

The

July, 2020 Vol. 39 Issue 7

# 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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### 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.

**August Communicator Deadline: July 20, 2020**

# A Message from Pastor Mary

by Rev. Dr. Mary Lautzenhiser Bellon

## **“There is peace at the table of the Lord**

There is peace at the table of the Lord

## **I won’t worry anymore at His table**

There is healing at the table of the Lord.

I know He has a place for me

Oh, what joy will fill my heart

With the saints around the mercy seat of God.

Come all you weary, come and find

His yoke is easy his burden light

He is able. He will restore

**At the table of the Lord.”**

The Table: Chris Tomlin



You might like to listen to this song by Chris Tomlin on You Tube – it reminds us of the power of gathering for Communion together. Somehow, as we gather, we invite the peace that passes understanding and celebrate the message that we are all welcome at the table of God.

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, as I begin this journey with you in ministry at Collegiate/Wesley Foundation, we will take Communion before the regular worship service. We will start with communion on Facebook and the website at 10 am. Please have a bit of juice/wine/water ready and some bread. Pastor Jen and I will lead the Communion service, and wherever we are at, we will take the elements together.

Our scripture passage for July 5<sup>th</sup> is Matthew 11: 25-30 and the words are reflected in the song lined **above: “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light”**

I know we are all a little weary right now: from Coronavirus, from racial discrimination, from the many concerns facing us in our world and maybe in your life. Yet, here we are together to gather strength for the journey, purpose for our searching lives and love abounding. I am excited to join you in fellowship and the work of God for the healing of the world.

On Sunday afternoons and evenings beginning July 5<sup>th</sup> if you would like to have a Zoom meeting with me – for a few minutes, for a half hour, for 45 minutes, please email me at [Mary@cwames.org](mailto:Mary@cwames.org) and I’ll set that up with you. Individuals, couples, families or groups of friends are welcome! I know I will meet many of you at our meetings this summer and the SPRC and I may set up some meet and greets, whether through Zoom or in small gatherings for later this summer. But in the meantime, if you would like to chat for a bit, please let me know.

Light and grace,

Pastor Mary

# Covid-19 Tactical Team

Many of our families have immigrant stories as part of our legacy. They are tales of leaving home and the familiar for something unknown. Many of the leavings were prompted by circumstances that the participants could not control. They left knowing that they would not be going back to the life they had known. They carried with them hope and fear and dreams and anxiety. The path forward was vague, shaped by circumstances over which they had little to no control. Faith, resiliency, acceptance of change and dreams were the reservoirs that replenished their souls.

Today the people of Collegiate/Wesley are pioneers. We embody the same emotions and possess the same spiritual resources as generations before. We are currently traveling toward a destination of reopening our church building. To guide our journey a Tactical Team is meeting to gather data and best practices. The team members are

Chris Anderson – representing Property / Trustees

Greg Halverson – providing medical / health perspectives

Jane Jacobson – Lay member to Annual Conference

Jane Kennedy – representing Finance and Music programs

Michael King – representing Reaching and Receiving

Lauren Loonsfoot – representing C/W staff

Donna Vandehaar – providing medical / health perspectives

Denny Coon – interim Senior Pastor

Mary L Bellon – incoming Senior Pastor

The team is working on a survey to be sent to the Collegiate / Wesley community in July. The purpose is to provide a baseline of information about comfort levels for CW members with respect to resuming in-person activities of C/W. It will be important for all individuals to respond to give the team a full understanding of how we can strategically reopen. The team is also monitoring Covid-19 data for Story County and Ames.

**There is no road map for this work. We will be guided by John Wesley’s call to “Do No Harm”, by data, by the needs of our community, and by prayer. The Tactical Team will appreciate your participation and prayers as we all journey forward.**



## Children, Youth & Family Information



### July Reading Adventure

I LOVE reading! And I know some of you do too! My goal is to read 10 new books in July. Will you join me on a July reading adventure? This reading journey is for all ages. Set a personal goal and keep track.

For example:

Infants – 4 year olds: 31 books (1 book a day) or 10 minutes per day

5 –7 year olds: 62 books (2 books a day) or 20 minutes per day

8 – **18 year olds: 5 chapter books (that's one book a week) or 60 minutes per day**

18+: 5 books (1 book a week) or 45 minutes per day

**Let me know if you need book recommendations; we have some great new children's books for loan.**

**Everyone who participates and sends at least one picture of a book you've read will receive a small gift!**

Everyone who reaches their personal goal by the end of the month will be able to cast a vote to see me complete a fun dare (of your choosing). Will I kiss a frog? Get a pie to the face? It's up to you. Only those who reach their goal will be able to cast a vote. We'll video it for all to see. To participate, simply send me an email with your personal goal. Thanks for joining me! Lauren (lauren@cwames.org)



I know that you are all full of creativity! We want to see your art! Send me a picture of your artwork to be displayed in a virtual art gallery on our website and Facebook page. We want to celebrate you!

**Your art doesn't have to just be a picture on paper, it can be a photograph, a picture of your garden, a nature mandala (see picture); art is decided by the artist! Thank you for helping make the world a brighter and more art-filled place.**



Artist: Lee Schott

Send your artwork to lauren@cwames.org .

by Lauren Loonsfoot: Director of Children, Youth & Families

## Snack Break

It has been such a joy getting to see and read to our CW Children! We will continue having Snack Break in July and August. **This is a season of trying new things!** I hope you'll invite your children to take a snack break on Sunday and Wednesday mornings. 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**

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**ZOOM MEETINGS WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY MORNINGS**  
**DATES COMING UP: JULY 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29**

**SUNDAYS: PREK-1ST GRADE: 11:00-11:25 A.M**      **WEDNESDAYS: PREK-1ST GRADE 10:00-10:25 A.M.**  
**2ND-5TH GRADE: 11:30-12:00 P.M.**                      **2ND-5TH GRADE: 10:30-11:00 A.M.**

## Bible Sponsorship and Thank yous!

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.



I'm looking for **6 more 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)

## Thank you to those that have sponsored bibles for our families!

Janelle Keltgen and John Lauridsen

Marti Steelman

Michael King

LeAnn and Mitch Meehan

Katharine Rants

Jane and John Jacobson

Renate Dellmann

Gerry and Jane Kennedy

Susan Long

Dean and Carol Phillips

Donna Niday

Floramay and Steven Miller

Janell Eby

Paul and Paula Anderson

Larry and Sandy Stevenson

Sheila Lundt

Doug Warren and Tyler Johnson

## General Conference Updates

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, General Conference, which was set to happen this May, was postponed until late summer 2021. The official dates for the rescheduled General Conference are August 29-September 7, 2021. The conference will still be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Jurisdictional conferences have also been rescheduled. The North Central Jurisdictional Conference will now be held on November 10-12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Currently, the plan is for all of the current NCJ bishops to stay in their conferences through 2021.

Your Iowa delegation, which has been elected for the entire quadrennium, has not met since the beginning of the global pandemic. While we don't have any meetings scheduled, as we have all been focusing on our local ministries during this time, please know that we will begin meeting again in the near future. I assure you that we are still committed to the work we have set forth to do, which is building an inclusive church, free from discrimination.

For more information, please feel free to reach out to me ([Lindsay@cwames.org](mailto:Lindsay@cwames.org)) or your pastors. You can also find up to date information here <https://www.iaumc.org/gc2020>.



## Social Hour

Thank you to everyone who has joined us for our past 3 social hours. We have had so much fun being together and getting to know one another more. Please mark your calendars for July 8th and 22nd. More information will follow in the weekly emails and via Facebook.

## Sending to Serve

### Upcoming AMOS Consider, Connect, Create Organizing Campaign

This will be focused conversation on community needs, including social justice issues, that are facing our community including, but not limited to, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the untimely death of George Floyd, discrimination, inequities. This will be patterned after the New Deal following the **Depression in the 1930's**.

Watch for opportunities to join in on these conversations in July and August. They will be via zoom and facilitated by a trained leader. We want your input to get important work done together.

*We have much work to do together, called by our faith and democratic institutions to advance justice in our communities.*

### COVID-19 Emergency Fund

At the beginning of April, it became clear that undocumented immigrants and their families would be excluded from the CARES Act unemployment benefits and stimulus checks because of their citizenship status. Many of our immigrant neighbors needed emergency assistance. So, AMOS Ames Institutions partnered with United Way of Story County, Ames Refugee Alliance, and Ames Sanctuary Interfaith Partners to create a COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Story County Immigrants.

As of June 11, individuals and institutions have donated over **\$82,700** to the fund. Over \$67,500 has been allocated to 74 different households, some more than once. The assistance is provided for housing costs/rent and/or utility assistance. Applicants at this time have represented many nationalities from Story County - including Latino, Sudanese, and Asian members of our community.

The COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Story County Immigrants continues to accept tax-deductible donations. Send to St. Cecilia Church Attention: Covid-19 Fund for Immigrants; 2900 Hoover Ave; Ames, IA 50010. We are making a difference for our immigrant neighbors.

## Byrne Endowment Fund

### Byrne Endowment Fund—Apply and Make a Difference!

The Byrne Endowment Fund was established by a member of the church, Dennis Byrne, who had a deep passion for missions and who was involved with many different mission trips during his lifetime. The fund is available for groups and individuals who need funding for a mission or service-related endeavor. Each year, two-thirds of our funding is designated for international projects, and one-third is designated for either US or non-US projects.



If you have a project or ministry for which you'd like funding, please see additional details and download the application form at <https://cwames.org/get-involved/service-justice/byrne-fund/>. The deadline is **August 10**, so don't delay! If you have further questions, please contact Tim Gossett at 450-2858 or [tgossett@gmail.com](mailto:tgossett@gmail.com).

## Volunteer Opportunities



### Clothing That Works

CTW will be open on Wednesday, July 1, 2-5 pm. No one under age 16 will be allowed in the building. All shoppers must wear a mask (one will be provided, if necessary), and use hand sanitizer before shopping. Temperatures will be taken and health questions asked. Only 2 shoppers will be allowed at a time.

Clean, usable adult clothing donations are also being accepted at that time (at Clothing That Works, NOT inside the church building).

The Wednesday schedule will continue as it can. Please check their [Facebook page](#) to see if it's open before you go.

### 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: 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.



## Endowment Board Grants

### Endowment Board – 2020 Grants

In May the Endowment Board awarded \$71,567 to eight Collegiate/Wesley grant requests. The projects for 2020 range from pieces of furniture to scholarships to improvements for the C/W physical plant. The Board recognized that the grants were submitted prior to the COVID-19 disruption of “life as we knew it”. Some grants may need to be adapted to fit the new circumstances. Two requests will be submitting new plans before their final approval, due to the impact of COVID-19 on their events.

- Sunday School Resource and Check-in Table
- Logo tablecloths to use for public resource displays.
- New tables to accommodate large group events for Wesley Foundation
- Confirmation Camp support
- Wesley Student Retreat support
- School for Lay Ministry support
- Subscriptions for Christian Education resources
- HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) for second floor – support for project

The grant money is generated by the interest on Endowment Board investments. Keep the Endowment in mind when you are considering ways to support the Collegiate Wesley community.

## Prayers

### Prayers of Thanksgiving:

- For the marriage of our daughter, Rachael Meehan, to her fiancé, Elijah. They were married June 13th in Iowa City. (LeAnn and Mitch Meehan)
- For the great crew at Food at First on Friday, May 29: Mary Ann & Paul Lundy, Dee Dreeszen, Dean Phillips, Brenda Allen, Betty & Tom Barton, Marjy Howe, Bud & Ginny Everett, John Lauridsen and Janelle Keltgen.
- Clara Schroder sends happy birthday prayers to her mom, Megan Schroder, whose birthday is (was) June 2.
- Happy and thankful that you (we) are continuing safe online worship.
- For Priscilla Joel for sharing the message on Sunday.
- Grateful for ruling in support of our DACA neighbors.
- **Thank you to Denny for sharing Bob Farr's words.**

### Prayers of Concern:

- Prayers for the nation, for the protesters, business owners, and peace officers. We pray for kindness and understanding toward all of our friends during these difficult times.
- Continued prayers for all who are affected by the coronavirus. Give comfort and peace to those who have lost loved ones.
- For Megan Schroder's dad, who is having gallbladder surgery on June 8.
- For the family and friends of George Floyd.
- For friends in Champaign, IL, whose 18-yr old son drowned last week (Janelle Keltgen).
- For wise decisions by our government.
- For motorists to pay more attention when driving, for the safety of animals. (Kelsey Brand)
- For those who are needing extra prayers and comfort right now.
- For wisdom in our leaders.

## Digital Worship at Collegiate/Wesley



### Here's what you need to know:

You can "tune in" on our [Facebook page](#) at 10:00 am to watch live.

You can also view worship anytime on our [Youtube channel](#) or [Digital Worship Page](#)

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](#)



## 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.**



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