



# AMES FIRST

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*To make disciples of Jesus,  
who serve beyond the walls.*

5:30 PM Saturday

3rd Week after the Epiphany

January 24, 2026

### GATHERING MUSIC

Ilene Riitano

"On Eagle's Wings" - words and music by Michael Joncas, arr. Douglas E. Wagner

"There is a Redeemer" - words and music by Melody Green, arr. Mark Hayes

### GREETING

### SHARING NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with confidence:

**God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?**

When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we can declare with confidence:

**God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?**

No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house of God forever.

**God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.**

Come, let us worship God with joy, for God is our light and salvation!

**We come to worship as bearers of the Light. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

<sup>1</sup>*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.*

### \*HYMN

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

2173, UMH

### SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS, & GOD-SIGHTINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER w/ The Lord's Prayer **Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

MEDITATION MUSIC

Ilene Riitano

"As The Deer" - words and music by Martin Nystrom, arr. Mark Hayes

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 27:1, 4-9; Matthew 4:12-23

SERMON

"Carrying the Light"

Rev. Amanda Gordon

HYMN OF REFLECTION

"Pass It On"

572, UMH

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBER Pam Smith

p. 38-39, UMH

\* CLOSING HYMN

"Go Make of All Disciples" v. 1 & 4

571, UMH

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

SENDING FORTH

Ilene Riitano

"In Christ Alone" - Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, arr. Larry Shackley

LEAVING FOR SERVICE

\*Please stand in body or spirit



### *Worship through Giving*

1. Gifts may be dropped in the basket at the back of the Chapel
2. Scan the QR code to give online
3. Text "Firststimes Budget" to 73256 and follow the prompts

## STATE OF THE CHURCH SUNDAY, JAN. 25 11:15 AM

### (SANCTUARY OR LIVESTREAM)

Learn about the goals, activities, and business matters of our church.  
Afterwards, Soup & Sandwich Lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

## Camp Sunday!!

On Sunday, February 1, we will celebrate our Iowa UMC Camps by sharing about Wesley Woods and Lake Okoboji during children and youth Sunday school and in worship! We encourage everyone who has one to wear a camp T-shirt to show all how important the camping ministry is in the faith journey of our young people. If you have any favorite camp stories you'd like to share, please sent those to Nicole at [Nicole@amesfirstumc.org](mailto:Nicole@amesfirstumc.org) so she can share them with our students!



## ASP Mission Trip Fun(d) Raiser

Saturday, February 14  
Pasta Dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm (Free Will Donation)  
LIVE Auction starting at 6:30pm

Be thinking about items you would like to donate to the ASP Auction! Forms are available right outside the chapel—just fill it out and return to the office. We have 8 auction items so far!

## MICA

The delivery to the MICA food pantry this week was 200 lbs! That makes the total so far this year 253 lbs! Thank you! Your donations make a difference in people's lives! Current needs include: Skillet meals, ramen, cereal, rice, side dishes, crackers and toilet paper.

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, January 25

8:50am Coffee Talk Class/CR  
9:00am Children and Youth/  
Classrooms  
9:15am Coffee and Conversation/FH  
10:00am Sunday Service/Sanc  
11:15am State of the Church (Sanc)  
followed by Soup and Sandwich Lunch  
(FH)

### Tuesday, January 27

9:30am Quilters/QR  
2:00pm Life Group/CR  
5:30pm Finance Committee/CR

### Wednesday, January 21

10:00am Wonderful Wednesday  
Women/CR  
5:30pm Disciple Fast Track/MPR and  
Zoom  
6:15pm Bell Choir/BC  
7:30pm Chancel Choir/Sanc

### Friday, January 30

6:00pm Game Night and Chili Cookoff/  
FH

### Saturday, January 24

5:30pm Saturday Night Service/Chapel

+Weekly: Golden Kiwanis, AA  
+Abbreviations for Room Names:  
CR-Conference Rm / FH - Fellowship  
Hall / HSR - High School Rm / MPR -  
Multi Purpose Rm / Sanc - Sanctuary /  
QR - Quilt Rm / HL - History Library

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Amanda Gordon, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Nikki Ross Bishop, Associate Pastor  
Nicole Smith, Christian Education Director  
Ilene Riitano, Organist and Music Director  
Julie Minot, Office Manager  
Vivian Severson, Office Assistant  
Reid Cummer, Business Manager  
Kris Hinders, Digital Coordinator  
James Minot, Maintenance Custodian  
Matt Woodworth, Part-time Custodian

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs 9:00 - 4:00 / Friday 9:00 - 1:00

## CONTACT INFORMATION

516 Kellogg Ave, Ames, IA 50010  
515-232-2750  
office@amesfirstumc.org /  
www.amesfirstumc.org


## Audio/Video/Streaming Volunteers

Marty Sankey Mike Evans Pete Peterson

*The light has been revealed to the world! Embrace the gift  
of light that is Jesus the Christ and consider what it means  
to stand in the promise of...*

# GLORY REVEALED

*Worship Focus  
January 3 through February 15*

 AMES FIRST  
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