

THE AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY

SUNDAY SCHOOL HANDBOOK

August 15, 2017

Youth Committee Chair:	Allison Momany
Youth Committee Members:	Terry Baugh, Penni Berger, Tony Berger, Andrea Haldy, Betsy Momany, Emilie Trumpold, Lynn Trumpold
Board of Trustees Liaison:	Alex Momany
VBS coordinator:	Penni Berger
Youth Group Leaders:	Penni Berger, Tony Berger, Betsy Momany

General information

The Amana Church Society Sunday School meets each Sunday morning from 8:30am – 9:30am at the Main Amana Church. We begin with group songs and prayer. Following this, we provide a brief snack and then go to separate classrooms (based on grades) for the weekly lesson. Classes are as follows: 3-4 year olds, K-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th, 6th-7th, and confirmation class (8th). Weekly lessons are based on an online curriculum and are formatted for each grade range.

Registration

Children are registered for Sunday school following a special church service during the month of August, normally the third Sunday of the month. We ask that all parents of children planning to attend the Sunday School attend the service with their children. Registration sheets will be provided for parents to complete before and after the service. Students are welcome to begin attending Sunday School if they are three (3) years of age by the registration date. There is no cost to attend the Amana Church Society Sunday School. If you would like to contribute to the youth activities, you may make a donation to the Amana Church Society and give it to the youth committee chair who will make sure it is put towards the Youth Committee account.

Attendance

The Sunday School exists to strengthen a child's relationship with the Lord and improve his/her understanding of God's Word. The instructors take this charge very seriously and request regular attendance. Though it is sometimes necessary for a child to miss a Sunday School class due to family trips or special activities, we encourage this to be the exception

and not the rule. The teachers would like to know if a child will be unable to attend Sunday School in order to plan lessons and crafts accordingly. Please text or email the youth committee chair if you know your child will be absent from Sunday School.

Parental involvement

Parents may be asked to volunteer as class helpers in the various classrooms. Class size varies and the presence of another adult aids the teachers with crafts, games, visuals, and reading. Parents may be asked to be drivers, bake items for special programs, or aid in church events such as the annual Cookie Walk. Finally, parents are invited to attend the Adult Sunday School class that occurs at the same time as the Youth Sunday School.

Volunteers

The Sunday School is always looking for volunteers who are willing to substitute teach during the school year, help with special events (Christmas-fest, church programs), or help during the very exciting week of Vacation Bible School! We welcome family members of Sunday School students, as well as church members and community members who would like to experience the excitement of young children learning about God's love! Please contact the youth committee chair if you would like to sign-up to be on a volunteer list.

Special Services

There are several services throughout the year that are geared towards children and often involve Sunday School students. We encourage students and their families to participate in these church services. These services are the Sunday School Celebration in August, Church Picnic in September, Advent Service in December, Christmas Eve service, and Easter Service. Please go to <http://www.amanachurch.com/calendar.html> for more information on the dates, times, and locations of these services.

Regular Church Services

The Amana Church Society has two regular services on Sunday mornings at 8:30am and 10am. The 8:30am service still includes some German language, while the 10am service is conducted completely in English. We encourage Sunday School students to begin attending these services occasionally once they are in the middle school class. We recognize that some of the content may be difficult for younger children to attend to and understand. However, we believe it is good practice to familiarize students with church services so they are more comfortable attending after confirmation. If desired, we will also pair each student (and their parents) with a "church buddy" to help greet the student, sit by them during the service, and guide them through the various components of the service.

Communion

The Amana Church Society has a yearly communion service in October. We encourage students that are in third grade or higher to attend this special service. However, children younger than third grade are unlikely to understand the service or to sit for the extended period of time (approximately 1 hour), and therefore we recommend they go to the church daycare during the service.

Confirmation Class

Students are generally confirmed during their freshmen year in high school during a special church service held the second Sunday of September. All students who have adequately completed their studies of the Bible and Catechism at this time will be recommended for confirmation. Following confirmation the students are invited to begin regular attendance at church services and are particularly encouraged to attend both the Preparation for Covenant Service (held the Sunday before Thanksgiving) and the Covenant Service (held on Thanksgiving Day).

Facebook Page

The Amana Church Youth Activities Facebook page is used to update parents, church members, and the local community about the activities of the youth involved in the Amana Church Society. Each week, teachers will post about the weekly lesson and Sunday School activities. Teachers will also post information about special events (e.g., Christmas program, Vacation Bible School) on this site. Photographs or videos of students engaging in Sunday School activities may be used on the Facebook site with parental permission (gathered each year during registration).

Church Website

The Amana Church Society website is www.amanachurch.com. This website contains information about the Amana Church Society's beliefs, the church calendar, and church activities. Additionally, each week's church service is recorded and uploaded to the website so that those who were unable to attend can listen to the service. The monthly newsletter, which often contains stories and pictures from youth activities, is posted on the website.

Communication Policy

The youth committee chair will communicate with parents about upcoming events, schedule changes, and other pertinent information via email and Facebook posts. The contact information of all Sunday School teachers is also listed below and may be used to contact the teachers at anytime.

Inclement Weather Policy

The youth committee chair will decide whether Sunday School is cancelled due to inclement weather by 6am Sunday morning. The youth committee chair will notify parents of cancellation by email and a post on the Amana Church Youth Activities Facebook page. Additionally, Sunday School cancellations will be listed on the KCRG activity cancellation list.

Snack

We provide a small snack each week at Sunday School. Please notify the Youth Committee Chair if your child has any dietary restrictions. We welcome any snack donations, store-bought or homemade!

Sunday School Teacher Contact Information

NAME	ROLE	EMAIL	PHONE #
Terry Baugh	Confirmation Teacher	baughtandl@southslope.net	(319) 573-4400
Penni Berger	4-5 Grade Teacher	ptberger@southslope.net	(319) 361-4354
Tony Berger	6-7 Grade Teacher	ptberger@southslope.net	(319) 361-8459
Andrea Haldy	3-4 year old Teacher	lrh@southslope.net	(319) 929-3141
Alex Momany	BOT Liaison	alexmomany@me.com	(970) 227-7962
Allison Momany	K-1 Grade Teacher	allison-momany@uiowa.edu	(319) 350-9852
Betsy Momany	6-7 Grade Teacher	busterb@southslope.net	(319) 530-0436
Emilie Trumpold	2-3 Grade Teacher	eetrumpo@gmail.com	(319) 512-8288
Lynn Trumpold	Confirmation Teacher	ljttrumpold@mchsi.com	(319) 400-3299