



February 2026

THE APPLE PRESS

Living the Faith We Profess: Why Active Christianity Still Matters

In every generation, the church faces the same quiet danger: a faith that is *confessed* but not *lived*. Scripture consistently warns that belief in Christ is never meant to be merely intellectual or private. Biblical Christianity is a lived reality—a transformed life visibly shaped by the saving work of Jesus Christ. In an age marked by moral confusion, spiritual apathy, and pressure to compartmentalize faith, the call for Christian men to **actively live out their faith** has never been more urgent.

The apostle Paul makes the matter plain: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17). Salvation by grace alone through faith alone (Ephesians 2:8–9) does not leave a man unchanged. Rather, grace produces transformation. We are not saved *by* good works, but we are certainly saved *for* them (Ephesians 2:10). The Christian life is not about moral self-improvement; it is about a heart made new, resulting in new desires, priorities, and actions.

Transformation Is the Evidence of Saving Faith

Scripture never presents salvation and transformation as separate paths. Romans 12:1–2 calls believers to be living sacrifices, refusing conformity to the world and embracing renewal of the mind. Galatians 2:20 reminds us that the Christian life is no longer self-directed but Christ-centered: “It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.”

For men especially, this truth cuts through cultural distortions of masculinity that celebrate passivity or domination. Biblical manhood is neither apathetic nor authoritarian. It is sacrificial, disciplined, and Christlike. A transformed man leads differently—at home, at work, in church, and in the world.

Abiding, Not Performing

Active faith does not mean frantic religious activity. Jesus Himself tells us, “Apart from Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). Fruitfulness flows from abiding—ongoing, dependent fellowship with Christ through Scripture, prayer, obedience, and trust. Psalm 1 describes the blessed man as one rooted deeply in God’s Word, producing fruit in season.

When men neglect this abiding relationship, faith becomes shallow and inconsistent. When they pursue it, spiritual depth and endurance follow. Active Christianity is not about earning God’s favor but living in daily dependence upon His grace.

Faith That Shapes the Home

The New Testament places unmistakable weight on a man’s influence within his family. Husbands are commanded to love their wives “as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her” (Ephesians 5:25). Fathers are charged to bring their children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). Deuteronomy 6 presents faith as something taught intentionally, modeled consistently, and woven into everyday life.

A man who actively lives his faith understands that leadership begins with humility and service. His witness is not loud but steady. His authority is not coercive but sacrificial. Over time, this kind of faith leaves a spiritual legacy that outlives him.

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Faith at Work and in the World

Scripture does not permit a division between “church life” and “real life.” Colossians 3:23 commands believers to work heartily, as for the Lord. Integrity, honesty, diligence, and faithfulness are not optional virtues—they are acts of worship. In a watching world, a distinctly Christian life opens doors for gospel conversations that words alone cannot.

Jesus tells His followers to let their light shine before others (Matthew 5:16). This does not mean isolation from the world, nor does it mean blending in unnoticed. It means living with visible conviction, grounded in truth and marked by grace.

Brotherhood, Obedience, and Perseverance

No man was meant to live the Christian life alone. Hebrews 10:24 calls believers to stir one another up toward love and good works. The local church is not a consumer experience but a covenant community where men sharpen one another, confess sin, encourage faithfulness, and stand together.

Obedience, rightly understood, is not legalism—it is trust. Scripture promises blessing not as worldly success, but as peace, endurance, and spiritual fruit (Psalm 112:1). And the Christian life is not a sprint. Paul’s testimony at the end of his life—“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race” (2 Timothy 4:7)—calls every man to finish well.

An Invitation to Live What We Believe

It is with this biblical vision in mind that **Appleton Christian Church** invites men to participate in a new **10-part men’s ministry series** through *His Project*. Meeting **the first Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m.**, beginning with **breakfast and fellowship**, these sessions are designed to equip men to live out their faith with clarity, conviction, and grace.

Each lesson addresses a vital area of Christian life—from personal transformation and abiding in Christ, to marriage, fatherhood, work, evangelism, and finishing well. The series emphasizes grace over moralism, dependence over performance, and faithfulness over outward success. Every session includes Scripture-centered teaching, guided discussion, personal reflection, and practical evangelism assignments appropriate for men at every stage of life.

This is not about becoming better men by human standards. It is about becoming faithful men—men who live what they profess, love whom Christ loves, and stand firm in a changing world.

If you are ready to move beyond passive belief into active, biblical faith, **His Project** is for you. Come hungry—for breakfast, for fellowship, and for the Word of God—and join us as we pursue lives that truly reflect Christ.

“Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.” — Psalm 112:1

I love you all,

Dan



FEBRUARY 2026

- 1- Mission Team Meeting, 12:00 noon
- 3- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 5- Clothed in His Love, 6:00 PM
- 6- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 7- Men's Group, "His Project", 8:00 AM, breakfast/Bible Study
- 8- Deacon Meeting, 12:00 noon
- 10- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 13- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 13- Kids Event, Glow ball!
- 14- Valentine's Day
- 14- Meal Prep, 10-11:30 AM, (sign up by February 8)
- 17- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 20- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 21- Clothed in His Love, 9:00 AM -3:00 PM
- 22- Crock Pot Chili Cook, after second service, contact Yvette
- 24- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 27- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM

WEEKLY

- **Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Worship Service**
- **Adult Sunday School, 9:30 AM**
- **Youth Sunday School, 10:30 AM**
- **Tuesday, 6:30 PM, Family Night Bible Studies, Meal 6:00 PM**
- **Friday, 6:30 PM, Celebrate Recovery**

MARCH 2026

- 1- Mission Team, 12:00 noon
- 3- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 5- Clothed in His Love, 6:00 PM
- 6- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 7- Men's Group, "His Project", 8:00 AM, breakfast/Bible Study
- 8- Deacon Meeting, 12:15 PM
- 10- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 13- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 14- Meal Prep, 10-11:30 AM, (sign up by March 8)
- 17- Parent's Workshop
- 17- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 20- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 21- Clothed in His Love, 9:00 AM -3:00 PM
- 24- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM
- 27- Celebrate Recovery, 6:30 PM
- 31- Men's, Women's, Children's Bible study, 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM

Office hours are: 9:00 AM—2:00 PM, M-Th.

For more information on any event, go to our website and click on the calendar. Then click on the event to get more information.

<http://www.appletonchristian.org/calendar>

Celebrate Recovery



A Note on Celebrate Recovery

As the initial excitement of the new year begins to fade, many people find that their resolutions start to slip away. Research suggests that a significant majority of individuals abandon their goals by early February, often feeling discouraged when the initial momentum stalls. Celebrate Recovery offers a different approach by providing a consistent fellowship of believers dedicated to personal growth and spiritual strengthening. While we certainly support those navigating any kind of addiction, two-thirds of our participants attend to find help with everyday struggles like anxiety, codependency, anger, work stressors, depression, food and the weight of perfectionism.

The heart of this ministry is based on the Beatitudes delivered by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, which connect us to God's nature, our redemption, and the transformative work that the Holy Spirit has on us. In Grand Junction, there are opportunities to connect five days a week, with Appleton Christian hosting an open share session every Friday night from 6:30 to 7:30. There is no requirement to commit to a group long term, as our doors are open to anyone, even those who simply had a difficult week and need a safe place to talk. Whether you are facing a temporary setback or a lifelong habit, this community is designed for any adult looking to find freedom and peace.

"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed."

-James 5:16

During World War II, Winston Churchill once made a simple observation about American troops that has stuck with me. Speaking about America's resolve, he said that to understand the spirit behind the war effort, all you had to do was "look into the faces of any American" soldier.

That's a powerful thought—because sometimes courage shows up before a man ever says a word.

If you want a real-life example of that kind of grit, look at the 77th Infantry Division.

The 77th wasn't built on hype. They were built for hard assignments. They fought in some of the most difficult battles of the Pacific—Guam, Leyte, and Okinawa—places where victory didn't come quickly and survival wasn't guaranteed. This wasn't "easy war." It was caves, jungle, exhaustion, fear, and brutal fighting where every step forward had to be earned.

And the 77th kept stepping forward.

One reason their story stands out is because the division had a reputation for being made up of men who were a little more seasoned. Not necessarily the young faces people expected when they pictured infantry soldiers. These were men with life behind them—men who had learned endurance, steadiness, and resilience. They even picked up a nickname because of it: the "Old B**tards." Not exactly polite—but it wasn't said lightly either. It was a rough way of saying, "Those men are tough. They don't quit."

And here's what matters: they weren't in the back. They were in the fight. They were doing the hard work. Advancing. Taking ground. Getting it done.

This connects right into one of our church values: the older teach the younger. That's not just tradition—it's biblical discipleship. Paul gives clear instruction for men in Titus 2: "Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness" (Titus 2:2). And then he speaks directly to the younger men too: "Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled" (Titus 2:6).

That's a simple picture of the church functioning like a family: older men setting the pace with steady faith, and younger men rising to the call of disciplined godliness.

Some believers quietly start thinking, "I've done my part," or "I don't have what I used to," or "That's for the younger people now." But the gospel doesn't come with an expiration date on usefulness. The church needs older men who are still willing to step forward—men whose faith has been tested, whose love has deepened, and whose steadiness helps others stand strong. The younger need your example. They need your prayers. They need your stories. They need your steadiness. They need to look into your face and see a faith that has endured.

So here's the call to action. If you are an older man in the church, take this personally: step into Titus 2:2 on purpose. Choose one younger man to encourage this month. Invite him to coffee. Ask him how he's doing spiritually. Pray with him, not just for him. Help him become a man who is sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. If you are a younger man, take Titus 2:6 seriously: lean into self-control. Ask an older man to speak into your life. Be teachable. Be consistent. Build habits now that will hold you up later.

Let's be the kind of church where every generation is still in the fight together—where seasoned saints are active, visible, and engaged, and where faith is passed on with courage and love. Because sometimes the greatest strength in the room isn't the newest energy...it's the faith that has endured.

Alan



Clothed in His Love Ministry at ACC

WE ARE BACK IN BUSINESS FOR 2026!!
Workshops in the Worship Center in February:

CUTTING Workshop

Thursday, February 5th – 6pm to 8pm

and

SEWING/CUTTING Workshop

Saturday, February 21st – 9am to 3pm

Bring a lunch if you wish to stay all day

All our activities are held in the Worship Center. We would love for you to join us.

We have expanded the ministry beyond the **Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes**, for which we sew jumpers, skirts, pants and shorts for children, size 2 to 14. We are adding bibs, fleece hats, and newborn – size 1 outfits for **The Pregnancy Center of Grand Junction!**

Please contact Connie ahead of time to let us know that you are planning on attending either or both workshops. **We will teach you to do the cutting** if you'd like to participate but have never done this kind of work before.

We are also offering **beginning sewing lessons** for those interested in learning how to sew while working on simple items for the ministry. Contact Connie or Elizabeth to discuss this.

Finally, we are always happy to take donations of onesies (for NB thru 1 year) and children's t-shirts (2 year to 14 year). They must be solid colored shirts (no characters, logos, etc). If you'd like to donate monetarily to the ministry, we will use the money to buy more fabric and t-shirts, as needed. Please give the money to ACC, with a memo that it is for "CiHL".

Come join us, we'd love to have you, and please pray for God's purpose and will for this ministry. It is all to His GLORY!!!

Connie Fudge (fudgeconnie@gmail.com) – (208) 755-2873

Elizabeth Kovarovics (ermcbroom@gmail.com) – (970) 361-6778

Donna Jean Ganss (donnaganss@yahoo.com) – (970) 640-8396

MISSIONS THAT APPLETON CHRISTIAN SUPPORTS

The Pregnancy Center
 Memduh & Suna Uysal (Internet Evangelism to Turkish speaking people)
 Assisting Christian Individuals, Int. - Nancy Hagerman
 Mesa County Jail Ministry - bibles
 Camp Christian
 WCCCM (Western Colorado Christian Campus Ministries)
 Christ Chapel
 Wycliffe - Jennifer Harper
 One for Israel



Guide to Operation Christmas Child Year-Round Shoebox Shopping, Packing, and Tips

Sawvy shoebox packers know that it's never too early to start shopping, packing, and fundraising for shoebox gifts. Use this guide to pack quality shoeboxes that are **FUN, FULL**, and **PERSONALIZED** so that each is unique and prayed over. By preparing shoebox gifts all year long, you can send the Good News of Jesus Christ and the great joy of receiving an Operation Christmas Child shoebox to more boys and girls around the world!

YEAR-ROUND SHOPPING

January



Hats, Gloves, and Scarves

February



Fashion Accessories

March



"Wow" Items

April



Stuffed Animals

May



Personal Care Items

June



Toys

July



Clothing

August



School Supplies

September



Games

October



Letter and Photo

November



\$10 Donation Per Shoebox

December



Prayer

"Hey Appleton Family!"

I want to touch base with you on the kids and youth ministry for this coming season! We gave an update at the annual meeting about our growth this past year, so if you missed it, here ya go! Most importantly, we've seen a ton of spiritual growth in our students, diving deeper into understanding and appreciating how the Bible and their faith affects their lives. This is very much due to by our volunteers' dedication to the process of discipleship. I'm so grateful for them, pouring into our students, and I love watching them grow in their personal faith walks and leadership in ministry, too. Here are the numbers, too, if you're interested!

Total Regular Attendance Ages 0-18: 36

Nursery: 9

Elementary: 9

Middle School: 14

High School: 4

Total Volunteers in 2025: 27

There's some overlap.

Events: 16

Weekly: 20

Coming up, we have lots going on for our students, especially with Camp Christian! Please check out our spring calendar below, and let me know if you have any questions! Love y'all!

Heather

Join us for Tuesday night Bible Studies at 6:30 PM.

There is a light meal at 6:00 PM if you are interested.

Classes for men, women, and children.



Contact Alan or Kari Dyson for adult studies

Heather DeBolt for children's activities.

Next Meal Prep February 14 (sign up by February 8)

- 1) Creamy Italian Chicken
- 2) Mediterranean Pork Chops
- 3) Italian Mozzarella Meatloaf
- 4) Pork Chili Verde
- 5) Lemon Garlic Chicken Thighs
- 6) Brunswick Stew

Cost for a set of 6 meals:

2 servings of 6 meals - \$40
4 servings of 6 meals - \$80
6 servings of 6 meals - \$120



Contact Heidi, 970-250-0588 for questions.

upcoming events

★ ACCKY SPRING 2026

TALK TO HEATHER FOR MORE INFO!

Jan 25th ANNUAL MEET.- PRAYER EVENT

Feb 13th KIDSEVENT-GLOW BALL!

Mar 17th PARENTS WORKSHOP

Apr 5th EASTER- SCAVENGER HUNT!

Apr 18th ROOTED: CAMP FUNDRAISER

May 2nd CAMP CHRISTIAN WORKDAY

June CAMP SEASON BEGINS!

• 8-11 HIGH SCHOOL (9TH-12TH)

• 15-18 MIDDLE SCHOOL (6TH-8TH)

• 22-25 JUNIOR (3RD-5TH)

CROCK POT CHILI COOK

Bring a batch of your homemade chili to enter

Date: February 22, 2026

Time: Following second service

Place: ACC Worship Center

Text Yvette at (970) 200-0977 to enter.

Hosted by Sassy Sisters and Bothersome Brothers

FEBRUARY

SUN Feb 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7
Service 8:00AM Service, 10:30 AM 12pm Missions Team Meeting	9:30am Staff meeting	6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group		6pm Clothed in His Love	4:30pm Praise team rehearsal 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	7am Men's group, "His Project"
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Service 8:00AM Service, 10:30 AM 12:15pm Deacon meeting, 12:15 Adrr	9:30am Staff meeting	6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group			Prep day for meal prep 4:30pm Praise team rehearsal 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	Meal Prep, lower bldg, ARK Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Service 8:00AM Service, 10:30 AM	Presidents' Day 9:30am Staff meeting	6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group			4:30pm Praise team rehearsal 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	9am Clothed in His Love
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Chili Cook, after second service Service 8:00AM Service, 10:30 AM	9:30am Staff meeting	6pm Fellowship meal, 6 PM 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group			4:30pm Praise team rehearsal 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Group	

Go to our website and click on calendar. Then click on any event to get more information.



Contact Us:

Senior Minister Dan Baker
pastordan@appletonchristian.org

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson
pastoralan@appletonchristian.org

Music Minister -Levi Willis
levi@appletonchristian.org

Kids & Youth Director
heather@appletonchristian.org

Elders:

Dan Baker 970-822-2717
pastordan@appletonchristian.org

Doug Bybee 970-640-8988
douglasabybee@gmail.com

Alan Dyson 928-580-9856
pastoralan@appletonchristian.org

Tom Fudge 208-755-2836
tfudge55@gmail.com

John Wilson 970-640-6326, Chair
johnwilson@proton.me

3

three

ways to send

Prayer Requests:

Prayer card on Sunday (check the box to be included in the weekly email distribution); OR email
prayers@appletonchristian.org/

OR call

Nancy @970-241-0858 or the church office @970-242-7380

For **shut-in communion**, please call 970-242-7380 during office hours or contact person listed below:



SHUT IN COMMUNION

Bob Labig 970-216-7659

(if you would like to help with this, please contact the office or Bob)

Communion & Offering **Meditation**

First Service February 2026

1-Bob Labig
 8-Alan Dyson
 15-Levi Willis
 22-John Wilson

March 2026

1-Bob Labig
 8-Alan Dyson
 15-Levi Willis
 22-John Wilson
 29-Dan Baker

Second Service February 2026

1-Bob Labig
 8-Alan Dyson
 15-Jenny Nichols
 22-John Wilson

March 2026

1-Bob Labig
 8-Alan Dyson
 15-Jenny Nichols
 22-John Wilson
 29-Dan Baker

SUNDAY GREETERS

First Service February 2026

1-Keith Kump
 8-Judy Devine
 15-Karla/Steve Brown
 22-Connie/Tom Fudge

March 2026

1-Keith Kump
 8-Judy Devine
 15-Linda/Dick Mann
 22-Connie/Tom Fudge
 29-Agnes Ekos

Second Service February 2026

1-Rodney/Linda Updike
 8-Joanne Reitz
 15-Cris Hoche
 22-Connie Martinez

March 2026

1-Yvette Caldwell
 8-Karen Ranville
 15-Kathy/Kelly Messamer
 22-Robin Dague
 29-Jenny Nichols

FEBRUARY 2026

PRAYER FAMILIES & SCHOOLS

- 1- Lucy Clemmer
 Tyler and Kimberly Clemmer
 Independence Academy Charter School
- 8- Debbie Coffing
 Dave Colby
 Juniper Ridge Community School
- 15- Randy and Jean Cook
 Jack and Carla Costello
 Mesa Valley Community School
- 22- Talitha Costello
 Michael and Kami Costello
 Career Center



APPLETON CARE MINISTRY

Occasionally we have needs that come up in the church. If you have a talent or some time that could maybe help someone out, please contact the office.

- Mechanical skills for small car repairs
- Providing meals
- Visiting (home, hospital, nursing facilities)
- Light exercise (walking)
- Calling on the phone or visit
- Grocery shopping
- Running errands
- Light chores around the house
- Driving to appointments



Our purpose is to LOVE on people, let them know we CARE, and to see if there is ANTHING we can do for them.

Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text – right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

1. Go to your device's App Store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
4. Enter the assigned password into the app to begin synching.



You can also access the directory on your computer.

Go to: <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> to create an account using the email address you have listed in the directory. You will receive a confirmation email and once you click on the link, your email address will be validated. You will then need to log in, just as an email account, every time to access the directory. You will be able to view the information, but the phone numbers and email are not hyperlinked as with the smart device app.

Connect with us:

970-242-7380
970-242-3682 fax

Senior Minister Dan Baker
pastordan@appletonchristian.org

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson
pastoralan@appletonchristian.org

Music Minister
levi@appletonchristian.org

To sign up for Applets, Newsletter, or Directory, please send an email with Subscribe to Applets, or Newsletter, or Directory PDF in the Subject line.

office@appletonchristian.org

prayers@appletonchristian.org

To sign up to receive prayer requests, please send an email with
Subscribe in the Subject line.

The Bible affirms the power and importance of prayer and we, as a church, are committed to pray for each other. Let us know your request and we will lift you up in prayer.

appletonexchange@appletonchristian.org.
www.appletonchristian.org

Listen to [sermons](#) online

Click here for [Calendar](#)



The Apple Press
2510 I-70 Frontage Rd
Grand Junction, CO 81505
FEBRUARY 2026

Our Mission
To grow fully devoted followers of
Jesus Christ.
Matthew 28:19-20

8:00 AM, 10:30 AM Worship
9:30 AM Sunday School for adults
10:30 AM Classes for children

A CORE
OF TRUTH
—
WITH A
LOT OF
APPEAL



Unsubscribe: If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact us with your address or email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the Subject line. Thank you.