

The

June, 2020 Vol. 39 Issue 6

# Communicator

Connecting People



Collegiate United Methodist Church  
and Wesley Foundation



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## Bulletin and Weekly Email Announcement Deadlines:

Send Bulletin submissions to [mail@cwames.org](mailto:mail@cwames.org) by NOON on Wednesdays. Type *Bulletin* in the subject line.

Send Weekly Email submissions to [mail@cwames.org](mailto:mail@cwames.org) by NOON on Wednesdays. Type *weekly email* in the subject line.

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### Cover Photos:

**Front:** Reusing last month's photo because the sun was scarce for much of May and a new photo wasn't taken.

**Back:** Photo taken on a rare sunny day in May.

### About *The Communicator* and deadline submission dates –

The *Communicator* is a monthly publication of Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation. The goal of *The Communicator* is to inform and involve people in the life and work of the church. To submit articles, please email them to [mail@cwames.org](mailto:mail@cwames.org) **and put** "*Communicator*" in the subject line. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the church office at 515-292-6936.

July Communicator Deadline: June 20, 2020

# A Letter from Pastor Denny

by Pastor Denny Coon

Dear Church,

In the book, *The Alchemist*, the shepherd boy takes a long journey of discovery from Spain to Egypt. He ends up at the Pyramids only to find out the real treasure he is looking for is located where he started, in an abandoned Spanish church where he first cared for his sheep. Although he must return home for the reward, he is not discouraged about the long journey because of the people and experiences on his way to Egypt.



**I'm sure I will find rewards in returning to retirement but I** have also enjoyed our one year journey together. Along the way we have experienced mixed feelings, probably including both frustration and gratitude if we are honest. Sometimes these lie submerged in **our conscience. We need to be careful we don't just collect the bad stuff and let it fester.** So, if at some point in the ministry I caused misunderstanding, I seek your forgiveness and I forgive you.

June marks the last month of my appointment year with Collegiate/Wesley UMC. I want to thank all of you for being good stewards of the church and for welcoming Patty and I into this faith community. I will continue to pray for Collegiate/Wesley and your new pastor, Rev. Dr. Mary Lautzenhiser Bellon. I know Mary is excited about this call to ministry.

I also want to thank the staff for their support, kindness, and willingness to work together for the greater good. It is not easy to go through so many changes, so  **blessings to them for continuing to focus on God's reign. Finally, blessings to the membership for your continued support of Collegiate/Wesley UMC.** Through thick and thin you have remained faithful witnesses to goodness, mercy, and love. These are the true treasures and where your treasure is, there also will be your heart.

Peace,  
Pastor Denny

# Adult Discipleship

by Lindsay Drake: Director of Adult Discipleship

## Collegiate/Wesley Cares

Your Reaching and Receiving Cluster has been dreaming up ways to say to our community and essential workers that Collegiate/Wesley Cares. During this time of social distancing, each person will be encouraged to reach out to people to thank them and say that we care about them. A flyer has been created for you to use, as well as a hashtag to share on social media. You are able to print this flyer, write a note of thanks on the back to say that Collegiate/Wesley cares and appreciates **their hard work. Don't forget to take a picture and share on social media using the hashtag #cwcared.** This is a fun way to say thank you together while being apart!

Check the weekly email to see who we will be thanking each week.

Click here for the [CW Cares Flyer](#)

## Join a Digital Small Group in June!

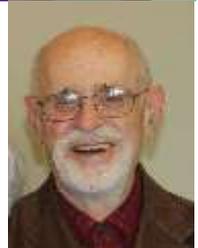
Use John Wesley's 21 questions to lead you and keep you focused on God in June. This group will receive daily emails for personal reflection and join together weekly for a group discussion via Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. This group begins June 1<sup>st</sup>, with the first Zoom meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign up today at (<https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups/digital-small-groups/digital-small-group>). Contact Lindsay Drake ([lindsay@cwames.org](mailto:lindsay@cwames.org)) with questions.

## Digital Connection Cards

**Don't forget to check in for worship using our digital connection card!** We love being able to connect with you after worship each week. It is also a great way to stay connected through our prayer life. You can always find the connection cards on our digital worship page on the website. <https://cwames.org/worship/digital/>. Thanks for staying connected during this time of separation. We love and miss you!

# In Loving Memory of Rev. Bob Farr

We have all been enlightened by Rev. Bob Farr's contributions to the Communicator over the years. Three months prior to his death, Bob asked me if he could preach one more time in June. I told him "of course" and if he needed to stay in his chair we could work it out, along with amplifying his voice. I encouraged him to be thinking about what he might say and he replied, "Oh, I've already thought about that." We both laughed. He never completed the sermon he wanted to preach, but with Helen's permission and help, I will follow through on my commitment to him and read from some of his other sermons and writings on Sunday, June 21 in place of my sermon. May grace abound as his words continue to encourage and strengthen us for the journey.



Pastor Denny

# Children, Youth & Family Information

by Lauren Loonsfoot: Director of Children, Youth & Families

I asked my Facebook friends to share one word that described how they are feeling right now. I received over 70 answers that question. The two words that were most used were exhausted and drained. I prayed over each person that responded embracing their word during the prayer and released it then to God. During this time I am searching for hope, longing for encouragement and reaching for strength. I want you to know that you are not alone. You are loved, you are a blessing. You are seen, you are heard. Your feelings and emotions are not unnoticed.



When I'm unable to find the word I look for them from others. Thank you to the ministry of Enfleshed for sharing the words below.

## 5 truths to hold in your bones

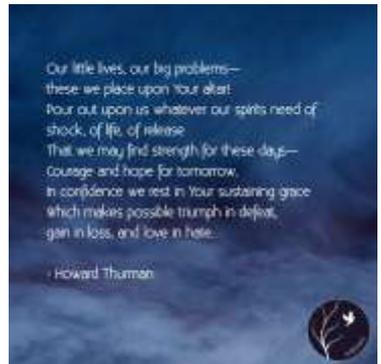
1. you are loved
2. you can do hard things
3. you are not alone
4. we need each other
5. follow joy

- Rev. Anna Blaedel



Our little lives, our big problems—  
these we place upon Your altar.  
Pour out upon us whatever our spirits need of  
shock, of life, of release.  
That we may find strength for these days—  
courage and hope for tomorrow.  
In confidence we rest in Your sustaining grace  
which makes possible triumph in defeat,  
gain in loss, and love in hate.

- Howard Thurman





## Snack Break

This is a season of trying new things! I hope you'll invite your children to take a snack break on Wednesday mornings every other week. I'll be reading a story while they enjoy a snack and then we will have a short game or activity. I know that our children miss one another. This will give them the opportunity to socialize with their church friends as well as connect about the weekly materials. Thank you for trying new things with us!

**SNACK BREAK**

**BI-WEEKLY ZOOM MEETINGS WEDNESDAY MORNINGS STARTING JUNE 3**  
**PREK-1ST GRADE: 10:00-10:25 A.M.**  
**2ND-5TH GRADE: 10:30-11:00 A.M.**  
 Email [Lauren@cwames.org](mailto:Lauren@cwames.org) to get the meeting link!

## Bible Sponsorships

How many of you have a bible at home that you love? How many of you remember a bible being in your home when you were a child? How many of you remember that bible being a children's bible? Cokesbury released a new children's bible this year called Celebrate Wonder. This new Celebrate Wonder edition includes new introductory pages that inspire wonder and curiosity in children to learn more about the Bible.

"The tools included in this Bible could help parents talk about Scripture with their children and give them the confidence and tools to discuss God's Word as a family."  
 - Youth Worker magazine

I'm looking for 35 sponsors at \$20/bible to help me get one of these new bibles into the homes of our families with younger children. If you'd be willing to sponsor a new bible for a Collegiate Wesley family please email me [lauren@cwames.org](mailto:lauren@cwames.org)

# Congratulations High School Graduates

"Be bold, be courageous, be your best." *Gabrielle Giffords*



## ISABELLE ANDERSON

FAVORITE CHURCH MEMORY: YOUTH GROUP LOCK-INS

WHAT'S NEXT: ATTENDING IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY AS A PERFORMANCE MAJOR IN MUSIC AND MUSICAL THEATER.



## TESSA HUFF

MY FAVORITE MEMORY IS WORKING IN THE CHURCH NURSERY AND HELPING WITH KIDS KORONER!

THIS FALL I WILL ATTEND CENTRAL COLLEGE IN PELLA, IOWA WHERE I PLAN TO DOUBLE MAJOR IN BIOLOGY AND EXERCISE SCIENCE WITH A PRE-MED DESIGNATION. I WILL ALSO BE A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COLLEGE DANCE TEAM.



## XAVIER JOHNSON

FAVORITE MEMORY: GETTING TO KNOW THE STORIES OF THE PEOPLE WE WORKED WITH ON OUR MISSION TRIPS ESPECIALLY THE PEOPLE WHO HAD DIFFERING OPINIONS FROM MINE

WHAT IS IN MY FUTURE: I'M PLANNING ON GOING TO IOWA STATE. I HAVEN'T QUITE DECIDED WHICH ADVENTURE I WILL PURSUE.



## EMILY MATULAC

EMILY'S FAVORITE MEMORY FROM CHURCH WAS RUNNING AROUND THE CHURCH AT LOCK-INS PLAYING GO TO COURT UNTIL REALLY LATE AT NIGHT WITH HER FRIENDS. SHE ALSO LOVED ALL THE MISSION TRIPS SHE WENT ON.

NEXT YEAR EMILY WILL BE ATTENDING IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY TO DOUBLE MAJOR IN FINANCE AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT. SHE IS VERY EXCITED ABOUT THIS NEW ADVENTURE WHILE BEING ABLE TO STAY CLOSE TO HOME.



### WILLIAM ORTH

I AM PLANNING TO ATTEND AN UNDECIDED DIVISION I COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY TO PLAY FOOTBALL AND STUDY BUSINESS.

MY FAVORITE CHURCH MEMORY IS PLAYING TRUMPET WITH THE COLLEGIATE BRASS.



### JONAH STRAWHACKER

FUTURE PLANS-ATTEND UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL MEMORY:PLAYING FOOTBALL



### NATHAN WILSON

WHAT'S NEXT FOR ME: I'LL BE GOING TO IOWA STATE AND MAJORING IN AG ENGINEERING.

MY FAVORITE MEMORIES OF CHURCH WERE THE MISSION TRIPS!

"You are educated. Your certification is in your degree. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world."

*Tom Brokaw*



We hope you feel the love, prayers and encouragement as your next journeys begin. We are praying for you and are so proud of you all! Go change the world!  
- Lauren

# Sending to Serve

## COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Story County Immigrants

At the beginning of April, a COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Story County Immigrants was initiated. I wanted to provide an update from the previous article in the May Communicator.

As of May 13, 185 individuals and institutions have donated over \$55,810 to the fund, with over \$28,997 allocated. There have been 57 unique households helped once and 29 households have been helped two or more times. Therefore, assistance has been provided a total of 86 times. The initial maximum distribution of \$300 per applicant is being increased to \$500. Assistance is limited to paying housing costs and utilities.

Thanks to United Way of Story County for convening a group of partners (AMOS Ames Institutions, ARIA, ASIP) to provide our immigrant neighbors with emergency assistance.

Ongoing donations are appreciated and the need is great and will be continuing for months. Checks should be made out to St. Cecilia Church. Please note COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Immigrants in the memo. St Cecilia Church will automatically send contributors a letter of confirmation of giving for tax deduction purposes.

Checks can be mailed to:

St. Cecilia Church

Attn: COVID-19 Fund for Immigrants

2900 Hoover Avenue

Ames, Iowa 50010

If you know of an immigrant to refer, applications can be found on St. Cecilia's website <https://www.stceciliaparish.org/covid-19-fund-do-you-need-assistance-can-you-help/>



# Volunteer Opportunities



## Clothing That Works

CTW is closed to clients and donations right now.

**New hours** once CTW is open again:

Wednesdays, 2-5pm

First Saturday of the month, 9am-Noon

## Sign up to Help with Food at First

YES!! Food at First is open for business every day.

All dinners are now Grab-N-Go. Only volunteers are allowed inside the building. FAF needs more volunteers.

Collegiate/Wesley continues to volunteer on the 4th & 5th Friday every month. Our next dates to volunteer: June 26, July 24, and 31, and August 28.

To help prep and serve the meal, sign up for a two hour shift at (2:30-5:00 pm or 5:00-6:30 pm) on the 4th & 5th Fridays. Check the Thursday email for new sign-up information.



# Wesley Center Student Graduates

We are so proud of our graduates who finished their college career in the midst of a pandemic. They are off to do amazing and world-changing things and we invite you to pray for them and welcome them to the Wesley Alumni club!

## OLIVIA ASTARITA

*Elementary Education*

Wesley Foundation...when you first hear it, it sounds like a fancy schmancy Gala event. Well it is even better than a glorious Gala event; like 100 times better. I have been involved with Wesley throughout my whole college career, and I am dead serious when I say it does feel like its own little family. I remember coming back after one of the summers and seeing everyone on the first Sunday of the school year. Wow, so much warmth and love was felt. It truly is always so good to see everyone. Wesley really drew me in right away because of one simple word that I felt immediately: joy. The people involved continue to bring me so much joy, and I just love all the gatherings here, there, and everywhere. One of my favorite Wesley memories is "Cocoa and Canvas" where we got to all be together drinking some delicious hot cocoa (so so tasty) and just being able to all relax together and experience everyone's creativity. So, I raise my hot cocoa to all the amazing memories with Wesley. Cheers forever. I am excited to stay in touch with everyone, and I will carry all the joy they have brought and continue to bring to me throughout my life.



## ANNA BILEK

*Civil Engineering and Sustainability*

I began attending CUMC freshman year not really looking for more than a church community I could connect with on Sundays. This ultimately evolved into regularly attending Sunday services, attending Soup Supper on Wednesday nights, volunteering with Study Buddies, attending Wesley large groups and co-leading several Wesley small groups. The community at CUMC was so welcoming, loving and caring. They gave me a home to be myself, serve God in meaningful ways, and even question the Bible. I have grown as a person through the Wesley Center, learning how to better love myself and others. I am forever thankful for the relationships made and lessons learned through Wesley.

## KATHARINE RANTS

*Interior Design*

I was heavily involved in both the Wesley Center, and Collegiate UMC, it's hard for me to separate them because both have been very important to me during my time at Iowa State. To be successful and happy, I need to be surrounded by love and support from my peers, but I also thrive on being surrounded by older adults, and children. I believe Collegiate/Wesley is unique and special for ISU students because it provides students with peer support from Campus Ministry (Wesley) but it also provides students support from a range of different generations from the rest of the congregation (Collegiate). I don't think there are many other churches in Ames that provide students campus ministry and a congregation of varying generations. Through sermons, large groups, small groups teaching Sunday School and conversations with people, Collegiate/Wesley has helped me to better understand what Faith and Christianity means to me. Collegiate/Wesley has also aided the development of long-lasting friendships with people that are always there for me, whether it's a shoulder to cry on, or to celebrate the good things in life. Even as we all start to graduate and move on to the next chapter in our lives, I predict that the friends I have made at Collegiate/Wesley will stay in my life for a very long time.



# A Message from Pastor Mary

by Rev. Dr. Mary Lautzenhiser Bellon



I look forward to seeing you soon in July and I send you this poem to think of all the things we turn over in our lives as we take the journey through its many landscapes and seasons:

## A Poem of Turning

Let me turn something over  
in the heart of God,  
let me turn over,  
this rock, this stone,  
let me turn it over to hear  
the language hidden beneath  
the words strewn carelessly in the day.

Let me turn over the log  
where the bright blue mushrooms  
signal the wet evening  
to meet its shaded hope;  
let me turn over the places  
where life hides deep in the ground.

Let me turn over the moment  
when the mute swans strung their  
wide willowing wings across the  
thin ribbons of left-over clouds,  
the wisps of what had been bundled  
into the shapes of afternoon imagination.

Let me turn over the heart  
that beat its kindness like a silver drum  
dropping coins into a pauper hat.  
Let me turn over the moment I knew  
this rising shine of light within  
burnt the rope that knotted my hands.

Let me turn over something  
in the numinous, in the mystery,  
and let it be the heart of God.

Pastor Mary

# Prayers

## Prayers of Thanksgiving

- For those who helped celebrate Avis Schroder's birthday. (Steve and Megan Schroeder)
- For the sale of Greg's mom's house. She has moved to Ames. (Cathy Halverson)
- For the helpers, big and small.
- Thank you to our church family for prayers, meals, and cards. Thank you also to Pastor Denny for the wonderful job he did at our interment service on Saturday. (Helen Farr)
- A prayer of gratitude for your on-line church this morning. It was perfect and just what I needed. Thanks to all! (Joani Hollingsworth)
- Thank you to the members of Collegiate/Wesley for creating a welcoming, loving space for me during my time at Iowa State. I will greatly miss this family of faith after graduation. (Katharine Rants)
- Thank you to the church staff for all they are doing to keep us connected during the pandemic. Thank you as well for putting our health and safety first as they figure out when we might be able to worship in person again.
- For a prayer answered—Jayde Henry was called back to full time job after a furlough.
- For wonderful family (LaRue Clark)
- Prayers and best wishes for all mothers.
- For graduating seniors and all students, big and small.
- For the hard working crew at Food at First on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Dean Phillips, Marjy Howe, Mary Ann & Paul Lundy, Tom & Betty Barton, and Bud & Ginny Everett.
- The change in medicine is controlling my cancer. (LeAnn Meehan)
- Congratulations to all our 2020 graduates!

## Prayers of Concern

- For Emily Drupal Tanko, who is having surgery to repair bones and have a plate put in her wrist due to a fall.
- That families can find positive experiences in living through the social distancing period.
- For the Johnson and Farr families on the loss of loves ones when hugs from their church families are not available.
- For Helen Farr and family on the loss of Bob.
- For Elaine Johnson and family on the loss of John.
- Prayer to help us identify people in need!
- For the family of my cousin Nils, who died this past week. Although he had Down Syndrome, he lived to the ripe old age of 63 - probably because he was "loved like crazy". His ever present smile will be missed by all who crossed his path. (Barbara Munson)
- Prayers for the team of expert scientists and epidemiologists who continue to work on both vaccine and treatment for the Covid-19 virus. As this work is

happening, pray for all people to be patient and continue to practice social distancing and stay home as much as possible.

- Lindy Good requests prayer for a friend who has been hospitalized with double pneumonia.
- Prayers for all who feel they are prisoners in their homes.
- Eryn Shriver requests prayer for her father, Tom O'Hare, who is hospitalized in Hampton with back problems, and possibly in need of surgery.
- Continued prayers for Jayde Henry, who is hoping for a miracle to walk again after an accident that left her in a wheelchair.
- For Mary Rizzo upon the death of Frank on April 11.
- For Allison Blythe, who is being treated for breast cancer.
- Continued prayers for the Farr and Johnson families on their recent losses.
- That we make the right decisions during these days of social distancing that will lead to a better world for the future.
- For Barbara Munson's aunt, Faye Ellen, whose son Jerry died on May 26, following the April 28 death of her son Nils.



### **We 're enjoying the opportunity to worship digitally with you!**

Sunday mornings at 10:00 am

Here's what you need to know:

You can "tune in" on our [Facebook page](#) at 10:00am to watch live. There are opportunities for you to comment and interact in real time with each other.

- You can also go to our Facebook page anytime after that to view the video.
- We will also be uploading the video to our website [www.cwames.org](http://www.cwames.org) as well as our [YouTube channel](#).
- Whichever way you worship, we would love for you to fill out the [check in form](#) on our website so we can do our best to stay connected.
- To view a tutorial on how to connect on Sunday mornings you can view that here: [Digital Worship Tutorial](#)
- Check the weekly email for the digital bulletin and notes about anything you may need to "bring" with you to worship.



## You are Welcome Here!

Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation welcomes and affirms all persons without regard to gender, ethnic background, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical or mental ability, marital status, economic condition, or **anything else which threatens to divide God's family.**

The purpose of C/W is to build an inclusive community that invites all people to **experience God's unconditional love, grow in faith, and serve others.**



**COLLEGIATE**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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