



AMES FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

5:30 PM Saturday

Ninth Week after Pentecost

July 25, 2026

GATHERING MUSIC

Ilene Riitano

"Give Thanks/ Now Thank We All Our God" - Henry Smith/ Johann Krüger,
arr. Joel Raney

GREETING

SHARING NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God calls us to be the light of the world.

People: We come up with excuses to avoid our calls. We block our ears and close our eyes.

Leader: We hide the light of our faith under a bushel, instead of placing it on a stand to shine for others.

People: But God's Spirit will not stop working in and through us.

Leader: What we hide, God uncovers.

People: What we close off or even destroy, God opens and rebuilds.

Leader: Let your light shine before others to glorify God.

People: Let Jesus be the fuel that keeps our lights burning. Let us shine!

Adapted from the Presbytery of Milwaukee using Matthew 5:14-16

*HYMN

"Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

465, UMH

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS, & GOD-SIGHTINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER with 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

Pete Peterson, harmonica

"O How I Love Jesus, Shall We Gather at the River, Jesus Loves Me"

SCRIPTURE Zechariah 4:1-14

SERMON "Zechariah's Lampstand" Dr. David Senchina

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Thy Word is a Lamp" 601, UMH

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

*CLOSING HYMN "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright" 679, UMH

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

SENDING FORTH Ilene Riitano
"I Will Enter His Gates (He Made Me Glad) with This Is The Day" -
Leona Pearl Van Brethonst in 1967, Les Garrett, 1967

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

MICA

Our church has donated nearly 2000 pounds of food and supplies to the MICA food pantry so far this year! Thank you for your continued support; it makes a difference! Items especially needed at this time are side dishes, vegetable oil, and canned fruit.

Special thank you to Dr. David Senchina for leading worship today!

Thanks to all who participated in Christmas in July! As of Monday, July 20, \$4927.66 has been raised!

Mat Maker Update

The Mat is finished! Thank you to all who helped work on it as well as those who brought in bags. We still only need colored bags. We will not meet in August until the 30th after church when United Women in Faith have another casserole time.

Delicious pies! A dedicated group of UW Faith women makes a variety of fruit pies throughout the year. Availability of flavors vary, but some favorites include apple, cherry, peach, strawberry rhubarb, blueberry, and peach! They are available for purchase for \$14 from the church office. Pies are frozen and ready for you to take home, bake, and enjoy! Perfect for a summer evening (or any time of the year)!

Trivia Night Fundraiser for Ames Warming Place

Saturday, August 8 at Spark by Hilton

6:00pm Doors open; 7:00pm Live Auction followed by Trivia

(Prizes for winning teams)

In preparation for winter, there is a big fundraiser being planned by members of The Warming Place Team. Trivia Night Tables can be purchased for \$200 (seating for up to 8) with a max of 30 tables. To learn more or reserve a table, visit: ameswarming.place.

Applications for the Margaret Smalling Memorial Scholarship are due by August 15 and may be picked up in the church office. To qualify, a student needs to be a member of Ames First UMC, be a full-time student (12 hours +), and have completed one full year of college.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 26

9:15am Coffee and Conversation/FH

10:00am Sunday Service/Sanc

6:00pm Friends in Faith

Monday, July 27

5:30pm Nominations Meeting/CR and Zoom

Tuesday, July 28

9:30am Quilters/QR

1:00pm Rong Gao Wedding Blessing/Sanc

5:30pm Finance Committee/CR

Wednesday, July 29

6:00pm Chancel Choir/Sanc

6:30pm AA/FH

Saturday, August 1

5:30pm Saturday Night Service/Chapel

+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

If you are visiting with us today, thank you! We are glad you are here! Please pick up a Welcome bag before you leave. There are cards to fill out if you would like more information or would like someone to contact you.

