

JAMES UCC COURIER

JULY 2016

June 13 Gathering for LGBTQIA People and Allies

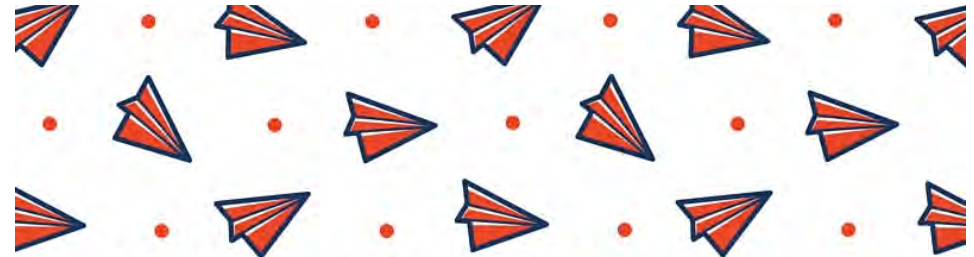


On Monday, June 13, Ames UCC hosted a gathering for LGBTQIA people and allies in the wake of the Orlando shooting. It provided a time to mourn and seek hope, attended by some 200 members of the community. To see more pictures, take a look at the final pages of the newsletter.

WORSHIP

July Worship Schedule

We will worship at 9:30 a.m. throughout July, returning to 10:30 a.m. in August. FCC is located at 6th and Clark.



july worship with ames ucc

Joint worship with First Christian Church
at 9:30 a.m.

- 7/3 at First Christian Church
- 7/10 at First Christian Church
- 7/17 at Ames UCC
- 7/24 at Ames UCC
- 7/31 at Ames UCC (just us!)

join us!



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:

1. 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.

2. A group of team members from WAM and Property are working on a series of items related to emergency preparedness: drafting a handbook for emergency procedures, creating signage to indicate exits and path to the basement (for extreme weather warnings), and conducting an emergency audit with the Fire Department. Many thanks to Nanette Heginger, Greg Lamont, Linda Shenk, Kim Spangler, and Justin Watts for their work on this set of projects.

Special thanks to these folks who ushered/greeted in May: Carla Barnwell, John Becker, Janet Binder, Kevin Binder, Jan Breitman, Jacob Buchele, Irene Dohrmann, Boyd Dohrmann, Burton Heginger, Eli Heginger, Nanette Heginger, Elaine Hieber, Greg Lamont, Sue Lamont, Ben McHenry, Alison McHenry, Laurie Olk, Dale Shenefelt, Ginny Shenk, Kathryn Shields, Kim Spangler, Pat Spangler, Galena Spike, Donna Starck, Carl Tipton, and Tania Tipton.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Thank you for a fantastic VBS!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this year's Vacation Bible School a success by donating snacks, volunteering their time, or bringing their kids! Special thanks to our volunteers: Alison McHenry, Ben McHenry, Pat Spangler, and Jean Watts.

Summer Meditation Group

Due to July's 9:30 a.m. worship schedule, Summer Meditation will return in August! If you missed our meetings in June, don't be afraid to join us again August 7 for a time of renewal and relaxation at 9:30 a.m. Contact Katie Bonney (kebonney0@gmail.com, 515-537-3545) for more information.

If you'd like to keep up your meditation practices without the group during the month of July or anytime, you can also contact Katie for a list of resources on meditation and guided meditation recordings.

MEMBER SERVICES

Women's Fellowship

In July we will only be having one meeting. The meeting will be on July 13. Our second meeting is usually the fourth Wednesday, but on that day all the women are invited to come and work on the ABC Sale which will be in the Fellowship Hall on that date. On July 13 Lori Peake will be our hostess. She has asked us to share with the group some person in your life that has influenced you. It could be a job colleague, a teacher, a minister, etc. We know that family members have influenced all of us but this time we would like to discuss someone that is not a family member. So bring you lunch, meet all of us at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and share with us about some important person in your life. All women of the church are welcome.

Attic to Basement Sale: July 29-31

by Barbara Faidley

The Ames UCC Attic to Basement Sale will be held Friday, July 29 from 4-7 p.m., Saturday, July 30 from 8:00 a.m. to noon, and leftover items half price on Sunday, July 31 after worship.

This will be the last newsletter before our ABC Sale. Remember: 20% of the profits from the sale go to a local charity, and 80% will go to church programs (to be announced). We have asked for your donations in another article but there are also other things we will need to make the sale a success. Here are ways that all of us can help do this:

1. Help move donations from choir room to Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 24 after church.
2. Volunteers are needed to distribute flyers to various locations around Ames, starting July 11.
3. Come any Wednesday morning in July from 10 am to noon to help sort and price donations (choir room).
4. Help set up tables on Saturday, July 23 at 2.00 pm
5. Come any day of the week before sale to arrange, sort, and price last-minute items. Refreshments provided. Good times for all. Work on the sale and be able to shop early.
6. Volunteers are needed during the sale. Cashiers, packers, general helpers. Work from 3:30 to 5:30 or 5:30 to 7:00 on Friday or 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Sign-up sheets in parlor on Sunday, July 17. WE NEED YOU.
7. Volunteer to box up unsold items on the Monday after the sale (8/1)
8. Help deliver unsold items to Goodwill, Salvation Army, Collegiate Presbyterian, and Affordables (Story City)
9. COME TO THE SALE TO SHOP! Or shop on Sunday AM (items half price)
10. LOOK FOR MORE SALE ITEMS- ask your friends, neighbors and co-workers.
11. Share about the sale on social media! Let your friends, neighbors and co-workers know the sale is on.

Large furniture items should come directly to Fellowship Hall starting July 25.

We need lots of volunteers. Come join us. It really is FUN. You get to know members of our church in an entirely different way.

Contact Barbara Faidley (233-3874 or barbara@faidley.org) or Barbara Yungclas (292-9274) if you have any questions.

DONATIONS TO THE SALE:

Go through your house from Attic to Basement to Garage to Outdoors. If you have any of the items listed below, consider donating them to the ABC Sale. Take all donations to the UCC Church choir room or call 233-3874 if you need help. Please note: NO CLOTHING, NO COMPUTERS.

Home Décor of any type

Lamps

Vases

Candles

Picture frames

Collectibles

Vintage items

Bath items

Kitchen items and utensils

Small appliances

Sports equipment

Books(children & adult)

DVDs and VCR Tapes

CDs

Cook Books

Tablecloths and placemats

Bed coverings, sheets, and pillows

Toys

Puzzles

Jewelry

Fashion accessories

Purses and Totes

Baskets (big and small)

Christmas Holiday items

Easter Holiday items

Miscellaneous Holiday items

Crafts/sewing materials

Stationary/cards

Office supplies/notebooks

Outside Decor

Outside tools and garden supplies

Children's furniture and baby items

Furniture



Book Club Schedule for 2016-2017

by Lynette Spicer

Summer is a good time to get reading.

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

September 21 -- *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee (2015 fiction, 288 pages)

Discussion leader: Allen Trenkle

Written in the mid-1950s, *Go Set a Watchman* confirms the enduring brilliance of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and serves as its essential companion, adding depth, context, and new meaning to an American classic. Now accepted as the first draft of the famous novel, the book's title comes from Isaiah 21:6: "For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth."

October 19 – *The Summer Before the War* by Helen Simonson (2016 fiction, 496 pages)

Discussion leader: Lynette Spicer
This witty character study of how a small English town reacts to the 1914 arrival of its first female teacher is a story of a family, a town, and a world in their final moments of innocence. The Washington Post review called it "a novel to cure your *Downton Abbey* withdrawal."

November 16 –*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope* by William Kamkwamba (2010 nonfiction, 320 pages)

Discussion leader: Pat Spangler

(Multiple copies are available in the Ames Public Library Book Club collection. Books may be checked out for six weeks.)
William Kamkwamba was born in Malawi, a country where modern science was a mystery and the land was withered by drought and hunger. William had read about windmills, and he dreamed of building one that would bring electricity and running water to his small village.

December 14 – Discussion – What are you reading? What do you recommend?

An open discussion in which readers can share what they are reading and recommend.

January 18 – *Kitchen Table Wisdom: Stories That Heal* by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D. (1996 nonfiction, 384 pages) Discussion leader: Christa Andersen
In a deeply moving and down-to-earth collection of true stories, this prominent physician shows us life in all its power and mystery and reminds us that the things we cannot measure may be the things that ultimately sustain and enrich our lives.

February 15 – A book by Harry T. Cook. Discussion leaders: book club planning members

Harry T. Cook is a retired Episcopal priest, a scholar of ancient religious texts and the ideas that have emerged from them and the Theologian in Residence at Ames UCC on March 3-5.

March 15 -- *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander (2012 nonfiction, 336 pages) Discussion leader: Nancy Marks

With dazzling candor, legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that "we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it." By targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control—relegating millions to a permanent second-class status—even as it formally adheres to the principle of colorblindness.

April 19 – *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie (1934 fiction, 336 pages) Discussion leader: Paul Clark

The Orient Express, snowed up in Yugoslavia, provides the ideal 'closed' set-up for a classic-style exercise in detection, as well as an excuse for an international cast-list.

May 17 – *The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew-- Three Women Search for Understanding* by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner (2007 nonfiction, 396 pages) Discussion leader: Barbara Faidley

When an American Muslim woman befriends two other mothers, one Jewish and one Christian, they decide to educate their children about their respective religions. None of them guessed their regular meetings would provide life-changing answers and form bonds that would forever alter their struggles with prejudice, fear, and anger.

June 21 -- Select titles for upcoming book club year

ODDS & ENDS

Book Review

by Barbara Faidley

The book for review this month is “The THANK YOU Book” by Robyn Freedman Spizman. The author is a well-known television personality and consumer advocate. She is also the author of over 50 educational, parenting and how-to books. In this book the author provides the reader with hundreds of creative and clever ways to express appreciation. The ideas are presented in a straight-forward fashion and they give readers examples to follow for writing simple notes, romantic poems, traditional cards, creating edible thank-yous and all the thank-yous in between. THANK YOU is the ultimate expression of appreciation that acknowledges someone’s kindness and thoughtfulness. When saying “Thank you,” you have an opportunity to let family or friends know how much their deed, words, or kindness meant to you. THANK YOU, when thoughtfully planned, is both a joy and a meaningful experience. How you choose to thank someone becomes a wonderful journey to express your uniqueness and in turn to celebrate another person’s special qualities. The book is found in the church library under our STORY COLLECTIONS heading or on the shelf in the parlor.

Children's Book Review

by Barbara Faidley

“Does God Know How to Tie Shoes?” by Nancy White Carlsrom and illustrated by Lori McElrath-Eslick. On each page a child asks a parent a God question. (What does he wear, how does he talk, does he clean his room, etc.) The answers are from different verses of psalms, which is listed in the back of the book. The illustrations on each 2 page spread reflect what the answer to the question has been. The illustrations are done in oils and are very graphic. It is a simple book for children to understand things about God. It is worth a read. It will be found in the Children’s Christian Books area of the church library. This book is in the cubby marked GOD, or it will be displayed on the shelf in the parlor.

Gathering for LGBTQIA and Allies: Thank You

Our church once again showed the depth of its investment in radical welcome as we gathered Monday night, June 13 in response to the shooting in Orlando.

Thank you to Ben Schrag and Sunny Stewart for your beautiful music. Thank you to Diane Birt, Barbara Faidley, Carla Barnwell, Bill and Barbara Yungclas, Bradley Duckstein, Ed Goedeken and Laura Beason, Lynette Spicer, Terry Potter, Katie Bonney, and Amy Erica Smith for serving as ushers and greeters. (If I left anyone out, please correct me!)

I heard, repeatedly, that this was the most welcoming church that attendees had ever been to, an especially meaningful statement coming from those for whom church had in the past been a danger zone. —Pr. Eileen





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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
 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