



ames

# UCC COURIER

United Church of Christ

217 Sixth St. Ames, IA 50010

515-232-9323 | [office@amesucc.org](mailto:office@amesucc.org)

ISSUE 255

June/July 2014

## ***FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR***

### **Exploring Membership**

The Invitation and Welcome Team and I have been holding a series of classes for those who are interested (or, at least, curious!) about membership in the congregation. As of this writing, we have had two sessions, with one more to go on June 22, and have been very pleased with the participation: nine in the first session, ten in the second; and while not all of the participants may end up joining, they all gave the same reason for what drew them here: the openness of this congregation's welcome.



Interestingly, when I first asked the Executive Board what they loved most about this church, it was the statement: "Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." It is gratifying to learn that others truly experience that welcome.

Another thing we focused on was that this is a non-creedal church: members are not required to adhere to a particular set of beliefs. Instead, this is a covenantal church, in which you pledge to live life together in a particular way for the good of God's reign. We reviewed the congregation's covenant in class, but I thought it would be good for those of you who are already members to be reminded of it. Here it is:

In the name of God and with God as our witness, we promise to be in community with one another as we strive to be faithful disciples of Jesus, whom we proclaim as the Christ, God's Anointed. We profess our belief in God who created and is still creating us. We hold as our vision for the world Jesus' vision of shalom, where all are welcomed, where justice reigns, where all are provided for, and where peace prevails. We affirm that we can only be faithful disciples in community with others who share that vision and who work to achieve it. Therefore, we promise, insofar as we are able, to attend the services of this church, to volunteer our time to its mission, and to contribute financially to its work. Finally, we earnestly pray for the guiding presence of the Holy Spirit that God might bless what we do together.

When the new folks are finally received into membership, I hope that you will renew your own commitment to this covenant. I can't think of anything more important than working toward a world in which all are welcomed, justice reigns, and peace prevails.

Blessings, Terry

## ***Summer Worship Time***

Sunday worship will be at 9:30 a.m. beginning June 15. Be sure to mark your calendars! There will be no Sunday morning Bible Study during the summer.

## ***July Shared Worship with FCC***

During this July, we will continue our tradition of sharing Sunday morning worship with First Christian Church. Sermons will come from the book of Genesis.

July 7 & 14—at First Christian Church, 611 Clark Avenue, 9:30 a.m.

July 21 & 28—at United Church of Christ, 217 Sixth Street, 9:30 a.m.

If you are interested in singing in the joint FCC/UCC choir during these services, please contact UCC music director Lesley Lackore at llackore@gmail.com.

## ***From the Youth Minister***

The Ames UCC Youth Group has been busy with fund-raising activities to prepare for our mission trip to Heifer Project Ranch in July. Thanks to the congregation for the great support of our Valentine's Date Night and the Purple Toilet Project, as well as your generous donations for the youth in their clean-up work for the Lenten suppers!

We will be traveling to Heifer Project Ranch, July 20-25. An educational farm in rural Perryville, Arkansas, the 1,200-acre Heifer Ranch is filled with gardens and livestock, including water buffalo, camels, goats, pigs, llamas and more. We will meet the animals and take part in hands-on, interactive programs and activities promoting sustainable solutions to global hunger, poverty and environmental degradation. Those attending are: chaperones Bruce and Linda Hanson, Kesia Hanson, Kathryn Shields, Alison McHenry, Ceclia Monroe, Abby Buchele and Jacob Buchele. We are in need of prayer partners for those attending and ask anyone willing to commit to intentional prayer for our youth before, during and after this trip to contact Linda Hanson.

In addition to our mission trip this summer, youth are invited to a series of dinner and movie nights. This is a chance for young people to watch movies and reflect on the values and themes present in movies and relate them to the Christian faith. Youth currently entering 6th grade through 12th grade are invited to attend. All movies are rated PG-13.



*Tentative movies planned are:*

June 8: Man of Steel

June 22: Wreck it Ralph

July 6: The Help

August 3: Frozen

August 17: The Simpsons Movie

—Linda Hanson



## ***From the Minister to Children & Youth***

Genya Coffey, team coordinator for Christian Education, and I attended a Godly Play training event June 6-8 in Milwaukee. Godly Play is a curriculum that our Christian Education Team is eager to use beginning this fall with children during Sunday School. We will be excited to share with you what we have learned as we continue to make plans for this fall.

**Summer Reading Program is here again!** Calling all children and youth! This summer if you read 10 books from our Ames UCC library, you will receive a coupon for a free ice cream cone! Out of the 10 books, four of them need to be Bible stories or have other religious themes. You can turn in your list to Hannah to redeem your ice cream! Happy reading!!!

–Hannah Hannover

## ***Friends for the Journey: A Small Group Experience***

Join Bill and Sharron Slinger after worship on June 15 for an initial gathering of a new spirituality small group. This group will be an opportunity to deepen your faith and your relationships with other members.



## ***Member Services Team***

### **AMES UCC FLOAT IN 4TH OF JULY PARADE**

Have you ever attended the Ames 4th of July Parade? If you have, you know that candy is thrown from the floats. This year Ames UCC has a float in the parade to celebrate our 150 years, 1865-2015, in the Ames community and we need your candy donations. Please drop off your small, wrapped candy in the church office or the parlor by July 3. Thank you!

–Ellen Barnhart and Peg Powell, Ames UCC Float Committee

### **CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL**

In partnership with the 150th Celebration Committee, the Member Services Team is participating in a number of the city's sesquicentennial activities this summer to promote our 150th celebration next year.

#### **Sunday, June 22 , 1 to 4 p.m.: Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association Home and Garden Tour**

As Ames' first established church, Ames United Church of Christ will be a part of the HOTNA Home and Garden Tour. The Member Services Team will serve cookies and lemonade in the parlor. Sunny Stewart will be playing the organ in the sanctuary, and church members from our historic past will be dropping by for a visit. You definitely will want to drop by too.

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We are still looking for volunteers to help with displays, serve as docents/guides or provide cookies. Please contact Jan Bauer at (515) 292-3739 or bauerjan@yahoo.com.

Tickets are \$10 the day of the tour, \$9 in advance; and may be purchased at the Ames Historical Society, 416 Douglas, Ames; Gallery 319, 310 Main St, Ames; and Miss Meyer's, 432 5th St, Ames. All proceeds go to the Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association.

**Saturday, July 5 at 3:30 p.m.: The Bell at Sixth & Kellogg, A Play about the Founding of Ames UCC (Ames' first church) at the Ames 150 Chautauqua in Bandshell Park**

Members of Ames UCC will be performing "The Bell at Sixth & Kellogg" a narrative based on the writings of Farwell T. Brown, Ames' official historian and Ames UCC member. The play features a number of characters from Ames' and our church's historic past including the congressman for whom the city is named, Oakes Ames; the first minister of Ames' first church, Reverend John White; and founding mother, Cynthia Duff.

We are still casting characters if you would like to participate in the play. In addition, we are looking to borrow a number of props—8-9 assorted old chairs, an old table, a couple nail kegs, and an artificial Christmas tree. Please contact Jan Bauer at (515) 292-3739 or bauerjan@yahoo.com.

**I-CUBS TAILGATE AND GAME—Sunday, August 17**

**Join the tailgate, stay for the game. Food Pantry Day—**Bring three canned food items and receive one free general admission ticket. More details will follow.



**ABC SALE (Attic to Basement Church Sale)**

A small committee has formed to organize and plan the annual Attic to Basement Sale. The sale dates have been selected to co-ordinate with the start of ISU. The dates are Friday, August 22 from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, August 23 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

We hope you have been saving all kinds of good stuff for the sale. We want this to be the best ever sale. That will take generous contributions and generous hands to make light work before the sale and during the days of the sale.

Every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. starting June 11, we will be meeting in the Children's Music Room to sort and price donated items. If you have items to donate, please put them in the Youth Room or outside in the hallway. The Children's Music Room is in on the second floor near the east end. We will be posting signs. If you are unable to get up the stairs, you can leave donations near the coat racks by the stairs. Please let one of the committee know the donations are there and we will move them to the Youth Room.

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We will accept a variety of donations from your attic to your basement to your garage to your garden. We will NOT be accepting adult clothing this year. We will gladly accept infant and children's clothing. We will also accept nearly new or new adult shoes. If you have larger furniture to donate, contact one of the committee and we will arrange a time for it to come to the church closer to the date of the sale. WE WELCOME ALL HELPERS ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS.

Cornelia Flora, 232-7664, cflora@iastate.edu  
 Barbara Yungclas, 292-9274, wryungclas@aol.com  
 Barbara Faidley, 233-3874, barbara@faidley.org



## ***Christian Education Team***

### **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON CLUB NEWS**

Our final week of Wednesday Afternoon Club (WAC) was May 21. We ended the year by celebrating with ice cream from Cold Stone! It was the perfect way to end a fantastic first year of this new ministry!

THANK YOU to Carl Tipton, Jerry Chase, and Stacey Jones-Cloutier for picking up the children each week from school and bringing them to the church. THANK YOU to Stacey Jones-Cloutier and Sally Shaffer for volunteering their time and talents each week to be with Hannah and the children. We are sorry to say good-bye to Stacey and Sally who will be moving to Kansas this summer. It takes a village to make WAC happen. Please pray about how you might volunteer to help Hannah with this ministry as she is making plans for next fall!



The church library has received a number of new books in the last months. About 30 of them are children's books and more are getting ready to be stamped and shelved. Hopefully the children will take advantage of our new books during our Summer Reading Program. (other article in newsletter). We have received books for our Theologian in Residence shelf and also our UCC Book Club Shelf.

We have also received a copy of the Quran (Islam's revealed text) from the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). This is a part of a project by this organization to Share the Quran. Thus far, they have distributed more than 60,000 copies of this book to policymakers, media professionals and educators as well as to public institutions. The translator is an Austrian-Polish convert to Islam who is known for his scholarship. His translation and commentary is widely considered to be among the best in the English language. Moreover, his translation is complete with the original Arabic, English translation, commentary, historical notes and stunning examples of traditional Arabic calligraphy artwork.

## BOOKS AND BREAD

One Sunday after worship in June, there will be a display in the parlor of books from the library. Enjoy sweet breads as you look at some of the new books in the library. Consider checking books out of the church library. Look for the new adult reading program sponsored by the church library at the books and bread table that day.

## CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEW

***Black is Brown is Tan*** by Arnold Adoff, illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully

This book is actually a poem about an inter-racial family that has all of the colors of the race. It is a tribute to the diversity of the American family especially with the extended family of Granny white and Grandma black. This is a story about an all-American family, full of joy, warmth and love. The illustrations are bright watercolor paintings that depict a contemporary family and the many activities that they might be involved in. The family plays and works, scolds and teases, and through it all there is joy for their story. A beautiful way to introduce this concept to children and adults. The author has received awards for excellence in children's poetry. – *Review by Barbara Faidley*

## BOOK REVIEW

***CREDO*** by William Sloane Coffin, Westminster John Knox Press, 2004

William Sloane Coffin was a prolific writer throughout his life as a famous preacher, peace monger, supporter of the disenfranchised, civil rights and social justice advocate. He wrote passionately about faith, emphasizing that it is at the very center of all belief and meaningful activity, the critical core of life. In the Preface to this book, "Credo" –



I believe - he states that this best translates "I have given my heart to". The book is a collection of Coffin's "wise sayings" on topics most important to him. These were gathered by his editor and organized into chapters about faith, social justice, civil and economic rights, patriotism, war and peace, nature, "life in general", the church, the end of life. It is a small book, especially when compared to his other writings, sermons and treatises, but it makes for a very thought-provoking and thoughtful read. Several of my favorite quotes in "Credo" are these:

-About faith, "I love the recklessness of faith. First you leap, then you grow wings."

-About faith and justice, "To know God is to do justice."

-About war and peace, "War is always cause for remorse, never for exhilaration."

-About life in general, "Our business in life is less making something of ourselves than finding something worth doing and losing ourselves in it."

-About the church, "Church is where all hearts are one so that nothing else has to be one. Church is where there's such a climate of acceptance that each of us can be his or her unique self."

-About the end of life, "The one true freedom in life is to come to terms with death, and as early as possible, for death is an event that embraces all our lives. And the only way to have a good death is to lead a good life. Lead a good one, full of curiosity, generosity, and compassion, and there's no need at the close of the day to rage against the dying of the light. We can go gentle into that good night."

William Sloane Coffin's life (1924-2006) was clearly one of passion, of thoughtful study, of reflection, of action, and finally of gratitude to God as he neared the end of his days.

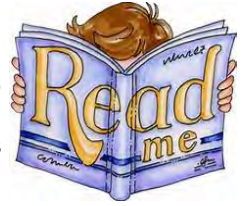
"For the compassions that fail not, I find myself saying daily to my loving Maker, 'I can no other answer make than thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks.'" –*Review by Connie Dunham*



**BOOK CLUB**

The UCC Book Club welcomes all readers and even those who just want to hear the discussion. The group meets in the church library at 2 p.m.

**June 18** – Bring suggestions for book club reading when the group resumes sessions in September.

**WANTED:**

People who like to read and who would be willing to write a short review of a book from the church library. The review will appear in the church newsletter. Please contact Barbara Faidley at (515) 233-3874 or [barbara@faidley.org](mailto:barbara@faidley.org).

Thanks for your help!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

WOW!! Is it that time of year again? YES IT IS!! And we are excited for Vacation Bible School this year! Join us June 23-27 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at First United Methodist Church for a week full of fun!

This year's theme is Workshop of Wonders (WOW). At WOW VBS, discover how the ordinary becomes extraordinary with God. Experience the love of Jesus. Start an adventure. Use your imagination and creativity to build your faith. Meet people from the Bible who used what they had to produce something amazing with God. Use your heart, mind, and imagination to participate in the creative life of God, the one who works wonders!



Donations for snacks would be very much appreciated! If you would be willing to donate snack supplies or a gift card towards groceries, please check with Hannah.

Children can still sign up! If you are interested in more information, you can contact Hannah at: [Hannah@amesucc.org](mailto:Hannah@amesucc.org).

## ***Financial Stewardship Team***

The Financial Stewardship Team held its regularly scheduled meeting May 13 with Pastor Terry Hamilton-Poore, Nancy Heathman, Phil Spike, Jim Peake, Diana McHenry and Doug Powell attending.

Contributions through the April report are running slightly ahead of what was anticipated in the 2014 budget thanks to some late arriving Surprising Gifts. This is in accord with the fall operating budget fund theme. This is Good News! as we now approach mid-year. More Good News! is that several of the major expense lines are tracking slightly under budget through the first quarter but should be expected to catch up to budget as the year progresses. There's a place for every incoming dollar in meeting our internal and outreach missions.

The budgeting process for 2015 is now underway. Jim Peake has prepared the seed worksheet that was presented at the May 20 meeting of the Executive Board. The Executive Board members will have their responses back to the Financial Stewardship Team not later than September 2 so that we can review them at our September 9 meeting.

Diana McHenry will be leading a team to promote how generous giving enables both internal and outreach missions. Larry Trede will be working with Pastor Terry Hamilton-Poore and Nancy Heathman to bring a more personalized approach to our 2015 annual fund drive that has demographic underpinnings.

The Financial Stewardship Team will meet June 10, 7:15 p.m. in Room 104 to review income and expense reports and continue in the execution of its 2014 plan. Members of the congregation are welcomed to attend.

–Doug Powell



## ***Change in Church Office Hours***

The first two weeks of July, office secretary Becky Bridges will be away on vacation. If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please send an email to Hannah Hannover at [Hannah@amesucc.org](mailto:Hannah@amesucc.org).

Beginning July 14, 2014, the **church office will be open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and will be closed on Fridays.**



## ***News from our Search Committee***

The Search Committee met with Jonna Jensen, associate conference minister, on May 19 for our second training session. This training session was designed to prepare us for the exciting and holy work of reading ministerial profiles and conversations with searching pastors.

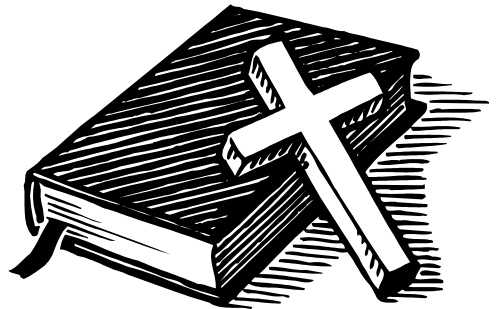
On June 3, our vacancy will be listed in the national United Church Employment Opportunities document. A candidate who has completed a UCC Ministerial Profile, whose ecclesiastical credentials are in order, and who has followed the procedures of a particular Conference or Association has the right to have that profile submitted to any vacant church in the United Church of Christ. The conference office will forward to us the ministerial profiles of those candidates interested in our profile. At that point, the Search Committee will start the work of reviewing ministerial profiles. This is an open ended process where the Search Committee will be reviewing new profiles, following up on received profiles, interviewing and discerning. This process will not stop until the Search Committee and the searching pastor both discern that they are called toward one another. Jonna has indicated that she anticipates that we will receive a large response to our vacancy.

The following is the brief description of our church and the qualities we seek in a pastor that will go on the national listing:

“Ames UCC is a warm, engaging and active congregation with a rich history (we are the oldest church in Ames, celebrating 150 years in 2015). We are an Open and Affirming, Just Peace congregation that is active in social justice. The successful candidate for Ames UCC is a candidate who is warm and compassionate, as well as intellectually stimulating, and ready for the gifts and challenges that come with serving a church in a university town. We are looking for someone to challenge and guide us to growth, both spiritually and in numbers.”

We ask for your continued prayers as we embark on this next step of our search.

—Ames UCC Pastoral Search Committee



In keeping with the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people of any age, gender, race, culture, ability or sexual orientation into our community of faith and affirm the worth of all people as unique individuals made in God's image. We are open to the special gifts that each person brings and invite each one to participate in the life of our church.

## **United Church Courier**

United Church of Christ-Congregational  
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Ames, IA 50010

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### **STAFF**

**Ministers** The Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore, Interim Minister  
Hannah Hannover, Children & Youth Minister  
Linda Hanson, Youth  
**Music Director** Lesley Lackore  
**Keyboardist** Karen Stewart  
**Secretary** Becky A. Bridges

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Moderator** Phil Spike  
**Team Coordinator** Ellen Barnhart  
**Caring Network** Christa Andersen  
**Christian Education** Genya Coffey  
**Evangelism** Bill Yungclaus  
**Financial Stewardship** Doug Powell  
**Member Services** Jan Bauer  
**Property** Ken Birt  
**Social Justice and Outreach** Kim Spangler  
**Worship & Music** Bradley Duckstein  
**Association and Conference Delegate** Jim Peake  
**Treasurer** Jim Dickson  
**Clerk** Lynette Spicer

Ames United Church  
of Christ

# June 2014

<b>Sunday Morning:</b>  <b>9:30 a.m. Summer Worship</b>  <b>Holy Communion will be celebrated every third Sunday of the month.</b>	<b>Each Month:</b>  MOW Farm to Folk Bell Ringing for Peace Wed. Morning Work Crew AA Group LGBT Fellowship  People Place  Meals on Wheels Each Tuesday, 3:00 p.m.  Every Wednesday, 12:10 p.m. Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Each Friday, 7:30 p.m. Every Third Sunday of the month following worship Monday—Friday
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## June Birthdays

- 6/10 Morgan Egeland
- 6/25 Jan Breitman
- 6/27 Greg Wool
- Kristin Shields
- 6/30 Linda Shenk

## June Anniversaries

- 6/10 Ken & Diane Birt
- 6/13 Jim & Lori Peake
- 6/14 Steve & Ellen Barnhart
- 6/22 Richard & Shirley Warren
- 6/24 Jim & Kristin Shields

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 4:30P Worship Planning	4 Newsletter Deadline 8:30A Bible Study	5 3:30P Theologian in Residence Mtg.	6 4:00P Jones/Schelle Wedding rehearsal	7 MOW: 1)Dirks 2) Chase  Jones/Schelle Wedding
					UCC Recharge! June 6-7 at ISU	
8 <b>Pentecost</b> 10:45A Worship at Hobbitts Hill/Picnic Potluck  5:30-7:30P Youth Group Dinner/Movie	9 Emergency Res.: 4-6:30P AMOS	10 12noon Men's Fellow- ship 7:15P Financial Stewardship Board	11 <b>No</b> Bible Study 9:30A ABC group 1:00P Assemble Newsletter	12	13 4:30P Carson/Gansen Wedding rehearsal	14 MOW: Clark  Carson/Gansen Wedding
Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore gone June 9-15 for Continued Education						
15 9:30A Worship LGBT Fellowship  Friends for the Jour- ney: A Small Group Experience (Rm. 104)	16 Emergency Res.: Barnhart	17 7:15P Executive Board	18 8:30A Bible Study 9:30A ABC group	19	20 5:00P Manecke/ Morgan Wedding rehearsal/dinner	21 9:30A Food at First MOW: Hernandez  3:00P Manecke/ Morgan Wedding
22 9:30A Worship 11:00A New Mem- bers Class (Rm. 104) 5:30-7:30P Youth Group Dinner/Movie	23 Emergency Res.: Hieber/Wood	24 12noon Men's Fellow- ship	25 <b>No</b> Bible Study 9:30A ABC group 10:00A Budget Build- ing (church office)	26	27	28 MOW: Andersen/ Potter
Vacation Bible School 9 a.m. to 12 noon June 23-27 at First United Methodist Church						
29 9:30A Worship	30 Emergency Res.: Spicer/Duckstein					

**Ames United Church  
of Christ**

# July 2014

**Sunday Morning:  
9:30 a.m. Summer Worship**

**Holy Communion will  
be celebrated every third  
Sunday of the month.**

MOW  
Farm to Folk  
Bell Ringing for  
Peace  
Wed. Morning Work Crew  
AA Group  
LGBT Fellowship  
People Place

**Each Month:**

Meals on Wheels  
Each Tuesday, 3:00 p.m.  
  
Every Wednesday, 12:10 p.m.  
Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.  
Each Friday, 7:30 p.m.  
Every Third Sunday of the month  
following worship  
Monday—Friday

## July Birthdays

- 7/2 Mary Dengler
- 7/4 Dinah Kerksieck
- 7/5 Jim Peake
- 7/6 Laura Deal
- 7/7 Marilyn Wilson
- 7/9 Lois Thomas  
Jerry Chase
- 7/10 Dan Coffey
- 7/11 Nancy Clark
- 7/14 Martha Geist
- 7/15 Phil Spike
- 7/16 George Belitsos  
Trudy Dirks
- 7/17 Steve Barnhart
- 7/18 Johnny Rogers-Smith  
Brandon Johnson
- 7/22 Maryanne Diorio
- 7/23 Allen Trenkle  
Troy Strum
- 7/25 Evelyn Vulgamott
- 7/26 Carl Tipton  
Donna Trenkle
- 7/28 Doug Heathman
- 7/29 Barbara Yungclas  
Pauletti Lasley
- 7/31 Paul Lasley

## July Anniversaries

- 7/2 Joel & Tracy Johnson
- 7/5 Gary & Laura Deal
- 7/8 Matthew & Elaine O'Neal
- 7/11 Mickie Franklin &  
Michelle Kimble

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 8:30a Bible Study 9:30-11:30a ABC group	3	4 2:00P Drury/Carleton Wedding	5
6 9:30a Worship at First Christian Church 5:30-7:30p Youth Group Dinner & Movie "The Help"	7	8 12noon Men's Fellow- ship	9 8:30a Bible Study 9:30-11:30a ABC group	10	11	12
13 9:30a Worship at First Christian Church	14	15 4:30p Worship Planning	16 8:30a Bible Study 9:30-11:30a ABC group	17	18	19 9:30a Food at First
20 9:30a Worship at Ames UCC	21	22 12noon Men's Fellow- ship	23 8:30a Bible Study 9:30-11:30a ABC group	24	25	26
Ames UCC Youth Group Mission Trip to the Heifer Project Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas July 20-25						
27 9:30a Worship at Ames UCC	28	29	30 8:30a Bible Study 9:30-11:30a ABC group	31		