

## AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, August 17, 2025 starting 8:30 A.M. with Br. Tony Berger presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Was Gott gefällt" No.1030 vs 1-4 Seite 1010

Testimony: Christian Metz, July 1, 1824

Scripture: Luke 9:44-56

Psalm 29

Closing Hymn: "Was Gott gefällt" No.1030 vs 17-20 Seite 1011

The Late Service will start at 10:00 A.M. with the following hymns:

Opening Hymn: "What Pleases God" No. 117 vs 1-6

Closing Hymn: "What Pleases God" No. 117 vs 7-12.

The Wednesday Evening Prayer Service (Nachtgebet) begins at 7:00 P.M. in Middle.

Visitors are welcome to join us in worship at all Amana Church Services. Childcare is available during Sunday's 10:00 A.M. Service.

The live link for the 10:00 A.M. service is ---

<https://www.facebook.com/theamanachurch>

Links to services posted online may be found at: <https://amanachurch.com/category/podcast/>

## AMANA FIRE DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE

The monthly public meeting of the Amana Fire District will be held Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the Middle Amana fire station.

## MODEL A DAY 16TH ANNUAL SHOW

This Saturday the 16th 47th Ave will be closed to local traffic until 3:30. The street will be lined with Model A's from all over Iowa and neighboring states. If you have an A bring it if not come and enjoy the show and talk with the owners from all over the Midwest.

## FOUR WINDS FARM FIELD DAY

Four Winds Farm is hosting their first Field Day of the year on Sunday, August 17th from 11-4. All CBG hemp products will be 25% off and this year we will also have 12 different medicinal herbs available to purchase, as well. All guests are welcome to pick a bouquet of flowers to take home with them. 2312 Alpine Ave NW, Homestead (we are on the Johnson/ Iowa county line road, north of Hwy 6.)

## VISITORS CENTER THANK YOU

We've got a spruced up look at the Amana Colonies Visitors Center — and it's all thanks to the generous time and talent of some amazing community members! A huge thank you to Harvey Jeck, Robb Jeck, and John Zuber for the beautiful handcrafted benches - the perfect place to pause and enjoy the view.

Thank you to Erin Phelps for adding gorgeous landscaping touches and keeping the plants around the buildings looking their best. Thank you to Lynn Beyer for lovingly maintaining the flower bed in the Peace Garden - a true hidden gem!

Come take a seat, smell the flowers, and enjoy the beauty of our space — made even better by the hands and hearts of our community.

## SUMMER AMANA POOL HOURS

**NOW through August 20**

Sundays: 1-3 pm

Wednesdays: 1-3 pm

Fridays: 7-9 pm

**After August 21**

**Fall, Winter, and Spring hours**

Sundays: 1-3 pm

Wednesdays: 7-9 pm

Fridays: 7-9 pm.

## AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

### Heritage Society Announces Cap Campaign

The Amana Heritage Society has launched a campaign to fund three very important projects for the nonprofit which maintains and manages the Amana Heritage Museum and associated historical sites in our seven villages.

The nonprofit group is working to raise money for:

- Homestead Village Church Museum - \$120,000. Critical restoration/ repairs to the interior of the 1865 church, install HVAC and upgrade electrical systems so that the building, located in the heart of Homestead, may be stabilized and used year-round. Adding climate controls and new electrical wiring will make it structurally more safe and secure, while making it usable for performances, events and educational programs.
- Restoration of the Middle Amana Cooper Shop - \$9,000. One of the last remaining craft shops and the only cooper shop in the seven villages, this in-tact structure should be stabilized so that it can be seen and appreciated. As a part of the Middle Amana Ruedy Kitchen house complex it shows visitors communal village life. The goal is to make it an "active interpretive space that showcases one the most documented trades in Amana communal life."
- Digitization of historic films, videos and audio recordings - \$2,700. The Amana Heritage Museum has over 900 fragile films, videos and audio recordings, including oral histories. Some of these are decades old. The work to preserve these for the future has been ongoing with grants, in-kind donations and gifts helping to complete an estimated \$25,000 in media preservation work. This final \$2,700 will be used to match grants received and complete the project to digitize.

"Each of these projects plays a vital role in preserving Amana's history and keeping it accessible, meaningful and alive," stated Jon Childers, Amana Heritage Society executive director.

Simply put, basic repairs are needed to save the Homestead Church.

"It's crucial for the future of the building," Childers said.

The list of repairs is long, but includes getting a new furnace — the one in place does not work. It also includes repairing floors, windows and doing repairs and clean up in the basement. All of this is just to get the building up to a basic level.

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, the Iowa County Community Foundation grant of \$12,000 announced last week is a help. Every dollar will be put to good use as it will pay for about half of the HVAC install, Childers noted.

However it will take a total of \$120,000 to make the needed repairs, install new wiring, a new furnace and an air conditioning system at the Homestead Church.

The goal is to make the church as functional as possible while maintaining its character and its story as the village spiritual center. The village church is Homestead's historic heart and soul and to be able to use it — first as a site open to the public, secondly as a space to experience history, and finally as a place to experience Iowa and Amana-focused performances and classes would be a huge win for the Amanas.

In future the Amana Heritage Society would like to be able to host lectures and performances, like the one woman show on a German immigrant's experience in Iowa held this summer in the Homestead Welfare Club.

Furthermore, upgrades will allow the museum curator, Rebecca Simpson and staff, to create exhibits to interpret and share what's in the building or was once in the building.

**News & Notes continues on page 2**



**Amana Farms**  
is looking for a  
**Feedlot Associate!**

Duties include maintaining equipment, performing yard maintenance, cleaning animal housing, and operating tractors, trucks and implements to feed cattle and clean bed pens.

Contact Laura Sue at 319-622-3953 or [lswoods@amanas.net](mailto:lswoods@amanas.net), or check out our listing on Indeed!



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On-line at: [amanacoloniestoday.com](http://amanacoloniestoday.com)  
Email: [amanaprintshop@southslope.net](mailto:amanaprintshop@southslope.net)



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Aging floors and windows damaged over time, high humidity and a non working furnace, meant that church cannot be used in winter. Some areas of the building can not be used at all. Books and historical objects can be kept in the church. With the repairs and the installation of HVAC, the church will be able to be open more and offer more space to exhibit and interpret its artifacts and books. Events at the church, from lectures to zither concerts, may help pay the costs of keeping it open while teaching and promoting Amana and Iowa heritage, Childers explained.

“We are so pleased to begin work on the Homestead Village Church Museum as a part of our strategic goals to elevate awareness and appreciation for Amana heritage. On 30 days marketing, we were able to draw over 80 people to a performance (in Homestead this past summer). We’re looking forward to cooperating with TKM Theatrical Productions, Janet Schlapkohl, and zither player, Ann Prinz, to activate the Homestead Village Church Museum as a unique performance venue and elevated interpretive site,” Childers said.

Similarly at the Cooper Shop in Middle Amana basic work needs to be done to stabilize and repair the building. So far \$8,000 has been raised of the \$17,000 needed so the Board of Directors and museum staff hope to raise the needed \$9,000 to make repairs and to catalog and interpret the 250 tools and objects associated with communal barrel-making – plus create hands-on educational exhibits. The goal is to fully utilize the site and share its rich history with visitors. Because it’s just steps away from the communal kitchen the cooper shop adds to a villagescape of communal life making this site doubly important, Childers explained.

How can you help? To donate: send to Amana Heritage Society, PO Box 81, Amana, IA, 52203 or the amanaheritage.org website and look for the “Opportunities for Giving” tab at the top of the page.

# CELEBRATE!

170 YEARS OF THE AMANA COLONIES

WED, SEPT 3, 2025: 5PM-9PM

Featuring:  
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5:30pm-7pm Dinner by County Line Catering  
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**\$15 Music Only**  
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Amana Colonies Festhalle Barn

Doors open at 5pm; Live Music 6pm-9pm

319-622-3567  
AMANAHHERITAGE.ORG



OR STOP BY THE MUSEUM!

**Bulletin Deadlines:**  
Large/Medium Sized Items Tues. 4:30 PM  
Small Items Wed. 11:00 AM  
email: [amanaprintshop@southslope.net](mailto:amanaprintshop@southslope.net)

NOTE FROM THE PRINT SHOP

I will not be available during the time of the first 3 Iowa football games except possibly via e-mail (If I can figure out how to make it work where I will be).

During that time my offspring will be dealing with the Bulletin only, and all communication should be done via e-mail. I am leaving my phone with them.

I trust this will not be too great an inconvenience for anyone. My wife needs a vacation and insists I tag along.

Dan

**The Amana Print Shop**  
319-622-3912 [amanaprintshop@southslope.net](mailto:amanaprintshop@southslope.net)

THANK YOU

Thank you for the gifts, cards, and kind words at the passing of Dave.

Thank you to Essence of Life for being there for us.

The David Childers Family

**AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP**

**Church Services**

SUNDAYS 9:00 AM

All Are Welcome

Amana Performing Arts Center

[www.amanaareafellowship.org](http://www.amanaareafellowship.org)

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**HELP WANTED**

Ronneburg Restaurant seeks full or part time line cook. Stop in at 4408 220th Trail, Amana for an application or give us a call 319-622-3641.

Millstream Brau Haus, Help Wanted: Bussers and Dishwashers, flexible summer hours. Stop by and pick up an application.

OBITUARY

Joanna Binney, Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at Colonial Manor in Amana at the age of 64 years. A graveside service was held Saturday, August 9, 2025, at the Amana Cemetery.

Joanna Lynn Binney was born June 22, 1961, in Colorado, the daughter of William “Bill” and Jeanette “Jean” (Franke) Hemphill. Joanna made Amana her home in 1998. Joanna met her significant other Terry Vermace in 2002. Joanna was a stay at home mom for many years, working part-time at various places and then was employed at the Amana Meat Shop. She was a member of the Amana Society Church. She enjoyed music, playing the piano or guitar, art, painting, drawing, she was an animal lover, enjoyed her collection of frogs, gardening, traveling, and most of all spending time with her friends and family.

She is survived by her three daughters, Elizabeth (Adam) Olson of Cedar Rapids, Amelia Binney of Middle Amana, and Riva Vermace of Cedar Rapids; two grandchildren, Canan and Ava Olson; brother Tristan Hemphill of CO; and significant other Terry Vermace of Amana. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A memorial fund has been established to help assist the family with the funeral expenses. Powell Funeral Home in Marengo is caring for Joanna and her family. Messages may be left at [www.powellfuneralhomes.com](http://www.powellfuneralhomes.com)

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**AMANA COLONIES LAND USE DISTRICT (ACLUD)**

**Tentative Agenda of the Meeting Historic Preservation Commission, Monday, August 18th, 2025 6:30 p.m. at ACLUD office 4304 220th Trail Amana And via Zoom**

I. Call HPC Meeting to Order

II. Set Agenda

III. Review/Approve the July 28th regular meeting minutes:

IV. Welcome visitors and allow citizens to speak on items not on the agenda:

V. Discussion/Action on permit applications in a Historic Preservation Zoning District:

a. 2025-043 Amana Society Inc. /920 48th Ave (Amana Builders Building)/ HP-C/ Replace 3 section exterior door with new exterior double door.

b. 2025-044 Shawn & Amy Jacobson /1308 G St. High Amana/ HP-C/GRANT APPLICATION: Rebuild/Replace exterior wooden doors on the High Amana general store.

c. 2025-045 Janice Taylor-Rawson /989 49th Ave. (Train depot)/ HP-I/ GRANT APPLICATION: Repaint south & west side of building in historic orange. Restore loading dock at West end of building.

d. 2025-046 Jeff & Suzanne Conquest /621 46th Ave./ HP-C/ GRANT APPLICATION: Install new 3 board fence along 220th trail & 46th Ave.

e. 2025-047 Linda Sue Taylor /708 47th Ave./ HP-C/ GRANT APPLICATION: Replace 6 existing windows on lower level with new 9/6 vinyl windows. Replace window trim with new wood as needed.

f. 2025-048 Amana Society Inc./824 48th Ave. (Furniture shop) / HP-C/ Replace existing rubber roof with new rubber roof in grey (sample in office). Replace gutters with 1/2 round 5” gutters and down spouts.

g. 2024-066 Jeff & Ammie Trumpold /2726 K St. Middle Amana/ HP-R/ Remove non historic bathroom window and rebrick in hole. Was previously added for ventilation and is no longer needed.

h. 2025-051 Shawn & Nicole Bible /4410 F St./ HP-R/ Update exterior of home with new vinyl siding in sage green to match the garage. Replace 21 windows with vinyl windows.

VI. Other Business

VII. Administrator's Report (if applicable)

VIII. Adjourn

