



ames UCC COURIER

United Church of Christ

217 Sixth St. Ames, IA 50010

ISSUE 266

JULY 2015

Just Peace, Open & Affirming

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... And God Gives the Growth

Dear Congregation:

By the time you receive this, we will have celebrated our final Sunday together. I feel blessed to have shared this last year-and-a-half with you as your Interim Pastor; and now it is time for me to move on.

Paul says, in his first letter to the church at Corinth, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth." I have been a pastor long enough to learn that every pastor is an interim pastor. While some stay for long periods, and others stay for short periods, we all eventually leave. When we arrive, we get to reap the fruits from seeds that others have planted; and when we leave, we leave behind seeds that we hope others will get to see sprout. But while pastors come and go, God remains, and it is God who gives the growth.

As I pass you into the keeping of Pastor Eileen, your new gardener, I know that God will continue to work richly in this congregation. I hope that during her time with you, which I trust will be long and fruitful, you will see every kind of growth — in grace, in ministry, and in numbers.

You may be aware that there is a brief gap between my last day (June 30), and Pastor Eileen's first day (July 6). During that time, you will be in the able care of Hannah Hannover, your Minister for Children and Families. She will be available for pastoral emergencies, and will be preaching on July 5, when you will be worshipping with First Christian Church at their building.

So, blessings on each of you. May your roots grow deep in the rich soil of God's love, that you may flourish in all that is good.

~Terry

YOUTH NEWS

All Godly Play activities will be on break for the summer months, and will reconvene after Labor Day.

Vacation Bible School has now concluded for 2015. The kids will share their music with us at Reverend Terry's final service here on Sunday, June 28, and then proceed across the street to share the joy with First United Methodist as well. Thank you to all of our volunteers who made G-Force VBS such a fun time for all!

MEMBER SERVICES

ABC SALE: Remember the dates Friday, August 28 and Saturday, August 29

We are progressing with sorting all the donations that have come in. We are working every Wednesday morning from 10 :00 a.m. to noon in Room 209. Come and join us, and see what will be available at the sale. The more we can get done during the summer, the easier the last week will be before the sale! Twenty percent of our profits will be used for a local charity, and the rest will go to the youth of our church for Youth Room and Godly Play materials.

Please bring your donations to the church SOONER rather than later; they can be left at the coat rack by the back door. We need more donations, but remember — no clothes are being sold this year. Large furniture will be welcome after August 15, and if you need help with pickup, please let us know. Items being sought: anything vintage (especially if it works), jewelry, puzzles, toys, garden and home décor , books, DVDs, kitchen items, linens, sports equipment, holiday items, baskets, tools, electrical fixtures, and office supplies.



Barbara Faidley: (515) 233-3874 or barbara@faidley.org; Barbara Yungclas: (515) 292-9274 or wryungclas@aol.com; Cornelia Flora: (515) 232-7664 or cflora@iastate.edu

Women's Brownbag Fellowship: Bring your lunch and join us!

Our group meets in Fellowship Hall at noon on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month.

July 8: Discussion of hobbies and outside interests. What do you like to do with your free time? Maybe you can discover someone with a common interest, and get to know them in a different way.

July 22: Sharing joys and concerns.

August 9: This will be the only August meeting, because of the ABC Sale preps the last week of August.

RESULTS FOR THE “HELP EILEEN AND CARLA FIND SERVICES” SURVEY

Submitted by Lynette Spicer, Chair of Ministerial Transition Team

Congregants at Ames UCC had many recommendations for pet services. Twenty-five recommendations came in for veterinarians with some respondents listing more than one veterinarian. Eleven people suggested pet sitters, including five congregants who recommended themselves, and three people listed pet groomers.

If you're looking for a pet sitter, help may be in the next pew. Bradley Duckstein, Tranquility Jo, Aria Pilcher, Tom Tedrow, and David White recommended themselves. At Home Pet Care & House Sitting, vet tech at Somerset Veterinary Hospital, and Wind Dancer Kennels were the other pet sitters recommended.

The veterinarian suggestions were: 8 for Somerset Veterinary Hospital, 6 for Ames Pet Hospital, 4 for Boone Veterinary Hospital, 2 for Companion Animal Clinic in Gilbert, and 1 each for All Pets Animal Hospital, ISU Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center, Ballard Veterinary Clinics, Pet Medical Center of Ames, and Heartland Pet Hospital & Mobile Practice in Story City.



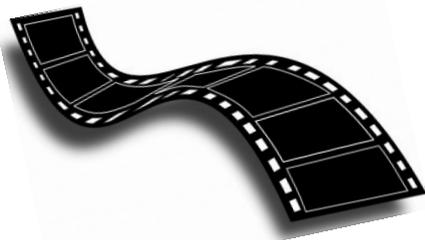
Congregants recommended Top Paw and Ames Pet Resort for grooming.

Banks and credit unions were other services with many recommendations. The 25 responses were: First National Bank (10), Greater Iowa Credit Union (6), US Bank (4), Wells Fargo (2), and 1 each for Great Western Bank, Midwest Heritage Bank, and South Story Bank.

Harp teacher? Piano teacher or tuner? The congregation recommended Barb Evenson and Mary Foss for harp lessons. Evenson was also recommended as a piano teacher, along with Pam Sibble and Kris Grotheer. The piano tuners recommended were Tom Russell (3 votes) and Jim Loos (1 vote).

Thirty-eight people submitted suggestions to help the Rev. Eileen Gebbie and her wife, Carla Barnwell find needed services in the Ames area. The ministerial transition team has given all recommendation sheets to Eileen and Carla. If you are interested in the complete results, copies are available in the church parlor.

SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS

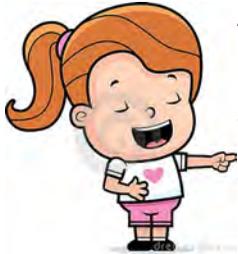


Join us the first Wednesday in July, and August at 6 p.m. for a family friendly movie in Fellowship Hall! Bring your pillows, blankets, and favorite beverage; the popcorn will be provided!

HUMOR IN OUR WORLD

Submitted by Barbara Faidley

A little boy was waiting for his mother to come out of the grocery store. As he waited, he was approached by a man who asked, "Son, can you tell me where the Post Office is?" The little boy replied, "Sure, just go straight down the street a couple of blocks and turn to your right." The man thanked the boy kindly and said, "I'm the new pastor in town, and I'd like for you to come to church on Sunday. I'll show you how to get to Heaven." The little boy replied with a chuckle, "Awwww, come on, you don't even know the way to the Post Office!"



After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided to become a minister when I grow up." "That's OK with us, but what made you decide that?" "Well, said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."

Can you tell me why a \$10 bill looks so small at the grocery store, but so big at church?

PROPERTY

The Property Team needs volunteer help in early July! During the first two weeks of July, our congregation will worship jointly down the street with the First Christian Church, Sundays at 9:30 a.m. To coincide with this change of venue, we will be sprucing up our church and common areas. Volunteers would be much appreciated, to help with waxing Fellowship Hall and kitchen floors, as well as other general cleaning jobs, one of which involves a scaffold. Please contact David Cook, Church Sexton, at 515-233-2240 or at cookdavi@gmail.com if you are able to help out, and for details on time.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ROOSEVELT SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Terrific local bands share a diversity of music with folks from all across Ames. Neighbors leave their air conditioning to enjoy the cool of a summer evening at open-air concerts. Join us at the park! Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m., Sundays, Roosevelt Park in Ames. Bring your own lawn chair, and a posse of friends. The City of Ames prohibits alcohol use at these all-ages, family-friendly events.

- June 28 Hot Tamale and the Red Hots (blues)
- July 5 Jason Danielson Jazz Quartet (jazz)
- July 12 Fat Sky (contemporary jazz, funk)
- July 19 James Biehn (blues, rock, Americana)
- July 26 Brother Trucker (Americana)
- Aug 2 Men on Horseback, and Paul Doffing (rock, folk)
- Aug 9 Diva and the Deacons (blues)



SOCIAL JUSTICE & OUTREACH

Forty seven people responded to the survey on where to direct the outreach portion of our Capital Campaign. A number of items were very close, and so decisions will need to be made as to the amounts. The team met on June 23 to discuss next steps. Results will be shared in a future newsletter.

The Social Justice & Outreach Committee is collecting data on the volunteer hours given to service and social justice by our congregation. Please let us know the time you have put in under the umbrella of UCC Ames, so we can show our impact. We need information that includes your name, hours, and tasks performed in the SOJO box, or sent by email to cflora@iastate.edu. ~*Cornelia Flora*

Emergency Residence Project Shelter Meal Providers Needed

We here at Ames UCC have been providing Monday night meals to the homeless shelter (Emergency Residence Project), located at 225 S. Kellogg , since the mid 1990s. Would you like to help serve our community?

Expectations:

1. Provide a simple main dish and salad/vegetable for 6-10 men.
2. Drop off the meal around 5:30 p.m. Arrangements can also be made to drop off your meal at an alternate time. You may stay and eat with the group if you wish.
3. A yearly schedule and instructions will be mailed to you. If the date for which you've signed up does not work, just call or email someone on the list to exchange dates. Or call me. I am always happy to fill in.

If you have any questions or want to sign up to help this very worthwhile program, please email me at ellenbarnhart@hotmail.com, or call me at 515-232-3855 before August 15. For those of you already provide meals, THANK YOU! You are much appreciated. ~*Ellen Barnhart*

OFFICE HOURS

Over the summer, the church office will be open Monday to Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



JULY WORSHIP

Sunday, July 5; 9:30 a.m.; at First Christian Church
Hannah Hannover preaching; *Mark 6:1-13*

Sunday, July 12; 9:30 a.m.; at First Christian Church
Rev. Mary Jane Button-Harrison preaching; *Mark 6:14-29*

Sunday, July 19; 9:30 a.m.; at UCC
Rev. Eileen Gebbie preaching; *Mark 6:30-34, 53-56*

Sunday, July 26; 9:30 a.m.; at UCC
Rev. Mary Jane Button-Harrison preaching; *John 6:1-21*

2015

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:30am AM Work Crew 10 am ABC Sale Team 12pm Bell Ringing 6pm Family Movie</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>MOW: Tipton/ Potter/Andersen</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30am AM Work Crew 10am ABC Sale Team 12pm Womens Fellowship 12pm Bell Ringing</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>MOW: Dirks</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30am AM Work Crew 10am ABC Sale Team 12pm Bell Ringing 2pm UCC Book Club</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30am Food at First @ First MOW: Shields</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30am AM Work Crew 10am ABC Sale Team 12pm Womens Fellowship 12pm Bell Ringing *Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>MOW: Chase</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30am AM Work Crew 10am ABC Sale Team 12pm Bell Ringing 1pm Newsletter Assembly Team</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	

LIBRARY NEWS

The UCC Book Club will meet **Wednesday, July 15** at 2 p.m. in the church library to select titles for the upcoming book club year. All are welcome. The books being reviewed this month (below) are both available in our church library.

Book Review: We Know How This Ends: Living While Dying, by Bruce Kramer with Cathy Wurzer (2015)
Submitted by Linda Shenk

In December 2010, my former choir director and friend Bruce Kramer was diagnosed with ALS. Thus began the journey that led to this book, which he wrote with Cathy Wurzer, host of Minnesota Public Radio's "Morning Edition." When Bruce started as our choir director in Minneapolis, our "choir" was called "Two or More," but with exuberance and deep spirituality, he grew our choir and led us into sharing a most eclectic repertoire from high Renaissance, to U2, to South African spirituals. Moonlighting as our choir director, Bruce was a professor of Leadership and Education at nearby St. Thomas, and a devoted husband and dad. Buoyant, caring, positive, Bruce brought to faith and life and energy that inspired all of us.

Bruce brought to ALS (and to dying) those same gifts of the spirit. During the nearly five years between his diagnosis and death, Bruce wrote a blog called "The Dis-Ease Diary," and had many interviews with Cathy on MPR. In We Know How This Ends, Bruce tells of his struggles to work through the cognitive dissonance between the body he had, the person he was, the way he saw himself, and the gifts discovered in the process of the ALS progression. He works to embrace his vulnerability, his new lifestyle that sometimes requires focusing just on "being," his discovery of how much he can give, even when he can't move. He shares his terror, anger, and grief. He responded to his fear by looking for even a fleeting way to embrace falling — so he went skydiving!

Here are a few passages from the book:

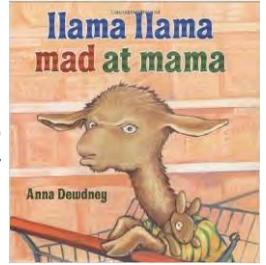
"My spiral has been one of an able-bodied fix-and-cure mentality, circling down to the deep reflection of what it means to acknowledge loss, to finally learning acceptance and gratitude for what I have. I have moved from unconsciously seeking the cure — the absolute rebuttal of the natural way of things — to consciously embracing the reality of frailty."

"In the years since ALS framed my life, I have sought to be engaged fully with life as I knew it. Now it seems more important to engage with life as it is."

Although it may sound strange, I found We Know How This Ends made for a great summer read, because it reminded me to love the present moment, and find ways to do what matters most now, not saving the wishes for a "bucket list." It encouraged me to find little stay-cations in everyday life, in this summer season when we are so focused on vacations.

Children's Book Review: Llama Llama Mad at Mama, by Anna Dewdney (2007)

Submitted by Barbara Faidley



This is one of the books in the Llama Llama series. In this story, Llama and her mother go shopping at the Shop-O-Rama. Llama is tired of trying on new clothes, and getting food for lunch. She does not want to be here. She wants to GO. She gets MAD, and she starts throwing everything out of the cart, and yelling, “No more waiting, no more lines!” Mama calms her down, and says they will try to make it fun, and get the shopping done. Soon they are waving good-bye to Shop-O-Rama. While having ice cream cones, the sentiment is “Llama Llama LOVES her mama.” Great read-aloud series, depicting normal events between parents and children.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH: UCCAMES.ORG



If you haven't looked at our church website recently, please do so! It has a tremendous amount of information, including photos of the church and sanctuary, its rich history, and planned sermon titles, preachers, and scripture readings. It also lists texts from the Bible for that week. There are links to:

1. Directions, maps and parking (for out of towners);
2. Worship service explained;
3. Our mission, i.e., the meaning of “Open and Affirming,” and “Just Peace,” our service, fellowship, and justice activities;
4. Activities planned for children and youth, upcoming celebrations, campaigns, and Theologians in Residence;
5. Calendar for month, listing all meetings and activities of our very active membership;
6. Audio recordings of past sermons, going back to 2012



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 Team Advisor.....Ellen Barnhart
 Christian Education.....Genya Coffey
 Financial Stewardship.....Diana McHenry
 Invitation and Welcome.....Amy Erica Smith
 Member Services.....Jan Bauer
 Property.....Steve Barnhart
 Social Justice and Outreach.....Cornelia Flora
 Worship & Music.....Bradley Duckstein
 Association and Conference Delegate.....Jim Peake
 Treasurer.....Jim Dickson
 Clerk.....Lynette Spicer

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ministers.....The Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore, Interim Minister
 The Rev. Eileen Gebbie, Senior Minister
 Hannah Hannover, Minister to Children & Families
 Emily Kenneke, Youth Director
 Music Director.....Lesley Lackore
 Keyboardist.....Karen Stewart
 Secretary.....David Cook
 Section.....Nancy Heathman
 Financial Secretary.....Nancy Heathman

STAFF

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.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

where you are on life's journey,

No matter who you are or



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