



**Ames United Church of Christ
Sunday, May 5, 2019**

Welcome to Ames UCC! 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.

ABOUT WORSHIP AT AMES UCC

Our church is the inheritor of many powerful worship traditions and the adopter of new, moving innovations. But whichever element serves the needs of the day (in terms of scripture, season, or society), each service is developed by members of the church and staff to function as a journey. Our journey takes the individual toward God, into the body of Christ, and then back out to the world with the strength of the Holy Spirit. Along the way we may laugh, we may cry, we may experience deep silence. In each, we embody and come to know more deeply what it means to be a Christian in such a time as this: a servant of 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.

Our deacon, ushers, and greeters for today are Brett Brinkmeyer, Irene Dohrmann, Boyd Dohrmann, and Mim Fritz.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kevin Binder

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

One: The house of the Lord is big enough for everyone.

Many: **What God loves, we must not ignore.**

One: God shows no partiality, welcoming all.

Many: **What God loves, we must not disparage.**

One: Jesus Christ teaches us to be lover of all.

Many: **What God loves, we must not hate.**

HYMN “From All That Dwell Below the Skies,” Hymn 27

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, you have sanctified all things by your grace, and nothing is apart from you.

Many: **Open our minds to your vision of inclusion that we might mirror your mercy in the world.**

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: Let us confess to God and each other our shortcomings, our failures, even our sins.

Many: **God of new life,
you renewed your covenant with all things
through the ministry, murder, and mystery of Jesus Christ,
yet we often live as though he makes no difference for us.
We choose to remain stuck in old patterns,
cling to the familiar and safe,
and refuse opportunities to step out in courage and faith.
Forgive our cowardice, stubbornness, and willful disobedience.
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: The Christ is risen, and yet rising indeed, and so with each new day we have a new chance to make new choices, and renewal between people, creation, and creator. Rejoice in the redemption of such love. 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.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu - ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

CHRISTIAN TESTAMENT

Acts of the Apostles 10:1-5, 9-17, 34-41, 44-48

New Revised Standard Version Megan Henson

The Acts of the Apostles is the first book in the Christian Testament after the four gospels. It was written as a companion to the Gospel of Luke.

In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. One afternoon at about three o’clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel

of God coming in and saying to him, “Cornelius.” He stared at him in terror and said, “What is it, Lord?” He answered, “Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside.”

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat.” But Peter said, “By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.” The voice said to him again, a second time, “What God has made clean, you must not call profane.” This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven. Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon’s house and were standing by the gate.

Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who knows God and does what is right is acceptable to God. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.”

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SERMON The Rev. Kate West, First Congregational UCC Belle Plaine

HYMN OF REFLECTION “Come to Tend God’s Garden,” Hymn 586

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Please share your prayer needs as you are so moved.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 “There Is a Balm in Gilead” African American spiritual
Pat Spangler, Bill Yungclas, Karen Bovenmyer, soloists

In 2019, nine percent of our total budget helps 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, which goes to rental, medical, and similar direct assistance. You can also designate your gift to the Pastoral Emergency Fund directly at any time. If you would like to sign up for automated giving, contact Katie Tschopp at 515-232-9323 or office@amesucc.org.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF SENDING “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” (insert)

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.

Calendar for the Week

Monday, May 6

1:00 p.m. ABC Sale Work Time
5:30 p.m. Emergency Residence
Project Meal (Beason)
5:30 p.m. Worship Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. SoJO Team Meeting

Sunday, May 12

9:15 a.m. Godly Play
9:15 a.m. Youth Group
9:15 a.m. Learning Center
10:30 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, May 8

9:00 a.m. ABC Sale Work Time
10:45 a.m. Bible Study for Sunday
12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing
12:00 p.m. Women’s Fellowship
2:00 p.m. Wednesday
Afternoon Club
5:00 p.m. Youth Group
6:30 p.m. Unscripted
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Pulpit Swap – TODAY

Meet Ty, all around mutt and good dog to The Rev. Kate West.



Rev. West is the pastor of First Congregational UCC in Belle Plaine. Pr. Kate was raised in Des Moines and holds a BA in religion from Transylvania University (2004) and a Masters of Divinity from Lexington Theological Seminary (2010), both in Lexington, KY. She enjoys journaling, blogging, singing, musicals and volunteering. Pr. Kate is a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts and works with a troop as a co-leader in Belle Plaine. She is also a trainer for the Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. Pr. Kate's passion for ministry is based around the radical hospitality that Jesus models in the recordings of scripture. Some of Pr. Kate's favorite authors about faith are: Richard Rohr, Henri Nouwen, Ruth Duck, Marcus Borg, Nadia Bolz-Weber, Glennon Doyle, and many others. On Sunday, May 5, Pr. Kate will preach at Ames UCC while Pr. Eileen is preaching at Congregational UCC in Newton. All told, six churches in the Central Association of the Iowa Conference are participating in this pulpit swap.

Attic to Basement Church Sale Donations

Workers will be there on Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning to accept donations. Katie Tschopp in the church office can let you in on other days to bring donations to the west basement.

ABC Sale Workers: Join us for one or both of two work times for the ABC Sale this week. We will meet on Monday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Come and join us for conversation, fun, fellowship and a little work mixed in.

Women's Fellowship – 5/8

Come with your lunch to the Fellowship Hall at noon on Wednesday, May 8 to meet with other women of our church. Invite some friends. Conversation and games will be our program for the day. Hope to see you there.

Unscripted: Calmly Connecting with God and Others – 5/8

Feel stressed and too busy? There are 2 more opportunities to participate in group spiritual practice, share conversation, and pray. On April 24 we will introduce Finger Labyrinths and on May 8th we will explore mandalas. Join us in the church library from 6:30-7:30. Questions? Contact Nancy Dunn (515-490-2083, ndunn949@gmail.com), Andrea Klocke (515-988-9422, andreaklocke@gmail.com), or Linda Hanson (515-520-2583, linda.hanson2011@gmail.com).

Add Your Photo to Our New Church Directory – due 5/31



To keep up with each other and in connection with our community, join us in creating a new, in-house photo directory by submitting your family photo and updating your contact information. Just send your photo and information to Katie Tschopp in the church office at office@amesucc.org or bring in a photo to scan by Friday, May 31. Pr. Eileen and Carla have already submitted theirs!

Watch out: If we don't receive a submitted photo from you, we might use one from our archives on Facebook or an older directory.

Ames UCC Orientation Luncheon & Tour – 6/2

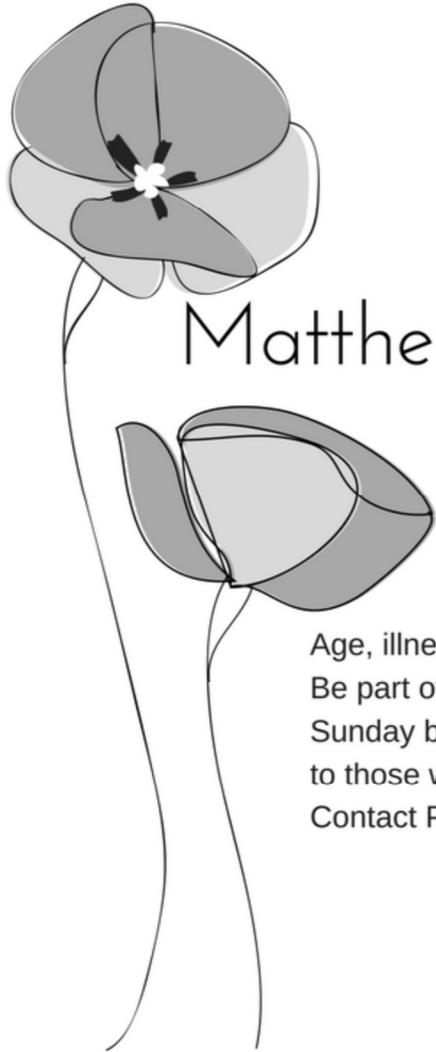
New or new-ish to Ames UCC? Did last week's new member service make you want to know more? Join Prs. Hannah and Eileen and members of our Building Relationships team for an orientation to the church including a tour of the facilities (creepy basement!) and a free lunch. We will begin after worship on Sunday, June 2 and be done in less than two hours. We will include information on becoming a member during worship on Sunday, June 9 (Pentecost!) if you are interested. Joining is not required to be active in the life of this church. Childcare available on request. RSVP to Pr. Eileen by Sunday, May 26: eileen@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323. If you have already attended an orientation and would like to become a member on Easter, you do not have to attend the lunch again. Just let Pr. Eileen know of your interest.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

June 24-27 we are going "to Mars and Beyond" for Vacation Bible School (VBS)! Ames UCC along with First United Methodist, First Christian, and St. John's Episcopal will join together for a week of fun! This year VBS will be located at First United Methodist Church (across the street) each day from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. We are looking for adult volunteers to help out! We need a Science Leader, Game Leader, Storyteller, and Group Leaders. If you are interested in helping out please contact Pr. Hannah at hannah@amesucc.org.

Thank You

During Lent and Easter season we have extra services at our church. The Worship and Music team would like to thank all those people who volunteered to be ushers, greeters, and deacons during this busy time of the year. They are: Eric Abbott, Janet Binder, Kevin Binder, Jim Coppoc, Barbara Faidley, LeVern Faidley, Rich Fellingham, Mim Fritz, Nick Howell, Greg Lamont, Sue Lamont, Karen Lasche, Nancy Marks, Steve Rogers-Smith, Liberato Santos, Dale and Donna Shenefelt, Lynette Spicer, Allen Trenkle, Jean Watts and all the youth of the church. Thank you all for volunteering your time to make our church services go smoothly.



Matthew 25 ♥ Ministry

*I was sick and you visited me.
(Matthew 25:36)*

Age, illness, or both need not end of our church life.
Be part of a ministry team that delivers
Sunday bulletins, flowers, and the peace of Christ
to those who are not able to be present physically.
Contact Pr. Eileen today.

Be In Touch with Ames UCC Staff

217 6th Street, Ames, IA 50010

515-232-9323

Mon-Thurs 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

David Cook, Sexton
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Eileen Gebbie (*she/her/hers*)
Senior Minister
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Hannah Hannover (*she/her/hers*)
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Karen “Sunny” Stewart, Instrumentalist
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Church Office Administrator
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Ames UCC Team Leadership

Allen Trenkle, Moderator
Lynette Spicer, Clerk
Diana McHenry, Church Representative
Eric Abbott, Church Representative

Building Relationships
Ben Schrag, Nancy Dunn

Christian Education
Allison Anderson

Financial Stewardship
Bradley Duckstein

Social Justice and Outreach
Linda Best, George Belitsos

Property
Jan Bauer, Laurie Olk

Worship and Music
Barbara Faidley, Steve Rogers-Smith

Get in touch with a team leader with the information in your church directory. Contact Katie Tschopp (515-232-9323, office@amesucc.org) if you need a copy.