



**Ames United Church of Christ  
Sunday, May 6, 2018**

*Welcome to Ames UCC! Worship is the way we praise God and learn what it means to be a Christian. Services of worship are just that: a way that we serve the power that calls us together and sends us out to be the eyes, hands, and feet of justice in the world. We hope that you leave today feeling connected, renewed, and in relationship with the holy.*

*In keeping with the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people of any age, gender, race, culture, ability, sexual orientation, or gender identity 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.*

*Our deacon, ushers, and greeters for today are Jan Breitman, Boyd Dohrmann, Irene Dohrmann, Sue Lamont, and Linda Shenk. Liz Kolbe, Nick Lyon, and Ben Schrag are providing coffee fellowship. Kevin Binder is scheduled for building lockup.*

**TODAY: PULPIT SWAP**

*The United Church of Christ is governed by three principals: covenant, unity, and autonomy. As such, all power begins in the local church and then ripples outward, rather than a national body controlling in a top-down fashion. Last year, the leadership of the Central Association, which includes 24 churches besides us, asked us all to participate in a "pulpit swap" as a way to get to know each other better. Today Pastor Eileen is preaching at Urbandale UCC and their pastor, The Rev. Dave Sickelka is here.*

*Like Ames UCC, Urbandale UCC is a Just Peace and Open and Affirming congregation. Their first pastor was The Rev. Olive Green, in 1919. Pastor Dave has been with them since 2010. Pastor Dave was raised in rural Iowa on a farm between the towns of Sutherland and Primghar, in O'Brien County. He attended Westmar College in Le Mars, Iowa earning a B.A. with majors in Christian Religion and Sociology. His Seminary experience was at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, located in New Brighton, Minnesota (a suburb of Minneapolis). Pastor Dave is married to The Rev. Susan Sickelka, also an ordained UCC pastor, who serves at Salem UCC in Alleman. Pastor Dave is currently the chair of the Board of Directors of the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa, and in that position advocates for religious freedom and civility in public dialogue.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL**

**CENTERING MUSIC**      "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"      arr. P. Manz

**GREETINGS**

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*A formal, and mutual, invitation to move into the worship experience.*

**One:** We seek your truth in the word you have revealed.

**Many:** **We long to receive your blessing.**

**One:** We long to know what you desire of us.

**Many:** **But how can we, unless we let you guide us, O God? Amen.**

## HYMN “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing,” Hymn 42

*Singing is one way to connect to God through our bodies. We stand up, breathe deep, and let loose. And as Augustine wrote, “(S)he who sings, prays twice.”*

## INVOKING THE HOLY

*God is always with us, so this “invoking” or invitation to God, is really an invitation to our own selves to become aware of that constant presence.*

**One:** God of all insight, you grant us wisdom in ways that the world cannot. Open our ears to listen for your call, that your love might overflow through us into a world desperately in need of your grace. Create in us the pure trust to follow you, even when it seems you are far away. In your name, we pray, Amen.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Confession has a long tradition in Christian history. It is a way to name our own brokenness and failing, sometimes generically and sometimes quite specifically, as a means to cleanse our hearts as we move through the service.*

**One:** We confess our brokenness before God and one another. God of Life,

**Many:** **Though you have made all things new, we still cling to the old.**

**Forgive us when we doubt your presence, resist your call,  
and lose heart in the face of challenges.**

**Remind us that you are bigger than our problems,  
our petty concerns, and foolish preoccupations,  
and restore us with your all-consuming love. Amen.**

## SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

*A brief moment to reflect on the prayer and your own heart and life. Silence is as important as noise in our dialogue with the divine.*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*As a people of Easter, there is always good news: when we die to our brokenness, we live again in hope.*

**One:** Jesus is risen, and yet rising, indeed. Neither our brokenness nor our evil has the power to separate us from the love that rebukes death and endures eternally. In love, we are forgiven. Amen.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Passing the Peace is an ancient Christian tradition in which we show we carry no weapons, only love.*

## CHILDREN’S CELEBRATION

*Children are very important to our church. Each service they come forward for a special lesson just for them. We want all children to know they are welcome everywhere in our sanctuary, even – especially – at the very front. We sing the song below as they come forward.*



## **GOSPEL** John 15:9-17 (New Revised Standard Version)

*Gospel means "good news," making the full title of this book of the Bible "The Good News of Jesus Christ according to John."*

As the Creator has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Lord's commandments and abide in that love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Lord. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Creator will give you whatever you ask him in that name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

## **SERMON** "Pop-Ups and Promotions"

The Rev. David Sickelka, Senior Pastor  
Urbandale United Church of Christ

## **HYMN OF REFLECTION** "Great Work has God Begun in You," Hymn 353, verses 1, 2 and 4

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Please share your prayer needs as you are so moved.*

### **PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR**

*The basics of the Lord's Prayer appear in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4. It may be familiar to you in this form, or with "sins" or "trespasses" toward the end. We also support the use of traditional or contemporary language for addressing the holy and naming the holy's realm.*

**Our Father/Creator who art in heaven/the cosmos, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom/kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven/the cosmos. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom/kin-dom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever, Amen.**

### **OFFERING** "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another" Pepper Choplin Chancel Choir

*In 2018, ten percent of our total budget will help fund local, regional, and national charitable programs. On the third Sunday of each month, when we have Holy Communion, loose change and bills are designated for a Communion Fund, which supports our in-house Pastoral Emergency Fund. You can also designate your gift to the Pastoral Emergency Fund directly. If you would like to sign up for automated giving, contact Katie Tschopp at 515-232-9323 or [office@amesucc.org](mailto:office@amesucc.org).*

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

### **HYMN OF SENDING** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service," Hymn 495

### **BENEDICTION**

*From the Latin of "well" and "to speak," this is one final good word to send us off. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, tea, treats, and community.*

## Thank You

It was my honor on Wednesday to not only visit and pray with Amy and Josh Pilcher in Iowa City but also to deliver the fat bundle of gifts you gave in support of their extended stay, and his recovery, there. We are not a big church and we are not a rich church, but we are enormous of heart and truly generous. Thank you, thank you, thank you. -Pr. Eileen

## Spring is here: UCC t-shirt Orders Due Tomorrow

The national UCC has put their "Be the Church" t-shirt on sale. Let's take advantage of the moment to nab some for ourselves. They are black, 100% preshrunk cotton, short-sleeved t-shirts. "God is still speaking" tagline in red and tan on front. The back features, in tan print, 10 powerful statements that describe what it means to "Be the Church":

- Be the Church
- Protect the environment.
- Care for the poor.
- Forgive often.
- Reject racism.
- Fight for the powerless.
- Share earthly and spiritual resources.
- Embrace diversity.
- Love God.
- Enjoy this life.



The shirts come in unisex small, medium, large, XL, 2XL through 3XL and the cost is \$17 per shirt (\$16.20 + \$0.80 for shipping).

Please let me know by Monday, May 7 what size(s) you would like. Payment may be made via check or cash in the offering plate or at pick up once they arrive. —Pr. Eileen

## Submit an Article for the Summer Ames UCC Newsletter – 5/9

The due date for this summer's edition of the Ames UCC Courier is Wednesday, May 9. Submit an article about an upcoming event, your church team, or your experience as a congregant in the church. This season's articles will fall under the categories of "Community," "Generosity," "Relationships," and "Worship."

Do we have your address to send you a print copy of the newsletter? If your address or other contact information needs updated, get in touch with Katie Tschopp (515-232-9323, office@amesucc.org) in the church office.

## Women's Fellowship – 5/9

Bring your lunch and join us for Women's Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall at noon on Wednesday, May 9. We plan to discuss special places and day trips to take in Iowa. You can even bring pictures to share! Everyone has special places they like to visit. Come enjoy some fellowship and learn about things to do in Iowa. Hope to see you there.

## The Secret Book of John – 5/9, 16, 23

Our study of the Nag Hammadi scriptures continues during the 6:30 p.m. Bible study on Wednesdays, May 9, 16, and 23. I will have copies on the first day. Childcare for kids younger than first grade is available on request. Please come! —Pr. Eileen

## Thank You for Your Extravagant Welcome

Thank you to the following people who have helped provide an extravagant welcome during the month of April after Easter: Brett Brinkmeyer, the Coppoc Family, Barbara Hauerrberg, Anna Johnson, Karen Lasche, Nick Lyon, Nancy Marks, Tom Meyer, Ann Reinhardt, Steve Rogers-Smith, Rachel Schelle, Dale Shenefelt, Kim Spangler, Pat Spangler, Lynette Spicer, Galina Spike, Phil Spike, Carl Tipton, and Tania Tipton.

### **Provide the Next Extravagant Welcome**

Ready to volunteer as an usher or greeter? Find the sign up table in the parlor after worship today. Help everyone have a great Sunday morning in church.

### **Update on the New Library**

The library has moved to Room 104! Many people have helped in filling boxes with books, moving furniture and bookcases, and unpacking books in the new room. We filled more than 80 boxes to move. Thank you to Jan Breitman, Barbara Faidley, LeVern Faidley, Karen Lasche, Nancy Marks, Steve Rogers-Smith, Ben Schrag, Ginny Shenk, Barbara Yungclas, and Bill Yungclas. With the help of all these people, we were able to move very efficiently and have some fun while we worked! Thank you very much. Not everything is ready to open yet, but please stick your head in and see how it looks as you go by after worship. –Barbara Faidley, Church Librarian



## **DEVOTIONALS**

RECEIVE REMINDERS OF  
GOD'S LOVE AND PRESENCE,  
IN POETRY AND PROSE,  
VIA TEXT OR E-MAIL.

GO TO  
[REMIND.COM/JOIN/AMESUCC](https://remind.com/join/amesucc)

### **AMOS Economic Summit & Assembly with candidates for public office – 6/2**

With all the sound bites on the news lately, we've sure been hearing a lot about taxes. But how much do we really know about who benefits and who pays? It's time for a grown-up conversation about taxes in Iowa.

Join AMOS leaders and institutions for an Economic Summit on Sunday June 2nd as we get beyond the sound bites and partisan rhetoric to:

- Learn about our state and local tax systems: "Who benefits? Who pays?"
- Hear from the team of AMOS leaders who have spent three months researching taxes in Iowa
- Look at specific funding strategies to address the pressures on our families and neighbors, including mental healthcare, education and workforce, and housing and neighborhood improvements
- Engage candidates for public office and ask for their support of our agenda

### *AMOS Economic Summit & Assembly with candidates for public office*

Saturday, June 2nd

11:30am Lunch & Registration

12-4pm Summit & Assembly

Norwalk Christian Church, Norwalk, IA

RSVP to our Core Team, including whether you would like to carpool and any dietary restrictions, by contacting Ben Schrag ([mr.half@gmail.com](mailto:mr.half@gmail.com)).

# AMOS ECONOMIC SUMMIT

06/02/18  
NORWALK, IA  
SAVE THE DATE

11:30am Registration & Lunch  
12-4pm Summit & Assembly

Norwalk Christian Church  
701 Main Street, Norwalk, IA  
[www.amosiowa.org](http://www.amosiowa.org)

## Calendar for the Week

### Monday, May 7

5:30 p.m. Emergency Residence  
Project (Oxendine)

### Tuesday, May 8

12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship

### Wednesday, May 9

8:30 a.m. Bible Study:  
Secret Book of John  
10:00 a.m. ABC Sale Work Time  
12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing  
12:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship  
2:00 p.m. Wed Afternoon Club

6:30 p.m. Bible Study:  
Nag Hammadi  
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir  
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

### Sunday, May 13

9:15 a.m. Godly Play  
9:15 a.m. Youth Coffee Talk  
9:15 a.m. Learning Center:  
Breakfast potluck and  
planning session  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
12:00 p.m. Absent Spouses  
Social Club

### **Be In Touch with Ames UCC**

217 6th Street, Ames, IA 50010  
515-232-9323

Mon 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Tues-Thurs 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

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