



**Ames United Church of Christ
Sunday, May 19, 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 the Coppoc family, Kermit Dirks, Trudy Dirks, and Jean Watts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bradley Duckstein

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

One: I am not ashamed of the gospel.

Many: The brave will live by faith.

One: It is the power of God for healing.

Many: The broken will live by faith.

One: In it, God's mercy is revealed.

Many: The trusting will live by faith.

HYMN “Here We Reach Out”

(insert, written for our church’s 150th anniversary in 2015)

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, ministry in your kin-dom is a daily adventure. Reinvigorate our everyday, living witness with your Spirit of power. In Jesus’ name.
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: Just as the Christ yet rises, so too does the hope of our living out the wholeness God gifted us with. We confess times of brokenness before God and one another, as an act of hope. God of new life,

Many: **We call you creator and redeemer,
but we often live as though
those names make 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: Resurrection is a message of newness at every dawn, a daily opportunity to make different choices, and spur renewal between people, creation, and creator. Rejoice that you have left the side of the tomb in order to walk along the covenant Way! 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 LETTER

Romans 1:7-17 Melissa Haynes
New Revised Standard Version
(modified for inclusive language)

The full name of this book of the Bible is The Letter of Paul to the Romans. Paul was an early, energetic, and zealous convert to the Way of Jesus and his letters to early Christian communities (well before there were churches) are the oldest part of the Christian testament, as the gospels were written down later. Romans is likely the newest of Paul's letters, from about 50 CE.

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ.

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel of Jesus Christ, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. I want you to know, brothers and sisters and siblings, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as I have among the rest of the Gentiles. I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish—hence my eagerness to proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation (healing) to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, 'The one who is righteous will live by faith.'

SERMON

HYMN OF PREPARATION "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" (insert)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Communion table is open to all: young and old, faithful and dubious. No one will be turned away. We serve the bread and the juice through "intinction," which means dipping the bread into the juice. Your server will offer each to you with the phrases "the Bread of Life" and "the Cup of Blessing." If you are unable to come forward but would like to participate in the meal, simply wait for your row to be empty, then raise your hand. A server will come to you. The bread, thanks to in-house baker Ami Frank, is free of gluten, soy, and dairy. If you have brought canned goods for one of our food pantry partners, please set them at the Communion table before being served.

Invitation

One: Come! If you are hungry, there is food to eat. Come! If you are thirsty, there is water to drink. It is food for those who hunger for justice, and water for those who long for life in all its fullness. Come! Eat and drink to proclaim the feast of God's kin-dom where all are welcome and no one is left out.

Prayer

One: God, our Guardian and Creator,
**Many: You have given us this earth rich and vibrant.
Its renewing life sustains us.
Its unfailing goodness nourishes us.
Blessed be your name.**

One: Jesus, our Guide and Healer,
**Many: You ate with friends and enemies.
At a meal you brought the gift of hope.
At a meal you gave the word of life.
Blessed be your name.**

One: Spirit, our Comforter and Disturber,
**Many: You do not leave us on our own.
Here are companions to know our joy.
Here are companions to share our sorrow.
Blessed be your name.**

Severe Weather Drill – TODAY

Severe weather season is approaching so we want as many people in church to know our safety procedures. After church we will all participate in a drill to find your severe weather shelter in Ames UCC's building. During the drill the Worship and Music Team will show you the supplies that we keep on hand in case of an emergency. Children in the nursery will also be participating. Connect with your children after the service in the east basement Youth Room. The children in the sanctuary can participate in the drill with their parents.

Women's Fellowship – 5/22

Join us on Wednesday, May 22 at 12:00 p.m. We will be meeting at the Ames History Center at 614 Douglas Ave to work on our service project. We will have lunch and conversation and then we will work on a project the staff at the History Center will have ready for us. Hope to see you there.

Save the date for our meeting on Wednesday, June 12, when we are invited to visit the Slingers at Threshold Learning Center in Zearing. Look for more information soon.

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.

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 Pentecost, you do not have to attend the lunch again. Just let Pr. Eileen know of your interest.

Back by Popular Demand: Men's Fellowship Cookbook

It's been 15 years since the last printing of the UCC Men's Fellowship Cookbook – affectionally known as “Comfort Food.” That edition has been “out of print” for many years, but it has been rumored to be found in museums, musty closets, dowry chests, and many other unusual places. So, the Men's Fellowship has a plan to revise and expand the original edition. All recipes from those cooks that have passed will be included PLUS new recipes contributed from all UCC men in the 2019 edition.

Please submit your favorite recipe(s) electronically (.doc or Google Doc format) or hard copy to Larry Trede (larrytrede@gmail.com) by July 1st. If you submit a handwritten recipe, please write very legibly. We plan to publish by the holiday shopping season to make a great gift for friends, spouses, children, grandchildren, and other loved ones. Proceeds from the first edition funded tables for the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds and any royalties from the sale of the 2019 cookbook will be used to fund a high priority need(s) of the church.

Summer Worship Schedule

In order to accommodate our Hobbit's Hill hosts in June and a special event with our fellow worshipers at First Christian in July, we will not change the worship time in the summer. We will remain at 10:30 a.m. throughout June, July, and August. Details below.

June

- 6/9 Pentecost! Please wear red, if you are able.
- 6/16 Regular worship at Ames UCC
- 6/23 Worship at Hobbit's Hill (5508 Lincoln Way, Ames) followed by potluck lunch
- 6/30 Regular worship at Ames UCC

Joint worship with First Christian Church in July

- 7/7 Pr. Mary Jane Button-Harrison preaches at Ames UCC
- 7/14 Pr. Eileen Gebbie preaches at First Christian Church
- 7/21 Pr. April Johnson, Minister of Reconciliation for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, preaches at First Christian
- 7/28 Pr. Eileen Gebbie preaches at Ames UCC

August

- 8/3 Worship in the park with Ames UCC, First Christian, and First Baptist
- 8/11, 18, 25 Regular worship at Ames UCC

September

- 9/1 Regular worship at Ames UCC
- 9/8 Rally Day! The start of our program year.

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.
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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.