



JAMES UCC COURIER

SEPTEMBER 2016

WORSHIP

Serving on the Worship and Music Team
by Donna Starck

I grew up attending the Ripley Congregational UCC Church in Traer, IA. Preparing for confirmation with Rev. Light helped me to move from memorizing Bible verses to exploring their meanings. But like many youth, when I moved away from home I seldom attended church. Later, participation in Al-Anon helped to renew my spiritual life so I joined a small group at Plymouth UCC Church in Des Moines. After moving to Ames in 2000, I visited a few churches but the warm welcome I received from Martha Geist confirmed that the Ames UCC was right for me.

Sunday worship offers me time to pause and reflect on my hopes, fears, joys and regrets. The sermons bring the scriptures to life to help both challenge and affirm my faith. Our church community shares friendship and support. Serving on the Worship and Music Team (WAM) provides opportunities for me support Pastor Eileen and members of the congregation during their worship experience. I enjoy the opportunity to greet friends and meet new members and visitors.

Consider Yourself Asked
by Pr. Eileen

We call the order of worship a "liturgy." The origin work in Greek means "work of the people." That means our worship is a collective effort of both the congregation and the staff. I hope that you will consider helping with this work by serving as the leader of our opening prayers, through reading scripture, or even hosting at the table. If you have been waiting to be asked, well, consider yourself asked! Just contact me for details and openings: eileen@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323. Thank you!



Unity of Ames' Rev. Deb Hill-Davis accepting a check for \$800 from our own Barbara Faidley. These funds represent 20% of our income from the Attic to Basement Sale and will be used for Dream Seed Scholarships for youth coming out of foster care. Thank you to everyone who donated to the sale, worked the sale, and shopped at the sale!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Learning Center on September 18

Join us for our first Learning Center of the year on September 18: Journeys of Faith with Burton & Nannette Heginger. Learn about the history and faith of some of our newer members.

WAC Starts September 21

Wednesday Afternoon Club (WAC) begins on Wednesday, September 21! Wednesdays we will meet after school (early dismissal is at 2:05 p.m.) for an afternoon of fun at Ames UCC! Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us!

This Fall we will be learning more about The Lord's Prayer and discovering new ways to pray. Each week we have crafts, snacks, and games. We would love to have YOU join us!

Also, we are still needing one more driver to help bring children from their elementary school to the church on Wednesday afternoons. If you are interested in attending WAC or can help drive, talk to Hannah for more information! (hannah@amesucc.org)

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH

304 Wellons Drive

On Tuesday, August 23, the Ames City Council voted to sell 306 Wellons Drive to Habitat for Humanity of Central Iowa. Thanks to our gift of \$40,000, Habitat was able to make that purchase and it will be the site of our home build/remodel. Thank you!

—Pr. Eileen

MEMBER SERVICES

It's Time for Reading and Discussing

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".

Women's Fellowship

The schedule for Women's Fellowship returns to our regular routine in September. We meet from 12:15-1:15 pm every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. We bring our lunches and get to know each other better. We have some planned programs and some meetings where we just talk about our joys and concerns. All women from the church are welcome to join us. September 14 we will be eat our lunches and then go to the Church Library for a Library Treasure Hunt. We have many new books and we have arranged the library differently so we would like people to know what we have available for check-out. Come join the fun. On September 28 we will be having our Joys and Concerns meeting for the month. Come join us and get to know the women of our church from discussion and fellowship.

Attic to Basement Sale: Thank you!

Our annual sale is over and it was a GREAT SUCCESS! We had a tremendous amount of donations of all shapes and sizes. We had at least 50 people waiting to get into the sale on Friday afternoon when we opened. The place was packed! The cahiers were kept busy during the first 2 hours. We had lines waiting to check out. Our social media presence was felt as some people said they saw a picture online and came to buy that item. Once they got here we hope they saw other things they wanted to buy. We had pre-sales from workers, Friday night sales, Saturday morning sales and Sunday morning sales. We also had 5 or 6 people take advantage of our FREE give away on Sunday afternoon.

We had lots of donations left to pack up on Monday morning. Items left went to various charitable organizations. The best quality items were saved for next year. We gave a large portion of good donations to a Rummage Sale given to fundraise for NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness). Other donations went to Salvation Army, Goodwill, Collegiate Presbyterian Church Rummage and Overflow. Our leftover books went to the Ames Public Library.

As of this date, our Sale total collected was \$4,014.30. WOW! 20 percent of this amount will go to the Dream Seed Scholarship Fund for teenagers aging out of foster care. The remaining funds will go to the youth (Pre-K – High School) programs of the church. A sale committee has already met to discuss and evaluate the sale: things that worked, and things that can be improved upon. Look for a few changes next year and start saving all those great donations for next year too.

A great big thank you to everyone who helped with the sale: Nancy Alt, Allison Anderson, Ellen Barnhart, Jan Bauer, Katie Bonney, Jan Breitman, Jeff Breitman, Jerry Chase, Sally Chase, David Cook, Boyd Dohrmann, Irene Dohrmann, Mary Donovan, Barbara Faidley, LeVern Faidley, Debi Ford, Eileen Gebbie, Barbara Hauerrberg, Emma Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Tracey Johnson, Susan Jones, Dinah Kerksieck, Nancy Marks, Allison McHenry, Ben McHenry, Diana McHenry, Laurie Olk, Terry Potter, Steve Rogers-Smith, Dale Shenefelt, Donna Shenefelt, Aidan Shenk Cook, Ailis Shenk Cook, Ginny Shenk, Linda Shenk Cook, Kathryn Shields, Kristin Shields, Amy Erica Smith, Lynette Spicer, Galina Spike, Phil Spike, Pat Spangler, Sunny Stewart, Tania Tipton, Jean Watts, Greg Wool, Barbara Yungclas, Bill Yungclas.

Holiday Hoopla and Cookies Galore

by Barbara Faidley

Does this sound like an interesting name? Well, this name or something similar will be the theme of our next sale, on October 15. If you were at the ABC sale you saw how crowded every single table was. We could not display one more thing. So, that left us with all the generous donations you gave us for all the holidays. We have many items for Christmas, but also things for Halloween, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day, Easter and other misc holidays.

We would also like to involve more people in the sale by asking everyone to bake cookies for us to sell at our next sale. We are thinking about having gluten-free offerings, nut-free offerings, drop cookies, shaped cookies, holiday cookies, and all types of brownies and other bars. We will provide pick-up for the cookies for those people who cannot bring them to the church. We would like to get as many people involved in this cookie baking so it is a total church endeavor. So get your baking pans out and get ready to volunteer those great cookies you have been making forever.

We will accept donations of holiday items—all holidays—fall and winter are also included. That means snowmen and harvest items. Americana items are also welcome.

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	W
<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>9:30a Summer Meditation Group 10:30a Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p><i>Church Office Closed</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p><i>Church Office Closed</i></p>	<p>8:30a Bible 9:30a AM V 12p Bell Ri 1p Newslet 6:45p Choi</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>9:15a Rally Sunday Potluck 9:30a Safety Team 10:30a Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p><i>Pr. Eileen off</i> 5:30p Emergency Residence Project (Hannover)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p><i>Pr. Eileen off</i> 12p Men's Fellowship 5p 150th Capital Construction Task Force</p>	<p>8:30a Bible 9:30a AM V 12p Bell Ri 12:15p Wo Fellowship 5p Staff Wo Planning 6:45p Choi</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>9:15a Learning Center 10:30a Worship with Holy Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>5:30p Emergency Residence Project (Shedd)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>7:15p Executive Board</p>	<p><i>Newsletter</i> 8:30a Bible 9:30a AM V 12p Bell Ri 2p Book Cl 2:05p Wed Club 6:45p Choi</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>9:15a Learning Center 9:30a Meet the Parents 10:30a Worship 12p Matthew 25:36 Visitation Ministry Training</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>9:30a Staff Meeting 5:30p Emergency Residence Project (Tipton)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p><i>Pastor's Reading Day</i> 12p Men's Fellowship</p>	<p>8:30a Bible 9:30a AM V 12p Bell Ri 12:15p Wo Fellowship 1p Newslet 2:05p Wed Club 6:45p Choi</p>

ber 2016

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 1p Library Work Group	2	3 11:20a Meals on Wheels 1p Chester L. Britt Memorial Service
7 Study Work Crew nging cter Crew r Rehearsal	8 10a Ames Area Religious Leaders 1p Library Work Group 7p Financial Stewardship	9	10 11:20a Meals on Wheels
14 Study Work Crew nging men's orship r Rehearsal	15 1p Library Work Group	16	17 9:30a Food at First 11:20a Meals on Wheels
21 <i>deadline</i> Study Work Crew nging ub Afternoon r Rehearsal	22 1p Library Work Group	23	24 11:20a Meals on Wheels 4p Worship and Music
28 Study Work Crew nging men's cter Crew Afternoon r Rehearsal	29 1p Library Work Group	30	

PROPERTY & OUR CAMPUS

Dear Ames UCC:

Despite significant effort (primarily by Doug Powell), we have not been able to secure an affordable bid for the East entrance enclosure (priority 3 of our 150th Capital Campaign). We believe that the lack of acceptable bids has been at least partially due to a building boom in Iowa

At this time, your Executive Board is forming a Task Force to determine options for moving forward in good faith with the earlier vision of the congregation and generosity of the 150th Capital Campaign donors. We are hoping that the Task Force can develop and review multiple options for discussion and a possible vote at our annual meeting in January. The Task Force will be asked to receive input from the congregation as they develop options for the congregation to consider. In the meantime, contributions the 150th Capital Campaign will continue to accumulate for later use.

Our Outreach portion of our 150th Capital Campaign has been much easier to manage than the construction portion. When gifts are received, 20% is placed in the 150th Capital Campaign Outreach Fund. When the balance in this Outreach Fund is sufficient, we have been making additional gifts according to the order and amount approved at the congregational meeting on December 6, 2015.

If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please contact me directly.

Our church is gifted with many capable and faithful leaders who listen well to the church and God. This remains an exciting time to be at Ames UCC.

Thank you,

Phil Spike, Moderator
plspike@iastate.edu
 Home: (515) 292-8925
 Cell: (515) 291-5361

ODDS & ENDS

2016 Annual Meeting of the Iowa Conference of the United Church of Christ

Join your UCC friends and colleagues for a day to learn more about and then participate in setting future direction for the United Church of Christ here in Iowa. We will deliberate and make decisions that impact and link local churches, associations, the Board of Directors and various committees and task forces - as well as the national UCC setting. We will elect leaders, consider a budget and hear reports. We will consider joining our staff with that of our neighboring conferences to the west.

The Annual Meeting is a day of worship, fellowship around a meal, and decision-making for our common life.

Date: October 22, 2016
 Location: First Christian Church 2500 University Ave, Des Moines 50311
 Parking: Free in church parking lot on SOUTH side of church
 Cost: \$25/person includes lunch/materials
 Childcare: FREE if registered in advance using the link below.

Schedule: The marketplace opens at 8:30am.
 Check-in and coffee is at 9:00am.
 Hearing on the "Tri-Conference Staff Proposal," Hosted by Tri-Conference Cooperation Task Force, is from 9:30am to 10:15am
 Opening Worship/Business/Lunch is from 10:30am to 3:30pm

Register at <http://bit.ly/2bSyh0v> or call Jo Ordway at 515.277.6369.

Book Review

by Barbara Faidley

“Help, Lord! I’m Having a Senior Moment: Notes to God on Growing Older”

By Karen O’Connor

In this book the author presents little stories that cover 1) Funny Moments, 2) Moments We Would Rather Forget, 3) Poignant Moments, 4) Short Takes and 5) Thankful Moments.

Like it or not, senior moments happen. We might as well laugh about them and thank God for the way they add interest to our lives. Some senior moments are more heartbreaking or embarrassing than funny. But in every case, we can take them to the Lord who cares for us. The author, in her wise and witty way both values and validates seniors. As she says, “Senior Moments are guaranteed to keep us from becoming too self-important. We just need another piece of humble pie!” This book can be found with the other books with collections of stories, to the left as you enter the Church Library.

Children’s Book Review

“One Happy Classroom by Charnan Simon”

This book is a Rookie Reader and uses 52 words during the book. It is a small picture book which stresses counting. One to ten and then back again to one. The words on the page seem very obvious until you look at the illustrations. They show typical Kindergarten classroom scenes and activities, but the numbers don’t always match the illustrations, such as the page that reads: “Six good listeners.” The illustration shows the entire class in group time listening to the story, but you need to find the good listeners. Most of the children are not listening. The detail in the illustrations give this little book much needed character. It was fun just trying to find the children who matched the written words. It can be found during September in the bookshelf at the back of the sanctuary and after that in the cubbie marked KID’S LIFE.

Furniture Items for Sale



As the church is changing spaces and how we use them, there are some items that have been made available for re-use. We have pictures of the following items that are presently in the choir room. As we prepare to do more renovation work in the church there is no place to store these items. There are 2 retro chrome kitchen tables. One is gray and the other is a drop leaf yellow table. Prices are reasonable and negotiable. There are also some large wooden folding tables with a metal rim that are free to anyone who would like one for a work table, etc. Please call Barbara Faidley or Katie in the church

office if you are interested in any of the above items. The tables will be

available after the October 15 sale. There is also an 8 foot wide book shelf available. It is made of wood and very professionally done. It has 3 shelves per side (6 in total). These shelves are also wood and have a beveled front. It is a well-made piece and deserves a good home. Please consider taking some of these items that the church can no longer use.



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

Ames United Church of Christ
GIVING CARD FOR 2017

As we want to grow in faithfulness to God and in our giving to God's church and world, during 2017, I/we plan to give:

\$ _____ weekly, \$ _____ monthly, or \$ _____ quarterly

For a total annual pledge of \$ _____

Since this is an estimate of what I/we plan to give to the church for the next year, if my/our financial circumstances change, I/we can change this estimate by notifying the church office.

Name(s)

How would you like your name(s) to appear in our thank you materials?

Anonymously

Address

Learn about electronic giving at amesucc.org/give

"I've never been in a church that prioritizes our children and youth the way you do. It is an amazing feeling--for each of them and for us parents--to know they are all loved and welcomed to just be themselves. Ames UCC rocks!" –Nanette Heginger

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