

The

June 2021 Vol. 40 Issue 6

Communicator

Connecting People



Collegiate United Methodist Church
and Wesley Foundation

Contact Us

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

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Weekly Email Announcement Deadlines:

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



Cover Pictures: taken between rain showers in late May

Photo Above: our courtyard resident

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.

June Communicator Deadline: June 20, 2021

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A Message from Pastor Mary

by Rev. Dr. Mary Lautzenhiser Bellon

“In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge”
(John O’Donohue, *To Bless the Space Between Us*)



Reawakening. Re-opening. Re-emerging. Re-energizing. These are the themes that center us this summer. In this edition of The Communicator, you will find a letter from Jane Jacobson regarding a survey to be sent to you mid-June. We will gather your information and put it together for our Strategic Planning Retreat in July. I hope you fill out and return the survey as we really want your input!!

This month of June we will continue worshipping outdoors at 10 a.m. on the South Lawn. Bring a chair and be with us for a relaxed time of worship, music and socializing! Our digital service will be aired at 8 a.m. on Sunday mornings for those who wish to watch from home, and of course, once that service is posted on our Facebook page and website, you may watch it at any time.

Then, on July 11th, we will reopen to indoor worship!! The Worship Cluster is still navigating whether we will continue with one service for the summer or reopen with two services. Stay tuned! We invite you to sign up to volunteer for our Welcome Team, consisting of ushers, greeters and people to run the slides. Contact Lindsay Drake! Lindsay@cwames.org

We are in a season of new beginnings. We are coming out from the lockdown into the community in ways that have been impossible for longer than a year. Think of this season as one of hatching: how will we re-engage our worship, missional and spiritual lives? How will we imagine the future that is coming toward us and invites us to co-create with God? How will we love one another in faith, hope and love?

I am excited to meet many of you for the first time, in person, and to worship with you soon in the sanctuary. I ask that we all enter a time of prayer for the days ahead as we gather ourselves again in **community, and, to quote the old hymn, “see each other’s face.”**

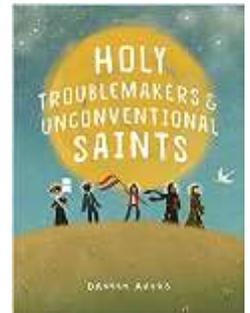
Light and grace,
Pastor Mary

Children, Youth & Family Information

by Lauren Loonsfoot: Director of Children, Youth & Families

Upcoming Summer Opportunities!

This summer we will have multiple options and ways for children, youth and families to **connect, grow and serve**. **Sundays at 9:15 am starting June 6th we'll gather outside** on the patio for Summer Funday School! Using the book *Holy Troublemakers and Unconventional Saints* we'll learn about pioneers for justice!



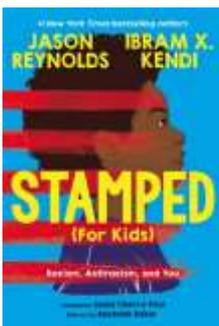
Summer Book Club– Kids and Youth Style: *Stamped for Kids*

June 13 and 27th July 11 and 25th at 11:00 am on the front Patio

Sign-up [here!](#) You can find the book online or get a copy at Dog-Eared Books

More about the book:

This chapter book edition of the #1 *New York Times* bestseller by luminaries Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds is an essential introduction to the history of racism and antiracism in America.



RACE. Uh-oh. The R-word. But actually talking about race is one of the most important things to learn how to do. Adapted from the groundbreaking bestseller *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*, this book takes readers on a journey from present to past and back again. Kids will discover where racist ideas came from, identify how they impact America today, and meet those who have fought racism with antiracism. Along the way, they'll learn how to identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their own lives.

Ibram X. Kendi's research, Jason Reynolds's and Sonja Cherry-Paul's writing, and Rachelle Baker's art come together in this vital read, enhanced with a glossary, timeline, and more.



AM GATHERINGS 10:30-11:30 June 15, June 29, July 13, July 27 August 10 We'll have crafts, service opportunity's and of course fun over the course of the summer!	PM GATHERINGS 6:00-7:00 pm June 22, July 6, July 20, August 3, August 17 We'll meet at area parks to play and spend time together. • sign-up to get location and activity details.
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Sign-up [here](#) to get location and activity information!

Confirmation Camp

Calling all youth (upcoming 7th graders) who are interested in Confirmation. We will be having a local camp experience Monday, June 14th-**Wednesday June, 16th. We'll learn about confirmation and UMC History**, participate in local service and explore Ledges, along with some other fun outdoor activities. To register for camp head over to the google form [here](#). Confirmation camp is strongly encouraged for youth planning to participate in the 2021-2022 confirmation class.

Contact Lauren Loonsfoot (lauren@cwames.org) or Lindsay Drake (lindsay@cwames.org) with any questions.

Camp!

There are so many amazing camping opportunities for children, youth and families at one of the United Methodist Camps in Iowa.

Check out the camp website here: <https://www.iaumc.org/camps/#iac>

To view this year's camp catalog click [here](#)



Collegiate Wesley supports our campers by providing 25% of the registration costs. Just contact Lauren Loonsfoot at lauren@cwames.org.

Vacation Bible School

Sunday, July 18th and Monday, July 19th, 6-8 pm

Preschoolers through 5th graders register [here](#). Volunteers sign-up [here](#).

From a whimsical lighthouse on an enchanted island, Explorers are guided by a Lighthouse Keeper and Beacon the Puffin on an exciting quest to find mysterious Infinity Lanterns to help light their way. Using map coordinates from the Reference Book (the Bible), children discover clues to finding each Lantern while learning how God's light shines in the lives of familiar biblical characters in Old and New Testament stories.

We'll gather outside on the South Lawn. Participants will travel to music/drama, science, games and crafts with their group.

Participants are invited to come tie dye a shirt and mask before hand each day at 5:30.

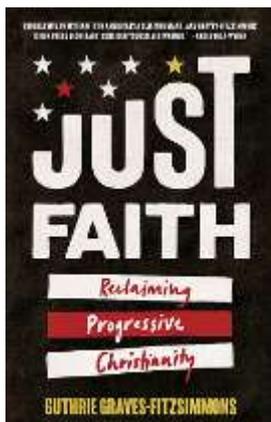
On Sunday, July 25th we'll have a time during worship to share with the congregation some of the dances to the songs we learned.

We hope you can join us on this awesome discovery!

Questions contact Lauren (lauren@cwames.org)



Summer Small Groups



Just Faith - Reclaiming Progressive Christianity

As progressive Christians, now is the time to claim our calling to follow Jesus and work for real change during this time of extreme division. Join together, in person or via zoom, to discuss Guthrie Graves-Fitzsimmons' new book, **Just Faith - Reclaiming Progressive Christianity**. In person groups will meet over the noon hour outside on the church patio (weather permitting), while Zoom participants will meet virtually later that same day. For meeting dates and more information, go to <https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups/small-groups> to sign up. Contact Lindsay Drake (lindsay@cwames.org) with questions.

Collegiate Wesley Summer Anti-Racism Book Group

This summer our Anti-Racism small group would like to invite you to join us in reading a couple of novels. Our first one of the summer is “**Black Buck**” by Mateo Askaripour. We have several copies on hold at Dog Eared Books. Just go to the counter and say it’s for the Collegiate Methodist Book Club.

We will have two opportunities for our book discussion: One in-person option on June 30th, at 6pm in the loft at Dog Eared books (limited to 10 individuals) and one online via zoom discussion on June 30th at 8:00 pm. To sign-up for the group you can click [here](#). We can't wait to discuss the book with you!



About the book:

There's nothing like a Black salesman on a mission.



An unambitious twenty-two-year-old, Darren lives in a Bed-Stuy brownstone with his mother, who wants nothing more than to see him live up to his potential as the valedictorian of Bronx Science. But Darren is content working at Starbucks in the lobby of a Midtown office building, hanging out with his girlfriend, Soraya, and eating his mother's home-cooked meals. All that changes when a chance encounter with Rhett Daniels, the silver-tongued CEO of Sumwun, NYC's hottest tech startup, results in an exclusive invitation for Darren to join an elite sales team on the thirty-sixth floor.

After enduring a “hell week” of training, Darren, the only Black person in the company, reimagines himself as “Buck,” a ruthless salesman unrecognizable to his friends and family. But when things turn tragic at home and Buck feels he's hit rock bottom, he begins to hatch a plan to help young people of color infiltrate America's sales force, setting off a chain of events that forever changes the game.

Black Buck is a hilarious, razor-sharp skewering of America's workforce; it is a propulsive, crackling debut that explores ambition and race, and makes way for a necessary new vision of the American dream.

This summer, Spiritual Formation will have a more relaxed format, and each week will view a short animated video from "The Bible Project." We meet Sundays at 11am via Zoom.



June 6 "The Bible Project: the Torah Series" Genesis 12-50, led by Mike King
June 13 "The Bible Project: the Torah Series" Exodus 1-18, led by Eryn Shriver
June 20 "The Bible Project: the Torah Series" Exodus 19-40, led by Mike King
June 27 "The Bible Project: the Torah Series" Leviticus, led by Mike King

If you haven't signed up for the zoom group, you can sign up here: <https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups/digital-adult-sunday-school-classes/spiritual-formation>

Database

Thank you to those who updated their personal information in the database. You should have or will soon be receiving an invitation to the electronic directory. Information on how to access the directory will also be provided in that invitation.

Along with the directory roll out, we are excited to announce that our app is available for download. The app allows you to easily access church information, the directory, your small groups, and even more in the near future. To download the app, search for Church Center in your favorite app store or go to <https://cwames.churchcenter.com/home> to access the information from your browser.

Contact Lindsay Drake (lindsay@cwames.org) with questions.

Church Council

Strategic Planning Process

This month the Collegiate Wesley Church Council is launching the third step in the development of our strategic plan. To prepare for the meeting with our outside facilitator and consultant the Council needs information from **YOU – the individuals who are the CW community.**

On June 14 (or 21) all members of the CW community will be emailed a survey. (Paper copies of the **survey will be available if individuals prefer.**) **It seeks information about the core values of CW's ministry.** The past year has changed our experience of worship, our methods of connecting and our ways of caring. The time apart provided opportunity to reflect on what we truly value about CW. This survey will help to capture those thoughts.

The Church Council will use the results to direct the discussion during our strategic planning retreat July 23 & 24. Summary data from the survey will be shared with the CW community in July.

When the survey arrives please take 15 – 20 minutes to prayerfully complete it. Each person in a household (over age 12) is asked to submit a survey. CW is committed to inclusion We need to hear **everyone's voice.**



**FREE WALK-IN
COVID-19
VACCINE CLINIC**

June 2nd 5-7 pm

**Collegiate United Methodist Church
2622 Lincoln Way**

**Moderna vaccine available for 18+
No appointment, ID or insurance card needed!**

I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE!

The poster features a circular graphic on the right with an orange background and a white border. Inside the circle, there is a blue bandage with a green checkmark on it. The text "I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE!" is written in white above the bandage.

To help provide hospitality and welcome attendees sign-up [here](#).

Rummage RAMPage

Friday July 30th– Saturday August 7th

If you are interested in volunteering on Collegiate Wesley behalf please start by signing up [here](#). We need to have 10 volunteers sign-up for us to be included as a non-profit. The money that we would receive would go towards missions.

The City of Ames, in partnership with the ISU Office of Sustainability, annually hosts “Rummage RAMPage,” a community sale designed to keep reusable items out of the waste stream. The event grew from the desire to repurpose items often left on the curb during the annual move out and lease changeovers, and to keep these items out of the landfill. Rummage RAMPage works by selling items that are donated. Non-profit agencies send volunteers to help run the sale and share in any profit. The event is open to anyone to donate or shop.

Because many leases in Ames terminate at the end of July, relocating ISU students and community members often discard items that may still be useable. During these weeks, the City of Ames Resource Recovery Plant (RRP) often sees an influx of couches, wooden furniture, clothing, and more as renters attempt to meet their move out requirements. At the same time, new students moving in are often in need of furniture and household essentials. Rummage RAMPage is a collaborative effort to pair unwanted items with others seeking low-cost options for furnishing a home.

**RUMMAGE
RAMPAGE**

Ignited for Justice

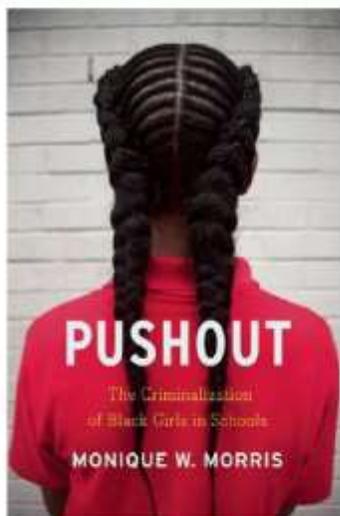
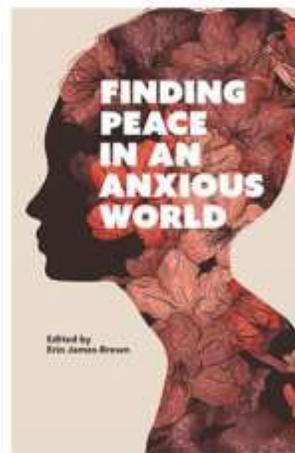
Iowa Conference United Methodist Women Mission u 2021

Amos 5:24 "But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." (ESV)

Finding Peace in an Anxious World

2021 Spiritual Growth Mission Study

Finding Peace in an Anxious World, the 2021 Spiritual Growth Study by staff of the Urban Village Church, uses the book of Proverbs and "The Serenity Prayer" as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry, and fear and move towards God's peace that surpasses all understanding. Using "The Serenity Prayer" as a scaffold, Finding Peace in an Anxious World explores ways to discover peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ.



Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools

2021 Issue Mission Study

Despite increased attention to the mass and over-incarceration of black men, the plight of criminalized black women and girls is overlooked, underreported and under analyzed. Monique W. Morris' *Pushout* shows how even with obstacles, stigmas, stereotypes and despair, black girls still find ways to breathe remarkable dignity into their lives in classrooms, juvenile facilities and beyond, and challenges the rest of us to do the same.

Weekly sessions July 2021 through Zoom virtual experience

Registration fee: \$25/class or \$40/both classes

Further details announced soon.

This month's update is a fun combination; Wi-Fi and Toilets. Although in some people's homes these two go together, we're going to keep them separated in this article

For the past couple months we have been working on our infrastructure and Wi-Fi in anticipation for what things will be like when we start using the building more and more. We now have Wi-Fi in 100% of the building (yes, even the bathrooms) to provide high-speed wireless access throughout the building. So no matter where you are, you will be able to email, surf the web, or zoom with speed. While doing this, we also upgraded our hardware and the rest of our network to be able to support live streaming of the services and many other multimedia demands. I hope that everyone will enjoy the new high-speed access.

The second part of this update is toilets. **Yes, I'm talking about toilets in the Communicator, I bet that's a first!** While we are getting ready to invite you all back in to the building, we took care of replacing some essential hardware! The toilets in the Gathering Space and the Family bathroom are now new! No longer do you have to decide if it's an "Up-flush" or a "Down-flush" The new toilets are simple to use and still are highly efficient to preserve our resources.

I hope you enjoyed this quick update on two over-looked items and I can't wait until everyone can start seeing all these monthly update articles in person!



Mainframe Network Rack

Finance Update

The Finance Committee is pleased to report that, despite the difficulties of operating under the current conditions, CUMC/WF members have continued to be faithful in their financial support, and the church has continued to support the membership and larger community through its programming. Thank you!

As of the end of April, CUMC/WF's total expenses are about 10% less than current-year revenues (primarily offerings). Differences of this magnitude are not unusual early in the year. The Finance Committee continues to monitor the church's income and expenses on a regular basis. **As the church proceeds toward more "normal" operations, we will undoubtedly see changes in expenses. With the continuing generous support of our members and other donors, we are optimistic about the church's finances for 2021.**

Thanks again for your continued generosity! Remember that you have access to our financial reports **through the church website. If you have questions regarding the church's budget or finances, please feel free to contact me** (maxorlori@gmail.com); for questions regarding your own record of giving, please feel free to contact CUMC/WF's Financial Secretary, Jason Janssen (jason@cwames.org).

Grace and Peace,
Max Morris, CUMC/WF Finance Chair

Generosity 2021

by David Orth, Director of Generosity

Two Ways Your IRA Can Benefit Collegiate/Wesley

At retirement your IRA provides a smart way to support your church. When you give through your IRA you not only help Collegiate/Wesley, you protect your hard-earned savings from taxes and qualify for benefits in return.

Give From Your IRA

1. Name Collegiate/Wesley as a beneficiary of your IRA. To make this gift, update your beneficiary designations by requesting a form from your provider or go online to update them. **The benefits:** when left to your loved ones, your IRA is subject to income tax. The church, however, receives the gift tax-free, allowing us to utilize the money to live into our Purpose and Picture.
2. Make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA to the church. If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can transfer any amount up to \$100,000 per year directly from your IRA to the church. **The benefits:** this gift does not generate income so you benefit whether you itemize your taxes or not. It can also decrease the amount of Social Security that is subject to tax and lower your Medicare premiums. If you are 72 or older, your gift can also be used to fulfill your required minimum distribution.

To learn more, just email me at david@cwames.org.

Worship at Collegiate/Wesley

WORSHIP AT COLLEGIATE WESLEY

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

10:00 am on the south lawn
bring a chair or blanket and your mask

DIGITAL WORSHIP

8:00 am on our website (cwames.org)
Facebook and YouTube

Helpful links:

For digital worship you can "tune in" on our [Facebook page](#) at 8:00 am to watch live.

You can also view a recording of outdoor worship and our digital 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. You can also share your prayer requests and give at that link.

NEW! Worship Welcome Team!

As we move back into the sanctuary, on July 11th, it is time to welcome members and guests back with the radical hospitality that Collegiate/Wesley has been known for. Because worship will look different than before, your ministry clusters have worked hard to create a new Worship Welcome Team to help people feel supported and welcomed when they enter the church parking lot, find their seats in the sanctuary and go forth back into the world. This new team is vital to opening up well. As we form our teams, training will be provided for each person. If this is something you are interested in or what to know more about, sign up here (<https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups/worship-support/worship-support-general-sign-up>) to be on the list. Contact Lindsay Drake with any questions. Thank you for making Collegiate/Wesley an incredible place to be!



Our new Welcome Center

New Name Tags

As we begin to come back into the building, now is the perfect time to update our name tags for all of our members, attenders and guests. Thanks to a generous grant from the Endowment Board, new name tags have been purchased to update our previous ones. These new name tags will allow for personalization, distinction for our Worship Welcome Team ministry, as well as provide an opportunity to identify our pronouns. Please fill out this form and your church staff will create your new name tag for you. You can find your completed nametag in your usual nametag space or at the new Welcome Center in the Gathering Space.



Fill out this Google form <https://forms.gle/qVqQPkuTwZSuHini9>.

Thank you for making this part of our radical hospitality a priority!

Our Prayers

•Prayers of Thanksgiving:

- for the overwhelming acts and expressions of love and support we have received from the church family during Lori's cancer treatments ~ Lori Schippers and Max Morris
- for all of the wonderful Mothers in our families, in our Church, and in the World. We LOVE them, and
- are grateful for all they have done for us. ~ LaRue Clark
- Blessings to all mothers, I have been truly fortunate to have many mothers - the cool aunts, the neighbors, the elderly friends throughout my early years, mentors who helped guide and support me. ~ Alan & Donna Vandelaar



•Prayers of Concern:

- I once again ask for prayers for my sister Marilyn who lives in Houston. She has a badly infected leg. They are using a suction machine to pull the infection out. ~ Helen Farr
- Susan and I are having to move at the end of this month and will be needing any help available. ~ Joshua Dobbs
- for Ginny Everett, who is hospitalized at Mary Greeley
- Comfort all those who have lost mothers! ~ Eldon Weber
- that Susan and I pass our inspection this coming Friday (May 14). ~ Joshua Dobbs
- for all in the Collegiate Family as we enter into another transition in our church family. ~ Sicily Canny
- for Bud Everett and family on the loss of Ginny Everett, who died on May 11. Ginny's services will be held at Green Hills on Sunday, May 23 at 1:30pm.
- continued prayers for my sister Marilyn. She is now in an extended health care facility but she is not happy. Her health situation has improved. Pray for continued improvement in her health and that she may find peace. ~ Helen Farr
- for Darra Johnson as she recovers from Wednesday's (May19) outpatient surgery.
- for Owen Kolstad, in treatment for bladder cancer.
- for Lori Schippers, continuing treatment for breast cancer.
- for Jenn Galvin, in treatment for breast cancer.
- for Eryn Shriver, on the loss of her aunt.

Volunteer Opportunities

Clothing That Works has been open to the public for more than a month. Clothing That Works helps any adult in need of clothing for everyday life.

CTW is taking donations on Wednesdays 2-5pm and the first Saturday of each month, 9am-noon. In addition to clean usable adult clothing, CTW is in great need of men's athletic shoes, boots, bath towels, and blankets.

If you are interested in touring CTW please come by and check us out during the open times. clothingthatworks@gmail.com.



Food at First Volunteer Opportunities

We have the opportunity to prepare and serve the daily meal for Food at First on the fourth and fifth Friday of the month. There are two shift opportunities 2:30-5:30 AND/OR 5:00-7:30 pm Coming up we need your help to fill the **June 25 and July 23 and 30** slots.

All volunteers are masked. Early shift work only with others in the CUMC/WF family. Second shift volunteers help package the meal, distributing the packaged meals outside and clean-up. Please dress in layers as you will be inside and outside for the second shift. This is a great opportunity to build community, have fun, and serve others. Sign up here: [Food at First Volunteer](#)

Donations Needed for the Little Food Pantry!!

Thank you to all who have contributed non-perishable items and monetary donations to the Little Food Pantry. Because of you we have been able to continue providing food and personal items to those who need them most.

But items are needed to keep the Pantry supplied every day. Please bring your donations any Wednesday from 2:00-4:00 pm and place them in the donation box near the Pantry at the north door of the Annex.

JUST IN: You can now bring your donations to Sunday morning outdoor worship! Please place them in the marked container on the grounds.

Non-perishable suggested items include: Crackers; peanut butter; pasta; pasta sauce; bagged grains; dried fruits; tuna; granola bars; canned vegetables; toothpaste; toothbrushes; deodorant; shampoo; soap; Kleenex; toilet paper; paper towel; diapers and baby wipes. *All must be in sealed/unopened packages.*

Monetary donations can be made by sending a check to the church office with "Little Food Pantry" in the memo line or go to the online giving page, choose "Other" under -Missions and write Little Food Pantry in the designated box.

Contact Marti Elston, melston8@gmail.com or 515-460-1694 with questions or if a different time for your donation drop-off is needed. Thank you!





Stephen Ministry

Jesus said to them, "Peace be with you. As God has sent me, so I send you." John 20:21.

Just as Jesus chose his apostles to carry on his work with the help of the Holy Spirit, so we have been chosen to continue God's work through the love and help we give to those in need. The CUMC/WF Stephen Ministry team would like to remind you that we have trained Stephen Ministers available to provide one-to-one, confidential, **compassionate care to those experiencing life's difficulties such as struggling with grief, stress and anxiety, loneliness, health problems, and many other situations.**

If you or someone you know would benefit from this ministry or would like additional information or are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact Lori Schippers, 515-460-0774, email lschippers1@hotmail.com.





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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