



JAMES UCC COURIER

AUGUST 2016



WORSHIP IN THE PARK

BROOKSIDE PARK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14
AT 10:30 A.M.

WITH FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH & FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTORAL LETTER

In one of my seminary courses, former UCC General Minister and President John Thomas asked us to consider the pastor as “pontiff, prophet, poet, and promise”: bridge, voice of justice, user of words for worship and care, and one who points “toward lives that embody forgiveness and grace, justice, joy and hope.”

On reaching the first anniversary of my call to and start date at Ames UCC (April 26 and July 6), I have been thinking a lot about those roles and how I am to live them out here with you.

My reflection has been intensified by the shooting in Orlando and my role as co-chair of the AMOS-launched Story County Housing Trust Fund Task Force.

As a result of the first, quite a few members of the LGBTQI community have reached out to me for spiritual care and possible public partnerships. As a result of the second, I find myself in meetings with all sorts of interesting people across the county.

I am your pastor, but because of who you have chosen to be as a church, you have created spaces for me to minister to so many more.

Which, to me, is just one more way you embody radical welcome, you practice re-remembering the body of Christ. For Ames UCC, the doors are never closed to anyone. In fact, the boundaries of the sanctuary continue to expand further and further past our brick walls and the asphalt of Sixth and Kellogg.

It is a rare honor to serve a congregation with such integrity of faith. You, Ames UCC, are the promise. Thank you.

Now on to year two!

Pr. Eileen



WORSHIP

August Worship

We will return to 10:30 a.m. worship in August. On August 14, join us for worship at 10:30 a.m. at Brookside Park with our friends from First Christian Church and First Baptist Church. Brookside Park is located at 1325 6th St. Please wear your Ames UCC t-shirt!

Baptism of Kathryn Bryce Hannover

On Sunday, August 7 during our 10:30 a.m. worship service we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism with the Hannover family. Please come help welcome Kate into our family of faith.

Save the Date for Rally Day!

Rally Day is September 11. Join us for an inter-generational potluck at 9:30 a.m. and worship with the reception of new members at 10:30 a.m.

Thanksgiving

by Pr. Eileen

In each worship service we have a variety of roles in addition to the choir, ushers, and greeters: prayer leader, scripture reader, mission and stewardship moments, the children's celebration, preaching, and hosting at the table. Each of those elements happen, beautifully, because you say yes to the call. Thank you to everyone who stepped into these roles from Holy Week through Sunday, July 17. Any omissions are unintentional.

Lee Bauer, Ellen Barnhart, Laura Beason, Sam Becker, George Belitsos, Janet Binder, Kevin Binder, Katie Bonney, Jenna Buchele, Jim Dickson, Bradley Duckstein, Barbara Faidley, Jennifer Gelwick-Luecke, Ed Goedecken, Eli Heginger, Tranquillity Jo, Michael Johnson, Susan Jones, Emily Kenneke, Sue Lamont, Greg Luecke, Tom Meyer, Jim Peake, Amanda Petefish-Schrag, Amy Pilcher, Carter Pilcher, Rachel Schelle, Dale Shenefelt, Ginny Shenk, Linda Shenk, Kristin Shields, Bill Slinger, Amy Erica Smith, Kim Spangler, Pat Spangler, Lynette Spicer, Phil Spike, Allen Trenkle, Jean Watts, David White, and Bill Yungclas

If you would like to be part of this personal spiritual development and communal spiritual leadership, just let me know: eileen@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323. All are welcome!

From the Worship and Music Team

Request for volunteers to usher and greet: We are in need of volunteers to help with ushering and greeting throughout the summer. Helping with this part of worship is easy and not time-consuming—you need not have any prior training... just a smile! Willing to help? Ideally, please use the website SignUp Genius that we have set up to take care of these opportunities. It takes only a minute or two to set up an account, and you can even have an email reminder sent to you. Here is the link for the online sign-up sheet: <http://bit.ly/291a73r>

If you would prefer contacting us directly to sign up, please contact Dale Shenefelt at dndshenefelt@gmail.com or Linda Shenk at 337-1196.

Emergency preparedness:

We are gathering emergency supplies to have in the basement should we experience a weather emergency that requires us to seek shelter. As we gather emergency supplies, we would really appreciate donations of the following items:

- a few battery-operated radios
- flashlights/lanterns
- blankets
- clean tarps

If you have extras of any of these items at home, please feel free to bring them to church and give them to Linda Shenk.

Special thanks to these folks who ushered/greeted in June and who helped with the wonderful service and time of fellowship at Hobbits Hill:

Laura Beason, George Belitsos, Janet Binder, Kevin Binder, Jenna Buchele, Paul Clark, Bradley Duckstein, Ed Goedecken, Burton Heginger, Eli Heginger, Grace Heginger, Nanette Heginger, Elaine Hieber, Greg Lamont, Karen Lasche, Allison McHenry, Ben McHenry, Diana McHenry, Peg Powell, Dale Shenefelt, Linda Shenk, Bill Slinger, Sharron Slinger, Kim Spangler, Pat Spangler, Galena Spike, Phil Spike, Peter Wolfe.

Serving on the Worship and Music Team

by Dale Shenefelt



Donna and I moved to Ames to be near our daughter Diana McHenry and family. When we got here I did not have a problem finding a church I felt at home in. Since at one time in my life I had been to seminary, and I grew up in a denomination that was very service oriented and got me started in that direction. The Lions Club, which I have been a member of for 50 years, kept me moving in that direction.

When we started in search for a church in Ames, Diana had already settled on Ames UCC

and we moved right in. I still remember walking around in the fellowship hall reading posters with several themes and all ending with God is still speaking and it felt like I had found my home.

I have agreed to be the person who makes sure we have the helpers we need to make sure worship goes smoothly for the three summer months. I realize how many people I am not on a personal communication relationship with. I hope this process helps me to be more comfortable asking people to participate in the worship process. As time goes on I look forward to becoming better acquainted with the congregation, and participating with the committee in planning meaningful worship services.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Thank you!

Hi, my name is Eli Heginger.

My family and I started coming to UCC about one year ago. On my first day, my horrible mom made me go to Sunday School. We had visited lots of churches and I wasn't happy with any of the others and I didn't want to try another new one. In fact, we argued about it in the car and I only promised to go for 10 minutes at the most. But when I got here, the group made me feel comfortable and welcomed. And it was the first time I visited a church where I was excited to come back and do it again.

The leaders Jean and Eileen are super cool and open-minded. In fact, the whole church seems to be that way. I've always felt loved and appreciated for who I am here. And I feel like everyone here cares about me. I love coming to this church and feeling like nobody will judge me. I can just be myself. I just want to thank you all for being so welcoming to me!

I especially want to thank all of you for being so generous to the youth group and me. We have been collecting donations for our National Youth Event trip to Orlando. I probably wouldn't have been able to go if it wasn't for your donations. I'm sure some of the others feel the same way. I am really excited to fly for the first time in my life and to meet other youth groups from around the country. And to go to the gift shop for some Mickey Mouse ears!

Seriously, I am very grateful. The whole youth group and I want to offer our thanks and appreciation to all of you!

Eli shared this with the congregation in worship on Sunday, July 17, 2016.

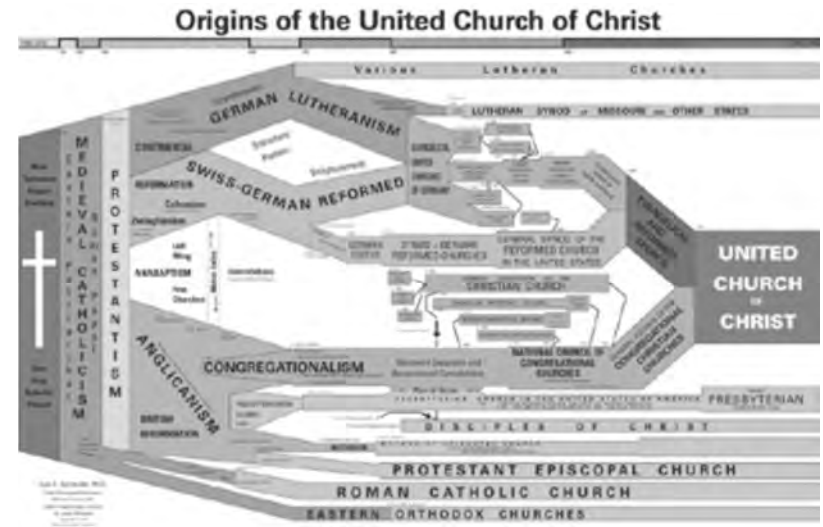


MEMBER SERVICES

Library News

by Barbara Faidley

As the summer progresses, the library work group has had a short vacation. We are processing some books that were donated to the ABC Sale that were given to the library. We also visited the Methodist Church to look at their children's collection and got some ideas for new books. Some unknown donor gave the library a sum of money and we are asking for suggestions for good authors or good books that would be good to have in our library. We are trying to get some up to date books for the library. Please give any suggestions to Barbara Faidley or Ginny Shenk. As we purchase new books we will display them on the shelf in the parlor and talk about them in the book reviews and library news columns in the church newsletter.



Join Us: Explore Membership at Ames UCC

Join Pr. Eileen and current church members to learn more about the theology and polity (governance) of Ames United Church of Christ as well as what formal membership means, all over a tasty lunch. The next three luncheon dates are below as well as the Sundays on which you would join, if you choose to do so (participation in the lunch does not mean a commitment to join). Childcare will be available on request. RSVP to Pr. Eileen (eileen@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323) by the date listed for each luncheon.

Sunday, August 28 from right after worship until 1:30 p.m.

New Member Sunday on September 11

RSVP by Sunday, August 21

Sunday, October 23 from right after worship until 1:30 p.m.

New Member Sunday on November 6

RSVP by Sunday, October 16

Sunday, December 18 from right after worship until 1:30 p.m.

New Member Sunday on January 8

RSVP by Sunday, January 1

Women's Fellowship

Our two meeting dates for August are August 10 and August 24. All women from the church are invited to the meetings. We meet from 12:15-1:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your lunch and join the fellowship with other women in our church. Our first meeting of the month will be lunch in Fellowship Hall and then a surprise activity involving the church library. We will be going on a treasure hunt with the books in the church library. Come join in the fun! Our second meeting will be our Joys and Concerns meeting. If you went to the Iowa State Fair this year or in past years, you can share your most favorite activity at the fair. So put Women's Fellowship on your calendar and join us as we get to know each other better.

ODDS & ENDS

Book Review

by Barbara Faidley

"The Last Dickens" by Matthew Pearl. In our church library this book is an audio book with 11 compact discs for 13 hours of listening pleasure. The book is set in 1870, the year of Dickens' death. James R. Osgood, an American publisher handling what turns out to be Dickens' last novel, The Mystery of Edwin Drood. He must travel the world in trying to solve the central mystery of the story, but must also save his ailing publishing business. Pearl manages to sculpt for us a grand mystery and layers it with the scandals of the time. He incorporates historical figures that were contemporaries of Dickens'. Pearl introduces us into a world that is far different from the one we live in today....and not the romantic vision of the Victorians we all seem to hold. Graft and corruption are everywhere. Copyright laws are nonexistent and authors essentially have no protection. Pearl's time researching for the "The Last Dickens" is evident on every page. Paul Michael is the reader for this audio version of the book. He is an actor on stage, screen and television. This audio book can be found in the Church Library along with our other audio and DVD books.

Children's Book Review

by Barbara Faidley

"A Book of Hugs" by Dave Ross.

The black and white drawings in the book are also by Dave Ross. Each page of the book shows an illustration and an explanation of a different type of hug. Some examples are:

1)OCTOPUS HUG-An octopus hugs with its whole body. Pictures show an octopus hugging a diver and a grandchild with arms and legs around a grandpa.

2)BROTHER HUG –usually called a Buddy Hug. Note: a circle of buddy huggers is called a huddle.

3) BLANKET HUG.

4)A SANDWICH HUG—the whole family can get into a sandwich hug. Illustration is a Mom and Dad hugging with a child in between them.

At the back of the book is a group of Special Hugs: Birthday Hug, Report Card Hugs, Hurt Hugs, Winner and Loser Hugs. Just imagine what those hugs look like. Finally the author gives us some facts and hints about hugs. HUG SOME-ONE AT LEAST ONCE A DAY AND TWICE ON A RAINY DAY. Good advice that might make the world a better place. This book can be found in the Children's Section in the cubby marked EMOTIONS & GETTING ALONG WITH OTHERS.



- Facebook, Twitter, + Instagram
- Weekly email announcements
- Courier newsletter

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No.153
Ames, IA 50010

Contact 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
karen.stewart@ames.k12.ia.us

Jean Watts, Youth Director
jean@amesucc.org

United Church of Christ
217 Sixth Street
Ames, IA 50010

Return Service Requested