



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

UMCOR SUNDAY

CENTERING WORDS:

Words which do not give the light of Christ increase the darkness.” -
Mother Teresa

“We’ve all got both light and dark inside us.
What matters is the part we choose to act on.
That’s who we really are.”

--- J.K. Rowling’s Sirius Black in “Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix”

THE GATHERING

*This week in our prayers for the world let us remember
especially the people of Myanmar and Thailand*

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

Sanctus from Missa Solemnis:

“Peace, Perfect Peace”

“Lead Me, Lord, in Thy Righteousness”

Ludwig Van Beethoven

arr: Diane Bish

arr: Rick Parks

*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 THE 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, stop by
the Welcome Center or call the office for more information.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to God...

God’s steadfast love endure forever.

Live in the light of God...

God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Walk in God’s light and love...

God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Let us be a people of goodness and love ---

people of steadfast love forever and ever!

HYMN

No. 108

“God Hath Spoken by the Prophets”

OPENING PRAYER

**God of the wanderers,
be with us as we travel
through your Word today.
Guide us to love and be loved.
Flow through us with your Spirit
that we may walk with you in steadfast faithfulness
all the way to the cross. Amen.**

A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

8:30 a.m.

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

arr: Dawn Thompson

Handbell Duet: Susan Gant and Ellen Johnsen

11:00 a.m.

“Kyrie Eleison”

Dana Mengel

Chancel Choir Acc: Barb Mittman

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

HYMN

No. 3142

“I Love the Lord”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-10

HYMN

No. 365

“Grace Greater Than Our Sin”

THE GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

WITNESS TO THE WORD

“For God so loved--”

Rev. Cephas Davis

A MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION & PERSONAL COMMITMENT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Holy God, we pray to you from the wilderness. Because even if we don't live there now, it is a place we have all visited. Through times of dangers and perils we will keep walking but we cannot do it alone. We need you and we need one another. And so we lift our eyes, our prayers, and our pain to you – we name it in your holy presence, and in the midst of this community, knowing that you will hear our prayer:

We name the anger and violence of mass shootings, especially those that happen at schools.

We pray for those whose children have died, no matter the age. We name the earth-shattering grief of infant death, pregnancy loss, miscarriage, and infertility.

We name the giant of racism, sexism, prejudice and the stain within our minds and our society that cause us to judge, fear, and oppress the other.

We name the pain of mental illness and the stigma in our nation that keeps hurting minds from healing and the help they need.

We name poverty, which divides the country and indeed the whole world.

We name the deep, complicated, horrendous brokenness of war.

We name the plight of the refugees seeking safety and hope who seem to not find rest or peace.

We name the devastation of cancer, in all its ugly forms—a beast of a disease that takes too many lives way too soon.

We name now with our own hearts the pain of our lives and of the world.

---A moment for silent prayers---

Show us where you are, O God. Gather your fractured peoples. Call us in this wild place. Lead us to live in your brightness but grant us a small light now to guide us home. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

8:30 "God of Day and God of Darkness" arr: Lynn Trapp

11:00 "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr: Dawn Thompson

Handbell Duet: Susan Gant and Ellen Johnsen

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

No. 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We praise you God of all nations and offer you these gifts in sincere thanksgiving for your merciful grace. Transform this offering just as you transform our lives into signs of your love and light. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

HYMN No. 292 "What Wondrous Love Is This"

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Processional March from Parsifal Richard Wagner

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

UMCOR SPECIAL OFFERING WEEKEND — March 10 & 11

The UMCOR Offering (this used to be called: One Great Hour of Sharing offering) goes to the work of our United Methodist Committee on Relief that responds when disasters strike and people need support. Help to make a world of difference by giving to this special appeal.

A CHURCH CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 25 AT 1 P.M.

Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Harlan Gillespie, is calling a special Church Conference (all members are invited with voice and vote) to Vote on the Staff Parish Relations Committee's recommendation to approve Fredrick Killian as a candidate for ordained ministry from this congregation. The SPRC met and interviewed Fredrick on March 6 using the formal documents provided by our denomination's Board of Ministry. Fredrick and his family have been members here for over two years. He received his "call to ministry" about that time and entered seminary and graduate studies at Saint Paul's School of Theology, where he is now in his "middler years", with approximately one and a half to two years of education remaining. He has started the formal process to become an ordained Elder in the UMC and has had initial interviews with our District's Board of Ministry. He has a passion to serve in the local church and special interests in the fields of prison chaplaincy and work with youth and young adults. He has earned various honors as a student at Saint Paul's including being elected to the student government there and been chosen to represent the seminary as an ambassador to Iowa to help share the story of seminary education and life hoping others might also discern their own call to ministry. To approve Fredrick at a Church Conference is just one more step on his pathway into the ordained ministry. Hopefully you will take some time to be here on Sunday, March 25, at 1 p.m. in the sanctuary to help make this important decision for Fredrick and for our whole UMC.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING FIRST UMC OR LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CONGREGATION? DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS?

Join Pastor Fred on March 18 at 10 a.m. in the church parlor for a time of getting acquainted and conversations around church membership. If you are interested in becoming a member, you are invited to contact one of the pastors or Deb, church secretary, at 232-2750 for information. Church membership is a JOY!

Spring Break Time Out!

Children, Youth, and Families are invited to Time Out, the new arcade in Ames located just a few blocks south of the church at 120 Kellogg Ave. from 12p.m.-2p.m. on Sunday, March 18. Our Christian Education Ministry Team will be there handing out quarters for games. Time Out currently offers pizza, hot dogs, and pretzels and plans to have more food items added to their menu by March 18 so plan to have some arcade food and fun!

ARIAS IN AMES HERE ON March 18

If you wish to enjoy some splendid music from the world of opera and Broadway, then be sure to be here on Sunday afternoon, March 18. The Ames chapter of the Des Moines Metro Opera will bring in world-class singers to perform. The concert will be held in our beautiful sanctuary at 2 p.m. with a fine reception following in our MPR. This is a fundraiser for the organization and for the summer opera festival held every year at Simpson College. This Ames Chapter meets here in our building once a month on the second Tuesday evening for educational meetings related to the world of opera both old and new classics.

Reggie's Sleep Out

The youth from Ames First United Methodist Church will be taking part in Reggie's Sleep out at Jack Trice Stadium this year. The event is on March 24. If you'd like to take part in it, contact Will Copley, Karsten Holm, or Nicole Smith.

Reggie's Sleepout is in honor of Reggie Kelsey, a young man who aged out of the foster care system in 2001, and within three and a half months, was found dead in the Des Moines River.

As part of Reggie's Sleep Out, the youth will be raising funds that will go to help homeless youth in the community. During the month of March, youth will be sitting in coffee hour and outside of the sanctuary after worship services.

Hello Parents and Youth,

As a Methodist, we are all about communicating as a group, ie. committees. As a youth, you are eligible for a position on the newly reconvened Youth Council. We need your input, your insight, and your comments.

As a youth, why are you enthusiastic about FUMC, or not so much? What do you enjoy the most about FUMC? What fills your heart at church? What would need to happen in order to find time for your church family? If you want a voice, input and a legacy, join your church family at an informational meeting about youth council March 19 at 6:30pm.

Feel free to find me on social media, Jackie Hawley, or email me at hawley.jackie@gmail.com and share your thoughts with me.

*Where are you usually on Wednesdays 6- 7:30, or Saturday evenings, or Sunday mornings?

*What, if anything or anyone, pulls/pushes you away from your church family? Be painfully honest~ we can't improve if we don't know what you need.

Even if you walked out the door after confirmation and never looked back, we would love to have your voice. Vows are forever~ you are always welcome.

Blessings,
Jackie



It is time to order your Easter Flowers!

We hope everyone will want to sponsor flowers to help beautify the sanctuary for all of our Easter services! This year we are once again offering several different kinds of plants. You may choose the type and the color of the plant you would like to sponsor. The selections are slightly different this year because of the unavailability of a couple styles due to growing issues. Thanks!

After the 11 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, you are encouraged to take your plant home so you can further enjoy it. Please remember what you have ordered so you can take the correct plant home!

PLEASE ORDER BY MONDAY, MARCH 26.

Please check the type of plant you wish to order and circle the color you prefer.

- _____ Easter Lily (white, single stem) \$15
- _____ Calla Lily (white – coral) \$15
- _____ Asiatic Lily (white, fragrant) \$15
- _____ Daisy Mum/open petals (white – yellow – pink) \$15
- _____ Cushion Mum/solid blooms (purple – white – yellow – pink) \$15
- _____ Cyclamen (pastels) \$15
- _____ Hydrangea (pink – blue – white) \$20

Please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church and include it with your order. Please write “Easter flowers” in the memo.

FLOWERS In Memory of _____

Given by _____

FLOWERS In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Alternative gifts to missions may also be given by donating at least \$15.

ALTERNATIVE MISSION GIFT

In Memory of _____

Given by _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

The Week at a Glance
March 11 – March 17

Sunday, March 11

4th Sunday of Lent

UMCOR OFFERING

8:30 & 11:00 Services

9:45 Sunday School (children SS in MPR)

Monday, March 12

4:00 Aktion Club board meeting

5:30 Missions Meeting/CR

Tuesday, March 13

Quilters

Farm to Folk

5:30-7:30 ARC Dance Club/E110

5:30 Member Care/CR

7:00-10:00 DMOGG/Sanc

Wednesday, March 14

NO LENTEN LUNCH THIS WEEK

Meals for the Heartland ?

4:30-6:30 ARC Nutritional Class/kitch

No Wednesday Night Meal or Activities

Thursday, March 15

Kiwanis "Golden K" meeting/FH

5:30-6:30 Ames School Committee/CR

Friday, March 16

Saturday, March 17

Prayer Shawls

4:30-7:00 Baked Potato Dinner Fundraiser/
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

Kitch - Kitchen in FH

GREETERS

8:30

Sally Peterson

11:00

Lori & Duane Vander Werff

USHERS

8:30 & 11:00

Welcome and Marketing

Member Care

ACOLYTES

8:30

11:00

NURSERY

Clove

&

Meredith

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



ADULT MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Denise Hartford, North Central Iowa UMC District Mission Coordinator, is organizing an adult mission trip to Oklahoma June 10-15. She says the need there has been ongoing for 3 years since tornados and flooding. A group from Iowa went last year and they felt this was a good opportunity for a return trip. Denise is unsure at this time exactly where the group will be going; that depends on what is accomplished in the next few months and where the needs are at the time of the mission trip. If you would like information or have questions, please contact Carol Miller (jacemiller@isunet.net).

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>.