Amana Society Bulletin

Vol. XCIV | Amana, Iowa, Thursday, December 04, 2025 | No. 40

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, December 07, 2025 starting 8:30 A.M. with Br. Jon Childers presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Dein Jesus kommt und will sich ausgebären" No.126 vs 1-3, 15, 17 Seite117

Testimony: Christian Metz, Marienborn, December 13. 1833

Scripture: Matthew 3:1-12
Psalm 24

Closing Hymn: "Macht hoch die Thür', die Thor' macht weit" No. 651 vs 1, 2, 4, 5 Seite 649

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

Opening Hymn: "The People That in Darkness Sat" No. 182

Closing Hymn: "God Himself is Present" No. 99

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/*

COOKIE WALK BAKERS:

Thank you to all who provide cookies/candies for the Cookie Walk. This is just a reminder to drop off your cookies anytime Friday afternoon and evening, December 5th, or by 9:00 am on Saturday, December 6th. Cookies can be dropped off on the kitchen side of the Amana church. If you want your containers back, please mark them with your name and we will collect them for you. We appreciate all that you do to support our Youth Ministries!

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE DEC 18

The Amana Community Library will host an ImpactLife Blood Drive on Thursday, December 18 from 1:30 to 6:00. The Drive will be held in the donor bus in the Amana Elementary Parking Lot, 3023 220th Trail, Middle Amana. Please help us qualify for a special grant with 20 donations.

Potential donors must be at least 17, weigh more than 110 pounds, and possess a photo ID to donate. Please eat and hydrate before donating. Walk-ins are accepted. Appointments are preferred. Whole Blood and Double Red Cell will be available to donate. To sign up, please call the Amana Library 319-622-3192 or email amanalibrary@ccaschools.org to schedule a time.

ImpactLife now uses the OrSense non-invasive hemoglobin reader, making your pre-donation check quicker, cleaner, and completely pain-free!

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Snowfall on Thanksgiving Saturday

Perhaps nothing jolted our sense of "winter is here" as the chilly arrival of a sizeable snowstorm Saturday, Nov. 29, during the height of a busy Thanksgiving weekend.

Eleven inches of snow was reported in the Amana Colonies with snowfalls varying slightly north to south. The snowfall and wind forced the cancellation of the first Saturday of the Tannenbaum Forest and many Thanksgiving family plans had to be rearranged or curtailed.

No one can remember Amana ever having to close Tannenbaum Forest the first weekend though last year, mid-December we missed a Saturday due to ice.

Asking what folks did on Saturday and Sunday with so many stores and events closed / postponed, cookie baking, house cleaning, interior Christmas decorating, playing card and board games and watching classic Christmas movies topped the list but of course everyone was shoveling snow.

Tannenbaum Forest is Bursting with Light and Good Cheer

Over 80 Christmas trees are in our Tannenbaum Forest at the Festhalle and each is prettier than the next in what has to be the biggest and most colorful display ever!

The forest is open Friday noon till 8 p.m.; Saturday 10 – 8 p.m. and Sunday 11 till 5 p.m. Santa will be at the Forest on Saturday 11 till 4 p.m. Yes, St. Nick's Café is open with warming beverages and tasty snacks.

Very Merry Prelude this Weekend

It's here, our favorite holiday event, Prelude to Christmas, weekend two with all sorts of things to enjoy. Bring your friends!

TKM's "Fruitcakes!" an original comedy by Jonesy McElroy premiers Dec 5 – 7 with shows at 7:30 Friday and Saturday; a matinee at 3 p.m. Sunday. Call 319-899-3799 for tickets. This show continues Dec. 12 – 14 so if you can't book your tickets this weekend, definitely reserve seats for next weekend.

We have heard terrific things about this show – "hysterically funny, " "a hoot". "audiences are going to love it!" were comments we've heard from those in the know. At the Amana Performing Arts Center. Sponsored by Compass Memorial Healthcare.

Check out small town shopping at our local merchants. All of them, including our antique merchants, have fun items just for this time of year and specials/ sales or demonstrations happening the next couple of weekends. Shop local and help support our community.

The Amana Church Christmas Bazaar opens Friday at noon with homemade yeast breads, candies, jams, jellies, salsas, handmade wood and needle crafts, dried flowers, folk art, gifts, holiday ornaments and a select number of vintage Christmas things. Open noon – 5 p.m. at the Amana Church Amana, west side entrance. The Bazaar is open Saturday 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. too.

The Amana Church Cookie Walk is Saturday at 10 a.m. Come to the bazaar at 9 a.m. for your reservation ticket. Doors to the Christmas cookie room open at 10 a.m. The last few years we have had plenty of cookies, so yes, there are cookies for you to buy! Both events at the church support the Amana Church Summer Vacation Bible camp, youth groups and Sunday School. All are open to all kids.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in communal Amana? Have Christmas dinner at the Ruedy Kitchen in Middle Amana Friday, Dec. 5 at 5:30 p.m. Call right now for tickets 319-622-3567. Enjoy a traditional communal holiday meal! With the Amana Heritage Society.

Nutcracker scavenger hunt at Ackerman Winery all weekend; plus don't forget the German Pickle Hunt! Search for the German pickle ornament at participating local merchants and enter to win an Amana Colonies Gift certificate. Pick up your pickle hunt ticket and info at the Amana Visitor Center.

Brau Haus, live entertainment Friday evening with Two-Bit Maniac, 6 – 9 p.m.

Stop by the Amana Art Guild's new gallery this weekend! They'll be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday so that you can shop and see their new space - right across the street from the Visitor Center in Amana.

Don't forget this weekend is the Amana Arts Guild Christmas Haus Walk – visit four historic Amana homes. Tickets are good for both Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are $20. Children 10 and under are free. Buy them online at the amanaartsguild.com or at any of the homes on the walk or the Amana Arts Guild Gallery. Saturday Dec. 6 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7 noon till 4 p.m.

- Stop by the West Amana Blacksmith shop for a blacksmithing demo and the Amana Arts Guild Folks Life Center in High Amana for a pop-up traditional Amana Colony craft show featuring several tradition folk crafts Amana is known for. Homes on the walk:
- The McCarty Home, 2605 J. St., Middle Amana.
- The Myers Home / Former South Amana Bakery, 23 220th Trail, Upper South Amana.
- The Roads Home, 4424 V. Street, Homestead.
- Brost- Ward Home, 705 E Street, West Amana.

Saturday evening Millstream Brewing Co. has Justin Goodchild for a cozy evening of holiday brews and good tunes. Music starts at 6 p.m.

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Lakeview Village

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- Housekeeping Services
- Wellness checks – Medication management
- Activities

Units Available

Call Tanya Powell for a tour 622-3131

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Amana Church December Events

Everyone is Welcome.

Sunday School Christmas Program "The Colors of Christmas"
Sunday, Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Program
Carols and Praise Music. In celebration of Christmas!
At the Amana Church in Amana.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Wednesay Dec. 24 at 8 p.m. at the Middle Amana Church in Middle Amana
An informal, come as you are, carol service by candlelight.

Christmas Morning Worship
Thursday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. at the Amana Church in Amana
Welcome our Lord with prayers, praise and song with the Amana Church Choir.

AMANA COLONIES LAND USE DISTRICT (ACLUD)
Notice of Board of Trustees Meeting and Tentative Agenda, December 8, 2025 - 7 p.m. ACLUD office 4304 220th Trail AmanaAnd via ZOOM link

I. Call Meeting to Order
II. Set Agenda
III. Review/Approve November 10, 2025 Regular meeting minutes.
IV. Welcome visitors and allow citizens to speak on items that are not on the agenda
V. Discussion/Action on the following permit applications in a Historic Preservation Zoning District:
a. 2025-075 Amana Millwright LLC /794 48th Ave. (Warped & Woven)/ HP-I/ Replace front double wooden door with new commercial aluminum clad doors.
b. 2025-078 Jack Hoehnle /733 47th Ave./ HP-R/ Replace rotten portions of window frames and doors with all aluminum trim in white. Install new 6" aluminum round gutters in white and 4" downspouts. Replace soffits and fascia with aluminum white.
c. 2025-077 Jeff Yates /505 45th Ave. /HP-R/ Replace 1 window on front of home that matches the current 33X40 window.
d. 2025-006 Aaron & Shana Schaefer /5204 C St East Amana/HP-R/ Replace existing wood lamp post with new high density polymer post on front (north) side of property. Existing lanterns will be reused. Install 2 new high density polymer posts and new brass lanterns on either side of the walkway at south entrance of property between house and garage. Lamps and post ordered through Amana Service company. THIS IS FOR HP GRANT CHECK APPROVAL.
VI. Other Business.
a. Discussion/Action: Scheduled ordinance review
b. Discussion/Action: Review and vote on lighting ordinance regarding business hours
c. Discussion/Action: Review updated design guideline document
d. Discussion/Action: Review ACCVB Hotel/Motel Agreement
e. Discussion/Action: Paul Bruhn update
VII. Review/Approve December Disbursements Report.
VIII. Review/Approve the December Treasurer's Report.
IX. President's Report (if applicable).
X. Administrator's Report.
XI. Adjourn.

AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP

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

AMANA HERITAGE SOCIETY TO HOST PROGRAM FOR NEW BOOK ON COMMUNAL-ERA MARRIAGE

The Amana Heritage Society is pleased to welcome local historian R.C. Eichacker for a rescheduled special program on Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at the Amana Heritage Museum (705-44th Ave. Amana). Eichacker will share insights from his new book, Marriage by Committee, exploring the fascinating traditions and communal practices surrounding marriage during Amana's communal era from 1855-1932. The evening will include a brief presentation, audience Q&A, and a book signing. Copies of Marriage by Committee will be available for purchase at the event—perfect for holiday gift-giving. All are welcome. For more information, please contact the Amana Heritage Society at 319.622.3567 or amanaheritage@southslope.net.

Amana Community Library

Stuff the Stocking Fundraiser

The Amana Community Library is proud to offer our patrons a wide range of services — from quality reading materials and computer access to educational programs and community events. Your generous donations help us maintain and grow these services.
This year, we hope to expand our programs, events, and summer reading opportunities. Your support makes a real difference! With your donations, we're able to maintain our services and expand programs that benefit the entire community.

Thank you For Your Continued Support of the Amana Community Library!

Library Hours:
Monday: 9am-3pm
Tuesday: 9am-6pm
Wednesday: 9am-Noon
Thursday: 9am-6pm
Friday: 9am-6pm
Saturday: 9am-Noon

***Contact Information**: Rhonda Hegewald – Library Director*
amanalibrary@ccaschools.org
319-622-3192
website:
https://amana.ccaschools.org/parents-and-students/amana-community-library
Like & Follow us on Facebook: Amana Community Library
You may also use this link or scan the QR code to donate online.
https://ia-clearcreekamana-lite.intouchreceipting.com/Stuffthestocking

Please fill out the bottom portion of this form and use the enclosed envelope to return your donation.

Happy Holidays!

Sponsored by: CLEAR CREEK AMANA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Name:_____
Address:_____
Amount for your tax-deductible contribution:_____

Please make checks payable to: Amana Community Library and return in the enclosed envelope.
Our Address: Amana Community Library, 3023 220th Trail, Amana, IA 52203

OBITUARY

Rosemary Burns, 76, of Middle Amana, Iowa, died Thursday, November 13th, 2025, at Colonial Manor.

No memorial service is planned in Iowa, but a Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date in Kenosha, Wisconsin, with her family. Details will be provided to family and friends once finalized.

Rosemary was born April 29, 1949, in Kenosha, WI to James and Margaret Matrise. She attended Tremper High School. She married Donald Terpstra and had two sons. As a homemaker, she was a dedicated mother. After her divorce, she married Victor Burns, who preceded her in death.

She had been a resident of Colonial Manor, Middle Amana, for the last 9 years. There she still raised a patio garden each year, volunteered to share her love of cooking by putting on monthly "Cooking with Rosemary" demonstrations, participated in the Maifest/Octoberfest parades, and socialized with her friends. Most anybody will tell you that she also loved art and coloring pictures, which she shared with anyone to brighten their days. Her greatest joy was spending time with her sons and grandchildren.

Survivors include her sons: Todd Matrise of West Amana and James Terpstra of Cedar Rapids; siblings: Mike Matrise (Lynn) of Brookfield, WI and Elizabeth Matrise of Kenosha, WI; 7 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and siblings Antoinette, John, James Jr., and Thomas.

The Amana Church Prelude to Christmas

Bazaar

Handcrafts - Baked Goods
Jams - Jellies - Preserves
Christmas Decor - Gifts
Fri. Dec. 5 - Sat. Dec. 6
Christmas Bazaar is open Noon - 5 on Friday
9 - 3 on Saturday

Cookie Walk

Homemade Cookies
Candies - Bars - 1000s to choose from
Purchase a box and fill with goodness!
Sat. Dec. 6

You may pick up a Cookie Walk reservation beginning at 9 at the Christmas Bazaar.
Cookie Walk begins at 10 and ends when all the cookies are gone.

AMANA CHURCH
in AMANA 622 45th Ave.
1/2 blk west of the Tannenbaum Forest

Proceeds benefit the Amana Church Youth Ministry - Summer Bible Camp

SANDERSFELT FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Monday, December 22nd
6:30 pm
Amana Performing Arts Center
39 38th Ave, Amana, 52203
Freewill Donation

FOOD DRIVE COLLECTION AT COLONIAL MANOR

Colonial Manor Nursing Home is collecting Non perishable food donated to those who are in need this holiday season. We will be collecting in November, December and January at our facility. Questions/concerns Contact Joey. at 319-622-3131.

WANT TO BUY

-Reloading Equipment
-Presses and Dies
-Large and Small Estates
-Bullets and Brass
-Shooting Sports Items
-Supplies and Ammo
-Muzzleloaders and Firearms: Vintage & Modern
Will also do Appraisals & Consignment Sales
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jvanzante@southslope.net