

150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SUNDAY



WORSHIP

Colors, Cloth, Clothing by Pastor Eileen

Worship is a multi-sensory experience: sounds (music), body (singing, praying, holding and shaking hands), and sights.

Our paraments (the fabric art in our worship spaces), the Communion table, the stained glass, and the style of our cross all share messages about our faith, our history, and the season of the church year.

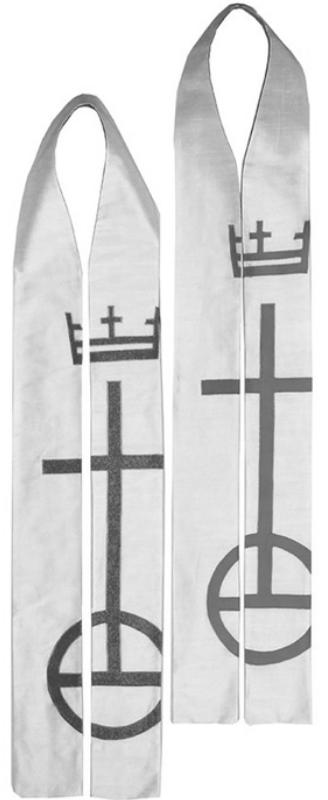
As the pastor who leads worship, I contribute to this experience through my clothing and other garb. For example, the robes that I wear from Advent through Pentecost are references to the traditional image of Jesus as a shepherd. I wear black for Advent and Lent, seasons of reflection and preparation, then white for Christmastide and Eastertide as a reference to Jesus' swaddling clothes, burial cloth, and the resurrection.

The clerical stoles (the long scarves) I wear emerged as a practice through several historical streams. It is most commonly understood as a representation of the wearer's acceptance of the yoke of service in Jesus' name as well as her or his called role to bring the Good News in worship. It is a role bestowed by God and congregation.

Like the robes, my stoles match the liturgical seasons: blue or purple for the preparation of Advent, purple for the reflection of Lent, white for the glory of Christmas and Easter, red for the flames of Pentecost, and green for the explorations of all creation in Ordinary Time. They serve to further reinforce the message of the day.

The clerical collar is another part of that visual message. For the wearer, it serves as a reminder of her or his obligations and responsibilities to God and God's people. For the viewer in worship, at moments of public witnesses (such as demonstrations, parades, or other actions on behalf of God and the church), and in the visitation of the sick and imprisoned, the collar quickly also identifies the wearer's role: a representative of love on behalf of God and God's people.

The United Church of Christ is diverse in its use of all of these symbols. I invite you to reflect on your own experience with colors, cloth, and clothing, and how they have or have not contributed to your own experiences of worship, witness, and care. I welcome any conversation you would like to have about the worship practices at Ames UCC: 515-232-9323, eileen@amesucc.org.



SOCIAL JUSTICE & OUTREACH

Caroline Isaacs of AFSC on For-Profit Incarceration - Dec. 9 by Cornelia Flora

On Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, see Caroline Isaacs from the American Friends Service Committee talk about her work advocating for incarcerated individuals and their families, improved prison conditions, and reduction of the number of incarcerated people as part of the AFSC's Governing Under the Influence advocacy program.

From the Theologian-in-Residence Committee: Important Deadline Jan. 11, 2016 by Charles Kniker

The Theologian-in-Residence weekend is EARLY this year: January 30-31, 2016. Rev. Barry Lynn, Executive Director of Americans United, will be speaking on religious liberties (including an analysis of presidential candidates' views.) Because of the speaker and topic, we are expecting a larger than usual crowd. New this year is a **box lunch from The Café** for \$11. The deadline for lunch is January 11, 2016. Also new this year: A panel discussion on Sunday morning, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Rummage Sale by Barbara Faidley

As you are getting your Christmas things out this year, look at the items you own but no longer use in your home. Think about putting those items in a special box labeled CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE. If we have enough Holiday items donated for our sale next year, we may consider doing another Christmas Rummage Sale. It was very successful and it was FUN. So remember the church when you do your Christmas decorating this year. Thanks for your consideration.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

2015 Children/Youth Christmas Program - Dec 13 by Pastor Hannah

The 2015 Children/Youth Christmas program will focus on "Making Room" - preparing hearts, minds, and spirits to welcome Jesus in the many forms and places in which we encounter him. This year's program explores the nativity scriptures, contemporary accounts of our neighbors without refuge, and the words of our children and youth as they experience the story of Christmas. Please join us in worship on Sunday, December 13 at 10:45 a.m.

Learning Center by Jim Peake

The Learning Center meets weekly at 9:30 a.m. Sundays in the Fellowship Hall. It is a forum for learning and discussing a wide variety of topics. Each week's program has different speakers or leaders from within or without the congregation. Come a few minutes early to join us for coffee at 9:15. This month's programming:

Dec 6: At 9 a.m. we will have a potluck breakfast followed by our own version of Antiques Roadshow. Bring something from home for show and tell!

Dec 13: Art Pohm will lead a program on Ethical Challenges for the Family in the 21st Century.

Dec 20: An intergenerational program highlighted by a telling of the Christmas story by Art Pohm.

Dec 27: No program due to the Christmas holiday.

MEMBER SERVICES

Women's Fellowship by Barbara Faidley

In December our one meeting of Women's Fellowship will be on Wednesday, December 9 from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. For this meeting we are asking each person to bring an ornament you have in your home that you are no longer using. Please wrap your ornament and during our meeting we will have an ornament exchange. In addition, we are asking each member to bring new or gently used children's books to donate to Raising Readers of All the women of the church are invited to come and enjoy some holiday cheer. Hope to see you there.

Library News by Barbara Faidley

Christmas books will be displayed on the shelf in the back of the church and in a plastic tub in the Church Library. The tub will have a label saying CHRISTMAS BOOKS. All of the books are available for checkout.

We have started sorting the General Children's Books into categories and labeling the cubbies on that bookshelf. Each of the categories will have a colored sticker attached to it. Each of the books in that category will have that color sticker on its spine. This will help return the books to the correct cubby after it has been read. There is no special order within the cubby. Please help your children not to take the stickers off of the books.

The latest book by Barry Lynn is available for checkout from the Church Library. Barry Lynn will be our Theologian-In-Residence this year. We actually have two books written by him to check out. They will be on display on top of a book shelf or table in the library. Find them and find out what this ordained minister in the UCC has been doing with his life. Very interesting reads.

Book Club Winter and Spring Reading by Lynette Spicer

The UCC Book Club welcomes all readers and even those who just want to hear the discussion. Friday, December 11 at 1 p.m. in the church library – What are you reading? What do you recommend? An open discussion in which readers can share what they are reading and recommend.

Upcoming meetings:

January – *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (1960 fiction, 384 pages) Discussion leader: Christa Andersen

February -- *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande (2014 nonfiction, 304 pages) Discussion leader: Nancy Marks

March -- *The Long Walk: A Story of War and the Life That Follows* by Brian Castner (2012 nonfiction, 240 pages) Discussion leader: Barbara Faidley

April – *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai (2014 nonfiction, 368 pages) Discussion leader: Barbara Faidley

May – *Reaching Beyond the Waves: The Inspirational Story of One Teacher's Sixth Grade Students' Search for the WWII Survivors of a Downed B-17* by Suzanne Kelly (Local Author, 2015 nonfiction, 346 pages) Discussion leader: Christa Andersen

June -- Select titles for upcoming book club year.

PROPERTY & OUR CAMPUS

Update from the Property Team by Steve Barnhart, Property Team Coordinator

The Fall Church Clean-Up Day was held Saturday, November 7. Mostly outside chores and 'winterizing' jobs were accomplished. I would like to thank the energetic group that assisted: Doug Powell, Bill Yungclas, Ken Birt, Jerry Chase, and David Cook. A big thank you!!

Work Done on the 150th Anniversary Campaign Priorities:

Youth Room: Contractors have completed the egress window for the Youth Room. New windows have been installed. Doug Powell and volunteers have nearly completed the 'wall painting'. Cabinets have been installed. Several more things need to be completed: countertop installation, floor sealing and coverings, cabinet hardware, window trim painting, plumbing for the sink, and minor carpentry items.

NW Retaining Wall: The digging has been completed and NW retaining wall has been installed. Mulch is to be used in the winter, with plantings planned for Spring.

Roof: Roofing contractors worked on the 'flat roof' over the East wing of the Church.

SEASON OF GRATITUDE

Nominating Committee

Thank you to Hannah Hannover, Kristin Shields, Sharron Slinger, Phil Spike and Bill Yungclas for filling our 2016 team positions. Also thanks to the forty-nine of you who consented to serve in these positions. A special thanks to all of you who do the work of the church in whatever way that you can. –Ellen Barnhart, Chair of the Nominating Committee

Church Pictorial Directory

Thank you, thank you to all of those people who helped with the pictorial directory. For those who signed up our church members after church, those who called every member of the church to see if they wanted to have their picture taken, to those who manned the check-in table and talked people into filling out the time and talent sheets. Thanks to those who provided rides for others so they could get their pictures taken. Thanks to Katie who kept the data up to date for the sign-ups and took lots of pictures for use in the front of the directory. Thanks to those who worked on the arrangement of pictures in the front of the directory to make it such an impressive book. Thank you to all the members who signed up for photos or submitted photos for use. With all those people working together, we managed to create a VERY SPECIAL 150th Anniversary Edition of the Directory of the Ames United Church of Christ. –Barbara Faidley

150th Anniversary Service

Our 150th anniversary service of worship and praise, as well as our luncheon and historical presentation, were so joyous and a testament to our bright future. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously, and over so many months, to making them so. Any omissions are my fault and do not reflect a lack of gratitude. –Pr. Eileen

The 150th Anniversary Celebration Committee: Ellen Barnhart, Jan Bauer, Jan Breitman, Jim Dickson, Irene Dohrmann, Cornelia Flora, Dinah Kerksieck, Charles Kniker, Tom Meyer, Laurie Olk (Chair), and Peg Powell.

150th Anniversary hymn, "Here We Reach Out," was written by Charles Kniker and Lynn Zeigler.

The 150th Anniversary banner was sewn by Deb Hanson, Dinah Kerksieck, Lori Peake, Ginny Shenk, Kristin Shields, Pat Spangler, and Barbara Yungclas.

150th Anniversary luncheon (organization, décor, service, and clean up): Ellen Barnhart, Steve Barnhart, Jan Breitman, Jeff Breitman, Abby Buchele, Andrea Buchele, Jacob Buchele, Jenna Bu Buchele, Grace Buchele, Boyd Dohrmann, Irene Dohrmann, Barton Heginger, Eli Heginger, Grace Heginger, Nanette Heginger, Emma Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Aria Pilcher, Doug Powell, Peg Powell, Barbara Yungclas, and Bill Yungclas.

150th Anniversary worship leaders: Janet Binder, usher; Kevin Binder, usher; Katie Bonney, photography; Jenna Buchele, prayers; Nancy Clark, usher; Aidan Cook, videography; Ed Goedeken, greeter; Tom Hertz, usher; Charles Kniker, scripture; Lesley Lackore, Director of Music; Lynette Spicer, deacon; Sunny Stewart, instrumentalist; Edna Wiese, greeter; Barbara Yungclas, ringer of historic bell.

150th Anniversary Chancel Choristers: Judy Blair, Laura Deal, Jennifer Gelwick-Luecke, Dinah Kerksieck, Greg Lamont, Mary Mulford, Laurie Olk, Terry Potter, Kristin Shields, Bill Slinger, Carol Smith, Pat Spangler, David White, Richard White, Greg Wool, and Bill Yungclas.

And special musical guests Liz Morse on flute and the Collegiate Brass: Bion Pierson, trumpet; David Stephenson, trumpet; Stephani Scherbart, horn; Max Morris, trombone; Paul Anderson, tuba. The brass descant played during “Here We Reach Out” was written by Kevin Schilling.

The 150th Anniversary displays were produced by:

Abbie Sawyer: Peg Powell and Laurie Olk

Church Architecture: Dinah Kerksiek

Frisbee House: Jan Breitman

Members of 50+ Years: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker

Musical Heritage: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker

Organizations: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker

Saints of the Church: Jan Bauer

Social Justice: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker

Sons and Daughters: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker

Timelines: Janet Binder and Charles Kniker

Weddings: Jan Bauer

The 150th Anniversary book was written by Charles Kniker and edited by Janet Binder, Ed Goede-ken, Lynette Spicer, Faye Whitaker, and Lynn Zeigler. An appendix on the Theologian-In-Residence program will be written by Nancy Brown. Thank you to Phil Spike for publishing them on the church web site.

The 150th Anniversary historical presentation, entitled “A Tree Planted by Streams of Water,” was developed and delivered by Charles Kniker.

The 150th Anniversary July 4 Floats were created by Ellen Barnhart, Steve Barnhart, Doug Powell, and Peg Powell in 2014 and Jan Bauer and Doug Powell in 2015.

The 150th Anniversary Historic Downtown Ghosts of History was created by Jan Bauer, Bradley Duckstein, Ed Goedecken, and Lynette Spicer.

The 150th Anniversary Historic Bridal Show was written and coordinated by Jan Bauer.

The 150th Anniversary Throw-back BINGO Game Night was hosted by the Youth Group.

ODDS & ENDS

Book Review by Barbara Faidley

“The Lord is my constant companion.

There is no need that He cannot fulfill

Whether His course for me points

to the mountaintops of glorious joy

or to the valleys of human suffering.

He is ever present with me.

when I tread the dark streets of danger,

and even when I flirt with death itself.”

In the section of prayer above, do you recognize Psalm 23? It is from the book *Psalms Now* by Leslie F. Brandt. This book captures the meaning of the Psalms for OUR time. The author restates, in today’s language, the psalmists’ honest prayers of praise, sorrow, compassion, fatigue, love and countless other emotions. This book is available in the Church Library.

Children’s Book Review by Barbara Faidley

“Jacob’s Gift” by Max Lucado and illustrated by Robert Hunt. “When you give a gift to one of God’s children, you give a gift to God.” Jacob, in our story, loves working with wood and his teacher, Rabbi Simeon announces to the boys in his shop that whoever builds the best project will work with him on the new synagogue. Read this Christmas classic to see which project Jacob decides to build and how it serves a very unique purpose. The illustrations are drawn with detail and with added color it brings the time that Jacob lives to life. A very worthwhile book to read during

Frieda Lehman’s 90th Birthday Open House

Sunday, December 13th from 2 to 5 p.m.

Green Hills Retirement Community Dining Hall

2200 Hamilton Drive, Ames IA

DEC. 6 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, December 6, following worship we will have a congregational meeting. These meetings happen a couple of times during the year to address business concerns: in this case the 2016 budget, dispersal of funds to charitable organizations, by-law changes, and the election of new church leadership.

Please review the following information in preparation. Copies are available in the parlor and the sanctuary on November 22 and 29, and December 6. Childcare will be provided for the meeting.

Proposed agenda

1. When funds were solicited for the 150th Capital Campaign, it was stated that 20% of the funds received would be expended for outreach. The Social Justice and Outreach Team solicited input from the congregation to establish priorities for outreach funding. The Executive Board has reviewed the recommendations from the SoJO Team and is recommending that these priorities be approved by the congregation.
2. The Executive Board is recommending passage of three minor changes to the church bylaws to help improve operations of the church.
3. The Executive Board is recommending a ballot of Officers, Team Coordinators, Vice Coordinators and Core Team members. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor.
4. The Executive Board is recommending the budget drafted by the Financial Stewardship Team for 2016.

150th Capital Campaign Outreach Giving

The Social Justice and Outreach Committee recommended and the Executive Board endorsed the distribution of the 20% expected for outreach from the 150th Anniversary Capital Campaign. Our recommendations are based on the congregational poll. These are in three levels, as determined by the poll of the members of the church. The numbers in parentheses are the scores calculated from the degree of importance given to each item on the survey. Our Church's Wider Mission is part of our agreement with the National Office of the UCC.

National Our Church's Wider Mission, OCWM* \$9,765

Level 1 priorities

Low mileage used car for the Primary Care Center (115) \$22,000

Renovation of a unit at the Emergency Residence Shelter (125) ** \$13,000

Commercial dishwasher for Food at First (118) \$15,000

Partial support for a new Habitat for Humanity Home (116) \$40,000

Scholarships for two Project Iowa Students (114) \$12,000.

Level 2 priorities

Infrastructure or equipment for the Boys and Girls Center (104) \$6,000.

Endowment for Heartland Senior Services (101) \$20,000

Outdoor classroom for Pilgrim Heights (100) \$12,000

Level 3 priorities

Van for Threshold Learning Center (90) \$10,000

YSS Rosedale Shelter –furniture replacement & LGBTQ training materials (90) \$7,000.00

Theologian in Residence Endowment Fund (70) **\$10,000

*This is the commitment to UCC National in our contract, approved by the congregation 11-4-2014

**\$4,882.50 of this comes through UCC National in our contract, approved 11-4-2014.

Note: The total (\$176,765) is somewhat above what we have committed (~\$166,000), but we want to have the allocation approved when more money comes in.

Summary of proposed changes to church bylaws

Add the position of Vice Moderator that will replace the position of Team Advisor. The Vice Moderator position will serve as vice chair of the Executive Board. In addition, the Vice Moderator will be responsible for the duties previously performed by the Team Advisor. After serving one year as Vice Moderator, it is anticipated that the Vice Moderator will be a candidate for the position of Moderator. It is also anticipated that after serving one year as Moderator, the Moderator will serve one year as the senior delegate to the Association and Conference and continue as a member of the Executive Board for that term of office.

Change the staff titles listed in the bylaws to be consistent with current job descriptions for "Church Office Administrator," "Minister to Children and Families" and "Keyboardist". These positions are currently held by Katie Bonney, Hannah Hannover and Sunny Stewart, respectively.

Adding the concept of "Core Team" members to the bylaws. These are people elected to assist the Team Coordinator and Vice Coordinator to accomplish the responsibilities of the various teams through planning meetings and/or various activities of the teams.

For full text of proposed changes to the bylaws are available on the church web site: <http://www.amesucc.org/bylaws> or a printed copy can be obtained from the church office.

Nominations for Ames UCC for 2016

Officers

Moderator	Philip Spike
Vice Moderator	Jennifer Gelwick-Luecke
Clerk	Lynette Spicer
Church Rep #1	Bill Slinger
Church Rep #2	Bill Yungclas
Treasurer	Jim Dickson
Financial Secretary	Nancy Heathman

Invitation and Welcome Team

Team Coordinator -Amy Erica Smith

Vice Coordinator - Ayisha Al-Hassan

Core Team - Tranquillity Jo, Bill Yungclas, Paul Lasley and Allison Anderson

Member Services Team

Team Coordinator - Laura Beason

Vice Coordinator - Irene Dohrmann

Core Team - Kristin Shields, Bonnie Trede, Ami Frank and Donna Shenefelt

Christian Education Team

Team Coordinator - Genya Coffey

Vice Coordinator - Ellen Barnhart

Core Team - Gordon Knight and Kris Strum



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Property Team
Team Coordinator - Josh Pilcher
Vice Coordinator - Justin Watts
Core Team - Steve Barnhart, Laurie Olk, Jan Breitman, Bruce Hanson and Ken Birt

Worship & Music Team
Team Coordinator - Linda Shenk
Vice Coordinator - Elaine Hieber
Core Team - Dale Shenefeld, Donna Starck, Kim/Pat Spangler, Greg Lamont, Carla Barnwell,
Peg Powell and Abby Buchele

Social Justice and Outreach Team
Team Coordinator - Diane Birt
Vice Coordinator- Jan Flora
Core Team - Linda Hanson, Jeremy McMahon, Marlys Benck and George Belitsos

Financial Stewardship Team
Team Coordinator - Terry Potter
Vice Coordinator - Janet Binder
Core Team - Jim Peake and Larry Trede

Find a copy of the proposed 2016 budget on the reverse of your monthly calendar.

Be In Touch with Ames UCC

217 6th Street, Ames, IA 50010
515-232-9323
Mondays—Thursdays
8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
24-hour pastoral emergencies:
515-428-1779

Katie Bonney,
Church Office Administrator
office@amesucc.org

David Cook, Sexton
cookdavi@gmail.com

Jim Dickson, Treasurer
dje49@opencom.net

Eileen Gebbie, Minister
eileen@amesucc.org / Ext 11

Hannah Hannover,
Minister to Children & Families
hannah@amesucc.org / Ext 12

Nancy Heathman, Financial Secretary
heathman@mediacombb.net

Lesley Lackore, Music Director
llackore@gmail.com

Karen "Sunny" Stewart, Keyboardist
kstewart@ames.k12.ia.us

Jean Watts, Youth Director
jean@amesucc.org

Moderator.....Phil Spike
Team Advisor.....Ellen Barnhart
Caring Network.....Christa Andersen
Christian Education.....Genya Coffey
Financial Stewardship.....Doug Powell
Invitation and Welcome.....Bill Yungclas
Member Services.....Jan Bauer
Property.....Ken Birt
Social Justice and Outreach.....Cornelia Flora
Worship & Music.....Bradley Duckstein
Association & Conf Delegate.....Jim Peake
Clerk.....Lynette Spicer

EXECUTIVE BOARD

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,



ames UCC United Church of Christ

