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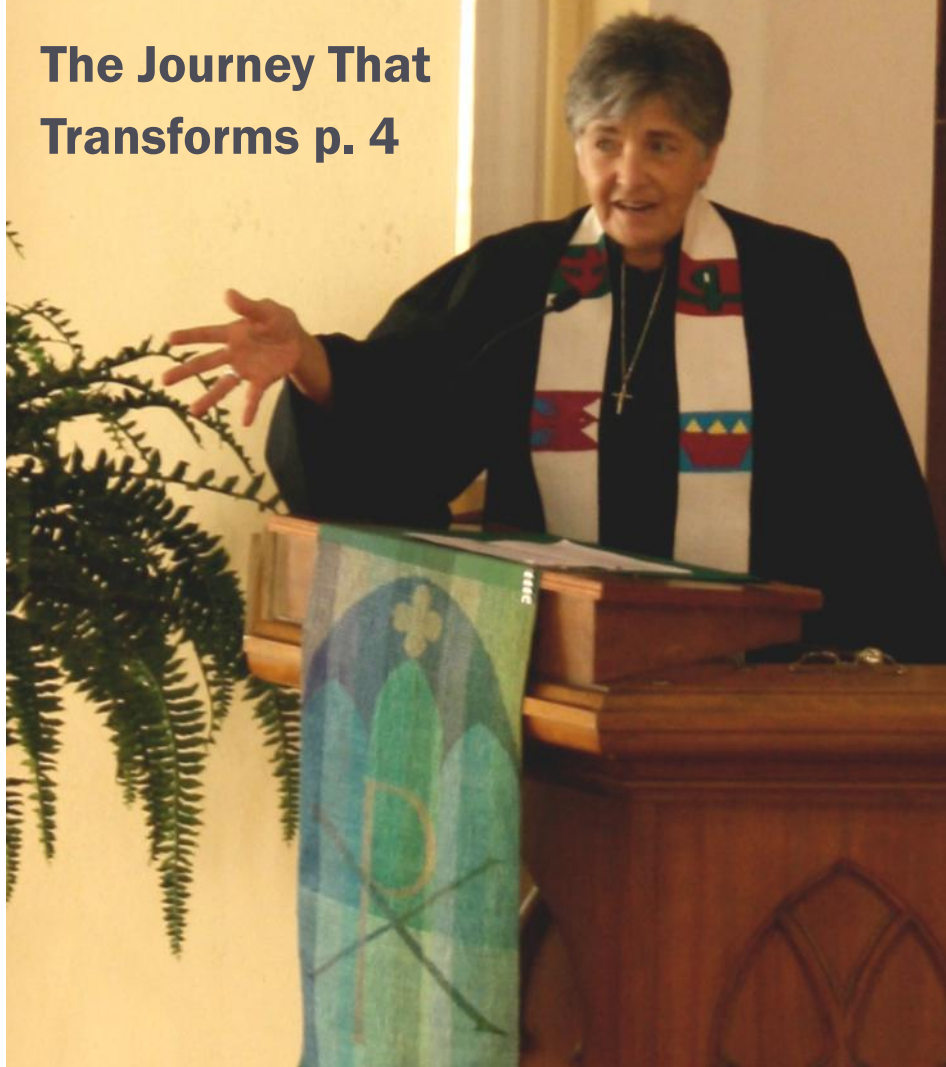
Issue 13

The

Communicator

Connecting People

**The Journey That
Transforms p. 4**



Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation



Discipleship In Focus: CFUM and a Hope Filled Birthday

Last month, Collegiate/Wesley sent volunteers to prepare and serve food with Children and Family Urban Ministries in Des Moines. Pictured from left to right is Bob Fowser, Tim Gossett, Sandy Meeks, Marti Elston, Karen Fowser, and Karen Klaiber. We will be helping out with CFUM again this month. For more information see p. 9.



On Saturday, September 27th, Anna Ogilvie (far left) and nine friends celebrated Anna's birthday by making Hope Blankets on behalf of the Hope Blanket Group to give to persons of the church and community. Anna also asked her friends to bring food donations for the MICA Food Pantry.

Anna invited Bev Shirbroun to attend to teach them how to make the blankets. It was a wonderful afternoon full of energy and care. The middle school girls made six blankets. The blankets will be given to new babies of the church, those dealing with emotional and physical needs in the church and community, and ACCESS.



If anyone else (birthday party, UMW circle, Koinonia group, etc.) is interested in working with a member from the Hope Blanket Group to make blankets to be donated to others, please contact Bev Shirbroun at 233-3799 or bnerv1@yahoo.com.

Contact Us

Phone: 515-292-6936

Fax: 515-292-5493

Email: communicator@cwames.org

For more information please visit our website:

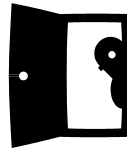
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Bulletin and Weekly Email Announcements Deadline

9:00 a.m. Wednesdays

Send Bulletin submissions to
n_rekemeyer@qwest.net

Send Weekly Email submissions to
wil@cwames.org



**Inside
This
Issue**

Discipleship in Focus	2
Blurbs	4
The Journey That Transforms	6
Important Events	9
Endowment Board	10
Ames, Be Cool	11
Missionary Update	13
Prayers	14
Nichols Chapel Dedication	15

About *The Communicator*

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.

The Lead Pastor of Collegiate United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation is Rev. Scott Grotewold.

The Communicator is compiled and produced by Wil Ranney, the Coordinator of Discipleship, Technology, and Communications. It is reviewed by members of the church staff, and printed and distributed by the office staff.

The deadline for *The Communicator* is the first Wednesday of every month

For your convenience, *The Communicator* has its own email address: communicator@cwames.org. This is the preferred method for submissions to *The Communicator*.

Cover: The Rev. Dr. Janet Wolf preaching on September 21, at the culmination of our Journey Into Faith Series.



Blurbs

Team Leaders Needed for Advent Activities

Yes, the Christmas season will be upon us before we know it – *but even before then, the Advent season of preparation will be here.* Important and traditional Advent activities need Team Leaders to help them happen and get everyone ready for our celebration of the birth of the Savior.

Christmas Service Program

Coordinator: Currently scheduled for December 7, this event would give the church family the chance to worship and sing together, as well as to bring gifts to the manger to help area families in need. If this is something you'd like to see happen and are willing to help lead the effort, please contact Director of Christian Education Julie Wehner (292-6936, ext. 33)

Caroling Groups: If your church small group (Sunday School class, Koinonia group, choir, family, etc.) is interested in taking responsibility for or being a part of one of the "caroling routes" this December, call Natalie Rekemeyer in the church office (292-6936, ext. 10) and ask to be put on the list!

All Saints Day – Sunday, November 2

On Sunday, November 2, we will be celebrating All Saints Day at the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services. If you would like a candle lit in memory of a deceased loved one, please give the church office the name(s) of any loved one(s) – friend or relative – member or non-member of Collegiate/Wesley who died since October 31, 2007. Please send the names to the church office n_rekemeyer@qwest.net by Wednesday, October 15.

Farm Progress Show Results

I am pleased to announce that Collegiate/Wesley raised \$1,412.85 for disaster relief in Iowa. A big thanks to everyone that volunteered at the Farm Progress Show this year.

Wil Ranney

Volunteer for Emergency Residence Project

The Emergency Residence Project provides shelter for the homeless and offers assistance to Story County residents facing homelessness. If you have a trade skill or if you are willing to be "on call" for more general tasks as the need arises, please contact me with the following information:

Name, Address, Phone, Email

Be sure to list if you have any of these skills: Electrical, Plumbing, Appliance Repair, Heating/Cooling, Carpentry, Drywall/Plaster, Painting, Roofing, or other handskill.

Also indicate if you would be willing to be "on call" on short notice for apartment turnover. This mostly involves cleaning and minor repairs. We could also use "on call" volunteers to run an errand or provide transportation. Please indicate either or both of these options.

Please call or e-mail with any questions. Send volunteer info by mail or e-mail to address below.

Thanks!

Jon Banwart
463 Westwood Dr
Ames, IA 50014
Phone: 232-1208 Daytime,
268-4646 Home,
231-8747 Cell
jon@kcilandscapesupply.com

Volunteer for CFUM

It's time once again to prepare for the Saturday evening dinner at Children and Families Urban Ministries in Des Moines. We're set for food but servers are needed. Here's the scoop:

- Saturday, October 25 (yes, it's ISU Homecoming)
- Leave Ames at approx. 3:30 p.m.
- Set up/warm food upon arrival
- Serve at 4:45 p.m.; Seconds at 5:15 pm; Take home boxes packed at 5:30 p.m.
- Clean up
- Arrive back in Ames at approx. 6:45 p.m.

Please let me know if you are available to help. Roger Volker is serving but is also bringing his accordion so it should be fun!

Marti Elston
melston@iastate.edu
232-7194



The Journey That Transforms

By Rev. Linda Butler and Wil Ranney

The Journey Into Faith Festival



“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12:2

As Christians, we are called to change. We are called to transformation. We are called to be perfected in love by the grace of God. It is in transformation that we are continually coaxed to grow into our fullest humanity. This is a lifelong journey, one that is never too late to start or too soon to begin. It starts with a single step. It was in that spirit that we chose *Journey Into Faith* as our fall discipleship series. It was in that spirit that we invited everyone to participate in the Journey Into Faith Festival, our discipleship fair. It was in that spirit that we ask you to consider your next step in the journey.

The impetus for the fall discipleship series was simple really. It focused on the core faith-forming activities of worship, education, and service. Every disciple is called to participate in these spiritual disciplines and use these disciplines to discern God’s call and to follow Christ. These are “easy” first steps but are not to be taken lightly. Worship is not time to be served, but to serve God in praise and respect. Education is pointless without application. Service requires us to get

outside of our own self-interest and respect the person we are serving as a child of God. The point is to keep walking.

The first step is crucial and the Church tries to make it as easy as possible. But we are called to do more. We are called to grow, to learn, to be changed by God’s grace. We are called to be mature Christians who are growing spiritually, perfected in love, one step-at-a-time, one day-at-a-time.

So what is your next step? A good place to start looking is in our “Journeys” catalog and at our Spiritual Gifts seminar being held on Tuesday, October 14 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. (see p. 9 for more information).

If you have not yet received a copy of the Journeys catalog please visit our website cwames.org and download a copy. Copies are also available in the church office. In the catalog you will find an interest sheet that we ask you to fill out. You may get additional interest sheet forms for members of your family on-line or in the church office. Please bring your completed interest sheet(s) with you on Consecration Sunday, October 26.

During both worship services you will be invited to offer your service and your estimate of giving cards to be consecrated for God’s purposes. Our theme for worship is “Be doers of the

word, and not hearers only.” Our Senior Minister, Rev. Scott Grotewold will be preaching. A light brunch will be served downstairs in Wesley Hall between worship services. Sunday School classes are invited to send one or two people to Wesley Hall to pick-up cinnamon rolls and/or muffins, fruit, and juice to bring back to your classroom.

Each community of faith is uniquely gifted and graced to do the work of kingdom building in its place and in its time. The Committee on Lay Leadership is eager to help connect each of you to meaningful service in the church and/or outside the church walls that enhances your relationship with God, self, community, and the world. We will make sure any interest you indicate on your interest sheet will get to the right person. They will contact you and talk with you about opportunities to serve within your interest and spiritual gifts.

It is the role of the Committee on Lay Leadership to support you in your spiritual journey. In order to do that we are preparing ourselves by reading and studying together these four study materials and books: *FaithQuest* by Dan Dick and Barbara Miller, *Leading Change in the Congregation* by Gil Rendle, *Equipped for Every Good Work* by Dan Dick, and *Congregational Leadership in Anxious Time: How to Remain Calm no Matter What* by Peter

Steinke. If you are interested in participating in this kind of monthly small “study” group please indicate this under the *Life in the Church* section of the Journeys interest sheet. These studies help to ensure that our congregation has a process for discovering, inviting, nominating, and supporting people for spiritual leadership positions essential to the ministries of nurture and outreach in our church and community,

Thank you to everyone that helped make the Journey Into Faith Series and Festival a meaningful experience. Thirty-seven exhibitors from church groups and community groups participated in the Festival and well over 300 people attended. We would especially like to thank the Sending to Serve and Reaching and Receiving Program Clusters for all their hard work.

We would like to thank our guest preacher, Rev. Janet Wolf, for giving us such an impassioned sermon entitled “Goin on Anyhow” based on Exodus 3:1-14. She challenged us to see and serve God beyond the walls of our church.

So let us journey on!

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

October 26

Sermon theme: *“Be doers of the word, and not hearers only.”* James 1:22

On Consecration Sunday you will be given an opportunity to make a commitment of time, service, and money to God’s ministry. As a token of our gratitude there will be a brunch served between worship services in Wesley Hall. Sunday School classes are invited to come to Wesley Hall to pick-up your brunch tray to bring back to your classrooms. Be sure to bring your estimate of giving card and your “Journeys” Interest sheet to offer up during worship.

WHAT ARE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

Come and take your spiritual gifts inventory

Tuesday October 14

6:30-8:30 PM

Wesley Hall

Refreshments and Snacks Provided

Spiritual gifts, also known as natural impulses, are not just about talent, or know-how, or commitment. They are the grace of God at work within us. The grace of God cannot be limited in us or kept from us. Everyone has access, and thus everyone has spiritual gifts whether they know it or not. Even if you have taken a spiritual gifts inventory in the past, it is always good to gauge how they may have changed over time. After completing our inventories we will talk about the significance of each spiritual gift. This presentation is based on the book *Equipped for Every Good Work: Building a Gifts-Based Church* by Dan R. Dick and Barbara Miller.

Endowment Board Announces a Future Gift

The Collegiate United Methodist Church/Wesley Foundation Endowment Board announces an estate gift that will one day support our endowment fund. Lester Moore, retired pastor and member of CUMC/WF has made a provision in his estate directing assets from an IRA to be given to the endowment fund upon his death.

“I have a great love for CUMC/WF and want to offer what little I can to make its future ministry meaningful,” says Les. He points to tax implications as the reason why he chose his IRA to be designated to the endowment fund. Leaving his children as beneficiaries for his IRA would require a substantial amount taken for taxes. Gifting this IRA to the endowment fund allows these taxes to be by-passed and will provide the endowment fund with a generous gift.

When asked to provide advice to someone in our congregation who may be considering a similar gift to the endowment fund, Les responded by saying, “If someone wants to make certain that the mission of CUMC/WF continues to offer the saving grace of Jesus Christ to our community and its students, this is a wonderful way to do so. It is also a good way to honor the memory of someone we love.”

You may not think that you have the resources to make a meaningful gift to the CUMC/WF endowment fund, but no

matter the size of the gift, you will make an impact on the future of our church. Says Les, “After twenty-five years of being associated with CUMC/WF I am convinced that some of the most meaningful work of bringing the Gospel to the world is done right here. I want to be a part of the continuation of this ministry and the endowment fund is an excellent way to do this.”

For information on how to make a gift in support of the CUMC/WF endowment fund, contact Jeremy Galvin (Chair Endowment Board) at 292-2053 or jdgalvin@iastate.edu.



Ames, Be Cool

By Wil Ranney



Mary Jean and Allan Baker, two of the organizers for the "Ames, Be Cool" symposium.

A woman in a blue jacket is speaking at a wooden podium. Behind her is a large projection screen displaying the text "Thank You. Now let's hear from you." The room has a brick wall and a large American flag hanging on the wall to the left. An "EXIT" sign is visible on the wall to the right of the screen.

Thank You.
Now let's hear
from you.

Dr. Fred Kirschenmann put our environmental issues in perspective when he said, “Our American way of life is not negotiable; That is our theology. If you challenge that, be ready to be vilified.” The *Ames, Be Cool* symposium was all about how we can change that theology, as churches, as individuals, and as citizens. The symposium, which took place on Saturday September 21, was sponsored by AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy of which Collegiate/Wesley is a member), and by the City of Ames, and Ames Schools. The name *Ames, Be Cool* came from a national movement of cities that are trying to achieve sustainability and reduce their greenhouse emissions.

Over 175 people participated in the program, the most notable of whom were church members Mary Jean and Allan Baker, who did a lot of behind-the-scenes work in organizing the event. Several other Collegiate/Wesley members were in attendance as well as members from other AMOS churches and from the community at large.

The first speaker, Dr. Gene Takle, did his best Al Gore presentation, complete with some very telling power point slides. The difference between Gore and Dr. Takle being that Dr. Takle is a noted climatologist at ISU, and could engage the scientists in audience on the tough technical questions. When talking about his simulation studies in

1988, Dr. Takle quipped, “My thought then was, ‘this is way off the scale.’ I didn’t even show them to my classes.” Dr. Takle now admits that many of his simulations were actually too conservative. In addition to talking about the world climate, he told Iowans to expect more extreme rain falls and droughts, more frost-free periods, and more extreme storms. Consequently, he expects a decrease in wind speed, which—combined with the extreme weather patterns—would make alternative energy sources harder to implement. He did say that the changes may actually have a positive impact on Iowa agriculture if we can learn to adapt to it.

The bottom line of Dr. Takle’s talk was that any changes we make will take “50 years” to yield dividends and that they needed to be implemented immediately.

Dr. Kirschenmann’s presentation about sustainability referenced Harvey Cox’s book, *The Market as God*, that warns about finding meaning through the amassing of wealth. Kirschenmann argues that while the quality of our life has increased via financial indicators, “the primary indicators of our well being have actually gone down.” In other words, our lives have become less satisfying and there has been a proportional increase in depression as we amass more possessions and

wealth. He says, "there is a link between income and happiness, but only to the point of getting out of poverty."

Both of the morning presenters were quick to point out that we need more than a technical solution. As energy costs go up, technological solutions become less feasible because they take energy to produce and maintain. Conservation is a serious step from an individual's perspective. Kirschenmann tells us that it takes 40 liters of water to produce a cup of coffee. In other words, if you wanted to conserve water you could just drink more of it instead of coffee. He also talks about "nature deficit disorder," the idea that we can gain more happiness from simply spending time in nature than we can through consumption of goods and services.

Finally, he said that "it will take groups like AMOS" to empower communities to achieve sustainability, that such groups have the power to organize people around this issue on a smaller scale, and to achieve local solutions that work.

Perhaps, Mary Jean Baker put it best when she said, "To be a cool dude or babe, I guess, you need a prairie fire." Our involvement in AMOS and events like *Ames, Be Cool*, are the first sparks. Now let us fan the flames.

Friends!

I have been totally negligent about sending emails. Sorry! Life in Cambodia is a constant learning experience. My language is improving much slower than I would like, but step by step. My writing is good enough that I can create posters for workshops even though I can't understand many of the words I am writing. Tomorrow will be the first day of the Level 2 lessons at the University, but I also decided to repeat Level 1 since I didn't learn it 100%.

We had a wonderful Annual Meeting at the end of August. The highlight was the ordination of 6 elders and 12 deacons, essentially doubling the number of ordained Cambodians. A president of The World Federation of Chinese Methodist Churches (one of our mission partners here), gave a stirring speech about celebrating 40 years of autonomy with the theme "self-proclaiming, self-governing, self-supporting." It really gave a hopeful vision to our goal of supporting the formation of an autonomous church here in Cambodia.

I've posted a few more reflection on my blog at <http://bokashi.blogspot.com> as well as some letters that I wrote to the Vacation Church School kids at Wesley UMC in Bakersfield, CA. I keep delaying because I think I will get more pictures posted, but those are slower in going up.

Thanks for reading, your prayers and support!

Peace, Katherine Parker

Prayers



Thank you for sharing your prayers of joy and concern on the blue prayer cards each Sunday.

Here are some joys and concerns you shared with us since the last issue of *The Communicator*.

Prayers of Concerns

For Barbara Sands, who is recovering after a broken hip.

For guidance, insight and wisdom as we approach Election Day.

For Susan Mueller, who is seriously ill with M.S.

For Maribeth Henney, who has been moved to the care center at Northcrest.

For the Boylan family, whose mother was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

For Suzie Dobbs who is having more difficulty getting around

For the healing of people everywhere who endure brokenness, confusion, poverty, hunger, disease and more.

For the death of David Begg, son of Mary Anne and Gary Begg, grandson of Mary Richards

For Barb Schager and family as she started chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer on Sept. 22

Prayers of Joy

For the Snell family who is hosting Daniel Maia, a rotary exchange student from Brazil; he is a junior at Ames High.

For Kelly Abel who has twin grandsons born recently.

For this community of faith and the ways it helps us grow, heal, serve and share.

For all the prayers for Pat Pearson's sister, Barbara, whose shingles are becoming less painful and for Barbara's daughter, Virginia (Pat's niece) whose chemotherapy is complete and who is slowly improving.

For Pat and Chuck Behm, who have a new grandson born September 14.

Personals

There are no personals for this issue but if you have personal announcements you would like to make, send them to communicator@cwames.org

Nichols Chapel to be Dedicated November 2

The newly-remodeled Nichols Chapel will be dedicated at a special service scheduled for Sunday afternoon, November 2, at 1:30 p.m. in the Chapel. The service, which happens on All Saints Sunday, will recognize the changes that have taken place in the chapel in the last 18 months, including the memorials and gifts which have assisted in its renovation. The renovation has cost more than \$80,000, which has been raised through special gifts and was not a part of the new building construction and remodeling project that was happening simultaneously throughout the rest of the building. Unlike other rooms in the church, where asbestos abatement did not require removal of the walls, the wood-paneled Nichols Chapel was the most affected of all rooms in the church building during the remodeling process. The only parts of the room which remain unchanged are the pews, the chancel furniture, the columbarium, and the organ. A new ceiling and walls, new lighting, new flooring, new stained glass windows, and a new chancel area have enhanced this sacred place in the church. The chapel is part of the 1955-56 addition to the church and was named Nichols Chapel to honor Rev. G. Samuel Nichols for his twenty-five years of ministry (1935-1960) at Collegiate/Wesley.



You are Welcome!

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.

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Never Too Young To Volunteer

Gray DeGeest, who recently turned five, washes dishes with the rest of his family after Soup Supper.

Soup Supper is our weekly Wednesday night meal that takes place in Wesley Hall at 6:15 PM. Everyone is invited to attend, or to volunteer by making soup, bringing a dish to share, or helping to setup/cleanup.

