



THIRD SUNDAY
Advent

First United Methodist Church
516 Kellogg Ave.
515-232-2750
www.fumcomes.org
8:30 - 11:00 December 16, 2018
Rev. Dr. Kerrin Kirkpatrick

THE GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARIES---PRELUDE

“Listen for His Coming” arr. Mark Hayes
“Lo! How a Rose E’er Blooming” arr. Lloyd Larson
“O Come All Ye Faithful” arr. Lorrie Line

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP: Lighting of the Advent Candles

HYMN

No. 3059

“Love Has Come”

Lord Jesus, we are in awe that You would humble Yourself and come to earth to live among us - to love us, serve us, and fight on our behalf. You were willing to give Your life so that we may truly live. How grateful we are for Your surprising and wonderful divine plan! Open our eyes this season to the wonder of a manger – an unlikely crib that heralds Your humble and eternal reign. May this beautiful picture of Your love profoundly change us, that we may follow Your example by humbling ourselves to love and serve others in Your name. Amen. – “The Wonder of Christmas” pg 94, Abingdon Press, alt.

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS, & GOD-SIGHTINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7

A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Pastor Kerrin

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“Comfort, Comfort You My People” arr: Lyndell Leatherman

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

No. 242

“Love Came Down at Christmas,” v 1

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy One, this Advent season we wait with love, and we give with love. Receive these tithes and offerings, given in Your name. Use them for Your works of love in our world. Make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

WITNESS TO THE WORD "Were You There on That Christmas Night"

Reading of Hope

Song "Were You There on That Christmas Night"

Chancel Choir & Chancel Bells

Reading of Peace

Song "Peace"

Chimes

Reading to Welcome Peace

Song "Infant Holy"

Chancel Bells and Flute

Reading of Joy Song

"One Small Child"

Chancel Choir & Chancel Bells

Reading of Love

Song "Still, Still, Still"

Chancel Bells

Reading of Light

Song "German Carol Medley"

Chancel Choir & Chancel Bells

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Joy to the World"

John A. Behnke

Chancel Bells: Chancel Bells: Janet Bakker, Al Johnson, Ida Johnson, Ginny LaVelle, Candy Nelsen, Julie Mallas, Ann Meirkord, Dorothy Pimlott, Arlen Patrick, Carol Patrick, Ron Skrdla

LEAVING FOR SERVICE

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 both Sunday 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 piped 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!

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

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

BLUE CHRISTMAS

On Sunday, December 16, at 1:00 p.m. FUMC is offering a supportive service of worship in the chapel to all persons for whom the holidays are difficult due to a death, loss, tragedy, stress or depression. Our Blue Christmas Service allows participants to name personal losses and loved ones as we light candles in a time of sharing. Please feel free to share this invitation with your family and anyone you know on a journey of grief and healing or in the midst of struggle; all are welcome as we come together in this informal worship. Thank you for all the ways you care and minister alongside one another.

ADVENT LUNCH and MUSIC

The last Advent lunch will be Dec. 19. Bring a sack lunch. Drinks are provided. 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.

This week’s musical entertainment will be:

Barb Mittman/Myrna Cakerice playing piano and organ duets.

Haiti Latrine Fundraiser

January 2017 was a very special trip to Haiti. What made it so special is that is where we decided to get married. Haiti is near and dear to our hearts so it seemed like the perfect location. We thought we were getting married by a Haitian pastor in a quick little 10 minute ceremony. Much to our surprise, the Haitians had planned so much more for us. Limo ride to church (aka: Tap Tap, standard mode of transportation), completely decorated church, music, decorations, three pastors, and a cake were all part of the day. It's a day we will never forget!! As a way to give back we had two latrines built in honor of our wedding day.

This year we have decided to start a new tradition with a new Latrine Fundraiser. We will have a pop up shop after church Dec 9th and Dec 16th with some items we have put together from our home based business (I even have a few jars of salsa). This will be a great place to pick up some Christmas gifts. Thirty-five percent of all sales will go directly to the building of a latrine/latrines (however many we can build).

Thank you in advance.
Jay and Terry Fredrick

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Please watch your mail for your giving statement through December 10. They were mailed Friday 14, 2018. Yearend statements will be mailed mid-January. Please let the church know if you do not receive one in a timely manner. (515-232-2750)

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

COME TO WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE

There will be three worship services on Christmas Eve. Come to one, two or all three. Worship times this year are at 4:30, 7:30 and 10:00. (not 10:30)

4:30 p.m.

A family-friendly service that tells the story of Christmas. The children will be able to participate in the service if they would like to.

Candle lighting with "Silent Night".

7:30 p.m.

A family service of traditional carols and candlelight. Featuring music by Myrna Cakerice/Barb Mittman, the Chancel Choir, and special guest soloists.

Pastor Kerrin Kirkpatrick will be preaching.

10:00p.m.

A quiet, late night service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight.

Featuring the music of Myrna Cakerice on the organ and piano.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated; candle lighting with "Silent Night".

Pastor Kerrin Kirkpatrick



SAY CHEEEZE!!!!

The youth will be making cheese balls again this year to help fund outreach projects and activities for the year. We will have classic cheese balls, bacon and cheddar cheese, pineapple pecan cheese balls, and even a cookies and cream cheese ball for sale. Price per cheeseball is \$10.00. These will be sold on December 16th during coffee hour and after service on December 23rd. This will be a delicious way to support our youth group!

Up With Puppets have been busy planning and practicing for our annual Christmas show. On Sunday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m., come and see the puppets give their interpretation of the beloved Christmas story "A Christmas Carol." This promises to be a fun, creative show with a variety of songs that everyone will enjoy. We are excited to present this show to our church.

MICHAEL LONDRA CONCERT - DECEMBER 16 AT 3:00

The renowned tenor has spent the past 2 years focusing on producing a new musical written by globally successful author, Eoin Colfer. Singing had to take second place.

"I've always wanted to produce and being a successful singer means I'm able to take some time off. That, I did. I missed the singing so in August, I gathered 4 of my favorite musicians in Spokane and we made an album in 4 days.

The normal process involves 6 months of preparation and then studio time, with a lot of anxiety. This time I simply didn't have the time to get anxious. We sang, played and laughed for four days and produced a small album of mostly American Christmas classics.

The album has a jazz feel to it but I added quite the mix of carols and winter standards. We have everything from "Christmas Time is Here" to "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming".

Michael isn't touring extensively this winter while he focuses on NOËL but he wanted to put together a concert to celebrate the album and the musicians playing on it. He invited them to join him in Ames in December.

First Methodist Church is beautiful and down the street from my house. We are suggesting a \$20 donation to help fly in the musicians and any remaining funds raised will go to a charity chosen by First Methodist. I just want to celebrate the album and the holidays with friends so I'm excited that I get the chance to do that."

Next year it is back on the road for Londra with a concert tour in spring and another public television special later in the year.

"It's time to get back to doing what I do best!"

LIVING LAST SUPPER

Ames First United Methodist Church will be putting on their first ever Living Last Supper on April 17th, 2019. We need actors to play the 12 disciples, as well as someone to play the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Rehearsals will be Sunday nights starting December 16th from 7-9 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Wesley Tener at 319-430-3152. Men are encouraged to grow beards so that they look more the part of a disciple.

The Week at a Glance
Dec. 16 – Dec. 22

Sunday, Dec. 16

8:30 & 11:00 Christmas Cantata

1:00 Blue Christmas

3:00 Michael Londra Concert

6:30 Up With Puppets Christmas Show

Monday, Dec. 17

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Quilters

Bible Study Group

11:30 Staff Lunch

3:00 Farm to Folk

Aktion Club Holiday Party

Wednesday, Dec. 19

10:30 WWW/CR

11:15 UMW Leadership

11:45 Last Advent Lunch

12:30 Musical Entertainment

4-5 AIRA/MPR

Thursday, Dec. 20

No Kiwanis

Friday, Dec. 21

Saturday, Dec. 22

5:30 service

USHERS

8:30 & 11:00

Youth,
Families
&
Friends

ACOLYTES

8:30

Addie & Ainsley Jurgens

11:00

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

Greeters and Welcome Center

8:30 - Greeters

Carolyn Yorgensen

Becky Jordan

Welcoming Center

Lisa Schmidt

11:00 - Greeter

Nancy Tamashunas

TBA

Welcoming Center

Rhonda Lofstedt

Sincere thanks to our FUMC family for the prayers, phone calls, cards and messages of sympathy we received during Dean's illness and following his death. Also to Pastor Nikki for her visit and prayer at Hospice House. All were much appreciated.

Dianne Obrecht and Family

UTILITIES

Becky Jordan

Lance & Vicki Crawford

William & Winnie Lee Carlson in celebration of their birthdays.

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>.