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## *Up-to-Date at Applewood Newsletter (April 2018)*

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### *Introduction*

Welcome to *Up-to-Date at Applewood*, a monthly newsletter that will showcase stories, ministry updates, and how God is working in the lives of those at Applewood Community Church! The *Up-to-Date at Applewood Newsletter* is an opportunity to...

1. Share a praise or answered prayer
2. Communicate volunteer needs in the church for ministries and church based events
3. Learn of opportunities to volunteer for an upcoming church event
4. Advertise about an AWCC based event\*
5. Spotlight mission trip or volunteer stories
6. Highlight ministries in the church (i.e. men's, women's, children's, music, etc.)

\*Local non-AWCC events that congregants want to share and support can be posted to the AWCC facebook page. If you are not on facebook and have an announcement that fits in this category, please see Jennifer or Laura.

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## How it Will Work

### Communicate

Email, call or write a handwritten note to Laura Brant and Jennifer Melby about a story or topic you would like to submit for the newsletter.

### Submit

The deadline for submitting material for the newsletter to Laura or Jennifer will be the 10th of each month. Please submit material to us via email as that will make it easy to compile everything for the newsletter.

### Distribution

We will send out the *Up-to-Date at Applewood Newsletter* via email and the AWCC website around the 15th of each month\*\*.

\*\*If you would like to receive a hard copy, please see Laura or Jennifer.

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## Ministry Highlights

We had the pleasure of hearing about the ongoing ministries of Sue Miller on the Greeting Team and Matt Granitto on the Prayerline.



### Warm Welcome

Every Sunday at AWCC we are welcomed as we enter church by members of our “Greeting Team.” These are friendly people who enjoy connecting with each person who comes through the doors on Sunday (even those who are late). The greeters take turns serving about once every eight weeks. As a church body we believe each individual arriving on Sunday has received an invitation from God to come and worship. If you would enjoy joining the “team”, call Sue Miller 303-232-3904.



### Pray Until Something Happens!

Applewood Community Church friends and family, I am Matt Granitto representing AWCC PrayerLine. Prayer requests and prayer situation updates are forwarded to me by email, phone calls, written notes or in person. These heartfelt requests and updates are written up and sent out to all members of the PrayerLine mailing list - most of whom are AWCC family and friends - as a PUSH memo. PUSH stands for “Pray Until Something Happens”. Special care is taken regarding confidentiality and sensitivity. The PrayerLine is not connected to AWCC’s website. Email is only sent to the list member’s address of choice. List members can unsubscribe at anytime. The mailing list will NOT be given to any outside party.

Matt's heart is guided by the following verses.

"Even those I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; for My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples." Isaiah 56:7

"Is anyone among you suffering? Then he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises. Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." James 5:13-16

"But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction, and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass. Brethren, pray for us." 1 Thessalonians 5:12-25

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## *Out and About*

### **Cambodia Memories: Guy McCaslin**

Almost six weeks after returning home from Cambodia, I still find myself smiling at the memories. What a blessing it was to go and be a part of what God is doing in His Kingdom there! I think often of my eight Cambodian brothers, wondering how they are doing and praying for them as they serve their congregations. The joy of presenting each one with a 7"



Amazon Fire Tablet, complete with a leather cover, is absolutely one of my favorite memories. Comments like “this is the nicest gift I have ever received” and “I never thought I would own something like this” brought tears to my eyes, and still do!



Then, of course, there was the arrival at the girl’s dorm, near the big regional high school, with a giant suitcase filled (just under 50 lbs) with all kinds of hygiene and beauty products for 18 girls, ages 14-18. Their smiles and laughter were gifts to me along with the adorable, shy way in which they wanted

to practice their English. Again, I smile thinking about it!

Once again, AWCC Family, I hope you know how grateful I am that you blessed me with the time to go and financial support that allowed me to take all the gifts on behalf of AWCC. I am ready to go again! How about you? Want to join me in helping to advance the Kingdom of God in Cambodia? Let’s do it together!

### **Ecuador Mission: Chad & Sarah Lynch, and Sharon Joplin**

Sharon Joplin and Chad and Sarah Lynch were able to spend Holy Week in Ecuador, leading a mission trip with another teacher and 18 students from Faith Christian High School. The team did some light construction projects and a lot of relationship-building with the community of Pacoche. They participated in a foot-washing with the youth as well as a purity ceremony, helped 120



kids learn about God during Kids' Club time, shared a devotional and craft with the ladies, played (and lost – no surprise!) in the annual USA v. Ecuador soccer match, and enjoyed time worshiping and sharing God's love. The team got to see God at work in different ways and learn that He cares about people all over the world and is active in their lives. We are all called to go to all the nations and make disciples, and making disciples takes time and relationship. Our team is grateful for the opportunity to learn about discipleship and invest in the lives of our Ecuadorian friends.

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## *Looking Forward*

### **VBS Is Coming!**

AWCC is gearing up for its third annual VBS! Vacation Bible School is a great way to minister to the children in our church as well as reach out to the children in our community. Two years ago we averaged 32 kids a day, and that number grew to 45 last year.



This year we are going to launch into God's Galaxy to learn about who God is and who He has made us to be. Our world will try to push an identity on our kids that is anything but who God made them to be, and we want to help them dig deep into their God-given identity for life. **VBS will run June 11-15<sup>th</sup> from 9-11:30 each morning.** The cost is only \$10 per child, and you can find more information and register at [awcclive.org/vbs](http://awcclive.org/vbs).

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## *Volunteers Wanted!*



### **Vacation Bible School 2018**

It takes a team to make VBS happen. If you are able and willing to help out, there are a variety of positions available, from helping prepare decorations to leading groups, crafts, games, preparing snacks, providing childcare for our volunteers' younger children, running the sign-in and sign-out table, etc. Please see the sign-up sheet in the church lobby for more details or contact Sarah Lynch if interested.

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## Noteworthy



### **New Neighborhood Outreach**

The Little Food Pantry is complete. The plan is to stock it with nonperishable food items that are contributed by members of our congregation. Please limit your donations to an item or two at a time so everyone will be able to participate, especially the children. Also, we don't have any place to store the excess. If the shelves are full the donors will have to save their item for another time.



### **New Benevolence Guidelines**

If you are approached at church by someone in need or by someone making a request for monetary help for their physical need, here are some proposed guidelines:

1. No cash will be available on the premises.
2. Bags of necessities will be offered to those asking for help.
3. Directions to public restrooms in the area will be provided.
4. The individual will not be allowed past the foyer area unless 2 or more people are in the building and aware of his/her presence.
5. Resource materials will be provided listing shelters, food banks, and other assistance available in Jefferson County. The Action Center and Mean Street Ministries will be recommended and contact information given.
6. King Soopers gift cards in the amount of \$20 will be offered at the discretion of church staff (can be used for food, gas and bus tickets). Recipients will be allowed two gift cards per calendar year.
7. Records will be kept including date of interaction, description of what was given and the recipient's name and signature (acknowledging guidelines and receipt of gift cards).