

**AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS**

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, January 29, 2023, starting 8:30 A.M. with Br. Jon Childers presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Ringe recht, wenn Gottes Gnade" No. 886 v 1-5 Seite 871

Testimony: Ursula Meyer, May 3rd, 1717

Scripture: Ephesians 1:15-23

Psalm 103:1-12

Closing Hymn: "Ich bin ein armes Kind" No. 446 v 1-4 Seite 443

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

Opening Hymn: "One Thing's Needful; Lord, This Treasure" No. 17

Closing Hymn: "Strive Aright When God in Mercy" No. 94

The Wednesday Evening Prayer (Nachtgebet) meeting will begin 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.

**2023 AMANA SOCIETY, INC.  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Amana Society, Inc. Board of Directors has appointed Kirby Schaefer (319-430-6722, kirbyschaefer@gmail.com), Jon Childers (319-560-6896, jonchilders4444@gmail.com), John Zuber (319-560-0299, johnzuber47@gmail.com), and Liesl Yunek, (319-538-2242, liesl.burgher@gmail.com) to serve on the 2023 Nominating Committee.

The committee is responsible for nominating individuals to be placed on the ballot as director candidates for the 2023 Amana Society, Inc. Board of Directors general election.

Any interested Class "A" stockholder who has owned Class "A" shares for a minimum of 3 years, is at least 25 years of age, and has a business background or business experience, is encouraged to submit their name for consideration prior to February 13th, 2023, either by contacting a committee member directly (contact information is listed above for each committee member) or by sending a summary of relevant experience to:

Nominating Committee,  
c/o Amana Society, Inc.,  
PO Box 189 Amana, IA 52203.

**FEATHERS IN THE WIND**

I think because it is winter and the weather is not exactly nice, and taxes are looming on the horizon, and the war in Ukraine is going nowhere, and the government has reached it's debt limit, and we really need a new car, and if I see one more commercial with Mike Lindell on it I might make like Elvis Presley and destroy the television, and I am covered in hives so therefore act like a prickly cactus that will not bloom.

Do you get the feeling the Charlemagne should get the Presidential Medal of Freedom (with Distinction) for even being in the same room with someone like me?

You might want to give him a piece of cheese or a pat on his already bent back from having endured living with me. (If you give him chocolate he'll have to turn it over to me under penalty of punishment)

I just got a card reminding me that I am due for a dental appointment.

This will require some serious thought since I have changed insurance. I wonder if this new insurance covers filing my fangs to sharp points? I know the old insurance didn't cover root canal surgery - talk about funding a Caribbean cruise for the surgeon!

*Feathers continues on page 2*

## AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

**Future of Amana Elementary**

At the January 18 meeting of the Clear Creek Amana School Board questions were raised by Amana residents asking about the future of the elementary school in Middle Amana as some concerns and unconfirmed reports circulated about the school.

When contacted last week by the Amana Society Bulletin, Dr. Corey Seymour, CCA Superintendent, stated, "Thank you for the email. We will be sending out a detailed communication at the end of the month. Let me clear up a few rumors. There will be changes to Amana next year but closing the school is not one of them. As a matter of fact, we are planning to increase programming and improve facilities. I discussed some of the potential changes at the community meeting. The first thing I stated at the meeting was Amana would remain open. I understand that schools work as life lines for communities. My goal is to improve the community. Since the numbers at Amana are not growing or slowly declining, we have to be a little more creative to support the school."

Dr. Seymour held a community forum December 1 at the Amana Performing Arts Center, this is the meeting he refers to in the statement above.

The Amana Bulletin will be following up with Dr. Seymour when the detailed communication is received.

**Amana Church's Restore Revive Renew  
Progresses News on Construction  
Timeline and Fund Drive**

Receiving the National Trust for Historic Preservation – National Trust for Sacred Places grant in 2021 has propelled the Amana Church's efforts to restore the Main Amana Versammlungsaal (meeting house/ church) and the Middle Amana Kinderschule (pre-school).

Calling the project "Restore Revive Renew" the Amana Church began a drive in 2021 to significantly improve both buildings for future use. It has made big headway in the last year.

Construction documents will be presented to the Amana Colonies Land Use District this spring, says Elly Hoehnle Amana Church administrator. The plan is to begin work on the buildings this summer.

Amana Church members will be looking at the plans at a special meeting at the Middle Amana Church on Sunday, Feb. 5 following 10 a.m. worship.

As of January 1, 2023 the Restore Revive Renew Fund Drive has raised \$333,641 in cash, pledges and grants. That's over 90 percent of its Phase 1 goal of \$364,387. This includes the initial \$70,000 grant from the National Trust for Sacred Places and a donation of \$50,000 from the Amana Society, Inc. As well, the Amana Community Food Pantry was awarded \$8,500 from the Iowa County Community Foundation for building rehab, report co-chairs Jon Childers and Emilie Hoppe.

"This project has really taken off and we've

seen such widespread, enthusiastic support for it from so many people," said Childers. "It's really been gratifying."

The Amana meeting house is the largest of the Amana churches and is used today for special services, weddings, funerals and public meetings and events. It is the home of the Amana Sunday School and it provides space for Bible studies and Monday "Senior" dining. Senior dining is on hiatus now but will return.

The Kinderschule is not being used at this time, but the Amana Church will put it to good use as the new home of the Amana Community Food Pantry. The Food Pantry provides food to an average of 30 families from the Amanas/Iowa County every two weeks by accepting donations of food and cash.

The list of repairs/ rehab at the 1864 meeting house is long and includes:

- constructing a new handicapped accessibility ramp on the west side and replacing the east side ramp
- repair all entrances
- replace upper story fire escapes
- remove 1950's era asbestos siding on the east and west sides. Replace with historically accurate clapboard siding
- repair or replace fascia and soffits
- repoint chimneys
- repair foundation retaining walls
- restore dormer windows
- repoint/ restore stone foundation.

At the Kinderschule, located behind the Middle Amana Church, it will take effort to make the building useable. Here's the list:

- make interior repairs to walls and floor
- add utilities, update electrical system, heating/ cooling
- add sidewalk
- restore/ replace siding
- repair framing
- restore windows
- repair porch and entryway
- repair foundation and repoint chimney.

The fund drive continues as the church works toward its Phase 1 goal and then begins the drive for the Phase 2 goal. The total estimated need is \$472,387 for Phase 1 and 2.

"We are getting close and we are so grateful to everyone who has contributed. I think the emotion behind each gift is telling – from what people have said or written with their donations – they feel like giving to this drive is giving back

*News & Notes continues on page 2*

**Hahn Bakery**  
**February hours:**  
The bakery will only be open  
Saturdays, weather permitting,  
in February  
- Normal Hours -  
March's schedule TBD

**THANK YOU**

The Amana Cub Scouts would like to thank the Community Chest for helping to fund our recharter for this year.

| NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING --- PROPOSED BUDGET  |   |   |   |  |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024  |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| Name of District: HOMESTEAD SANITARY SEWER  |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| The Board of Trustees of the above named district will conduct a public hearing on the proposed fiscal year                                 |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| Meeting Date: 2/23/2023 Meeting Time: 06:00PM Meeting Location: Homestead Welfare Club, Homestead, IA                                       |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| At the public hearing, any resident or tax payer may present their objections to, or arguments in favor of any part of the proposed budget. |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of receipts and expenditures on file with the Clerk.                              |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| Contact Name: Thomas Oehler   |   |   | Contact Telephone Number: (319) 225-8065  |  |   |  |
| Fund  | FYE 6-30-2022<br>Actual<br>Expenditures | FYE 6-30-2023<br>Re-estimated<br>Expenditures | FYE 6-30-2024<br>Proposed<br>Expenditures | Estimated<br>Ending Fund<br>Balance<br>June 30, 2024 | Estimated<br>July 1, 2023 Beg.<br>Balance & All<br>Other Receipts | Estimated<br>Amount to<br>Be Raised<br>By Taxation |
| 1. General  | 12,605                                  | 44,375  | 19,375                                    | 15,527   | 31,003  | 3,899  |
| 2. Debt Service   | 0                                       | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0  |
| 3. TOTAL  | 12,605                                  | 44,375  | 19,375                                    | 15,527   | 31,003  | 3,899  |
| Proposed taxation rate per \$1,000 valuation \$ 0.54000   |   |   |   |  |   |  |

**News and Notes from page 1**

to a community that has meant something to them. It doesn't matter if you are a current resident or a former resident, it doesn't matter if you are a lifelong resident or not – this is our home and these buildings are central to who we are as a community and what we hope to be in future," said fund drive co-chair Emilie Hoppe.

Want to help? Donate to the Amana Church PO Box 103, Middle Amana, Iowa, 52307. Or go to the Amana Church website under the Restore Revive Renew tab for venmo and credit card giving.

**AMANA FIRST RESPONDERS SELLING TRUCK**

The Amana First Responders are accepting bids for their 1990 Chevy Suburban 1500 4x4 until Jan 31st. 155k miles. It is being offered as-is, to be picked up by the winning bidder within 10 days of notification of bid acceptance.

For more information and photos, see the post on the Amana First Responders Facebook page. For questions or bid submission, contact Lucas Miller, Director of Amana First Responders, at l.millerlandscaping@gmail.com or 319-551-5587.

**"THE ACLUD CORNER"**

Did You Know?....

Just a reminder that HP permit applications and their associated fees need to be in the ACLUD office by 5:00 PM on the Tuesday BEFORE an upcoming Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) meeting. And HPC has a standing meeting on the fourth Monday of every month. This is done primarily for two reasons; the meeting agenda must be finalized on that same Tuesday in order to be posted in the Amana Society Bulletin that week, and this also allows time for Amana residents to be aware in advance of changes and upcoming projects that have entered the permitting process. This same "5:00 PM Tuesday" deadline applies to new issues slated for the Board of Trustees meeting agenda (their standing meeting is the second Monday of each month) for the same reasons already stated.

For further information regarding your local government visit our website [www.aclud.org](http://www.aclud.org) or call the office in Amana at 319-622-3840.

The *Amana Society Bulletin* is published by the Amana Print Shop for the Amana Society Inc. and distributed free as a public service to the Amana Community.  
On-line at: [amanacoloniestoday.com](http://amanacoloniestoday.com)  
Email: [amanaprintshop@southslope.net](mailto:amanaprintshop@southslope.net)

**Feathers from page 1**

A friend (yes, I still have one or two that wear armor for protection, their shields polished to a mirrorlike sheen) suggested that I stop arguing with people who do not listen.

That would mean 90% of the world population, but who's counting?

The problem came up when I found out that two "friends" found it hilarious to argue politics with me.

It doesn't bother me that much if you choose to disagree, it is your right to be wrong; but it hurts to be made fun of by people you "thought" were friends.

Anyway I was "told" not to argue with anyone who chooses not to listen or even check to make sure their "facts" are accurate, so I've come up with a solution.

I'm asking my beloved Charlemagne to buy a can of nuts that we can set out for people and also a walnut or two for me to carry in my pocket just to "touch" and remind me that I'm not the only "nut" around.

Heck we have a walnut tree in our yard that has shells that are empty. Maybe my shell has fruit inside!

B.S.H.

*Note: In the current political environment and with seemingly so little time to gather information, we listen to the news outlets that tell us what we already have a tendency to believe. What we hear may be biased, commentary or just plain sensationalism, "Whatever bleeds leads."*

*Gone are the days of Walter Cronkite and the news as a public service, now it's all about money. Watch the 1976 movie "Network" sometime.*

*Below are some the best fact checking websites available. (mediabiasfactcheck.com 2020 ratings)*

**1. Politifact**– is a fact-checking website that rates the accuracy of claims by elected officials and others who speak up in American politics. Politifact is owned by the Poynter Institute, which also operates the International Fact Checking Network (IFCN) that sets standards for fact checkers. Politifact is a signatory of the IFCN and is simply the best source for political fact checking. Won the Pulitzer Prize.

**2. FactCheck.org**– is a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania. They are a nonpartisan, nonprofit "consumer advocate" for voters that aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics. They monitor the factual accuracy of what is said by major U.S. political players in the form of TV ads, debates, speeches, interviews and news releases. Fact Check is similar to Politifact in their coverage and they provide excellent details. The only drawback is they lack the simplicity of Politifact.

**3. Lead Stories**- is a fact checker and hoax/rumor debunker that uses the International Fact-Checking Network fact-checkers' code of principles as a guide for all fact checking. What separates them is the use of a specific engine called the Trendolizer, which tracks story trends that allows Lead Stories to quickly debunk fake news before it becomes viral. They are often the first to debunk outrageous claims.

**4. Science Feedback**- is an IFCN fact checker that consists of two separate websites, **Climate Feedback**, which reviews climate related claims and **Health Feedback**, which reviews health and medical claims. Each fact checker holds a Ph.D. and has recently published articles in top-tier peer-reviewed science journals. This is by far the best fact checker for science related claims.

**Additional Resources - Political Funding**

**Open Secrets**– Open Secrets is a nonpartisan, independent and nonprofit, run by the Center for Responsive Politics, which is the nation's premier research group tracking money in U.S. politics and its effect on elections and public policy. Open Secrets is by far the best source for discovering how much and where candidates get their money. They also track lobbying groups and whom they are funding.

**The Sunlight Foundation**– a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that uses the tools of civic tech, open data, policy analysis and journalism to make our government and politics more accountable and transparent to all. Sunlight primarily focuses on money's role in politics.

**OBITUARY**

Kathleen "Katie" J. Berger age 89, of Middle Amana passed away Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at Colonial Manor of Amana. Funeral service: 1:00 p.m., Friday, January 27, 2023, at the Middle Amana Church, Middle Amana with Elder Betsy Momany officiating. Burial will be at the Middle Amana Cemetery, Middle Amana. Visitation: 4-6 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2023, at the Middle Amana Church, Middle Amana. In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to the Amana Church Youth Ministries or the American Cancer Society.

Katie is survived by her children Kristie (Bill) Yoder of Middle Amana, and Tony (Penni) Berger of Middle Amana; five grandchildren Sam Cutler of Schaumburg, Ellie (Kelvin) Gilkey of Des Moines, Hannah Cutler (Steven TenBensel) of Des Moines, Isaiah Berger of Middle Amana, Lucas Berger of Iowa City; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Raymond in 2015, a brother Arnold Moessner a baby sister Lucille Moessner, and a brother and sister-in-law Harold and Lillian Moessner.

Kathleen Joan Moessner was born August 13, 1933, the daughter of Adolph and Lina Leichsenring Moessner. She attended the Amana High School and graduated with the class of 1951. She was united in marriage to Raymond Berger on September 5, 1953, in Middle Amana, Iowa. Katie was a lifelong member of the Amana Church, and a charter member of the Amana Heritage Society. She was the Amana pool director for many years. Her position as the director included all aspects of pool and youth activities. In the summer she was always in her swimsuit, teaching swim lessons. Katie enjoyed gardening, playing tennis, and attending community card parties. She dedicated her life to her family, her friends, her church and community. She had a unique laugh and as many would remark, "she was a force".

Online condolences: [www.klosterfuneral-home.com](http://www.klosterfuneral-home.com)

**WANTED/WANTED TO BUY**

BUYING All ANTIQUES; Toys, signs, Furniture, Crocks, Paintings, textiles, automotive, oddities and the unusual. Any condition. Fair cash prices paid. Call or text 319-270-1251/Jack Cirkl.

**FOR RENT**

For Rent room with shared bath and common area South Amana. No smoking, references, background check. Call Larry at 319-540-9351

**Amana Area Fellowship Night of Worship**

Please join us for an evening of food, fellowship, song and a message from the Bible.

**February 9th – You Are God's Passion**

**Amana Performing Arts Center**

Potluck 6:00-6:30; Music and Message 6:45

Continuing series: *The Road to the Cross*

March 9th – *It Is Finished*

April 13th – *Easter Message*

visit us at [www.amanaareafellowship.org](http://www.amanaareafellowship.org)

**The Amana Print Shop**

**319-622-3912**

[amanaprintshop@southslope.net](mailto:amanaprintshop@southslope.net)

Mail: PO Box 06 Middle IA 52307

Hours:

Mon., Tues., Thurs. 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Wednesday 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM (Deliveries).

Friday - 9:00 AM -2:00

Please phone before driving over as I may be engaged in work/projects or at appointments

All outsourced items (Full color rack cards, business cards, stamps, etc.) are printed/ manufactured in the U.S.A.