship is an appropriate reaction to God for who He is and what He has done. We try to follow Paul's model of thanking God for what he is doing through each other rather than merely thanking each other. For from God, and through him, and to him are all things. To him alone belongs all the glory forever.

Best practices: Live as though what you say you believe about God is actually true. Let people know what you see God doing in their lives, and thank God for them and what God is doing in them. Do everything to direct praise to God rather than yourself.

Areas of Ministry at Antigo Community Church

Worship

Purpose: to respond appropriately to our Creator in all we think and do.

We aim to make worshipping God a lifestyle that is expressed every day in our individual lives. And we value gathering together as a community of Christ-followers to pray, sing, fellowship and learn from the Word of God together. We strive to include a variety of praise and worship expressions, including music, testimonies, ordinances, arts, and teaching. We want to gladly reflect back to God the glory of His radiance in all that we do, every day, in many different ways because He alone is worthy to be praised.

Youth Ministry

Purpose: to represent Jesus faithfully to the next generation and integrate them into a genuine community of Christ followers.

Parents who follow Christ have an obligation to teach their Children about the Lord as they go about their lives whether they are out and about or at home and from the time they wake up until they go to sleep. ACC's Youth Ministry will partner with parents when possible to help young people who are already following Christ to grow along their faith journey, from nursery to high school, so that they represent Jesus faithfully. Coming alongside young Christ

followers, we will strive to share the gospel of Jesus with all young people in the Antigo area, so that they and their families would respond and follow Christ as well. In all we desire to integrate all young people into the intergenerational church body, and help them navigate their journey into adulthood.

Leadership Development

Purpose: to develop maturing followers of Jesus Christ who pursue becoming great and godly leaders.

We aim to develop leaders whose teaching is worth remembering and whose faith is worth imitating. We equip people at every stage in following Christ to take the next step by offering specific training and opportunities for growth including classes, workshops, apprenticeships and internships from the gospel basics to elder and vocational ministry training.

Body Life

Purpose: to provide opportunities for loving relationships to develop that help build up our local church as a part of Christ's body.

We desire to follow the example of Jesus, who cared for the needs of His disciples and those around Him. We are Jesus' possession and we best acknowledge this by using ourselves, our time, our talents and all we have to achieve what He has commanded us: to nurture followers of Christ who in turn reach and raise up new followers of Christ.

Local Outreach

Purpose: to extend God's grace by loving and serving those within our direct range of influence, yet outside of our church buildings and grounds.

We encourage each individual believer to daily represent Jesus faithfully, with words and actions, to all within the sound of their voice or sight of their lives. Partnering with other like-minded churches and organizations, we seek out opportunities to serve our community and share the life-transforming gospel of Jesus with all who will listen.

Global Outreach

Purpose: to represent Jesus in words and actions on a global scale.

We pursue opportunities to multiply Christ followers beyond the direct influence of ACC in other areas of the state, country, and world. We partner in serving people in need and spreading the gospel of Jesus in a variety of ways including prayer, financial support, and sending people to continue following Christ elsewhere as missionaries.