

First United Methodist Church
516 Kellogg Ave.
515-232-2750
www.fumcomes.org
8:30 - 11:00 December 2, 2018
Rev. Dr. Kerrin Kirkpatrick

FIRST SUNDAY
Advent

THE GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARIES---PRELUDE

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

arr: Raymond H. Haan

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

arr: Raymond H. Haan

“Creator of the Stars of Night”

arr: Raymond H. Haan

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 at the hospitality desk in the narthex.

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP: Lighting of the Advent Candle

HYMN No. 213

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates,” vs 1,2,3

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, You have put a longing within our souls for something – for Someone – who can meet our deepest needs and love us unconditionally. We know that “Someone” is You. Thank You for pursuing us even before we are aware of You, and giving us so many signs that lead us to You. Forgive us for making excuses and allowing our fear of change – any change – to keep us from pursuing You with our whole heart. Give us a renewed sense of wonder this Christmas, so that we will have the eyes to see You and all You are doing to reveal Yourself to us. Thank You for the precious gift of Your Son, Jesus, who not only points to You, but also ushers us into Your glorious presence. Amen.

“The Wonder of Christmas,” page 38 (alt.), by Ed Robb & Rob Renfroe,
Abingdon Press, 2016

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS, & GOD SIGHTINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:25-28

A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Nicole Smith

ANTHEM

8:30 a.m.

“The Coming of the Lord”

Pepper Choplin

Chancel Choir Acc: Barb Mittman

11:00 a.m.

“Away in a Manger”

Richard William Smith

Vocal Solo: Nicole Smith

SECOND SCRIPTURE WITNESS TO THE WORD

Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11
“The Wonder of a Star”

THE INVITATION CONFESSION, ASSURANCE AND PARDON

Hymnal, page 12

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

Please place your offering in the offering plates at the front of the sanctuary as you come forward for communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

HYMN No. 254

CLOSING VOLUNTARY---POSTLUDE

“Marche Religieuse”

“We Three Kings,” vs 1,5

Alexandre Guilmant

LEAVING FOR SERVICE

Advent Sermon Series

“The Wonder of Christmas: Once You Believe, Anything is Possible”

Based on the Advent Study by Ed Robb & Rob Renfroe

Abingdon Press

If your small group would like to follow along with this series by doing the study, it is available through Cokesbury. Resources available are a DVD, Leader’s Guide, Participants’ Book, and Daily Devotional. For Youth and Children’s Guide, see Nicole Smith.

From “The Wonder of Christmas,” Introduction, page 9:

“A popular song tells us ‘it’s the most wonderful time of the year.’ And that’s true; Christmas is wonderful. But it’s not because of caroling or parties. It’s because of the wonder of what Christmas tells us: God loves us and has come among us. This is the wonder of Christmas! Each week during Advent we will explore one of the four elements of the Christmas story that teach us about the wonder of God’s great love for us.”

December 1st (SAF) and 2nd: “The Wonder of a Star”

December 8th (SAF) and 9th: “The Wonder of a Name”

December 15th (SAF): “The Wonder of a Manger”

December 16th (Sunday morning): Cantata with the Chancel Choir &
Bells

December 22nd (SAF) and 23rd: “The Wonder of a Promise”

Be A Part of Advent Worship Services

Do you want to be a part of Advent worship services by lighting the Advent candles and reading the Advent candle lighting liturgy? We are looking for people to help bring the light of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love in this Advent season for Saturday evening service AND Sunday morning services. At least two people are needed (someone to light and someone to read) each service. The reading will be sent to you in advance. Contact the office to sign up or sign up on Sundays at the Welcome Center.

ADVENT LUNCH and MUSIC

This year there will be three Advent lunches on December 5, 12 and 19. Please bring a sack lunch. Drinks will be provided.

Each lunch will be followed by musical entertainment.

The music groups for the Advent lunches are:

Dec. 5 - Barbara Evenson playing the harp

Dec. 12 - Ames High Madrigal

Dec. 19 - Barb Mittman/Myrna Cakerice playing piano and organ duets

We will meet at 11:45 for lunch. The music will start at approximately 12:30. We plan to be finished by 1:00 so people can get back to work.

The Newly Imagined Prayground is Now Open!

The Prayground has been a space we've been exploring for about a year now that was in the front lectern side of the Sanctuary at the 11:00 service. You may have noticed it's absence the last month as we've been deciding how it can better serve the families of Ames First UMC. After careful thought, discussion with families and various committees, The Prayground Family Grace Space is now open during ALL worship services and located in the Parlor area for families with young children. There are shorter tables and chairs for young children to color and draw pictures of "moments in worship" to share in the offering. There is a space for nursing moms with access to the refrigerator in the kitchenette, a small play yard area for the very little ones, couches and chairs and even a little pew for anyone to sit at. The audio is set up to be pumped in to the parlor area with a volume control available on the wall. The doors will be open wide as this space becomes a continuation of the Sanctuary - NOT a separate space. Check out the new Prayground Family Grace Space and invite young families to church to check it out too!

Appalachian Service Project

We are registered for ASP for 2019 and it will be July 20th - July 28th. We won't know which center we are in until next spring but it will be in Kentucky.

Please let me know if you are planning or thinking about going so we can start planning accordingly.

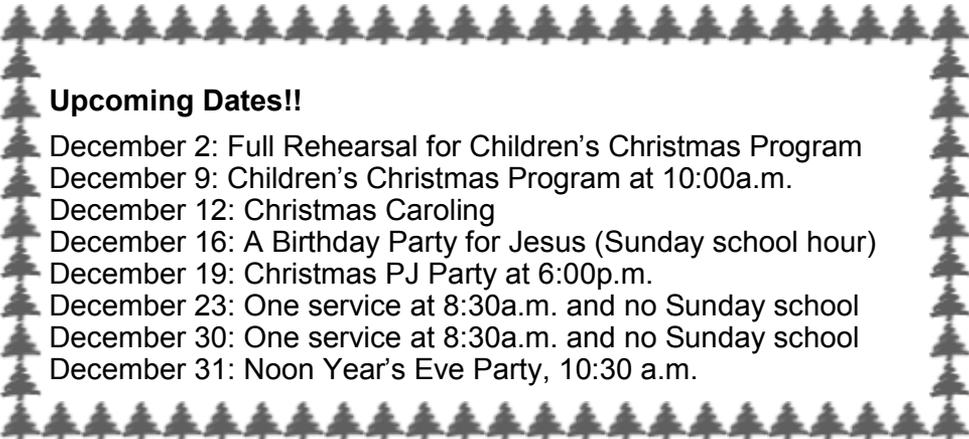
We will have another informational and organizational meeting for ASP on Thursday night December 13th from 5:30-6:00 pm in the High School room.

We will give an overview of the weeks activities and answer any questions that you may have as well as discuss fund raising ideas.

Ken and Kathy Van Pelt

Faith and Reason Sunday School Class

This class listens to ideas and views from different theologians and philosophers about living a Christian life. We view short videos that offer thought-provoking ideas on how to apply teachings from Jesus and many others in the Bible, to our lives. Lively and thoughtful discussions follow, allowing class members to reflect on what the well-known speakers say. We consider what it means to live a life of faith. During December, we will focus on the Advent season.



Upcoming Dates!!

December 2: Full Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Program

December 9: Children's Christmas Program at 10:00a.m.

December 12: Christmas Caroling

December 16: A Birthday Party for Jesus (Sunday school hour)

December 19: Christmas PJ Party at 6:00p.m.

December 23: One service at 8:30a.m. and no Sunday school

December 30: One service at 8:30a.m. and no Sunday school

December 31: Noon Year's Eve Party, 10:30 a.m.

MISSIONS....

Want to spread some holiday cheer to local children and youth? YSS (which is located right across the street from FUMC) is collecting gifts for the youth in their programs. If you'd like to purchase a gift, simply take a gift tag from the tree located near the Welcome Desk. Buy the desired item and return it (unwrapped) to the same tree by December 9. Questions? Contact Chris Holm - 515-296-0239. Thanks for extending the spirit of giving to children and youth in our county!

NAMI Central Iowa (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

will be offering the **Family to Family** course for family members of adults with mental illness, beginning at 6:30 PM in Ames; January 21- April 15. (Another class will be offered in Boone beginning February 5th.) This 12-session, evidence-based program focuses on the major mental illnesses, discussing treatments and skills that family members need to cope more effectively. All classes and materials are free. Registration for the Ames class is required by January 2nd. For more information, see the poster or contact us at 515.292.9400 or namiofci@gmail.com.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas is just around the corner! We will again be offering two different sizes of poinsettias this year. You may choose an 8 inch pot for \$15 or a 10 inch pot for \$25. Please, place your order by December 10. After all of the Christmas services, you may take your plant home. Remember what you ordered so you know what to pick up. We are also offering the Alternative Mission Gift again this year. The money will go to a "Good Samaritan Fund".

POINSETTIAS

Name _____

Given in memory of _____

Given in honor of _____

Colors/Size

_____ White 8 in. plant

_____ Pink 8 in. plant

_____ Red 8 in. plant

_____ Glitter (red & white combo) 8 in. plant

_____ Peppermint 8 in. plant

_____ Marble (pink & white combo) 8 in. plant

_____ White 10 in. plant

_____ Pink 10 in. plant

_____ Red 10 in. plant

_____ Glitter (red & white combo) 10 in. plant

_____ Peppermint 10 in. plant

_____ Marble (pink & white combo) 10 in. plant

Substitutions may be made based on availability

My check is enclosed for the amount of _____. Please write **Poinsettias** in the memo line.

ALTERNATIVE MISSION GIFT - "GOOD SAMARITAN FUND"

Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

My check is enclosed for the amount of _____. Please write **Alternative Mission Gift** in the memo line.

The Week at a Glance

Dec. 2 – Dec. 1

Sunday, Dec. 2

8:30 & 11:00

1-5 Eagle Scout Court of Honor
multiple rooms

Monday, Dec. 3

5:30 CEMT/CR

Tuesday, Dec. 4

Quilters

3:00 Farm to Folk

3:30 Aktion Club

5:30 SPRC

6:30 Adult Ministries/MPR

Wednesday, Dec.5

10:30 WWW/CR

11:45 Advent Lunch

12:30 Musical Entertainment

6:00 Wednesday Meal

6:30 Wednesday Activities

8:00 Young Adults w/Pastor Nikki/
HSCR

Thursday, Dec. 6

Kiwanis

9-3 YSS meeting/CR

1:30 UMW Memorial Service/FH
and Chapel

5:00 Ames Quilt Guild/FH

5:30 Church Council/MPR

Friday, Dec. 7

4:00-5:00 Actors practice

Saturday, Dec. 8

11:00 & 1:30 Tuba Christmas/sanc

Lunch between concerts/FH

6-9p.m. Amy Abrams/MPR

Bob and I would like to thank
Pastor Nikki for taking the time
to stop and see Bob at the
Northcrest Health Care. We
appreciates it and we are glad
that she leaves her calling
card. Jan Samuelson

USHERS

8:30

Teri and Jay Frederick
Georgia and Del Bluhm
Karen and Lonnie Mannes

11:00

Glendora Clark
Karen Kerper
Steve Hanlin
Jane and William Edwards

Greeters and Welcome Center

8:30 - Greeters

Bob Fowser

Welcoming Center

Lori Vander Werff

11:00 - Greeter

Donna Banker

Welcoming Center

?

ACOLYTES

8:30

Sydney Gelder
Connor Pepper

11:00

Dunkin Bearson
Savanna Smith

NURSERY

Meredith, Clove, Matthew & Andrea

Audio/Video/Streaming

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

UTILITIES

Becky Jordan
Virginia Helland
Roy Cakerice

Chancel Choir will join Chancel Bells December 16 to present the
combined cantata "Were You There on That Christmas Night?"
Chancel Choir ALWAYS welcomes NEW members. Join us as we
prepare for this cantata and Christmas Eve!

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. Dr. Kerrin Kirkpatrick, Senior Minister/Lead Pastor

Rev. Nikki Ross Bishop, 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/amesfirststumclivestream>.
To view past services and other church events, go to Ames First United Methodist Church's YouTube page at <http://bit.ly/amesfirststumcyoutube>.