



AMES FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

10:00 AM Sunday

3rd Week after the Epiphany

January 25, 2026

PRELUDE

Ilene Riitano

"God of Grace" - Words by Harry Emerson Fosdick (1930), Music by John Hughes (1907), arr. Paul Manz

GREETING

SHARING NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

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.

¹Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

*HYMN

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

2173, UMH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

881, UMH

*GLORIA PATRI

"Glory Be to the Father"

70, UMH

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS, & GOD-SIGHTINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER w/ The Lord's Prayer

HYMN

"On Eagle's Wings" sing 2x

143, UMH

FIRST SCRIPTURE	Psalm 27:1, 4-9	Karen Kerper
A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN		Nicole Smith
ANTHEM		Chancel Choir
	"On Eagle's Wings" - Michael Joncas, arr. Douglas E. Wagner	
SECOND SCRIPTURE		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		
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE	"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"	95, UMH
*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		
*CLOSING HYMN	"Go Make of All Disciples" v. 1 & 4	571, UMH
CLOSING VOLUNTARY		Ilene Riitano
	"Brillante" - Robert J. Hughes	
LEAVING FOR SERVICE		*Please stand in body or spirit



Worship through Giving

1. Gifts may be dropped in the box located on the wall as you exit the Sanctuary
2. Scan the QR code to give online
3. Text "Firstames 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.

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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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.

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GAME NIGHT & CHILI COOK-OFF

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30
6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM



Calling all chili enthusiasts and culinary wizards! Sign up at the office or email vivian@amesfirstumc.org if you can bring a pot of chili! Welcome Team will provide fixins, desserts, & drinks.



FREE EVENT AND PRIZES FOR
BINGO!
HOWEVER, YOU CAN VOTE ON
THE BEST CHILI WITH YOUR
DOLLARS! ALL PROCEEDS GO
TO ROMERO HOUSE.

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 send those to Nicole at Nicole@amesfirstumc.org so she can share them with our students!

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 Ritan, 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

Greeters

1/25 Ginny LaVelle
Ellen Johnson
Steve Hanlin

Today's Song Leader:
Paige Brincks