Amana Society Bulletin

Vol. XCIV | Amana, Iowa, Thursday, August 21, 2025 | No. 25

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, August 24, 2025 starting 8:30 A.M. with Sw. Betsy Momany presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Schaffet, schaffet, meine kinder!" No. 891 vs 1-5 Seite 877

Testimony: Christian Metz, Amana, November 23, 1856; Johann Friedrich Rock, Neuenstein, May 18, 1716

Scripture: Luke 14:25-27; Matthew 20:1-16
Psalm 97

Closing Hymn: "Schaffet, schaffet, meine kinder!" No. 891 vs 6-10 Seite 877

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

Opening Hymn: "Who to God does yield" No. 166

Closing Hymn: "If God himself be for me" No. 53

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 BENEFITED FIRE DISTRICT FUNDRAISING

The fund raising for the Middle Fire Station addition is at 12.7%. Cash and pledges total $101,847. Thank you to Howes Law Firm, PC and Brown Rock Sales for their donations.

Please help us reach our goal of $800,000 and send a check to the Amana Benefited Fire District, PO Box 342, Amana, IA 52203.

YOUR Amana Volunteer Fire Department is ready to serve YOU 24/7.

Recent news articles are talking about fire stations closing because of the lack of volunteers. We are blessed with 25 dedicated volunteers, with anywhere from less than a year to 39 years if experience. Another topic is lack of funding to support expenses of the departments. Please show your support.

THE AMANA HERITAGE SOCIETY COMMUNAL DINNERS!

The Amana Heritage Society is hosting Communal Dining Experiences at the Communal Kitchen Museum in Middle Amana.

We have space for a regularly scheduled Communal Dining Experience on August 29, September 19th, and December 5th.

These themed dinners will highlight various aspects of communal Amana life. The December 5th communal dinner will be a traditional Christmas dinner with a special dessert.

Traditional communal-era menus are exclusively offered to share the culinary legacy of the Amana Colonies that transformed into a leading Iowa visitor attraction known for family-style dining.

Have a group of 12 or more? Contact us today about reserving your own communal dining experience.

All communal dining experiences take place at the Communal Kitchen Museum, 1003 26th Ave, Middle Amana, IA. Limited seating of 24. Advanced tickets required and can be purchased at www.amanaheritage.org. The price is only $35 per person with no tax or gratuity required. Proceeds benefit the Amana Heritage Society's efforts to share Amana's rich 300-year heritage.

For more information about communal dinners please email heritageprograms@southslope.net or call 319-622-3567.

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***
Email: ***amanaprintshop@southslope.net***

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Correction to Last Week's Article on Homestead Church

The paragraph regarding the condition of the Homestead Church had an error which should be corrected. Due to the fact that the furnace at the church does not work and there is no air conditioning, books and other artifacts can not be kept at the church. Hence repairs and improvements are needed in order for the site to be used fully.

With the repairs and the installation of working HVAC, the Amana Heritage Society hopes to create exhibits and interpret artifacts and books while events and tours could be held at the church year-round.

As the article reported, the Amana Heritage Society is currently raising funds to refurbish and restore the Homestead Church, the Cooper Shop and to preserve historical films and videos. Go to Amana Heritage Society website to read more and to give.

Sen Grassley in Amana Monday

Senator Chuck Grassley visited Amana Monday afternoon taking a tour of Hotel Millwright and visiting with invited guests at the Carding Studio of the Mill.

As reported on local TV news Monday evening, the event was hosted by the Amana Society with board members and small business owners in what Sen. Grassley called a "town hall meeting with residents of the Amana Society."

In a four-minute interview posted by Iowa News Now on YouTube, Sen. Grassley said it was "part of my 99 tour," so "I met here with employees – constituents here."

The Amana Society was advised that Sen. Grassley would like to hold the "listening post" meeting at the Carding Studio at Hotel Millwright to discuss agriculture, tourism and community issues. The Amana Society was asked to invite a number of people involved in those issues. The listening post which was not a public event.

Following the meeting in the YouTube interview Sen Grassley, stressed the importance of "total transparency" on the Epstein files, stating he has been asking for it for 6 years. He also discussed President Trump's negotiations with President Putin regarding the invasion of Ukraine and the importance of unity with Ukraine and our European allies.

This reporter was invited Sunday but was unable to attend Monday's meeting.

Amana Church Volunteers Return from Pine Ridge

It was a busy, fulfilling and rewarding week of hard work and learning as Amana Church volunteers spent a week with Re-Member, the Lakota non profit organization, on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota.

Living in bunkhouses and dining communally with other volunteers and Re-Member team members, the Amana volunteers spent their days building handicapped accessible ramps, building outhouses and working in gardens that share fresh vegetables for free to residents. Vegetables are delivered to the Porcupine village Post Office for anyone to pick up who needs vegetables. Over 50 pounds was delivered while the Amana group was there.

According to one volunteer who kept a journal, "On Wednesday all the groups worked together to replace stairs and 42-foot-long ramp at a trailer home in Pine Ridge. As we pulled up to do the work, we saw the Lakota woman who lived there slowly being helped down the stairs (of the trailer) to a car. She was unable to use the ramp because of its dilapidated condition. We were so happy to help by building a new one."

***News & Notes** continues on page 2*

IOWA 1855 AMANA FARMS

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, or check out our listing on Indeed!

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jvanzante@southslope.net

News & Notes *from page 1*

The volunteers also learned about Lakota people, their culture and spiritual traditions and attended a small, neighborhood powwow dance and horse race.

As the Amana volunteer wrote, "We have come to appreciate the difficulty of life on the Rez and see how people can face adversity with joy."

The Pine Ridge Reservation occupies the entirety of Oglala Lakota County, the southern half of Jackson County and Bennett County in South Dakota. The total land area of the reservation is 2.1 million acres. The reservation is among the largest in the United States. According to statistics from the US Census and ReMember, Pine Ridge has the lowest per capita income, $8,768, in the nation and ranks as the poorest county in the country.

ESSEN WAGEN- HOME DELIVERED MEALS

The Amana Church, in conjunction with Colonial Manor, sponsors the Amana Essen Wagen, which provides a hot noon meal to home-bound, adults or their adult child, delivered to your home (even to your chair!) each weekday, except holidays. Enjoy not cooking and enjoy visiting with one of our volunteer drivers.

Please contact Colonial Manor at 319-622-3131 to sign up for this service. You can register for a short time while recuperating at home, or on a permanent basis. The suggested donation per meal is $4.00.

NOTE FROM THE PRINT SHOP

I will not be available during the time of the first 3 Iowa football games (Aug 30, Sept 6 & 13) 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 will be leaving my cell phone at the shop for their use with work.

There could be minor delays in distribution depending on their work schedules.

I trust this will not be an inconvenience for anyone. Chris needs a vacation and ***insists*** I tag along.

Dan

AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP
Church Services
SUNDAYS 9:00 AM
All Are Welcome
Amana Performing Arts Center
www.amanaareafellowship.org

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FOR RENT

Condo apartment for rent. Large, One bedroom one bath at Colony Oaks, middle Amana. Deck overlooks 9th fairway of Amana Golf Course. 900 mo, includes w/s, HOA. Call 319-338-0025

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

William "Bill" Yoder passed away Monday August 18th. A Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 pm on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at the Middle Amana Church. Burial will be in the Middle Amana Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 4:00-7:00 pm on Friday, August 22, 2025 at Middle Amana Church. Powell Funeral Home in Marengo is caring for Bill and his family.

William "Bill" Dean Yoder was born February 29, 1956, in Kalona, Iowa, the 6th son of Dale and Lois (Fisher) Yoder. He graduated from Iowa Mennonite School in 1974 and attended Kirkwood Community College with an architectural design degree. He worked various construction jobs before beginning Ramsey Creek Woodworks with his childhood friend Lynn Hostetler. They built a thriving, successful business for 35 years, until he retired earlier this summer.

In 2006 Bill married Kristie Berger and moved to Amana where he became involved in the Amana Colonies Land Use District and became a member of the Amana Church. Faith played a very important role in Bill's life, and led him to volunteer for Hurricane Katrina recovery, take on the role of Amana cemetery sexton, and serve the church in many other capacities.

In his free time he enjoyed rooting for the Iowa Hawkeyes, St. Louis Cardinals, and Green Bay Packers, sitting on the back porch with neighbors and friends, and becoming a connoisseur of all kinds of ice cream. Bill loved jokes, the cornier the better, and was a great person to play pranks on. Bill will be remembered as a committed and loyal friend, a creative designer and woodworker, and a fun and lovable Opa.

The past year has held several health challenges for Bill, which he slowly and steadily worked through. Bill died Monday, August 18, 2025 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, from complications caused by his bone marrow cancer, at the age of 69 years.

He is survived by his wife Kristie; his children, Adam Yoder (Cassie Niemeyer) Sam Cutler (Caroline Blumberg), Kelsey Yoder, Ellie Gilkey (Kelvin Gilkey), and Hannah Cutler (Steven ten Bensel); granddaughters who brought him extraordinary joy and made him a loving Opa; Nola and Kora Gilkey and Imani Yoder; and his siblings, John C. Yoder, Kathleen Quinn, Dale Richard "Dick" Yoder-Short, Franklyn Yoder, Jim Yoder, George Yoder and David Yoder. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial fund has been established for the Amana Church Youth Ministries and the Amana Church Arts Guild. Messages may be left at www.powellfuneralhomes.com

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

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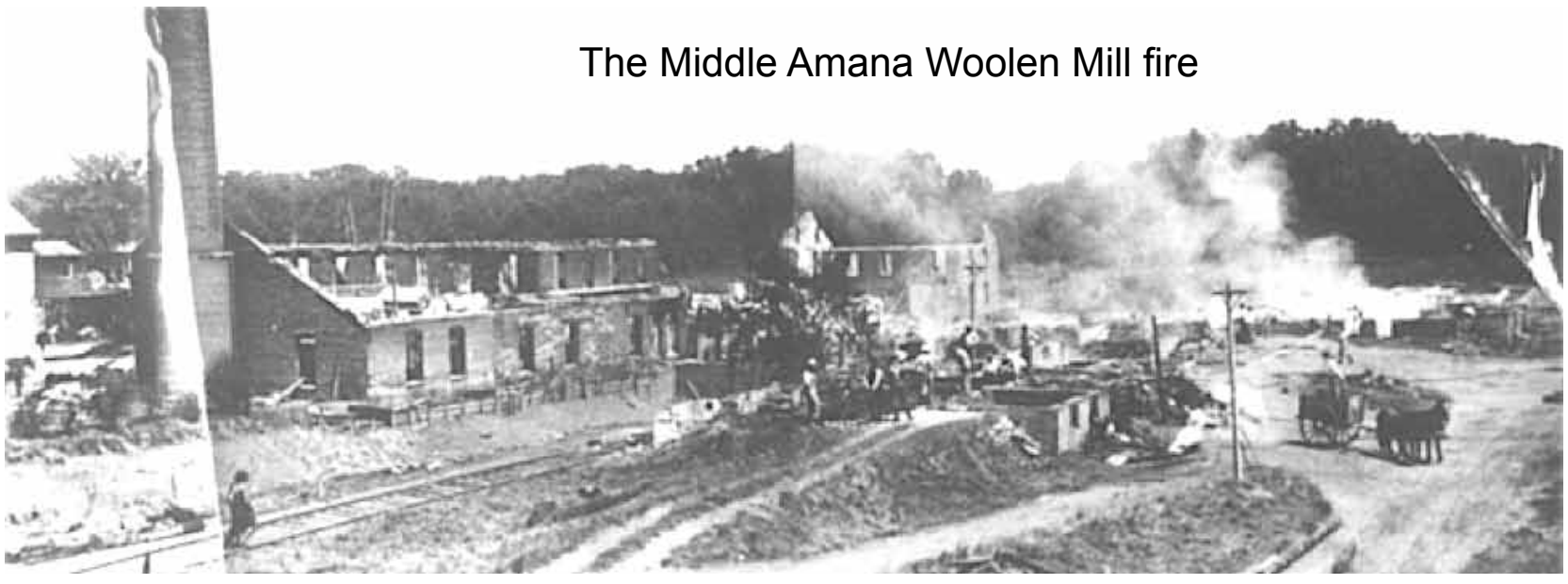
The Middle Amana Woolen Mill fire