

The

October, 2020 Vol. 39 Issue 10

Communicator

Connecting People



Collegiate United Methodist Church
and Wesley Foundation



Thank you for coming to help us kick off an exciting new season of fall ministries!





Contact Us

Phone: 515-292-6936

Email: mail@cwames.org

For more information, please visit our website: cwames.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/cwames](https://www.facebook.com/cwames)

Weekly Email Announcement Deadlines:

Send Weekly Email submissions to mail@cwames.org by NOON on Wednesdays. Type *weekly email* in the subject line.

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Cover Picture: Taken September 21, 2020

Back Cover: A beautiful summer sunrise at Collegiate/Wesley

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 and put “*Communicator*” in the subject line. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the church office at 515-292-6936.

October Communicator Deadline: October 20, 2020

20 Years of Love

Help us celebrate 20 years of love!

On October 8, 2000, a special called All-Church Conference took place to adopt a statement of reconciliation. **This statement made clear this church's love for all of creation and God's children.** This statement was the result of years of prayer, study, conversation, and love. (To see the original document, along with historical information and Q&A, click [here.](#))

Twenty years later, this church still faithfully lives out its statement of reconciliation and works to build no circle of exclusion.

To celebrate this anniversary, a special digital worship service is planned for October 11th. This service will include statements of faith, Rev Sam Fisher as the special guest preacher, and a message from Rev Scott Grotewold.



To add to the service, we are asking all those who have any connection to Collegiate/Wesley to share your stories with us. Please take a moment to fill out this form <https://forms.gle/y3C5RUPxaaUePSk6MA> and share what being a part of Collegiate/Wesley has meant to you. We are looking forward to celebrating 20 years of love with you!

WE BELIEVE

BLACK LIVES MATTER
NO HUMAN IS ILLEGAL
PEOPLE OVER PROFIT
FEMINISM IS FOR EVERYONE
SCIENCE IS REAL
CREATION CARE IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY
TRANS RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS
LOVE IS LOVE
GOD LOVES YOU, ALWAYS, AND SO DO WE



WWW.CWAMES.ORG

Yard Signs

As a way to bear witness to our beliefs, we will be selling yard signs for you to display at home and give to your friends. Signs can be picked up from the church. Please call the church office first to set up at time with Janelle. Church office number: 515-292-6936.

Each sign costs \$10. You can purchase them online at <http://cwames.org/shop/> and will be available for no contact pick up at the church.

A Message from Pastor Mary

by Rev. Dr. Mary Lautzenhiser Bellon

As fall approaches, we enter into a busier season in our life together. Our groups for children, youth and adults are up and running, we look toward our Reconciling Anniversary in October, and we allow ourselves to ponder together the way time – in the ancient language of the church, Chronos or ordinary time – is woven through with sacred time, called Kairos. As the days shorten in the northern hemisphere and the trees begin to drop their leaves, we notice the changes in our lives: children growing, some heading for college; the remains of the summer garden tilled under; the way we celebrate another year moving toward its end. But there is Kairos time too: experiences that allow us to see all the connections in creation; moments of prayer that allow us to lean into the Presence of God; the way when we quiet our minds and become still we can feel the hand of grace that has sustained us in good times and hard. Together we take the journey through both Chronos and Kairos time.



We will hope to begin [Morning Watch on October 4th](#). We are preparing for this outdoor gathering in the lawn area east of the Annex, but we are also watching closely the rate of COVID infection. We are committed not to gather in any way that allows our church to be a vector for transmission of disease. As we did last month, if we are unable to hold this worship experience safely, we will notify you on our Facebook page and in our weekly email.

I am glad to offer a [Meditation Group beginning Wednesday October 7, 7-8:30pm](#) for those who might be interested. The group will then go through the month of October. The style of this meditation is in the form of a group experience. The format is simple: we begin with a check in and also a simple description of how the exercise will unfold. Then I will lead us through a guided meditation experience that invites us to get in touch with our deepest center, then extends our focus to each member of the group through our heart space. Finally, at the conclusion of the meditation, we will share any thoughts, images or words that came to us for each participant. The process lasts about one and a half hours. The weekly email will have a sign-up opportunity or you can email me at Mary@cwames.org. The group will be limited to eight participants but if people are interested then other groups can form too.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness in your lives, to our community and with the ministries of Collegiate United Methodist Church/Wesley Foundation. The vibrancy of your commitments is expressed in all the ways we gather through digital worship, study groups, outreach, service, prayer and gifts. I am continually amazed at the generosity of your spirits.

Light and grace,
Pastor Mary

Children, Youth & Family Information

by Lauren Loonsfoot: Director of Children, Youth & Families

Sunday School for Children and Youth



Children's Sunday School Sundays 9:00 am

Preschool through 5th Grade on Zoom!

For October we will be learning and talking about God creating people and wonder, as well as Abraham and Sarah.

The format will loosely follow this schedule: 9:00-9:10 Music/9:10-9:20 Bible Story and Reflection/9:20-9:45 Activity/Craft/Game. An email will be sent each week with items needed for the lesson and activity sheets will be mailed weekly.

Sign-up here: [Children's Sunday School](#)



Youth Sunday School Sundays 11:00 am (Middle School and High School combined)

A time for middle school and high school students to connect, discuss the scripture of the week, and how we can connect it to our lives.

Sign-up here: [Youth Sunday School](#)



Youth Group

Sunday evening via Zoom, Middle School youth will gather from 6:30-7:15. High School youth group will start at 7:30 Sunday evenings. There will be a few in person opportunities available as well, likely once a month to start. Picture hula hoops, (yes I have lots!) in the back lawn, spaced out for charades and other games. These gatherings will be socially distanced and masks will be required. Of course this is up to the comfort of each individual family if their youth will attend. If you have any questions please contact Lauren lauren@cwames.org



School Age Parents Social

This is a school year unlike any other. This is an opportunity to connect with other parents and share how you are doing. A safe space to feel supported, find encouragement and to take a moment of quiet to reflect and find balance in our busy lives. We'll gather once a month at 8:00 pm. Our next gathering is October 9th. To register to get the zoom links go here: [Parents Social](#)

Pumpkin Painting Contest! Fall is here and we are having a pumpkin painting contest! Send a picture of your painted pumpkins to Lauren Loonsfoot lauren@cwames.org by October 31st!



You can still join an Adult Sunday School or Small Group this fall!

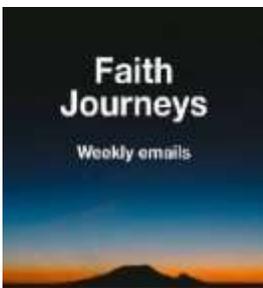
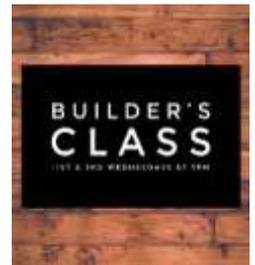


This year, like every year, Collegiate/Wesley is offering a robust adult program. There are still adult Sunday school classes, but this year, because of the flexibility that online groups provide, not all groups will be meeting on Sunday morning. There are various midweek opportunities, as well. Make sure to check out the website for all of the details for your favorite old or new classes.

All class information can be found at <https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups>

Builder's Class

Do you miss watching CBS Sunday Morning? Has something you heard on NPR caught your attention? Builders class uses these platforms and others to explore current issues and how they connect to our faith. We will be meeting through zoom on the first and third Wednesday evenings of the month at 7pm. Come join us. [Sign-up here](#)

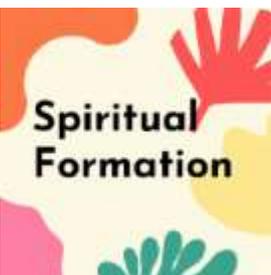


Faith Journeys

Faith Journeys is a Bible study designed to encourage us as we seek God's will. We look at how our own little faith journeys relate to the big faith journey of God's people in the Bible and history. Classes meet via email. To join or learn about the class, please contact Mary Jean Baker at bakerallan14@gmail.com. All are welcome to join!

Keeping the Conversation Going – New this fall!

All are welcome to join with the preaching pastor following the live stream of our weekly digital worship opportunity to dig deeper into the sermon and worship themes. The only prep is worship! Join together weekly at 11:00 via Zoom for an engaging discussion. [Sign up here.](#)



Spiritual formation

This Adult Sunday School class is for persons interested in deepening their personal and communal spiritual life. This class explores various topics throughout the school year and meets via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 11:00. [Sign up here.](#)

M&M

This Adult Sunday School Class explores timely news from a faith perspective using Faithlink materials from the United Methodist Publishing House. This group meets on Sunday mornings @9:00 via zoom. [Sign up online here.](#)



Adult Discipleship

Amplify Media

Collegiate/Wesley has a subscription to Amplify Media for all to use! This resource is a video streaming service which includes videos from popular Abingdon Press studies, along with other resources you would find on Cokesbury.com. There are devotional videos, children and youth resources, along with various other videos for you to stream from home. Log in today using the link and access code below. Questions on how you can use this at home or for your small group, contact Lindsay Drake (lindsay@cwames.org).

<https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify>

Access Code: CLXSBH

October Digital Social Hour

Connect with your church family and friends for a Digital Social Hour on October 26th at 7:00pm. Bring a story about your favorite fall memory to share with your friends. Register today for this great opportunity for fun, conversation, and fellowship.

[Register here.](#)

Contact Lindsay Drake with questions.



Endowment Board—Grant Money Available

COVID 19 disrupted some of the plans for Endowment Fund grants awarded in the spring, hence those funds have been returned. Since last spring needs for new resources and opportunities for new ministries have emerged. The Collegiate Wesley Endowment Board has **\$7940** available to help address these needs or to support these ministries. Grant applications can be found at <https://forms.gle/Xj5XUSdoBj8Jx7yJA>. The deadline for submission is October 12, 2020.

Endowment grant funds are available for use by any of the groups (Boards, Clusters, Committees etc.) that comprise Collegiate Wesley for:

- **Capital expenditures on behalf of, or in the name of, the Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation, Ames, Iowa, for real property acquisitions, repairs or improvements; or**
- **Funding or helping to fund new or existing programs to be administered or sponsored by the Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation, Ames, Iowa; or**
- **Benevolences endorsed, supported or approved by the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.**

Questions about the appropriateness of Endowment Fund support for your project, necessary application information and/or appropriate approval groups can be addressed to either:

- **Endowment Board Grants Manager: Phil Poorman, ppoorman@aol.com, 515-232-5447**
- **Endowment Board Chair: Mary Wickham, wickhammary1@gmail.com, 309-550-2594**

Sending to Serve

Special Offerings:

Thank you for your generous donations to date we have given \$13,833 to missions.

This includes:

Emergency Residence Project \$4,117

Good Neighbor \$2,655

UMCOR Global Relief \$3,285

Undesignated Mission Offering \$100

Katherine Parker \$1,809

Justice for our Neighbors \$30

Women at the Well \$167

AMOS \$960

Project Home Mission \$480

Peace with Justice Sunday \$230

If you are interested in giving to our supported missions you can find that donation link here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y874cahy>

THANK
YOU!



Special Offering November 1: Women at the Well

Pastor Beth Harbaugh will be joining us digitally for Worship on November 1st. Pastor Beth was appointed to Women at the Well July 1st. She is excited to meet us and tell us all about Women at the Well and the ministry at Iowa Correctional Institution for Women. To learn more about Women at the Well you can visit their website here:

<http://www.womenatthewellumc.org>. You can

also learn more and join them for worship on

Facebook at [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/WomenattheWellUMC)

[WomenattheWellUMC](https://www.facebook.com/WomenattheWellUMC).

October Hands on Ministry:

At YSS, we give children, teens and young adults the opportunity to find their voice, make healthy choices, feel safe and secure, learn life skills, heal with compassion, grow their confidence and, ultimately—stand strong. YSS provides hope and opportunity to children, youth and families through our prevention, treatment and transition programs. Learn more at www.youthstandingstrong.org.

One thing that the shelter is in need of is books! You can view the book wish list and other craft supplies on their Amazon Wish list [here](#). Questions? Contact Lauren Loonsfoot lauren@cwames.org



**A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION
SERVING YOUTH AND FAMILIES SINCE 1976**

Sending to Serve

Justice and Service Survey 2021

The Sending to Serve cluster would like to invite you to complete our 2021 Service and Justice Survey. This survey will help us shape the service and justice priorities for the 2021 calendar year.

We appreciate your time in completing this important step in our work as a congregation. You can find the survey here: [2021 Service and Justice Survey](#)



Please Join Us!
CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION
AMOS Action with Congressional and Senate Candidates

HEAR REAL STORIES FROM CENTRAL IOWANS

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AND GAIN NEW CONNECTIONS

MOVE INTO ACTION TOGETHER

October 4th, 2020 Via Zoom | 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Please Register in Advance at:
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAscu-hqDopGdJnr-dTkEYzVbbWTn6C5QPn>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

If you have any questions or did not receive the registration email, please email amosiowa@gmail.com

AMOS | A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy

AMOS Citizenship in Action Zoom

October 4 at 3 pm.

Candidates will be asked to commit to meeting within 90 days of the election if they are elected. The goal is to work on relationships with who is elected to work to change systems.

Anyone is invited to the October 4 meeting. Please register and you will then receive a confirmation email containing information to join the meeting.

Register at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAscu-hqDopGdJnr-dTkEYzVbbWTn6C5QPn>

If you have any questions you may contact Donna or Alan Vandehaar at advand2715@gmail.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Clothing That Works

Due to increasing Covid-19 numbers in Ames and Story County, Clothing that Works has closed temporarily. Clothing donations are not being accepted currently. Reopening of CTW will be announced in our weekly email, the Communicator, and their Facebook page.



Sign up to Help with Food at First

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

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. **Our next dates to volunteer: October 23 & 30.**

Please follow the link to participate in the poll:
<https://doodle.com/poll/bbq7z2sfp49xpvi>

Tax Benefits of the CARES Act

by David Orth

The CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act provides a few key provisions for charitable goals:

- Required minimum distributions are temporarily suspended for the 2020 tax year. But if you are 7 1/2 or older, you can still make a tax-free gift to Collegiate/Wesley from your IRA and see your gift put to use today.
- An available charitable deduction of up to \$300 (\$600 for married couples) if you take the standard deduction.
- Cash contributions to Collegiate/Wesley can be deducted up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for the 2020 calendar year for those who itemize.

Questions? Please contact David Orth, Director of Generosity, at david@cwames.org.

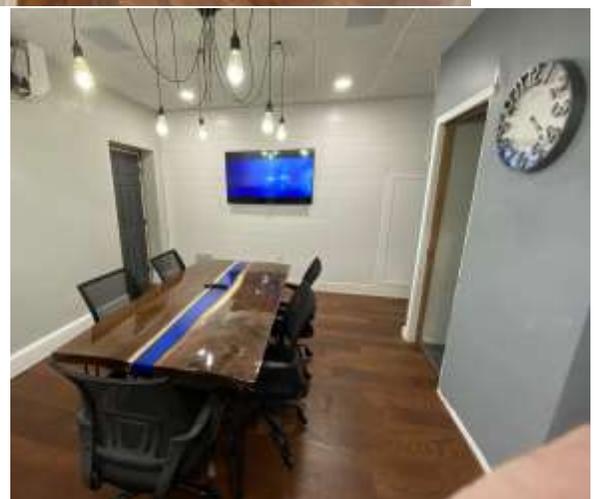
Trustees/Building

by Doug Warren

Wow! What a year we have had so far! **I know many of you have driven past the church's dark windows and can barely remember what it's like inside.** Well, even if you remember what it DID look like, a lot has changed behind closed doors. The original plan was to let you all in and see the surprises, but this extended closure time keeps dragging on. The Trustees and I decided that we are going to start revealing some of these surprises each month.

A lot of people may not know that there is a room just off of Wesley Hall. Some of you might know it as **"The Old Nursery" or "The Bride's Room"**. It was a dimly lit waste of space. I knew when I started here that this room had potential, especially since it has an exterior entry, and I wanted to bring it up to date. A broken water pipe early in 2020 led to damage in this room, which was the perfect opportunity to re-do this room. As you can see from the before pictures, it was not a well-used room and the space **wasn't a good lay out**. The first step was changing the structure of the room. We completely changed up the bathroom to allow more mobility in it. We removed the mop sink/closet that was in the middle of the room. Then a new tile flooring was installed in the bathroom and an engineered wood flooring in the main area. Lighting upgrades were added to brighten up the room. **A 55" TV with in-ceiling sound system with subwoofer** were added as technology upgrades to the room. I custom built the walnut conference table for the centerpiece of the room. The table features HDMI, Ethernet, and Power plugs for a seamless user experience. A fresh coat of paint and new doors were the final touches on this room. Due to our resourcefulness and some donations, we were able to keep the repairs and upgrades under \$1,000! **I'm hoping that this room will be used plenty once it is safe to do. I present to you, the new "Wesley Conference Suite."**

I hope you enjoyed this small look into some of the changes happening while you are gone. If you have any questions or comments, always feel free to reach out to me!



Our Prayers

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

- For the hardworking crew at Food at First on Friday, Aug. 28: Mary Ann and Paul Lundy, Dee Dreeszen, Dean Phillips, Betty and Tom Barton, Marjy Howe, Ginny and Bud Everett, Megan Hill, Natalia Rios Martinez, Xavier Johnson, Sydney Sales, Jensen Wilke, Michael Keenan, Jen Hibben, Lauren Loonsfoot, and Jensina Davis.
- After 5 months without work, my brother Eric got a job offer this week that's a good fit for him, just as his kids are also headed back to school. ~ Brenda Allen
- Celebrating Clara's 7th birthday. ~ the Schroder Family
- Seeing so many of our Collegiate family stop by on Rally Sunday.
- Joy in celebrating our 11th wedding anniversary on Sept 19. Also joy for Steven's birthday coming up on Sept 25. ~Megan Schroder
- That my angiogram showed a heart that is strong and clear. Now to find out what has made me feel so weak and tired with a shortness of breath. Could it be that I'm just old? If so, help me accept. Thank you. ~Helen Farr



Prayers of Concern:

- For cousin-law-law diagnosed with perinatal depression. ~ Ashley Smith
- For the family and friends of Randi Camp, who passed away last Thursday. Randi was a doctoral student in HD FS and leaves behind a teenage son, Noah, as well as many friends, former students, and others who were touched by her. ~ Brenda Allen
- For sister-in-law who will be going through cancer surgery this week. For her surgeon as well as family and friends. ~ LaRue Clark
- for Margaret Knox, former CUMC/WF member, diagnosed with 2 cancerous brain tumors. Good wishes can be mailed to Margaret and Jerry at 1142C Fontmore Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80904
- That politics doesn't continue to divide our church, and that we can heal differences! ~Eldon Weber
- For the family of Pat Thiel, friend and colleague. ~Betty & Tom Barton
- For those affected by the terrible fires. Please be with and comfort those who have lost loved ones in these fires. ~LaRue Clark
- For my cousin, Jim Parker, on the loss of his home to wildfires in Talent, Oregon. ~Janelle Keltgen
- For Susan Long and family on the recent loss of her mother, Virginia Hillyard (who would have been 100 years old on October 16).
- Prayers are requested for Gerry Kennedy. Our perception of his lymphoma diagnosis was too optimistic. We have since learned that he has mantle cell lymphoma which is one of the most aggressive and tends to keep recurring even after treatment. Treatment will be aggressive involving in-patient chemo for 5 months followed by stem cell transplant. We are disappointed, but taking it one day at a time, and praying that he will ultimately achieve remission as the oncologist anticipates.
- For general health for me and the rest of the community! ~Megan Mueller
- For Carla Dicks, recently diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. Her 11-yr old son recently diagnosed with diabetes. ~Alice Burress
- On this Labor Day Holiday weekend may we value all workers and treat all with dignity. Especially during this pandemic, may there be safety for all workers. May the work for policies for a living wage and health care for all continue. ~Alan and Donna Vandehaar
- For the family of Phyllis Harris, who passed away on Sept. 16.
- For the family of Ruth Bader Ginsburg at this time of loss, and for our opportunity to carry on her legacy, continuing to support equality for all. May we all keep up the fight for justice and what is right.
- For my grandparents who both have COVID, as well for friends and self-health. ~Megan Mueller

CaringBridge Site for Gerry Kennedy

Jane Kennedy has created a CaringBridge website for friends who would like to follow her updates regarding Gerry's ongoing battle with lymphoma. If you're interested, please follow this link:

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/gerrykennedy>

Create a login if you don't already have one, and request approval to view the site, which Jane will grant as soon as she is notified by CaringBridge of the request. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and concern on his behalf.

Note of Prayer and Support

Received in the mail on Thursday, Sept. 17:

"Dear Collegiate United Methodist Church,

I am writing to you from Trinity UMC in Ft. Dodge. While our community was not hit by the derecho storm, our hearts ache for you. We are praying for you all plus we are taking an offering for disaster response in our conference. Our church is a drop off location for supplies needed. May God be with you.

Diane Larson Ps. 31:24"

**Psalm 31:24 Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord.

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

This semester may look different from past years, but the Wesley Center is still in full swing! We want to make sure that as students head back to campus that they know that they are loved, they are welcome at Wesley and that we are here for them. We were able to do a safe socially distanced version of our taco truck kickoff with prepackaged ice cream tacos, connect with hundreds of students at WelcomeFest and introduce people to our temporary student space in the Annex Auditorium. We are continuing to share what the Wesley Center is about with the community and inviting students to join us.

We are so thankful to have the opportunity to be able to connect with students in person and in safe ways. **Since opening the Annex for small groups and studying, we've been able to maintain social distancing and have more than 40 students engaged in weekly small groups (not all at the same time). Students are leading 4 groups this semester: What's Your Story? (for first year students), a study on the book "Inspired," Enneagram and Spirituality and Spirituality in Nature.**

We will be holding an outdoor retreat in October, our third annual fall retreat, which gives all students, and especially new students the chance to learn more about Wesley, deepen relationships with their peers and explore their faith. Students will be returning home for the rest of the semester at Thanksgiving, so we will continue to look for ways to stay connected, support each other and continue to grow in faith.

I know many of you miss connecting with students, seeing them in worship and getting to know them. They are missing you too! We are all working our best to do no harm and keep each other safe. We will continue to look forward to the opportunity to be together in person again!

~ Pastor Jen



Digital Reunion

October 18th 1pm via zoom

- Join us for conversation
- A presentation about what Wesley is up to
- Hear from current Wesley students
- Connect with others who were involved with Wesley during your tenure



WESLEY CENTER

THE
PROGRESSIVE
INCLUSIVE
CAMPUS MINISTRY
AT IOWA STATE

ALL ARE
WELCOME
ALL *belong*
ALL ARE
LOVED

ALL means ALL
LEARN MORE
and connect with us on our
website: isuwesley.com



STUDENT CENTER



THE ANNEX STUDY SPACE IS
AVAILABLE SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY
FROM 5PM-9PM AS A SAFE
SPACE FOR YOU TO STUDY

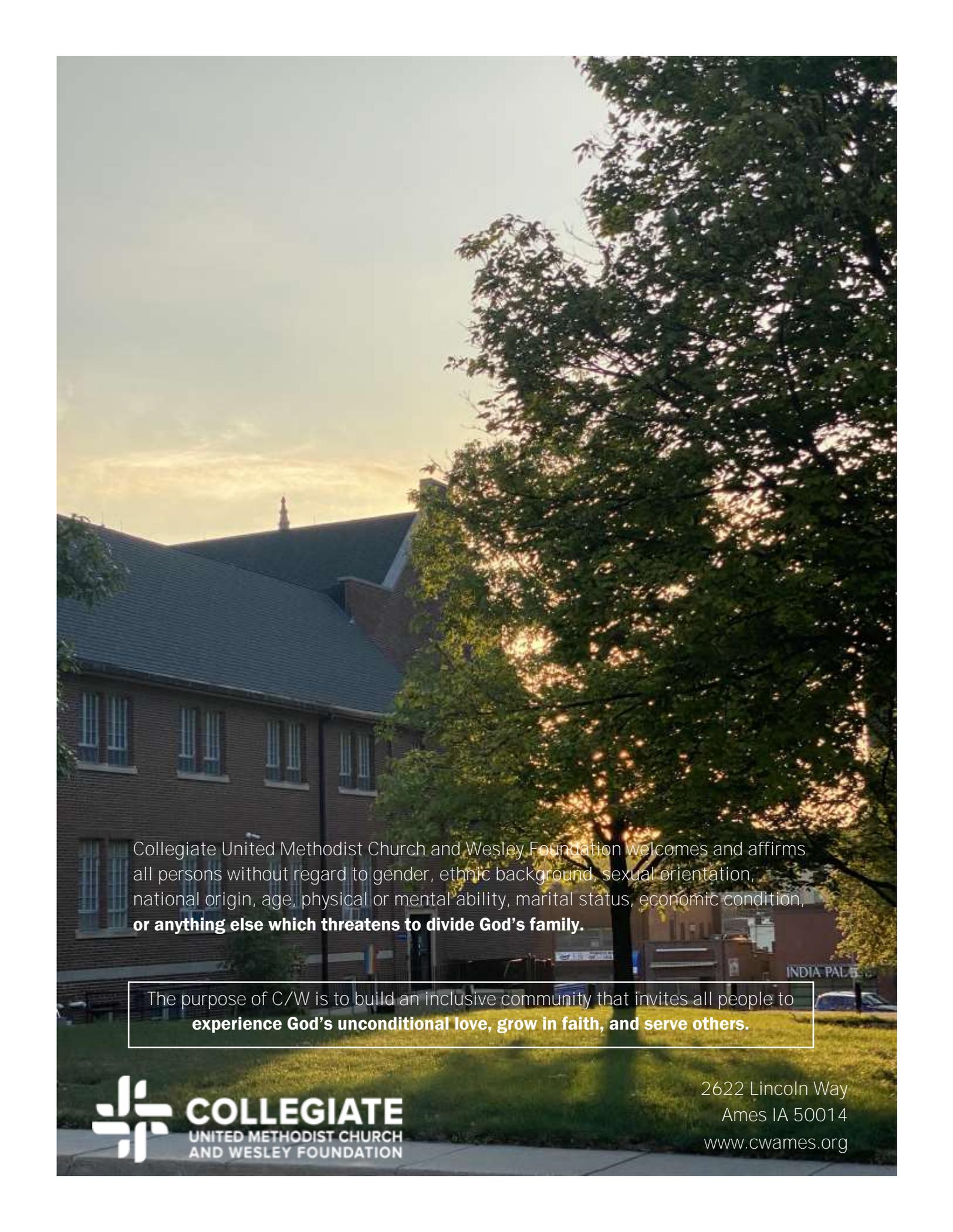
LOCATED @ 130 S SHELDON AVE



Wesley students serving at Food at First in August



Lauren Loonsfoot working at the Ice Cream Truck



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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