



**Ames United Church of Christ
Sunday, May 26, 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 Nick Lyon, Tom Meyer, Bonnie Trede, and Larry Trede.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE MEMORIAL BELL

CENTERING MUSIC “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” arr. B. Slagle Mayo

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP Rowan Huegerich

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

One: When we feel overwhelmed,

Many: **God is on our side.**

One: When we are afraid,

Many: **God will keep us safe.**

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Many: **Praise be to God!**

HYMN “Come My People” (insert)

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 12:13-20

Asher Suski

New Living Translation

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.

When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say,

"I will take revenge;
I will pay them back,"
says the Lord.

Instead,

"If your enemies are hungry, feed them.

If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap

burning coals of shame on their heads."

SERMON

Kathryn Shields and Asher Suski

HYMN OF REFLECTION "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry," Hymn 351

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

"Make me a Channel of Your Peace" arr. J. Holstein

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

"Take My Life, That I May Be" (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 27

Church Office Closed for Holiday

5:30 p.m. Emergency Residence
Project Meal (Lamont)

Wednesday, May 29

9:00 a.m. ABC Sale Work Time
10:45 a.m. Bible Study for Sunday
12:00 p.m. Bell Ringing

Tuesday, May 28

Pastoral Study Day

12:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship

Sunday, June 2

10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Ames UCC Orientation

Update on the East Concrete Work

Later this summer, likely early in August, JRM Construction will be replacing the exterior walkway from the east alley to the east entrance (the double glass door) and the stairs to the sidewalk on 6th Street. This will include new handrails. It will take about two weeks altogether. Details on how this might briefly disrupt our access to the education wing will come closer to that time. Thank you to the 150th Anniversary Capital Campaign for seeing this final project through: Ken Birt, Elaine Hieber, and Doug Powell, with substantial support from church sexton David Cook.

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.

ABC Sale Updates

No Work Party on Monday, May 27 because of the holiday. We will meet again on Wednesday morning, May 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Donations Needed: The ABC sale depends on the donations that we get. So think about things you are no longer using and would like to get out of your house. Bring them to the church and leave them in the elevator vestibule on the basement level. Look for the list of possible donations posted on the doors and around the first floor of the church.

Ames UCC Orientation Luncheon & Tour – 6/2

New or new-ish to Ames UCC? 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.

Church Social Night (aka Soccer and Donuts) at Roosevelt Park – 6/8

Come for some fun and informal church time on Saturday, June 8 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, card games, bean bag tosses - we will provide the donuts and soccer things. Last year's Soccer and Donuts event was a great time - so fun to see people outside their church pews! We laughed, we ate donuts, and we engaged in some truly multi-generational soccer silliness. This year, if we have enough people, we'd like to try to end the night with a short scrimmage between the youth group and parents!

Pentecost – 6/9

On Sunday, June 9 we mark the holiday of Pentecost, a celebration of newness, revelations, and the power of the Holy Spirit. It will also be seminary intern David Sheridan's final worship service with us. I invite you to wear red to worship, the traditional color for the Holy Spirit, and to remain after for a cake reception. (And we will have plenty red items for you to add to your ensemble if you don't have any or forget.) Come, Holy Spirit, Come! -Pr. Eileen

Short Stories by Jesus – 6/12, 6/19, 6/26, 7/3, 7/24, 7/31

During the 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study for Sunday in June and July (dates below) we will study Dr. Amy-Jill Levine's book "Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi." Copies of the book will be available for purchase for \$10 each at Bible Study and in the church office during office hours.

6/12 Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son

6/19 The Good Samaritan

6/26 The Pearl of Great Price

7/3 The Mustard Seed

7/24 The Laborers in the Vineyard

7/31 The Widow and the Judge

We will not meet on July 10 and 17 as I will be on vacation. -Pr. Eileen

Back by Popular Demand: Men's Fellowship Cookbook – recipes due 7/1

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.

Thank you, Megan!

At the end of May, Megan Henson will have completed her first program year as our Youth Director. And what a year it has been! Thanks to her relational and programmatic skills, not only have the youth that aged into the program this year stuck around, but they brought along new friends. Twenty youth participated in the Palm Sunday service! Next year three more of our children join in the fun. Although we do not contract with Megan for June and July, she will be doing at least one outing with the youth by way of a special fund for Christian Education. She will be back at her 20-hour/week position in August. Thank you, Megan, thank you to all the adults who have served as "safe church" leaders and mentors for our kids, and thank you to all of the church for investing in our future by way of our present. -Pr. Eileen



Thank you, Nancy!

At the May 21 Executive Team meeting, Nancy Dunn was approved as our new Vice Moderator. She will serve in that capacity for the balance of the year, then move into the Moderator position in 2020. Allen Trenkle, our current Moderator, will then serve as Immediate Past Moderator. If you are interested in our governance, and how to get in on the action, just contact either of them, or me. For a copy of the current directory contact Katie Tschopp in the church office (office@amesucc.org, 515-232-9323). And thank you, Nancy! -Pr. Eileen



Summer Worship Schedule

In order to accommodate our Hobbit 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 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 Our own Pr. Linda Hanson, former Global Ministries missionary, 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.
2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

David Cook, Sexton
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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.