

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

Amana Church services will be live streamed from the church in Middle on FM 93.5 and Facebook. Limited in church attendance offered.

The Regular Sunday Service will be in Middle Sunday, March 21, 2021, starting at 10:00 AM with Elder Jon Childers presiding.

Opening Hymn: "I Trust in Thee" No. 82

Testimony: J.F. Rock, Düdelsheim, December 6, 1733

Scripture: Matthew 13:10-17
Psalm 34

Closing Hymn: "Heaven, Earth, and Sea and Air" No. 116.

Wednesday Nachtgebet live stream on Facebook at 7:00 p.m. **Saturday Fellowship** live stream on Facebook at 5:30 p.m. No in church option for these two services.

The Amana Church is offering the option to attend in-person services. All services will continue on Facebook live, and on your car radio (when parked outside the church) on 93.5 FM, posted to YouTube later. Sunday School remains unchanged.

Reopening our building for services should not be seen as an expectation that every member will attend in person. Rather, this is another option for members who are comfortable doing so.

Our focus has been, and will continue to be, the safety of our congregation. The measures below are designed to keep people safe, regardless of the COVID-19 numbers.

Enter through the south door (Men's side) and you will be directed to a seat. Bring your own Bible and hymnal. Please take any outerwear (coats, jackets, hats, etc.) with you to your seat. Follow the direction of the 'usher' in the Saal. Sit on a marked spot on the bench. If you and a family member are attending together, you may sit together. Exit through the same door that you entered through. No daycare.

Hand sanitizer will be available, please maintain 6 ft separations when entering and leaving the sanctuary. Songs will be read by the Elder or congregation.

We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 numbers and will adjust these measures as needed.

FEATHERS IN THE WIND

The magnificent town of Homestead has a deep and troubling history, which only the "elderly" know about and only speak of in hushed whispers.

You see, this unusual town known for having only one main street was divided (much like the nation during the Civil War) into upper and lower Homestead.

Years ago, the dividing line was apparent at the point where the sidewalk ended and the orchard and maple trees in the center of town began (an area long since filled in with newer houses). The sidewalk resumed at the Homestead Hotel (Zuber's Hotel today) and then continued east to the end of town.

Children gauged when they had reached the dividing line by the way they would have to pedal their bikes as they went east, over the "hump" that separated the two parts. People also noted the jug in the road as it went east.

The people in the upper part of Homestead had a post office, implement store (once upon the largest dealership of Minneapolis Moline tractors west of the Mississippi), the general store, where one could get fudgesicles that made your teeth hurt from the icy coldness, the lumberyard, the feed mill and, of course, the doctor and dentist offices.

There were two other places of interest in upper Homestead: the little pond still north of Highway 6 where the children in that part of town learned to ice skate and to ride sleds down the slope to the ice, in the hope of twisting and turning when they hit the ice. Periodically, kindhearted children in

Feathers continues on page 2

AMANA SOCIETY, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The Amana Society is pleased to announce that Jon Childers, Stuart Geiger, Guy Wendler, and Kurt Reihmann will be on the ballot for the 2021 Amana Society, Inc. Board of Director's election. The election will be held on Monday May 17th, 2021 and absentee ballots will be mailed to each shareholder in mid-April.

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Army Corp's Coralville Water Control Plan Changes Up for Review

The US Army Corps of Engineers are proposing to change the current water control plan for the Coralville dam and reservoir.

Comments on this plan are being accepted now. To read the plan and make your views known to the Army Corps of Engineers go to <https://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/About/Offices/Programs-and-Project-Management/Coralville-Lake-Water-Control-Plan-Update/>

The Iowa County Emergency Management team, landowners in Iowa County, the Amana Society and Amana Farms, along with stakeholders up and down the Iowa River were invited to one of several meetings held in February and early March by the Army Corps to present the proposed plan. They are seeking public comment on the plan now.

Amana Bulletin readers might recall that the Army Corps initiated this plan revision about 3 years ago. The current proposal is the result of the Army Corp's two-year, detailed study and public hearings held in Iowa City, Marengo and other communities some 18 months ago.

This plan is the engineering document that regulates operation of the dam at the Coralville Reservoir. It contains instructions for how much water is released, when and at what level the lake will stay during specific periods of the year. It outlines water release or retention operations during flood or drought. An order from the senior commanding officer of the Army Corps Rock Island Division is required to change or deviate from the water control plan and that order is made only in the event of extreme situations. Hence the water control plan is an important document for those who live on or near the Iowa River.

Josh Humphry, emergency manager, Iowa County EMA, told The Bulletin that this plan was probably, "the best option they had" for Iowa County. He has been active in lobbying the Army Corps of Engineers to consider Iowa County, the well-being of the Amanas and all property owners along the river in Iowa County when writing the new water control plan. Management at the Amana Society, the Amana and Middle Amana sewer committees and others interested in this process have been actively engaging for several years in following this process.

Iowa County residents and property owners were concerned that the Coralville lake level would be raised. Indeed that was one option considered by the Army Corps. But that option was discarded. It's felt that the raising of the lake level (also known as the "conservation pool"), done in the early 1990's, has helped lead to more flooding in Iowa County, hence the concern.

The plan as proposed now does not change the lake level. The lake level or "conservation pool," is to be maintained at the current level of 683 feet for most of the year. The provision for the spring drawn down (to allow for spring snow melt and rain water) will remain the same, but spring "draw downs" may begin earlier than previously.

Importantly more water will be released sooner at the dam in the event of rising water levels. The increased water releases are possible because of the extensive measures taken by Coralville, Iowa City and other downstream communities to prepare for increased river water levels and flood

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ing. In the wake of massive and costly flooding in 1993, 1996 and 2008 these steps were vitally important to protect people and property.

One potentially negative change for Iowa County is that the conservation pool (lake) will be allowed to rise by two feet from 686 to 688 feet in the fall as has happened in the past. The Army Corps does not believe that this will have an impact upon fall flooding here in Iowa County as their models have demonstrated.

Here is a summary of the proposed changes to the Coralville Lake Water Control Plan as per the presentation made to stakeholders in March. These are the changes the Army Corps engineers are recommending based upon their study and taking into account the dam's role in flood prevention and drought mitigation. The proposed changes to the growing season release and the downstream constraints are consistent with the temporary deviations conducted during the 2019 and 2020 flood events:

- Maximum growing season release of 10,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) (It is currently 6,000 cfs; 10,000 cfs release matches current non-growing season release).
- Modifies the Lone Tree constraint to 19 feet (currently 14 feet or 16 feet depending upon season). This is the point that flooding in Lone Tree "constrains" management of water releases at the dam.
- Modifies the Wapello constraint to 25 feet (currently 21 feet or 22 feet depending upon season).
- Modifies large magnitude flood operations to increase reservoir releases earlier when the reservoir is nearing capacity. It does not change downstream constraints at Iowa City (16,000 cfs) or Burlington (18 feet).

To see the entire plan and to watch an informative video presentation visit the web address noted above. You may use the contact form on the website or mail comments to Chris Trefry, chief water control section engineer, at USACE, Rock Island District, Clock Tower Bldg., P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, IL 61204-2004.

Springtime is a Time to Help: Ways to Give

The Amana Church is preparing Easter baskets of food and treats for those men, women and children who visit the Iowa City Free Lunch Program at 1105 South Gilbert Street in Iowa City.

On Sunday members of the Amana Church will assemble baskets for the Free Lunch Program which serves on average, 140 lunches each day. These are served to hungry, sometimes homeless people who are in need of a free, hot meal. The program depends upon 900 volunteers each year to cook and serve meals. The Amana Church has been providing food and volunteers for over 20 years through the coordination of Betsy Momany.

Baskets of home-baked cookies, snacks, Eas

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The *Amana Society Bulletin* is published by the Amana Print Shop for the **Amana Society Inc.** and distributed free of charge to readers as a public service to the Amana Community. On-line at: amanacoloniestoday.com

Easter at the Amana Church

Please invite family, friends and neighbors to join in celebrating Easter! Everyone is welcome to all services and events. View on line via the Amana Church Facebook page or attend in person. Face masks will be worn at all services/events and please follow our COVID policy.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 28, 10 a.m. at the Middle Amana Church, in Middle Amana

During Holy Week & on Easter

Holy Week Prayer Services

March 29 - April 1, Monday - Thursday, 7 p.m. at the Middle Amana Church

Good Friday Worship Service

Friday, April 2, 7 p.m. at the Middle Church

Easter morning rolls, coffee & juice

Sunday, April 4 9 a.m. out of doors (weather allowing) at the Amana Church, Amana

Easter Egg Hunt for the kids after the 10 a.m.

Easter Worship at the Amana Church, Amana

Easter Sunday Worship

Easter Sunday, April 4, 10 a.m.

at the Amana Church, in Amana

Or join us on Facebook at the Amana Church Facebook page.

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ter eggs and candies will be assembled and distributed on Tuesday at the Free Lunch Program.

Would you like to help? Bring a donation of one the above items to the Amana Church at 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 15. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Free Lunch Program, mail your check to the Free Lunch Program of Iowa City, 1105 S. Gilbert St, Suite 100, Iowa City, IA 52240.

The Amana Colonies Food Pantry has seen an increased need for its services this past year with the loss of jobs and income due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors.

The Amana Colonies Food Pantry distributes free food to those who need food twice monthly at the Middle Amana Church in Middle Amana. The pantry is open the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. and the last Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. – noon. This is a free food pantry and a confidential service.

The pantry is organized and managed by Amana Church volunteers coordinated by Annie Trumpold and Kristie Yoder. Sponsored by HACAP, the Amana Colonies Food pantry is supported by the donations from the community.

Donations of canned foods, noodles, cleaning supplies, shampoos, toiletries, detergents, disposable baby diapers, soap and money for the purchase of fresh fruit, meat, bread and milk are needed. Please contact the Amana Church at 319-622-3115 if you wish to learn more about the food pantry or if you wish to drop of a donation.

AMANA COLONIES LAND USE DISTRICT Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Notice and Tentative Agenda for the Regular Meeting March 22, 2021, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

I. Call Meeting to Order.

II. Set Agenda.

III. Review/approve the February meeting minutes.

IV. Discussion/Action on the following permit applications in a Historic Preservation Zoning District:

a. 2021-010 Allison Momany & Tyler Stockman, 2618 J St. Replace windows, removed window from non-historic location.

b. 2021-011 AEBTMG Legacy Enterprises, 750 48th Ave. Replace concrete sidewalk, remove brick patio and replace with stamped concrete, stamp concrete currently in placed.

V. Other Business.

a. Review/comment per BOT request: Proposed Guidelines for Egress Windows in Historic Preservation Districts.

b. Review/comment per BOT request: Proposed Guidelines for Window Wells in Historic Preservation Districts.

VI. Adjourn to work session.

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TIME TO GET GERANIUM SEED PLANTED BEFORE SPRING GARDENING

March 8, 2021, 12:10 pm | Cynthia Haynes

AMES, Iowa – Cindy Haynes, associate professor and extension specialist in horticulture at Iowa State University, offers these tips on how to start geranium seeds before planting them outside.

Seeds need to be started eight weeks before putting them outside. The best temperature to germinate a geranium seed is 70 degrees Fahrenheit. A seed germination mix is suitable for this as the texture is super fine and ensures the seed doesn't get lost.

"I am often very careful with watering, so I will either water from below or have a really gentle spray on top to make sure I don't wash away any seeds," said Haynes.

Germination domes are also an option. These domes have a plastic cover over the top to keep the seeds humid, so you do not have to water as often. They also keep the temperature stable and warm to help with germination.

The earlier the seed is started, the better. Beginning the seeding process in early March is favorable in order to have a decent size sprout to plant late spring.

Seeds also can be planted outside if you do not plant them as soon as hoped. When planting flower seedlings, be aware of weed seedlings, which take over flower seedlings.

Getting ahead of germination will give a grower the best start to spring gardening. For more information, Haynes can be reached at 515-294-4006 or chaynes@iastate.edu.

THANK YOU

Losing our father/husband during the time of COVID was especially challenging for our family in not holding visitation or a full funeral to celebrate his life. However, we are so thankful for the many who reached out to us with cards, calls, and comforting thoughts that really made a huge difference. Thanks to each of you who contributed donations to the Amana Church or another charitable cause in dad's memory. We are blessed in Amana to have such a warm, caring community who enriched dad's life, as well as ours.

Family of Lee C. Herr

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the upper part of Homestead invited the less fortunate kids in lower Homestead "up" to ice skate, but this was rare.

The other special place in upper Homestead was the "Homestead Hotel" later, "the Dugout/ Bill Zuber's Restaurant." The hotel had been built to serve the people coming through on the railroad. Lower Homestead only had the church (well, that was something, anyway) bakery, farm, gas station, meat market and the sandwich shop. This was ok, but it was no match for the pond and the General Store. Still, we had our own delights, including a secret "club" in a friend's garage attic, decorated with crepe paper streamers, a small library and even a stage for plays. We staged a play that I wrote on that stage and allowed the trio of "Upper Homestead" girls to attend and serenade our audience with a rendition of "Sailor Boys." Those were the days.

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GATES ON THE KOLONIEWEG

The gates on the Millrace section of the Trail will be temporarily closed in extremely wet weather and during the **spring thaw** to avoid the deep ruts that bikes can cause. Your help in keeping bikes off the trail when the gates are closed would be greatly appreciated.