



Sunday, Feb. 5, 2017



### Rev. Brian Episcopo

Being a prodigal parent:

*So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion... (Luke 15:20)*

Here is the story of the prodigal son. He asks for his dad's entire life savings (his inheritance) before his dad was even dead. (He's basically saying, "Dad, I wish you were dead, you're pretty much dead to me, so at least give me your ENTIRE life's work in money.") His dad could have said no. There was no indication his son was going to invest it in an IRA or build a well in Africa with this money. But dad gives it to him anyway. Talk about enabling! His dad FINANCED his son's rebellion. But to his dad, it was an investment in the hope that his son would at least know his dad loves him. At least this way the son may come back. And it turns out, his dad was right. The son comes home! And when he does, and is "still a long way off," his dad is filled with...COMPASSION??

When you and I look at "sinners" a LONG way off (living far from God), what are we FILLED with? The dad probably couldn't tell if his son was repentant (maybe he just wanted more money) and still he was FILLED with COMPASSION. Wow! Are you prepared to be a prodigal parent to someone who completely betrays you? What are you filled with while they are STILL a LONG way off?

### NOTES

### BAPTISM SUNDAY

Congratulations to these individuals who have chosen to share their faith publicly:

#### 8:00 a.m.

Deanna DeKleyn	Dale Schumerth
Adam Paiser	Jean Van Thiel
Tiffany Huck	Daniel Feucht
	Donna Feucht

#### 9:30 a.m.

Kay Christianson	Richard Bower
Emily Getchius	Andrea Arnett
Nancy Rickhoff	Taylor VandenHeuvel
Kevin Rickhoff	

#### 11:00 a.m.

Jane Gresenz	Jordan McCabe
Chuck Gresenz	Al Reis
Jenni Raash	Amber Ford
Chelsea Raash	Steve Ford Jr.

### WORSHIP ARTS

#### Night of Worship

Sunday, Feb. 12 | 6:00 p.m.  
Worship Center | No cost

The book of Psalms tells us to worship the Lord with gladness and sing with joy. Night of Worship allows us to come together as a body of believers for worship that will refresh your soul.

### GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

#### Global Connections 101 Class

Sunday, Feb. 12 | 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
Global Connections Corner  
No cost or registration

Attend our monthly meetings to address various opportunities to connect with your world through Global Connections. During the Feb. 12 session, we will discuss opportunities with International Students in the Fox Valley. Future meetings will be on March 5, April 9, and June 4.

### ADULTS

#### Rescheduled Connection Reception

Monday, Feb. 6 | 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Hangar 36 | No cost or registration

This event shares how to get involved at AAC through the ministries, small groups and service opportunities. Open to anyone ready for the next step.

#### Things to Come Class

April 17-May 25 | 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Worship Center | No cost  
Register at [aachur.ch/attc4517](http://aachur.ch/attc4517)

*Things to Come: How it All Ends and Begins Again* is a seven session class focusing on the End Times. This weekly class is taught by Dr. Dennis Episcopo.

### XCEL SPORTS

#### Xcel Sports Preview

Today, Feb. 5 | Between services  
Global Connections Corner

The mission of Xcel Sports is to use sports, fitness, and the outdoors to connect people with God and one another. Come meet our new staff, learn about new programs, and explore upcoming activities in sports, fitness, and the outdoors. Stop by the kiosk at the West end of the Hub between services!

## WELCOME We're glad you're here!

Stop by the Welcome Center in the Hub. We have a gift for you and would love to connect with you. Find out what's happening at AAC at [appletonalliance.org](http://appletonalliance.org)

APPLETON ALLIANCE CHURCH — *Connecting People with God and One Another*

920-968-0700 | 2693 W Grand Chute Blvd, Appleton WI | [appletonalliance.org](http://appletonalliance.org)

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Appleton Alliance Church

Sunday Services: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.