



OPPORTUNITY BOOKLET FALL 2025



INVITE - EXPERIENCE - GROW - SERVE
CWAMES.ORG

WELCOME! TAKE A LOOK

Inside you'll find a variety of opportunities at Collegiate Wesley. We invite you to read the information and reach out if you have questions or would like help getting connected.

Small Groups and Sunday School classes are great ways to get to know others and build connections. To view a complete list of groups please visit:

<https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups>



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

CHILDREN & YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL



CHILDREN

Sunday School options for
Preschoolers-5th graders.

Sundays 8:45-9:45 am

Starting September 8th

8:45-8:55 Music

8:55-9:45 Sunday School rotations
including Science, Art, Cooking
and Drama/Storytelling

Room 202 Top Floor

<https://cwames.churchcenter.com/registrations>

MIDDLE SCHOOL

8:45-9:00 am Game and Snack Gathering time

9:00-9:45 am Sunday School

Middle schoolers can take a few minutes to
grab a snack and drink, play a round of ping
pong then gather in the Youth room for their
morning lesson.



HIGH SCHOOL

8:45-9:00 am Game and Snack Gathering time

9:00-9:45 am Sunday School

High schoolers can take a few minutes to grab
a snack and drink, play a round of ping pong
then gather in the Movie Room
for their morning lesson

CHILDREN & YOUTH

GROUPS



WEDNESDAY KIDS CLUB

Following the Wednesday evening meal until 7:00 pm, Elementary aged children are invited to go to the Library for a time of Bible Stories, Games and Crafts! Sometimes this group will also work on service projects and special Advent/Lent materials.

It's a great mid-week fun time!
Starts on Wednesday, Sept. 10th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00 pm
Youth Room upstairs on the top floor.
This group provides the opportunity for our Middle Schoolers to connect mid week for a time of conversations, games and service! Starts on Wednesday, Sept. 10th.



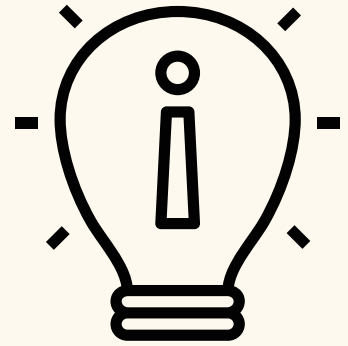
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 pm
Youth room upstairs on the top floor
A time for High Schoolers to discuss what's been happening in their lives, discuss current topics, play games and work on service projects. A mid week laugh fest most weeks. :) Starts on September 10th

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

M&M

This Adult Sunday School Class explores different topics from a faith perspective. We will often start with a short video followed by lively discussions. This group meets on Sunday mornings 9:00 - 9:45 am in the Fireside room. No preparation needed. All are welcome!



BUILDERS

Builders Class begins every week with a fun question that gets everyone talking. For example “what’s the weirdest coincidence that’s ever happened to you?”. We then share celebrations and concerns for our family, church, community and nation, exploring issues and how they connect to our faith. We are never at a loss for topics. Come join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 am in room 44 (by the downstairs coffee counter).



FORUM

Check out the Forum Sunday School class! Topic based Forums throughout the year. Keep an eye out for postings of the topics. Coming up:

- School Board candidates: Sept. 28th, 9:00-9:55 am
- City council/Mayoral candidates: Oct. 19th, 9:00-9:55 am

Location: Forum (Norman) room

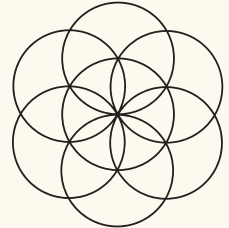


ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

This Adult Sunday School class is for persons interested in deepening their personal and communal spiritual life. This class explores various topics using discussion, videos and other expressions throughout the school year. "All questions welcomed, and all answers questioned."

Most Sundays September 7, 2025- May 17, 2026
9:00-9:55 am in the Library on the lower level.



Fall Semester we will be studying "Living the Questions' Painting the Stars: Science, Religion & Evolving Faith"

Spring Semester we will be exploring the Janet Stephenson archives.

If you have any questions, please contact

Mike King, mikeking@dwx.com or 515-708-1419 or

Eryn Shriver, shriver3@gmail.com or 515-291-6227

Sign-up: <https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups/adult-sunday-school/spiritual-formation>

FAITH JOURNEYS

God calls us to help create God's kindom on earth. In this Bible study we learn ways to apply use science and scripture to our studies, work, and relationships..

Sunday school - Sundays at 9:00 am in Room 123

Small Group Meeting - TBA Currently a group meets monthly via Zoom.

Dates and times depend on the needs of the group.

Newcomers are welcome. If you would like to see the Faith Journeys Bible Study Guide and/or get information about joining a group, please contact Mary Jean Baker at (515) 357-5107 or bakerallan14@gmail.com

SMALL GROUPS

SPIRITUAL GIFTS STUDY

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

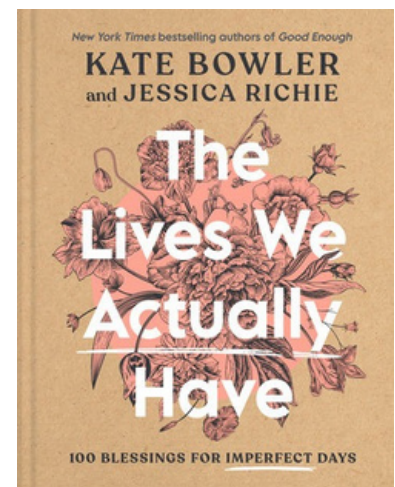
As part of our worship series *Becoming Who We Are*, we are offering a short small group focused on learning more about spiritual gifts. Together, we'll explore how God uniquely equips each of us to serve, grow, and live into who we are created to be. This group will provide a space to reflect, learn, and encourage one another in the journey of faith.



If you are interested in participating, please contact Darra Johnson darrajohnson@gmail.com. The group will decide on a meeting time that works best for everyone.

ANAM CARA

Anam Cara (Celtic for "soul friends") is a small group that explores faith through books, sharing, and conversation. We meet Wednesdays at 7pm in the Fireside Room. Starting on Wednesday September 10, we will be using the book *The Lives We Actually Have* by Kate Bowler as a guide for our discussion. There may be limited outside reading. If this type of group appeals to you please contact Janelle Keltgen janelle@cwames.org by September 3. Space is limited.



SMALL GROUPS

DAD'S NIGHT OUT

Join together with other guys for an evening of conversation. This group meets the first Monday of the month. We meet at the church by the West door before heading out to a different location to chat. Contact Steven Schroder at s.r.schroder@gmail.com if you are interested in more information or signing up.



DIVINE KNEADS

Monthly Gathering to Bake Bread for Communion and to Share with Others 9:00-11:00 am Saturday before the first Sunday of the Month. We're rolling up our sleeves to bake some real goodness. No need for formality, just bring your energy and let's bake bread together. It's not just about baking; it's about connecting. Join our crew, where every loaf has a purpose - from communion to making a difference in our community. Come get a slice of the action, where good vibes rise with the dough!

Sign- up for the group here:

<https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups/wesley-center/divine-kneads>

SMALL GROUPS

ROUNDTABLE

We're a group of curious, faithful people that read and explore together, with hour-long meetings once a month on Zoom, led by Pastor Lee Schott. We'd love for you to join in.

It so happens that we didn't finish the book we started in fall 2025--God After Deconstruction, by Thomas Jay Oord and Tripp Fuller. It's a very accessible book that examines the ways many Christians have had to deconstruct their faith after being taught harmful theology or having bad experiences in their churches. What's on the other side of turning away from the version of God you'd been taught to worship? We've worked through chapters that related to church abuse, gender and sexuality, science, and more. We'll start back in September with chapter 9 (Many Religions) and meet on the following Thursdays, at noon, with a new book to be chosen for after year-end.

Sept. 18

Oct. 16

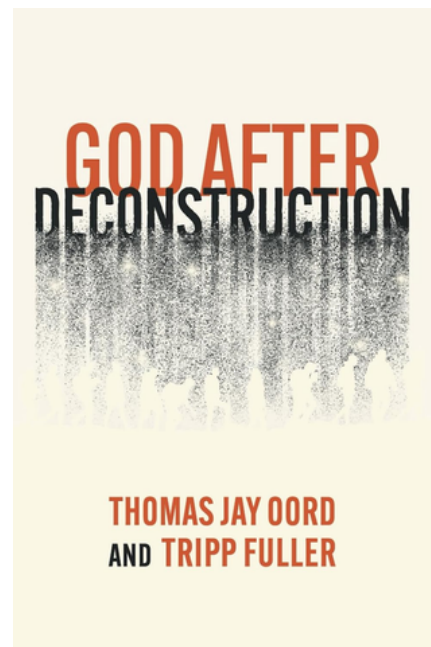
Nov. 13

Dec. 11

For more information, please contact Bev Kruempel at kruempel@msn.com as well as to get your email on the notification list.

Sign-up for the group here:

<https://cwames.churchcenter.com/groups/digital-small-groups/roundtable>



CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Ministry at Iowa State University

College is an exciting and challenging time. At the Wesley Center, we walk alongside students as they grow in faith, friendships, and service. Whether you're exploring your spirituality for the first time, searching for a supportive community, or wanting to deepen your walk with Christ, there's a place for you here.

A place for all to belong. Where 'all' means 'all'.

Opportunities to get involved:

- Weekly Bible studies and small groups
- Wednesday evening dinners and fellowship
- Service and mission projects
- Worship and prayer gatherings
- Leadership opportunities in campus ministry

Find community. Grow in faith. Make a difference.

- Located at Collegiate United Methodist Church & Wesley Foundation, across from Friley Hall.

Website: isuwesley.com

✉ Email: jena@cwames.org

☎ Phone: (515) 292-6936

Social Media: [@isuwesley](https://www.instagram.com/isuwesley)



WEEKLY MEALS

WEEKLY MEALS

Last Fall we brought back the Collegiate Wesley Weekly meal. We averaged feeding 60 people a week! From babies to those in their 80's!

All are welcome to come and eat.

- Where: Wesley Hall
- When: Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Starting September 11th
- Ways to help: Help prep beforehand at 5:00 pm. Or help clean-up following the meal around 6:15.

Free will donations accepted to help cover the costs.

Able to lend a hand and be involved? Please email Lauren Loonsfoot lauren@cwames.org to sign-up.



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Contemporary Music

Vocalists, Guitar, Bass, Drum set, and other musicians are always welcome to lead worship and offer special music. Interested musicians should contact Patrick Gagnon - patrick@cwames.org
Rehearsals: Sunday, 8:00 - 8:45 am



Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir leads worship every Sunday from September through early May and sings a variety of music including Masterworks and contemporary pieces. Singers are always welcome in all voice parts and scholarships are available for ISU music majors able to make a commitment to rehearsals and services for a full semester. Interested singers should contact Patrick Gagnon - patrick@cwames.org.
Rehearsals:
Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm;
Sunday, 9:15 - 9:40 am



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Chancel Handbell Choir

Chancel Handbell Choir leads worship once a month from September through early May, and rings a variety of music on Five Octaves of Schulmerich Handbells and Five Octaves of Malmark Handchimes.

Interested ringers with handbell experience should contact Dee Dreeszen - deedree45@gmail.com.

Rehearsals: Wednesday, 7:30 - 8:30 pm; Ringing Sundays, 8:30-8:45 am



Caroliers Handbell Choir

Caroliers Handbell Choir is an avocational choir which meets weekly to enjoy fellowship and make great music together.

Interested ringers should contact Dee Dreeszen - deedree48@gmail.com.

Rehearsals: Monday, 4:00 - 5:00 pm



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Middle School Handbells

Middle School Handbells introduces handbell and handchime ringing to students of (or close to) Middle School age. Young people who want to make music, enjoy fellowship, and lead worship would enjoy ringing with this group. Interested ringers should contact Patrick Gagnon - patrick@cwames.org. Rehearsals: Wednesday, 5:00 - 5:30 pm; Ringing Sundays, 8:30 - 8:45 am



High School Handbells

High School Handbells lead worship several times during the program year. Young people of (or close to) High School age with ringing experience, music reading ability, or the willingness to learn are always welcome. Interested ringers should contact Patrick Gagnon - patrick@cwames.org. Rehearsals: Sunday immediately following worship or 11:15-11:45 am



CLUSTERS COMMITTEES

WORSHIP CLUSTER

Meeting Times: 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 pm

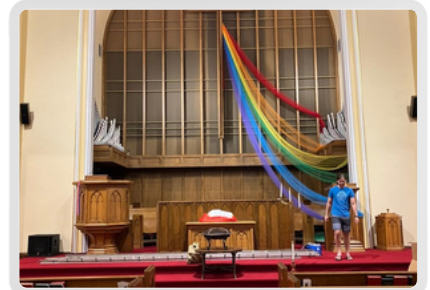
Contact: Alex Jean

alexandra.barron97@gmail.com

The worship cluster works to facilitate a cohesive and immersive workshop experience. This includes tasks such as coordinating communion, facilitating ushers, enhancing the livestream, and planning the creative and practical elements of regular and special worship services. We have several "teams" that could benefit from your skills and expertise!

- Have an eye for design? Join the Worship Design Team!
- Connect deeply with communion? Join Divine Kneads or act as a communion steward!
- Interested in tech? Join the Livestream Team!
- Like creating a welcoming environment? Become an usher!
- Really enjoy organization? Join our Worship Element Taskforce!
- Want to have a say in the shape of worship? Join monthly Worship Cluster meetings!

These roles are appropriate for all levels of time commitment, requiring you to invest as little as 15 minutes ahead of your regularly scheduled worship service to an hour or two distributed throughout the month. Email Alex if you have an interest in any of these positions or would like any further information. We would love to plug you in!



CLUSTERS COMMITTEES

SENDING TO SERVE

The Sending to Serve Cluster helps coordinate special offerings, seasonal giving, the Giving Tree, hands on service opportunities and more. They liaison with global, national and regional projects including

- Katherine Parker- Missionary to Nepal
- Women at the Well
- Bridge Home
- UMCOR
- Food at First
- Ames Community Schools
- Helping our Neighbors
- And more

Interested in learning more or serving on the cluster?

Contact Lauren Loonsfoot lauren@cwames.org



FOOD AT FIRST

We have the opportunity to prepare and serve the daily meal for Food at First on the fourth and fifth Friday of every month. There are two shift opportunities 3:00-5:30 AND/OR 5:30-7:30 pm



Early shift works on prepping and setting up for the meal for service. Second shift volunteers help service the meal and clean-up following the meal. This is a great opportunity to build community, have fun, and serve others. [sign-up here](#) or email lauren@cwames.org to receive the link.

CLUSTERS COMMITTEES

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS

This is a group that meets together and leads involvement in various ministries primarily focusing on immigrants and refugees. We meet every 4-6 weeks to share updates and plans for future involvement in our community with all our neighbors.

Activities/Groups include:

- AAIN (Ames Area Immigrant Network)
- AIRA (Ames Immigrant Refugee Alliance)
- Alternative Gift Market
- AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy)
- ASIP (Ames Sanctuary Interfaith Partners)
- Community that Works
- County Coordination Committee/Community ID Card Group
- Good Neighbor Emergency Fund for Immigrants and Refugees
- Iowa Migrant Movement Justice Story County legal clinics for immigrants and refugees
- SCIRC (Story County Immigrant and Refugee Collaboration)



To view a more detailed description of the above groups please visit <https://cwames.org/get-involved/immigration-and-refugee-groups/>

If you would like to learn more about any of these opportunities or becoming involved, please contact Donna Vandelaar at advand2715@gmail.com.

CLUSTERS COMMITTEES

DENNIS BYRNE ENDOWMENT FUND

The Dennis Byrne Endowment team distributes funds for international and local mission work. These funds are made available by the generosity of Dennis Byrne and his commitment to support mission projects that have at their core efforts acts of justice, compassion and mercy. The team meets once or twice throughout the year to administer the proposal process, usually via Zoom. Reach out to Megan Schroder at megan.harvey@gmail.com if you are interested in joining this team.



ANNEX TEAM

If you don't have time for a regular meeting, a great opportunity exists where you can still volunteer to help out CUMC/WF. You can help with Annex maintenance and management of tenant's leases. No regular scheduled meeting required. You would work with Doug Warren, Mike King and Patty King to accomplish needed items. If this interests you, please contact Mike 515-708-1419 or Patty 515-460-4320.



CLUSTERS COMMITTEES

REACHING AND RECEIVING

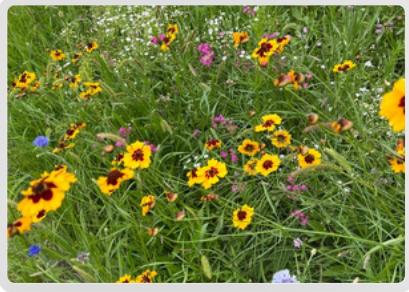
Do you see church as an inviting, welcome space to ALL of God's people? WE DO TOO!

Our focus in the Reaching & Receiving cluster is to invite others in the Ames community to experience God's love by joining us in worship, fellowship, service and social justice causes. At Collegiate United Methodist Church/Wesley Foundation, ALL means ALL! We celebrate diversity in its many forms. We are a safe haven for those who are new or questioning in their spiritual journeys; we are a warm hug to those students who may be homesick; we welcome all who want a closer relationship to the Creator.

This group sponsors activities such as Ames Pridefest and new member gatherings. Do you want to see a particular event take place? YOU can make it happen! Membership is open year-round. Contact Pastor Lee lee@cwames.org for more information.



SMALL GROUPS



GARDEN COMMITTEE

The group meets on an as-needed basis during the gardening season to spruce up the lawn and garden spaces around the church building. No gardening experience is required. Bring your own garden tools. Depending on weather some watering and/or weeding duties may be needed on a weekly or semi-weekly basis. Participate as you are able. This could be volunteer hours for those who need them.

May - October, typically
Saturday mornings (9 - noon)
Contact:

Jon Banwart, (515-231-8747,
jon@cookies-etc.com)
Jane Jacobson (515-450-1593),
janej4831@gmail.com)



HOPE BLANKETS

Makes blankets to present to congregation members at times such as the birth/baptism of a new baby, confirmation, graduation, illness requiring extended recovery or loss of a close family member. You do not need to have sewing skills as we tie these fleece blankets.

Usually meets the third
Tuesday from 1:30-3:00 pm.
Occasional Saturday meetings
so we can include working
people.

If you are interested in
learning more or getting
involved contact Mary Ann
Lundy (mplundy@q.com)
515-441-2055 for call or text)

WORSHIP TEAMS

WORSHIP TECH TEAM

Do you enjoy digital media? Sound or camera equipment? We are always looking to grow our Sunday morning tech crew! Help bring worship to life for those that are connecting virtually. Contact a staff member if you'd like to hear more!



USHERS

Help greet people as they arrive for service. Duties also include distributing programs, helping with communion, collecting offering, and tidying the sanctuary after the service. Each team helps out once a month. Contact Steven Schroder at s.r.schroder@gmail.com to help out or for a full list of duties.

ACOLYTES

Acolyting is an important way to serve in worship by lighting the candles and reminding us that God's light is always with us. It's a simple but meaningful job, and a great way for kids to be big helpers in church. If you'd like to be part of this special role, let us know—we'd love to have you join!



SERVE OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH HELPERS

Collegiate Wesley is looking for adults to serve as Sunday School and Youth Group leaders this year!

You don't need to have all the answers – just a heart for young people and a willingness to walk alongside them as they grow in faith and life.

As a leader, you'll get to:

- 👏 Build meaningful relationships
- 📖 Help guide conversations about faith
- 💬 Create a safe, welcoming space for kids & youth to be themselves



If you're interested (or even just curious!), reach out to Lauren Loonsfoot at lauren@cwames.org – we'd love to have you on the team!

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS MARKET

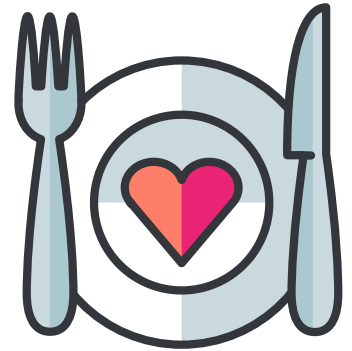
CUMC has participated in the Alternative Gift Market for many years as members enjoy choosing gifts for friends and relatives that also benefit charities both local and international. The Ames market is one of six in Iowa and is a joint project of many churches in Ames.

There are thirty charities to choose from worldwide, including about six local organizations like Food at First and The Bridge Home. Donors select organizations according to the interests of the recipient and also include an attractive card and a description of the gift. Many donors also appreciate that they do not have to shop on a cold winter day and recipients are pleased to be helping others. If you would like to get more involved please contact Maureen Wilt almaurwilt@aol.com

CARE OPPORTUNITIES

MEAL TRAIN

We have two opportunities within the Meal Train. First, we are expanding the group list of people willing to provide a meal when requests come in. You control the time commitment by signing up to provide a meal at a time that works for you. We are also looking for a Meal Train coordinator. If you enjoy working directly with people to help those requesting a meal we have an opportunity to join the Congregational Care cluster as the coordinator for the Meal Train. The time commitment is approx. 30 minutes per request. If you are interested in either opportunity please contact Lori Schippers, lschippers1@gmail.com or 515-460-0774.



HOME VISITS AND COMMUNION DELIVERY

Home visits and communion delivery. We have an opportunity to meet with our church family who are homebound or elderly. We ask volunteers to meet with two or three individuals monthly to provide a caring presence and deliver pre packaged communion. If you are interested in learning more about our Care Cluster visitation ministry please contact Lori Schippers, lschippers1@gmail.com, 515-460-0774.



DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY

Many thanks for all your financial support and food donations. The Pantry continues to serve those in need in Ames by providing basic food and hygiene items.

Always Needed:

- Crackers *Pasta & Sauce
- Canned Fruit & Vegetables
- Granola Bars *Peanut Butter
- Individual Microwavable Meals

Most Needed (Travel Size is fine):

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Deodorant/Soap
- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes



Please Note: Only nonperishable, unopened items can be used. Bring your donations directly to the Little Food Pantry, located outside the north door of the Annex, or to the box inside the west door of the church. If you'd like to make a financial donation, please click [here](#) or go to cwames.org/give. Thank you so much!

If you would like to learn more about the Little Food Pantry or would like to volunteer to help stock it, please contact Marti Elston, melston8@gmail.com

CLOTHING THAT WORKS

Clothing That Works needs your help. CTW is serving more and more people in need. Donations of shoes and clothing are needed. Please clean out your closets and donate clean, adult-sized items.

CTW is open every WEDNESDAY, 2-5pm and the first SATURDAY of each month, 9am-noon.