

epiphany

First United Methodist Church
516 Kellogg Ave.
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-232-2750
www.fumcames.org
8:30 & 11:00 - January 7, 2018

Centering Words:

*Into the silent night as we make our weary way we know not where,
just when the night becomes its darkest and we cannot see our path,
just then is when the angels rush in, their hands full of stars.*

--- Ann Weems in *Kneeling in Bethlehem.*

This week in our prayers for the world let us remember especially the people of the Arabian Peninsula: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, and Yemen; and Iran and Iraq.

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

“O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire”

arr: Raymond H. Haan

“Holy Spirit”

arr: Lyndell Leatherman

“The Voice of God is Calling”

arr: Gilbert M. Martin

As this music is offered as prayer, let us be sensitive to the Holy Spirit who prepares and opens us to connect with God in Christ today.

GREETING, SHARING NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

Welcome, members, friends & visitors—please fill in the ritual of friendship pad, pass it to your neighbor, and then return it to its starting place. If you are new and would like more information, please indicate on the friendship pad and also stop by the Welcome Center.

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessings to God, who gives hope in the darkness of our lives.

Blessings to Jesus Christ, who reveals God's love unto the world.

Blessings to the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to be a light for others.

Blessings, honor, and glory to God, today and forever.

Amen!

HYMN

No. 3056

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

OPENING PRAYER

**Lord God of the nations,
we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendor.
The radiance of your incarnate Word
pierces the night that covers the earth**

and signals the dawn of justice and peace.
May his brightness illumine our lives
and beckon us all nations to walk as one in your light.
We ask this through Jesus Christ your Word made flesh,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
in the splendor of eternal light, God forever and ever. Amen.

A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

8:30 a.m.

“Let There Be Peace on Earth” arr: Jay Rouse
Chancel Choir - Acc: Barb Mittman

11:00 a.m.

“Mary, Did You Know?” Mark Lowry/Buddy Green
Solo: Betty Dixon

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

HYMN

No. 254

“We Three Kings”

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

WITNESS TO THE WORD

“Guess Who Is Coming to Dinner” Rev. Fred Lewis

THE INVITATION

No. 3168

“Come to the Table of Grace”

CONFESSION, ASSURANCE AND PARDON

Let us confess now our sin in the presence of God and of one another:

---A moment of silence for confession---

Let us pray together:

Gracious God, have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, those things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people. Glory to God!

Alleluia! Amen.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“On the Wings of the Morning”

Anthony Giamanco

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation, and concludes:

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The pastor continues and the institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.

The pastor concludes:

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and concludes:

All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Amen!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

HYMN

No. 666

"Shalom, to You"

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Postlude on "Hymn to Joy"

arr: Jason D. Payne

Let us be aware this musical offering is a statement of faith to send us from worship into service. Please be respectful of those who choose to remain to listen.

LEAVING FOR SERVICE

OFF TO THE HOLY LAND

Pastor Fred along with Marge Bourne and Janet Tryon and former associate pastor, Deanna Snyder, are off to tour the Holy Land from January 9-18! They will be a part of a delegation of 102 from Iowa and Michigan traveling with Bishop Laurie Haller and her husband. They will fly from Des Moines to NYC and on to Tel Aviv. First stops will be at Caesarea by the Sea, Mount Carmel, and Megiddo and Nazareth, with a whole day around the Sea of Galilee. They will go on to visit Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi, the Golan Heights, Bethsaida and the Jordan River. From there, they will see Jericho, the Qumran, Masada and the Dead Sea. Finally the tour will arrive in Jerusalem where a few days will be spent seeing the historical and biblical sites.

Let us offer prayers for safe travels and a wonderful experience for Pastor Fred, Marge Bourne, Janet Tryon, former associate pastor Deanna Snyder, Bishop Laurie Haller and her husband, and the Iowa and Michigan delegation as they travel through the Holy Land.

Children's Sunday School for January

The children will continue the theme of "Kickin' It Old School" by learning stories from the Old Testament. Today, January 7, we will have an Epiphany party for all children in the multipurpose room. The Sundays after that will have the kindergarten through fifth grade learning about Jonah and the Whale through rotations. And mark your calendars for February 4. That will be our annual soup making for Food at First during the Sunday school hour-"Soup"-er Bowl Sunday!

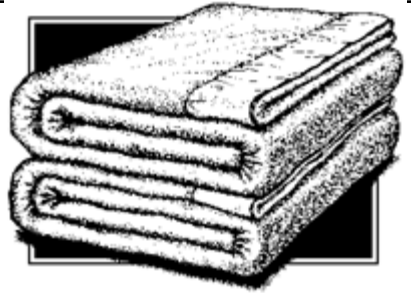


Kids Club

Kids Club will have an Epiphany Party on January 10. We will start the night out with a special mini concert - a high school senior violinist playing "We Three Kings" as a duet with her piano/vocal teacher. It will be an exciting way to start the night. Children are invited to bring any new games with them to play with everyone. During January we will also have a night of making Fleece Tie blankets to go to Emergency Shelter, Animal Shelter, and nursing homes for lap blankets. We will also be doing our own Lenten Study which will be based on the same one the Adult group is doing, "What Makes a Hero?". So join us for lots of learning, service, and tons of fun! 6:30-7:30 Room E206

FLEECE MATERIAL DONATIONS

Please bring fleece material for tie blanket making. The kids will be making tie blankets in mid-January so please drop off any fleece or gift cards for fabric by January 15.



Chancel Bells

January 25..(Thursday..6:30 p.m.)

Chancel Choir

January 25..(Thursday..7:30 p.m.)

We will **not** practice the week of January 8-12

We will **not** practice the week of January 15-19

This is a change from the January newsletter.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Join Chancel Choir! We ALWAYS welcome NEW members!



Youth News

The first Sunday of January we will have our Epiphany Party and start planning for the Youth-Led Worship Weekend which will be on February 10th & 11th. The middle school will be putting together a special performance!

The second Sunday we will discuss social media and the impact it has on the lives of everyone who uses it. We'll discuss how youth are connected to social media like never before and how we might rethink social media as a way to intentionally love and bless others while still being engaged and intentional in our lives. We'll look at social media as a way to transform the way we interact with others in Jesus' name. The following Sunday we'll begin a four-week study on how Jesus invites each of us to follow Him on a lifetime of adventure. We'll discover how to navigate obstacles in our spiritual lives, and how to turn those challenges into opportunities to grow in our faith. This adventure with Christ is meant to last a lifetime!

W.H.A.M.

Beginning mid-January, the Wednesday adult group will start their Lenten Study, "What Makes a Hero?" Written by Matt Rawle. This study takes pop culture heroes and looks at them through a lens of faith. Rawle shows how Jesus turned the concept of hero on its head. Good vs. evil, right vs. wrong, and overcoming adversity are fundamental to how Christians understand salvation. Heroes help us discern the good, fight for what's right, define identity, execute justice, spark revolution, and save lives. W.H.A.M meets in the conference room from 6:30-7:30.

New Study for Coffee Talk!

Join Carrie and Chad Copley on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for a brand new study called "Galatians" by Kyle Idelman. This video based study will be full of engaging conversation! Coffee Talk meets in the **Conference Room**

GREETERS are needed!

Here's the link to sign up:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4aaaad2ba4fb6-greeter>

Interested volunteers can also contact me by phone/text at 515-290-9360 or email me at lw50248@gmail.com.

Thanks.

Lori Vander Werff

HAPPY 2018! Thoughts to live in the New Year:

1. I am what I think.
2. Life can be ordinary or it can be great.
3. The fundamental object of life is emotional and spiritual growth.
4. Love can change and transform the course of my world.
5. All love freely given returns two-fold.
6. The past is gone forever.
7. Negative emotions destroy only me.
8. Problems bother me only to the degree I permit them to do so.
9. Happiness is a habit I will develop.
10. Enthusiasm is my daily exercise.
11. I am responsible for myself and will offer my best to my "traveling companions" in this adventure of life.
12. I am a competent person and have much to give others.

**The Week at a Glance
January 7 – January 13**

Sunday, January 7

8:30 & 11:00 Services, 9:45 Sunday School

Monday, January 8

Tuesday, January 9

Pastor Fred leaves for Holy Land Trip
Quilters
Farm to Folk
5:30 SPRC
7:00 DMOGG/MPR

Wednesday, January 10

10:00 Wonderful Wednesday Women
6:00 Meal
6:30 Regular Activities-Youth going to
Adams Observatory-back to church by 8

Thursday, January 11

Kiwanis "Golden K"
9:00 Ruth Cir/Mpr
1:00 Sarah Cir/MPR
6:30 Bells and 7:30 Choir
7:00 Silver Anniversary

Friday, January 12

5:30-9:00 Piano Recital/Sanc
7:00-9:00 Cub Scout Pine. Derby/FH

Saturday January 13

9:Dismantling the Greens
8:00-1:30 Cub Scout Pine. Derby/FH
5:30 SAF

CR-Conference Room

FH-Fellowship Hall

LIB - Library

MPR-Multipurpose Room

EYR-East Youth Room

WYR-West Youth Room

SCR-Staff Conference Room

Par - Parlor

Audio/Video/Streaming

Doug Hill	Pete Peterson
Dean Swyter	Fredrick Killian
Mike Evans	Calvin Evans
Marty Sankey	Larry Vallery
Zachery Smith	Bobby Gens
	Nicole Smith

GREETERS

8:30

Carrie & Chad Copley & family

11:00

TBA

USHERS

8:30

Terry Dewald & Jay Frederick,
Aileen & Joel Sullivan
Wayne and Joan Hansen

11:00

Glendora Clark
Karen Kerper
Hinders Family

ACOLYTES

8:30

TBA

11:00

Savanna Smith

NURSERY

Meredith Farrell
Clove Woodworth

UTILITIES

January 6 - Keith & Jean Bailey
January 7 - Joanne Van Dyke
Becky Jordan

WELCOME VISITORS

The Welcoming and Marketing Committee at First United Methodist Church would like to thank you for visiting our church. We take pride in our beautiful church and hope you had a pleasant and welcoming experience. Please stop by the Welcome Center located behind the sanctuary and to the left of the open stairway before or after service on Sunday morning. We hope you will join us again! If you are interested in more information about the church or are interested in joining, please leave your information at the Welcome Center, contact one of the pastors or call the church office at 515-232-2750.

WE WELCOME YOU!

Our Welcome Center is located in the gathering space near the elevator. Please stop by if you have questions or would like to get more information about the church. Be sure to mention if you are a first time visitor.

Nursery care is available in Room E203, in the Christian Education Unit, on Saturday nights and Sunday mornings for children under the age of 5. All of our workers are trained and screened. Items for children's worship bags are available in the gathering area.

Restrooms are located in the east hallways and by the elevator. Ushers are available at the entrances of the sanctuary to assist you with hearing devices, large print bulletins or any questions you may have. An emergency phone and defibrillator are located on the wall near the west entry.

First United Methodist Church Affirmation of Welcome

As a community of the people of God, we are called to minister to all people of the world, knowing that the world is often an unloving place of alienation and brokenness. Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, as we are challenged by the Gospel to be agents of healing within our society.

We stand in affirmation with the apostle Paul that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." Christ has made us one. We acknowledge that this reconciliation encompasses all within the community of faith who exhibit any and all differences in the human condition including, but not limited to: race, gender, ethnicity, age, culture, physical and mental ability, educational level, economic status, personality, marital status, sexual orientation and gender identity in response to the often hostile social climate with respect to diversity within our society and the resulting feelings of alienation from the Church, we wish to make known our caring and concern. It is for this purpose that we affirm the following:

- all persons share the sacred worth that comes from being unique individuals created by God;
- all persons are welcome within the membership of this congregation upon making affirmation of faith; and that as members of this congregation, all persons are invited and encouraged to share in the sacramental and general life of this congregation.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Fred Lewis, Senior Minister/Lead Pastor
Rev. Cephias Davis, Associate Pastor
Nicole Smith, Director of Christian Education
Brooke Kruger, Youth Director
Deb Benefield, Director of Office & Communications
Reid Cummer, Business Manager
Myrna Cakerice, Organist/Director of Choirs
Steve Pelz, Facility Director
Matt Woodworth, Part-time/Sunday Custodian

Go to our website: www.fumcames.org for the latest church information. Follow us on facebook.

Church office hours:
Mon-Thurs: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
Friday 8:30 to 4:30

To view church services live, go to <http://bit.ly/amesfirstumclivestream>.
To view past services and other church events, go to Ames First United Methodist Church's YouTube page at <http://bit.ly/amesfirstumcyoutube>.